

## WASHINGTON BANK ACCUSES OFFICIALS

### M'Adoo and Williams Are Defendants.

## CONSPIRACY CHARGE IS MADE

### Injunction Against Secretary and Controller Granted.

## BOND INTEREST HELD UP

### Financial House Alleges That At- tempt to Wreck Bank Is Made Following Threats—Complaint Alleges McAdoo Cursed.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—Secretary McAdoo, of the Treasury, and John Skelton Williams, Controller of the Currency, were made defendants today in proceedings begun in the District of Columbia Supreme Court by the Riggs National Bank, of Washington, D. C., which alleges that these officials have combined and conspired to wreck that institution.

Temporary and permanent injunctions to halt the alleged conspiracy and to prevent the controller from making what the bank charges are unlawful demands for special reports, are sought from the court.

## Injunction Is Granted.

One portion of the prayer seeks to restrain John Burke, Treasurer of the United States, from payment into the Treasury of \$5000, declared to be due to the bank as interest on \$1,000,000 of United States bonds deposited with the Controller against its note circulation. This interest was withheld to cover penalties of \$100 a day for failure of the bank to make certain reports. Once paid into the Treasury, only an act of Congress could get the \$5000 out, and Justice McCoy late today granted a temporary injunction on this phase of the case.

The justice then set April 16 as the day for answer by the defendants to show cause why permanent injunctions should not be issued.

The banks bill of complaint covers 36 typewritten pages and contains 27 specific allegations designed to show that the Controller has adopted unusual and legally questionable tactics in dealing with the institution. It recites that evidence of an unusual desire for information concerning the bank was shown by Mr. Williams shortly after he assumed the office of Controller more than a year ago, and has continued ever since.

## Threat Is Alleged.

Prior to that time, in December, 1912, it says, Mr. McAdoo charged officers of the bank with responsibility for publications regarding the official conduct of the defendant, Williams, as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

When this charge was denied by the officials, the bill asserts, Secretary McAdoo cursed Milton E. Alfes, a vice-president of the bank, and said to C. C. Glover, its president:

"Mr. Glover, you know what this means to the Riggs National Bank. 'Meaning hereby,' the bill adds, 'that from that time on the power of the Treasury Department would be aggressively used for the ruin and destruction of the plaintiff bank in order to satisfy the personal malice and ill will of said defendants, Williams and McAdoo, and shortly afterward the said defendants, Williams and McAdoo, began a series of persecutions against the plaintiff bank for the purpose of impairing or destroying its said business, thereby prostituting their high offices and violating their oaths in order to vent their personal vindictiveness against the officers of the plaintiff bank.'

## Deposits Are Withdrawn.

A few months later, the plaintiff avers, the bank was notified by C. S. Hamlin, now Governor of the Federal Reserve Bank, but then Assistant Secretary of the Treasury in charge of the fiscal bureau, that Secretary McAdoo purposed to exclude the Riggs bank from a share of deposits to cover the District of Columbia tax withdrawals, which deposits by customs are divided among the National banks of the District.

Mr. McAdoo later wrote to Mr. Glover, the complaint states, declining to explain why such action should be taken and announcing at the same time his intention of withdrawing all Government funds from that bank.

Subsequently, it is alleged, Government deposits amounting to more than \$1,200,000 were withdrawn from the bank, including Panama Canal deposits amounting at one time to \$1,155,473.

## Attempt to Wreck Bank, Is Charge.

These withdrawals were brought about by Secretary McAdoo, it is charged, at a time when the European war and the business depression in the United States had made banks husband their resources and "in a deliberate attempt to wreck the plaintiff bank in the execution of the conspiracy existing between him and the defendant Williams for that purpose.

Further complaint is made that Mr. Williams, as treasurer of the Red Cross Society, had the funds it kept on deposit with the Riggs bank removed to other institutions.

For almost a year, the bill avers, the Controller has bombarded the Riggs National with demands for special re-

## RUSSIANS REGARD WAR AS BLESSING

### PROSPERITY OF PEASANTS IS GREATER THAN EVER.

## SAYINGS IN MONTH EQUAL YEARLY AVERAGE BEFORE HOSTILITIES, SAYS FINANCE MINISTER.

PETROGRAD, via London, April 12.—The opinion was expressed today by Pierre L. Bark, Russian Minister of Finance, that, economically considered, the war has been a blessing to the people of this country.

