

C. E. Hughes Selected For Cabinet

Former Supreme Court Justice Named for Secretary of State Portfolio Under Harding.

Was Choice From First

By The Associated Press. St. Augustine, Feb. 20.—Charles E. Hughes, former supreme court justice and republican nominee for the presidency, was designated by President-elect Harding as the new secretary of state. The announcement embodying the first official word from the president-elect regarding selections for his cabinet was made in an oral statement after a long conference between the two men on foreign problems.

There was no element of surprise in the selection for it had been known several weeks Mr. Hughes virtually was certain to be given the place. He is understood to have been Mr. Harding's choice from the first.

Obligation to Accept. Mr. Harding declined to go into details about the subjects discussed with Mr. Hughes, saying that one of the policies of his administration would be to let each department head speak for himself. Mr. Hughes declared no public statement on the problems ahead would be expedient at present.

"Of course," he added, "I appreciate it as a great privilege to be invited by Senator Harding to serve in his administration. And I regard it as an imperative obligation to accept."

It was generally understood, however, that diplomatic appointments to be made early in the administration furnished one topic and that there was consideration also of the preliminary steps to be taken toward an association of nations. The discussion regarding appointments was more or less indefinite, it being Mr. Harding's policy to delay most of the diplomatic selections until after inauguration.

Informal Negotiations Planned. The general impression among those close to the president-elect is that the first diplomatic appointments to other nations will be taken in an association will be of an informal character.

Mr. Hughes will bring to the secretaryship of state a legal training of unusual scope as well as a mind sympathetic to international agreement and for maintenance of peace. During the treaty fight he advocated reserved ratification of the Versailles league and proposed several reservations which were considered by the senate majority.

Offer Daughters Place. Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Leased Wire. Washington, Feb. 19.—The first written or spoken word direct from President-elect Harding, indicating one of his cabinet choices has been received by Representative Frank Murphy of Ohio who had asked the president-elect to consider the name of Percy Tetlow of Ohio. The president-elect said definitely that he had asked Harry M. Daugherty to go into his cabinet.

Parents' Anxieties Stilled as Runaway Boys Abandon Trip. Eleven ravenous Mason school boys, ranging in age from 8 to 11, skipped out from school Friday afternoon and became wearied of a jaunt at Valley, Neb., at 2 Saturday morning.

The lads appealed to R. T. Smith, train dispatcher in the railroad station, for warmth and food. Smith allowed the boys to sleep on the station benches and called Omaha police.

Meantime, mothers of the missing boys had appealed to the police. James Ryan, 1348 South Twenty-fourth street, father of one of the boys, raced to Valley and brought back eight of the youngsters.

The following boys made up the runaway group: Earl Ryan, Tom Latta, Donald Lindquist, Joe Biono, Charles Marco, Tony Bresca, Joe Bonnet, Pete Leonardo, Dante Bonnet, Nick Estelle and Sam Amato.

Condition of Caruso Steadily Improving. New York, Feb. 20.—Enrico Caruso watched the falling snow from a window near his sick bed and with the yearning of a school boy with the measles, declared "it looks fine."

The tenor's physicians, in a bulletin, indicated his condition was improving.

The bulletin indicated no great anxiety for the patient, who a few weeks ago was stricken with pleurisy and hovered between life and death for a few days after suffering a relapse Tuesday night.

It said: "Mr. Caruso has had a good night and he is quite refreshed this morning. His condition is feverish, but quite satisfactory."

Rat on Wife's Photo Has No Bear On Divorce Case, Opinion of Judge

Failure of Rodent to Bite Husband as He Plucks it From Picture to Sign of Innocence, Says Daughter.

O'Neill, Neb., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—Necromancy and weird manifestations which might influence a superior tribunal to compromise a case pending in court before it is adjudicated have no standing in the court of Judge Robert R. Dickson of the Fifteenth judicial district.

Saturday morning Judge Dickson threatened to send to jail Fred Bazelman, prominent O'Neill merchant, because he picked a rat off the frame of a photograph of his wife and threw the rat into a stove filled with burning coals. Bazelman's wife is suing him for divorce and, incidentally, for a goodly chunk of alimony.

