STATE TAX FOR LIQUOR TRAFFIC

PROPOSES TO RAISE MORE REVENUE

Senator From Pasadena to Introduce a Bill at Sacramento Requiring License for Manufacturers and Handlers

By Associated Press.

SACRAMENTO, Jan. 28.—The bill to provide a state revenue tax on the liquor traffic in California has been prepared by Senator Hahn of Pasadena and will be introduced in the senate Monday morning.

The bill has been drawn up after a long and thorough study of the subject and has been practically approved by Governor Pardee. The intention of the framer of the bill is not in any way to interfere with or attempt to reform the liquor business in California, but the measure is a revenue bill pure and simple and is one of the several schemes decided upon whereby it is proposed to increase the state's revenue many millions of dollars.

The bill in brief provides that every person who engages in the liquor business either as distiller, brewer, vintner, manufacturer, chemist, distributor or seller, or who offers to sell foreign or domestic distilled spirits, wines or malt liquors, shall pay a special license tax semi-annually according to the following schedule: Distillers, vintners, brewers, distributors and manufacturers $150 semi-annually; wholesale liquor dealers, $100 semi-annually; retail liquor dealers, $50 semi-annually.

A section of the bill reads:

"The payment of any tax imposed by the revenue laws of this state for carrying on or engaging in the liquor business shall not be held to exempt any person from any penalty or punishment provided by the laws of any town, township, city, county or city and county for carrying on the same within any such town, township, city or county or in any manner to authorize the commencement or continuance of such business contrary to the laws of any such place or in places prohibited by local laws, or from placing a duty or tax by counties or cities on the same business for other purposes."

This clause is designed to protect localities where local option is in force.

It is estimated that this one revenue law alone, provided it passes the legislature, will net an annual income of over $1,000,000.

WANT CHANGE IN SUGAR TEST METHOD

Companies File Suit Against Collector of New York Port—Involves Millions of Dollars Duty Paid

By Associated Press.

NEW YORK, Jan. 28.—A new move was made today by sugar companies who for years have been attempting to do away with the system of sugar test which has been in vogue since 1897, when papers in sixty-five separate suits, involving millions of dollars paid in sugar duties, were filed against Collector Stranahan of this port. These suits involve every importation of sugar through this port since 1897.

The attempt of the sugar companies to do away with the system of test has been fought out before in the boards of appraisers and before United States court superintendent of the court of appeals.

It has been decided invariably in favor of the government. The new suits are brought on the ground that the secretary of the treasury, in making his rules to carry out the law, acted unconstitutionally in adding the element of estimate or computation of the bare polariscope test.

JURORS GET JOCULAR WITH KESWICK COURT

By Associated Press.

REDDING, Jan. 28.—In addition to bringing in a verdict of not guilty in a battery case ten of the jury in the justice's court of Keswick township this afternoon brought in a separate verdict, finding the prosecution guilty of keeping us from our work. Two jurors would not sign the second verdict. As soon as it was returned Judge Hardey found the ten jurors guilty of contempt of court and fined them $5 apiece.

He gave them until Monday morning in which to pay the fines. The judge said tonight that any juror who fails to pay the fine will be sent to the county jail. He has sworn in two extra deputies in addition to the constable of his court and has engaged a four-horse team to bring the joking jurors to prison in the event they do not pay the fine.

FIGHT STUBBORN FIRE

Entire San Diego Department Is Required to Subdue Flames

SAN DIEGO, Jan. 28.—Fire which today started in a second hand store owned by H. Lynnell, on the corner of Eighth and F streets, required the efforts of the whole department for its subduing.

Lynnell's stock was practically ruined by fire and water and the contents of a building adjoining, used as a lodging house, were destroyed. For a time the whole block was threatened. The loss has not been estimated. Lynnell had no insurance.

GREAT BATTLE IN PROGRESS

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Kuropatkin. It is very difficult to ascertain the truth.

Many persons are inclined to believe it is a genuine offensive movement against the Japanese with the object of forcing them out of their winter quarters, while others look upon it is being only a more or less serious operation undertaken upon orders from St. Petersburg to draw the attention of the people anew to the theater of war.

In the meantime the general staff maintains reticence regarding the plans of the commander in chief. All dispatches from Russian correspondents at the front foreshadow a big and bloody battle of a decisive character. They tell of arrangements for the receipt of an immense number of wounded not only at Mukden, but as far back as Harbin, and speak of a general engagement in which almost a million men and 2,500 guns were to be involved, and say that the importance of the engagement will overshadow the battles of Shakhe river and Liao Yang. Rumors are already flying about of defeat and victory.

