

DEALERS IN HOME BREW SENTENCED

Head of Hops and Malt Firm at Grand Rapids, Mich., Convicted by Jury

GIVEN 13 MONTHS IN PRISON

Partner is Fined \$1,000—Owners of Other Stores to Be Prosecuted—Federal Authorities Plan Investigation at Chicago.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Dec. 28.—Elmer A. MacDonald and Frank A. Topping, dealers in hops, malt and capping machines and tubing, were found guilty by a jury in the United States District court of conspiracy to violate the federal prohibition law and of possession and sale of articles and ingredients meant for the manufacture of home brew beer. They were alleged, also, to have passed out recipes which produced real beer.

Judge Arthur J. Tuttle sentenced MacDonald to thirteen months in the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth and fined Topping \$1,000.

Wants Others Prosecuted.

"The government must put all similar concerns in the city out of business and prosecute their proprietors within thirty days," the court said, "or I will ask the President of the United States to pardon MacDonald and Topping."

The prosecuting attorney said he would see to it that the owners of such stores are arrested.

Plan Inquiry at Chicago.

Investigation of Chicago concerns selling home brew ingredients will be begun by federal authorities with a view to prosecutions similar to the Grand Rapids case, federal authorities said last night.

The Grand Rapids district attorney apparently has proceeded under section 27 of the criminal code, a conspiracy law which has been active for many years and under which the great majority of conspiracy actions are taken," Col. John V. Clinlin, first assistant district attorney, said.

The penalty under section 37 is two years imprisonment or \$10,000 fine. It would have to be proved, though, that home brew, illegal in quantity of alcohol, had been made from the ingredients sold.

If this conviction is obtained under section 37, the precedent established is a new and powerful weapon in the hands of the prohibition authorities.

Bar Sacramental Wine

New York, Dec. 24.—Abolition of fermented wines for sacramental purposes is under consideration of the prohibition department, Ralph A. Day, federal prohibition director for the state, stated. The department he said was working on the theory that fermented wine for sacramental purposes was not necessary.

"We are planning doing away with sacramental wine for all faiths," Mr. Day declared.

Director Day's announcement was made after he had issued a statement revealing plans to regulate the withdrawal of wine by rabbis for religious uses.

It is expected that conferences will be held with Catholic and Episcopal clergymen who would be affected by the contemplated regulation.

The proposed plan, which has received the tentative approval of Commissioner Roy A. Haynes, contemplates the substitution of specially prepared fruit juices for fermented wine.

BANDIT, ONCE TO HANG, FREE

Eddie Estelle, 59, in Prisons 20 Years, Gets Christmas Parole From Lansing.

Leavenworth, Kas., Dec. 26.—Eddie Estelle, 59, a convicted bandit, who has spent more than twenty years of his life in prisons, has been released from the state penitentiary at Lansing on Christmas parole. It was learned here. He was arrested in 1900 at Topeka Kas., to a charge of breaking into a store in Marshall county. Held in jail six months awaiting trial, he escaped, but was apprehended after J. E. Roberts, member of a posse pursuing Estelle, had been killed in a gun fight at Dunlap. Estelle was sentenced to serve a year and then he was hanged. The capital punishment order never was signed and Estelle staged a sensational escape. Estelle was captured in Illinois.

BLAST HURTS GEORGE WHITE

Former Democratic National Chairman Injured in Explosion in Ohio.

Marietta, O., Dec. 26.—Former Congressman George White, former chairman of the Democratic national committee, was painfully burned in an explosion of a gas at an oil well at Noble county, but his injuries are not serious.

