

THE O'NEILL FRONTIER

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O'NEILL, NEBRASKA

Very few people are aware that the royal house of Britain was established and continued by drawing lots—a distinct form of lottery. At Celle, in 1652, William the Pious, of Hanover, had seven sons like the man in the fairy tale, and they agreed, in accordance with the wishes of their father, and for the interests of the house, that one of them should marry to continue the succession. Six silver balls and a gold one were placed in the reputed helmet of their ancestor, William the Lion, and drawn for. The prize fell to George, the youngest, but one of the seven sons who became the grandfather of George I. of England, and the great-great-great-great-great-grandfather of our present king, George V.

Though the use of tally sticks in public offices was abolished by act of parliament in 1783, they continued to be used at the exchequer until 1834, giving Charles Dickens cause to complain in a speech at the inaugural meeting of the Administrative Reform Association that the national accounts were kept very much as Robinson Crusoe kept his calendar on the desert island. In 1834 orders were issued to destroy all the tally sticks in the exchequer, whereupon two cartloads were set fire to one morning in the basement of the house of lords, and, as though by way of revenge, overheated the flues and burned the whole building to the ground.

That the Hittites were in constant communications with other nations, is shown by the fact that Egyptian scarabs and amulets, Phoenician pottery and Greek terra cotta figures are found in the tombs of the Hittites. Bronze daggers and jewelry are fairly common, and a safety pin, 3,000 years old, has been found, that would still work. Some stone age pottery, with the very ancient emblem of thunder or of the weather god, was found in the original kiln.

The United States flag always is hoisted over the Senate or House of Representatives when in session. The flag floats from the flagstaff of the White House while the president is in Washington, and its absence indicates the absence of the president from the capital. It is displayed over the department buildings in Washington from 9 o'clock a. m. to 4:30 p. m. every week day.

The safest way to guard against spontaneous combustion in large piles of coal, according to the British fire prevention committee, is to insert vertically in the fuel heaps, at the time they are built, iron or earthenware pipes, about four inches in diameter. A ventilator should be provided for every 300 square feet and the ends should be at various depths.

The salary of the president remained at \$25,000 from the administration of Washington to President Grant's second term in 1873. At that time it was increased to \$50,000, and in the administration of President McKinley, where it remained. He has, besides, an allowance of \$25,000 a year for traveling expenses, which he does not have to account for.

Charles Frey, famous as the "rat catcher philosopher," proposes to do his bit to make the world safe for democracy but extremely unsafe for rats. He has sent a letter to President Wilson offering his services in the work of ridding the trenches and training camps of rats. He has made a life-long study of the extermination of pests.

The American eagle is shrieking at Camp Custer. Western friends of the 316th engineers selected a full grown baldheaded American eagle as mascot for the fighters and the bird was received, not a bit disturbed from its long quartered journey from the Rockies. The headquarters company of the regiment is taking care of the bird.

WIDE RANGE GIVEN IN LEAGUE HEARING

Attorney For Nonpartisan Organization Is Rigidly Cross Examined.

Lincoln, Neb., July 8.—What amounts in fact to a joint trial of the Nonpartisan League on the charge of disloyalty and of the state council of defense on the charge of having unjustly lodged that charge against the league was resumed before three district judges today. In general outlines it is the disloyalty trial of university professors by the state board of regents. In each the state council of defense is the complainant and in each the widest latitude in the introduction of testimony is allowed. Apparently anything that tends to throw light on the subject is permitted with the rules of evidence suspended for the time being.

The lawsuit began as an injunction against the state council of defense to prevent it from interfering with league meetings, but the league attorneys frankly say they do not care whether they get an injunction or not. What they desire is a showdown by the council of defense, and a court decree defining what the constitutional rights of citizens are in war time.

Unless the council refuses to introduce any evidence and permits the case to be submitted on the question raised by its attorneys that law courts have no power to interfere with the discretion of coordinate branches of the government, especially when only a political right is involved, the case will be long drawn out.

Arthur LeSueur, executive secretary of the national Nonpartisan League, occupied the stand a whole day in the hearing on the injunction suit. Under cross-examination he admitted that he had appeared as an attorney for the I. W. W. on a number of occasions, but that his connection was purely professional and that he was not in sympathy with their philosophies.

He declared that the league had no connection with either the I. W. W. or the Socialist party. He had been a socialist, he said, but was not now. He declared that most of the uproar against the league had been occasioned by the profiteers whose continuance in business the program of the league intended to curtail.

