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ESSENCE OF ALL CURRENT AFFAIRS

A Summary for Busy Readers of the Significant Doings of the Day.

OCCURRENCES OF INTEREST.

Progress of the World in General. Legislative Activities at the Nation's Capital—News From Every Corner of the Country.

WASHINGTON

Elaborate machinery for settlement of disputes between capital and labor is prepared in a concurrent resolution introduced by William S. Kenyon of the Senate Labor Committee.

Republican members of the bi-partisan treaty conference reversed the diagnosis of the compromise situation which they had made and announced that conditions are now more favorable for an agreement on Article 10 than at any time since the discussions began.

Arthur P. Davis, of Washington, was elected president of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

The Nolan bill putting into effect the provisions of the Buenos Aires trade mark convention was passed by the house. It provides for the establishment of international bureaus for the registration of trade marks in the countries which are members of the Pan-American Union.

Increases of from 10 to 100 per cent in wholesale prices of staple meats and vegetables in New York city since August 15 were shown by figures made public by the department of agriculture.

Means of reducing living costs were discussed at a conference between Assistant Attorney General Figg, in charge of the government's campaign to lower cost of food and a committee of the National Retail Merchant's Association.

Railroad Administration deficit was reduced approximately $60,000,000 by the decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission in ruling compensation for mail should be paid on space basis instead of weight.

THE NATION'S BUSINESS

Twenty articles of food reached record prices in December.

Consolidation of the nearly 160 major railroad lines of the country into fourteen main competitive systems was proposed in a statement submitted by John E. Oldham of Boston, vice president of the Investment Bankers' Association to the conference committee of the senate and house attempting to harmonize differences between the Cummins and Esch railroad bills.

Federal Reserve Board is drafting regulations to govern operations under the Edge foreign trade financing act.

House Ways and Means Committee was told food relief in Europe can be furnished only through the United States government establishing credits for European countries to buy supplies in this country.

The term "all wool" has been used for twenty years as a camouflage for shoddy in fabrics, and two-thirds of the so called "all wool" fabrics manufactured in this country are really shoddy, declared Alexander Walker, of New York, president of the National Sheep and Wool Bureau, of Chicago, in his address before the convention of the National Wool Growers' Association in Salt Lake City.

A general decline in wheat brought a drop of 50 cents a barrel in flour. Standard flour in 98 pound sacks sold at $14.25 a barrel.

A prediction that there will be a reduction in the price of clothing was made by Howard E. Figg, assistant attorney general, following a conference in Washington with the committee of seventeen, representing retail clothing and shoe organizations of the country.

GENERAL

The United States senate interstate commerce sub-committee appointed to probe charges of alleged Bolsheviki and un-American activities among employees of the Federal Trade Commission decided to conduct an immediate investigation.

The house Ways and Means Committee postponed further action on the plan for extending food relief funds of $150,000,000 to the hungry of Western Europe until a statement as to the condition of the treasury is received.

Director Hines appointed W. C. Hurst general manager of the Chicago, Peoria and St. Louis railroad.

Embargo on movement of grain through Gulf ports in effect since last August was cancelled.

Seymour Stedman, one of the counsel of the Socialists, who hails from Chicago, made a vigorous defense of Soviet Russia in an address before the assembly in Albany, N. Y., urging the accused be seated pending trial.

News of concessions made by President Carranza to American owners of oil lands in Mexico, which will make possible the drilling of several new wells immediately, reached Wall street, after the close of the stock market.

All Japanese sugar plantation workers went on strike with the Filipinos in Hawaii.

A civilian posse, from Dumas, preceeding Camp Pike troops to the scene of trouble between negroes and a deputy sheriff, captured John Welch and Frank Kibbel and Doc Haynes, alleged ring leaders of the Arkansas riot. The others escaped.

Federal authorities seized a wagon with 21 cases of gin, 36 quarts of whisky and 20 gallons of alcohol, at Madawaska, on the St. Johns river, opposite Edmundston, on the Maine border. This is the first arrest since the dry law became effective.

Worry over a deal in real estate is believed to have caused William Spindler, 70 years old, to kill his son, his son's wife and their three children and end his own life at the Spindler home in Harlan, near Fort Wayne, Ind. The bodies were found by Mrs. John Wertz, a daughter of Spindler.

John M. Parker, of New Orleans, Democrat, was nominated for governor of Louisiana.