TAX VALUES IN EASTERN KENTUCKY

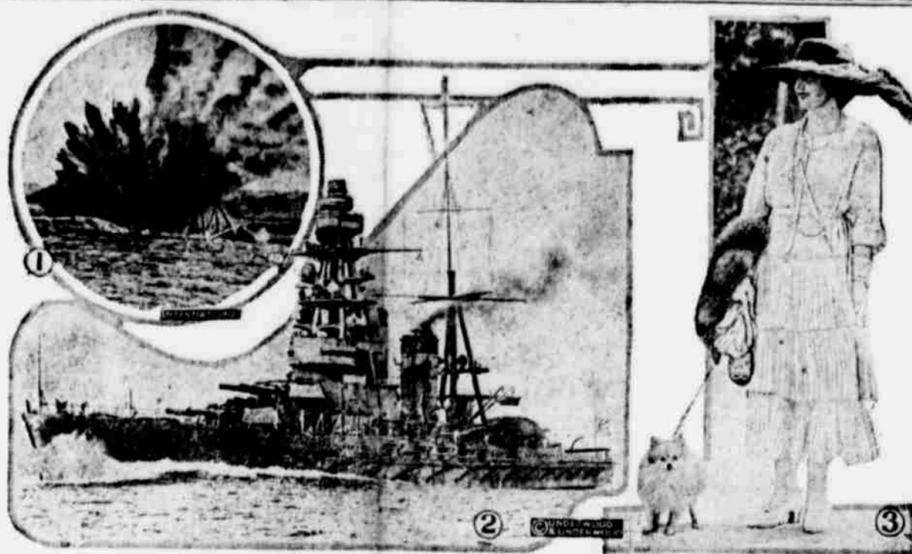
A great deal of space has been given by the press of Kentucky to a discussion of the tax question and revenue laws of the State, and especially to the discussion of the tax shortage in Eastern Kentucky. The Hazard Leader of December 22nd published quite a lengthy article on the real facts relative to tax values in Eastern Kentucky. The article is too long for The Citizen to reprint, but it is well worth-while to mention a few important facts contained in the discussion.

The Hazard Weekly states that it is true that the counties along the North Fork of the Kentucky river in the mountains were, and probably some of them are now, in what is called the "pauper list" but they were far removed from transportation facilities, and as everyone knows who is familiar with the section, that it is not adapted to agriculture and therefore whatever value of an importance that these lands had was because of the timber that grew on the surface and the coal deposits found underneath. This was before the L. & N. Railroad extended a line up the North Fork thru the counties of Perry and Letcher. The mineral products prior to this were of practically no value because of the inaccessibility of markets, but the railroads opened up the timber and coal and from 1910 to 1920 land values of Perry county increased 520 percent—far greater than counties in the blue grass and other sections of the State. In addition to the land values, there was much coal operation equipment which was taxed, but in the reports all of this equipment was listed in another column and the land property of the county got no credit for this. In other words, a mine in operation had its improvements listed as mine equipment, and this taxable property was listed in a place entirely different from the land, but in fact they both belong to the same people. Aside from the equipment the increase was 520 percent, and if you had the equipment, it would be much larger still.

There are many mistakes in the records that militate against the showing of Eastern Kentucky. For example, the Tax Commissioner states that Perry county contains 306,094 acres, while the actual fact is that Perry county contains only 214,400 acres. The county is reported as paying taxes of an average of \$16.44 per acre on 306,095 acres while in reality the total amount that is paid on the land values of the county equals \$24.00 per acre. The difference between the actual number of acres and the reported number of acres comes about by what is known as "wildcat lands"—lands that have been bartered with by schemers and crooks and have been sold from time to time without clear title. Many of the boundary lands have been designated by poplar trees and oak trees that have been blazed in certain hollows, and as time goes by and trees are cut, the lines are erased and speculators sell large boundaries of land that overlap other possessions, and this overlapping process in the past in the county of Perry aggregates 90,000 acres. Practically every county in the mountains can show similar conditions.

The Hazard Leader denies the fact that Perry county is still in the pauper list, and it offers reasonable statements to substantiate its claim. When Perry county is credited with the L. & N. Railroad taxes which are proportioned to it, and taxes on the various corporations doing business within the county, it will not be in the pauper list.

