

Sales Tax Plan To Be Abandoned

Republican Leaders Fear Passage of Proposed Law Would Spell Defeat for Party.

Gompers Serves Warning

By ARTHUR SEARS HENNING. Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Leased Wire. Washington, May 24.—That the imposition of a general sales tax would be followed by indignation meetings throughout the country was the warning served on the senate finance committee today by Samuel Gompers, through Edward F. McGrady, executive representative of the American Federation of Labor.

With organized labor thus lined up with the farmers in opposition to a sales tax, its proponents virtually have abandoned hope of such legislation by this congress. Numerous republican leaders in both houses have voiced the opinion openly that a general consumption tax would spell party defeat.

The senate committee is expected to deliver an adverse verdict on the proposition in resolutions which are to be sent to the house committee on ways and means for information as to the attitude of the senate to be taken into consideration in framing tax legislation.

Labor Opposes Tax. "The executive council of the American Federation of Labor, which has just concluded a conference at Cincinnati, adopted a strong protest against sales tax," said Mr. McGrady.

"In addition to this protest of the executive council, we have received in our office, thousands of letters of protest from labor unions from every section of our country. The American Federation of Labor, therefore, is appealing to you in behalf of the American worker.

"Five millions are now idle and other millions whose wages have been reduced from 25 to 60 per cent are now to be called upon to assume the added burden. Big business not being satisfied in reducing the workers' standard of living is now attempting to shift the burden of war and the cost of government from their shoulders onto the backs of the working men and women of the country.

Urges Settlement Board. Robert G. Wilson, chief of the tax division of the American Mining congress, said that he formerly had been inclined to favor a sales tax, but after a study of the situation had decided that it is objectionable. He urged the establishment of a federal war tax settlement board and other measures to clean up the income and profits taxes for war years still outstanding.

"Considerably more than \$1,000,000,000 income and profits taxes, long past due, remain uncollected," he said. "A fraction of it never will be collected under any circumstances. Unless radical steps are taken immediately, 20 per cent or more never will be collected. A comparatively negligible investment at the present should actually save the government \$250,000,000 and bring in more than \$1,000,000,000 additional during the next two years.

The saving in interest alone would prove a highly successful return upon the investment. The total saving, including the salvage of taxes that are being lost in the mazes of computation and collection difficulties, should make the investment the most profitable in the world.

The invested capital of 50,000 corporations was determined for the year 1917 alone. For the year 1918, only 60 per cent of all tax returns, both personal and corporate, have been investigated and for the year 1919, only 10 to 15 per cent."

Britain Plans Federation of Foreign Possessions. Washington, May 24.—Establishment of a "confederation of British America" to include Canada and the British colonies of the Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, Jamaica, the Leeward island, Trinidad, the Windward islands and possibly British Honduras and British Guiana was reported here today in official circles to be under consideration in the British possessions of North, South and Central America.

Williamsburg All Lit Up For "Sid" Hatfield

Champion "Bad Man" Comes To Town, Gives Bonds and Leaves Without Firing Single Shot.

By ARTHUR M. EVANS. Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Leased Wire. Williamsburg, Va., May 24.—"Sid" Hatfield of Matewan, reputed champion "two gun bad man" of Mingo county, came to town today. The sheriff had sent a deputy to two to bring him in on a warrant charging him with an assault on P. J. Smith, superintendent of the Stone Mountain mine, but Hatfield took the train alone.

Half of the town was down to the station to see him arrive and the "white way" was all lit up in expectation that something might happen, but Hatfield walked up to the court house, hung around until the sheriff got back from feeding the blood hounds, then gave bonds and went home. The town sagged back into dullness. At the sheriff's office, Hatfield exposed his gold bridge work in a smile and remarked:

"When I aim to go anywhere I aim to go alone. They's got in the habit of blaming me for everything that happens at Matewan." Hatfield, who is accounted the most dangerous man in the mountains, is a queer mixture. He is as strong against liquor as Bryan and as for gambling, only last week he chased a Kentucky native out of Matewan in a race for suggesting that he be permitted to open a poker game.

