

HARDING PLEDGES RECLAMATION AID

Western Governors Get President's Support.

CONGRESS' TASK IS BIG

If Bill Is Taken Up Voluntarily, No Opposition Will Come From Him, Says Chief.

THE OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, D. C., May 19.—President Harding expressed to the delegation of western governors and Senator McNary today the strongest sympathy and support for western land reclamation. No other evinced a deeper interest, and from no other president have the western people expected more in realizing their dream of great agricultural expansion.

While re-affirming his sincere desire to aid western reclamation, President Harding frankly told his visitors that he would not send any special message to the congress on the subject, as he had called it for several important specific duties of the most urgent character, and he did not feel like loading the congress in a special session any further.

However, the president said he would not oppose congress considering the McNary-Smith reclamation bill during the special session, if the legislative body were so inclined.

Need of Work Is Seen.

In the event the reclamation measure does not receive favorable action at the current session of congress, President Harding indicated that he would be pleased to emphasize the need of this great work in a message to the next session of congress. Governor Davis of Idaho, and Senator McNary of Oregon, were the principal spokesmen for the western people, and were ably supplemented by Secretary of Interior Fall and Governor Campbell of Arizona. Governor Davis recited at length the hopes and expectations of the west, which had found final expression in organizing the western states reclamation association, of which the speaker was president.

Great Work Is Needed.

"We need a great work out there, Mr. President," said the governor, "and we need the federal government's aid in carrying forward the program of this enterprise. We are a unit in our plans. The plans have crystallized in the bill that has been introduced in the senate by McNary and in the house by Representative Smith of Idaho.

"All of our western people are behind this measure, which we believe is the best plan that has ever yet been devised for developing the west's great resources of agriculture. There may have been divergent views in the past on procedure, but I can assure you, Mr. President, that we are now united.

We furthermore believe we have the best plan that has yet been presented to the federal government for the effective use of its money.

Nothing but an advance or loan of funds, not an outright appropriation. This bill contemplates that the government should advance the money for its aid to the west, and the security will be good all the time."

Strong Features Outlined.

President Harding said that he had not followed the bill, and would have to leave a message of support to the secretary of the interior. Senator McNary briefly outlined the strong features of the measure, for the president's guidance. He gave the bill's purpose, its scope, and its forceful outline of the irrigation problem and was cordially complimented by the governors and others present, at the conclusion.

"We have gone over all the bills that were framed in the past," said the senator, "and our bill embraces the best points of all. The objections of a serious nature have been duly considered and where they did not affect the basic features of the case, we have heeded them. I think, Mr. President, that your administration will take pleasure in supporting this plan to aid the great undeveloped western part of the country.

Only Loans Are Asked.

"We are merely seeking to have the government advance funds for reclamation work. Districts would be organized under the bill for irrigation. These districts would issue bonds, and the bonds would be taken by the government and held until the lands covered by the bonds were appraised at twice the value of the face of the bonds. Then the government may sell the bonds to the public in the regular order of business, thus bringing back into the revolving fund a constantly increasing total for further reclamation work.

"Calculating that there would be three turn-overs in the reclamation fund in 18 years, and constant accretions would be had from the sale of public land, receipts from already finished projects, and from the oil land leasing bill, we estimate, Mr. President, that the \$250,000,000 fund we ask the government to advance in annual installments will, within reasonable time, grow up to a \$2,000,000,000 land reclamation financing fund. Such a work as this would be of untold value to the west and the nation. Then at the proper time the funds would be returned to the government in annual installments of \$50,000,000 each, and in the meanwhile interest would have been collected.

Plan Declared Workable.

"We believe this plan workable, Mr. President, perfectly safe to the government from an investment viewpoint, and its benefits are of such momentous character that we need not dilate upon them here."

Secretary of the Interior Fall discussed several details of the bill for the president's benefit, in the presence of the governors. He pointed out that the reclamation service has already invested \$26,000,000 in reclaiming western lands, of which but \$12,000,000 has been repaid, leaving \$14,000,000 yet due.