Discussing the financial and social aspects of the conflict in an interview with the Associated Press, M. Bark said:

"Notwithstanding the depressing and paralyzing effect of the war, the Russian peasant class is more prosperous than at any previous time in the history of the country. By virtue of the allowance made by the government to the families of soldiers, which exceeds the earning power of the soldiers, the total income of these families is greater than in times of peace."

"What about vodka?" was asked of the Minister.

"It is the prohibition of the sale of vodka which is primarily responsible for the ameliorated condition of the peasant," he responded. "The sieve through which all the available earnings formerly disappeared has now been closed and the money is spent for present necessities or saved for future wants."

"Before the war the average yearly savings deposited amounted to from 30,000,000 to 40,000,000 roubles (\$15,000,000 to \$20,000,000), while in January alone about 60,000,000 roubles (\$30,000,000) was deposited."

## DIVERS TO SEEK F-4 TODAY

### Cruiser Maryland Reaches Honolulu With Equipment.

HONOLULU, T. H., April 12.—Workmen were busy this afternoon working on the gear and other apparatus brought by the cruiser Maryland today to the place outside the harbor where the missing submarine F-4 is believed to be submerged. The actual diving work, by which it is expected the submarine will be brought to the surface, will begin tomorrow.

Immediately after the arrival of the cruiser Maryland, which docked at 8:40 A. M., arrangements were begun for the transfer of the equipment to the scene of the disaster.

Lines which have been attached to the object on the ocean floor, believed to be the F-4, still are holding fast to it.

## AIRMAN KILLED BY FALL

### Experiment With Own Invention Is Fatal to C. M. Peoli.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—Cecil Malcolm Peoli, an aviator, was killed at College Park, Md., near here, today, while making a test flight in an aeroplane of his own invention and in which he had planned flights from Washington to New York and from New York to St. Louis.

The machine fell 300 feet and Peoli's skull was fractured. The cause of the accident has not been determined.

Peoli was the first man to fly across the Andes Mountains in South America. The wrecked machine is said to have been the largest in this country.

## 5 DIVORCED IN 35 MINUTES

### Judge Gantenbein Sets Record When Defendants Fail to Appear.

Five divorces in 35 minutes was the record set by Circuit Judge Gantenbein yesterday morning. Each one of the decrees was given by default, the defendant failing to appear for trial in any one of the cases.

Anna Lange Lindemann was divorced from August Lindemann on grounds of desertion; Elmer Howard was separated from Anna Howard on the same grounds; Maud Burdick received a divorce from Asa C. Burdick on charges of cruelty; Mary Ann Mayerhofer alleged that Frank Mayerhofer deserted her, and Myrtle Fisher made allegations of cruelty against Roy Fisher.

## REPLY TO BERLIN DRAFTED

### President and Secretary of State Considering Answer to Protest.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—President Wilson and Secretary Bryan had under consideration tonight a draft of a reply to be made to the memorandum of Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, relative to the question of preventing shipments of arms to the allies unless foodstuffs were permitted to reach Germany's civilian population.

## BELGIUM TO HEAR CONCERT

### German Orchestra to Tour Con- quered Territory Soon.

## HUERTA WILL STAY IN UNITED STATES

### Exiled Ex-President of Mexico Arrives.

## MOTIVES ARE KEPT SECRET

### General Takes Oath He Will Not Visit His Native Land.

## LENGTH OF STAY PROBLEM

### Former Ruler Says Trip From Spain Is on Pleasure and Busi- ness—Interview Is to Be Granted Next Friday.

NEW YORK, April 12.—General Victoriano Huerta, former provisional president of Mexico, who for nearly a year has been an exile in Spain, arrived here today on the Spanish steamship Antonio Lopez from Cadiz.

General Huerta was passed by United States immigration officials as a transit alien, after he had declared under oath that he would do nothing that would in any way involve the neutrality of the United States.

## Mexico Not to Be Visited.

The ex-president said that he had come to the United States partly for pleasure and partly to attend to some personal business connected with no intention of going to Mexico or to Cuba. The length of his stay here, he said, was indefinite, but he would return to Spain, possibly sailing from New York early in May.

General Huerta was met at quarantine by representatives of the press and by an array of photographers. While submitting to being photographed in every desired pose, he declined to say anything as to his mission—agreeing to meet newsmen at his hotel here next Friday morning.