But shooting is something different. For months residents of these parts have been giving Matewan a wide birth and one finds automobiles in this town sticking into the speed limits, unless it is something urgent. This morning the mine of Lynn Coal and Coke company just above Matewan was burned. This mine was abandoned after the strike was called. The operators say that last winter strikers were allowed to take up quarters in company houses at Lynn, on agreement they would vacate May 1. When moving day arrived some refused and evictions followed. Mine owners attributed the fire to strikers.

G. A. R. Members March in Parade

Three Candidates in Field at Hastings Meeting for Department Commander. Hastings, Neb., May 24.—(Special Telegram.)—With more than 2,000 persons in line, including escorts, old soldiers here for the annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic and allied bodies marched in parade today.

The woman's Relief corps, Sons of Veterans and Daughters, were in the procession. National Commander Ketcham and Governor McKelvie addressed the visitors tonight, following a concert in honor of the veterans. National Commander Barrows of the Sons of Veterans addressed the members of this organization at a different meeting.

There are three candidates actively in the field for department commander of the G. A. R. They are S. P. Howland of Juntura; W. J. Blystone of Lincoln, and John S. Davidson of Omaha. Lincoln has presented an invitation for the next encampment at Beatrice, York and Norfolk may also present bids.

Department Commander Mier of the Spanish American war veterans, last night installed a Hastings camp with Harry S. Dungan as camp commander. Mrs. A. A. Winterstein of the Republic City has announced her candidacy for president and Mrs. Selastine Troyer of Grand Island for treasurer in the State department of the Womans Relief Corps.

Germany Answers Note of Allies on Silesia

Paris, May 24.—(By The Associated Press.)—Germany replied today to the French communication of yesterday on the Silesian situation, the reply declaring in effect that Germany had taken the most rigorous measures towards closing its frontier with upper Silesia.

Premier Briand this morning that the German government has decided to close the Silesian frontier and oblige the volunteer corps to disband. After his call French official circles were optimistic regarding the upper Silesian situation.

Dr. Mayer's communication, while not officially so stated, was assumed to be a reply to the note Premier Briand handed him last evening and the promptness of the reply was considered a good augury.

Air Mail to Suspend Operation

Postmaster General Hays Tells Congress, Appropriation Exhausted—Service May Cease Next Tuesday.

High Officials in Omaha

Washington, May 24.—Funds for airplane mail service from New York to San Francisco are almost exhausted, Postmaster General Hays today advised congress and service must be suspended May 31, lacking a deficiency appropriation of \$125,000.

Under a treasury ruling appropriations for railway service cannot be used for the air service, Mr. Hays said, and current appropriations of \$1,250,000 for transcontinental air route will not last beyond this month.

Air mail officials in Omaha yesterday expressed no great surprise at Postmaster General Hays' announcement to congress that the transcontinental service must cease next week unless further appropriations are made.

Major E. C. Zoll, general superintendent of the entire air mail service, was in Omaha yesterday on his way to Washington from a tour of inspection over the western divisions of the route.

With him was Carl Egge of Minneapolis, superintendent of service, Mr. Egge declared it is something urgent to get the situation straightened out in the presence of his chief, Major Zoll.

"I have realized the seriousness of the situation a long time," said Major Zoll. "Postmaster General Hays is not over-emphasizing the situation."

"In fact, I wasn't sure that the service would be able to last through May." Major Zoll declined to predict whether congress would accede to the appeal of the postmaster general and put through further appropriations.

"It's hard to tell," said he. Urges Citizen Drive. But he urged the private citizens of the country to open an immediate campaign by telegraph and by letter to their congressmen to take action necessary to save the air mail service if they do not want to see it abandoned just on the verge of overwhelming success.

William L. Votaw, superintendent of the Omaha air station at Ak-Sar-Ben field, also declared he was not surprised to learn of the probable curtailment of service on May 31.

"We have been running on a most strict economy basis at this station for some time," he admitted. President Harding, however, has funds from which he may draw in such an emergency, Superintendent Votaw declared to be his impression.

"I remember," he continued, "when I was in the censorship service along the Mexican border. We were short of funds and President Wilson drew from his reserve supply enough to tide us over the stringency until congress saw fit to make another appropriation."

No official word or orders have been received at the Omaha station yet regarding closing down the service May 31, Mr. Votaw declared.

Tourists Reach 16,000 Customers

On Second Day Enterprises of New Sort for Towns in Farm Territory Greet Omaha Trade Excursionists.

