

GEN. MITCHELL AFFIRMS STAND ON AIR DEFENSE

Is Not Punished by Coolidge For Attitude Despite Rumors to That Effect.

PLANES ARE OBSOLETE

Declares Japan Could Take Hawaiian Islands With Little Effort—Need More Planes.

(Associated Press Leased Wire.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—Instead of going to the White House today for his much advertised "reprimand" from President Coolidge, Brigadier General Mitchell appeared once more before the house aircraft committee and reaffirmed his opposition to the administration's aircraft policies.

Before he took the stand, the general disclaimed all connection with the report of a White House summons which broke up yesterday's committee meeting. Committee members who received that report by telephone yesterday refused to say who had been their informant, but indicated that their source of information was some interested person at the executive end of Pennsylvania Avenue.

Both the White House and the offices of the secretary of war have denied flatly that they passed any such information along to the committee. White House officials would go no further today in their discussion of the incident, but said the general's name was on Mr. Coolidge's appointment list.

For his part, the general insisted today that he not only had not spread the report that he was to be called on the green carpet by the president today and informed a reappointment had been denied him as assistant chief of the air service, but he added that he had not received such a summons, and had no idea where the story originated.

When he took the stand before the committee today, Representative Reid, republican, Illinois, asked: "Is this General Mitchell, or ex-general?"

The assistant army air chief

smiled, but did not reply. After hearing General Mitchell the committee unanimously adopted a resolution to recall Secretary Weeks for further questioning on the adequacy of the national defense against an air attack.

General Mitchell in his testimony again assailed the inadequacy of the nation's air power and asserted the defenses of the Hawaiian Islands were as obsolete as "bows and arrows." Japan could capture both the Philippines and Hawaii, he said, adding that the latter could not hold out against Japan for two weeks.

During discussion of the proposal to recall Secretary Weeks, Representative Reid, republican, Illinois, said he thought the war secretary should be recalled as "he doesn't seem to know anything about the department."

The resolution was offered by Representative O'Sullivan, democrat, Connecticut after Representative Perkins, republican, New Jersey, the committee examiner had presented a report which he said he understood was a "authentic war department release."

This report quoted Mr. Weeks as taking exception to recent statements by General Mitchell, and as saying the army had approximately 1500 planes ready for flight service. This, Mr. Perkins said was in direct conflict with testimony the committee had received from several sources.

STOOL-PIGEON MAY RECOVER

(Associated Press Leased Wire.)

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 19.—J. A. Fagerlie, "Handsome Hans" has a 50-50 chance to survive. He has bullet wounds in his lungs, received Tuesday, when he was attempting to arrest a couple of alleged bootleggers, said hospital attendants today. A fear that pneumonia might develop was expressed.

Widespread interest in the battle that "Handsome Hans" is making for life was evidenced today, especially in underworld circles where his operations have been the cause of considerable consternation in recent months.

EUGENE HAS COLDEST NIGHT OF 1925

(Associated Press Leased Wire.)

EUGENE, Ore., Feb. 19.—Eugene's coldest night of 1925 was recorded last night when the mercury dropped to 20 degrees above zero. Today is clear, bright and considerably warmer.

Broadcasts on Air Defense



GENERAL & MRS. WILLIAM MITCHELL

General Mitchell, assistant chief of the Army Air Service, former of a controversy raising in Congress over America's aerial defense, spoke over the radio from a New York station while Mrs. Mitchell sat beside him. Mitchell told his invisible audience that New York City would be defenseless against an aerial attack "because United States has not taken aviation seriously."

Merchants Association Elect Officers and Select Eugene as Their 1925 Convention City

EUGENE, Ore., Feb. 19.—Eugene was chosen late yesterday afternoon as the 1925 convention city of the Oregon Retail Merchants Association.

The convention delegates elected their president, L. L. Thomas of Marshfield and O. F. Tate, of Portland, secretary. Other officers are: W. F. Kennedy of Corvallis, first vice-president; J. C. Mason of Medford, second vice-president and M. L. Croot of Portland, treasurer.

Twelve directors were chosen, four for three year terms, four for two year terms and four for a single term. The new directors are:

Three year term—E. F. Douglas of Portland, B. E. Slason of Salem, W. L. Osborne of McMinnville and D. B. Norton of Bandon.

TODAY AT THE STATE LEGISLATURE

Provide Low Taxation.

STATEHOUSE, Salem, Oregon, Feb. 19.—House bill 416 providing for special low taxation on donated lands held for reforestation purposes was voted down by the house late yesterday 22 to 27. Representative Mott, who introduced the measure, made a single handed fight for it.

