

# CONGRESS GOES ON HOLIDAYS RECESS

### One Small Bill Is Total of Legislation Since Beginning of Session.

Washington, D. C.—Congress went on a two weeks' Christmas holiday with an empty record behind it and an uncertain future ahead.

One inconsequential bill has passed the senate. Not a single measure has passed the house in the first three weeks of the present session.

Nearly three weeks after President Coolidge delivered his program to the congress, here is the way the situation shapes up on his most important policies:

**Tax Reduction.**—The house ways and means committee is planning to begin hearings. Indications are the original Mellon plan will be greatly changed. The senate finance committee has not even set a date for hearings.

**World Court.**—The senate foreign relations committee has no plan to take up the proposal submitted by the late President Harding and endorsed by Mr. Coolidge.

**Freight Rates.**—The senate interstate commerce committee is not yet even organized because of the fight on the floor over the chairmanship. Prospects are that the guarantee portions of the Esch-Cummins law will be amended but no other conclusive action taken. Matter not even discussed in the house.

**Immigration.**—Not discussed yet either in house or senate. Prospects are present quota law will be extended with amendments.

**Farm Relief.**—No direct measures contemplated. Several bills, most of which face much opposition, already introduced.

**Bonus.**—House and senate leaders both active. Senator Smoot will produce a new bill in the senate in January with prospect that it may be substituted for old bill vetoed last year by Mr. Harding. Administration leaders have succeeded in holding up the bonus in the house.

**Prohibition.**—Several bills amending the Volstead act introduced, but prospects are they will be smothered.

# COOLIDGE WITHDRAWS BOARD NOMINATIONS

Washington, D. C.—The nominations of Frederick I. Thompson of Alabama and of Bert Haney of Oregon were withdrawn from the senate by President Coolidge after the senate commerce committee had voted unanimously to report disapproval of the president's selection of Edward P. Farley of Chicago as chairman of the board.

President Coolidge's withdrawal of the names of Haney and Thompson was purely strategic, it was declared by a senator who professed to have information as to the unexpected action of the White House.

This senator said that President Coolidge did not act hastily in the matter at all, but had made up his mind as to what his course would be in event that the commerce committee reported against the confirmation of Commissioner Farley, who was appointed to become chairman of the board.

Mr. Coolidge, he said, felt that should Farley be rejected it might be necessary to re-arrange the board members in a way to require the appointment of a republican from one of the present districts now represented by democrats. Commissioners Haney and Thompson are both democrats.

# TWO BANK ROBBERS IN JAIL

Identification Made by Lane County Farmer Who Had Harbored Bandits. Eugene, Or.—Tom Murray and Eddie Walker, fully identified in Portland by Jack Herring, Lane county farmer, as the bandits he harbored after the Lane County State & Savings bank at Florence was robbed on December 11, and the bank cashier and two customers were locked in the vault and nearly \$8000 taken, are now in jail at Eugene.

Jimmie Wells, ex-convict, taken in Portland with the other two because he had Murray's \$1424 hidden in his trunk, is also in jail here.

Walker stoutly maintains his innocence, asserting he has never been in Florence. Murray still is non-committal regarding his accomplices, although he is most talkative on anything else. He has but one answer to officers who ask him concerning his two partners, "That's what you're paid to find out."

**Ex-Governor Walton Appeals.** Washington, D. C.—Formal application to review the impeachment of ex-Governor Walton of Oklahoma was made to the supreme court by his attorneys.

# His Christmas Spent at Club

By MARY GRAHAM BONNER

**Lonesome Rich Man Finds Happiness in Playing Santa Claus**

HE WAS SITTING alone in his fashionable club. It was quite deserted. It had been for some days now. Everyone seemed to have other things to do than to come to the club. They had talked, a number of them, the last time many had been there, of the busy days ahead, shopping, wrapping up Christmas parcels, helping their wives or their daughters or their grandchildren in the gay plans for Christmas.

Only he had no plans to make. He gave his employees, and a number of others with whom he came in contact, money at Christmas time. That fulfilled his Christmas demands. Other years he hadn't felt it so much as this year. This year the loneliness seemed lonelier than ever before. His solitary condition saddened him. Well, he would go back to his suite. He would leave the club. Perhaps among his own books, his own things he would not feel so

lonely. He would not dine at the club; he would have some cheese and crackers and coffee at home. His excellent valet could always prepare a little supper for him.

Outside of the club his chauffeur and car were waiting. He got in and sat down on the soft, luxuriously upholstered cushions, and the chauffeur closed the door, shutting out the clear, cold Christmas time air and the noise of the streets—the noise of many voices of many people going shopping, with the higher voices of children rising every once in awhile above the din.

His soul seemed to ache. He was alone. Rich, comfortable, luxurious, alone! No one wanted him, needed him, cared for him. He had everything which money could buy; he had enough money to buy everything he wanted.