## Interviews to Be Signed.

Regarding this appointment he said: "I understand that my presence in this country creates in you the desire to know my views about the affairs of Mexico and I promise to satisfy your wishes to the best of my ability. I beg you, gentlemen, to remember that no interview with me should be considered as authentic unless it carries my personal signature."

General Huerta was accompanied by General Jose C. Delgado, who has been his private secretary for 10 years, and by Abraham Ratner, a personal friend of the general, who declared himself as an American citizen, giving his residence as New York.

## No Mexicans Greet Him.

There were no Mexicans to meet General Huerta at quarantine. On the pier, however, were gathered a number of men who have been identified with Mexican affairs, among them being General Quiros, General Orozquito, and Senor Serrada. These men greeted General Huerta affectionately, embracing

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## PORTLAND AIDED IN FIGHT BY MONTANA

### Railway-Spokane Pact Said to Be Made.

## BACK-HAUL RATES OPPOSED

### Railroads Insist They Will Put Through New Schedule.

## MIDDLE WEST WITH COAST

### Plan Is to Cut Tariffs to Back-Haul Territory—J. N. Teal Argues for Retention of Terminal Rates, Showing Water Competition.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, April 12.—At today's hearing before the Interstate Commerce Commission on the Pacific Coast back-haul case, a new alignment of forces was apparent, Portland and the other Coast terminals being arrayed with Montana against Spokane and the transcontinental railroads.

Ex-Senator Dixon, of Montana, charged directly that the railroads and Spokane jobbers had conspired to carve out a large distributing territory for Spokane, and in this he was supported by J. N. Teal, of Portland, and from this point Portland and Montana joined in attacking the back-haul rates which the railroads propose to put into effect.

Mr. Teal charged that the rates proposed, if approved by the Commission, would constitute rank discrimination against Portland and other Coast terminal points on the Pacific Coast, and Mr. Dixon, protesting against the higher rates proposed to be charged against Montana points than are proposed for Spokane, for a longer haul, contended that Spokane jobbers, under the rates suggested, would destroy and monopolize the Montana jobbing trade.

Mr. Teal in his argument upheld also this contention by Mr. Dixon.

Mr. Teal submitted that the rates which are proposed would have the effect of moving the Pacific Coast practically to Spokane, thus neutralizing the benefits to which terminal points are entitled by reason of water competition by way of the Panama Canal.

He protested against the attempt of the railroads to create artificial conditions and alleged that if the Commission approves the rates submitted by the carriers it will open Pandora's box.

He maintained it is the province of the Commission only to lay down principles to govern rate making, that if in this instance it undertakes to make specific rates it must enter upon the making of rates for all points over the country.

Back-haul rates which have been submitted by carriers, he asserted, were not in conformity with the decision of the Commission in the Spokane case, but were in effect a distortion of the principles enumerated in that decision.

C. P. Donnelly, representing the Northern Pacific, denied that there had

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## MANY ARE KILLED IN FISHING TOWN

### TERRIFIC EXPLOSION WRECKS LEIRWICK, SCOTLAND.

## WESTERN UNION HEADFAC- TORS HIGHER WAGE.

### ORGANIZATION ALSO APPROVED

## "RESPONSIBLE" ONE IS DEMAND, THOUGH, OF PRESIDENT.

### HIS DOOR OPEN TO MEN

LEIRWICK is on the east coast of the mainland island of the Shetland group, off the northeast coast of Scotland. The town is an important center of the herring industry and has a population of probably 6000 inhabitants. The town hall is regarded as one of the finest buildings of its kind in towns of similar size.

## EXPLOSION IS MYSTERIOUS

### Packer Denies Supplying Allies Be- fore Plant Is Damaged.

KANSAS CITY, April 12.—The police of Kansas City, Kan., were busy today trying to clear up the mysterious explosion that wrecked the cooler building of the Cudahy Packing Company last night, causing a loss of \$75,000.

James Hale, superintendent of the plant, denied stories circulated in the packing district that the Cudahy company had been shipping much meat to the European allies. He connected the explosion with two fires that have damaged the plant in the last three months, both believed to have been of incendiary origin.