He said also that careful appraisal of the property covered by this work revealed that it was reasonably worth about \$15,000,000. With the regular source of income now well established, and great valuable properties covered by the work finished, he thought it would not be difficult to devise some plan for capitalizing the whole in a manner that would insure much greater and faster operations.

Documents Are Submitted.

Governor Campbell submitted to the president certain documents, which have been prepared for submission to congress, authorizing states interested jointly in given water courses, to work out their problems by what the speaker termed "treaties." These, the president said, he would give immediate consideration. This was the most impressive party that has called

upon a president for years on the subject of western reclamation. Governors present this week: Davis of Idaho, Campbell of Arizona, Mabey of Utah, Hart of Washington and Boyle of Nevada. Representing other governors were W. D. E. Dodson, who had a special commission from Governor Elliott of Oregon; J. A. Carpenter, representing Governor Shoup of Colorado, and State Senator Davis representing the governor of New Mexico. In addition, ex-Governor Berry of Utah, now commissioner of the general land office, joined the president's official family receiving the visitors and added support to the efforts.

Senate Hearing Arranged.

Senator McNary, who is chairman of the senate irrigation committee, has arranged for some of the visitors to appear before the senate committee on irrigation Saturday morning. At this hearing it is the purpose to develop the western case more minutely and carefully than was possible at the short session with the president.

The men are deeply gratified at the progress that is being made with their reclamation plans. President Harding's statement that he would not oppose congress to take up extra session of congress did not discourage them. They know that the president is friendly and that what he said today is reaffirming his campaign speeches bears no possible false construction.

With this friendly sentiment at the White House, it will not be difficult to get this congress to give the bill all possible consideration at the present session. All forces will be concentrated upon the quickest possible action, and the western half of the reclamation states will be urged to maintain unflinching effort.

\$32,640 IN DRUGS TAKEN

(Continued From First Page)

have broken up a ring of drug dealers whose operations have been widespread and who are known throughout the country. Wallace has proved a phantom of the Pacific coast drug trade, the government having spent thousands of dollars in chasing him. Papers found in his pockets at the time of his arrest showed his connection with Max Silverstein, known throughout the underworld of the coast as "Max the operator," believed to be one of the ring leaders in "dope" peddling and who was understood to be involved at present in the indictment of San Francisco courts alleging violations of the drug laws. Silverstein was in Portland yesterday.

Maher Is First Arrested.

William J. Maher was the first of the five arrested. He was a lodger at the Clifford hotel and two ounces of morphine were found in his pockets. He was believed to be a street peddler of narcotics.

Harry Davis and Abe Goldberg, declared to be local agents for the morphine ring, were arrested soon after.

Lived with his wife in a handsomely furnished apartment at the Carle, Fourteenth and Market streets. Fourteen ounces of morphine were found in his possession. Goldberg was taken at the Athens hotel. He had no drugs in his possession when arrested but he was said to have sold drugs to Maher and to have been identified with the ring by means of a card of introduction whereby one dealer, if out of a supply of drugs, would send a customer to another.

The card, when presented, was authority that the person applying was safe. Davis and Goldberg are brothers-in-law and are believed to have been partners in the illicit trade.

Wallace Is Bus Driver.

The fish in the net drawn by the narcotic officers yesterday were, of course, Wallace and Peter Rovengo. The former gave his occupation as that of a bus driver between Tacoma and Seattle, and his place of residence as 727 Tacoma street, near the corner of the city. He was identified by the officers as the man who gave the Rehan hotel, Seattle, as his residence. Both were believed to be dealers in the San Francisco underworld. The big quantity of drugs carried by Rovengo when arrested was believed to have been bought in San Francisco and transported to Seattle and back again.

When arrested at the union station, Wallace gulped hard several times but later took his medicine stoically. He declared himself without money to hire an attorney and without friends. This was hard to harmonize with his possession of a fortune in drugs.

Drugs Made in Mexico.

