

SCORES OF LIVES LOST IN STORM

New "Dry" Law Plan Advocated

Proposal to Treat Bootleg Buyer Same as Purchaser of Stolen Goods Favored in Washington.

Follows List Exposure

By MARK SULLIVAN. Washington, March 19.—(Special.)—A development of prohibition which came to the front in Washington last week is the likelihood that as an additional means of making the law effective there will be put forward a proposal to make the buyer of bootleg liquor as well as the seller, the subject of criminal prosecution.

The proposal goes on the analogy that the buyer of bootleg liquor is in the same category as the purchaser of stolen goods. Those who put forward or endorse this suggestion include at least one member of the cabinet and several others of such standing as to make the earnest pressure of it certain. There will be kindled the determined prohibitionists who hold the purchasers of bootleg liquor to be chiefly responsible for the present difficulty in enforcing the law.

"Booze Who" Leads to Action.

An episode that brought this angle of prohibition to the front was the publication in one of the local papers of what purported to be a list of the names of a local alleged bootlegger who had been raided by the officers. This episode created in Washington a furor not heard throughout the country, for the reason that the list contained the names of many persons in official life, or otherwise prominent for the additional reason that it started among the knowing and among the insiders a mass of humorous speculation as to how it happened that certain other names did not appear on the list, names which some of the sophisticated cynically declared would appear if a list of that kind were published of all the patrons of all the bootleggers.

This sort of agitation and move of a kind which would not be understood throughout the country, was increased by the fact that the newspaper in which the publication was made is one which is frequently called locally a kind of official organ of the administration, the owner of which is closely associated with President Harding personally and is now his host in Florida.

Dry Plank in G. O. P. Platform.

It can be stated without qualification that Harding and the administration, and the republican party altogether, will next year go on record and make a campaign on a 100 per cent "dry" platform. A position which is coupled with the personal stand to be taken by the candidate, will emphasize insistence upon more and more drastic enforcement of the prohibition law as it stands. This will be true if Harding is the candidate and it will be true if any other man is the republican candidate. The overwhelming probability that Harding will be the candidate; but if that program should be changed, no one of the men who has any serious likelihood of taking Harding's place will be other than in favor of thorough-going enforcement.

Conference to Be Called.

Soon after Harding returns, he will call in Washington a conference of governors to consider means of enforcing prohibition. This conference would have been held some weeks ago but for the fact that some 43 state legislatures are in session which makes it difficult for the governors to get away from their state capitals. As regards the democratic party, there is going to be a fight to determine whether the party shall be "dry" or "wet." More than half the party, and more than half the individual leaders, are "dry." McAdoo, who at this moment is further ahead in the race for the democratic nomination than any other man, is as energetically "dry" as Bryan himself.

The bulk of the south is "dry," in nearly all of the western states, and in the middle west the democrats are as "dry" as the republicans.

"Wet" Appeal to Be Made.

At the same time, there is a group of the democratic leaders who cling to the idea that the best device for them to win the election next year is to appeal to what they call the "eastern" wet "salient"—such states as New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Massachusetts. There will be a dramatic fight on this question, both as regards the democratic candidate and the democratic platform. Decidedly the best judgment is that the democrats will not nominate any candidate who is avowedly "wet." It is possible that as regards the platform, there may be a compromise, which will either go on record in favor of law enforcement or else remain silent. But as regards the candidate, there is little likelihood of any avowed "wet" being given the nomination.

Mathers Recommends His Plan as Solution of Tax-Reduction Muddle

Speaker, in Plea for Harmony and Demo Support, Quotes Bryan Campaign Speeches Contradicting Code Modification Plan of Governor.

By P. C. POWELL. Staff Correspondent The Omaha Bee.

Lincoln, March 19.—(Special.)—In a statement issued tonight A. N. Mathers, speaker of the house of representatives, pleaded again for harmony and democratic support for his plan for state government which places state activities under constitutional officers and coincides with pre-election pledges of the democratic state platform and campaign speeches made by Gov. Charles W. Bryan.

"We can be democrats and republicans," the speaker's statement read, "but we have a greater responsibility to the voters and that is to rise above politics and be true and loyal Nebraskans. My plan is agreeable to many republicans. It is the campaign platform of the democrats and the campaign expression of the governor. Let it be, if not more, the entering wedge, the common ground, the basis at this time for some constructive service and bring about a program of drastic tax reduction for Nebraska."

The speaker expressed regret that the governor had not accepted his plan which, he asserted, would break the deadlock and give the legislature time to consider many other important measures, the income tax, the new revenue bill, the bankers bill and others before time for adjournment arrived.