After Bazelman had burned the rat off his little daughters, influenced by the fact that he came unharmed through the ordeal, wrote a letter to her mother, telling about the affair and assuring her that "because papa came through the ordeal without a scratch he must be the innocent party in the divorce action."

Mrs. Bazelman turned the letter over to her attorney, who introduced it in court Saturday morning as the judge was about to decide the case. Judge Dickson promptly called as witnesses the little children who saw the rat plucked off the picture, others who saw the bones of the rat in the stove afterward and then, after administering a scathing lecture to

Bazelman, announced that he would reserve decision until further investigation. None but Bazelman and the children saw the rat on the picture. Bazelman, who is a member of the firm of Bazelman Lumber company, operating a lumber yard and a general store, is a Belgian. He has endeavored to make up with his wife since the divorce action was started. The photograph on which the rat was draped when Bazelman picked off, hangs six feet and one-half feet from a window, on a smooth wall.

Rat Calm and Smoothed. The children testified that they were in another room when their father first entered the room and that he threw open the folding doors between, and called them to see the rat before he walked over and picked it up. They testified that the rat was calm and collected and made no effort to bit him, and that it raced around on the burning coals for about half an hour after being put in the stove.

Following is the letter to Mrs. Bazelman, from her little daughter, Agnes, that gave the court knowledge of Bazelman's peculiar effort to adjust their differences: "Dear Mamma: Well as this is the first day of Lent, I will tell you something queer that happened in my house."

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State Section Of Medical Body Will Meet Here

Clinics and General Meetings Make Up Program; Director Of Research Laboratory To Speak.

The Nebraska section of the American College of Surgeons will meet in Omaha on March 3 and 4, according to announcements made by Dr. J. P. Lord of this city. This will be the first meeting of the members of this association in Nebraska.

Owing to the large number of members of the national association, it has been agreed not to hold any more national conventions, because no city in the union is large enough to accommodate the activities of the delegates to these meetings.

In the forenoon of the days mentioned there will be clinics in the various hospitals of the city. The afternoon meetings will be at the Hotel Fontenelle.

The American College of Surgeons includes eminent surgeons of Canada, the United States and South America. It has a membership of approximately 4,000. It was organized in 1913.

To be a member it is necessary to be a graduate of at least eight years standing from a standard medical college. Special preparations in surgery also are required. Furthermore, the applicant must be recommended as to qualifications by someone already a member of the college.

Forty surgeons of Nebraska are members of this congress. The American Society for the Prevention of Cancer is collaborating with the American College of Surgeons in sending to its meetings eminent lecturers on subjects pertaining to cancer.

The principal speaker of the meeting will be Prof. Francis Carter Wood, director of the Carter Research Laboratory, Columbia university.

The officers of the Nebraska section are: Dr. John E. Summers, Omaha, chairman; Dr. D. T. Quigley, Omaha, secretary; and Dr. J. Stanley, Lincoln, counselor.

Confession of Robber To Release Prisoner Now Serving Sentence

Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Leased Wire. New York, Feb. 20.—A thief, who was moved by a religious service to confess his guilt for which another is serving a term in Sing Sing prison, is expected to arrive here tomorrow.

David E. Decker, 42, of Boston, is reported to have confessed at a mission service in Akron, O., that in December last, he stole \$2,700 from the Mercantile Restaurant company of New York.

He told the Akron police that Robert Harley of Brooklyn, who is married, and has three children, was sent to Sing Sing for the robbery. Decker says he served nine years in Leavenworth prison for the murder of Captain Cotton of the 10th infantry in 1911, while Decker was a private in that command.

Knee Length Skirts And Brilliant Colors Doomed, Modiste Says. Chicago Tribune Cable, Copyright, 1921. Chicago, Ill., Feb. 20.—The knee length (or higher) skirt is doomed and the brilliant colors that have dazzled for some time, are a thing of the past, according to Mme. Ripley, president of the National Fashion Art league. The league will hold its annual convention here early next month and Mme Ripley has just returned from a tour of the country and an European trip, to secure a complete roundup of ideas for the coming year.

