

Agreement In Oil Case Seems Near

Britain Removes Obstacle to Settlement of Mesopotamia Controversy—Accords U. S. Equal Rights.

Open Door Guaranteed

By ARTHUR SEARS HENNING, Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Leased Wire. Washington, March 22.—Removal of an important obstacle to the settlement of the controversy between the United States and Great Britain over the Mesopotamia mandate, involving specifically oil exploitation rights, was disclosed today, in connection with a discussion of foreign relations by President Harding and his cabinet.

Great Britain has brought about the inclusion in the mandate terms of a provision according Americans the same commercial and industrial opportunities in Mesopotamia as enjoyed by members of the league.

May Send Representative

One of these definite questions will be that of sending a representative to discuss with the league of nations council the terms of the mandates assigned to allied powers for the government of former territories of the central powers. The council has invited the United States to present its objections in this manner to the class A and class B mandates before they are passed upon by the council.

The allies take the position that there never would have been a controversy over mandates with the United States, had the Wilson administration elected to discuss the matter informally. Instead, Secretary of State Colby chooses to open a formal controversy with Great Britain in an exchange of notes with attendant publicity productive of political capital from vigorous twisting of the lion's tail.

On the other hand, defenders of former Secretary Colby assert he had failed in informal discussions with the British embassy, to obtain any indication that Great Britain was disposed to concede the open door in Mesopotamia to American oil development and in consequence thereof, advised a formal protest to the British foreign office against the exclusion of America from equal rights in a territory in which it possesses an inalienable, undivided one-fifth interest by virtue of its contract.

Enough Soap Sent to Russia to Give Bath To Million Bolsheviks

Chicago, March 22.—Russia, which regards the world's greatest example of what follows when soap bubbles of government are blown, is being vigorously supplied with the contents of the boxes. Seventeen thousand pounds of soap were shipped from this city destined for Moscow.

Used sparingly, this would suffice to wash the faces and hands of nearly 1,000,000 Russians and there are predictions that a few applications of soap and water would speedily transform the bolshevik into something resembling a human being. The soap is the gift of the American Red Star League and is being sent at the earnest solicitation of the soviet government, which says that typhus and other epidemics are killing hundreds, chiefly babies, every day.

The consignment started today, will be used in the hospitals, or at least that is the understanding. More will be sent, the plan being to ship an average of eight tons every month.

Southern Pacific Railway Is Charged With Monopoly

Washington, March 22.—Long continued discrimination by the Southern Pacific railway against the Union Pacific line through monopolistic combination with the Central Pacific Railway company and the Union Trust company of New York was alleged by the government today in an appeal to the supreme court from dismissal in Utah of a petition asking a dissolution of the alleged monopoly.

Ex-Sergeant Charged With Murder of Major Cronkhite

Seattle, March 22.—United States District Attorney Robert C. Saunders today filed in federal court here formal complaint charging Roland R. Pothier, former army sergeant, with manslaughter, in connection with the death of Maj. Alexander H. Cronkhite at Camp Lewis, Wash., October 7, 1918.

Harding to Meet Newspaper Writers Twice Each Week

Washington, March 22.—President Harding announced he would hold conferences with newspaper correspondents Tuesday and Friday of each week, following cabinet meetings. The announcement marks the formal restoration of the prewar policy at the White House.

Relapse is Suffered By Cardinal Gibbons

Baltimore, March 22.—Physicians attending Cardinal Gibbons announced tonight his illness had taken an unfavorable turn. They said, however, they believed there was no immediate danger. The unfavorable change in the cardinal's condition occurred Sunday night when his heart action became weaker and his temperature lowered.

Harding Issues Call for Special Session April 11

No Specific Problems to Be Taken Up Mentioned in Proclamation of President to Congress.

Washington, March 22.—A formal call for an extra session of congress, to meet April 11 and receive legislative recommendations from the new administration, was issued today by President Harding.

None of the specific problems were named in the proclamation, the president merely declaring an extraordinary occasion required that congress convene "to receive such communication as may be made by the executive."