FATHER BEING HELD ON SERIOUS CHARGE

J. S. Commissioner at Omaha Fixes Bond of Alleged White Slaver at \$7,500.

Omaha, Neb., July 12.—Charged with "white slavery," his own 18-year old daughter being the alleged victim, Henry Howard Biggerstaff, of Madison, S. D., was held in \$7,500 bond by United States Commissioner Neeley, before whom he had a hearing.

The decision of the court to bind Biggerstaff on a heavy bail met with the hearty approval of the court room crowded with women. After court was adjourned the women all gathered around the girl, shook hands with her and assured her of their sympathy and support.

"This is one of the most revolting stories of which I have ever listened," said Commissioner Neeley from the bench, "and, if true, this defendant will not want to face trial. I will fix his bail at \$7,500."

Biggerstaff, the defendant, is well connected in Nebraska. He formerly lived in Sarpy county and has a host of relatives and friends in that section. His father is Samuel Biggerstaff, retired, and now living in Lincoln, but formerly of Ashland. He sat in the court room and listened to the testimony, but did not speak to his son during the hearing. Later, the father and son arranged bail.

Senator Burkett and E. W. Brown, of Lincoln, represented Biggerstaff at the hearing.

"Biggerstaff" Not Known There. Madison, S. D., July 12.—The name of Henry Howard Biggerstaff is not known in Madison, but it is thought the man named in the Omaha dispatches was known here as Bob Baker who came here from Iowa and farmed near Wentworth about six years ago. He later moved into Wentworth and was later known as a member of the I. W. W. party. He has been heard from since in Wisconsin and Minnesota and is said to have done time in the penitentiary at Stillwater on a white slavery charge sworn to by the stepdaughter.

Fremont to Have No Races This Year. Fremont, Neb., July 12.—For the first time in 20 years Fremont will have no race meet this year owing to the war and lack of interest on the part of those who usually support the game. Secretary N. J. Ronin today announced that the races scheduled for next week had been cancelled.

Fremont is the oldest race town in the state, from the standpoint of continuing sessions. Nebraska City and Beatrice both have cancelled their summer schedule. West Point is having races this week.

GIRL SUCCUMBS TO BURNS THREE MONTHS OLD. Allen, Neb., July 12.—Mabel Anderson, 19-year-old daughter of Charles Anderson, of this place, died at her home Monday morning after three months' illness resulting from burns received on April 6, when a can of kerosene exploded near the end of her clothes. At the time of the burning it was doubted if she would live, as very nearly all the skin was burned from her body, but she came out of it in such shape that the doctors began skin grafting a couple of months ago. On July 30 she was brought to Allen from the Samaritan hospital at Sioux City in such critical condition that the doctors there had given up all hopes of her recovery. The funeral was held from the Methodist church of this place this morning at 10 o'clock.

ALLIES GAIN 15 MILES IN GREAT DRIVE

Austrians Falling Back on the Skumbi River 25 Miles North of Berat, Objective of Italians.

London, July 12.—Italians on their offensive in Albania continue to advance, says a dispatch from Rome to the Central News agency. The Austro-Hungarians are falling back on the Skumbi river, 25 miles north of Berat.

Washington, D. C., July 12.—An official dispatch from Rome today reports unchanged advance of Italian troops in Albania with Berat as an objective. From the Voyiza the Italians have carried all positions to the Semeri in an advance of approximately 15 miles over a 50-mile front.

By ED L. KEEN, United Press Staff Correspondent. London, July 12.—Italian forces, aided by French and Albanians, together with British naval units, are sweeping northward across practically the entire width of Albania in what may be one of the most important military advances of the war.

According to the latest dispatches received here the allied troops, in addition to making important gains on the 60-mile front between the Adriatic and the Devoli river, are threatening the Bulgarian right wing in the vicinity of Monastir, 115 miles from the sea.

Strike for Old Highway. The main military objective of the allies evidently is the old Roman road connecting Monastir with the sea, at Durazzo, possession of which would permit free movement of troops and supplies directly from the Adriatic into southern Serbia and would threaten the enemy's hold on a great portion of the occupied areas of that country.

One of the significant phases of the Italian advance is the frank admission of reverses by the Austrian war office. The latest official statement from Vienna said the Austrians "in the face of the pressure from strong enemy forces" had withdrawn across the Berat-Fieri line. Fieri already is in the hands of the Italians and Berat, the most important city in southern Albania appears about to fall.

LOCAL GAINS FOR BRITISH. London, July 12.—In a local operation carried on last night south of the Somme east of Villers-Bretonneux, the British positions were improved, says today's war office announcement.

FRENCH ENLARGE GAINS. Paris, July 12.—French troops enlarged their gains between the Aisne and the Marne, taking the village of Corey, the war office announced today.

