

NO BASIS FOR CHARGE AGAINST HIGH OFFICIALS

Majority Report Denounces Roosevelt for Not Appearing Before Committee.

SAY OFFICIALS AIDED FOREIGNERS

Charges Were Circulated During Last Term of Congress Says Report.

Washington, Jan. 5.—Charges circulated during the last session of congress that administration officials acted in the interest of foreign business firms in urging the passage of the government ship purchase bill, are held to be baseless in the majority and minority reports filed by the senate committee appointed to investigate them.

Both reports also found the shipping interests blameless of illegal activity in opposing the measure. The majority denounced Theodore Roosevelt for failing to appear before the committee to testify concerning his published assertion that President Wilson and Secretary of State Lansing endeavored in the interest of certain foreign business firms to secure for the United States the power to purchase the interned ships of one of the belligerents.

The charge, the report said, had its origin "in that ungenerous trait of the human mind which makes it prone to attribute the measure to redoubtable rivals and particularly political antagonists." "The writer," added the report, "whose eminence was naturally calculated to give weight to his utterances, finding himself without any basis even of a hearsay character for his slanderous attack, upon the highest officer of the government, simply resorted to a palpable sophistry to escape the responsibility for the assertion he had made."

Defends Policy.

While the committee found no evidence to incriminate any president or secretary harbored any purpose to buy interned ships, the majority held that it was not difficult to conceive of reasons consistent with the most exalted motives for the belligerent president to refrain from public declaration that the belligerent ships would not be bought.

"Such an action," said the report, "would rightly be construed as an abandonment of our rights which our nation has vigorously maintained."

They Sore It.

Senator Sutherland presented the minority report for himself and Senator Penrose. "We do not concur," it said, "in so far as the report defends the bill itself, nor in so far as it insists there would be no impropriety in the purchase of the belligerent ships. We believe the bill a thoroughly bad piece of legislation, and are certain that to have purchased the now interned ships would have developed serious trouble for the United States."

BANDITS NUMEROUS IN INNER MONGOLIA

No Passports Issued by Chinese to Country—Army is Resisted.

Peking, Jan. 5.—Bandits have become so active in Inner Mongolia and have been so successful in resisting the Chinese army that the government now refuses to issue passports for Inner Mongolia and for much of China proper lying near the Mongolian border. Many robberies have been committed near Kalgan and Dolon-nor. Kalgan is less than one hundred miles northwest of Peking, while Dolon-nor is about 150 miles north of the Chinese capital.

China organized a Mongolian guard of about 8,000 soldiers some time ago. Practically all this guard has been sent and taken by the Chinese army to the bandits. Loyal troops have been sent from other parts of China within the last month, and rumors have reached Peking that their conflicts with the bandits have been so successful that the regular organization. Reports are constantly reaching Peking concerning the robbery of missionaries and other foreigners in the Mongolian section.

USE CONTRACTOR IN A. C. PROBE

Winnipeg, Man., Jan. 5.—J. R. Cote, arrested on criminal charges in which two girls are the principals, in whose favor the crown is wanted by the Manitoba provincial authorities in connection with the probe they are making into construction operations at the Manitoba college of agriculture. Cote did work amounting to \$124,000 at the college, building the famous poultry house, with the firm of Cote & Benoit, he was interested in \$171,000 worth of other contracts.

The contractor will appear before the provincial probers the latter part of this month. He argued on the criminal charge has created a distinct sensation because of his local prominence.

SINKING OF LINER RENEWS CRITICAL SITUATION WITH AUSTRIA



Robert McNeely and Map Showing Where Persia Was Sunk.

Once again American relations with Austria are strained, this time by reason of the sinking of the liner Persia by a submarine and the consequent loss of many lives, including that of Robert McNeely, American consul at Aden, Arabia. The sinking of the Persia without warning, just after Austria had yielded to American demands in the Ancona case, makes the situation all the more serious. Baron Zwiedinek, representing Austria at Washington, has asked the American people to suspend judgment until after all the facts are known. Complete confidence prevails in Teutonic diplomatic circles that if an Austrian submarine sank the Persia without warning the act would be disavowed promptly, reparation made for American lives and the submarine commander severely punished.

