

GOVERNMENT WILL BACK UP TREASURY HEADS IN COURT

Brandeis Will Defend Secretary McAdoo and Comptroller Williams in Fight with the Riggs National Bank.

CASE MAY GO UP Whether Currency Official Has Exceeded His Powers Is Question Which, for Sake of Fixing a Precedent, May Carry Issue before Supreme Bench.

Washington, April 12.—Developments today indicated that the government intended to do its utmost to back up Secretary McAdoo of the treasury and Comptroller of the Currency Williams in the legal fight precipitated by the Riggs National Bank, complainant in equity proceedings to enjoin these officials from alleged attempts to drive that institution out of business through systematic and long continued persecution.

Attorney-General Gregory announced tonight that the department of justice had employed Louis L. Brandeis of Boston to defend Messrs. Williams and McAdoo in the injunction proceedings. He declared that his department and the treasury were in accord and heartily co-operating in these proceedings. It became known also that Jesse C. McKim, former attorney-general, also had been retained in this case.

Officials declined to say whether the government at this time contemplates any affirmative proceedings in addition to the defense of Mr. McAdoo and Mr. Williams. It was denied, however, that the bureau of investigation of the department of justice had undertaken any investigation of affairs of the Riggs bank. It was the hope of the government lawyers tonight that they could be able to appear in the District of Columbia supreme court Friday to make their answer to the prayer for injunction. If they are then prepared, it is expected a plea will be made for an extension of time.

Lawyers in this case gave attention today to the question of whether the comptroller had exceeded his powers in certain acts of which the bank complains. It was maintained that for the sake of precedent to be established this alone would be sufficient to insist a strong defense by the government. It was recalled that while the courts have consistently declined to interfere with the ordinary exercise of the executive functions by an officer of the government, an excess of such power is disclosed, an injunction may be obtained.

MAY GO TO SUPREME COURT. That the present case may go to the supreme court seemed entirely probable. The bank gave one tonight a long statement reviewing charges made by Mr. Williams last night. The bank statement called attention to the announcement made by Mr. Williams that investigation of the bank had disclosed irregularities and that the department of justice had engaged the services of Louis Brandeis as special counsel in the case some weeks ago.

While it is understood the German commander asked for three weeks as a maximum, he stated he would make every effort to complete temporary repairs and leave port before that time. His request was only for temporary repairs, as a thorough overhauling of the Wilhelm would require months.

It is understood his request included a petition for permission to go into dry dock immediately. Until this is granted the merchant raider must remain at anchor in the James river. Unofficially the captain of the Kronprinz Wilhelm urged that action regarding his ship be expedited and in this connection asked the state department through the German embassy to have the naval board make an examination at once.

While an opinion prevails here that the Wilhelm will return, Captain Thierfelder insists he must return to the high seas. One French warship and one British cruiser were sighted to-day off the Virginia coast. Late tonight it was reported that while two warships were searching the Virginia coast four or five others were searching the Atlantic for another German sea raider. This served to revive speculation as to the German cruiser Karlsruhe, several times reported destroyed.

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SEVERE BLOW TO VILLA BESIERS

Brownsville, Tex., April 13.—In a sortie by 1,500 of the Carranza garrisons at Matamoros to-day a heavy blow was inflicted upon the Villa army besieging them. General Salto Navarro, second in command of the Villa troops, was brought to Brownsville to-day dangerously wounded and the Carranza consulate here claimed the Villa dead numbered 500. The sortie drew from the Villa forces their long promised shelling of Matamoros, but the firing ceased when the Carranza garrison returned to the trenches, with the position of the armies practically unchanged.

CARRANZISTS HAND OUT QUICK DEATH

Laredo, Texas, April 12.—Information tonight from Carranza officers and soldiers in Nueva Laredo, Mexico, indicated that 50 Villa soldiers, who surrendered after yesterday's battle between Villa and Carranza armies near Huisachito, 20 miles south of the border, as well as a number of Mexican women variously estimated as between 10 and 18 were summarily executed by the Carranza forces. It was stated that a Carranza general ordered machine guns on one party of surrendering Villa men, resulting in the death of 76. Another Carranza officer is credited with having killed 120 prisoners with a machine gun, while other Carranza commanders were said to have used revolvers freely in killing Villa men as well as women camp followers. The wounded, it was stated, were bayoneted on the field.

