

SEATTLE, WASH., FRIDAY, MAY 23, 1919.

GERMAN WAR BILL PROBLEM UNSOLVED

LAND BARONS HIDE BEHIND JAPAN-MEXICO BUGABOO

LOWER CALIFORNIA TERRITORY CLAIMS ARE NOW INVALID

BY JACK NEVILLE (American Newspaperman and Investigator, Who Has Lived for Years in Mexico, and Who Has Just Spent Four Months There on Special Detail for The Star.)

MEXICO CITY, May 23.—Lower California is an 800-mile-long monkey wrench, which is periodically thrown into the running gear of better, American-Mexican relations.

Rumors of large-scale Japanese colonization concessions there; alarms that the Monroe Doctrine was being flouted; proposals of annexation to the United States; protests that American rights were being grossly violated—these are some of the recent thumpings that have worried officialdom on both sides of the line.

AND THEY WILL CONTINUE TO BE A SOURCE OF SERIOUS INTERNATIONAL AGGRAVATION UNTIL THE PUBLIC IN BOTH COUNTRIES IS INFORMED OF THE ACTUAL SITUATION IN BAJA (LOWER) CALIFORNIA.

The big essential facts, as I have gathered them from government records and other sources of information inaccessible to most investigators, are these:

Seventy-two per cent of this Mexican state, the cream of the land, is claimed by foreign interests, mostly American.

The Mexican government is in undisputed possession of but five small, widely separated areas.

Four foreign corporations alone assert ownership of 25,000,000 acres—an empire greater than West Virginia, Delaware and Connecticut combined.

Flagrant evasion, however, of the contract terms by most of the big grantees has resulted in revocation of 15,000,000 acres by the Mexican government within the past year.

In these facts is rooted the persistent propaganda to annex Baja California to the United States—a movement assiduously cultivated by Japanese-land-grant scoundrels with their increasingly dangerous international reactions.

Government May Fight Forest Fires From Air Ships



Composite photo showing how aircraft will be used to fight forest fires

SAN FRANCISCO, May 23.—The trans-oceanic flight was designed as a test of aircraft by water. Now it's to have the test by fire.

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The experiment is being launched in the Cleveland and Angeles national reserves in California, the U. S. Forestry service and the army working together.

Successful there, it will be extended to the other 145 national forests throughout the country as fast as the districts can be organized.

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EXPERT SAYS GIVE HUN IMPORTS FREE SALE OVER WORLD

BY HAROLD E. BECHTOL (European Manager of the N. E. A.)

PARIS, May 23.—A little "secret history" from the peace conference:

At one stage of the peace-making the diplomats called in Kanes, the greatest British economist, and asked him in effect:

"Mr. Kanes, how could we collect from Germany the greatest amount she could possibly pay in the shortest time?"

Kanes told them: "By giving preference to German manufactured goods!"

The idea didn't make much of a hit with the diplomats. But they had given them the cold, technical answer, as they later on found out from a lot of other economists and financiers, and from their own study.

This incident illustrates the technical instruments, and so on having high value because of their workmanship on them, and requiring little or no imported raw material, would be "velvet" for paying the bill if the allied peoples wanted to buy them!

There are exactly six methods of collecting it, according to the financial experts here advising the peace conference:

1.—Direct Labor and Material. This method can be best illustrated by using Northern France as an example.

2.—Against lowering of French or Belgian labor conditions, wages or demand by taking part of the debt.

3.—Against inviting German competition in dye and other industries developed by the allies during the war and expecting protection; in coal and other raw materials.

10 Lives Are Lost in Starch Factory Blowup

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia., May 23.—Ten persons are known to have lost their lives when a dust explosion wrecked the starch plant of the Douglas company, here, last night.

When a check-up of employees was completed this morning, it was learned four men out of the night shift of 106 were missing, and believed to be buried in the ruins.

Eight bodies were taken from the blazing ruins last night, and two men died in hospitals shortly after being rescued from the wreckage.

Accumulation of dust in the drying room of the three-building starch plant is thought to have caused the explosion.

When firemen reached the scene they were handicapped in fighting the flames because water mains in the neighborhood had burst thru the force of the explosion.

Two men, finally rescued from the flames, were so terribly burned and crushed that they died almost immediately after being sent to hospitals.