By PAUL GREER. Chester, Neb., May 24.—(Special Telegram.)—The shriek of the steam siren on the special train of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce trade excursion reached 16,000 customers of Omaha today.

Stocks of merchandise in the stores are found to be low and warm weather, together with a renewal of confidence inspired by crop prospects, gives assurance of a larger volume of orders. The encouragement and optimism produced by the sight of the string of Pullmans occupied by the Omaha merchants and the thought that the men consider it worth their while to tour the state soliciting business also will be a factor in recovery.

Diller was the first stop out of Falls City and parades and concerts were given in 20 other towns along the Burlington clear out a Fairbury, where the night will be spent. Shea, Endicott, Kesterson, Thompson, Reynolds, Williams, Hubbell, Chester, Byron, Hardy and Superior were visited in the forenoon. Tomorrow's journey will be through Clay county and as far as York.

Enterprise of New Sort. Enterprise of a new sort for towns located in the center of vast areas of corn, wheat and alfalfa greeted the trade excursionists of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce at one stop after another today. From the position of mere marketing places for the farming community they are growing into industrial and manufacturing centers, some of them turning the raw material of the prairie into finished products before forwarding them to the world.

Invariably these communities which are combining agriculture and manufacture are on a more prosperous basis than those towns engaged only in buying and selling. Everywhere business is better than it might be expected.

At Endicott the chief sight is the plant of a great clay products company with orders for more than 1,000,000 face brick now on its books. There are said to be only three plants in the United States turning out as good brick. Just outside of Kesterson, 1,400 horses power is being used in a company of Beatrice mine is drilling on a chance.

1,000,000 Cement Plant. Superior, with a population of 3,000 people and 10 miles of paved streets, is the home of a \$1,000,000 cement plant and a water plant producing 1,400 horsepower for a dam across the Republican river. The water power project was put across by local business men and is bound to attract a number of small factories.

Throughout this whole region emphasis is put on education. In Superior the schools are rich on the Gary system, by which children are trained to use their hands as well as their minds. At Hebron is a Lutheran seminary on which \$50,000 will be spent this year. At Desler a business college is maintained with the aid of a subsidy from the municipal funds.

Greatest Small Town. The town of Desler, with a population of 1,000, is the greatest small town in the nation, bar none. Here, in the county, a great deal of broom corn is raised. Today Desler boasts of having the largest broom factory in the world. In an age which is popularly supposed to belong to