Legion Asked to Guard Against New Propaganda

Plans for Pro-German Mass Meetings in Many Cities, Including Omaha, Bulletin Sent to All Parts, Says.

Indianapolis, Feb. 20.—American Legion posts were asked tonight by the Legion's national headquarters to watch for a revival of German propaganda.

A bulletin sent all state headquarters agreed that mass meetings in several cities, including Omaha, have been planned, as "one of the first national manifestations" of the propaganda campaign, the object of which is to revive the influence of the German propaganda in this country.

"Disruption of the accord which exists between the United States and our allies, with particular reference to France and Great Britain, by the turning of American popular sentiment against the governments of those countries; and

"Methodical creation of a powerful national political machine, by the amalgamation of the disloyal elements of our nation, and the elevation to a place of power in American politics of the invisible influence of this organized minority."

"One of the first national manifestations of this activity will probably take the form of mass meetings," the bulletin continued, "ostensibly in protest against the occupation of the Rhine by French negro troops. The alleged presence of French colonialists is to be used as a motive to turn American sentiment against France. Negro troops were withdrawn from the French army of occupation months ago."

Identified with this movement are individuals who disloyally and whose efforts in the interest of Germany have been notorious in the past and who are now again in direct communication with Berlin.

"National headquarters has received reports of pro-German activities from many sections which appear to connect directly with the national propaganda campaign outlined.

"Department officials are requested to make no dramatic activities in their community and to forward reports to national headquarters."

Fight Against Winslow Bill Started in Senate. Washington, D. C., Feb. 20.—A fight against the Winslow bill for partial nationalization of government-owned railroads, industry and labor, to forbid the issuance of drilling permits except in lands which have been manifested, an action striking particularly at American oil companies operating in Mexico, was suggested by the state department, through the secretary of the treasury, De la Huerta, and representatives of exporters, by which the 10 per cent tax imposed on petroleum exports is to be paid in kind. This new payment, which was decided upon after conferences held at the government suggestion, will be effective probably May 1.

Reward of \$10,000 Offered For Slayer of Two Teachers. Cleveland, O., Feb. 20.—Fresh stimulus was given to the hunt for the slayers of Louise Wolf and Mabel Foote, school teachers beaten to death in Parma, Wednesday, by a reward of \$10,000 offered by the board of county commissioners for information that would lead to the arrest of the murderer.

Women Take Examination For Postmaster at Armour. Table Rock, Neb., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—An examination has been held at the court house in Pawnee City for the postmastership at Armour, this county. At the date originally set there were no applicants and it was stated unless there should be candidates at this time the office would be discontinued. Mrs. Clara E. Kirchner and Mrs. Sadie Byrne took the examination.

Boy Held for Bond Theft. May Answer Charge in East. Spokane, Feb. 20.—Elliot Michener, 15, arrested at North port, Wash., in connection with the alleged theft of \$14,600 worth of securities from his father at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, will be turned over to officers from eastern states if they desire to cancel his parole. It was stated today by authorities at Coeur d'Alene.

American Church Pastor At Buenos Aires, Dies. Buenos Aires, Feb. 20.—Dr. William Patterson McLaughlin, 71, for 30 years pastor of the American church here, is dead. He was born in Cincinnati and came to Buenos Aires from New Orleans.

Victor In Battle With Critics

Rear Admiral Fullam Delivers Indictment of Present Building Program—Scores Heads of Department.

Short of Submarines

Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Leased Wire. Washington, Feb. 20.—The Navy department fought a hard battle with the critics of its building policy, led by Rear Admiral Fullam, retired, before the senate naval affairs committee. The navy came off victorious, if the attitude of the committee is to be the deciding factor, after Rear Admiral Fullam had delivered a sweeping indictment of the navy building program.

Admiral Fullam argued that the navy heads apparently had learned no lessons from the war; that they had shut their minds against suggestions based upon the experiences of world conflict; and contended that this attitude "imperils the nation."