KRONPRINZ'S CAPTAIN ASKS FOR TIME TO REPAIR CRUISER

Newport News, Va., April 13.—Lieut. Captain Thierfelder, commander of the German converted cruiser Kronprinz Wilhelm, delivered to Collector of Customs Hamilton late today formal request for one week to repair his ship in this port. The letters were forwarded to the secretary of the treasury and their contents not divulged.

While it is understood the German commander asked for three weeks as a maximum, he stated he would make every effort to complete temporary repairs and leave port before that time. His request was only for temporary repairs, as a thorough overhauling of the Wilhelm would require months.

Captain Thierfelder did not request coal and provisions, explaining he would do this when the Washington government has decided how long he may remain in neutral waters.

While an opinion prevails here that the Wilhelm will return, Captain Thierfelder insists he must return to the high seas. One French warship and one British cruiser were sighted to-day off the Virginia coast. Late tonight it was reported that while two warships were searching the Virginia coast four or five others were searching the Atlantic for another German sea raider. This served to revive speculation as to the German cruiser Karlsruhe, several times reported destroyed.

Officers of the Wilhelm asserted they did not believe that Karlsruhe had been destroyed. One declared the Karlsruhe had been heard from since she last was reported destroyed. A member of the crew stated the Karlsruhe last summer destroyed a British naval base at Bridgetown, Barbados island, and that details of the exploit never were revealed.

requested similarly to display the national flag at half mast. (Signed) "WOODROW WILSON." EMPIRE STATE OBSERVANCE. Albany, N. Y., April 13.—New York State will observe Thursday, the 50th anniversary of the death of Abraham Lincoln, by having the flags on all public buildings displayed at half-mast. Governor Whitman to-day in his first proclamation, directed this tribute to Lincoln's memory.

THE BETTER WAY.

(From the Troy Times, Rep.) President Wilson is determined to keep the peace. The tone of the protest against the British embargo upon American shipping is not, "You must settle with us now," but "We will settle with you after the war." While this may be condemned in some quarters as manly, it is really the part of manliness as well as of prudence. When American citizens see the horrors of the war which is now being waged they are willing to strain a point in looking for pacific language rather than to add another deadly ingredient to the horrible stew.

A DELICATE JOB.

(From the Washington Star.) "I understand that you republicans are busy mending fences."

"Yes, and it's a delicate job. We've got to keep 'em high enough for protection and yet low enough to permit a bull moose to jump into the corral."

UNSETTLED.

(From Judge.) "I hear that they belong to the early settlers."

"Well, you wouldn't think so if you could see the bill collectors climbing the front steps."

JUDGMENT BY SLEEP.

(Selected.) A writer of plays was reading a new work before a company of the French Society of Comedy, and presently was disturbed by the sight of one of the members, M. Got, fast asleep.

The author stopped and reproved the sleeper. He was reading his play to the committee in order to obtain their opinion. How could a man who was asleep give an opinion?

M. Got rubbed his eyes and remarked, "Sleep is an opinion. There was no appeal from this verdict."

AFTER I AM GONE.

The moon shall wax, the moon shall wane, The tide shall ebb and flow, And fashions make the women vain, And men still love the dough, Long after I shall be, With toes up toward the sky.

The stars shall shine the stars shall fall, The sun his course shall run, The fool become a prodigal, Until his web is spun, Long after I am gone, To be a skeleton.

The men shall die, the women sigh, As in the days of yore, And cupid's arrows still shall fly, Forever, evermore, Long after I shall pass, And rest beneath the grass.

Each spring the birds shall come again, And rest in shrub and tree, And singers give us upward pain, When screaming in high C, When I am in a sphere, Too far away to hear.

I know my days are few at best, Until I end my course; The bleachers then can do the rest, And yet till they are hoarse, Long after I'm in fix, To cross the blooming Styx.—Kansas City Journal.

"COME WHERE THE BOOZE IS CHEAPER."