No, not everything! He wanted love and affection, he wanted to be a part of all this going on outside the luxurious confinement of his car and that he couldn't buy. Mix with the crowds? Yes, he could do that, but not as one of them. Only as a lonely man who had a fat bank account which didn't help in the slightest.

And yet couldn't it help? Suddenly he had an inspiration. He called through the speaking tube to his chauffeur. "I think," he said, "I will get out here and walk the rest of the way home."

The chauffeur was surprised, but he was too well-trained to show surprise.

He got out before a large store where in the window was a decorated Christmas tree. He went inside the store. No longer did he feel so lonely. He, too, had a purpose in mind. He was a part of all of this now.

Tinsel, candles, red colored paper, ribbons, small toys, decorations, oh, how much he bought. His arms were filled with bundles just as were the arms of others. It was such fun to carry bundles, too. He had never known before the joy of overcrowded arms.

Home he went, carrying his beloved purchases with him. And then he summoned the janitor to his lonely suite, which now seemed filled with the Christmas cheer. He talked it all over with him, the plans for the tree, for his own Santa Claus suit.

He had given the janitor money before, of course. This time he would take part in the Christmas of the children of the janitor.

Christmas morning came. Never had he arisen so early on a Christmas morning. Dressing himself carefully, he went downstairs. He had worked until late the night before, decorating the tree, but he was not tired.

Suddenly there was a cry, a cry of joy such as he had never heard. "Why, there's Santa Claus! Dear, dear Santa Claus!"

The janitor's children had always been afraid of him, but not so of Santa Claus! He undid his pack, he took gifts off the tree, and the children climbed over him, kissed him, hugged him, loved him. With what a splendid gusto they loved him!

And the children begged Santa Claus to stay for dinner. Curious thing for him to be doing! But he stayed, and for the first time, almost since he had been a child himself, he had a Christmas, a real Christmas, a Christmas filled with love which had driven the loneliness out!

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# WHEN HE WAS A BOY

What a big-hearted fellow old Santa Claus is. He must have been a newsboy.

# SOVIET DOCUMENTS BELIEVED GENUINE

### Department of State Ignores Tchitcherin's Charges of Forgery.

Washington, D. C.—The state department ignored the charges of "forgery" made by the soviet foreign minister, Georges Tchitcherin, concerning documents made public by Secretary of State Hughes, which contained alleged instructions from the soviet leaders to the Workers Party of America to promote a revolution in the United States.

Secretary Hughes, it was said, will reserve further comment until the foreign relations committee of the senate undertakes the promised investigation of the Russian situation.

There is no likelihood that the United States government will submit to arbitration the authenticity of documents which the state department recently made public to show that revolutionary soviet activities and propaganda are being conducted in this country with the object of undermining the government.

The American government is fully satisfied with the genuineness of the communications made public from the soviet to workers in this country and believes that to enter any such proceedings as suggested by Foreign Minister Tchitcherin in a statement in Moscow would only involve a proceeding long sought by the Russian authorities.

Secretary Hughes in his recent statement, which was transmitted to Tchitcherin, made it clear that negotiations cannot precede the cessation of soviet propaganda in the United States and the adoption of measures by the Russian authorities to demonstrate their good faith in the discharge of their first international obligations.

The assertion of Tchitcherin that the documents are forgeries not only was expected by American officials but is regarded by them as a species of propaganda in itself.

# BOOZE RING FOUND IN NATION'S CAPITAL

Washington, D. C.—Washington police have uncovered a bootleggers' syndicate whose trails lead to a legation, the capitol and the house office building.

Police have arrested 13 suspects, including three girls who compose the clerical force of the syndicate. Offices were maintained in two of the big bank buildings here and were equipped with filing cabinets, card indices and other modern office appliances.

The customers' list contains 2500 names, including many well known in official life here.

After making the arrests, police went to the warehouse where \$35,000 worth of choice imported liquors were stored, but while they were taking preliminary steps to remove them the secretary of a foreign legation here appeared and produced documents to show the liquor about to be seized was immune under diplomatic seal. The secretary's name has been turned over to the state department, through which records of diplomatic liquor are transmitted to the prohibition enforcement bureau.

# REGARD FOR LAW GROWS

Prohibition Commissioner Gives Outstanding Accomplishments.

Washington, D. C.—Respect for the prohibition law is steadily growing and marked progress has been made in enforcement of the Harrison narcotic act, Prohibition Commissioner Haynes said in a summary of enforcement activities for the year about to close. Outstanding accomplishments he named as follows:

Lessening of indifference on the part of state and municipal authorities as a result of governors' and citizenship conference growing out of the White House conference of governors.

Banning of liquor by many leading hotels and clubs and strict enforcement by college authorities among students.

Breaking up of large liquor smuggling conspiracies through arrest and conviction of their leaders.