Rovengo sought to explain his possession of the contraband by the state that an affable stranger in Seattle had asked him to carry the suitcase to Portland for him and he would be met and the grip claimed. Papers found in the pocket of Wallace were said to have connected him with Davis.

Rovengo admitted yesterday he had been photographed by police officers five times in St. Louis, St. Francisco, San Francisco, Oakland and Seattle but had never served time. Wallace said his picture adorned the "rogue's gallery" at Tacoma and that he was photographed at the police station yesterday and their Bertillon measurements taken.

All the drugs captured in the series of arrests were manufactured by the firm of Powers & Weightman, Philadelphia chemists. The grip carried by Rovengo contained 34 one-ounce bottles of flake cocaine and 22 one-ounce packages of morphine sulphate.

Saunders Is Suspected.

It was believed the drugs seized were shipped to Eugene, Ore., by trade practices and smuggled back across the border into the United States, where the traffic has grown to large proportions. In Canada, where anti-drug laws are lax, the stuff can be purchased for as little as \$15 an ounce.

When brought back to this side of the line, the smuggler gets, at current quotations, \$250 an ounce. The enterprising peddler who buys splits the ounce packages up into one-grain "blisters" or powders, which he weighs out carefully on an apothecary's scale and retails them for \$1 each, making the retail price \$180 an ounce. Between the original price in Canada, or the extent where much of the stuff sold locally comes from, the retail figures is a long jump in cost.

Wallace and Rovengo evidently intended to adulterate their product, since red bottle seals that fitted the tops of the cocaine vials were found in the grip. The corks could be withdrawn and some of the drug extracted and some harmless white powder used to fill the bottles, when a red seal over the cork would give the flake the appearance of an original package.

Federal charges will be preferred against the men under arrest. They will be taken before Kenneth Frazer, United States commissioner, today and John F. Fitzgerald will ask that they be held to the federal grand jury for indictment. The grand jury will be called together again June 13.

Oil Production Reported.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., May 19.—Production of crude oil in California during April averaged 338,992 barrels daily, according to figures made public here today by the independent oil producers' agency. Total production for April was 10,169,759 barrels.

S. & H. green stamps for cash.

Holden Fuel Co. coal and wood.

Main 335; 560-21.—Adv.

BRITAIN AND FRANCE ON EDGE OF BREAK

Rupture Over Silesian Problem Threatened.

LLOYD GEORGE RESOLUTE

Affair Too Grave for Politics, Says French Editor; Entente Cordiale Is at Stake.

PARIS, May 19.—(By the Associated Press.)—France insists upon the execution of the Versailles treaty in drawing the frontier line between Germany and Poland in Upper Silesia. Premier Briand declared last night upon receiving newspaper correspondents. He reiterated his declaration of last Sunday when answering the address of Prime Minister Lloyd George before the house of commons Friday that invasion of Silesia by German troops would not be tolerated by France.

M. Briand said he did not see the desirability of meeting Lloyd George before all the documents relating to the Silesian plebiscite had been received from the inter-allied commission at Oppeln.

"I, too, want to see the treaty carried out," said the premier to the correspondent of the London Daily Mail, "but there is nothing in the treaty which stipulates that all the rich mining districts in Silesia must go to the Germans while the Poles get what is left."

Cabinet Action Expected.

When the chamber of deputies reconvened today after a recess of three weeks the Briand cabinet was expected to be the center of a concerted attack. Friends of the ministry asserted it would receive a great majority when the question of a vote of confidence was put.

Twelve interpellations were inscribed on the blotter of Raoul Dauterive, president of the chamber, when the session opened.

Rene Viviani, former premier, was prepared to give an account of his resignation of the American.

Premier Briand had declared he would not make a statement until he had heard all the interpellations, when he would make a comprehensive reply. It was not believed the putting of the vote of confidence would be reached before Saturday.

Premier Well Supported.

The address of Prime Minister Lloyd George on the Upper Silesian question and payment by Germany of the first reparations installment of 100,000 marks were taken up by the premier's supporters to have solidified his position.

