

FIRE LOSS HUGE

SENATE AGAIN DEFEATS PACT AMENDMENTS

Third Effort To Change Four-Power Treaty Also Failure

SLIGHT CHANGE OF WORDING A FAILURE

Senator Pittman of Nevada Presented Latest Amendment; Would Allow More Nations to Take Part.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, Mar. 15.—The senate today defeated the third attempt to amend the four-power treaty so that outside nations would be called into consultation regarding Pacific controversies. Despite the fact yesterday of two amendments for that purpose a new amendment more limited in scope was presented today by Senator Pittman of Nevada.

It provided that in any future controversy the outside nations having interests in the Pacific would be called into conference "for consideration of the subject." In the two previous proposals the words "for consideration and adjustment" were used and the participating powers were not limited to those having interests in the Pacific.

WRESTLING ON THURSDAY

Basanta Singh and Ad Gustavo wrestle here tomorrow night at the Star Theatre. Singh arrived here last night and expects to make a good showing on the mat. He is hopeful of winning and declared that he has never been thrown by a man of his weight.

Gustavo's record is also one which indicates that the match will be interesting. Both men have won enviable reputations in the northwest as wrestlers.

RUSSIA HONORS THOS. EDISON

(By Associated Press.) RIGA, Latvia, Mar. 15.—One American's birthday was recently celebrated in Soviet Russia. It was that of Thomas A. Edison, inventor, whose anniversary was made an occasion of speeches in the Moscow schools, says an official dispatch from the Russian capital.

Mr. Edison is hailed in Russia as one of the great benefactors of mankind, whose electrical experiments are bound to play an important role in the soviet scheme for the electrification of Russian industry.

BULLETINS

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, Mar. 15.—The interstate commerce commission examiner upheld the existing rates on wool from the west to Boston by rail and water via the canal. He suggested that the railroads be required to stop cars moving to the Pacific coast from interior points to pick up small shipments.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, Mar. 15.—The senate unanimously adopted the Lodge resolution extending for 25 years the loan of \$50,000,000 made to Austria for defense.

Plea Is Universal for Some Tax Adjustment at Commission Hearing

REBELS SAID TO BE HEMMED IN ON RAND

British See Much Hope for Entirely Silencing Revolutionary Movement in Africa.

(By Associated Press.) LONDON, Mar. 15.—With all sectors of the disaffected area of South Africa cleared of rebels excepting portions of the central region of the Rand, the struggle is apparently in its final phase today. Jeppesen is the principal remaining center of resistance. Fordsburg was taken after an attack by artillery, tanks and air planes.

TWO TEAMS OUT OF THE LEAGUE

This year's Intermountain Baseball League will only have four members. Baker, La Grande, Elgin and Cove will be the four towns represented by teams.

At a meeting in La Grande on Monday night Union declined to enter a team and Haines said he would not be represented in this year's league. Union is a loss to the league inasmuch as she finished second last season and has an enthusiastic bunch of reporters ready to back up a team.

Owing to the withdrawal of the two teams, the schedule will have to be revised. Instead of a fifteen-game schedule a sixteen-game schedule will be adopted, each team playing eight games at home and eight away. It is expected to start the season about April 30 but if the weather is bad the opening date will be postponed a week or so.

All four teams in this year's league put up \$200 forfeit money to guarantee their completion of the season.

SUIT CASES IN USE BY TRAMPS

(By Associated Press.) SANTA ROSA, Calif., Mar. 15.—Tramps these days are discarding their blanket rolls for suitcases, Tax Collector Virgil Butts, of Santa Rosa, declared here recently after driving to a tax collectors' meeting in Redding.

Butts drove along and chanced to pick up several men who were walking along the highway carrying suitcases or grips. One of the men told him that the blanket rolls were being discarded on automobile highways because kindly disposed drivers were usually wont to pass up the man with the blankets but would pick up a man with a suitcase.

SMUGGLING IS LUCRATIVE

(By Associated Press.) VIENNA, Mar. 15.—The profits in money smuggling continues to tempt even well-placed persons and keep the police busy trying to check it.

The authorities traced one trunk with false bottoms and sides containing about 5,000,000 kronen and arrested a trunk manufacturer who confessed he had made in his place 250 such specially designed receptacles and that he had personally placed 25 of them with money.

Present System Attacked in Many Places by Taxpayers Proposed Remedies Also Said To Have Shortcomings by Some; Views Expressed Showed Problems of Taxation Foremost.