Federal Woman Suffrage Amendment was rejected by the lower house of the Mississippi legislature.

A resolution supporting claims of Greece to Thracian territory was reported by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

An average salary increase of $50 a month will be given to Chicago school teachers after February 1, it was announced by Superintendent of Schools Mortenson. This adds approximately $5,000,000 during 1920 to the pay envelopes of the 9,000 Chicago teachers.

Dr. John L. Brand, amnesia victim, known as "Professor X," recognized his wife when they met for the first time in three years at Philadelphia.

Many bids were received by the Shipping Board on former German freight and passenger tonnage offered by the government to domestic interests.

Director Hines called a conference of his assistants to devise new measures to relieve the western car shortage in transportation of grain.

French exports to the United States in 1919 were $163,831,429, compared with $54,678,118 in 1918.

SPORTING

Sam Fitzpatrick, the veteran trainer and manager of boxers, among them Kid Lavigne and Jack Johnson, the negro heavyweight, has a promising young fellow in training now, Johnny Mullins of Flushing, L. I., who scales 128 pounds.

Jack Dempsey, heavyweight champion of the world, has asked that an official investigation be made of the informal charges that he was a draft dodger during the world war. The request was made in a telegram received by Major A. J. Drexel Biddle, president of the Army, Navy and Civilian Boxing Board, which, it is understood, will conduct the inquiry asked in the near future.

Georges Carpentier soon will be on his way to this country. The noted French boxer has a moving picture engagement to fill out in California and he will arrive here late next month.

Fred Fulton, the Minnesota plasterer, put Tom Cowler, the English heavyweight, away in the third round at the Olympia in Philadelphia.

Little has been heard from Jess Willard since he lost his crown to Jack Dempsey in the sun baked arena at Toledo, but the other day he broke his silence long enough to say that he would challenge Georges Carpentier if the Frenchman happened to defeat Dempsey.

Mike O'Dowd, of St. Paul, middleweight champion, knocked out Tommy Murphy, of Chicago, at Boston, in the third round of a scheduled 12 round catch weight bout.

Announcement was made that "Big Ed" Walsh, one-time star pitcher of the Chicago Americans has been signed to be manager of the Bridgeport (Conn.) club of the Eastern Lague for the coming season. For several months Walsh has been a deputy sheriff in New Haven county.

Princeton defeated Columbia, 29 points to 24, in a dual swimming meet in New York.

FOREIGN

King Albert, of Belgium, arrived in Paris incognito and had a long talk with President Poincare.

Premier Millerand, of France, declared maintaining "the alliance that saved the world" will be one of the chief aims of the new French cabinet.

Two American soldiers were killed and one was wounded severely in a clash January 10 with a Russian detachment of General Semenoff's forces near Posolsakaya, while five Russians were killed, one was wounded and 55 were captured, including one general and six other officers, who still are held.

American Association of Petroleum Producers in Mexico cabled to President Carranza, according to newspaper reports, requesting permission to proceed with new drillings in Mexico, to continue work begun and resume all activities under new legislation.

Gold established a new high record when it sold for 113s a fine ounce in London.

Assistant Commissioner of Police Redmond was found dead in Harcourt street, Dublin, Ireland, shot through the head.

In a report from Agram it is said direct telegraphic communication had been established between Soviet Russia and the Bulgarian Bolsheviki.

Lumber cut in New Brunswick, Canada, is expected to constitute a record. Reports from forty-two forest ranges estimate total will reach 325,000,000 feet.

38 INDICTED FOR PLOT TO REVOLT

William Bross Lloyd, Millionaire Agitator, and John Reed Accused in Chicago.

ARE FOR VIOLENT OVERTHROW.

Three Women Also Charged With Advocating Disruption of Government—Bills Were Drawn Under New State Sedition Law.

Chicago.—William Bross Lloyd, millionaire, parlor Socialist, sergeant-at-arms of the National Communist Labor party and self confessed "reddest of the Reds"; John Reed, writer, and 36 fellow organizers of the party were indicted by a special grand jury on the charge of having conspired to advocate the overthrow of the government of the United States by means of violence.

The indictments were returned before Judge Robert Crowe, who fixed bail at $10,000, or $5,000 on each of the indictments.

Some of those named in the indictments are already under arrest, others out on bonds and some out of the jurisdiction of the state at present. The bills were drawn under the new state sedition law passed by the legislature last summer. Three women not named in the conspiracy charges are accused of advocating the overthrow of the representative form of government.