Mr. Harding already has indicated, however, that the tariff and taxation will be foremost in his message. He is expected to make a plea for prompt relief to the nation's agricultural interests and the list of recommendations may touch many other subjects, such as the railway situation, the merchant marine, and immigration.

One recommendation relative to reconstruction measures within the government machine he is expected to suggest is the creation of a general commission to dispose of many kinds of property acquired by government agencies during the war. Whether the message will touch on foreign relations is a matter of speculation, but the president has indicated his primary desire is that the session work out a plan of governmental rehabilitation at home.

A program has been discussed at conferences between the president and congress leaders and although definite decisions are to be made, a feeling of confidence is manifest that there will be a working agreement that will expedite legislative business from the start.

Some of the president's friends believe he will follow the custom of President Wilson in delivering his message in person.

Fight on Drug Ring of International Scope Opened in New York

New York, March 22.—Opening of a fight to curb the traffic of an international drug ring, said to be headed by business men of Germany, Japan and England, was announced here today by Dr. Carlton Simons, special deputy police commissioner.

Docting high rank officers of steamships plying between New York and Mediterranean and South American ports have been transporting drugs to this country, Dr. Simons said. Many raids are planned and developments of a startling nature expected.

Drugs manufactured in Germany, it is charged, have been carried from that country into Switzerland by means of underground passages, which have been discovered. Through Switzerland these drugs, Dr. Simons asserted, have been transported to America, China, Japan and Italy.

Man Found Guilty of Fraud Through Fake Stock Sale

Los Angeles, March 22.—A verdict finding Everett A. Hutchings guilty of fraud in selling securities was returned today by a jury in Superior Judge Frank R. Willis' court after the jury had deliberated eight minutes.

Hutchings was charged with having defrauded J. B. Norris of DeCATUR, Ill., out of \$31,000 in a fake stock deal.

U. S. Soldiers in Germany to Get Money Orders in Person

Coblenz, March 22.—American soldiers wishing to send money to the United States must appear personally to fill out the blanks for money orders under an order given bankers here by the interallied Rhine-Ruhr commission. This step was taken to prevent the escape of capital from Germany.

Register Now! Voters not registered or who have moved since their last registration must register today, tomorrow or Friday, if they wish to vote in the city primary.

Have you registered? Is your neighbor registered? This election is Your business. Register now.

Five Held In New York Bomb Plot

Men Wanted in Connection With Wall Street Explosion September 16 Retained From Rio De Janeiro.

Treated as Desperadoes

New Orleans, March 22.—Five men who classified themselves as seamen, but whom Cap. J. H. B. Van Weeldren of the New York and Cuba line freighter, Rusville, said and Department of Justice officials intimated might be wanted in New York in connection with the investigation of the Wall street bomb plot of September 16, were held in prison here tonight.

Shackled, the men were taken from the Rusville today and booked under their names, Philip Pender, Lionel Kuebreznif, Rudolph Dorsh, Hans Randin and Henrik Lippan. They were then held incommunicado.

After Captain Van Weeldren had related the manner in which the men were captured and the difficulties encountered in moving from Rio De Janeiro to New Orleans, he too, became uncommunicative. Department of Justice officials said they were "awaiting instructions."

Treated as Desperadoes

Saturday when the Rusville was approaching this port the master wireless the Department of Justice requesting that they care for five "consular prisoners." The captives were treated as desperate men. Late last month, according to Captain Van Weeldren, the United States shipping board steamship, City of Alton, then nearing Rio De Janeiro, received a wireless from the officials of the United States government, requesting a rest of the five. A fight started and, according to the captain, it was with difficulty that the men were placed in irons and taken to the Rio De Janeiro prison.

Fight on Ship

The American vice consul at Rio De Janeiro, according to the captain, requested the steamer Voro to take the men to New York. Heavily guarded, the men were placed aboard the Voro, which was ordered to return to New York. The Voro's master returned them to Rio De Janeiro. Then the Rusville arrived and Vice Consul Thomas persuaded Captain Van Weeldren to attempt transportation of the prisoners.