Mr. McNeely at the time of the disaster was on his way to his first consular post. He was appointed to the Aden consulate in October, 1915. He was born in Waxhaw, N. C., Nov. 12, 1883, and his home was in Monroe, N. C. He was a member of the North Carolina legislature from 1908 to 1910.

INTERNATIONAL LAW IS SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION

Almost all Speakers Make Speech on Pan-Americanism at Meeting.

Washington, Jan. 5.—Chief interest in the work of the Pan-American scientific congress today again centered in the section for the study of international law, where almost all speakers discussed some phase of Pan-Americanism.

SPEND \$50,000 MONTH IN RELIEF

Manitoba Fund for Aid of Soldiers' Families Severely Taxed.

Winnipeg, Man., Jan. 5.—Fifty thousand dollars was expended each month during the past year for the aid and relief of families of soldiers, the work being conducted through the Manitoba patriotic fund, the statement of the treasurer of that organization revealing the vast extent of operations during the year just concluded.

The statement shows that the exact expenditures in cash during the year were \$597,207.25, but in addition to this assistance in the form of supplies, milk, fuel, etc., was provided, thus putting the total of aid at over \$600,000 in the year.

Since the commencement of the second year of the war, contributions to the fund from the city of Winnipeg alone have totalled \$185,259.85, while the remainder of the province has subscribed \$34,408.42.

The ever increasing financial demands on the patriotic fund are revealed by the fact that during November and December the disbursements surpassed the receipts by \$5,000.

RAILROAD FIGHTS TO AVOID TAXES

Winnipeg, Man., Jan. 5.—The question of whether or not railroads are exempted from paying taxes for special improvement taxes will be decided by the courts of Canada as a result of the action of the provincial government.

The Canadian Northern railroad maintains that it is exempted from local improvement taxes under the provincial railway act, while only \$500 is involved in the tax case being tried, a vastly greater sum is at stake as there are other assessments of like nature which will be governed by the ultimate decision in this case.

THE WEATHER. Generally fair tonight and Tuesday; light snow on Tuesday and Wednesday; west portion tonight.

NEARLY 60,000 MEN IS COST PAID BY ENGLISH FOR POSSESSION OF LOOS

London, Jan. 5.—British casualties in the battle of Loos, France, last September, totalled 2,378 officers and 57,288 men, according to announcement made in the house of commons by Harold Tennant, parliamentary under secretary for the war.

TOMBSTONE MEN HOLD CONVENTION

Greater Co-operation in Grave Marking Advocated at Annual Meeting.

St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 5.—Greater co-operation in the business of marking graves was advocated today by speakers at the ninth annual convention of the Minnesota Retail Monument Dealers' association, which opened here today.

SIX BOYS ARE FOUND DRUNK

Milnor, N. D., Jan. 5.—A half dozen Milnor boys were forced to make new year resolutions as a result of a Yuletide celebration. Finding a suitcase in an old separator, their curiosity got the best of them and they opened it. They found it contained a number of bottles labeled "Christmas Cheer." The boys were carried home to their parents.

CARRY NO ARMS WHILE ON DUTY

Peking, Jan. 5.—Officers commanding the various legion guards have agreed to prohibit their men from wearing side arms when on liberty. This agreement is very gratifying to the Chinese officials, who have expressed some apprehension as to what would happen if members of the various belligerent guards clashed and were able to use firearms.

1,800 MEN JOIN THE ARMY IN WINNIPEG

Winnipeg, Man., Jan. 5.—Eighteen hundred men enlisted in Winnipeg during the month of December for overseas service, according to records of the 15 military organizations that are recruiting soldiers in the city.

Of the number recruited in the city for local military organizations, 628 men were Canadians; 584 were English born; 171 Scotch and 91 Irish, while other nationalities contributed a total of 281 men.

In addition to the men enlisted for the Winnipeg military organizations, quite a number of men were recruited here for outside battalions.