Representative Carkin, and Woodward, and Hamilton led the fight against the bill. Woodward charged that it would make "a reservoir into which speculators could dump land for speculation."

Carkin declared the question too big to be handled in such a short space of time or in a four page bill.

Senate bill No. 419, the Garland-McKinney cigarette bill, which was designed to prohibit the advertising of cigarettes on bill boards and along public highways, was defeated in the senate late yesterday after a spirited debate.

Considerable debate was required before the Bates house bill "relating to submit to the people the proposal to establish a normal school at Seaside went to vote, and the measure carried.

No longer will candidates have their pictures and arguments printed at state expense if house bill 509, passed by the house yesterday afternoon, becomes a law.

The bill does away with the candidate's pamphlet which is distributed prior to election. Representative Carkin, Jackson county, explained the measure pointing out that the state's expense totalled around \$25,000 for publishing and delivering the booklet. The measure in no way affects the pamphlet carrying the arguments for and against measures.

Among Senate bills passed by the house was 145 authorizing the University of Oregon board of regents to convey title of certain land to the city of Eugene on which the latter Municipality is to build an auditorium.

House bills passed by senate included: H. B. 164, Heriburt: Increasing penalty for operating stills.

H. B. 16, Swan: placing more stringent regulation on licensing dance halls.

Collect Unpaid Taxes.

STATEHOUSE, Salem, Oregon, Feb. 19.—House bill 440 providing for the collection of unpaid 1925 taxes was passed unanimously by the house this morning. The bill was introduced by the committee on assessment and taxation. It is virtually a re-enactment of the repealed state income tax law, but will apply only on the unpaid taxes of 1925 and then go out of existence. The bill will be hurried over to the senate for action.

In a Financial Snarl. STATEHOUSE, Salem, Oregon, Feb. 19.—The legislature has not yet decided itself on the state's financial snarl, although tomorrow is normally the last day of the session.

To meet the financial emergency the presiding officers of the two houses and other leaders have practically decided that the session would levy upon the people an additional one mill tax levy above the 1.5 mill levy by the tax commission last December.

The ways and means committee and the governor are still sticking to their plan for a cigarette tax, and may extend it to include cigars. A 25 percent instead of a 15 percent tax on cigarettes is now talked. The reason for this is to get away from the proposed increase in the insurance tax. A delegation of insurance men appeared before the committee last night and protested against the increase in a way that swayed the committee.

Also the committee will stand for a cosmetic tax and an additional corporation tax.

The normal school question was again threshed over and Senator Dunn's bill to rehabilitate the Ashland Normal is still hanging in the balance.

The ways and means committee reported favorably S. B. 206, payment of \$500 for capture of Dr. R. M. Brunfield. Amended to cut in two \$1,000 provided in bill.

H. B. 241, to reimburse Louis Gerber of Klamath county. Principal of \$782 allowed, but no interest.

Indecent Movies Deported. STATEHOUSE, Salem, Oregon, Feb. 19.—A brisk discussion of motion pictures occurred in the house today, when a bill for late censorship was under consideration.

Charges that censorship as it now exists in Portland meant nothing were made by Representative Woodward.

"Pictures have gotten by those 100 or more viewers as approved that had to be jerked off by the police," declared Representative Tucker.

Tucker charged that reports were current in the lobby that certain lobbyists had told Portland pictures interests that they could kill the censorship bill for \$2,000.

Representative Woodward declared that pictures so indecent were shown on Portland screens that mothers had to hold handkerchiefs over their children's eyes.

"These films leave nothing to the imagination in sex matters," he maintained.

"Cigarette smoking and drinking by women half-clad are shown. They stir up passions in boys and girls that lead to ruin. These filthy pictures are destroying the morals of our young people. Passage of this censor-

EXONERATE BURKE OF CHARGES MADE

WASHINGTON, February 19.—Charles H. Burke, commissioner of Indian affairs, was exonerated by a house sub-committee today of charges of maladministration preferred against him by Hugh Murphy, former judge of Oklahoma county, Oklahoma.

The Oklahoma courts were vindicated of charges brought against them by the Indian rights association of Philadelphia.

The sub-committee, appointed by the Indian affairs committee, presented the report to the full committee. The case of Jackson Barnett, wealthy creek Indian, about the management of whose estate much of the testimony in a long investigation centered, was held by the report to be a question that should be left for the courts to decide.

