Today

Dangerous Teapot Dome.
She's Back in the Mill.
New Style Killing.
The Hen's Ancestor.

By ARTHUR BRISBANE

A few days ago everything looked wonderfully smooth for the administration.

Hiram Johnson might be able to stir up something but "wise men" said it didn't seem probable.

McAdoo might make a strong democratic run, but it probably wouldn't make much difference. Now comes the Teapot Dome oil scandal, with the oil reserves of the navy sold to a private concern, and a very unpleasant discussion as to what happened to a certain lump sum of $100,000.

Unless that is thoroughly cleaned up immediately and by the republicans themselves not waiting for democrats to do it, it may make a big difference in the election of 1924. However, it is not likely that Mr. Coolidge will wait for democrats to do his house-cleaning.

Yesterday's testimony concerning the Teapot Dome, especially young Mr. Roosevelt's account of his resigning from the oil company, will interest you and the voters. You will probably hear from President Coolidge and the attorney general within 48 hours.

That is not the sort of scandal that can be allowed to simmer too long.

Myra Cole, 17, went to the mill at 6:30 in the morning, in the little Massachusetts village of Hill's Grove, and got away at 5 in the afternoon. She thought she would try New York.

She went without eating for several days, fell in a faint on the street, and has been sent back to Hill's Grove.

She will start in again at the mill, go in at 6:30 in the morning, and get out at 5 in the afternoon. But things used to be worse.

More than 80 years ago, the late Albert Brisbane, who wrote for the front page of Horace Greeley's New York Tribune, asked the good men of New England who advocated abolition of slavery: "Since you are so much interested in the poor black slaves, why don't you free your own white women that you drive into our mills before daylight and keep there until dark?"

Albert Brisbane, by the way, used to pay Horace Greeley cash for the right to write his opinions on the Tribune's first page. His unworthy son has a better financial arrangement.

This telegram is received from Reno, Nevada:

"Two Chinese will be executed by lethal gas, Carson City, Nev., February 8. Fearful that horrors may attend this untried experimental means of execution. As an admirer and reader of your articles largely read daily in this community, would appreciate anything you could editorially say. —Reverend Otis L. Linn, Superintendent, Presbyterian Church of Nevada."

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals kills superfluous cats and dogs in a lethal chamber. The animals don't know what is going to happen, their death is merciful. What can you say about civilized human beings forcing two Chinamen into an airtight "lethal chamber," turning on deadly gas and killing them? The constitution of the United States forbids cruel and unusual punishment. This method of killing is at least unusual. A good lawyer ought to be able to postpone that execution.

Will the men be tied down or strapped in chairs in the lethal cell? Will they be killed two at a time or separately?

Will they be left free to dash their heads in despair against the walls of the deathtrap?

Will a Chinese interpreter explain to them what is going to happen? Will a clergyman mumble prayers through the walls of the cell? It's an interesting experiment in our "civilization."

Dinosaurs used to lay eggs. You knew that. Did you know also that they had gizzards and that scientists find in skeletons of dinosaurs large, finely polished pebbles which, in the dinosaur's gizzard, ground up food, as the hen now grinds her food with gravel in her gizzard?

And did you know that the hen of today is the direct descendant of the dinosaur 70 feet long? The hen would probably object to that statement while Mr. Bryan objects to Darwin's theory. But in both cases the facts are overwhelming.

A big dinosaur would weigh 200,000 pounds. What Burbank will reverse evolution's process and give us a chicken of that size?

England discusses seriously abolishing the gold standard. The United States having half of all the gold available for money, it wouldn't be bad, from the English viewpoint to select another standard. But for the present, the thing can't be done.

Men demand something in the way of money that can't be created artificially. Silver might do, but we have that also. Abolish the gold standard and you abolish gold's value.

Curiously enough, Russia, home of the misty ruble, is to go on a gold basis in April. They have discovered that paper won't do.