The conspiracy indictments were returned against the following:

National executive secretary of the Communist party, August Wagenknecht of Cleveland.

Editor of the party organ, The Voice of Labor, John Reed.

Members of the national executive committee, L. E. Katterfeld, Alexander Bilan, Max Bedact, Jack Carney, Edward Lingren.

Members of the state executive committee, Harry Shipman, L. E. Fraina and State Secretary, Edgar Wallace, of Moline, Ill.

Active organizers and agitators, William Bross Lloyd and Charles Baker.

Those named in the foregoing also were indicted for advocating disruption of the government, as were the three women, as follows:

Margaret Prevey, a delegate to the national convention of the party from Cleveland.

Clara Rofsky, head of a local chapter.

Helen Jull, head of a local chapter.

The conspiracy, according to the indictment, was entered into here on September 2 at the time of the convention. Lloyd has not yet been placed under arrest.

Tacoma, Wash.—William Randall, alleged I. W. W. was found guilty by a jury in federal court on a charge of conspiracy under the federal sedition laws. Randall was accused of publishing and circulating seditious literature.

FEAR RED DRIVE IN SPRING.

Berlin Gets Reports of Big Preparedness in Russia.

Berlin.—Grave concern is felt in German government circles over alleged confidential reports from Russia which are said to foreshadow a Bolshevist offensive against Poland in the late spring. The extensive and formidable consolidation of the Bolshevist regime is said to furnish good cause for apprehension. Reports show that Lenine and Trotsky are building up a powerful military machine. The two great arms and ammunition works at Potiloff and Tula are again working efficiently turning out tremendous quantities of weapons and munitions.

While the situation at Petrograd is said to be still bad, Moscow, according to all reports, has emerged from the chaos, good order and organization having been restored.

Whipping of Women Stopped.

Atlanta.—Whipping of women at the city stockade was ordered discontinued entirely by the prison committee of the Atlanta city council, after a public hearing of charges brought by the Atlanta Humane Society.

SCHOOLMA'AM INDICTED AS RED.

Said to Be Secretary of a Communist Organization.

Chicago.—The war against Reds struck into the Chicago public schools when Mrs. Helen Pratt Judd, for 15 years a teacher in the Wicker Park School, was indicted as a secretary to the Communist Labor party, charged with advocating disruption of the government.

The indictment against Mrs. Judd was returned by the grand jury with those against 38 other persons.

$2,000,000 FOR ROSS RIFLE.

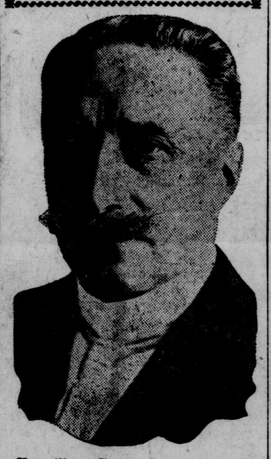
Canada Pays Inventor Whose Plant Was Taken Over.

Ottawa.—The government of Canada paid $2,000,000 to Sir Charles Ross, inventor of the Ross rifle, in compensation for the expropriation of his rifle factory at Quebec under the war measures act in March, 1917.

This amount represents a compromise. The valuators engaged by Sir Charles had reported the actual physical value of the plant and stock at over $6,000,000.

PAUL DESCHANEL.

French National Assembly Elects Him As President.



Versailles.—Paul Deschanel was elected president of the French republic by 734 votes of the 889 members of the national assembly voting. His majority was the largest since the election of Louis Adolphe Thiers, the first president after the fall of the empire, who was chosen unanimously.

CARRANZA DIRECTED RAIDS ON U. S. BORDER

Witnesses Before Senate Committee Offer Documentary Evidence of Plotting.

San Antonio, Tex.—President Carranza and a few of his principal lieutenants instigated and directed the long series of raids on American properties that began along the Rio Grande early in 1915, according to documentary evidence placed before the senate subcommittee investigating the Mexican situation. This was supported by testimony by John A. Wells, District Attorney at Brownsville, Texas; L. R. Barnes, in charge of the United States Army Intelligence work along the border during the war, and other witnesses.