The American navy today, he declared, is "fatally short of submarines," and its air force is "pitifully inadequate to meet modern conditions." He charged that the navy is utterly disorganized and bitterly assailed the theory of dividing the fleet, contending that the battle fleet should be concentrated in the Pacific.

Would Curtail Building. Admiral Fullam urged completion of six superdreadnaughts now furthest advanced in construction, but held that construction should be suspended on 5 dreadnaughts less than 25 per cent completed and 6 battle cruisers less than 10 per cent completed, while the navy makes a thorough study of what constitutes a modern navy in the light of the experiences of the war.

All the important bureau heads of the Navy department were on hand to answer Admiral Fullam's testimony. Rear Admiral Taylor, chief of construction, maintained that the battleship was the backbone of the navy. It should be improved to the highest degree, he said, but it should remain the navy's chief reliance.

Admiral Fullam argued that the development of air craft should be pushed to the fullest extent, but not at the expense of the capital ship. Rear Admiral McVey, chief of ordnance, told the committee that no projectile has yet been invented that can be dropped from a plane to do anything more than local damage.

Would Complete Ships. Admiral Fullam pointed out that the American navy now has 16 dreadnaughts in commission and 11 superdreadnaughts under construction, six of which are between 25 and 90 per cent completed.

"It would appear good policy to complete these six ships which would give us a powerful battle fleet of 22 dreadnaughts," he said.

Admiral Fullam urged the completion of the 10 scout cruisers under construction as soon as possible, and the utmost haste in completion of the 47 submarines now under construction.

In our surface fleet we find that with 22 dreadnaughts, 300 destroyers and 10 scout cruisers, our navy will stand next to that of England," he said. "It will be at least 20 per cent stronger than that of Japan and omitting Great Britain, it will be more powerful than the combined navies of all Europe."

Action of Obregon Against Oil Permits Surprise to Officials. Washington, Feb. 20.—Action of President Obregon in secretly ordering the state department to communicate with the oil companies, industry and labor, to forbid the issuance of drilling permits except in lands which have been manifested, an action striking particularly at American oil companies operating in Mexico, was suggested by the state department, through the secretary of the treasury, De la Huerta, and representatives of exporters, by which the 10 per cent tax imposed on petroleum exports is to be paid in kind. This new payment, which was decided upon after conferences held at the government suggestion, will be effective probably May 1.

Secretary of Colorado A. F. and A. M. Lodge Dies. Denver, Feb. 20.—Charles Henry Jacobson, 33rd degree Mason, secretary of the grand lodge, Colorado A. F. and A. M., and a delegate with Clarence M. Kellogg to the 200th anniversary grand lodge held at Albert Hall, London, in 1919, died here this afternoon. Mr. Jacobson was born in Niagara county, New York, in 1852.

Army Must Capture Ex-Prisoner to Free Him of Slacker Charge. Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Leased Wire. Chicago, Feb. 20.—Andrew Grystoviak, who was supposed to be a prisoner at Fort Sheridan, was being tried before a court-martial on a charge of evading the draft. Evidence produced showed that Grystoviak was not guilty and was ordered discharged.

When the field clerk went to the prison to get the prisoner so that the judge advocate could announce the glad news, it was found that he had escaped from the guardhouse on January 25.

Now it will be necessary for the army to apprehend Grystoviak again in order to free him. It was shown at the court-martial that the alleged draft dodger was serving time in the Ohio penitentiary when the evasion was alleged to have taken place.

Give Him a Little Shrapnel, Boys!



Harding Given Clean Slate on Peace Program

Withdrawal of American Representatives From Reparations Commission Leaves Clear Way for New Administration. Washington, Feb. 20.—Withdrawal of American representation from the inter-allied reparations commission, announced yesterday enables the incoming administration to take up the entire problem of peace as it sees fit, according to State department officials.

The American action was characterized not as disassociation, but as a discontinuance of unofficial discussions. While this government has not ratified the treaty of Versailles, it was explained, it assisted in the drawing of that pact, and until some definite action is taken with regard to the treaty, there will be nothing to guide the government in its relations with the questions arising from that convention.

