

THE OMAHA MORNING BEE

SCAR-FINGERED IS INDICATED

No Caucus for Senate Democrats

Members in Nebraska's Upper House Too Few in Number to Make a Slate Worthwhile, Says Speaker.

House More Optimistic

By WILL M. MAUPIN, Staff Correspondent The Omaha Bee.

Lincoln, Jan. 4.—Senate democrats will not hold a caucus this afternoon, Keok of York will officiate as master of ceremonies. A full slate of officials will be put up, but there has been no agreement as yet, except upon the candidate for speaker. The democrats will offer Mrs. Mabel Gillespie of Sarpy as their candidate, and expect to reduce the republican ratio of 60 to 40 to something a little less. Mrs. Gillespie's candidacy will be able to muster 43 votes if Raasch of Madison, republican and progressive, votes with the democrats, as he did most of the time two years ago, and Axtell of Lincoln and Heerman of Stanton, progressives, come across. Axtell was elected as a progressive and Heerman as a republican and progressive.

There are three women representatives. Mrs. Gillespie being the democratic member of the feminine trio, Democratic members who have served before have insisted that the enrollment go to the charming representative from Sarpy.

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Seek to Speed Up Courts. Senator Scott's idea is to speed up legal work, the supreme court now being several years behind. But his bill is going to meet with strong opposition from the start. Its adoption will mean an added expense of from \$200,000 to \$400,000 a year to the taxpayers. It means the creation of more offices. It means that a lot of new offices once created will be hard to abolish. And representatives who

(Turn to Page Two, Column One.)

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ANOTHER FLOOD IN LENINGRAD

By Associated Press. Leningrad, Russia, Jan. 4.—Another flood visitation on Leningrad yesterday and early morning the water was eight feet above its normal level.

At the big factories in the outskirts of the city, including the great Putilov Iron Works are inundated. Train services have ceased. All the communists have been mobilized to meet the emergency.

The population of the city has fled to various high points for refuge.

Postal Pay Bill Will Go Before House This Week

Congress Expected to Dispose of Important Measure Before March 4—Muscle Shoals Laid Aside.

Washington, Jan. 4.—With only two months remaining before the adjournment, March 4, congress is expected this week to dispose of several important issues which have been hanging fire since the last session, among them the postal pay question and the McFadden banking bill. The senate has agreed to vote again Tuesday on the postal salaries measure, vetoed by President Coolidge, while the house expects to reach a vote by Saturday on the McFadden proposal.

Other legislation, including the Muscle Shoals question, which has been before the senate for some weeks, will be laid aside tomorrow to reduce the republican ratio of 60 to 40 to something a little less. Mrs. Gillespie's candidacy will be able to muster 43 votes if Raasch of Madison, republican and progressive, votes with the democrats, as he did most of the time two years ago, and Axtell of Lincoln and Heerman of Stanton, progressives, come across.

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Mrs. Ross May Decide Controversy on Style Between New York and Paris

Leroy Delaney, American Lawyer, Plights Troth With Mrs. Gladys Aiken, Riviera Beauty—Broadway Beauties Sail for America and Jobs With Zeigfeld.

By C. F. BERTELLI, Universal Service Staff Correspondent. Paris, Jan. 4.—The eternal fight for supremacy in styles between New York and Paris may be settled finally through the single question of color.

Dispatches from New York stating that red has been chosen as the favorite tint by society caused contemptuous smiles from the fashion makers here who have already decided that green shall be the predominant color for late winter and spring. The green chosen as the "basic tint" is that of "sea water under a cloudy sky." If Fifth avenue is red today, the boulevards are green.

With New Years over, the annual exodus of society to the Riviera ready to begin. From Nice comes the news that Leroy Delaney, President Wilson's special representative at Mexico City and since then an American lawyer in France and who was divorced last June, announces his engagement to Mrs. Gladys Aiken, formerly Miss Ballard of Louisville. She divorced Harry Aiken in 1922 on seven different grounds. Mrs. Aiken is one of the loveliest American women on the Riviera.

The sensation of the year on the sunshine coast is the Duchess Martha Ephrussi, who in spite of the same ship, several millionaire youths abruptly deciding to return to Manhattan several months ahead of their scheduled time.

Two of the girls, Yvonne Hughes and Grace Gerard, will remain in Paris for another week, while Marie Shelton, who is now in London, will sail on the Berengaria next Saturday.

Divorce Denied Professor's Wife

"She Loves Her Husband; She's Just Stubborn," Ruling of Judge.

Chicago, Jan. 3.—Mrs. Helen Journey today denied a divorce from Prof. R. C. Journey of the State Agricultural college, Raleigh, N. C. In announcing his decision Judge Joseph Sabath said he believed Mrs. Journey still loved her husband, "but was too stubborn to admit it."

Prof. Journey's cross bill was taken under advisement until his next vacation period, which comes in June. Judge Sabath warned Oscar Harmon, young law student, named as co-respondent in Journey's bill, against remaining a member of the Journey household.