Bryan Speeches Quoted.

In short, concise sentence, the speaker outlined the power in appointments demanded by the governor in his code modification plan. It is in exact contradiction to the governor's campaign speeches, which are quoted by the speaker, in which the governor assailed the McKelvie administration because it placed too much power in the governor in the way of appointments. Here is a quotation from one of Governor Bryan's campaign speeches spoken by Speaker Mathers:

"This code theory of government transfers it out from the hands of those who are elected as your direct representatives and into the hands of appointees. Those appointees do not

Commission to Consider Kicks Against Tariff

Commission to Begin First Investigation Under Flexible Provisions of New Law in Near Future.

Washington, March 19.—(Formal announcement was made by the tariff commission that it soon would start its first investigation under flexible provisions of the new tariff act to determine whether the rates on 17 commodities are equitable.

Chairman Marvin stated it was the commission's intent to begin work immediately in a permanent way looking to a sweeping study of production costs and other factors.

The investigation will be limited to rates against which complaints have been filed and the decision to proceed with these inquiries does not, according to Mr. Marvin, constitute a declaration of the commission's policy or program of action under the flexible provisions. Announcement of the investigations was held up temporarily over Sunday pending instructions from President Harding as to his interpretation of the new law's flexible section.

The rates coming within a scope of the investigation affect the following articles: Cotton, sugar, knit fabrics, cotton gloves made of warp knit fabric, cotton hosiery for infants, pig iron, oxalic acid, diethyl barbituric acid and derivatives thereof, barium chloride, caustic, logwood extract, potassium chloride, sodium nitrate, mirror plates, Swiss pattern files, paint brush handles, wall pockets and artificial or ornamental fruits, vegetables, grains, leaves, flowers and stems or parts thereof.

No official statement was made as to whether the complaints sought increases or decreases in the rates, but it was learned that about two-thirds of the requests for revision were for modification downward.

The sugar complaint, however, seeks a reduction in the protective duty.

A Good Guess—But Wrong

Mr. E. L. Kunold, 4232 Burdette, figured that it would take an Omaha Bee "Want" Ad at least three days to sell a diamond ring for him.

Mr. Kunold sold the ring after that selling a diamond ring through a little two-line "Want" Ad in three days was wrong—because it wasn't good enough.

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Secrets of Red Meet Are Bared

Federal Agent Present at Powwow in Michigan Last Summer Testifies in Trial of William Foster.

Identifies Delegates

St. Joseph, Mich., March 19.—(AP)—Secrets of the organizations of the communist convention in the sand dunes near here last August were revealed today in circuit court when "K 97," Department of Justice agent, who attended the meetings as a delegate, took the stand as the state's star witness against William Z. Foster, charged with criminal syndicalism.

"K 97"—his number in the files of the government secret service—Francis Morrow of Camden, N. J. Among the communists he was known as Ashworth, and at the convention, where all delegates used assumed names, he was called Day.

Morrow identified the delegate list of the convention, the regulations of the grounds committee which directed the program agenda convention call party program and constitution and a number of other state's exhibits.

Convict Elected Chairman.

He told how he was chosen a delegate from the communists group in Philadelphia and Camden and how he left Philadelphia with Alexander Hall and John Greisinger, two other delegates.

The convention, the witness said, was opened by Jay Lovestone of New York, soon after which Ben Gitlow, alias Love, of New York, who is now in Sing Sing prison serving a sentence under the syndicalism laws of New York, was elected chairman.

O. L. Smith, assistant attorney general of Michigan, tried twice to introduce in evidence the program and constitution of the communist party, which the witness had identified, but each time Judge Charles White sustained objections by Frank P. Walsh, chief of counsel for Foster, that the document had not yet been properly identified.

Describes Meet in Detail.

The witness described the convention in detail. Sessions, he said, were held in a deep ravine between two rocky sand dunes, the delegates sitting around on planks placed on cement blocks to form a half circle on the serrated hillsides.

Maurice Wolff, another Department of Justice agent, who preceded Morrow on the stand, identified more than a hundred documents as among those seized in the raid.

On cross examination, Mr. Walsh attempted to show that Wolff had appeared with Max Burger, another federal agent, who is now attached to the Michigan attorney general's office as special assistant prosecutor in the Foster case.

Wolff flatly denied making the statement, although admitting he was present at the meeting at which the communist case was discussed.

The defense introduced an affidavit from Fred C. Franz, former sheriff of Berrien county and now a member of the board, which refers to Burger's presence at the meeting of the board. This affidavit was produced when a motion for a change of venue was argued two weeks ago. The affidavit stated that Franz was not at liberty to state, "from what source names would be received to recompense Berrien county."