(From the New Haven Register.) The prospect of grape juice becoming the state drink of England also must truly rejoice the heart of the Hon. William Jennings Bryan.

KITCHENER'S COMMENT.

(From the New York American.) A good story is going the rounds about what Lord Kitchener said the other day after he had inspected some defense works on the east coast. It is short and sweet.

The war minister motored from point to point, walked over the ground, but never said a word all afternoon until the moment he was leaving for London. Then he opened his grim mouth.

"Those trenches of yours," he said, "wouldn't keep out the Salvation Army."

A GOOD SALESMAN.

"What?" cried the careful housewife, "you charge me \$1 a bushel for these potatoes?"

"Yes, ma'am," answered the polite grocer. "That is the very lowest price we can sell them for."

"How is it that I can get them from Brown for 99 cents, then?"

"I cannot say, madam. Perhaps Mr. Brown has taken a fancy to you. He is a widower and you are beautiful." Unfortunately, I—Yes'm.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

An amateur photographer was desirous of taking a village church noted for its beauty, and as it was near the village school he did his best to get there before the children came from class.

Alas! just as he had got nicely focused out trooped the children, who crowded round the camera wanting to be taken in the photograph. Suddenly a bright idea struck him. He proceeded to group the children behind the camera, and then took a good picture of the church.

"Are we all taken in?" eagerly asked the children as they began packing up.

"Yes, you are all taken in," said he as he walked away smiling.—Tit-Bits

WHAT OUR NEIGHBORS SAY

Biennial Legislative Session As Viewed by a Bay State Contemporary.

(From the Springfield Republican.) In reviewing the work of its Legislature, just concluded, the Burlington Free Press is clear and emphatic in the conviction that the biennial legislative sessions are commending themselves to other States as well as our own in an ever-increasing degree. While Massachusetts people are kept forever on tenter hooks wondering what the great and general court may do and are frequently obliged to attend legislative hearings in order that undesirable things may not be accomplished, Vermont and other States are allowed some rest. The Burlington newspaper continues:

"Biennial legislative sessions are commending themselves to other States as well as our own in ever-increasing degree. Only one State in the Union has less frequent sessions than ours. Alabama's Legislature meets only in four years. Only six States have annual sessions, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and South Carolina; and most of these States are repeatedly adopting a change to the biennial plan."

Professional politicians and those who get their living out of the annual sessions of the Massachusetts Legislature are constantly telling us that popular government would go to the dogs if this State should ordain biennial sessions of her lawmaking body. There is something rather improbable about this claim in view of the fact that the biennial plan is accounted very satisfactory by those who have it.

SHORT SESSIONS AND FEW LAWS

(From the Rutland News.) Several of the newspapers of the State have commended the Vermont General Assembly of 1915, largely for the reason that the session was some days shorter than the session of 1912. Presumably the praise given the present legislators would have been proportionately stronger if the session had been even shorter. The heat that can be kindled in this State in a session of 1917 will win still further economies by reducing its length of days over those consumed by the recently adjourned body. It is probably true that the Legislature which will repeal the most statutes, enact the fewest new laws and receive the least money, will stand foremost in the favor of the people.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

(From the Rutland Herald.) One of the so-called impossible things accomplished by the newspaper press of Vermont was the considerable revision of the constitution in 1910-11-12, due to an awakened public sentiment for change.

New York, unlike Vermont, may revise its constitution every 20 years and "also at such times as the Legislature may provide, so a constitutional convention was convened yesterday in Albany, with no less a national character than Elihu Root as president, making the third of its kind within a half century. There is no time-lock to overcome in our neighboring State. Vermont, however, may only propose amendments every 10 years, to be ratified after lying over two years and then taking effect only after being adopted by the people on direct vote.

The time-lock dates back to the time when freemen feared their Legislatures, when every Vermontor lived under the dread of too much government. Such a situation could hardly continue at this time, and the check provided by the two-year interval referendum, the two years in limbo and confirmation by a succeeding Legislature and the people, would seem to be sufficient.

The Legislature of 1911 may only have before it this one proposal of taking off the time-lock, but if every Legislature meanwhile refers two or more measures to the people by make-shift referendum, it is fairly certain that the pot nimbance of progressive eastern States, viz., the initiative, referendum and recall will be proposed to the Senate.