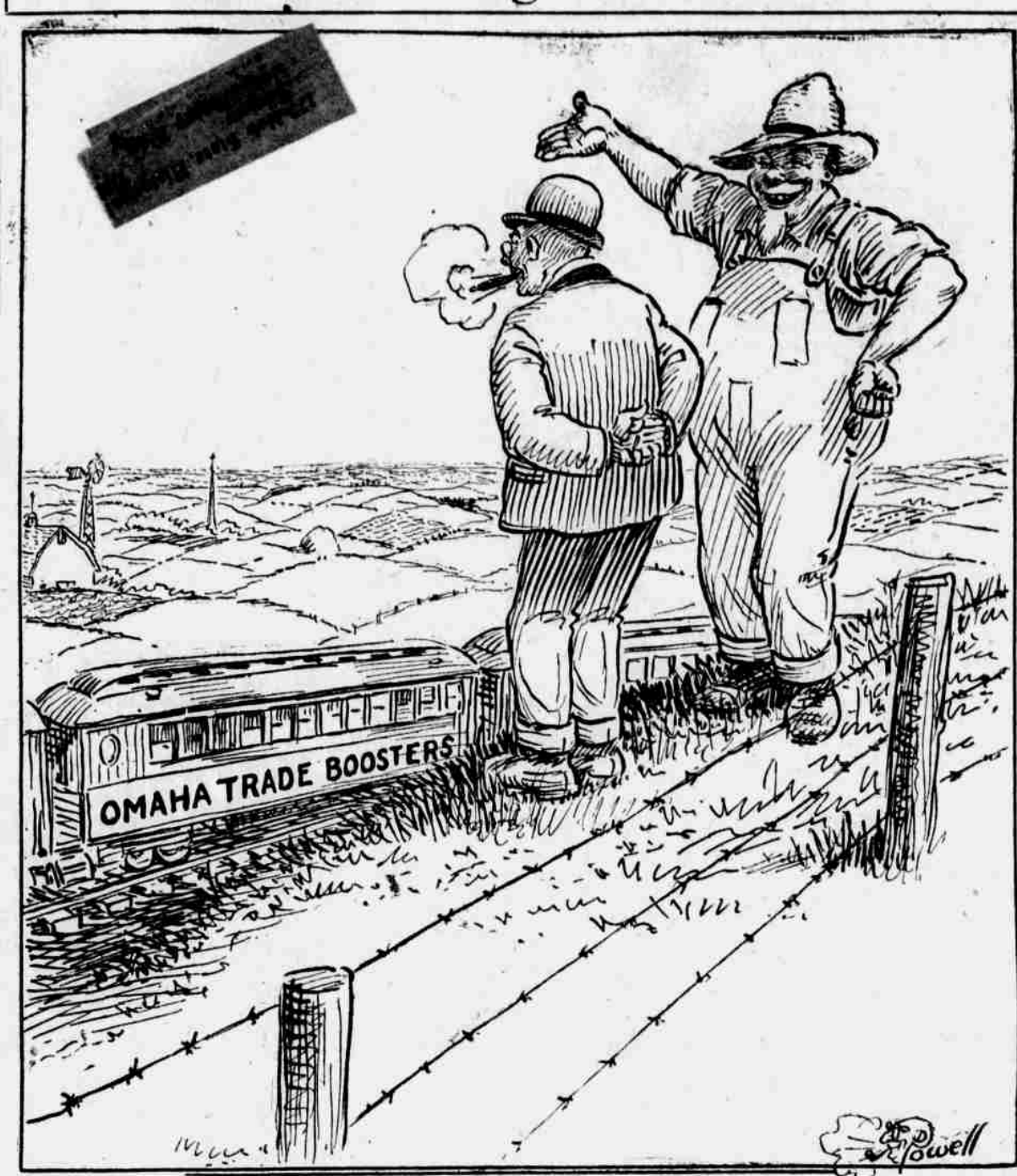
(Turn to Page Two, Column Four.) I. W. W. Leader Held For Chicago Bombing Outrage 2 Years Ago. Chicago, May 24.—Bombing of the Chicago federal building two years ago, in which four prisoners were killed and a score injured, has been solved, Chief of Police Charles Fitzmorris announced today.

He refused to give details but said Sammie Gibson, I. W. W. leader and organizer, had been indicted on charges that he was a member of a "bamb trust," operating in behalf of labor organizations.

The motive behind the bombing was sabotage, the chief said. The explosion occurred just after the conclusion of the trial of nearly 100 I. W. W. members on the afternoon of September 5, 1918. Gibson was arrested at the time, but was released for lack of evidence.

Wind Damages Wheat. Beatrice, Neb., May 24.—(Special.)—Farmers report that winter wheat in this locality has been considerably damaged the past 10 days by heavy winds, and that in some sections there will not be half a yield compared with that of 1920.

All Well Along the Missouri



Irish Elections Held in 6 Counties

Government Takes Elaborate Precautions to Prevent Disorders in Balloting—All Markets Are Closed. Belfast, May 24.—(By The Associated Press.)—Elections for the new parliaments in Ireland under the Irish home rule bill were carried out through Ireland today but only in the north of Ireland were ballots cast as the nominations for the southern Irish parliament were made without contest, which was tantamount to election.

The people had been appealed to by their leaders to vote early to "prevent" personation and crowds were waiting at 8 a. m., when the polls opened.

It is possible the Belfast results will be known Wednesday night, but the others will not be in for several days. There are 53 polling divisions, with 388 polling stations in Belfast alone.

Even Belfast, accustomed to hot political fights, has never seen such an election as this. Several incidents have occurred, especially in the Cork street and Old Lodge area near the docks. As soon as the military were withdrawn from the streets at 5 a. m., today, when the curfew ended, the rival factions appeared at the doors of their homes with their women folk to proceed to the polls. Bricks and stones commenced to fly across the streets and a few shots were fired before the police arrived to disperse the disputants. One constable was seriously injured by being hit with a brick.