The Barnett case formed the major basis for the Murphy charges, the Oklahoma judge asserting that the commissioner of Indian affairs had permitted distribution of a \$658,333 gift to Barnett's wife and a similar sum to McClaine college, Oklahoma, illegally.

The house also passed house resolution No. 16, calling for a constitutional amendment consolidating state departments. Only ten divisions would be authorized under the resolution.

The house this morning rocked to sleep Senator Garland's school bible reading bill by indefinite postponement.

Senate joint resolution 17 by Johnson, providing for a commission of legislators and citizens at large to investigate indirect methods of taxation, with a view to eliminating direct taxation, passed the senate today.

The Shelton usuary bill H. B. 371, which was defeated in the senate yesterday, was today reconsidered and re-referred to the revision of laws committee. The Joseph bill, providing for revision of the state blue sky laws, backed by State Corporation Commissioner Crews, was killed by indefinite postponement today.

The committee Staples bill for annexation of parts of Clackamas county to Multnomah county was killed by indefinite postponement in the senate today.

Senate bill 210, which provides that the narcotic law enforcement be removed from the prohibition department and returned to the state board of pharmacy, passed the senate today.

When you buy a spray outfit, get one for which you can always get parts. This may mean much to you during a busy spraying season. We sell the Harde and Myers lines. Wharton Bros.

PRESBYTERIAN MINISTERS ASK FOR FREEDOM

(Continued from page 1)

brethren in the Presbyterian to stand firmly for the maintenance of our historic liberties, to discourage unbrotherly judgements, to cherish the ideal of an inclusive Christian church, and to unite the whole strength of our communion in forwarding the work to which our master has called us.

The signers included Robert Freeman, Pasadena church, Pasadena, California; Stanley Armstrong Hunter, St. John's church, Berkeley, Calif.; Basmus Thomas, Central Church, Amarillo, Texas; and Edward W. Wieher, professor in San Francisco theological seminary, San Anselmo, California.

JUDGE WILL BAR ORAL EVIDENCE IN STOKES CASE

(Continued from page one)

former passenger, Stokes sought to encourage him by saying the affidavit would probably never be used in evidence any way.

Bruner told of extensive investigations for Stokes and of obtaining pictures and affidavits from various persons.

Bruner said Assistant State Attorney W. W. Smith, and W. C. Hannerberg, detective employed by Mrs. Helen Elwood Stokes, and a policeman, were present at the conference which led to the "understanding." The court overruled objections to Mr. Bruner's line of questioning.

"I warn you, Mr. Witness," warned Judge W. N. Gummil, when Bruner showed reluctance in answering "that if you don't tell the whole truth, you'll be in worse trouble than you are now."

WIDOW OF REPUTED RUM RUNNER WANTS TO REGAIN HIS CAR

(Associated Press Leased Wire.)

MEDFORD, Ore., Feb. 19.—The testimony of Rose E. Pace, of San Francisco, widow of Arthur Pace, reputed bootlegger who plunged to his death November 12, 1922, while driving an automobile that plumed over an embankment in the Stiklyns, was heard by Circuit Judge C. M. Thomas late today.

Mrs. Pace is seeking possession of the car which was the confederate action of the state of Oregon, under the transportation clause of the Volstead Act.

T. C. Jacks of San Francisco, ticket seller of the Columbia Transportation company also testified.

Mrs. J. H. Campbell, who was taken seriously ill a fortnight ago, is reported improving rapidly. She is rallying from the stroke much faster than was at first hoped.

New Washington



WASHINGTON THE GENTLEMAN

George Washington has been carved scores of times as a General and as President, but it has remained for Pompeo Coppini, New York sculptor, to complete a ten-foot bronze of the President as "Washington the Gentleman." The statue will be dedicated in Portland, Ore., on February 22, 1925, as the gift of Dr. Henry Waldo Coe, of that city.

Made Death Ray



H. G. MATTHEWS

Harry Grinnell Matthews, English inventor of the "Death Ray," is in New York for conferences with American scientists. As no disposition has yet been made of Matthews' invention, which is supposed to kill all that is subjected to its light, it is possible that tests looking to its utilization may grow out of the conferences.

COAST MEN CONFER ABOUT BROCCOLI LARGE NUMBER OF STAMPS STOLEN

(Associated Press Leased Wire.)

MEDFORD, Ore., Feb. 19.—Several hundred dollars in cash and stamps were taken from the post office at Ruch, 12 miles southwest of Medford last night by unknown persons who broke into the building by prying the front door open with an ice pick.

