



SOLDIERS DENY MISERY AT BREST

Berger, Denied a New Trial, Assails U. S. as Successor to Despotic Russia

MOTION FOR A SENTENCE STAY REFUSED FIVE

Landis' Act Draws Bitter Speech From Convicted Congressman-elect, Defending Socialism.

CHICAGO, Feb. 20.—Motion for a new trial and for stay of sentence were denied by federal Judge Landis here today in the case of Victor Berger, socialist congressman-elect and four other socialist leaders. Each of the defendants asked to make a statement before sentences were pronounced.

CLOSE DOOR TO BOOZE SMUGGLING

Secret Service Men Make Wholesale Arrests on Ohio-Michigan State Line.

TOLEDO, O., Feb. 20.—The open door to Michigan for whisky smugglers was perceptibly closed today when the United States government stepped in to prevent importation of liquor into Michigan from Ohio.

TO PUBLISH FACTS

Alleged Bribery in Third Naval District Fully Aired.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Fuller publicity on the alleged bribery conspiracy in the third naval district, which enabled "draft dodgers" to secure landmen's assignments in the navy, will be given as soon as facts are available, it was learned at the navy department today.

Highway and Tax Bills May Pass House Today

Road Commission Measure, Changed in Many Important Respects, Slated For Passage Under Suspension.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 20.—The state highway commission bill, changed in many important respects, was to be passed by the house of representatives this afternoon under suspension of the rules.

WILSON TO SPEAK WORDS DECIDING FATE OF LEAGUE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Pres't Wilson, and not the senate, will speak the words that will decide the American people for or against the league of nations, in the opinion of senate administration leaders.

ARMY IN RUSSIA IN GOOD SHAPE

Col. Stewart, U. S. Commander, Gives Lie to Alarmist Reports of Dangers.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—The allied command is "capable of taking care of itself against the whole bolshevik army" in northern Russia, Col. George E. Stewart, American commander, today cabled the war department.

NEW YORK TO CAPITAL IN 85 MINUTES; 167 MILES PER HOUR!

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—New York to Washington—85 minutes—average 167 miles an hour. That's the record claimed today by Lieut. F. H. Harmon, who made the flight in a scout plane.

SUGGEST COMMISSION TO DEAL WITH ANARCHISTS

LONDON, Feb. 20.—The attack on Premier Clemenceau was interpreted by the British press today as an instance of an outcropping of "bolshevism" throughout the world.

PREST WILSON TO SIGN REVENUE BILL AT PORT

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Pres't Wilson may sign the \$6,000,000,000 revenue bill shortly after he lands in Boston.

WILSON'S SHIP IS TOSSED BY GALE, MAY BE DELAYED

Administration Senators Contest to Leave Defense of Plan to President.

BOSTON, Feb. 20.—The transport George Washington is expected to arrive in Boston Monday, according to a wireless message today to Admiral Spencer Wood of the first naval district. The information came from one of the vessels conveying the president's ship.

ELLIOTT CRIES 'DOUBLE CROSS'

Former Saloon Keeper Declares Police Are Making Him the "Goat."

CLARENCE ELLIOTT, the Polk st. colored politician and former saloonkeeper whose place of business was demolished by the police on the afternoon of Feb. 1, declares that he has been decorated with the "double cross" by the Carson administration.

DRIVE YANK OUT

Mexicans Threaten American on Trumped Up Charge.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—Edgar M. Wilkins of Savannah, Ga., arrived here today on the Ward line steamship Monterey, accompanied by his wife and boy, after having been driven out of Mexico.

FORMER COUNTY CLERK ADMITS EMBEZZLEMENT

FORT WAYNE, Ind., Feb. 20.—Former County Clerk David C. Stout is on his way to state prison today to serve from one to five years.

STORMS DELAY 18 TRANSPORTS BRINGING 20,000 MEN HOME

CUBA PUTS EMBARGO ON WHEAT; WANTS TO SELL CORN SUPPLY

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—Severe storms, sweeping the Atlantic, have delayed arrival here of 18 transports, carrying nearly 20,000 men.

SEND ULTIMATUM

Soldiers Council of Munich Demands Radical Changes.

