

Today

Murder and Revenge.
French-English War?
We Need Flyers.
Earth's Vile Weather.

By ARTHUR BRISBANE

Unpleasant news from the Ruhr. Two French officials are assassinated, shot in the back. That was inevitable. Yesterday French soldiers fired into a German crowd, killing eight or 10. Also inevitable. Poincare had promised the soldiers "full revenge." They will take it.

What Lloyd George says today as a private citizen he may be saying in a short time as prime minister of England. That makes important the terms he uses, in his latest article, concerning the French-English war. France "is committed to a reckless gamble," describes French statesmen as floundering in a deadly quicksand, not daring to turn back. No French statesmen would dare change the desperate policy, fearing to face responsibility for the final fatal result.

Lloyd George describes French utterances as "these ravings of brains intoxicated with an unwholesome mixture of hatred, greed and military arrogance" and says the British and American government which saved France from conquest by Germany are not even to be consulted.

Whatever your opinion of Lloyd George, now that he turns so fiercely against England's French ally, you don't forget that he is the most powerful, influential man in the British empire, was prime minister yesterday, and may hold that post again next month. What then? Another war? This time between England and France, with France laughing at England's out-of-date battalions, saying: "We fight this time in the air, where the French ace is supreme. We'll show you a new Trafalgar, with a French Nelson." It is no dangerous condition with yesterday's allies turned bitter enemies. What insanity impels certain Americans to mix up this country with that European hell-broth?

The cost of the British army is cut down \$50,000,000 for the coming year, the number of men reduced to 170,000, not many for an empire that reaches around the world.

This country might follow that example of economy in the army and spend the money saved, on flying machines. J. Mayhew Wainwright, representative of the aviation industry, secretary of war, demands \$25,000,000 additional for aviation and the demand is moderate. Twenty-five millions represent a little more than half the cost of one first-class battleship. And the fleet of airships that \$25,000,000 could build would sink every battleship afloat.

There is nothing as important, for the security of this nation, as the building of an air fleet. Every airship could earn its keep in peace times, in the postoffice, forest fire service and passenger service. With a fleet thus employed the nation would have on hand a body of trained flyers. Part of their work should be bomb-dropping practice, with good prizes for the best marksmen.

Scientists do not know what caused the various ages of ice that in past ages have swept over parts of the earth, driving out primitive races of men and animals, threatening, by the way, to return at any time and give us a real cool problem.

It has been suggested that sun spots, occurring and cutting down the sun's supply of heat, might explain the ice ages, although "shifting of the poles" is a shorter, more convenient formula.

Do those sun spots, or other solar phenomena control the extraordinary weather conditions that disturb us now—an 80-mile gale in Chicago, blizzard in Wisconsin, 20 killed by storm in Tennessee, floods in Mississippi, record-breaking snowstorms in New York. If we were suddenly to find another ice age creeping upon us, the war against cold would make all other wars seem as nothing.

More interesting to many readers than ice age or European politics is the story of "Manuel Silva, who built a tomb in which to bury his wife, daughter and wife's mother—after killing them."

The tomb was built of concrete below his cellar floor, with stone steps leading down. The plan was to block up the entrance with cement, the murderer to leave the country, knowing his secret safe. He killed the wife and her mother, the daughter escaped. Two new murders, it is believed, make all arrangements perfectly. Many betray themselves by their elaborate plans. However, of the successful plans, the public hears nothing.

You may learn much about heaven, or the other place, by listening to the Rev. Mr. Owen from England. There isn't exactly any real hell, Rev. Mr. Owen says. But the wicked suffer spiritual anguish, suicides especially, "for interfering with the plans of God." You wonder how it is possible to interfere with the plans of an Omnipotent being, why he allows it.

The Rev. Mr. Owen, it seems has personally visited the various spheres of heaven," like Mohammed and several others. He found animals there, dogs and horses, all happy, but some children very unhappy. Another puzzle.

Woodmen Officers to Pay Tribute to Mrs. Manchester

Lincoln, March 13.—(Special)—Christian Science services for Mrs. Emma B. Manchester, past supreme guardian of the Woodmen circle, will be held Wednesday afternoon at 2 at Roberts chapel. Two grandsons, Dr. C. E. Patterson, T. E. Bradshaw, Dr. C. T. Brown, J. Blaha, F. B. Jackson, W. E. Rhoades and T. M. Morsman.