It is well worth-while for a Commission to make a careful investigation of the tax situation in Kentucky. We all agree that something should be done, but none of us wish to have any particular group of counties become the "goat" in the State-wide publicity of the situation. If any mountain county is failing to come up with its proportionate part of the State taxes, then a readjustment of its taxes should be made but The Citizen believes with the Hazard Leader that the majority of the counties of Eastern Kentucky are not being given a correct status. Those of us who are acquainted with practically every county in Eastern Kentucky know that much of the land is so poor for agricultural purposes as to make it hard for the owner to meet the present tax assessment. We personally know of men in the mountains who have been compelled to give mortgages on their farms to pay the taxes. Let us hope that a



1—Turkish bridge being blown up by engineers of the Greek army at Susharhos. 2—The battleship Mutsu which the arms conference permits Japan to retain under the naval reduction agreement. 3—Mrs. Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte of New York, who will become a queen if her husband accepts the tentative offer of the throne.

REDS TO FORM PARTY

Unification of Revolutionary Elements Plan of Meet.

Radical Societies Send Delegates to Session Called to Unite Under One Banner.

New York, Dec. 26.—Unification of all revolutionary elements in the ranks of American workers was contemplated by radical delegates gathered here for a convention called for the announced purpose of organizing "The Workers' Party of America." It was semi-officially declared these elements might be defined as "those accepting the leadership of the third communist international in the struggle to establish an American workers' republic."

It was expected that representatives of the following organizations would be present during the convention, which will close Monday:

The American Labor alliance, Workers' Council of the United States, Jewish Socialist federation, German Workers' Educational society, Finnish Socialist federation, Jewish Workers' federation, Scandinavian Socialist federation, Greek Socialist union, Irish-American Labor league, Hungarian Workers' federation and Italian Workers' federation.

Invitations to appoint the delegates to the convention were sent to the Proletarian party, having headquarters at Detroit; Bohemian-Socialist federation, Chicago, left wing elements of the Italian Socialist federation, the Socialist Labor party and the Jugo-Slav Socialist federation.

HARDING FREES 24 CONVICTS

Debs and Twenty-three Others Released From Atlanta Penitentiary.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Prison sentences for 24 persons convicted on various charges of hindering the government during the war with Germany, including Eugene V. Debs, the former socialist candidate for president, serving a ten-year sentence at Atlanta penitentiary for violating the espionage act, will terminate today under commutations received from President Harding, to become effective Christmas day. At the same time full pardons by the executive will become effective for five former American soldiers service life sentences for conviction by a military court of the murder of a British officer while serving with the American army on the Rhine. Action of the President in granting the commutations and pardons was announced after lengthy discussion of the situation with Attorney General Daugherty, who had ordered the Department of Justice to make a separate study of the cases of 107 persons serving sentences for violating war-time laws.

The commutations, it was explained, do not operate to restore citizenship lost by the felony convictions, but the pardons do.

ANNE STILLMAN SHUNS KIN

Banker's Daughter Back from Paris School, Passes Vacation With Neither Parent.

New York, Dec. 26.—Miss Anne Stillman, who arrived on the Adriatic for a short vacation from the private school she is attending in Paris, said she would not pass Christmas with either her father, James A. Stillman, or her mother, who are involved in divorce proceedings. "I shall be with friends," she said.

careful investigation of the tax situation will be made and that remedies will be forthcoming.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Arms Conference Seeks Agreement on Submarines and Light Cruisers.