The State department, it was asserted, does not have the authority to agree or approve of possible changes in the treaty until the treaty shall have been acted on definitely, and therefore it was necessary to end an anomalous situation by retiring from even unofficial connection with the inter-allied reparations and military commissions. It was explained that this country still is at war, or in a state of armistice with Germany, and therefore the occupation of a portion of the Rhineland by American troops has no association with the question of reparations.

It was declared emphatically at the State department that its action in recalling Roland W. Borden and other Americans from the reparations commission and its sub-bodies, was not to be taken in any sense as an action hostile to the allied powers. On the contrary, the reparations question must be handled by unified action, as the United States is "morally bound" to cooperate with the allies in an effort to solve the reparations problem.

Most of those who called personally were unable to give explanations that were deemed satisfactory. They were told that unless they receded at once from their positions the board of review and the assessors would act accordingly in determining their taxes.

Mr. Peacock emphasized this point and the result was that a large number of landlords, who are agents remain where they are.

Among those who agreed not to raise rents was Mrs. M. Rattner, owner of a large apartment building. She had been sent a notice by mistake.

"I am not raising rents—I am reducing them," she said. "I am cutting the rent of my four-room flats from \$60 to \$55. My five-room flats, which have been \$70, will be \$60 after May 1, and my six-room flats will be reduced from \$80 to \$70."

Nebraska Minister Seeks Patent on Airplane Device. Washington, D. C., Feb. 20.—(Special Telegram.)—Congressman J. J. Jeffers has nominated Charles Louis Dundey, son of Mrs. Mac L. Dundey, widow of Charles Mac Dundey, Omaha attorney, to be principal of Young Dundey is a graduate of Kempt Military academy, Kemper, Mo., and formerly was a student at the University of Nebraska and Central High school, Omaha.

Steamship is Wrecked at Entrance to Vera Cruz Bay. Mexico City, Feb. 20.—The steamship Lucio Del Albin, with 17 passengers and a crew of eight, was wrecked yesterday at the entrance to the bay of Vera Cruz. One person was drowned and the others were rescued with difficulty, according to reports. The vessel was caught in a storm.

"Toddle" Wedding Planned to Put Pep in Marriage Ceremony

Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Leased Wire. Chicago, Feb. 20.—Now it's the "toddle wedding." Miss Mary Hullebarren and George Offerman asked permission of Maj. W. G. Hamilton, director of the Beauty Mart, to have a "toddle wedding" on March 2, in the Coliseum. Major Hamilton offered to supply a jazz band to aid in the toddling.

Even the officiating clergyman will toddle, according to Offerman, who has engaged a boyhood friend, Rev. George Klingman of Houston, Tex., for the ceremony.

"Most weddings are too solemn affairs," explained Offerman. "People, including the principals, attend with long faces and everyone is almost afraid to breathe. We decided we wanted some pep in our ceremony; also a crowd to witness it. That's why we made our present plans."

Tenants Score in Chicago Rent War

Landlords Agree Not to Raise Rates—Retaliation in Form of Taxes Threatened. Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Leased Wire. Chicago, Feb. 20.—First blood in the high rent war was drawn by the tenants yesterday when a number of landlords, summoned into the office of Joseph F. Peacock, city real estate agent, agreed not to raise their prices.

Landlords and real estate agents poured into the city hall during the day with explanations intended to justify their rent increases. In greater numbers came communications giving reasons.

Most of those who called personally were unable to give explanations that were deemed satisfactory. They were told that unless they receded at once from their positions the board of review and the assessors would act accordingly in determining their taxes.

Mr. Peacock emphasized this point and the result was that a large number of landlords, who are agents remain where they are.

Among those who agreed not to raise rents was Mrs. M. Rattner, owner of a large apartment building. She had been sent a notice by mistake.

"I am not raising rents—I am reducing them," she said. "I am cutting the rent of my four-room flats from \$60 to \$55. My five-room flats, which have been \$70, will be \$60 after May 1, and my six-room flats will be reduced from \$80 to \$70."