AMASSADOR ONLY OBSERVER

Mr. Harvey, However, May Go Farther Eventually.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 19.—(By the Associated Press.)—Instructions to Ambassador Harvey to act in his participation in the supreme council sessions as the representative of President Harding, it was said today, would be to act only as an observer so far as the Silesian question is concerned.

Administration officials reiterated that the position of the American government was the same as outlined in the answer to Poland declining her request for support before the council in the Upper Silesian settlement. That question is essentially European, it was stated.

Officials indicated, however, that although the Silesian question was essentially European, it or similar questions might conceivably develop to broader proportions involving interests of the United States of an economic character.

In such an event, it is understood that instructions will be forwarded to Ambassador Harvey to act in a manner to safeguard American interests on the ground that the United States is vitally concerned in all economic readjustments growing out of the war.

FRENCH PRESS SEES DANGER

Entente Cordiale Is at Stake, Declares "Perrin."

PARIS, May 19.—Declarations regarding Poland and Silesia by Prime Minister Lloyd George of Great Britain yesterday caused considerable concern in France, the French press declared today. There was little comment on the prime minister's words this morning, but where there was it seemed to be a warning to the French government to stand firm. The affair is too grave hereafter to be treated as politics. There is no getting away from the fact—the entente cordiale is at stake.

The Temps says today that conversations have been held in London and Paris on the question put by the British government as to whether France would occupy the Ruhr in case a German army entered upper Silesia.

Meanwhile, the Temps adds, the French government cannot be certain that if no event will not arise which will obligate it to occupy the Ruhr, although it is not anticipated here that such an event will occur.

POLISH PREMIER PROTESTS

Statements of Lloyd George Are Declared Unfounded.

WARSAW, May 19.—Premier Witos, speaking in the diet today, denounced the speeches of Premier Lloyd George on Silesia had caused the Polish people much sorrow. He displayed German textbooks to refute the statement of Mr. Lloyd George that the population of Upper Silesia was German, declaring they added the population to the list of Polish race and language.

He said Poland would respect the treaty of Versailles but asked that the part of Upper Silesia bordering Poland be joined to her, in accordance with the desire of the people there. By revivifying he declared, the Poles of Upper Silesia did not intend to face the allies with an accomplished fact, but were prompted by despair and the fear of being put under German domination in opposition to their will.

\$100,000 Fire Burns Warehouses.

CHICAGO, May 19.—Two warehouses of the Griswold & Walker Warehouse company were destroyed by a spectacular fire today which resulted in injuries to four firemen, tied up three railroads and caused a loss estimated at \$100,000.

Consul-General Leaves London.

PLYMOUTH, Eng., May 19.—Robert P. Skinner, American consul-general in London, and Mrs. Skinner sailed for New York today. They will spend a long holiday in the United States.

from Catherine creek could get away. The flood is the worst in the valley for 25 years, as approximately one-fourth of the farm land is under water. The warm weather and rain continued today and it was feared that the worst stage was not yet reached.

Little livestock has been lost in the waters and farmers are rushing their stock to high lands. Levees and bridges were menaced today, the two at Union being in special danger. Haystacks have been destroyed and 12 homes abandoned.

It seems unlikely that the waters will recede immediately. If they should, a large acreage of grain and alfalfa flooded will not suffer. Ladd creek, between here and Hot Lake, has overflowed many acres.

HOUSES ARE CARRIED AWAY

Columbia River Rises 2.3 Feet in 24 Hours.

THE DALLES, Or., May 19.—(Special.)—The rapidly rising waters of the Columbia river today carried away several small houses which had been built by squatters on the beach below the dam, and caused a hasty pulling of tent stakes and moving to higher ground on the part of others who had been camping in the danger zone. Owners of the houses had been forewarned of the impending danger, however, and in all but one instance managed to salvage all of their household goods.