The committee obtained from them and from documentary evidence information purporting to show that not only were the highest Mexican officials cognizant of the program of the raiding parties which was carried out under the provisionss of the "Plan of San Diego," but that as late as June, 1915, they were still giving encouragement to and aiding those who participated in those raids in plans inimical to the United States.

Incidental to the taking of testimony regarding Mexican government officials' connection with the "Plan of San Diego" further information was obtained as to the success encountered by Germans in bidding for the sympathy and support of Mexico during the war and the present alleged drift toward Bolshevism. T. B. Altendorf, a Pole, who was in the intelligence service of the American army during the war, was placed on the witness stand long enough to identify Mario Mendez, the director of telegraphs in Mexico, as one of those whom Minister von Eckhardt kept on his payroll during the war. Altendorf said messages from the United States bearing on military affairs were delivered to the German Legation.

Summarized, the plan of San Diego, a copy of which was read into the record, follows:

"The states of Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, and California are to be invaded simultaneously, with uprisings of Mexican and negro citizens on the American side. A separate government is to be established and re-annexation to Mexico requested. Six other states contiguous to this territory are to be carved out of the United States to be formed into a negro republic under the protection of Mexico. This is to be accomplished in a ruthless manner. All male Americans more than 16 years of age are to be killed."

WORLD NEWS IN CONDENSED FORM

NEW YORK.—All the 271 passengers on board the disabled army transport Powhatan were rescued and transferred to the transport Northern Pacific.

NEW YORK.—An organized band of fraudulent "revenue agents," and which has victimized more than 100 New York saloonkeepers, has been uncovered and the leaders identified.

PARIS.—The list of Germans wanted by the allies has shrunken rapidly of late. The total whose extradition is approved by the Supreme Council is now put at less than 500, against about 1,400 originally named.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Japan has decided to withdraw her troops from Siberia, it was announced in a Tokyo dispatch to local Japanerse papers.

NEW YORK.—Edward F. Gaynor, auditor for the Interborough Rapid Transit Company, at the Board of Estimate traction inquiry declared 187 per cent had been paid in 16 years to stockholders.

CALL SOCIALISTS TRAITORS TO U. S.

Chairman Martin Bares Scope of Charges Against New York Assembly Castouts.

HILLQUIT WARNS COMMITTEE.

Chairman Cuts Hughes Short and Excludes Bar Association Group—"Would Loosen Revolution" Socialists Endeavored to Stem.

Albany, N. Y.—It became evident beyond any dispute here that in addition to the five assemblymen under charges the entire Socialist party in the United States is under investigation by the New York State assembly.

Furthermore, in the opinion of men concerned with the investigation, if the case against the accused men is established on the broad lines indicated in developments, similar action in other legislatures and wherever Socialists hold public office must follow.

If the accused Assemblymen were ever in doubt in regard to the nature of the charges that were to be lodged against them that doubt was swept aside when Chairman Louis M. Martin of the Assembly Judiciary Committee read into the record a statement on behalf of the committee which in this instance constitutes the indictment against the accused.

It charges, in short, that the five men under investigation are members of a party whose principles and doctrines as advocated at present demand the complete destruction of existing forms of government by the fomentation of industrial unrest, the adoption of violence where necessary and the substitution of minority for majority rule. In addition, counsel for the committee promised to show that the accused men were so committed to these principles that their resignations were on file with their governing councils, to be produced whenever, in the option of their masters, they may be regarded as derelict in their duty to the cause.

Although he was quick to deny that any threats were implied, Morris Hillquit, chief counsel for the Socialists, after the committee's statement had been read and during the course of argument of a motion to dismiss the entire proceedings, delivered himself of some observations and advice to the committee that, figuratively speaking, made every anti-Socialist in the crowded assembly chamber see red.

"The Socialist movement," Hillquit said, "cannot be tried, cannot be found guilty, cannot be outlawed, cannot be suppressed.

"This proceeding may be delightful and novel to you; it isn't new to us. It has been tried before."

Hillquit added that attempts to suppress Socialism had been undertaken by the Czar and the Kaiser, and he asked the committee to consider their fate. He added that it would be part of folly to believe that the Socialist party feared suppression while half of the world was under its control. Hillquit completed his argument by warning the committee that if it persisted in its "contemplated act" it would loosen the violent revolution that the Socialists sought to stem.

"As a party," he said, "we are not afraid of you. As fellow citizens we say, gentlemen, take care of what you are doing!"

Calls It an "Entreaty."