## ANOTHER SAWMILL TO OPEN

### Columbia River Interstate Bridge Work Brings Big Order.

VANCOUVER, Wash., April 12.—(Special.)—The DuBois Lumber Company expects to start its sawmill in this city Monday, April 19, for a long run. A large order for cutting lumber for the Columbia River Interstate bridge has been secured and other orders have been arriving. The mill has been closed since last Fall and the stock in the yards needs replenishing.

The capacity of the mill is about 60,000 feet a day. This is one of the indications that business is improving in this section of the state.

## GIRLS HELD FOR PERJURY

### Sisters of Rae Tanser, Breach of Promise Plaintiff, Indicted.

NEW YORK, April 12.—Dora and Rose Tanser, sisters of Rae Tanser, were indicted today for perjury by the Federal grand jury, which has been investigating the charge that Rae Tanser used the mails in an attempt to defraud James W. Osborne, whom she sued for \$50,000, charging breach of promise.

The indictment charges that Dora and Rose Tanser committed perjury by identifying James W. Osborne as the man who had called upon their sister at the Tanser home in the Bronx.

## Monday's War Moves

LES EPARGES, occupied on April 9 by the French after a series of desperate engagements costing countless lives, has again come under the fire of the German guns. It was around this point that the Germans, according to a French official report, lost 30,000 men in two months' fighting.

It is here that General Joffre, the French commander, is bringing his strength to bear on the German wedge to force it out of the allies' side, so that the allied line that stretches in front of the great German fortress of Metz may be straightened.

After a lull of two days the Germans prepared for their counter-attack on Les Eparges by a severe bombardment and heavy rifle fire; then in the early hours of the morning they advanced on the position which the French had made even stronger than when the Germans held it, but were forced to retire. The extent of this offensive is not known, but it has been reported that the Germans look upon this position, which commands the plain of Woerwe, as one of great importance, and further attacks may be looked for.

Otherwise the situation in the western war zone is of comparatively little interest, owing to the general calm that prevails.

In the east, although the Rumanians have occupied the principal positions in the western sections of the Carpathians, there is one height, known as height 992, which they have not been able to master.

Nevertheless they are reported to be moving down the western slope and in a fair way to make an advance into Hungary.

## KEYMEN UNDERPAID, ADMITS EMPLOYER

### Western Union Head Factors Higher Wage.

## ORGANIZATION ALSO APPROVED

### "RESPONSIBLE" ONE IS DEMAND, THOUGH, OF PRESIDENT.

## HIS DOOR OPEN TO MEN

### Telegraphers' Leader Before Indus- trial Commission Says He and Other Officials Will Resign If Union Is Recognized.

CHICAGO, April 12.—President Newcomb Carlton, of the Western Union Telegraph Company, and S. J. Koenekamp, president of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union of America, testified from their respective viewpoints before the United States Commission on Industrial Relations today as to wages and working conditions of the commercial telegraphers.

Mr. Carlton caused a mild sensation when, replying to a question from Frank P. Walsh, chairman of the Commission, as to whether telegraphers were adequately compensated, replied: "I believe that the telegraphers are underpaid."

"Overpaid," exclaimed Mr. Walsh. "No, underpaid. I think they ought to make more money than they do. So far as I can ascertain, wages have increased 20 per cent in the last ten years. Ten years ago a Morse telegrapher received \$18; it is now \$32. It was \$12.50 for women and now it is \$18. My own view is that a first-class telegrapher should be able to earn at least \$5 a day of nine hours. Some of our employees, under the so-called premium plan, are making close to that."

The witness said his company has one of the best pension and relief organizations in the country, and it costs the men nothing. Half a million dollars was expended on it last year, he said.

## "RESPONSIBLE" UNION FAVORED.

The witness' opposition to the organization headed by Mr. Koenekamp, who followed him on the stand, was made plain in various utterances. Mr. Carlton admitted the principle of collective bargaining, and that a "responsible organization" of Western Union telegraphers could be dealt with. The men should have some organization to protect their interests, he said with emphasis.

"We are subject to the control of the Interstate Commerce Commission," he said. "They absolutely fix not only our practices but our rates. I believe therefore that the commission should be given sufficient power to see that fair wages are paid and that fair working conditions are provided. I think the corporation, the public and the employees are entitled to the protection of some Federal commission."