FRENCH DEMANDS THE CRUX

British Want U-Boat Abolished in Warfare—Allied Supreme Council to Call for Commission on Rehabilitation of Central Europe.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

SUBMARINES, light cruisers and torpedo boats occupied most of the attention of the conference delegates during much of the week. The way the controversy, if so it may be designated, developed, is interesting. First France asked that she be allowed to have about 350,000 tons of capital ships, which would give her a ratio of 3.5. She said she wanted to build from five to ten battleships, though not at once, and supported her claim by showing how her navy had been neglected during the war. The other delegates could not stand for this, and Secretary of State Hughes communicated directly with Premier Briand, who was in London. In his cablegram Mr. Hughes said:

"I feel that the suggestion that has been made that France should build ten capital ships in replacement with a tonnage of 300,000 tons or more suggests a program of such magnitude as to raise the greatest difficulties. In fact, I regret to say that after canvassing the matter thoroughly and taking the best information I can obtain, I am compelled to conclude that it would not be possible on this basis to carry through the agreement."

Briand at once sent instructions to the delegation which permitted it to recede from the demand concerning capital ships and agree to the ratio of 1.75 fixed by the conference, so far as vessels of that class are concerned. But, for purposes of national defense, the French asked special consideration in the matter of submarines and light cruisers. Of the former they wished to be allowed 75,000 tons, and of the latter 300,000 tons. This, in the aggregate, would give France an auxiliary naval rating of about 3.5. Briand said France felt she must protect her three coasts, on the Atlantic, the North sea and the Mediterranean, and should have plenty of light cruisers because Germany is permitted to build ships of that type. He also intimated that Russia might build vessels on the Baltic which Germany could use against France. He vigorously disclaimed any idea that there could be hostilities between France and Great Britain.

Great Britain still insisted on the total abolition of the submarine in warfare, and Mr. Balfour asked that a plenary session of the conference be called so that he and his fellow delegates could make their plea for this in public. But the British stood alone in this contention and it was predicted the conference would refuse to outlaw the undersea boats. However, the Americans showed a disposition to compromise by accepting a reduction of the submarine tonnage allowed Great Britain and the United States. This, as it stands, is 90,000 tons. The British asked that at least it be cut to 45,000 tons. The Americans indicated they might be satisfied with a 75,000-ton maximum. If this last figure is agreed upon it may operate to reduce France's allowance, since that is the tonnage she is asking.

PRESIDENT HARDING, while talking to the correspondents Tuesday,

seems to have made a slight slip which caused a lot of excitement and supplied some ammunition to Borah, Reed and other opponents of the four-power Pacific treaty, who assumed there was a division between the President and the delegates in constructing the agreement. Mr. Harding in his interview expressed the opinion that the homeland of Japan did not come within the words "insular possessions and insular dominions" under the pact, except as territory proper of any other nation which is a party to the agreement. Senators Lodge and Underwood hurried to the White House and evidently informed the President that the American delegation had intended that the treaty should apply to the Japanese main islands and that the purpose was to insure the application of its guarantees to the Hawaiian islands which are considered a territory, not an insular possession, of the United States. Whereupon a statement issued from the White House which said in part:

"The President announced tonight that the difference in view in nowise will be permitted to embarrass the conference or the ratification of the agreement. He had assumed all along that the spirit of the conference contemplates a confidence which pledges respect of territory in every way which tends to promote lasting peace. "He has learned from the United States delegates to the conference that they have agreed to the construction which includes the homeland of Japan in the term 'insular possessions and insular dominions' and has no objection to that construction."

The administration considered that this closed the incident, but among certain senators the effect of the contretemps was the preparation of several reservations to the ratification. Borah proposed one providing that "no action of the high contracting parties, acting under Article 2, shall commit any nation, either legally or morally, to use force in meeting an exigency." Senator McNary of Oregon, who does not say he will oppose the treaty, wants a reservation providing that nothing contained in the pact shall be construed as applying to the Japanese mainland, which probably would result in the exclusion of Hawaii. Senator Reed took advantage of the misunderstanding to attack bitterly the treaty, which he charged was drafted with the idea of "deceiving the people of the United States," and declared the job was so successfully done "that even the President was deceived."