The river is still coming up, a rise of 2.3 feet having been recorded during the last 24 hours. The water at day stood at 39.5 feet, higher than at any time last year. Old-timers predict that the water will reach the 40-foot mark before the freshest is over.

TRUCK GARDENERS ALARMED

Hood River Waters Two Feet Higher Than Last Year's Crest.

HOOD RIVER, Or., May 19.—(Special.)—After a three-foot rise in the past 48 hours, the Columbia here is alarming Japanese truck gardeners. The flood two feet higher than the crest last year, already has covered asparagus beds on Riverside farm, operated by Nipponese workers of town. Although the truck gardens of Harry Munemoto, just east of town, are protected by dykes, power crews rushed today for operating a large pump to keep the valuable crops clear of sewage water.

Local river men are predicting the highest water for years. Homer G. Van Allen, ferryman, predicts an additional eight feet, which would ruin much valuable garden truck.

VANCOUVER DOCK FLOODED

Lowlands Along Columbia River Are Inundated.

VANCOUVER, Wash., May 19.—(Special.)—The Columbia river was more than 18 feet above low water, having risen 1.5 feet in 24 hours ended at 8 o'clock tonight. It rose 4 feet today 5 o'clock tonight and was steadily rising, though not as fast as last night. The lower dock was covered by more than a foot of water. The offices yesterday were removed to the upper deck by Oscar Johnson. Lowlands along the Columbia river below the city were flooded. The salmon fishermen had hard luck, as the fish were reported not running. One fish buyer today was able to obtain only two salmon from some fishermen when he called upon in his boat.

River Readings at 8 A. M. Thursday.

STATIONS	Height	Change
Wenatchee	40 23.4	+1.0
Leavenworth	22 17.3	+0.3
Malheur	40 30.0	+1.5
Thalita	40 30.0	+1.5
Eugene	10 2.6	+0.3
Albany	10 2.6	+0.3
The Dalles	20 4.0	+0.2
Portland	15 17.0	+1.2

River Forecast.

The Willamette river at Portland will rise during the next three days, reaching a crest of about 44.5 feet at 7 p.m. Saturday, 49.3 feet; Sunday, 49.3 feet.

"QUEEN" SETTLES CLAIMS

Yakima Men Drop Suits Against Mrs. Ena Harper.

YAKIMA, Wash., May 19.—Suits brought against Mrs. Ena Harper, the "Island Queen" of Palmito del Verde, off the coast of Mexico, have been dropped by W. L. Shearer, attorney for Patterson, following settlement of their claim against her.

Shearer and Patterson, with about 300 other Yakima valley residents brought land on the island, which was represented as a tropical garden of Eden. In all, according to Mrs. Harper, 24,000 acres of land were sold to valley residents at a cost of about \$250,000. Shearer and Patterson, in the suit they brought, asked that the return to them \$418,870, which they had paid down for their properties, and cancel their notes for \$1490 and \$3397, deposited in a Tropic bank.

They asserted that the land had been misrepresented and was anything but a paradise, and that in addition, Mrs. Harper did not have a clear title to the property. It was understood that the two men lost the payments already made, but that their notes have been canceled. A number of Yakima colonists are now on the property, and other suits are pending.

PASCO PYTHIAN ELECTED

Edwin A. Davis Grand Chancellor of Washington Lodge.

YAKIMA, Wash., May 19.—Edwin A. Davis of Pasco, formerly grand trustee, this afternoon was elected grand chancellor of the Knights of Pythian of Washington, defeated Charles H. O'Neil of Puyallup, formerly vice-chancellor, in a close election.

It was unanimously decided that a Pythian home should be built as soon as possible. Pythians of Oregon and Idaho will be asked to co-operate in the project, but if they do not wish to do so the Washington lodge will construct a home without other assistance. The three trustees, the grand chancellor and the keeper of records and seals were named a special committee with power to act in the matter.

Jack Clark, grand trustee of the Oregon lodge, expressed the opinion that Oregon would co-operate.

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Staggering Price-cuts!