Bill Giving Omaha Half of Auto Tax Passed by Senate

Would Add \$200,000 to City's Highway Revenue—Attempt to Revive Christian Science Measure Fails.

Lincoln, March 13.—(Special)—On third reading today, the Nebraska senate passed, by a vote of 22 to 4, S. F. 202, a bill giving the city of Omaha one-half of the automobile tax collected in Douglas county. It is estimated that the bill will add \$200,000 to the highway revenue of the city. It specifies that a quarter of the city's share must be applied to paving and repaving streets and three-quarters to making and repairing permanent boulevards. Senator Saunders blocked the effort to revive H. R. 17, one of the so-called Christian Science measures, when he raised the point of order that it was not revivable after having been killed in the senate last week. Gumb moved to revive the bill yesterday, and his motion carried, but Saunders this morning raised the point that the senate rules do not permit a bill to be revived after it has been killed. Another bill killed in the senate this morning was H. R. 81, a bill permitting petitions of protest from a majority of the property owners affected to block a city council resolution for sewer extensions. The vote was 18 to 13.

Bills Passed.

The senate passed on third reading S. F. 212, giving the state board of control specific authority to appoint such subordinates at state institutions as matrons, assistant superintendents, physicians and dentists. In some instances this power has been exercised by the superintendents themselves. Other bill passed included: S. F. 273.—Broadening definition of arson to include one who causes a fire to be set to a building. S. F. 174.—Increasing qualifications and fees for graduate nurses. S. F. 245.—Giving towns and villages power of eminent domain to condemn land for any public purpose including public markets. H. R. 414.—Requiring state and local subdivisions to name hour as well as day of receiving and opening bids for public improvements.

Bills Killed.

The senate accepted adverse committee reports to kill the following bills: S. F. 231.—Requiring public notice for receiverships. S. F. 244.—Allowing attorney fees in suits on claims. S. F. 240.—Requiring judge in jury cases to instruct in findings of fact as well as law. S. F. 159.—Proposed new auto registration law penalizing delinquency and abuse of pastboard numbers and requiring brake tests. S. F. 50.—Enlarging scope of livestock shipment and removal inspections. S. F. 210.—Requiring bill of sale for livestock. These bills were reported favorably for passage by committee: S. F. 302.—Requiring tuberculin tests of all dairy herds in townships or counties where 75 per cent of owners petition for them. H. R. 232.—Reducing signers from 100 to 50 to require local livestock inspections. H. R. 199.—More stringent rules requiring railroads to furnish stock watering facilities at local stations. S. F. 300.—Authorizes county boards to make appropriations for disease eradication.

Sarpy-Douglas Merger Opposed by Committee

Lincoln, March 13.—(Special)—The house committee on privileges and elections recommended last night to postpone indefinitely the Sarpy county annexation bill. The bill called for a special election in Sarpy and Douglas counties on the question of merging the two counties with the latter. A similar bill was introduced in the house two years ago. The committee that recommended the indefinite postponement of the present bill took the action following the meeting at Papillon Saturday night when the court-house was dedicated. Sentiment was decidedly opposed to annexation.

Bell Re-Elected Head of Assessors' Association

Lincoln, Neb. March 13.—(Special)—Deputy Assessor O. C. Bell of Lancaster county was re-elected president of the County Assessors' association for the seventh consecutive term at the annual conference of assessors of Nebraska here Tuesday. W. A. Verzani of Dixon was elected vice president and G. L. Mumford of Gage, secretary-treasurer. Legislative matters were discussed by Tax Commissioner W. H. Osborne and various bills pending in the legislature dealing with taxation were discussed during the afternoon.

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Lower House Passes Six Bills on Third Reading

Lincoln, March 13.—(Special)—Bills passed by the lower house on third reading today follow: House roll 178, making all land owned by railroads in excess of 200 feet on both sides of the track assessable, except where there are double tracks, yards or spurs. House roll 213, appropriating \$5,000 each to two widows of North Platte policemen killed while doing their duty. House roll 312, appropriating \$5,000 to establish a co-operative company and raising amount of stock which may be held by individual from 4 to 5 per cent. House roll 55, appropriating \$5,000 for relief of widow and children of Guard W. L. Taylor, stabbed to death by Convict King. King was electrocuted several months ago. House roll 668, forbids deceptive advertising of butter substitutes. House roll 516, provides lien on personal property for work or labor.