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 20.—The soldiers' and workmen's council of Munich has issued an ultimatum to the Bavarian government, according to dispatches received here today.

ATLANTA, GA.—ROBERT HINES, A NEGRO, DOESN'T LIKE MOONSHINE ANY MORE.

ATLANTA, Ga.—Robert Hines, a Negro, doesn't like moonshine any more. The moon shone so brightly at 2:30 a. m. he thought it was daylight, started to work and landed in jail, charged with loitering.

Senator's Story of Camp Misery is Not Borne Out by Soldiers' Statements



SEN. ROBERT L. OWEN. Sen. Owen of Oklahoma returned to the United States the other day with lurid accounts of how miserable conditions in Brest, the American army base in France, were driving men to suicide.

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BULLET PIERCES PREMIER'S LUNG

Causes Slight Hemorrhage But Clemenceau is in Good Condition.

PARIS, Feb. 20.—The assassin's bullet penetrated one of Premier Clemenceau's lungs, causing a slight hemorrhage yesterday afternoon, it was officially announced today. His condition, however, was said to be satisfactory.

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LURID TALES OF SUFFERING CONTRADICTED

Investigation Among Officers and Men Shows American Base is Far From Worst. Private Praises Food.

The following facts were revealed through a personal investigation by the correspondent of conditions at Brest, the American base in France. They are especially interesting in view of the flat contradictions of wild stories of misery in the camp brought by Sen. Robert L. Owen, who recently arrived from France.—EDITOR.

BY LOWELL MELLETT. (Copyright, 1919.)

BREST, Feb. 20.—Brest may not be the best military base in the world, but it is far from the worst, in the opinion of officers and men permanently stationed here.

An investigation, conducted under such circumstances as the situation will permit, failed to substantiate charges that Brest is a "pest hole" or that the men are victims of mismanagement. It is true that, in common with much of western France, there is a super-abundance of mud, but this is due to climatic and geological conditions. This could not be avoided, as Brest was selected as a base because of strategic and geographical reasons.

Reports of shocking food and sanitary conditions are unfounded, according to the inhabitants of the camp themselves. Facts About Deaths. Rumors are understood to have been circulated in the United States that 3,000 American soldiers died at Brest during September and October of the last year. The facts are, according to figures given the correspondent that from November, 1917, when Camp Pontzenon—where soldiers are congregated to await transportation home—was established, up to the first of the present month, there were 1,211 deaths from all causes. This includes the victims of the pneumonia and influenza epidemic during October and September, most of whom are said to have become infected either enroute here or before they left the United States.

It also includes 516 who died aboard while coming over. These figures were authorized by Gen. Eli Heintz, base commander; Gen. Smedley Butler, commandant at Camp Pontzenon; and Col. Guy Edlis, base surgeon. These officers claim that the sick and death rate in Brest, which handles more American troops than any other port, is the lowest of any camp in France.

"A White Man's Camp." A private from California, admitted that Camp Pontzenon is less attractive than Camp Lewis, that it probably is less comfortable and that the streets are infinitely muddier, but declared that it is "the best camp in France." He was asked why "because," he replied, "nicer food you get here."

"What do you mean by right?" "Well there's lot of it, it's good and you don't have to wait for it. Why, they had hot chocolate and things for us when we got off the train and a hot dinner ready when we got to camp, although it was in the middle of the night. Don't let me kid you, this is a white man's camp."

Afterward the correspondent talked with many other men in the ranks and the opinion of the California, regarding the camp, received unanimous endorsement. Personal investigation showed that the food was better than served in any of the American, British and French camps, which the correspondent had visited. Difficulties to be Met. When Brest was first taken over as an American base, there was a terrific struggle under frightful difficulties to get a million men through time when the only thing intolerable was delay. The problem is now that of getting even a greater number of men home again, with spirits intact, while tolerance for delay is not much greater than it was before. This is being accomplished despite hopelessly inadequate facilities—less the figures given above are disputed. DETROIT, Mich.—Mrs. Agnes Pappas won an undisputed victory over a purse-snatcher. When he seized her purse she grabbed it back again, took his hat, coat and was starting in on his shirt when he broke away. She retains the trophies.