

OIL WITNESS FOILS SENATE QUIZZERS

Released by Court After Arrest for Failure to Answer.

Washington, D. C.—The judicial arm of the government reached into the senate to remove Robert W. Stewart, outstanding Teapot Dome witness, from immediate jeopardy for contempt.

Stopped by the District of Columbia supreme court from imposing sentence on the wealthy Chicago oil operator, the senate turned at once to that court, asking that Stewart be imprisoned by judicial process for his refusal to answer questions.

Under the writ issued by Justice Bailey, the chairman of the board of the Standard Oil company of Indiana was taken from the custody of the assistant sergeant-at-arms of the senate and released under \$1000 bond.

Stewart was placed under arrest by the senate sergeant-at-arms after his refusal to answer questions in the oil investigation. The questions sought to bring out what Stewart knew of the distribution of Liberty bonds from the \$3,080,000 "slush fund" alleged to have been raised by Harry F. Sinclair and his associates as a companion transaction to the Teapot Dome naval oil lease.

MAY LINK SHIP BILL WITH TAX REDUCTION

Washington, D. C.—A move to link destinies of the Jones shipping bill and the tax reduction bill was made in the senate when Senator Jones, republican, Washington, introduced the shipping bill passed by the senate as an amendment to the tax reduction bill passed by the house.

The tax reduction bill is due to be reported by the senate finance committee, March 15, and the house must act on the Jones bill before that time if the senate is to concur in the tax cut plan.

Jones took this method of assuring action in the house on his bill for continued government operation of the merchant marine. It had been rumored that the house was planning to side-track the measure because of White House opposition.

Over the opposition of President Coolidge and administration leaders, the senate passed the Jones bill to expand the American merchant marine and to maintain it under government control.

A combination of democrats and western republicans sent the measure to the house by a vote of 53 to 31.

BASIN PROJECT HALTED

Secretary Work Declares More Detailed Surveys Are Needed.

Washington, D. C.—The bill authorizing the Columbia basin reclamation project in the state of Washington struck an uncharted rock in the form of a memorandum by Secretary of Interior Work, produced at a conference by Director of the Budget Lord, which stated that in the secretary's opinion the project has not been sufficiently investigated to be given official approval.

The memorandum was brought to light in the presence of several members of the Washington delegation and Hervey Lindley of Seattle, president of the Columbia Basin association, who were seeking Lord's sanction for their bill.

Secretary Work stated that several years of further detailed survey should be made before it could have the indorsement of his department. His decision is believed to make the passage of the bill at this session improbable.

Trapped Men Tried to Raise Sub.

Washington, D. C.—While life remained, the imprisoned men on the submarine S-4 tried vainly to effect their own rescue by raising one end of the sunken craft above the surface. This was the conclusion reached by divers who explored the hull of the submarine in its "grave" off Provincetown, Mass., the navy department has announced. The divers found that the ship's crew was evidently in the act of blowing water from the ballast tanks when life expired. The stern plane indicator also showed a rise of about 19 degrees.

France Will Settle War Debts.

Paris.—France has no intention of repudiating her war debts, but has delayed funding them because she did not know how to pay in the 62 years proscribed by the United States, Premier Poincare declared in the chamber of deputies in defending his finance policy. "We already have arranged to pay the greater part of our war debt charges during 1923 and 1929," Poincare added.

COL. C. B. ROBBINS



Col. C. B. Robbins of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, appointed to succeed Col. Hanford MacNider as assistant secretary of war.

LAND SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE CALLED

Washington, D. C.—Problems of land settlement and farm development on the federal reclamation projects of the Pacific northwest will be given particular attention at the reclamation settlement conference to be held here on February 14-15, under the direction of Elwood B. Mead, commissioner of reclamation.

A broadcast invitation has been sent to that section by Dr. Mead, who believes that the securing and financing of some 2000 settlers needed for the Kittitas, Vale and Owyhee projects will be facilitated by conference discussions of the policies for the solvency of these projects upon completion. He figures that Kittitas must have 460 settlers, Owyhee 940 and Vale 375.