## Dismissals Are Admitted.

The witness said that in the five years he has been with the company there has been an union of telegraphers which he considered qualified to represent them. His policy with the men, he said, was to allow an open door to him for the appeal of all grievances. He thought that he had acted favorably on about 60 per cent of applications for reinstatement. Telegraphers have been dismissed from the company for activity in union affairs, he admitted.

"Our opposition to the union are well understood," said he. He said that special agents were employed to keep the company informed, but denied that the "spotters," as Mr. Koenekamp designated them, were permitted to use questionable tactics in obtaining information. He had little knowledge of how they work, he said. Mr. Walsh mentioned instances where it had been alleged that larceny was resorted to by the special agents in obtaining correspondence and names belonging to the union.

## Union Charges Slavery.

"I want to have it understood that we will fight. I have no hesitation in letting it be known the methods and means by which we will fight, but there are some things that we won't do, not if I know it," answered Mr. Carlton.

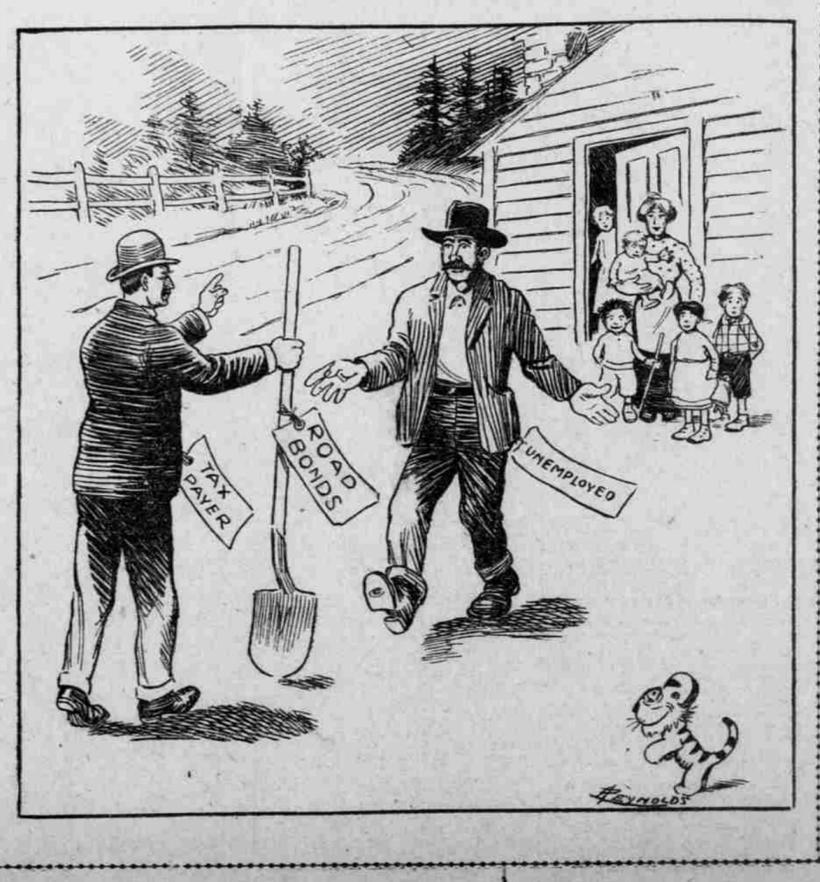
Mr. Koenekamp in his testimony referred to some of the methods of the Western Union as "criminal" and the condition of the operators as "slavery." He estimated the number of commercial telegraphers employed by the Western Union and the Postal Telegraph Company at 35,000. His union, he said, has agreements with the Canadian Pacific, the International News Service and the United Press. These, he said, recognized the principle of collective bargaining and adjustment of grievances. He declared that wages were lower now than they were 45 years ago. This was in reply to an assertion by Mr. Carlton that an operator who did as much work now as they did 45 years ago would earn about \$200 a month.

## Government Protection Favored.

Mr. Koenekamp said that in the larger offices the men work nine hours and women, by a recent order, only eight. The tendency, he said, was to lengthen the hours. The premium system of earnings had been scaled down.

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## GIVE US THE ROADS; GIVE HIM EMPLOYMENT



BERLIN, via wireless to Sayville, N. Y., April 12.—The famous Philharmonic Orchestra of Berlin is preparing to make a concert tour of Belgium early in May, according to announcement today by the Overseas News Agency.

Felix Weingarten will conduct and the musicians will play twice in Brussels.