Britain will soon launch two gigantic new battleships with all the latest improvements, 680 feet long and 106 feet wide. Over here we are junking battleships half finished to oblige England. It is unable to compete with us, financially, in battleship construction, but admirably able to befuddle us diplomatically. It did that at the Washington conference and now tells our baby boy diplomats that we may not even increase the elevation of our guns. That would make them shoot farther

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Grand Island "Dream Girl" Hales Bluffs Youth Before Jury When Wedding Plans Are Disrupted

Love Letters Read in Court; Girl Cries on Witness Stand.

Letters dripping with love and affection, written by Robert Wollert, 21, 1118 Fifth avenue, Council Bluffs, to Virginia Neligh, 19, of Grand Island, Neb., were read in open court Monday by County Attorney Frank E. Northrop in Wollert's trial on charges filed by the girl.

Second day of the trial opened Tuesday morning before Judge Earl Peters in Council Bluffs district court.

Young Wollert was graduated from a Council Bluffs high school and Miss Neligh has a wide acquaintance in the city.

Girl on Stand.

Miss Neligh, chief witness for the state, was on the stand all Monday afternoon and she resumed the stand this morning for cross-examination at the hands of W. E. Mitchell, chief counsel for the defense.

Wollert denies relations with the girl, according to the opening statement of his attorney.

On the stand Monday Miss Neligh testified that she first met Wollert in the spring of 1922 when she was visiting at the home of her sister-in-law, Mrs. Everett Swanson, then living at 1120 Sixth avenue, near the Wollert home. The acquaintance was made through Wollert's sister, Dorothy.

The couple became firm friends. In September, Miss Neligh returned to Grand Island, where her family has lived for 11 years, but the following spring, returned to Council Bluffs, to visit the Swansons. She returned to Grand Island in July, but again visited Council Bluffs in September.

It was then that she made known her condition, she said, and Wollert's arrest followed.

Miss Neligh testified that Wollert at first admitted his responsibility, and arrangements for their marriage were going forward until objections on the part of his family caused him to refuse to go ahead with the plans.

She declared that it was understood between them for some time that they were to be married. The letters read in court were written while Miss Neligh was in Grand Island last summer, before her return to Council Bluffs in September. Twelve letters in all were introduced in evidence, but only two of them were read.

So far, cross-examination has failed to shake the girl's story. After three or four more witnesses are called for the state, the defense will begin the presentation of its case. The case probably will not go to the jury before Thursday.

The court room was crowded yesterday, and today standing room was at a premium. Fully half the crowd was composed of women.

Miss Neligh cried on the witness stand yesterday under cross-examination, but retained her poise today.

Following are extracts from two of the love letters introduced as evidence:

July 28.

Dearest Virginia:

I cannot resist the temptation to answer your most welcomed letter this evening. So, my dearest, you won't have to wait very long for my answer. Mom told me that your letter came in this morning's mail. Although I didn't get to read it until after I got home, the mere fact that I knew that there was one at home waiting for me cheered me up considerably.

I certainly have felt blue since you left. No doubt you laugh at this, but it's so. I wish that I could convince you that I really have meant everything that I have told you about my affection and love for you. Isn't there some way that I can make you stop doubting my love for you? To tell the truth, I really believe that my love for you is deeper than yours for me. You won't believe it of course, but time will tell.

I'm home here all alone—and am so lonesome! Gee, I don't see how I'm going to stand it after being with you so much! I surely wish that I were there, or you here (that would be much better.) Really I wish that I could come to see you, but that's impossible for awhile. I'd go tomorrow or tonight if I could. There's certainly a lot that I could say, but what's the use, you'd either doubt it or not believe it at all.

Some day I hope that you will know how much I really care for you. No doubt this letter disgusts you, doesn't it, with all this sentimental stuff. It's the way I feel, so it's the way I write. Some day I hope to be something and then maybe my dreams will come true. It seems a long time to wait, but then you know, "true love endures." I wonder if you will be waiting for me then?

Say, Virginia dear, you wouldn't think of letting anyone read this letter, would you? I know that all yours are read by no one but myself—I'm that selfish in my love for you.

Well, I guess that I'd better close for this time, my dearest girl. I only hope that you will think of me once in a little while and believe me when I say that I love you. With all the love in the world to the dearest girl in the world, I am, your sweetheart,

BOB.

August 1, 1923.

