

### RUM FLOOD POURING IN FROM CANADA

Traffic Wide Open and Dry Sleuths Are Powerless.

### MILLIONS IN LINE RUNNING

Bootleggers Have Organization and System, Spies and Agents, Superior to Officers.

WINDSOR, Ont., Feb. 17.—(City Mail)—Someone has described the boundary between Canada and the United States as the "far-flung bottle line."

Although Windsor has attained an international reputation as the headquarters for "bootleggers" and "rum-runners," at places along the St. Lawrence river there are many bands of whisky smugglers and along the boundary between Quebec and Vermont the runners do a profitable business.

### River 500 Yards Wide.

No more favorable situation for such a traffic could be conceived. What is called the "border" here extends a distance of 40 miles from Ecorse Point to Amherstburg, along the Detroit river, Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair river. For much of that distance there are flats covered with reeds and a maze of channels, lagoons and small islands on which are the huts of fishermen. The river is only 500 yards wide, which, as has been said, is merely a "burr and a lead" for a launch which goes 50 or 60 miles an hour as do some of the boats engaged in the traffic.

### 50 Per Cent Are Bootleggers.

On the Canadian side is the city of Windsor, with the towns of Walkerville, Ford, Sandwich, Ojibway and Tecumseh, with a total population of 10,000, all under separate municipal governments, each jealous of its authority and each with its separate force of police. Windsor is a country district of which license officials at Windsor declare 30 per cent of the population are engaged in bootlegging.

Conflict of authority and the attitude of the people have made any effective enforcement of the law an impossibility. As one public official said: "The public mind is demoralized. The people have no respect for the present liquor laws nor would they have for any other liquor law. They seem to think that bootlegging is a patriotic duty. They say that it brings in American money and they emphasize the war debt and the depreciation of the Canadian dollar as an excuse and justification of their operations."

The ferries crossing the river are used by the petty smugglers, who wear bottles next to the skin or under the skirts or for those who have motors with a secret chamber under the windshield or a double bottom. One American official who has devised a wonderful screw driver said, "I find that even the screw heads of the false bottom are painted black." Hundreds of American cars cross the river night after night. "Where do all the American cars go?" has been asked a parody of song. "I know where the fly goes," said one official. Many of these cars when returning are stopped by the officials and the occupants forced to stand on the dock while the searcher for liquor is prosecuted. In a summer cottage not long ago an officer discovered nine barrels of beer, all tapped and the pumps ready.

A young French-Canadian woman who appeared in court at Windsor had 100 bottles of beer, and it was explained that the supply was for a "party of friends." The magistrate suggested that the supply was excessive, but she said she had no money and instinctively: "Oh, no, not too much for a party like mine."

In a stretch of seven miles along the Sandwich road there are eight roadhouses. The signs read "Fish and chicken dinners, frogs' legs, meals at all hours of the day and night." All these places receive the vigilant attention of the police. Along the river are frame cottages which rent for \$75 for two months in the summer. Many of the residents of these cottages have fast launches which are used for more than pleasure riding on the river.

### Runners Well Organized.

The "rum-runners" and "bootleggers" have telephone systems and storing posts and a force of spies and agents far better organized as the license inspectors admit, than the provincial and municipal police. Ecorse is the most notorious distributing center of all the suburbs of Detroit. The launches under cover of night ply through the Rouge and Ecorse marshes. The backyards of the houses are on the river, and many a humble dwelling is a smuggler's den. Many of the runners wear rubber boots. Silently the launches glide into their berths and silently their cargoes disappear.

In a roadhouse one said casually to an old darkey, "You seem to be nothing exciting around here." The darkey chuckled. "Better stick round," he said, "things don't begin to start until 12. Between 12 and 4 it is the time." Another man questioned said, "They have just loaded an automobile across the street. But I ain't telling anything. No, sir, you might have your house burnt down."

A woman living in a shack has a fast launch, and at her credit in one of the banks \$125,000, every dollar of which represents the profits of "rum-running."

A few months ago a sharp-prowed schooner entered Ecorse bay in broad daylight and safely unloaded 15 cases of gin and whisky. It is estimated that on this single transaction the smuggler had a profit of \$1000. For Canadian whisky he would pay perhaps \$10 a case; for Scotch, \$40, and for gin, \$125. He would get for the first lot \$85 a case; for the second, \$110, and for the third \$100. The profits of the traffic have been so

### WILSON REMISS, CHARGE

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French Cite Failure to Aid in Debt Cancellation.