The prisoners, apparently between 25 and 35 years of age, were said to be for the most part, well educated, some speaking several languages. No indication was given as to when they would be taken to New York.

Investigation Continued

Washington, March 22.—Investigation of the five men landed in chains at New Orleans has as yet failed to uncover any evidence connecting them with the New York bomb plot. J. Flynn, chief of the bureau of investigation of the Department of Justice, he added, however, that the investigation was being continued.

New Seaplanes Being Built for British Navy

London, March 22.—Details of an entirely new type of seaplane which can both fly and cruise as a warship have been made public here. Two of these ships are being built for the British navy. The vessels are said to be much like small ships with wings added. They are larger and stronger than any sea-going aircraft yet constructed, capable of riding the roughest waves, and each will carry a crew of seven, with replacements for five machine guns.

They will be capable of joining in all naval maneuvers without a parent vessel, operating from a sea base just as the submarine does. They have a range of 500 miles and when not flying will be able to "taxi" along the water driven by their propellers.

Weeks in Favor of Reward For Major General Liggett

Washington, March 22.—Another effort probably will be made to obtain promotion to the rank of lieutenant general for Maj. Gen. Hunter Liggett, who retired from active service yesterday after having served as war-time commander of the First army corps and later of the First army.

Secretary Weeks said today he was very favorably inclined toward recommending General Liggett for his distinguished war service.

Captured Convict Tries to Kill Self on His Way to Pen

Jefferson City, Mo., March 22.—Harry Wheeler, a convict from a prison farm with another convict, attempted to commit suicide by slashing his throat with a razor while being returned to the penitentiary today after he had been captured, guards reported. He was sentenced to four years for forgery.

New York Tailors Strike

New York, March 22.—Several thousand union tailors employed in custom tailor shops went on strike today, to retain a minimum wage of \$40 a week, it was announced.

Midnight Lunch For Deck Hands Abolished

Washington, March 22.—Men on the decks of the navy's fighting craft throughout the world received a jolt today, when orders were received from the department abolishing the midnight lunch served to the deck watches on all ships since the beginning of the war.

The midnight lunch had been the enemy with the negative of the engineer and the submarine menace. The deck divisions to stand long watches, the midnight lunch was authorized for all hands. Recent legislation based on the theory that the war is over, forced abolition of the "welcome Java and gold fish," as far as the deck forces are concerned.

Soviets Ask For Resumption of Trade With U. S.

Message From Moscow Says Government Proposes to Send Delegation to Confer With Harding.

London, March 22.—The Russian soviet government has appealed to President Harding and the American government to resume trade relations with the soviet government, says a wireless message from Moscow today.

The soviet government proposes to send a delegation to the United States to negotiate a trade agreement, the message adds.

Washington, March 22.—Official confirmation was lacking tonight, of information contained in a Moscow wireless received in London announcing that the Russian soviet government had appealed to President Harding to resume trade relations with Russia.

Responsible officials refrained from discussing the situation specifically today and the most definite indication of the administration's attitude remained in the statement of Secretary Hoover yesterday, denouncing reservation of trade with Russia as essentially a political question and advancing the belief that any considerable trade with Russia at present was physically impossible.

The possibility of resuming trade relations with the soviet government was not the subject of public comment in White House circles and at the State department any outward signs of a possible change in policy were lacking, although one official estimated that the signing of the Great Britain-soviet trade agreement and the conclusion of peace between Poland and soviet Russia necessarily were developments which should be taken into consideration in considering the Russian situation.

Major General Wood To Quit Army Service For University Post

Washington, D. C., March 22.—Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood will retire from active service in the army to become the head of Pennsylvania university, it was learned today at the War department.

The general notified Secretary Weeks yesterday that if he was nominated for the university post, as he was last night, he would desire to go on the retired list as soon as he had completed his mission in the Far East.

The real reason for the Wood-Fordes mission to the Philippines and the searching investigation of conditions to be made in the islands, is to determine whether the Filipinos are ready for independence, Secretary Weeks said today.