The report declared more than 200,000 local officials were charged with "upholding the constitution" and that 1522 federal agents were engaged in enforcing the Volstead act. The federal force, the report said, made more than 80,000 arrests and seized property worth more than \$4,000,000 during the last 15 months.

# Would Tax War Profiteers For Bonus

Washington, D. C.—A plan to pay each former service man a cash bonus of \$500 by imposing a special tax on war profiteers was presented to President Coolidge by officials of the Private Soldiers' and Sailors' Legion.

# "JUST LIKE DADDY," AN ECONOMIC FORCE

By J. H. PUELICHER  
President the American Bankers Association.



J. H. Puelicher

"Like Daddy"—these two words, that express the imitative nature of children, occur to me as I think of our parental responsibilities in respect to both the thriftiness and the thriftlessness of our boys and girls. The accent belongs on both aspects of the case, for we have yet to find a person who is the perfect example of thrift. Even Ben Franklin admitted his lack of attainment after his years of self-admonishment and self-criticism—and his temptations were not so great as those of today. Every reader will admit his deficiency in thrift. So will I. And what of our children? Will they copy us? Will their attitude toward thrift be "like Daddy's"? Will it be thrifty or thriftless?

It will at least be largely influenced by it. The thrift of the next generation is in the hands of the present. If our children are "out of hand" on their habits, whom have we to blame but ourselves?

Remember this: The next generation will be subject to the same laws of economics, the same rules of success, the same principles of happiness, as prevail today. A habit of thrift is one of the best possible characteristics we can mold into our children's natures during their habit-forming years. Its value will be apparent throughout maturity, whatever their lot, whether at the helm of large enterprise or steering the more humble affairs of a home.

Thrift will be the basic principle in the economic life of our nation and its system of producing and exchanging commodities. Thrift is always both of social and of individual advantage. Each day finds us expanding both in breadth and in depth of our resources of enjoyment and our opportunities for service as we practice thrift.

But how shall we bring about habits of thrift? Is there any other way than by teaching, whether by direct precept or by the unconscious example of our own habits, continually impressing themselves on the receptive minds of the young?

"Like Daddy" expresses one of the most powerful social and economic forces there is.

**Sky Cycle and Man Kite.** Remarkable flying feats performed in miniature aircraft are described in the Popular Science Monthly. An Ohio aeronautical engineer, it is said, has built a "sky-cycle-plane," weighing less than 100 pounds and operated by foot power, which has flown successfully at McCook Field, Dayton. Even more remarkable is a kite-like glider constructed in Europe. Although weighing only ten pounds and capable of being folded up and carried on the back, this airship is said to have remained in the air for almost an hour on several occasions.

**Save Your Nails and Tacks.** When you open boxes, take up carpets, or do anything that produces a crop of bent nails or useless tacks, save them. Then, the next time you report or transplant flowers, scatter the nails and tacks through the bottom layer of the soil, set in the flowers or plants, and fill the pot with rich loam. When you water the plants the nails will rust; the product of this oxidation will enrich the soil remarkably. You will be agreeably surprised with the strong and beautiful growth of the plants.

# 16 Year Old Boy With Bride of 46



Even though his dad, Postmaster Joseph Tucker, of South Essex, Mass., is asking investigation and annulment of his boy's marriage, Martin S. Tucker, 16 years old, says he wooed and won and loves his 46-year-old bride, who was Mrs. Susan O. Simpson, wealthy widow and owner of a big hotel in New York. Pictures show youth and his bride—also photo of bride's summer home at Gloucester, Mass.

# Passion Players Awe-Struck But Unaffected Amid New York's Glitter



From the valley of Oberammergau, in Bavaria, where their lives are molded to the character they aspire to portray in "The Passion Play" (produced every 10 years) has come a small band of wood carvers to sell their wares, all returns to help feed their starving women and children. It is their first trip away from their valley. Though awe-struck and marvelling at the life and glitter of New York, they refuse to be moved from their simple Christian thinking and ways of living. Heading the group is Anton Lang, who is the present Christus, having portrayed Jesus in the last three productions, his brother Andrea Lang, Peter, and Guido Mayr, Judas.

HOME SWEET HOME  
"YOU SAY YOU'RE A FINISHED SPEAKER" - WELL THANK GOODNESS YOU ARE!  
THERE YOU GO WITH THOSE CLEVER REMARKS AGAIN.  
IF I'D KNOWN YOU WERE SO GARGASTIC, I WOULDN'T HAVE MARRIED YOU!  
WELL I GAVE YOU GOOD WARNING!  
Geez, Love Must Have Made You Blind—and Dumb!  
-by Terry Gilkison  
HOW DO YOU MEAN?  
WELL - YOU REMEMBER YOU KEPT COMPANY WITH ME EIGHT YEARS.  
-AND WHEN YOU FINALLY DID PROPOSE - I SAID "THIS IS SO SUDDEN."  
Futile tasks  
COUNTING THE SNOWFLAKES IN A SNOW STORM.