"On the contrary," he said, "it was a sort of love affair. I was merely imploring you to be as good and peace loving as we Socialists are. That was an entreaty and it was intended to be."

In two other respects the day's developments went against the accused. In the first place Charles E. Hughes and other prominent lawyers, constituting a committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, were not permitted to argue in opposition to the assembzly's procedure. While in no way condoning the Socialist principles, this committee was prepared to oppose the method of procedure, and its failure to be heard was a distinct disappointment to the Socialist delegation. Mr. Hughes, however, did manage to get into the record a recommendation that the Judiciary Committee report to the assembly that no charges affecting the qualifications of the five assemblymen are properly before it.

WATERWAY BILL WINS OUT.

In Spite of Opposition Appropriation Is Passed by House.

Washington.—All attacks on the "porkless" rivers and harbors appropriation bill failed in the house, and, after numerous amendments had been rejected, the measure was passed with its appropriation of $12,400,000 for maintenance and continuance of work on projects under way. The vote on passage of the bill, which carries the smallest appropriation of any measure of its kind in years, was 167 to 25.

GERMAN VANGUARD IN PARIS.

Secretaries and Attaches Taking Up Their Residence at the Embassy.

Paris.—The advance guard of the German diplomatic mission to Paris arrived. It comprised secretaries and attaches, who occupied the former German ambassy.

Wilhelm Meyer is to be the German charge d'affaires. Baron von Treutler, minister plenipotentiary, delegate to the peace conference and an expert on reparation questions, accompanied the mission.

ADMIRAL SIMS.

Whose Sensational Testimony Has Created Great Interest.

Washington.—There will be a complete and full investigation by the senate of the charges made by Admiral William S. Sims against the conduct and naval policy of Secretary Daniels during the war. The investigation was ordered by the full committee on naval affairs of the senate at a meeting called by Chairman Page.

OUR SOLDIERS WIN ARMORED CAR DUEL

38 Take Siberian General, 6 Officers, 48 Men After Killing 5 and Wounding 1.

Washington.—American soldiers attached to the expedition commanded by Major General Wiliam S. Graves, in Siberia, 12 days ago repulsed an attack by Semenoff troops along the Trans-Siberian railway and captured one of Semenoff's generals, six officers and 48 men, in addition to killing five and wounding one.

The fight took place at Posopskaya, at 1 o'clock in the morning of January 10 when a Semenoff armored car attacked the American detachment of 38 men in their car at that point.

A preliminary official report on the fight, during which the American troops also captured the armored car of the Semenoff contingent, was received bq Secretary Baker, who made public extracts from the cablegram and stated that General Graves had also reported that he believed the matter could be adjusted peacefully with Semenoff, "who could not have been responsible" for the attack.

General Graves' cablegram was sent from Vladivostok on January 21 and the extracts from it made public by Secretary Baker read:

"Semenoff armored car attacked detachment of 38 men (United States army) in their car at Posopskaya at 1 a. m., January 10. Detachment fought and captured armored car, including one general, six officers and 48 men, who are still held.

"American casualties, one killed, one died of wounds and one seriously wounded. Russian casualties, five killed and one wounded."

SEMENOFF'S MEN ANGERED BY DEPARTURE OF AMERICANS.

Washington.—The encounter where in Americans seem to have been unexpectedly attacked by Semenoff's forces, whom the Americans have been in the position of befriending by keeping the railroad open, emphasizes the gravity of the situation now existing in Siberia.

Semenoff is regarded as more or less of a brigand, and his men seem to be showing an unfriendly disposition because the Americans are retiring. There is some disposition to believe that Semenoff's followers are after the arms and equipment of the Americans.

LATEST EVENTS AT WASHINGTON

Several thousand employees of the League Island Navy Yard stand to lose their jobs in February if Congress fails a navy deficiency appropriation of $10,314,962.19.

The drastic anti-sedition legislation pending in Congress received what may prove to be a fatal blow in a hearing before the House Rules Committee.

Senator Hitchcock stated the position of the administration Democrats as being absolutely unwilling to agree to any reservation on Article X repudiating the obligation of the United States to stand with other nations against "wars for conquest."

Army reorganization bill drafted by the senate military subcommittee was indorsed by Secretary Baker.

Senate approved bill for a commission to devise plans for a bridge over Niagara River.

Secretary Baker opposed a bill providing for the appointment of General Pershing as chief of staff.