The mission's report, he said, will be made the basis for the Harding administration's Philippine policy.

Part of Russian Imperial Treasures Found in Rome

Rome, March 22.—Customs officials have found what they believe to be part of the Russian imperial treasures, including a fragment of the late czar's crown, in the baggage of the Russian commercial delegation to Italy, held in the railway station here pending examination.

Brilliant as large as nuts, were discovered. A collection of 1,200 ancient coins is declared to be worth several millions.

C. B. & Q. Rail Employees Refuse Lower Wage Scale

Chicago, March 22.—Representatives of all the unskilled employees of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad refused to accept a reduction in wages which was proposed by the road at a conference today. They also refused to endorse an appeal to the railroad labor board. The appeal to the board will be filed shortly by the railway, it was announced.

Plushcart Peddlers Do Thriving Business In Contraband Hootch

New York, March 22.—Thousands of plushcart peddlers and milk wagon drivers assist in smuggling trade for spirituous stimulants among their housewife customers, have developed this potential bootleg market into wholesale proportions, federal prohibition enforcement agents revealed here today.

Rescued



Two Dry Agents Shot to Death in Raid at El Paso

El Paso, March 22.—Federal prohibition agents S. E. Beckett and Arch Woods were shot to death this morning when prohibition agents were hunting for liquor on a ranch owned by Nell T. Shearman, near this city.

Federal officers were given a tip last night that a load of 23 cases of liquor was to be sent across the line intended for a ranch, according to members of the raiding party.

The posse was nearing the house when a voice shouted at them to halt. The officers did not stop. A volley of shots followed. Beckett and Woods both fell mortally wounded.

The remaining officers fired from wood-heds and barns, returning the fire from the house. When the firing from the house ceased, the officers entered the place. Nobody was there. Officers think the men in the house crawled through the darkness and followed the river course into El Paso.

Three Youths Drown in Lake While Fishing

Trinidad, Colo., March 22.—Three boys are believed to have drowned in a reservoir, 15 miles east of here, following their disappearance since Saturday when they went to the reservoir to fish. The hats belonging to the boys were found floating in the lake today and the boat in which they embarked was found overturned. The coroner has ordered the reservoir drained.

The boys, Benzie Magellan, John and Peter Alatica, ranged in age from 18 to 20 years.

Catholic Paper Praises Drive on Immodest Dress

Rome, March 22.—The Osservatore Romano, organ of the Vatican, today highly praises the initiative of the Catholic women of Santiago, Chile, who have started a campaign against immodest fashions in dress. The newspaper says: "This will tell the world there still are palanques of Christian girls who can and will, free themselves from the yoke of immodest fashions which threaten the dignity of womanhood."

Railroads Campaign Against Labor Unions

Chicago, March 22.—A copy of a letter said to have been written by L. V. Geer, general manager of the St. Louis-Columbus division of the Pennsylvania lines, ordering his supervisory employees to "even resort to defamation of all labor unions" if necessary to obtain information of their attitude in regard to proposed wage cuts, was read before the railroad labor board today by Frank P. Walsh, labor attorney.

Egg Prices Slump

New York, March 22.—Eggs declined in price here today. Fancy white eggs were quoted at 35 cents wholesale, showing a drop of 6 cents. Western flocks, declined from 34 to 23 and 25 cents.

Opposition Party Growing in Spain

Madrid, March 22.—Members of the radical left in the Spanish parliament are conferring with a view to forming a new anti-government group. Friends of Santiago Albia, former minister of finance, Melquiades Alvarez, leader of the reformist party and Alejandro Lerroux, radical leader in the Chamber of Deputies, have agreed to start an energetic campaign of opposition to all legislative work if the government persists in its conservatism, especially regarding its financial policy.

Newspaper reporters are dissatisfied with conditions under which they have been working, and have refused to continue unless some new system of giving out information is provided.