"Despite the evidence against you," the court told Harmon, "and despite the usual interpretation of your actions, I am not convinced of Mrs. Journey's infidelity."

"But too much nonsense has been going on between you. Prof. Journey is wrapped up in his work. He is a man of unusual intelligence and unwise in the ways of the world."

"Mrs. Journey is a charming, little woman, cultured and refined, and once was fond of her husband. But when you came into her lives her love for him began to ebb away. I think she still loves him, but is a bit self-willed and stubborn now."

CHINESE LEADERS PLAN CONFERENCE

Peking, Jan. 5.—It was announced today that a so-called rehabilitation conference, for the purpose of reaching financial and military affairs, would bring together more than 250 leaders of the country before February 1.

Those invited include 41 generals and admirals, 42 civil and military governors and 50 persons whom Tuan Chi-Jui, head of the defects government, designated as the most able and experienced—ex-ministers, members of parliament and financiers.

It is understood that this is preliminary to a later national conference, wider in scope.

Temporary Franco-German Commercial Treaty, Plan

Paris, Jan. 4.—A modus vivendi has nearly been completed by the Franco-German commercial treaty negotiators in anticipation of a permanent treaty to replace the provisional provisions of the old treaty, which will expire January 10.

The temporary measure will comprise 42 articles, including all the points on which the French and Germans have reached an agreement. In addition, midway compromises on a number of other questions, Alsace-Lorraine, which would lose German customs immunity on January 10, will be protected to a limited extent, but the French negotiators are having a hard time to get satisfactory terms from the Germans.

The members of the conference foresee a long and troublesome struggle in drafting a commercial treaty, but the French members believe that the Germans will agree to a modus vivendi.

BROWN FAVORED AT MONTE CARLO

Monte Carlo, Jan. 4.—Satin crepe in light, emerald green, rose wood, silk ottoman and natural colored kasha are the most successful dress materials of the Riviera season. Kasha cloaks trimmed with brown fur are prominent on the terrace at Monte Carlo and the Promenade des Angelinas at Nice.

Brown in various shades is also a favorite color at this time of the year. It is fashionable in jaunty little walking suits with the straight silhouette.

Some frocks "of natural colored kasha have the narrow straight line effect but the skirt has an agrandissement at the waist and extending nearly to the hem. Beneath this tunic, which is plain in the front, the skirt seems narrow, but its width is extended by an inverted box pleat at the left. Tunic, skirt and pleat all combine to make walking easy and achieve the straight line effect.

Portable Drill Is Used to Dig Grapevine Holes

Los Angeles, Jan. 4.—One of the most ingenious uses for the portable electric drill was demonstrated recently in the fruit-growing territory of California, where a pair of automatic augers, operating from one motor mounted on a small truck, bored holes for 40,000 grapevines in 10 days. This resulted in a saving of \$400 a day over hand labor.

Six thousand holes, three inches in diameter and 13 inches deep, were dug each day.

Hahne Case May Bring N. Y. Police Arrest of Man Here as Suspected Wife Slayer Leads to Reopening of First Mate's "Suicide."

Funeral Service Today

Washington Fails to Receive Note on French Debt

"Unofficial Memorandum" Given Ambassador Herck Considered Insufficient by U. S.

Washington, Jan. 2.—What appeared to be a distinct misunderstanding prevailed between Washington and Paris tonight over the "proposition" that France is reported as submitting to the United States concerning the settlement of its war debt of \$4,000,000,000.

Press dispatches from Paris Friday carried the information that the French government was sending to Washington a note containing definite concrete proposals for funding the debt which, while not final, would serve admirably as a basis for funding negotiations of a serious character.

Today, however, this note had apparently been received in an "unofficial memorandum" of a decidedly "informal" character and totally lacking the dignity of a "note" from the government to another.

"Memorandum" Unacceptable. This "unofficial memorandum" is being held up in Paris by Ambassador Herck because it is unacceptable to the American government, according to Paris dispatches today.

Inquiry in official quarters here tonight tended to confirm the fact of substantial agreement to discussing any more "unofficial" and "informal" and "non-binding" assurances that France really intends to pay its debt.

On the contrary, it was said, what this government wants is something "official," something "formal" and something "binding."

The believe the time has come for something of this sort to be forthcoming. The American debt funding commission can not readily tackle something that is "unofficial."

Hughes Sees Coolidge. Secretary of State Hughes held a conference with President Coolidge today at which the French debt situation was understood to have been discussed. Hughes refused to discuss the situation at the White House and Coolidge was equally reticent.

DIPLOMATS SIGN COLOGNE NOTES

Paris, Jan. 4.—The ambassadors in Berlin met with the British embassy in the German capital today and signed historic notes, announcing the refusal of their governments to evacuate the Cologne bridgehead on January 10, according to an announcement by the foreign office tonight.

It was announced that Baron D'Abernon, the British ambassador, in the presence of his four colleagues, the French, Italian, Belgian and Japanese ambassadors, about to present the note to Chancellor Brücker tomorrow at noon, Baron D'Abernon will emphasize the importance of the document and notify the ambassador that the council of ambassadors will send Germany a second note after it has received the final report from the inter-allied control commission.