At the hearing before the state tax investigation committee yesterday afternoon in the city hall many matters pertaining to taxation were discussed. The taxation of lumber was one of the matters brought up. Senator L. N. Day of the commission called attention to the fact that in Clackamas county standing timber was assessed at the rate of \$36 per acre while in Union and Walla Walla counties the average assessment was only \$6 per acre.

August J. Stange of the Mt. Emily Timber company at this point in the discussion declared that a direct comparison could not be made because the timberland in the western part of the state was of a different nature, being much more valuable, while in Union and Walla Walla counties the stand was mostly jack pine.

Mr. Stange was asked to speak on the income tax as it worked in Wisconsin, his former home. Chairman Walter M. Pierce, making the request. One of his reasons for leaving Wisconsin, he declared, was that the state was taxing the people out of business. New industries are being kept out of that state because of the income tax which when first introduced was only a harmless child but had by this time grown into a large family. The income tax in that state is a hindrance in securing manufacturing industries.

"Lafollette told us the same things that you commissioners are saying about a state income tax," charged Mr. Stange, "and it was the bunk."

In discussing the taxation problem in Oregon as it affects lumber (Continued on Page Four)

Guests Escape in Nightrobes

Reno's Biggest Hostelry Laid Waste by Flames Last Night

(By Associated Press.) RENO, Mar. 15.—Scores of guests escaped from the upper windows in their night clothes when the Riverside hotel, the largest here, was destroyed by fire early today. The firemen rescued the guests with ladders.

Salvi, Harpist, To Play Here Friday; Seat Sale Thursday

Has Been Proclaimed as World's Leading Player on Instrument of the Angels.

Alberto Salvi, advertised as the world's greatest harp virtuoso, will be in La Grande Friday evening and will give a concert under the auspices of the Neighborhood Club and the Union County Ad Club in the L. D. S. Tabernacle.

La Grande is fortunate in hearing this master musician who is now touring the Northwest under the direction of the Elwyn Concert Bureau, of Portland, Oregon, and is receiving remarkable tribute everywhere he goes. Recently at Portland the audience applauded him again and again.

The New York Evening Sun proclaims him as "Master of that instrument of the angels," and he has created a sensation all over the country by his wonderful playing.

The tickets will be on sale tomorrow morning, beginning at 9:00 a. m., at Silverthorn's Drug Store. The tickets are priced \$1.50 and \$1.00 plus war tax.

JUDGE RESUMES SEAT

(By Associated Press.) OKMULGEE, Okla., Mar. 15.—Judge H. R. Christopher of Okmulgee county superior court was here Monday to resume his seat on the bench, having returned late Sunday from Chicago, where he went from Coyle, Oklahoma, a month ago.

BRITISH ARMY ECONOMY.

(By Associated Press.) LONDON, Mar. 15.—The British army estimates for the coming year total 6,200,000 pounds, as compared to 91,714,000 last year, it was announced in the house of commons Monday afternoon. The naval estimates total 64,883,700 pounds.

SIC 'EM, FIDO



BANKER WILL BE TRIED ON CHARGE AGAIN

Man Convicted in Tacoma Had Sentence Reversed on Error by Pierce County Court.

(By Associated Press.) OLYMPIA, Wash., Mar. 15.—The state supreme court today reversed the conviction of O. S. Larson, formerly president of the defunct Scandinavian-American bank of Tacoma. It held that the Pierce county court was in error in allowing the cross examination of Larson regarding loans previous to September 25, 1920. A new trial was granted.

CONFERENCE THIS WEEK-END

The regular quarterly conference of Union stake of the L. D. S. church will be held in the tabernacle here Saturday and Sunday. The opening session is scheduled for 10 a. m. Saturday and an afternoon session is to be held at 2 p. m. The Sunday sessions will begin at 10 a. m. and 2 p. m.

The main speaker from Salt Lake City to attend this conference is Elder George A. Smith, who is a member of the Council of Twelve. Elder Smith has recently returned from Liverpool, England, where he was in charge of the European mission headquarters. He has also been actively identified with other branches of church activity.

DREAMS OF OLD TIMES.

(By Associated Press.) SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 15.—Down at the ferry building here an old newspaper vendor, William B. Osborn, aged 81, sits in the sun and dreams, perhaps, of seventy-five years ago this month when he arrived in San Francisco from New York. Osborn is said to be the sole surviving member of "Stephenson's Regiment," comprising about 1000 men and their families, recruited in the east and sent around Cape Horn in 1847 to settle in California.