South Side Phone Toll Ban Defeated

Senate Reconsiders Action After Warm Debate Between Omaha Members.

Lincoln, March 13.—(Special)—The Omaha delegation staged a rather warm debate this morning for the entertainment of the other members of the Nebraska senate. With Cooper, Robbins and Saunders ranged on one side and Chambers and Larkin on the other, the senate voted, 23 to 8, to reconsider its action of yesterday in authorizing an amendment to S. F. 200 to prevent the Northwestern Bell Telephone company from charging a 5-cent toll to subscribers in Omaha proper talking to South Omaha. The bill was sent back to the committee of the whole after it had been advanced to third reading for the specific amendment by Senator Banning of Cass to strike out Cooper's amendment of yesterday forbidding the charging of the toll rate within the corporate limits of metropolitan Omaha. Cooper, Robbins and Saunders were for the amendment while Larkin and Chambers were against it. Senator Larkin declared the amendment foreshadowed action by the telephone company to increase rates in South Omaha to make up the difference in rates. Senator Allen, who introduced the bill dealing generally with the distribution of toll charges between connecting companies, said the amendment really was a joker to kill it because the other branch of the legislature had previously killed a similar bill containing the same provision inserted in the senate measure.

Bovine Tuberculosis Appropriation Beaten

Lincoln, March 13.—(Special)—The Keifer bill calling for a \$75,000 appropriation for continuation of eradication of bovine tuberculosis until the end of the present biennium, was decisively defeated today. The vote in the house was 51 for and 39 against, sufficient to pass the bill, but lacking 19 votes of the necessary two-thirds to carry the emergency clause and overcome a threatened veto by Governor Bryan. When an emergency clause is attached to a bill it means the act becomes operative immediately after passage. Without the emergency clause the bill is ineffective, as the funds would not become available until July 1 and the appropriation is proposed to finish the unfinished eradication work between now and July 1. There is another bill in the office calling for a \$250,000 appropriation for this work for the next two years. Always wash and wipe the apples that have been lying in the cellar before eating as they are covered with an imperceptible mould.

Pardons Sought for Trio Serving in Penitentiary

Pleas Heard for Man Convicted of Manslaughter, Omaha in for Forgery and Cattle Rustler.

Lincoln, March 13.—(Special)—The state pardon board was told Tuesday that Herbert F. Whitmore, serving 1 to 10 years' sentence on a manslaughter charge, was convicted on the flimsiest of circumstantial evidence, that there were no eye-witnesses to the crime and Whitmore's public life was above reproach. The manslaughter charge grew out of the death of a rooming house keeper named Lundy at Bayard. Whitmore, who was formerly a deputy sheriff at Newcastle, Wyo., is seeking parole. Whitmore asserted that Lundy was badly hurt in a fight with three strangers whom he had ejected from the rooming house. Former County Attorney McDonald and Sheriff Davis of Merrill county are among those who favor Whitmore's release. District Judge Hobart, who sentenced Whitmore, says he believes the prisoner was shielding someone else. The board also took up the case of Joe Pearson, who has served 27 months for the alleged forgery of a \$10 check at Omaha. He claims he had \$100 in his pocket at the time the check was given to a garage man by one of his party of four. Pearson admits that they were drinking, but denied the forgery. Attorney John M. Berger of Omaha appeared in behalf of the applicant. Berger said he had secured a \$1,600 legacy for Pearson. A petition containing the names of 100 people in Brown county recommending a parole for Pearl Nesbit was offered in his behalf. He was sent up two years ago. Nesbit told the board that he stole some cattle to secure badly needed financial aid for his father.