French Premier Declares Ruhr Occupation Not Needed

Paris, May 24.—(By The Associated Press.)—Premier Briand, questioned by a group of deputies before the meeting of the chamber today, said there was no reason for the occupation of the Ruhr region, because the aspect of the Silesian question had been changed, and if the Ruhr were occupied without the support of the allies it would be equivalent to abandonment of the treaty of Versailles.

Son of Original Faculty Man Of Johns Hopkins Kills Self

Baltimore, Md., May 24.—Henry A. Rowland, 28, son of the late Prof. Henry A. Rowland, one of the original faculty of Johns Hopkins university and a scientist of international reputation, killed himself by shooting in his home here today. A coroner's verdict of suicide was given tonight.

Jury Named for Murder Trial of Denzel Chester

Opening Arguments Delayed By Another Case Requiring Services of Three Veniemen. Kansas City, Mo., May 24.—(Special Telegram.)—It is uncertain just when the opening arguments in the case of Denzel Chester, charged with murdering Miss Florence Barton, will start, owing to the fact that three of the men chosen for jury service are now tied up in the trial of a case in Judge Porterfield's court, where a negro is charged with robbery.

Judge Porterfield said late today he would release the three jurymen as speedily as possible, so that they could hear the Chester evidence. Judge Porterfield added he would hold a night session of the negro's case, so as to expedite the release of the three jurymen.

The names of the 12 men were read to the panel shortly before 5 o'clock. Nine answered, "Here." Judge Latschaw instructed that the jury men be locked up in the Oldham hotel for the night.

Chester sat at the counsel table in Judge Latschaw's courtroom as the clerk handed the newspaper men the list of the jurymen.

Officials Probe Death Of Aviator War Hero

Boston, May 24.—District Attorney J. C. Pelletier today began an investigation into the death of Paton McGilvray, former overseas flyer. Police officials reiterated that they had found nothing to indicate that he was murdered, but relatives and friends have insisted that McGilvray had no reason to kill himself.

El Paso Men Put on Trial For Murdering Dry Agent

El Paso, Tex., May 24.—When District Judge W. D. Howe adjourned court late Monday after the examination of 62 talesmen, six jurors had been accepted for the trial of C. P. Shearman and his associates, Neil John and Allen, and Thomas Mendoza for the murder of Prohibition Officer C. Arch Wood. Of the 62 men examined 32 were disqualified upon their admission of conscientious scruples against the death penalty. A special panel of 100 has been ordered to appear today and it is expected the work of selecting the remaining six jurors will be completed during the day.

Mail Car Bandit Suspect Denies Part in Robbery

Roy Gardner, Identified by Victim From Rogues' Gallery While Playing Cards. Sacramento, Cal., May 24.—Roy Gardner, believed to be responsible for the robbery of a railroad mail car near Newcastle, Cal., Friday night, was caught at Roseville, near here, last night.

San Francisco, Cal., May 24.—Roy Gardner, captured at Roseville last night on the suspicion that he was implicated in the attempted robbery of a Southern Pacific train mail car last Friday night between Roseville and Newcastle, denied today that he had been implicated in the robbery, according to information reaching acting Chief Postal Inspector W. I. Madeira here.

Gardner was caught playing cards in a saloon at Roseville. He was recognized by Postal Inspector George H. Austin and Cawley, who with Special Officer Dan O'Connell and Barney McShane of the Southern Pacific company, effected the capture. Gardner did not resist arrest, according to Madeira. Gardner is now at Sacramento being questioned by the officers.

Northern Pacific Official Describes Rail Wage Increases

Washington, May 24.—Howard Elliott, chairman of the board of the Northern Pacific railroad, described to a senate investigating committee some of the extraordinary wage increases which had resulted from the national wage agreements.

"In a New England terminal," he said, "Italian laborers had been customarily employed to inspect locomotive front ends, receiving 22 cents an hour. They were re-classified as boiler-makers, entitled to a wage of 85 cents an hour. On a 10-hour day basis, they were entitled to a wage of \$89 a week."

Earnings of "short haul" railroads have been reduced to a greater extent by freight rate and wage increases than have those of "long haul" roads, he said.