My dearest:

Your letter came yesterday. It seemed like ages since I had heard from you. Gee, I was certainly happy. When Mom informed me that there was a letter for me from Grand Island I could hardly wait until I could get home to read it.

My, I certainly miss you, Virginia dear, I do believe that you would come back to C. B. if you really knew how much I want you. It surely seems strange not to be calling up your telephone number every afternoon or traveling down to your home every other night.

My, I surely wish that I could be with you tonight—I am awfully lonesome for you, dearest girl. I'm only hoping that you will be able to come back to C. B. in the very near future. I wonder what you are doing tonight? Anything but thinking about me, I'll bet.

Gee, it doesn't seem possible, but it was just a week ago last night and tomorrow night that I was with you, dearest. It seems like six months. I wonder if it will be that long before I can take you in my arms again. Perhaps by that time, you won't want me to, how about it? Just think—only 146 miles separate us tonight!

Well, Virginia, you must believe me when I tell you again how much I think of you, dear. C. B. surely is a dead place since you went away. Now, dearest, I must close. Write me soon, cause I'm so lonely and your letters help a lot to cheer me up. Well, good-night, My Dream Girl, as ever, with the same true love.

BOB.

The seasons on Mars are twice as long as those on earth.

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Lenine, Soviet Founder, Dies of Paralysis

Communist Chief Most Spectacular Figure in European Statecraft Since Time of Napoleon Bonaparte.

(Continued from Page One.)

of the Russian government, in November, 1917.

Lenine's death came at a time when his colleague, Leon Trotzky, as spectacular a revolutionary figure as himself, was ill and at war with the central executive committee of the communist party. Disease and death thus removes from the arena two of the most active figures that set the red flag flying over Russia.

Omaha branch of the workers' party passed a resolution of mourning for Lenine's death. Tom Matthews is secretary.

Specialists Summoned

Specialists had been summoned from Germany from time to time. They succeeded in prolonging Lenine's life but could not save it. During most of the time he was ill, he lived in a modest villa on his country estate outside of Moscow, attended daily by his wife.

Members of the people's council of commissaries (the government of the federal socialist soviets, visited him at intervals for counsel. Sick or well, Lenine remained the idol of the Russian communists.

At the last meeting of the executives of the all-Russian communist party, which ended only last week, a resolution was adopted that Russian youths should be compelled to study the political teachings of Lenine as the basis for the future government. While Lenine's death is felt throughout the world, he has always remained more or less of an obscure figure. He was content to remain in the background and allow the lesser lights to occupy the limelight.

It had been long reported that Lenine would be succeeded by a triumvirate. It was a notable circumstance that his death found a virtual triumvirate in power. Zinoviev, head of the Petrograd soviet, leader of the third internationale and member of the communist executive committee; Stalin, people's commissar for minorities (nationalities) in the soviet government, and Leo Kamenev, third vice president of the council, are virtually in power. They are leading the communist "old guard" against the hostile faction under Trotzky.

Dictator of Russia.

For six years Lenine was practically dictator of Russia. Allied powers waged war against him, but without success. His notable military failure was the war against Poland when Poland was saved by French troops.

Lenine's real family name was Vladimir Ilyitch Ulyanov. He came of a noble family, but was banished from Russia because of his nihilist (socialist) principles. He lived a great part of his life in France and Switzerland. He was living in Switzerland during the world war.

In 1917 when the Russian government was tottering Germany allowed Lenine and a few colleagues to pass through the country in a sealed train. At that time the czar, Nicholas, had been overthrown. Alexander Kerensky was in power and Russia was still waging war against Germany. But the "councils" in the army and navy had weakened their strength and Germany saw a chance for a bloodless coup.

Lenine and his adherents arrived from Switzerland about the same time that Trotzky arrived from the United States. They started their red revolution in Petrograd and after bloody fighting the moderates under Kerensky were put down. Lenine and Trotzky came into power.

The following year (1918) they negotiated a treaty of peace with Germany at Brest-Litovsk. This treaty was bitterly denounced by the allies, and later by the Russians themselves, but they abided by it and from that time on Russia ceased to be a factor in the world war.