The theft was discovered early this morning by Postmaster C. M. Ruch, who immediately notified the sheriff's office in Jacksonville and postoffice authorities in Medford. Sheriff Jennings and a post office inspector are now at Ruch but their investigation is said to be proceeding slowly because in spite of the muddy conditions surrounding the building no foot tracks were left either on the floor or the porch of the post office.

THREE BURGLARS GET LONG TERMS U. S. IS LAW CRAZY SAYS TOM MARSHALL

(Associated Press Leased Wire.)

MEDFORD, Ore., Feb. 19.—Robert Duff, Roland Eastwood and Steve J. Elak, who pleaded guilty to robbing the Union Oil station at Ashland last month, were sentenced to long prison terms late yesterday afternoon by Circuit Judge C. M. Thomas.

Eastwood, accused of being the man behind the pistol in the hold-up, was given 15 years; Elak, who superintended the crime, received a 10-year sentence, and Duff, a boy in his early twenties, and who admitted he took the money from the station, was sentenced to five years.

Hunner was given by the trio as the motive for the crime, and all told the court that their first move following the robbery was to eat.

The men, on a pretext of buying gasoline, entered the station and at the point of a gun held up the operator, and rifled the cash register of between \$4 and \$5.

Mrs. J. H. Campbell, who was taken seriously ill a fortnight ago, is reported improving rapidly. She is rallying from the stroke much faster than was at first hoped.

For quick results use News-Review classified ads. Phone 132. Use News-Review Classified Advertising for results.

The Seventy-five Per Cent Better Shoe

The Edmonds Shoe—75% better in comfort and wear than any shoe at its price. The new Spring Oxfords are here—new leather and lasts.

\$7.50 and \$8.50

"Duds For Men"

Spending a few hours in this From Days Creek city today was Jack Parrott. Mr. Among those here from southern Parrott resides at Camas Valley, points in the county today and was here attending to business, was V. N. Cole, news affairs. Mr. Cole resides at Days Creek.

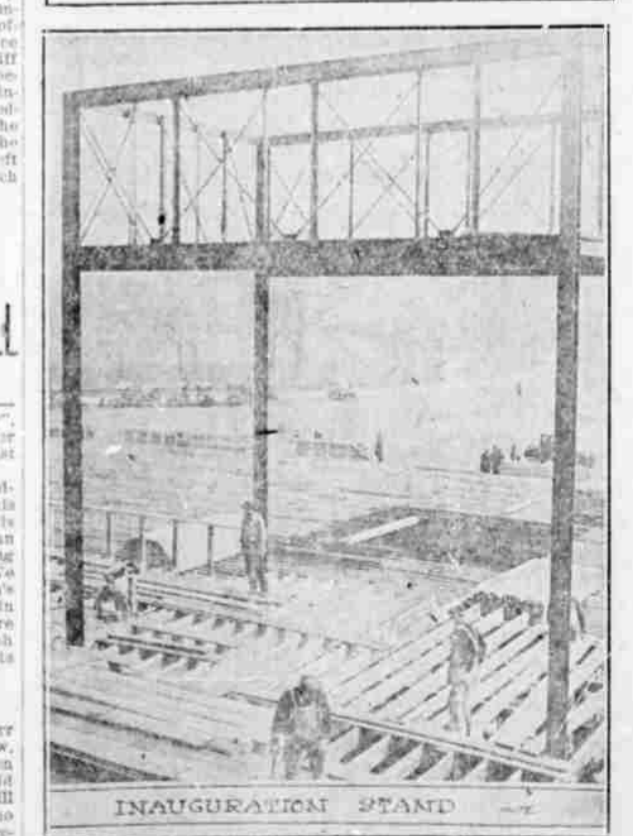
Prosecutes Millionaire Husband



MRS. WED STOKES & MRS. A. S. MILLER

Mrs. Helen Elwood Stokes, of New York and Denver, and her mother, Mrs. Arthur Scott Miller, were pictured on their arrival in Chicago to prosecute her aged millionaire husband, W. E. D. Stokes, New York sportsman. Mrs. Stokes has him indicted for alleged conspiracy to defame her name and character in divorce proceedings.

Rush Inaugural Grandstand



INAUGURATION STAND

Laborers are hurrying the work on the partly-completed grandstand in front of the Capitol at Washington where President Coolidge will be inaugurated on March 4. On the top of the stand will be a series of amplifiers which will carry the President's inaugural address to the thousands expected to witness the ceremonies, and to millions who will listen in on the radio.