Mr. Franz also made affidavit that Frank Hall, county clerk, had reported to the board that the question of defraying the expense of the trial had been discussed with Congressman John C. Ketchum, and that the congressman had reported that he had communicated with William J. Burns, head of the bureau of investigation of the Department of Justice at Washington and that Burns had advised Congressman Ketchum that, although the government of the United States could not legally assist financially, yet the funds were available from sources which were not revealed.

A Michigan statute makes it a misdemeanor for a prosecutor to accept funds from private sources to defray costs of prosecution.

"Begger" Hurlled at Bride Starts Japanese Class War

Tokyo, March 19.—The shouting of "eta," meaning "begger," at a bride entering a temple at Narayan by an anti-socialist crowd has unleashed the socialist ire of the entire eta class of that vicinity, and tonight officials of the district were calling upon the minister of war at Tokyo to rush troops to quell actual fighting between the classes.

Chief of Police Dempsey returned to his desk at noon Monday after a month's absence on account of illness. He declined to discuss the proposed assignment of Commissioner Dan Butler to the public safety department.

Police Chief at Work.

Today on Page 2. "Today" the daily editorial feature of Arthur Brisbane, appears in The Omaha Morning Bee each day in the first column on page 2.

We Do Wish the Reformers Would Give This Their Earliest Possible Attention



Family Expelled From Cult House Scantily Clad

Thrown Out of Benton Harbor Colony With Only \$100. Witness Testifies in \$80,000 Damage Suit.

Grand Rapids, Mich., March 19.—John W. Hansell and his family were expelled from the Israelite house of David, scantily clad and with only \$100 and tickets to their former home, Nashville, Tenn., following a midnight conference at which he was charged with assault and his son was threatened with arrest according to testimony given by Hansell in federal court in his suit against the colony for \$80,000. The amount, the plaintiff contends, is the value of property turned over to the Benton Harbor cult when he became a member and the value of his labor during membership.

Hansell declared John J. Sterling, at that time prosecuting attorney of Berrien county, attended the midnight meeting and had a part in his expulsion.

Frightened by the charges against him, Hansell declared he agreed to leave the colony, signing a release for himself and Mrs. Hansell and receiving therefor \$100 and the railroad tickets. Some of the clothing worn by the family at the time was offered as an exhibit to show the condition in which they departed, December 28, 1929.

Hansell and his wife were the only witnesses today. Questioning by his attorney disclosed some of the alleged beliefs of the colony. Benjamin Purcell, head of the cult, claimed to be the "younger brother of Jesus" and "number seven" of the messenger angels, according to Hansell.

Their property, they said, was turned over to the cult along with their labor, "for the kingdom's sake." The kingdom, they explained, was to be attained by men and women living as brothers and sisters and its attainment meant immortality on earth.

Hansell is slated to return to the stand for cross-examination.

Right of U. S. Fuel Body to Fix Coal Prices Upheld

Washington, March 19.—The right of the United States fuel administration to fix coal prices was upheld today by the United States supreme court in deciding against the J. M. McDonald coal company of West Virginia, which was appealed for increased pay for coal under prices established by the commission.

A number of other similar suits are now pending before the court and it is expected that today's decision will stand as a precedent for the dismissal of all the appeals brought up from United States district courts.

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Candles on Child's Bier Fire House; Two Die in Flames, One in Leap

New Port Point, Quebec, March 19.—Henri Tremblay and his wife tearfully led their three children to bed Sunday night, leaving in a coffin surrounded by candles, the body of their fourth child, for whom funeral services had been held during the evening.

During the night one of the candles at the dead child's bier ignited a curtain and the small wooden house blazed up like tinder, so quickly that two of the children were hurled to death before they could leave their bed chamber. The third, 3 weeks old, was killed when the mother, herself perhaps fatally injured tried to save it by jumping from a window.

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Cold Spell Breaks in Nebraska and Traffic Resumed

Trains Beginning to Run on Delayed Schedules—Temperature 57 Above at Kearney.

The lowest temperature ever recorded in Omaha in March was chalked up on the official weather bureau thermometer at 7 Sunday morning—8 below zero.

"Fair and warmer" is the forecast. The coldest Sunday night was 5 below zero, registered at 8:30 Monday morning. Des Moines and Davenport, Ia., had minimums of 10 below; Kansas City's lowest was 4 above; North Platte 2 above; Valentine zero.