—for quick disposal of every article in stock!

Firm of R. M. Gray changes after 16 years in Portland selling highest class men's clothing and furnishings and women's suits, coats, etc.

Examples of colossal savings that suggest quick action

Men's Department

These special offerings for the economical man.
Lot 1—Chesterfield Suits, 200 of them, worth up to \$60, your choice \$24.75
Lot 2—250 Suits, worth up to \$70, your choice \$33.50

Regular Stock Men's Suits

\$50 Suits at \$37.50
\$60 Suits at \$43.50
\$70 Suits at \$49.50
\$75 Suits at \$53.50

Men's Furnishings

Neckwear Special
\$1.00 Neckwear \$39c
\$2.00 and \$2.50 Neckwear \$1.15
\$3.50 and \$4.00 Neckwear \$1.85

Men's Silk Hose

To \$1.50 Hose at 79c
To \$2.50 Hose at \$1.15

Men's Cashmere Hose

To \$1.50 at 69c

Men's Natural Wool Hose

To 75c at 26c

Men's Fine Suspenders

\$1.50 Suspenders at 69c
To \$2.00 \$89c

New Cloth Hats—\$5 and \$6 Tweeds and English Worsteds, All Colors, for \$3.75.

25% Discount on New Straws and Panamas

366 Washington R. M. GRAY

Washington & W. Park

BELFAST RIOTS RENEWED

UNIONIST FORCES REPORTED TO BE AGGRESSORS.

Constable Killed and Sergeant Is Wounded When Police Patrol Body Is Ambushed.

BELFAST, May 19.—There was renewed rioting in east Belfast tonight. Unionists were the aggressors, evidently in reprisal for an attack on the service men's demonstration yesterday.

One disturbance occurred near St. Matthew's church. Three cases suffering from gunshot wounds were sent to the hospital. One, a girl of 13, was wounded in the mouth. A constable was killed and a sergeant wounded when a police patrol was ambushed at Letterkenney last night.

The people of the town spent the night in terror while the noise of rifle firing and the explosion of hand grenades was going on. A hotel was severely damaged and two civilians were wounded.

DUBLIN, May 19.—Rebels have adopted a new method for attacks on police barracks. Travelling by train, 24,000 acres of land were sold to valley residents at a cost of about \$250,000. Shearer and Patterson, in the suit they brought, asked that the return to them \$418,870, which they had paid down for their properties, and cancel their notes for \$1490 and \$3397, deposited in a Tropic bank.

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PRINCESS DIVORCE IS UP

Decision in Captain Schutz Action Expected Today.

GREEN BAY, Wis., May 19.—Proceedings for the annulment of his marriage, brought by Captain Wallace Schutz, Milwaukee engineer, against Princess Tzouletsky, formerly of the Russian navy, whose whereabouts are unknown, were heard in circuit court today. It was expected a decision would be handed down tomorrow.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 19.—A woman believed to be Mrs. Wallace

Strat Schutz, formerly the Princess Tzouletsky of Russia, has been in San Francisco for some time, with the avowed intention, according to friends, of establishing a residence for the purpose of suing for divorce from Captain Schutz, who now is suing her in annulment proceedings in Green Bay, Wis. It became known here today.

She said she is a graduate of the imperial university at Petrograd. She wears many medals and decorations, including the St. George Cross, awarded, she said, for services as a war nurse in France.

She also has passed much time recently in San Diego and Los Angeles, and destroying garden crops. Navigation of the Yukon river was formally opened today with the arrival at Hootahauke of the steamer Nautica from the foot of Lake Labarge, bringing passengers and freight.

Ptomaine Poisoning Fatal.

HONOLULU, T. H., May 19.—(Special.)—Thirty-four individual cases of ptomaine poisoning were reported in three days as a result of various citizens buying pork at the municipal market. Of the 34 cases four proved fatal, but the others are reported recovering. The territorial board of health is conducting a close investigation.

Stopped Her Mother's Backache

Men and women past middle age find Foley