TEXT OF GREEK NOTE TO ALLIES GIVEN PREMIER

Note is Protest to Entente Powers Against Arrest of Teutonic Consuls.

Berlin, Jan. 5.—The Greek minister at Sofia has presented to Premier Radoslawski the text of the Greek note, protesting to the entente powers against the arrest of the German, Austrian, Bulgarian and Turkish consuls at Saloniki, this protest, which has been delivered to the entente ministers at Athens, demands in energetic language the release of these persons.

BRYAN PROTESTS AGAINST LAWS

Compelled to go to New York to Testify in Case at Own Expense.

New York, Jan. 5.—William Jennings Bryan vigorously protested yesterday against the law of New York state, because he was required to come here at his own expense and give testimony in a suit for libel.

"I am here under duress," declared Mr. Bryan, "because it is the only way I can avoid contempt proceedings."

Mr. Bryan was examined in an action brought against a Greek newspaper. He was questioned concerning the sale by the United States to Greece of the old battleship Idaho and Mississippi. He said he knew nothing of the details. He denied that he gave any secrets of gunfire control to the Greek government, or that while secretary of state he had seen any letter written to the minister here against Agamemnon Schliemann, former Greek minister to the United States. He also said he had not heard criticisms alleged to have been made of him by Schliemann.

Rest With New Officials. According to Mr. Bryan, the sale of the battleships was a matter which rested entirely with the navy department. He admitted that gunfire control secrets might have been divulged by the navy department without his knowledge or that "the state department might have attended to some details of routine work without his personal knowledge."

TRANSPORT SUB IN SECTIONS

Paris, Jan. 5.—A large German submarine has been conveyed in sections by the Symrna railroad to Aidin and thence taken to Budrum bay, in the eastern Mediterranean, according to a dispatch from the Athens correspondent. The dispatch adds that twenty German and Austrian bluejackets in command of the submarine are putting the vessel in sections together. A Berne Albanian telegram says the same correspondent states that 30,000 Bulgarians, after occupying Elassman, from which place they have retired, are putting up a military value with them, have reached Luma, twelve miles from Tirana. The dispatch adds that shots were exchanged Saturday between the extreme outposts of the Italian garrison at Duramo (on the Adriatic sea) and Albanian irregulars commanded by Bulgarian non-commissioned officers.

CONSCRIPTION MEASURE IS PLACED BEFORE COMMONS; CAUSES BIGGEST PARLIAMENTARY BATTLE IN YEARS

JOHN NELSONS OF THIS CITY WERE NOT RIGHT PARTY

Telegram Says "Black Jack Nelson" is Killed—Not From this City, Though

"Your son known as Black Jack Nelson lies dead at local morgue."

The above is the gist of a telegram, received from Chicago, which gave six John Nelsons of Grand Forks a moment or two of uneasiness. The telegram said something about "Black Jack" being killed and asked that John Nelson, not the undertaker as to what disposition should be made of the body.

All of the John Nelsons of Grand Forks proved the wrong Nelson, however, as none had a son or relative in Chicago by the name of John or "Black Jack."

COLLEGE STUDENTS EARN LARGE SUM

Lowest Wages Paid Was 23 Cents Per Hour to Guards of Elevated Roads.

Chicago, Jan. 5.—University of Chicago students during 1915 earned \$29,253, according to figures made public yesterday by the bureau of student employment. This sum is equal to half the tuition fees received by the university.

Student waiters earned the most, \$23,333. The lowest rate of pay was 23 cents an hour received by those serving as guards on the elevated roads and the highest rate, \$1.25 an hour, by those employed as elevators. The bureau obtained employment for 1,420 students, 225 of whom were women. Seventy-four students obtained permanent positions paying an average of \$820 a year.

TWO KILLED IN COLLISION

Winnipeg, Man., Jan. 5.—Paul Lagre, a fireman of Moosejaw, Sask., and an unknown passenger were killed, and several passengers were injured when the Winnipeg express on the main line of the Canadian Pacific ran into a passenger train bound for Moosejaw, between Regina and Moosejaw last night at 10 o'clock, in a blinding storm. Both trains were running on the same track, a switch having been left open, although this is a double track.