Success they all admit will be of immeasurable value to the government at this juncture while disaster would only serve to complicate the situation and render the government's position still more difficult if not critical.

The general staff has received the following dispatch from General Sakharoff, General Kuropatkin's chief of staff:

"Our troops continue on the offensive at Sandepas. South of there our cavalry encountered four Japanese battalions and six squadrons of cavalry advancing from Heikoutai. The Japanese fled, throwing their arms into ambulance wagons. One of the columns took thirty prisoners and another captured twenty."

SEE HOPE IN REVOLUTION

Japanese Anticipate Cutting Kuropatkin's Communications

By Associated Press.

PARIS, Jan. 28.—Japanese officials have remarked to members of the diplomatic corps that the Russian strikers might have an important influence on the war in interrupting communication by the trans-Siberian railway. They anticipate that if the strike spreads it will involve the railroad workers, making the strikers more effective in cutting off General Kuropatkin's communications than the Chinese bandits have.

Russians Lose Thouasnd Men

By Associated Press.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 28.—A telegram from Chansiamutun says the Russians lost 45 officers and a thousand men killed or wounded at the capture of the village of Sandepas, January 26. The Russians took 102 Japanese prisoners besides arms, wagons and ammunition.

Artillery Fights in Snowstorm

By Associated Press.

MUKDEN, Jan. 28, via Tien Tsin.—The most important cannonade since the first battle on the Shakhe river was maintained all yesterday, in a continuous snowstorm, against the Japanese left which Field Marshal Oyama has been reinforcing with troops from Port Arthur since General Mitschenko's raid.

The attack was centered about seven miles west of Shakhe station, and it resulted in the Japanese withdrawal from Holantai and Funchuang-Chiatzu which the Russians have occupied. The cannonading and snowstorm continues undiminished today.

The cannonading indicates that an extended contest is progressing The driving wind and snow favors the Russians, thus offsetting the advantage the Japanese had last October when the sun shone in the Russian eyes. Today's reports indicates that the Japanese are continuing to fall back while the Russian cavalry have, it is understood, advanced their lines ten miles.

The Japanese yesterday flew a large kite into the Russian lines. The kite was covered with photographs showing the treatment of Russian prisoners in Japan. It evidently was intended to attract the Russian soldiers. On January 27 there was a heavy cannonade on the right flank. It subsided entirely shortly after noon and quiet now continues throughout the center and right.

FLAMES SWEEP BUSINESS CENTER

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whose stock was almost entirely destroyed. The flames then spread to the Porter, Riordan, Hoobler company, destroying the stock and building and by 2 o'clock the building occupied by the Carpenter Paper company, covering a quarter of a block at Twelfth streets, was seriously threatened.

The losses at that hour were estimated at:

M. E. Smith Dry Goods company, $100,000; five commission houses of J. N. Snyder, C. H. Mullen, Marsh & Marsh, R. B. Bingham & Co., Tremain & Moore, $30,000; Voegel & Dinning Co., wholesale confectioners, $35,000; Porter, Riordan & Hoobler, manufacturing chemists, $75,000; Kirkendall Shoe company, stock estimated by manager at $250,000; Millard and Tate building, $75,000; Merce estate building, $125,000; Martin-Cott Hat company, $20,000.

There were a number of other losses, the amount of which is not yet available.

RUSSIAN ARMY NEARS REVOLT

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tion asking Emperor Nicholas to convoke a national assembly.

GRAND DUKE SERGIUS RESPONSIBLE FOR PLACARD ACCUSING THE BRITISH

By Associated Press.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 28.—5:50 p. m.—The real origin of the charges contained in the London Telegram, posted at Moscow by Assistant Police Chief Roudneff, to the effect that Great Britain has been supplying money to tie up the Russian arsenals and dock yards for the purpose of aiding her ally, Japan, is now distinctly laid at the door of Grand Duke Sergius. The grand duke, according to absolutely reliable information from Moscow, turned over the telegram to a Moscow newspaper, which declined to publish it, whereupon, by the grand duke's direction, M. Roudneff placarded it in the streets.

Grand Duke Sergius' connection with the matter is believed to be greatly embarrassing Foreign Minister Lamsdorff, who is anxious to avoid a diplomatic incident. Sir Charles Hardinge, the British ambassador, followed up his personal request for an explanation Thursday with a letter on the subject yesterday, when the same charges, in another form, appeared in official papers here. Count Lamsdorff has not yet replied to this letter, although at the foreign office it is alleged that official as well as unofficial papers print telegrams containing news which has not the slightest government sanction.