It is announced that the present note will be published Tuesday.

CAR OVERTURNS, BRAKEMAN DIES

Helena, Mont., Jan. 4.—A brakeman was killed and a number of persons slightly injured when the last car of a Great Northern train overturned while passing a switch in the yards here today, according to information at local railroad headquarters.

The brakeman killed was J. P. Sandbeck of Great Falls, Mont.

A switch which was the cause of the accident. The engine and four cars passed safely, but the last car, a day coach, took the switch and toppled over.

Sandbeck was said to have jumped from one of the cars which had passed under the overturned coach.

Injuries to passengers are understood to be confined to bruises and cuts from glass.

Governor of Porto Rico Denies Resignation Rumor

San Juan, P. R., Jan. 4.—Repeated press dispatches received from the United States to the effect that Horacio M. Towner, governor of Porto Rico, had indicated a desire to retire at an early date, today again met with emphatic denial on the part of Towner.

The governor said that never at any time to anyone had he ever expressed a desire to give up his post and that he had no intention of resigning. He will visit Washington about January 15 to attend to government matters pending there and will return to Porto Rico session of the legislature, which begins February 8.

The Weather

For 24 hours ending 1 p. m., January 4, 1925. Precipitation, inches and humidity: Total 0. Total since January 1, 0.04; deficiency 0.04.

Table with 2 columns: Month, Day, and Weather conditions (e.g., 6 a. m., 10 a. m., 1 p. m., 4 p. m., 7 p. m., 10 p. m., 12 noon, 12 midnight).

Full Alibi Obtained by Lainson

Kansas City Hotel Clerk Swears Snodderly Stayed There on Night of Bluffs Robbery.

Sheriff to Seek Pardon

Ray M. Snodderly, 16, lover of the dime novel who wore a tale of banditry which won him a 25-year sentence at Anamosa reformatory, is innocent of the crime for which he was sentenced.

This belief of Sheriff P. A. Lainson of Council Bluffs was crystallized into certainty last night when he received word that the last was in Kansas City on the night in which he declared he assisted in a holdup in which a policeman and a restaurant proprietor were shot.

On that night the boy was registered at the Fox hotel under his own name and a picture, forwarded to the night clerk of the hotel, has been identified by him. Five days previous the boy painted a flagpole for the American Wire and Steel company and three days before the Council Bluffs holdup he painted a flagpole for the Merchants bank.

Given 25-Year Term. On December 27 young Snodderly, or "Scar-Finger Ted" as he calls himself, was brought before Judge O. D. Wheeler and given the only sentence possible the statutes of Iowa for the crime to which he confessed—25 years in the reformatory. Two days later he repudiated that confession, and Sheriff Lainson has been working since that time to prove that the confession was but the figment of an imagination stimulated by the dime novel and the motion picture portrayal of crime.

Not content with confessing to a crime of which Sheriff Lainson now believes him innocent, the crime-mad youngster elaborated on his connection with crime and criminals.

Told Weird Tales. "There is a priest in Chicago who serves his church in the daytime and leads a gang at night," he said. Included in the gang were characters that would bring a blush of pride to the creator of the slow-witted novel, "Diamond Dick" was not amongst them, but "Red the Rough," "Ace Spot Jack," and "Two-Finger Pete" were. And their crimes, as outlined by this boy, would have made the most hardened criminal investigator gasp. None was a criminal, but that was doubtless due to the boy's having been in jail when publicity was given to the activities of Germany's "human ocre," Fritz Haarman.

When an alleged gang of bank robbers was arrested in Omaha "Scar-Finger Ted" claimed kinship with them. He was even said to have "tipped" off police to their presence in Omaha, a story later discredited.

Must Go to Prison. Now this fevered brain must cool for a time in Anamosa reformatory. Sentence has been passed, the judge is powerless to rescind it, should he care to do so. To Governor-elect Hammill and the Iowa board of pardons his case must be submitted before a final decision is reached on his release can be taken.

Some time this week Sheriff Lainson, who has worked as hard to prove this boy innocent as he has to convict a prisoner of whose guilt he was certain, will take him to prison. There he will remain until the governor signs an order which will permit "Scar-Finger Ted" to become Ray M. Snodderly, flagpole painter.

ITALIAN RUMORS OF RIOTS DENIED

Rome, Jan. 4.—On the authority of the home ministry it is declared that reports of rioting in Italian cities are entirely without foundation. The ministry declares that there are no reports from anywhere in the country that any one was killed in political riots.

However, a partial mobilization of the fascists has been ordered, all anti-fascist clubs have been closed down and all meetings and demonstrations have been forbidden.

The most important results this far of last night's debates in parliament is the session of former Premier Salandra and the resignation of Minister of Education Casati. Former Premier Salandra declared to party.

"I have lost faith in fascism during my work in the last two years. Through fascism the normal life of the country has been destroyed."

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