NOT until after the holidays, probably, will the Shantung question be settled. The Japanese and Chinese delegates reached an impasse in their negotiations and the whole matter was referred to Tokyo for further instructions. Dr. Alfred Sze said the deadlock was over the demand of the Japanese to retain the traffic management of the railroad, and Mr. Handhara said it was over questions concerning payment for the road and the employment of Japanese experts. The Japanese also say the money with which China is to pay for the road must be obtained from Japanese capitalists.

A WEEK ago it looked as if Great Britain and France were about to reach a complete agreement on German reparations. Both Lloyd George and Briand, as well as their expert advisers, were of the belief that Germany could and must pay the sums due. Then it appeared they could not agree upon the method of payment, and the whole matter was referred to the allied supreme council, which will meet at Cannes, France, during the first week of January. Italy had stepped in, meantime, with a strong protest against the discussion of vital topics in which she is concerned, without an Italian representative being present. The entire subject of the finances of France is involved in this non-entente.

(Continued on Page Two)

World News

By J. R. Robertson, Professor of History and Political Science Berea College

The Washington Conference is working hard at its task and took a recess only for Christmas day. The subject of interest shifts from time to time and in recent days it has centered on submarines. The original plan of Secretary Hughes proportioned the number of these undersea craft by the ratio method, but there has been disagreement ever since. England would be best pleased if the submarine was ruled out entirely. France and Japan both wish a larger proportion than was allotted to them. The United States favors the use of the submarine as suitable for a defensive purpose at moderate cost. There is reason to believe that an adjustment will be reached after each nation has had its chance to present its own interests.

The South American state of Colombia has just ratified the treaty by which the U. S. agrees to pay \$25,000,000 as an indemnity for injuries suffered by the secession and independence of Panama. The treaty was ratified by the U. S. Senate in April, after the removal of a clause which expressed regret at the occurrence. It was ratified in the same form by the Upper House of the Colombian government. The constitution of that country, however, requires ratification by the Lower House and here the discussion has been prolonged, apparently centering around the expression of regret which was stricken from the treaty by the U. S. Senate. The payment is to be made in five annual installments of five millions each.

A movement has been started to purchase the home of Count Tolstol, in Russia, and preserve it as a memorial of the great writer and friend of humanity. The buildings are already showing signs of decay and unless something is done will soon be beyond recovery. It is announced that the Soviet regime in Russia approves this move and promises to ensure the funds contributed from seizure for other purposes. Tolstol was the greatest Russian of his time and was always a privileged character. He was better known outside of Russia than any other of his countrymen, and hence the people of all countries are asked by his daughter to aid in this memorial.

The report from Egypt indicates the growth of a strong national feeling which threatens British domination in that country. The English do not seem to have the support of any party of the natives, and that is a threatening circumstance. The benefits that have come to Egypt under English control are many and are well recognized, but the principle of self-government has been growing. England's interest in Egypt is very vital to her on account of the Suez Canal which controls the passage to India. The government has recently sent reinforcements to the armed forces and professes to be able to handle any situation that may arise.

The treaty between England, Japan, France, and the United States bids fair to give rise to more opposition in the Senate than was at first expected. The discord has arisen largely from an interpretation to the clause which guarantees to Japan the integrity of her insular possessions. It was generally supposed that this did not apply to the home land, altho this is an island. President Harding so interpreted it, but Secretary Hughes and the British representatives declare that it was intended to include the home island of Japan. Party tactics are likely to be used in taking advantage of the disagreement between the President and his Secretary of State and popular opposition to Mr. Hughes' interpretation is possible. England will support it so that such large islands as Australia may be included, and the United States might do so for the sake of the Philippines.

President Ebert of Germany has been taking much pains to make it clear that Germany, as at present reorganized, favors the purposes and achievements of the Washington conference, and looks forward to a participation in such meetings at a later time. Altho the militarist spirit and interests are by no means dead in Germany, there are evidences of (Continued on Page Eight)