After the last cabinet meeting they were refused admittance to the residence of the premier and were obliged to take notes on the streets, walk under the eye of a vigilant policeman who prevented them from approaching members of the ministry. The government has announced that in future it will send a report direct to editorial offices and also publish a communique in La Epoca, the official organ, but as that newspaper has but a small circulation, it will give the public but little information regarding future proceedings of the cabinet.

Vanadium Corporation Passes Quarterly Dividend

New York, March 22.—The Vanadium corporation of America today passed its current quarterly dividend because of "continued business depression and a desire to conserve cash resources. Six months ago dividend of \$1.50 was paid and three months ago a dividend of \$1.

At their meeting today the directors elected Thos. M. Schumaker, president of the El Paso and Southern railway to succeed Alan A. Ryan, who resigned his position on the board.

Fireworks Plant Wrecked By Series of Explosions

Cincinnati, March 22.—A series of explosions that shook houses within a radius of two miles and the hurling of skyrocket, bombs and other projectiles over a wide territory, marked a fire which today virtually destroyed the plant of the A. L. Due Fireworks company at Reading, a suburb.

Recess Appointment Given Esch as E. C. Commissioner

Washington, March 22.—John J. Esch, former representative from Wisconsin, was given a recess appointment today by President Harding as a member of the Interstate Commerce commission.

Dwight Davis of St. Louis Mo., was given a recess appointment by President Harding today as a director of the war finance corporation.

Ship Given Up as Lost

Newport News, Va., March 22.—The Norwegian bark, Swastskog, which sailed October 16, has been given up as lost by her owners, the A. C. Stacey company. The craft has not been heard from since it sailed, commanded by Captain Nilsen, and with 14 in her crew. This boat makes the sixth bark which has sailed to or from this port in the last year to be given up as lost.

Men Who Tried To Kidnap Bergdoll Sentenced to Jail

Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Leased Wire. Moshog, March 22.—Detectives Carl Neat and Fred Zimmer, attached to the American army, who failed in their sensational attempt to apprehend Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, convicted American slacker, were found guilty today in the criminal court of this British village where they were on trial. Neat was sentenced to serve 15 months in jail and Zimmer six.

Both men were found guilty of an "illegal assumption of power" and Neat was also charged with "inflicting bodily injury." During the attempt to arrest Bergdoll last January Neat accidentally wounded a German bride when he shot at an automobile in which the draft-dodger took flight. The girl was riding in the car.

The trial of the two Americans began yesterday. The American Legion employed expert lawyers for their defense. Bergdoll, who was on the witness stand, appeared to be ill at ease. He made several conflicting statements and the presiding judge found it necessary to caution him once regarding the German perjury law.

Twelve Tong Leaders Are Indicted on Murder Charge

San Francisco, March 22.—Twelve leaders of the Jung King Chinese Tong here were indicted today by the grand jury on charges of conspiracy to murder, growing out of the recent death of a member of the Suey Don Tong. The latter society has stated that it relies upon the authorities to punish the slayer and that it will not resort to reprisals.

Thieves Abandon Auto When Bearings Burn Out

Fremont, Neb., March 22.—(Special.)—Failing to make a getaway in the touring car belonging to George Hoover of Hooper, stolen from the streets here, thieves abandoned the broken machine near Elkhorn. The bearings had been burned out and the thieves were unable to proceed further. They stripped the machine of all accessories.

Canada Must Reorganize Roads to Prevent Deficit

Toronto, March 22.—T. A. Crerar, leader of the agrarian party in the House of Commons, today told the Canadian club of Toronto that the government owned railroad system must be reorganized from coast to coast to prevent another deficit of more than \$40,000,000 incurred last year. Lines which cannot pay their own way, or which duplicate others, must be eliminated, he declared.

Man Charged With Theft Of Bonds Pleads Not Guilty

Toronto, March 22.—John Dougherty, charged with having stolen bonds worth \$105,000, from his former employer, Ambrose Small, theatrical magnate who has been missing more than a year, today pleaded not guilty on arraignment here. Dougherty, who was arrested in Oregon, subsequently revealed to police the hiding place of the missing bonds.