Up in the usually frozen north they had extraordinarily warm temperatures Monday, brought by a chinook wind across the mountains. Calgary was sweltering under 46 above zero, Edmonton, 200 miles farther north, had nothing lower than 10, while Annapolis, far up the Canadian Rockies, reported 48 at 7 Monday morning.

Tampa, Fla., at the same hour was only 22 degrees higher, reporting 70.

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Damage Is Estimated in Millions

Low Temperature Spreading Over Southern States—Fruit and Other Early Crops Ruined.

Trains Stuck in Drifts

Chicago, March 19.—A wave of heavy wind cut millions in property damage and acute suffering throughout the country was the toll of the record-breaking cold wave today.

From the Rocky mountains to the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic seaboard came accounts of unprecedented vagaries of the weather.

The blizzard that raged over the great plains Saturday and Sunday has given way today to clear, biting cold but the snow continued to drift and railroad traffic was paralyzed. A week will elapse, it was estimated, before traffic will be normal.

The low temperature was spreading over the southern states tonight. The crest of the cold wave had reached Arkansas, Tennessee, Louisiana and Mississippi, but Georgia, Alabama and Florida will have colder weather tomorrow.

Fruit Growers Lose Millions. The loss to fruit growers of Arkansas was estimated at from \$2,000,000 to \$2,500,000. Charles S. Bouton, statistician for the government crop reporting bureau in Arkansas, estimated the peach crop will be a total failure. The trees were in full bloom. The strawberry crop was practically ruined and the oats crop seriously damaged.

Official reports from Tennessee, Mississippi and Georgia were lacking tonight, but it was believed the loss to fruit growers in those states would be heavy.

Crack trains from the Pacific coast reached Chicago from 12 to 24 hours late. They had been stuck in snowbanks in Iowa, Nebraska and Illinois. The Pacific Limited on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, due here at 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon, was still struggling in snowbanks in Iowa.

The Los Angeles Limited, train No. 5 on the Chicago & Northwestern, due at 5 this morning from Los Angeles, was reported 10 hours late at noon today. But at 5 this evening the train was still fighting snowdrifts west of Chicago.

The Continental Limited, due on the Northwestern at 3:55 yesterday from Portland, Ore., reached here shortly before noon today.

Freight trains on roads throughout the northwest were annulled and engines and crews employed in fighting snowbanks, to clear tracks for mail and passenger trains.

Trains were stuck in the snow at numerous points in Iowa and Nebraska. Many were held on sidings in small towns until lines could be cleared. The temperature was from 10 to 20 below zero.

A fast Denver train on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, due here at 4 o'clock today, had not reached Chicago at 4 tonight. It was not expected before midnight.

Passengers on belated trains told of observing snowdrifts 15 and 20 feet high in Iowa, Nebraska and Minnesota. Fences across complete cold streams had exposed places the snow was near the top of telegraph poles. The incoming trains were covered with snow, packed on engine pilots and trucks of the coaches.

The snowfall in Chicago was not heavy, but the cold was intense. The zero mark was reached at 7 this morning—8 below zero.

Man Held for Attempt to Kill Officer Confesses Murder

Lincoln, March 19.—(Special.)—Arrested on a charge of attempting to shoot a policeman, a man who gave his name as Gussie Carr of Bald Friar, Md., was said by the authorities to have confessed slaying Bud Williams, his army companion, near Fort Bliss, in 1918. He also was alleged to have confessed completely cold Williams had robbed a shanty near Hatch, Mex., and shot and probably killed two inmates.

Carr and Williams were members of Company H, Fifth cavalry, stationed at Camp Bliss.

Lifer from Omaha Files Appeal in Supreme Court

Lincoln, March 19.—(Special.)—Fred Brown, the "chain bandit," serving a life sentence in the state penitentiary, filed an appeal to the supreme court today.

The appeal is on technical grounds. It objects to testimony concerning Brown's flight from Omaha to Lincoln, and from Lincoln to Omaha, and later to Wyoming which, the petition alleges, should not have been admitted at the trial.

Turks Ignore Protest.

Constantinople, March 19.—The Turkish government has refused to recognize the American and allied protest against the retroactive phase of the new flour duties. It is reported, however, that some arrangement affecting American stocks is being negotiated.

U. S. Air Fleet at Porto Rico

San Juan, P. R., March 19.—The six United States army airplanes arrived this morning at 10:30 o'clock completing their flight from San Antonio.

The Weather. Forecast. Tuesday, fair and warmer. Hourly Temperatures.

7 P. M. Temperatures. Cheyenne 58, Pueblo 58, Denverport 58, Salt Lake 58, Des Moines 58, Rapid City 58, Dodge City 58, Sheridan 58, Lincoln 58, North Platte 58.