Railroads Earn 1 Per Cent Return During December

Net Operating Income for Last Month of 1920 Given As \$15,896,313 by Bureau of Economics. Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Leased Wire. Washington, Feb. 20.—The railroads of the United States for the month of December, 1920, received but \$15,896,313 as their net operating income. On the 6 per cent basis on the valuation of their property, they should have received for this month \$86,888,000. In other words, the transportation agencies of the country received but 1.1 per cent on the total valuation of capital tied up in properties.

These figures are based upon returns made to the bureau of railway economics and represent statistics received from all the railroads of the country with the exception of the Central of Georgia, the Denver & Rio Grande and the Green Bay & Western. They tell a tale which is most discouraging to railroad managers and thousands of stockholders in such properties throughout the country.

The figures made public by the bureau of railway economics show that total operating revenues of the railroads for the month of December, 1920, were \$344,650,847, as compared with \$448,033,209 for the same month in 1919. The operating expenses were \$493,580,921 for the month of December, 1920, as against \$410,332,970 for the same period in 1919.

Railroad experts are at a loss to account for the falling off in business of the month of December and for the loss in revenue from both passenger and freight traffic.

Two Youths Are Killed By Carbide Explosion

Port Angeles, Wash., Feb. 20.—Impromptu chemical experiments with cans of calcium carbide cost the lives of two youths at an abandoned logging camp near here.

Lyle Davis, 16, and V. Rice, 21, who were killed, and a younger brother of Davis, found some cans of the substance at the camp. They punched holes in the cans and lighted a fire under them. The regular city election in April. Asserting vigorously his intention to fight the recall, the mayor said: "To do otherwise would be equivalent to openly admitting that I feared to have my record made public. My friends also have advised me to fight it, and I will ask them to stand by me."

The small taxpayer is paying less taxes this year than the year before," he declared, "and the taxes will be 25 per cent less next year than this year."

Mammoth Freight Vessels Are Launched at Frisco. Oakland, Cal., Feb. 20.—The two largest freight vessels ever launched in San Francisco bay—the 14,500-ton Mantiato and Mamukai, sister ships, destined for the Hawaiian trade, slid from the ways within an hour at the Moore Shipbuilding company yards here.

The vessels were built for the Mattson Navigating company.

Beaver City, Neb., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—Forty head of pure-bred Poland-China sows were sold by B. M. Davis & Sons here, bringing an average of \$75 a head. The top price of the sale was \$165, paid by Paul Hansen of Stamford.

Government May Take West Indies

Question of Acquiring Possessions in Payment for British War Debt to Come Up in Senate.

Reed Back of Movement

Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Leased Wire. By ARTHUR SEARS HENNING. Washington, D. C., Feb. 20.—The proposal that the United States purchase from Great Britain the British West Indies for \$4,000,000, the amount of the American war loan to England, is to be discussed in the senate this week.

Senator Reed of Missouri has introduced a resolution providing that the executive be requested to ascertain from the British government whether Great Britain is willing to consider the cession of the islands to the United States and he stated tonight that he would address the senate on the measure within a few days.

The resolution says nothing about forgiving the British debt to the American government, but this is exactly what Senator Reed had in mind in proposing that England be soundly on the question of parting with the islands. If the suggestion should be carried, England would cede to the United States six archipelagos off the south Atlantic coast of this country and the United States would cancel the British indebtedness.

Salvage from Loss. The question as it now presents itself, is one of arranging for some salvage from what may become a total loss to the United States. Whether America will be repaid in full or even in large part for the loans to the allies totaling nearly \$10,000,000,000, is a matter which is being debated at home and abroad. No interest has been paid on the loans, even by Great Britain, for nearly two years; negotiations for the refunding of the borrowings cover a long period and in progress, and the principal allies are actively urging the cancellation of all the international war loans as a means of quickly restoring the credit of European nations.

Great Britain itself has taken the leadership in the movement for cancellation of the loans, having soundly on the question of parting with the islands. If the suggestion should be carried, England would cede to the United States six archipelagos off the south Atlantic coast of this country and the United States would cancel the British indebtedness.

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