Lenine put George Tchitcherin in power as people's commissar for foreign affairs (foreign minister), a post he still holds. The first three years of the soviet regime was marked by internal warfare and foreign invasion The United States, France, Great Britain, Japan, Rumania and Poland united in making war against Russia, but it was like trying to walk through a gigantic feather bed. One by one the invasions and rebellions were crushed, leaving Lenine secure at Moscow.

Gives Up Power.

But the strain of his position told upon his health. At first Lenine took frequent vacations. They became longer, until finally he had to give up power altogether.

Foreign statesmen united in admitting that Lenine was not only one of the most spectacular figures Europe has produced in the past century, but one of the most powerful. From his place in the kremlin he issued orders that were obeyed by the "proletariat" not only in his own country, but in foreign lands as well. He had become almost a myth when his death was announced today.

Lenine had married, but had no family. He was the author of many books upon communism and socialism.

Many attempts were made upon Lenine's life, but he escaped them all to die a natural death, peacefully in bed.

Dora Kaplan, a woman socialist, shot Lenine, and he had a narrow escape from death. The bullet was not removed from his breast until over a year later. This wound is said to have hastened his death.

By Associated Press.

Nikolai Lenine, lawyer pamphleteer, and finally director of all Russia, was the organizer and chief exponent of the movement which became known as bolshevism, and which he characterized as "the great experiment; the dictatorship of the proletariat."

The career of this short, plump, bald-headed little man, who turned Russia topsy turvy and probably as much influenced the other nations of the world as any other man of his century, was full of adventure from his boyhood. He was a revolutionist at school, at the academy, at his university, and ever afterward.

Lenine's real name was Vladimir Illitch Ulianoff. He was born April 24, 1870, in the town of Simbirsk, of a bourgeois family with a pronounced Tartor strain, reflected in Lenine's high cheek bones and slightly slanting, cynical eyes. His father was responsible master at a communal school at Simbirsk and was very well known among the school teachers of his district. Lenine himself attended the high school at Simbirsk, and by a strange coincidence his principal was the father of Alexander Kerensky, whom Lenine afterward overthrew to become premier of Russia.

The spirit of revolution against the czar entered into practically every Russian school in those days, and Lenine, with some of his companions, is said to have smuggled the works of Karl Marx on socialism into the school and to have read them with all the secret fear of discovery that American schoolboys have of being caught with a dime novel hidden behind their geographies. M. Kerensky reported that Lenine was a very studious pupil, introspective in his thoughts and shy in his relations with his schoolmates. When Lenine was 17 his eldest brother, Alexander Ulianoff, was sentenced to death and hanged for an attempt upon the life of Czar Alexander III, which was organized by a terroristic organization of which he was a prominent member.

Lenine himself never was a member of any terroristic organization, but a desire to avenge his brother's death is said to have ruled his life.

London, Jan. 22.—Predictions were made in Russian circles here this afternoon that Leo Kamenev may be appointed Lenine's successor. It is regarded that Trotzky will not succeed Lenine owing to his illness and his quarrel with the central executive committee of the communists. Kamenev is the third president of the Russian federal republic of soviets.

Reed a Candidate.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 22.— United States Senator James A. Reed will be a candidate in the Georgia presidential primary election March 19, it was announced here today.

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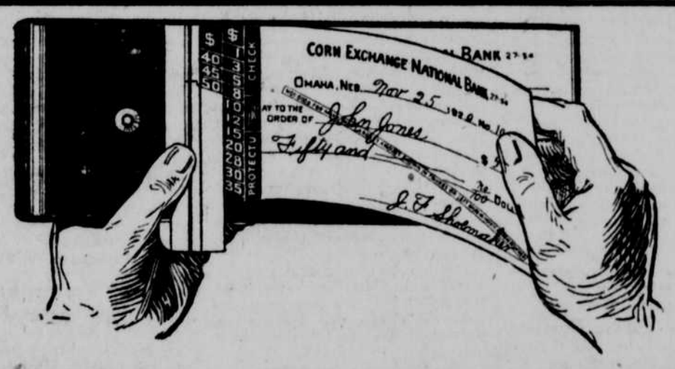

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