RUSSIAN REVOLUTIONARY SYMPATHIZERS HOLD BIG DEMONSTRATION IN BOSTON

By Associated Press.

BOSTON, Jan. 28.—For two hours tonight a procession of several hundred Russian revolutionists sympathizers, led by fife and drum corps, marched through snow filled streets with a huge blood red flag fluttering beside the stars and stripes, while lettered signs proclaimed the object of the demonstration. At times the marchers sang "The Marseillaise" and cheered such sentiments as "Long live the revolutionists" and "Down with the Russian government."

When the procession had disbanded in the west end the leaders briefly addressed the crowd and a socialistic orator began an address from the window of a house. His speech was cut short, however, by the announcement that the police would allow no speaking to the crowd in the street.

GERMAN STRIKERS HAVE ABANDONED ALL HOPE OF A SETTLEMENT

By Associated Press.

ESSEN, Jan. 28.—Since the conference between a committee of seven persons with the government commission the coal mine strikers have taken a pessimistic view of the situation, and have abandoned hope for an early settlement of the strike.

Commissioner von Velsen has returned to Berlin. The mine owners declare that the proposed revision of the mining laws in the interest of the operatives will have a damaging effect on the German manufacturing industry, intensifying the danger of foreign competition and encourage operatives to come forward later with greater demands.

Two Hundred Thousand on Strike

By Associated Press

WARSAW, Jan. 28.—A hundred thousand people are now out on strike. Thus far there have been no disturbances of any importance. The street cars are not running and no newspapers were published this morning. There is practically no bread left in the bakeries. About 100,000 persons have struck at Lodz. Telephone communication with the city has been interrupted by strikers.

Strike Still Spreads

By Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Consul General Watts at St. Petersburg cabled the state department today in regard to the situation in Russia as follows:

"Strike spreading. Just received cablegram from Warsaw that all workshops are stopped. Vienna railway men joining. Gas works and waterworks are being operated by soldiers."

Slowly Resume Work

By Associated Press.

MOSCOW, Jan. 28.—All the newspapers reappeared today.

The factory inspectors report that 20,000 persons are still out on strike. Work is being resumed at almost all the mills which had been closed, but on the other hand some large mills, including Prohoroffs, where the men were paid yesterday, have struck.

The situation is not causing alarm, although there is some anxiety regarding a possible disturbance tomorrow.

Italians Raising Funds

By Associated Press.

ROME, Jan. 28.—Manifestations of sympathy with the strikers in Russia are going on throughout Italy, and funds are being collected for them.

BECKWITH SERIOUSLY ILL

President of Defunct Bank May Not Live to Be Tried

By Associated Press.

OBERLIN, Ohio, Jan. 28.—President C. T. Beckwith of the defunct Citizens National bank is reported to be in a very serious condition.

Beckwith has been ill with heart trouble ever since the close of the bank and has gradually grown weaker.

Foreign Mission at Fez

By Associated Press.

PARIS, Jan. 28.—The foreign office understands that the French mission to the sultan of Morocco reached Fez January 25. The mission has the important task of proposing measures whereby France can aid in the direction of the customs and military forces of Morocco, thus giving practical effect to the paramount position of France and Morocco.

Earthquake Strikes Alabama

By Associated Press.

GADSDEN, Ala., Jan. 28.—Gadsden and Attela experienced an earthquake shock during the night. Many citizens were awakened. In some instances glassware was thrown from the tables.

SMOOT CASE IS CONCLUDED

By Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—The investigation of protests against Senator Reed Smoot of Utah retaining his seat in the United States senate, was concluded today by the committee on privileges and elections, and when a report is drafted by the committee the investigation will pass to the whole senate.

One question of great moment which will be fought over on the floor of the senate is whether a two-thirds vote or a majority vote of the senate is required to expel a member.

Mr. Tayler, counsel for the protestants, has held that a majority vote will suffice in the same manner that a majority vote will prevent a senator from first taking his seat.

It will be several weeks before the committee will be able to report. The committee allowed counsel until February 4 to revise their arguments and file written briefs. Only one session of the committee was held today. Mr. Worthington, counsel for Senator Smoot, concluded his argument and Judge Tayler closed the case for the protestants.

Explosions Injure Many

WELLSVILLE, O., Jan. 28.—Eleven men were injured, two of them seriously, as a result of the explosion of an air drum in the shops of the Cleveland and Pittsburg railroad here today. The building was partially wrecked.