Debate on Executive Plans Begun in House

(Continued From Page One.) of double checking on expenditures demanded by any banking institution. Department Centralized. "The secretary of the department of finance is thus able when the time comes to prepare budgetary recommendations to put his finger on every pulse beat of the various state departments. He has the bookkeeping centralized in his office, he has knowledge of other expenditures necessary by all departments of government. "The governor's plan to put the budget-making in the hands of the state tax commissioner, the purchasing in the hands of the state land commissioner and the bookkeeping in the hands of the auditor is dangerous. It decentralizes responsibility and at the same time puts no one person in a position to grasp the needs and expenditures of our state institutions. "Next comes the question of appointments. We do not strip the governor of any power. He can appoint secretaries with confirmation of the legislature the same as he formerly could. We have conformed with the

constitution and empower the secretaries to appoint their assistants. "In short, the governor is not permitted to appoint every employe in the state as the other plan calls for. It is common sense that a man trained in certain work knows more about the type of trained men needed than the governor. "One more word about the proposed department of public welfare. By combining the present agricultural department, labor department and public welfare department we centralize the departments which have the inspectors. Plan Saves Labor. "The head of this consolidated department can send one inspector to town to do several different kinds of work instead of three inspectors going to the same town to do work that one can do. This is the same plan the governor proposes. "The governor has power at all times to discharge secretaries. Every big business is operated on a departmental basis and year after year states throughout the union are accepting this plan. "We have, we believe, eliminated duplications and this plan proposes a simplified government with reduced salaries and reduced expenses, capable of saving as much if not more money than any other plan suggested. "Osterman's address was shorter. He asserted doubt as to the feasibility of the governor's plan when it was first broached. "Now, however, I am a convert and believe it should be given an opportunity," Osterman asserted. "The governor has no right to appoint persons with executive duties, absolutely free of the expressed will of the people on such appointments. Bryan Would Lose Power. "Governor Bryan by proposing an executive council of all constitutional officers, excepting the attorney general, each, including himself to have one vote whether democratic or republican in determining state politics is stripping himself of power. "Do you think we would have had a Holdrege bank scandal if an executive council had been in action at the time? "As for appointments, the governor is held responsible for administering the law and he should have power to name all appointees to help him administer the law." Jacoby described the Bryan majority as a protest and command by the people to overturn anything that smacked of the present system of government. He named the still larger Howell majority as a similar protest against the "code."

Change in Bread Law Opposed by Larkin Committee

Proposal Would Kill "Honest Loaf" Law. Is Pointed Out by Representative Smith.

Lincoln, March 13.—(Special)—The senate committee on manufactures and commerce headed by Senator John L. Larkin of Omaha, killed a bill tonight introduced by Senator James Good of Chadron which Representative Ed P. Smith of Omaha told the committee would kill the effect of his "honest loaf" bread bill which was one of the features of the legislature two years ago. The bill introduced by Good made it possible for bakers to bake loaves of any weight providing the weight was stamped on the loaves. The Smith law, which in the last two years has been fought by bakers in the district court, state supreme court and United States supreme court and lost by them, calls for baking loaves weighing a pound or an exact multiple of a pound. "People as a rule don't look at the weight on a bread package and bakers could sell them a 12 or 14-ounce loaf at pound loaf prices and the public would never catch on to the difference, although it would mean thousands in the pockets of the Nebraska bakers." Senator John Gumb of Fremont, made the motion to kill the bill. All members of the committee, excepting Senator Chambers, voted in favor of the executing the measure. Chambers wanted it to be considered by the senate as a whole. Legislators Raise Fund for Sufferers From Fire Lincoln, March 13.—(Special)—C. A. Crawford, messenger for the chief clerk's office in the house of representatives, lost all of his household goods in the fire which destroyed a downtown business block and apartment Monday night. Crawford's family escaped with nothing but the clothing they wore. Members of the legislature Tuesday morning started a subscription fund for Crawford's benefit. Seeks Bankruptcy. William G. Cleveland, 5196 Webster street, filed a petition in bankruptcy in federal court yesterday. His liabilities are \$14,600 and his assets \$185.

Bids for Food Supplies Show Advance in Price

Lincoln, March 13.—(Special)—Prices quoted to the state board of control, which is opening bids for the quarterly food supplies of the 17 state institutions, show that sugar has advanced nearly \$2 a hundred since last December and \$4 since March, 1922. Sugar a year ago was \$5.74 a hundred and is \$9.19 at the present time. During the last three months, ham by the hundred pounds has increased from \$14 to \$15.15. Fresh beef has advanced from \$7.81 to \$4.47 since the last quarter.

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