MASKED BANDIT HOLDS UP HOME

Thug Boldly Enters Residence; Robs Family

Boldly entering the home of Mrs. Orange Jacobs, 1801 E. Jefferson st., Thursday night, a masked bandit, armed with a big black revolver, robbed Mrs. Jacobs, her daughter Donna and William S. Carrick, a roomer.

The thief got only a small amount of cash, a lodge ring and a small diamond from Carrick.

At the time of the robbery, Miss Jessica Jacobs, another daughter, was upstairs reading and knew nothing of the holdup until the police arrived.

When they heard the thief run down the steps leading to the kitchen porch, Mrs. Jacobs notified the police.

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YANKS OF 32ND VISIT SEATTLE

Centralia Boy on Train Won Two War Crosses

Wearing two decorations for bravery under fire, Private George Bullion, of Centralia, with 57 other members of the Red Arrow, 32nd division, stopped in Seattle Thursday for a few minutes en route for Camp Lewis.

Bullion is a well known printer and member of Typographical union of Tacoma.

Red Cross workers distributed cigars, cigarettes and candies to the boys when they pulled into the station here at 8:45 o'clock Thursday night.

Wallace Honored by Paris Yankees

PARIS, May 23.—Hugh C. Wallace, the new ambassador to France from the United States, was welcomed at a luncheon given in his honor yesterday by 200 members of the American Club of Paris.

100,000 ARMY PLAN FAVORED

Kahn Supports Universal Training Idea

WASHINGTON, May 23.—(United Press).—Creation of a standing army of 100,000 men, supported by a system of universal military training, is the program favored by Representative Kahn, California, chairman of the house military affairs committee.

Kahn, who returned here from a two months' trip in Europe today, declared he would propose the plan to congress immediately.

EL PASO, Tex., May 23.—When El Paso was an adobe frontier town and an irrigation ditch meandered thru the main business street, the stump of a cottonwood tree stood at the intersection of the two unpaved streets.

ALASKA NEEDS MEN WHO WANT TO WORK

"Returning soldiers and others who want work at good wages can find it in Alaska," says E. J. White, chief of the Alaska publicity bureau.

Held Children in Room for 18 Months

PUEBLO, Colo., May 23.—Mrs. Louise Cummings, 30, kept her five children, ranging in age from two months to six years, locked up in one room for 18 months.

When officers visited the house only the oldest child was found to be able to walk.

Arrested Under Syndicalism Law

SAN FRANCISCO, May 23.—(United Press).—The first arrest under the new state criminal syndicalism law, which makes it a penalty to belong to a so-called anarchistic organization, was made when Emanuel Levin, secretary of the people's institute, appeared to furnish bail for seven alleged L. W. W. arrested in a hold yesterday.

Symphony Leader Becomes American

CHICAGO, May 23.—(United Press).—Frederick Stock, director of the Chicago Symphony orchestra, was an American citizen today, after spending 24 years in the United States as an alien.

JAIL FAILS TO HOLD THREE BANK ROBBERS

SAN ANGELO, Tex., May 23.—Ingenuity in the Nth degree was shown by Walter Harris, Willis "Snaky" Newton and Jack "Red" Johnson, yeggmen, in prying their way to freedom from the Runnels county jail at Ballinger, where they were held for the robbery of the Winters State bank.

After being placed in the Ballinger jail the suspected men pried a rivet from the steel ceiling of their cell, inserted a stove poker and wrenched the ceiling loose.

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NAME HARRY SAINT TRADE BUREAU CHIEF

HARRY Y. SAINT, chief of the foreign trade bureau of the Chamber of Commerce and Commercial Club, has been appointed chief of the newly created foreign trade bureau of the shipping board.

Allyies to Take No Steps Until Terms Signed

PARIS, May 23.—(United Press).—The world must wait several months for the trial of Wilhelm Hohenzollern, providing he is brought into court at all, it was revealed today.

MUST WAIT FOR KAISER'S TRIAL

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Winnipeg Row Will End Soon

Winnipeg, May 23.—There were signs today to presage the breaking up of the Winnipeg row.

NC-4 WAITING FOR CALM SEA

Official Report Says Airplane Won't Start Today

WASHINGTON, May 23.—(United Press).—Rough seas today again held up the scheduled "hop off" of the NC-4 from Ponta Delgada.

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