REAL WINTER HITS CROOKSTON

Crookston, Minn., Jan. 5.—The first touch of real winter came this morning when a north wind blew a gale with the temperature 16 below. Lack of loose snow prevented an old time blizzard. There is no suffering as people all prepared and practically no calls for city aid have been made.

INHUMAN METHODS OF PUNISHING MEN AND WOMEN IN WINNIPEG JAIL SCORED BY INVESTIGATOR; USE "BLACK HOLE"

Winnipeg, Man., Jan. 5.—Complete and sweeping reforms in the prison system of Manitoba are recommended by Justice Curran, representative of the provincial government, whose report covering his findings over an extended period of investigation has just been made public.

Justice Curran also deals of "black hole," an institution in provincial jail system that he roundly condemns as an evidence of barbarism. "Having inspected the dark 'punishment' cells and observed their remote situation in the basement of the jail, I consider this is a form of punishment that is little short of the inhuman, especially when conjoined with it is the chaining of the prisoners to the wall," says Justice Curran, in his report.

DERBY'S FAILURE TO BRING UNMARRIED MEN INTO ARMY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ASQUITH'S ACTION; CRISIS CONFRONTED

London, Jan. 5.—Under the terms of the compulsory military service bill, introduced in the house of commons, all males between the ages of 18 and 41, who are bachelors or widowers without children dependent upon them, are liable to military service, Ireland excluded.

London, Jan. 5.—The bill providing for compulsory military service, formally introduced in the house of commons by Premier Asquith, precipitated one of the most exciting and critical parliamentary fights in the history of English government, certainly the most critical since the beginning of the present war.

The introduction of the bill was accompanied by the reading of the report of Earl Derby, which was addressed to Earl Kitchener. A portion of this report says:

"Many difficulties have been met with, but the chief difficulty has been the unreliability of starrng as distinguishing between those who should and those who should not be taken for the army, instead of starrng being an assistance, it has been a distinct hindrance to the canvass, because it was known before registration day what branches of farm industry would be starred (immune from conscription) and many were thus fairly starred.

CONFERENCE ON SINKING OF BOAT

Gerard Said to Have Asked the Nationality of Sub That Sunk Persia.

London, Jan. 5.—An Amsterdam dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company says that the American ambassador in Berlin, James Gerard, conferred with officials at the foreign office concerning the sinking of the steamship Persia. Gerard is said to have inquired about the nationality of the submarine which sunk the Persia.

Washington, Jan. 5.—President Wilson conferred with Secretaries Lansing and Bryan over the submarine crisis, but no additional facts beyond the definite knowledge that only two Americans were aboard the liner Persia, have been received by the department over night.

REAL WINTER HITS CROOKSTON

Crookston, Minn., Jan. 5.—The first touch of real winter came this morning when a north wind blew a gale with the temperature 16 below. Lack of loose snow prevented an old time blizzard. There is no suffering as people all prepared and practically no calls for city aid have been made.

WIRELESS FOR FREIGHT BARGES

New York, Jan. 5.—Wireless telegraph apparatus is to be installed on thirty-six freight barges that shortly are to be put in service on the Mississippi river, according to an announcement made here by the Marconi company.

The fleet of the barges, each of which will be of 1,400 tons, will ply between Minneapolis and New Orleans in competition with the railroad service. Their wireless equipment will be used in keeping shippers advised of market conditions and directing the trans-shipment of cargoes to take advantage of favorable developments. The Inland Navigation company of this city is back of the project.

CHURCH DOORS MEMORIAL. Hunter, N. D., Jan. 5.—The First Presbyterian church has entered upon a membership contest. The idea will be known as the "Bead" and the "Green" and the "Red" will give a contest in the winter. The contest will be in the form of a "Bead" and the "Green" and the "Red" will give a contest in the winter. The contest will be in the form of a "Bead" and the "Green" and the "Red" will give a contest in the winter.