On the borders of the Retz forest, the French enlarged their gains taking the village of Corey, the station and camp of Corey, the war office announced today. "On the borders of the Retz forest, the French enlarged their gains taking the village of Corey, the station and camp of Corey, the war office announced today. "We captured 50 prisoners, including one officer."

Defenders of Barleycorn Rallying in Last Trench To Block Vote in Senate

United Press Staff Correspondent.

Washington, D. C., July 12.—In a final desperate effort to stave off wartime prohibition, Senator "Wets" today planned to call up the wire control resolution. By keeping this before the Senate continuously until disposed of they hope to persuade Senate leaders to recess for the summer, leaving prohibition undisturbed.

A second move, counted on to be more effective, is the sounding of a warning that wartime prohibition, suddenly imposed will ruin banks holding liquor obligations and seriously interfere with the raising of war revenues under the new tax bill.

Senator Simmons, chairman of the finance committee is to present figures showing that more than \$500,000,000 would be required to get out of the bond 170,000,000 gallons of whiskey now on hand. The tax on this is \$12.20 a gallon.

Can't Get Money, Claim. Simmons will argue that it would be impossible to get the money necessary for withdrawal of the liquor. He will point out that many banks are heavily loaded with warehouse receipts and notes against which they have loaned large sums to distillers, wholesale grocers and druggists to pay taxes.

Unless the banks are given time to relieve themselves of this paper they will fall, Simmons will warn. He will submit figures showing how prohibition will reduce the national revenues at a time when the need is for every dollar that can be raised, even at the expense of people's clothing. Upon the showing thus made Simmons is being urged to ask that the Senate

allow the finance committee to work out a plan for gradual reduction of the revenues and for safeguarding banks. If this is agreed to, it would mean postponement of prohibition for a period considerable longer than the five months provided for in the amendment now pending.

If proponents of the telegraph resolution are able to force consideration of that measure Simmons will hold his arguments and figures in reserve, for use when needed.

"Drys" Are Confident. "Drys" claimed today that all doubt that prohibition is certain so far as the Senate is concerned was removed by the vote late yesterday on the ruling of Senator Saulsbury that the prohibition amendment was out of order.

How They Voted. The vote sustaining the chair on the point of order follows: Democrats—Gerry, Gore, Hitchcock, Jones of New Mexico, King, Lewis, Marshall, Ebelan, Pomeroy, Ransdell, Reed, Simmons, Smith of Arizona, Smith of Georgia, Smith of Maryland, Swanson, Underwood and Wolcott—18. Republicans—Baird, Brandegee, Calder, France, Frelinghuysen, Harding, Johnson of California, Kelogg, Knox, New, Penrose, Smoot, Wadsworth, Warren and Watson—15. Total for 33.

ALLIES' PLANS HELD UP PENDING FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS IN RUSSIA

PEER'S KIN WEDS, ENTERS WAR WORK

Washington, D. C., July 12.—A sudden awakening of Russians—thus far cited to the dangers of German invasion, is adding zest to the American allied plans for aid to Russia. It is admitted that much of the success of the economic mission plus a "police propaganda" force of soldiers depends upon how the Russians rally to its standard. Successes of the Czech-Slovaks in Siberia and the welcome tendered them by the populace there, the revolt of Ukraine against German oppression, reported today and the cooperation of Russians on the Murman coast with the allies are regarded as most encouraging by officials here.

Should the Czech-Slovaks force meet with defeat, however, the whole problem would be seriously affected. For upon that force the allies are counting for "emergency aid."

These changing events with their possibilities merely emphasize the difficulty confronting the allies in figuring out a definite course of action. In his recent conference with Lord Reading, Viscount Ishli and other allied statesmen, the president discussed the general program.

The president, it is said, is holding up discussion of the military feature until a decision is reached with American military experts. After this country has determined the part it will take, that phase of the question will be laid before the allies.

THOUSANDS PAY FINAL TRIBUTE TO MITCHELL. New York, July 12.—The body of Major John Purroy Mitchell, former mayor of New York, was borne to its grave today as lines of silent thousands stood uncovered along the route of the impressive procession which escorted the bronze coffin.

The bell in the tower of the city hall, silent since the memorable day when Mitchell, then chief executive of the city, welcomed Marshal Joffre and his party, tolled slowly as the parade wound past. The subway hummed underneath, an airplane droned overhead, the seuff of marching feet sounded, sparrows twittered, but there was no sound from the throng which stood until the last man of that long procession had passed the coffin which rested on its black gun caisson at the entrance to the historic edifice.