It might be interesting to recall the following proposals by their admiring votes: To take off time-lock, Yeas, 16; Nays, 19.

To make senators and representatives ineligible to office of profit within the gift of the General Assembly, Yeas, 21; Nays, 6 in 1906; Yeas, 6; Nays, 20 in 1912.

To make term of Supreme court 10 years, Yeas, 9; Nays, 17.

To set time-lock every six years, Yeas, 15; Nays, 23.

Woman suffrage, Yeas, 9; Nays, 11.

From 1812 to 1889, out of 100 proposals, the council of censors adopted 26. From 1890 to 1910, out of 51 proposals, the General Assembly adopted 39, two of them in 1890 and eight in 1910.

COURT REFORM.

(From the Rutland Herald.) During the concluding hours of the Legislature of 1915, not an increasingly pleasant memory, two bills were enacted into law that some lawyers and most laymen expect to produce visible results in the reform of the courts.

These bills are numbered H. 45, establishing district courts and H. 45, simplifying court procedure. The first is expected to take care of the minor cases and make a long step forward in putting legal routine on a commonsense business basis.

The district court bill was opposed by judges of some municipal courts and, it is alleged, by some superior judges who saw in the success of the proposed system a great increase in the business of municipal courts without corresponding gain in salary, and (2) the possible merger of superior judges in the supreme court.

The average layman will be fairly skeptical of court reform proposals, but the new system will mean cheaper and speedier justice in civil cases up to \$20, and quicker disposition in the trial of misdemeanors, in which the new courts have final jurisdiction save on questions of law.

of the Senate judiciary committee so industriously whittled away some of its prominent features. It passed House and Senate almost unanimously, and a full-fledged session broke loose on the last day of the session when it appeared in the record that the Senate had quietly reconsidered its vote and killed the bill.

With the House running under forced pressure, the situation was not seriously brought to its attention until evening, when indignant House members began "laying down" on their county delegations to recall the bill. Rutland, Addison, Windsor, Orange and Windham counties were enlisted, and despite the statement that the lawyers of the Senate would fight all night, the bill was recalled, reconsidered, amended and passed.

It was even whispered about the corridors that a very urgent request came from Governor Gates to "get busy" and avoid repudiating the work of his expert commission. The important fact is that the bill was finally passed with what one senator calls "minor" eliminating amendments, although some good lawyers say they were by no means insignificant or negligible.

It hardly seems possible that lawyers would really oppose genuine court reform, but with no two agreeing on details, it would have been a serious misfortune if the ripened fruit of a judicial commission's enquiry had been rejected. Credit for forcing this measure through belongs somewhere, but whether with Chairman Graham of the House judiciary committee, Senator Nat. Divoll of the same name, Governor Gates or the focused pressure of the House, The Herald knows not. It is certain that the result is admirable, and that something tangible may be expected of the act.

Between the two, it would seem as though a great deal might be accomplished—in due course of time.

PERNICIOUS RAID ON SCHOOL.

(From the Rutland Herald.) The anticipated revenues of the State do not include a State-house building at \$120,000, and the practice of borrowing from the State funds is not only pernicious, but bad business. It would have been better to have faced the issue squarely and appropriated the money directly. The taxpayer, however, will be doubly thankful for the repeal of the \$20,000 act and cutting the proposed appropriation of \$20,000, first proposed by the shy, modest and retiring "State-house gang."

SPRING IN MAINE.

(From the Bangor News.) The boys are now in punts and scows down at Gundalow cove catching the fishes which are good only before the water gets warm in the spring of the year.

Day by day one watches the tassels of the alder and the fluffy blossoms of the pussy willow unfold.

One wonders when it will be muddy going, and if the mud will be very deep this spring, as it has been oftentimes in springs past.

One goes down cellar and breaks off the sprouting tops of beets and carrots and fancies he is conducting a wonderful salad for the delectation of himself and neighbors.

It is, however, nothing but a preliminary to the spring housecleaning, when the cellar windows are taken out and screens inserted. One can praise God for the coming of a real spring this year, as in former years.