PARIS, Feb. 20.—(Special Cable).—Andre Tardieu, formerly French high commissioner to the United States, declares that the only public statement he has made on the subject of President Wilson's attitude toward the cancellation of the debts owed to America by the allies was contained in the article published in the Illustration on October 23 last. This conversation, he said, was held with the French minister of finance, Raymond Poincaré, and the French minister of foreign affairs, Aristide Briand.

"In June 1 had several conversations with Colonel House and Thomas W. Woodrow Wilson, and the result of the cancellation of the allied debt. America, by her previous attitude, had shown she was capable of doing this, provided she was enlightened by us to results. President Wilson contemplated taking this matter up after he had ended his campaign for the ratification of the Versailles treaty. Everybody knows the rest."

M. Tardieu said he had nothing to add to the above quotation. The Matin recently said that while the president could not bind himself to cancel a debt specially voted by congress, he did guarantee the use of his authority for obtaining a favorable decision in the matter from congress. From a practical standpoint, the Matin observes, it is difficult to see how France can pay back \$2,000,000,000 in debt, or how the United States can accept large importations from France without incurring heavy losses upon a large number of American manufacturers.

Recalling America's voluntary postponement of interest due on her loans, the Matin finds that the republican administration will be at least as well disposed as the democratic toward France, "despite the agitation of some German who are as eager for French money as they are desirous of sparing Germany."

### CHINESE OFFICER CLEARED

Philippine Court Says Commander Is Smuggling Trip Victim.

MANILA, P. I., Feb. 20.—The territorial supreme court today overruled the conviction of Lieutenant Commander Wong Hsiao Wong, Chinese navy, who recently was sentenced to two years imprisonment and fined \$2000 on a charge of smuggling opium into Manila. Commander Wong, with many others, came here to study aviation. In his baggage was found a quantity of opium. The supreme court held that Commander Wong was convicted as an innocent victim of an "ingenious plot concocted by experienced smugglers, who placed opium in his baggage."

### E. E. SMITH TALKS TO 150

(Continued From First Page.)

was "simply doing his plain sworn duty" in protecting from possible danger and harm those who might go to meetings where conditions did not comply with the law. "As Mayor" he said, "I must endeavor to the best of my ability to enforce the law, according to the constitution." He scouted the suggestion made by a member of the I. W. W. to the effect that the mayor was trying to keep Smith from speaking. "I was merely fulfilling my constitutional duties," he insisted.

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### PRIMARY, SECESSION BIG ISSUES IN DANO

Eventual Failure of Proposals Is Forecast.

### WARNING GIVEN BY BORAH

Legislature Told to Re-enact Direct Balloting Law or Matter Will Be Carried to Voters.

BOISE, Idaho, Feb. 20.—(Special).—The legislature was confronted with two issues of far-reaching importance during last week—first, a proposal to divide the state, the north against the south, and second, the re-enactment of the direct primary law. Neither may succeed. The first deal, either from the legislature or the latter, it does not involve politics to any extent, for the legislature is republican and the panhandle, if it is placed in a new state with possibly a part of eastern Washington and Spokane as the capital, would add another republican state to the union.

The primary has become a moot issue because of the attack made on the convention system and the clearly implied warning of United States Senator Borah, recognized as the biggest republican in the state and head of the party, that if the republican legislature fails to re-enact the primary law he will carry the issue directly to the people two years hence, which probably would mean election of a legislature pledged to passage of the law.

Supporting the secession movement is a strong feeling among members of the legislature from the north—senators and representatives alike—that the north never gets a square deal, and that the constant agitation against northern Idaho's educational institutions causes unrest and uneasiness. But what probably is more responsible than anything else for this constant demand to secede is the natural barrier between the northern and southern parts of the state, as yet unremoved either by a traveled highway or a railroad.

The southeast is more inclined to give the north its freedom than the south or the southwest. In fact, one community in that section has already gone on record in favor of the north separating itself from the south—Pocatello. There have been broad hints made that Pocatello aspires to become the capital of the state and that, if the north seceded, it would be the geographical as well as the logical center. The south and southwest are satisfied with the state as it is now. These two sections will probably hold the balance of power.

### Excitement Not Great.

For some reason difficult to explain the proposed secession is not taken seriously here. Introduction of the resolution asking for the right to hold a constitutional convention at Moscow June 20 of this year to draft a constitution for the new state and submit it to the voters in the territory included therein for approval or rejection, has not caused great excitement. No one seems to be worried about it. Legislators, when discussing the matter, laugh and seem to take it as a joke. Certainly none of them expect to see the resolution pass. Some members have been quite outspoken in expressing themselves.