Shanop Pacific Closes Shops 3 Weeks to Save Money

Montreal, March 22.—More than 5,000 men employed in the Angus shops here at the Canadian Pacific were notified today that work would be suspended tomorrow and resumed again April 4. The "holiday" officials said, was declared as a necessary expense reducing measure.

Outlook In Packer Row Improves

Prospects for Agreement Between Men and Employers Brighter at End of First Conference Session.

Both Make Concessions

Washington, March 22.—Prospects for peace in the packing industry were understood to be brighter tonight than at any time since Secretary Davis, acting as the director of the assistance of Secretaries Hoover and Wallace, began efforts at mediation in the dispute between the big five packers and their union employees.

Today's principal events included a conference between Secretary Davis and representatives of the employees, consideration of the matter at the cabinet meeting and conferences between Mr. Davis and the packer representatives and between him and the employees. Secretary Davis announced he would continue his meeting with the employees' representatives at 9:30 a. m. tomorrow.

It was believed that the employees had agreed in a general way to the wage reduction put into effect March 7 and that in turn the packers had agreed to the extension of the wartime Alschuler agreement for submission of differences to permanent mediation.

New Time Basis

The matter of hours, it was believed, would be solved by the adoption of a weekly maximum based on an eight-hour day, to meet conditions obtaining in the packing industry. The question of hours was considered before the conferences began to be a minor difference, but it is understood now that the question involves the consideration of much data.

After conferring with the packers' representatives last night and with employees delegates today, the labor secretary indicated he hoped for an early settlement and so informed the cabinet. Similar optimism was reflected in other quarters.

Returning to the Department of Labor from the cabinet meeting, Secretary Davis held a four-hour session with Carl Meyer and J. G. Gordon for the packers. Later he was closed with Dennis Lane and R. S. Brennan, representing the employees, and then announced a continuation of this conference for tomorrow.

Separate Plan Used

The separate conference plan, decided on yesterday, has long been the method used by the labor department's board of conciliators, who conduct representatives of opposing sides. Davis held an hour when they feel what they say can not be made the target for reply by the other side. In this way the labor secretary is obtaining valuable data it is said.

The data presented at yesterday's joint conference by the packers involving a full review of the industry, it is understood, have agreed with statistics which Secretary Davis had his experts assemble before the conference. The secretary's familiarity with these statistics is believed to have gone a long way in reaching the tentative agreement on wages which was believed tonight to be ready for formal acceptance.

Secretaries Hoover and Wallace were not present at any of today's sessions.

Girl Offers to Sell Self for \$100 to Pay Cost of Operation

Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Leased Wire. Trenton, N. J., March 22.—Dorothy Miller, 16, in a letter to New York newspapers, published today, offers to "marry two years from next October 23, when I will be 18 years old" the man who provides the \$100 she needs for her mother's operation.

Earlier Sunday is the day for the operation and the letter adds, "The railroad situation left us like this." Dorothy is nice looking, five feet five inches tall, weight 135 and fair complexion. She is "even a good housekeeper," the letter adds.

Federal Bank Officials Attacked in Court Brief

Washington, D. C., March 22.—Georgia state banks charge in brief filed in the supreme court, that officials of the federal reserve bank at Atlanta are planning a campaign to force out of business any bank not complying with the "par collection order" of the federal reserve board. The banks are appealing from lower court decrees upholding authority of the board to insist on remittance of depositors' checks at par.

The Weather

Forecast. Fair and warmer Wednesday. Hourly Temperatures. 5 a. m. 25 10 a. m. 47 6 a. m. 22 11 a. m. 52 7 a. m. 24 3 p. m. 52 8 a. m. 22 4 p. m. 52 9 a. m. 22 5 p. m. 52 10 a. m. 22 6 p. m. 52 11 a. m. 22 7 p. m. 52 12 a. m. 22 8 p. m. 52 1 p. m. 22 9 p. m. 52 2 p. m. 22 10 p. m. 52 3 p. m. 22 11 p. m. 52 4 p. m. 22 12 p. m. 52