FARMERS' WIVES.

(From the New York World.) Not the least wise remark brought forth by the government's questioning of farmers' wives was that of a Louisiana farmer: "The greatest trouble with the farmers' wives is a constant plea upon their credulity by so many writers tending to convince them that they are neglected, ill-treated and physically weak."

And that may be true of others not on the farms.

APRIL.

(By William Watson.) April, April, Laugh and jesting laughter; Then, the moment after, Weep thy girlish tears!

April, that mine ears Like a lover's sweetest, If I tell thee, sweetest, All my hopes and fears.

April, April, Laugh thy golden laughter; But the moment after, Weep thy golden tears.

A SNAFFY SIDE DISH.

Steam a cupful of rice in which one sweet red pepper has been chopped in five pieces. When the rice is thoroughly cooked stir in one can of condensed tomato soup. Season to taste. This recipe is a simple one and the result delicious.

A FINE AND SIMPLE TOMATO SAUCE.

Condensed tomato soup in its undiluted state—just as you get it at the grocery—is the best kind of tomato sauce. The flavor is delicious. It is all ready for use; and it is cheaper than any homemade tomato sauce. Try heating the thick tomato soup and pouring it over slices of toast; place a poached egg on each slice and serve for breakfast, or make some meat-balls or croquettes of beef left over from the day before and serve them with this thick tomato sauce as a luncheon dish. It is fine!

TRY THIS TOMATO BISQUE.

To a can of condensed tomato soup add an equal quantity of milk or cream and a dash of sugar, mix all together while cold, then bring slowly to boiling point and serve. In this way there is no fear of curdling and it requires but one cooking item, which is a real advantage, and can also be mixed any length of time before using, doing away with the use of soda, also, which many dislike and which is often overdone.

DO YOU LIKE MACARONI AND TOMATO SAUCE?

Then get a small package of your favorite macaroni; cook this in boiling salted water until tender; drain, place in a buttered baking dish, pour over it one can of condensed tomato soup, sprinkle the top with buttered crumbs and grated cheese, brown in the oven. A wonderfully tasty dish for an evening meal.

A BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY.

(From the Philadelphia Ledger.) It ought to be a good time to sell John Bull a lot of soda-water fountains.

A BLOW TO ROMANCE.

(From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.) If there be any nymphs, fauns and satyrs left in the Carpathian Ranges it is time for them to seek cover.

ONE BENEFIT NOTED.

(From the Charleston News and Courier.) Billy Sunday did benefit Philadelphia. Almost a week has passed without the discovery of a new political scandal.

The W. G. Reynolds Co. Carpets---Furniture---Linens

THE PANAMA-PACIFIC Free Tours Voting Contest Starts Out with an Excellent Showing

Nearly all the contestants are showing surprising activity. Great chance for some two people to visit the Panama-Pacific exposition without one cent of expense. Simply ask your friends to do their trading here and vote for you.

Standing of Contestants

Table listing names and scores of contestants in the Panama-Pacific Free Tours Voting Contest. Includes names like Mary Riley, Miss Bertha Ransom, Mrs. B. F. Ricker, etc.

Early indications point to a great deal of interest in this voting contest. People trading at the store are very enthusiastic for their favorites. This is a good sign and will help contestants to get votes. Let your friends get interested in wanting you to win this beautiful trip, or one of these fine pianos.

In this the first vote announcement Miss Mary Riley of 14 Pitkin St., city, a popular young saleslady, holds first place in Class A.

Miss Bertha Ransom of 82 Church St., another popular candidate, is running a close second in Class A.

Mrs. B. F. Ricker of Waterbury, Vt., is leading all others in Class B, with Lester Douglass of Richmond running second in this class. Many other names on the list show decided activity. The value and character of the prizes should be an incentive for contestants to put forth their very best efforts. Just think of a free trip to California for only a little spare time work—isn't it worth trying for? Now who'll head the list one week from to-day?

5,000 VOTES NOMINATION BALLOT. I hereby place in nomination and cast (5,000) five thousand votes for the following person as candidate in your Panama-Pacific Free Tours Voting Contest. Includes fields for NAME, ADDRESS, SIGNED, DATE.