### Logger Commits Suicide.

MONTESANO, Wash., Feb. 20.—(Special).—Tired of the struggle for life, Chris Larson, logger, yesterday morning committed suicide in his room in the Northington house. The body was found by the proprietor yesterday afternoon. The proprietor believes now he heard the shot, but thought at the time it was a window slamming shut. Larson leaves a mother and brother in Sweden. He had been out of work for the last few months and it is believed was despondent.

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Seattle Boxing Show Patterned After Anne Morgan Affair.

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 20.—(Special).—Seattle's boxing show Friday

is going to be a regular society affair.

The profits will go to the American Legion fund for the unemployed soldiers. Dr. Walter Kildon of the local boxing commission said. He has invited the "four hundred" to sit in on the K. Barry-Herman tussle, which will head the Dreamland ring card. Harry Whitney Treat is going to be the announcer. Soup and fish will be served. The show will be patterned after the show which was given recently by Anne Morgan's party in New York recently when Ritchie Mitchell and Benny Leonard entertained the smart set with a 15-round fight.

### DISARMAMENT IS DERIDED

GENERAL BULLARD LINKS CULTURE WITH PREPAREDNESS.

Admiral Approves of Use of Gas Even Though Weapon Is Admittedly Brutal One.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—Major-General Bullard, commander of the second corps area, vigorously opposed disarmament in an address yesterday before the national republican club. "Any proposition of disarmament or any limitations of armament is a trick," he said, "either to gain or maintain advantage. Coming from representatives of different nations, the discussion always consisted of, first, a nice diplomatic expression of profound benevolence and friendship toward all other nations; second, the truth, regretful to them undeniably, that they are forced by other nations to arm and keep armed. To hear them is to laugh."

Discussing the subject from a "purely American standpoint," the general declared, "disarmament for us would mean the abandonment of our financial superiority over other nations." That would be asinine kindness. Disarmament alone, he continued, does not obviate war, for "unarmed or ill-armed peoples are continually at war." Culture and arms were linked by the speaker, who pointed to great Britain and Japan now and the Germany of pre-war days as examples. Japan was allied to us as a marked example of "progressiveness and rapidly increasing enlightenment."

"It is a significant fact," he declared, "that from the monkey to the American state of culture advancement has corresponded to the state of armament. The monkeys that had sense enough to pick up and use a stick developed into men. The others remained monkeys." Rear-Admiral Sims declared that the navy is useless unless it is prepared. He emphasized that new inventions should be tested. The torpedo boat, he said, had been looked upon as a formidable antagonist against any battleship and remained so until the destroyer was invented. At the beginning of the war, he stated, the submarine was declared impracticable. "Many things are claimed for the airplane," he said. "If claims could do it, the navy would be abolished." He advocated adoption of the airplane carrier, saying this would be the battleship of the future.

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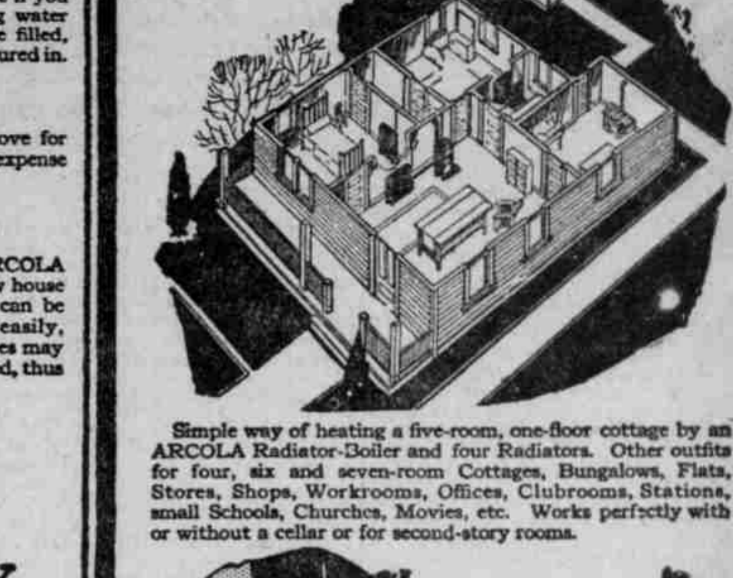
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