Central Leather Company Passes Quarterly Dividend

New York, May 24.—The Central Leather company today passed its quarterly dividend of 1-3-4 per cent on preferred stock. The company had maintained dividends on the basis of 7 per cent annually since 1906, a year after its organization.

Large Navy Advocates Win Round

Committee Amendment Providing for Personnel of 120,000 Instead of 100,000 Adopted by Senate.

Appropriation Is Raised

Washington, May 24.—The economy drive against the \$495,000,000 naval appropriations bill was shattered in the senate today when amendments by the naval committee were adopted.

By a vote of 45 to 23, the senate adopted a committee amendment proposed by the economy forces, providing for a personnel of 120,000 men as against 100,000 by the house. Afterward committee amendments calling for increases aggregating about \$42,500,000 were quickly approved.

The roll call on the navy personnel apparently broke the attack against increases recommended by the naval committee. The way also was paved for passage of the bill tomorrow of Thursday, after prospective adoption of the fourth amendment for a disarmament conference.

There were reports today of new negotiations looking to restoration of appropriations for a new Pacific coast base at Alameda, Cal., and for continuing dry dock and dredging projects at Charleston, S. C.

Party Lines Shattered. Party lines were broken in the vote on fixing the navy personnel at 120,000. Thirteen republicans voted to hold the personnel to 100,000, but the loss of these republicans to the committee provisions was offset by 14 democrats who voted to keep 120,000 men in the navy.

Among committee increases adopted were \$15,377,000 for pay of personnel, \$5,800,000 for reserve forces, \$2,700,000 for provisioning, \$7,500,000 for fuel and its transportation, and \$5,000,000 for the marine corps quartermaster corps.

Senator Lenroot, republican, Wisconsin, led the battle against the increases and warned the republicans that the country could not stand for them. He was joined by Senator Hitchcock, democrat, Nebraska, who announced he would vote against the bill if the committee increases should be substantially sustained.

Urges World Disarmament. Senator Swanson of Virginia, ranking democrat on the naval committee, however, supported the committee program. Senator Underwood of Alabama, democratic leader, who voted for the 120,000 personnel, made a lengthy address advocating international disarmament agreements, but opposed disarming the United States in the absence of an agreement with other powers.

In attacking what he termed the "extravagance" of the bill, Senator Lenroot charged that press reports of President Harding's speech yesterday regarding normal defense had been "distorted," "deliberately and inexcusably." He said that the president had been misquoted with respect to his statement that the nation should be "so powerful in righteousness that none will dare to invoke its wrath."

Michigan Man Kills Wife and Himself in Hall of Chicago Hotel

Chicago, May 24.—Joseph Gallagher, of Jackson, Mich., shot and killed his wife at the Victoria hotel today and then ended his own life. The couple had been married several months and lived at Jackson. Three weeks ago Mrs. Gallagher left her husband and came to live with Mrs. George Stowe, her godmother and owner of the Victoria hotel.

Gallagher was intoxicated when he came to the hotel this morning and asked for his wife. She refused to see him in her room and came out in the hall to meet him.

"Are you going back with me?" he asked. When she refused he fired two bullets in her head. He fled to the rear of the hallway, but she managed to escape cut off, shot himself in the head and died in a few minutes.

Senator France to Study Conditions in Russia. New York, May 24.—Senator J. I. France of Maryland, sailed to spend several weeks in Russia. He announced representatives of the soviet government will meet him in London and escort him into Russia.

Senator France said he expects to interview bolshevik leaders and obtain an understanding of conditions here. He plans to pass at least six weeks in Moscow.

The senator said he hoped to bring about conferences which would improve relations between the soviet and the American government.

Bill to Transfer Funds To Land Banks Approved. Washington, May 24.—Senator Curtis bill proposing transfer of \$50,000,000 from the treasury to federal land banks on request of the federal farm loan board, was ordered reported favorably by the senate banking committee.

Secretary Mellon approved the bill, declaring that the initial capital of the farm loan banks "was wholly inadequate to permit their practical operation."

Labor Riots in Argentine. Buenos Aires, May 24.—(By The Associated Press.)—A number of persons are reported to have been killed or wounded during fighting in the port zone when union laborers attempted to prevent non-union workers from unloading ships.

The Weather. Forecast. Unsettled and probably thunder showers Wednesday; somewhat cooler. Hourly Temperatures.