SPECTACULAR BLAZE DOES DAMAGE OF \$15,000,000; ONE FIREMAN LOSES LIFE

"Gold Coast" Shook by Bomb

Explosion Last Night Shook Millionaire Colony

(By Associated Press.) CHICAGO, Mar. 15.—The "Gold Coast," the home of many of Chicago's wealthiest families, was shaken last night by a bomb explosion at the home of Alderman Charles J. Agnew. The front of the house was wrecked and windows for blocks around were shattered.

AUTO THIEVES WORK AT NIGHT

Chicago Authorities Determine Hours During Which Thefts Are Most Plentiful.

(By Associated Press.) CHICAGO, Ill., Mar. 15.—Two thirds of the automobiles stolen are taken between 7:30 and midnight, and by far the greatest number at 10 o'clock while their owners are at theaters and other places of amusement, according to the committee on motor car thefts of the Chicago crime commission. Three hundred and twenty-three persons were tried here in connection with motor car thefts between January 1 and August 15, 1921.

Other observations of the committee follow:

A thief has been known to walk into a large public garage at night and cover the watchman and other employees with a gun while he drove away with the car of his choice. The thief usually pretends to hold up a man about to put his automobile in a garage, rather than to break into a garage after car has been locked up.

By far the greater number of stolen automobiles were taken not because of the intrinsic value, but to be used in various forms of law-breaking.

The careless and indifferent motorist is responsible for the loss of many cars," says the committee. "Many hundreds of passenger cars are left standing at the curb, in alleys, in yards and other unguarded places throughout Chicago every night. Many are not protected by any locking device or lights. Many valuable cars are left standing along the boulevards and other streets with engine running while their owners are elsewhere."

For these reasons the committee expects good results from action of insurance companies reducing rates in motor car thefts and requiring the owner to accept 25 per cent of the loss on stolen cars.

Establishment of a parking space where motor cars may be left under police guard for a fee has, in the opinion of the committee, done much to reduce thefts.

STREET TO BE WIDENED.

(By Associated Press.) PORTLAND, Mar. 15.—Widening of Washington street, one of the main arteries of traffic in the business district of Portland, has been proposed to the business men located on that thoroughfare by City Engineer O. Laugaard. Buildings would be moved on each side, sidewalks moved back and the pavement widened 15 feet plan is adopted.

"Fire-proof" Building Is Wrecked by Chicago Fire Today

INCENDIARY ORIGIN HAS BEEN SUGGESTED

One Man Arrested for Questioning In Regard To Starting Fire; Wind Fans Flames.

(By Associated Press.) CHICAGO, Mar. 15.—A spectacular early morning fire today destroyed a score of business buildings just outside the loop district. The loss is estimated at from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000.

It started in the center of the block bounded by Van Buren, Canal and Clinton streets and West Jackson Boulevard. It burned every structure in that area and leaped north across Jackson. The 21-story Burlington railroad office building was wrecked. A strong wind also carried the flames over Van Buren street southward and burned through another block to Harrison street.

The Burlington building, California fireproof, held the fire from spreading westward. One fireman was killed and 11 injured, one seriously.

The original fire was reported of incendiary origin. H. E. Schiff, president of the Confectionery Specialty company, where the fire started, said he received a threatening letter from a former employee. The man was arrested for questioning.

BREAD PRICES ARE RISING

(By Associated Press.) MOSCOW, Mar. 15.—Bread prices in Moscow have been rising for three months and there seems to be no limit as it is becoming more and more difficult for bakers to obtain flour and regular commercial shipments are practically nil.

White bread has been selling lately at 23,000 rubles a Russian pound and black bread at 5,000 rubles.

Sugar costs 50,000 rubles for 12 ounces. Meat is 30,000 rubles a Russian pound and butter is 100,000 rubles. Potatoes are the cheapest article of diet in north and Central Russia, selling for 2,300 rubles for 12 ounces.

The local rate for the ruble is 200,000 to \$1 for January, February and March. Speculators in exchange have been prosecuted so vigorously that such dealings have been stopped.

Elks flock to Portland

(By Associated Press.) PORTLAND, Mar. 15.—Elks from all parts of the Pacific Coast are expected in Portland the week of May 15 to 21 to attend the laying of the cornerstone of the new \$1,000,000 temple which the Elks of Portland are building. The local lodge has planned a jubilee for the week, which will be known as "Elks' Prosperity Week."

Robert J. Wynne Dies

WASHINGTON, Mar. 15.—Robert J. Wynne, postmaster general for a year in the cabinet of President Roosevelt, died at his home here Saturday, aged 71 years. After leaving the cabinet in 1905 he served as consul general at London from 1910 to 1912.