Former President Roosevelt fell into line as the first man to follow the black caparisoned horse of the dead aviator. With him were others of renown. Joseph P. Tumulty, secretary to President Wilson, was in line as was Lieutenant General Bridges, of the British army.

Then came sailors, soldiers, police and the fire department of the city. Friends of the former mayor followed—all afoot. Three carriages were in line, in addition to the vehicle which carried the body.

The aviator who had been wheeling overhead while preparations were made to start the cortege, followed the line up Fifth avenue, scattering flowers as he went.

POSSE PURSUES BAND OF KANSAS ROBBERS

Three Persons Shot in "Katy" Train Hold Up—Express and Mail Cars Looted.

Paola, Kan., July 12.—Bandits who held up the M., K. & T. "Texas special" at Koch, Kan., last night were being pursued today by a posse of 10 miles south of Paola. Nearly 200 officers and armed citizens were trying to surround them. A battle was expected.

Paola, Kan., July 12.—A posse today patrolled the banks of the Marais De Cygne river near here in search of a dozen men who late last night held up a south bound Missouri, Kansas & Texas passenger train south of Paola, shot three persons and looted the express and mail cars.

Details of the robbery as related by railway employes indicated the robbers "shot up" the train to terrorize the passengers and crew. No attempt was made to rob the passengers. The train was flagged and the bandits forced the engineer and fireman into the smoking car.

Detaching the mail and express cars, the bandits ran them ahead and rifled them. The amount of the loot is not known.

Those wounded are: Fireman R. E. Carter and Auditor C. T. Witcher, both of Parsons, Kan., and Mrs. L. D. Williams of Acsville, Okla. None of the wounds is considered serious.

According to one of the mail clerks the robbers secured but little money from the mails and American express agents declare that jewelry valued at \$500 was the most valuable shipment the express car contained.

SAYS RUSSIAN HEIR HAS BEEN MURDERED

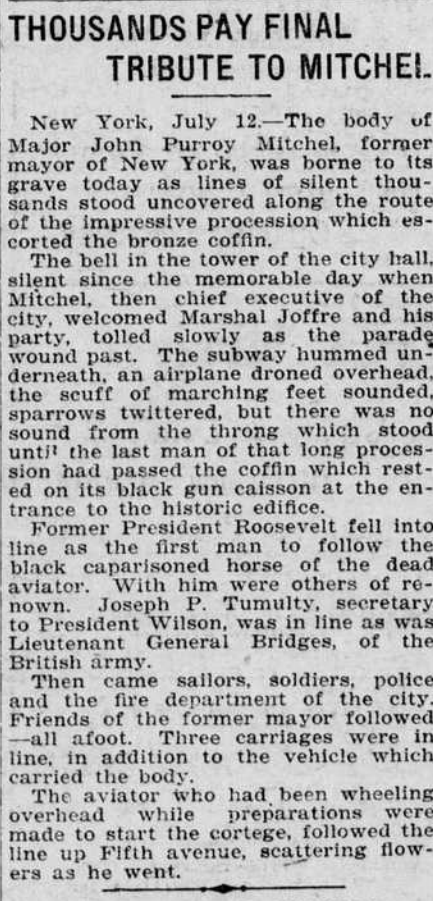
Report Circulated Alexis Romanoff Was Slain By Bolshevik By Means of Bomb.

London, July 12.—Swedish newspapers publish a statement by a Swede just returned from Moscow that Alexis Romanoff, son of the former Russian emperor, has been killed by a bolshevik soldier by means of a bomb days ago, says a Telegraph dispatch from Copenhagen today.

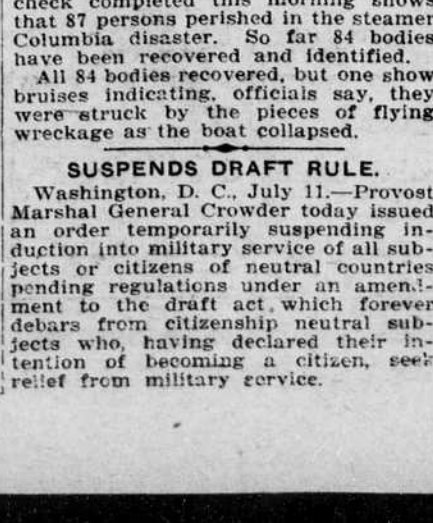
TRAWLER IS SUNK. Boston, Mass., July 11.—The steam trawler Georgia, of Boston, was sunk off this harbor today in a collision with the steamship Bristol, bound from New York for this port.



Lady Blanche Somerset recently married the Earl of St. Germans at St. Margaret, Westminster, England. Immediately after the ceremony Lady Somerset left for France to continue her work in the hospitals at the front.



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