"The government is investing \$55,000,000 in irrigation works, but this is not reclamation any more than an empty building is a factory," Mead declares. "There will be no income nor benefit from the investment until there are settlers, houses leveled, fields and crops growing. These are the things which create earning power and are included in the estimates and plans of most foreign countries."

WOMEN OPEN BLUE BOOK

W. C. T. U. to List Wet and Dry Candidates for Office.

Chicago.—A blue book of wet and dry candidates for public office was opened to entries here by the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. Closing their two-day midwestern campaign conference, national officers of the W. C. T. U. sent out word that its organization lieutenants in every state, county and precinct were to place every aspirant to office definitely on record as friend or foe of prohibition.

Under the plan of attack outlined today by Mrs. Ella A. Boole, national president, a resolution will be presented to every party leader from national chairman down to ward committeeman, demanding the insertion of a plank in the party platform indorsing prohibition and pledging its enforcement through the appointment of its "undoubted friends" to power.

Court Holds Rail Salary Rise Stands.

Chicago, Ill.—A petition by western railroads to set aside an award increasing the pay of locomotive firemen and hostlers on 55 western systems was dismissed by Judge George A. Carpenter in federal district court.

THE MARKETS

Wheat—Big Bend bluestem, \$1.39; hard white, \$1.27; federation, soft white, western white, \$1.25½; hard winter, \$1.21; northern spring, 1.23; western red, \$1.29.
Hay—Alfalfa, \$18@18.50; valley timothy, \$18@18.50; eastern Oregon timothy, \$20.50@21.
Butterfat—49@52c.
Eggs—Ranch, 24@27c.
Cattle—Steers, good, \$11@12.
Hogs—Medium to choice, \$7.75@9.00.
Lamb—Medium to choice, \$11.50@13.00.

Seattle.
Wheat—Soft white, western white, hard winter, \$1.28; western red, \$1.21; northern spring, \$1.25; bluestem, \$1.42; dark northern spring, \$1.44; dark winter, \$1.33.
Hay—Alfalfa, \$24; timothy, \$28; v. S., \$24.
Butterfat—53c.
Eggs—Ranch, 24c.
Cattle—Steers, choice, \$11@12.
Hogs—Prime, \$9.25@9.40.

Spokane.
Cattle—Steers, good, \$11.25@12.00.
Hogs—Good, \$9@9.10.

OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Brief Resume of Happenings of the Week Collected for Our Readers.

Organization of the Lane County Association of Collection Agencies has been effected at Eugene.

The tax levy in The Dalles this year is 48.50 mills, or 4.33 mills lower than the 1927 levy of 52.28 mills.

Eugene's postal receipts for January totaled \$12,977.51, an increase of 3.1 per cent over January, 1927.

Forest fires in Clatsop county during 1927 burned over 885 acres and destroyed timber valued at \$21,885.

Forty-three tons of honey were shipped from Redmond to Portland, destined for Hamburg, Antwerp and Bremen.

Mayor George L. Baker has announced that he will be a candidate for mayor of Portland for the fourth time.

Records of the Hood River Traffic association show that 169,000 boxes of apples of the 1927 crop remain in cold storage.

Benjamin James Hawthorne, 90, retired attorney and former professor of the University of Oregon, died in Eugene.

O. A. Kratz, city manager for the past five years of the Astoria city government, has been selected as city manager of Dubuque, Iowa.

Fifteen girls of West Linn have organized an out-of-doors sports club. Hiking, tennis and swimming will be participated in by the members.

Fred Schmidt, the broccoli raiser of Coos and Douglas counties, has added 420 acres to the prospective plantings for 1928. He expects to plant 2000 acres.

Two hundred and eighteen cars of farm produce were shipped from Vale during 1927. Wheat, livestock and potatoes composed the bulk of the shipments.

Charles Valentine Foeller was given a sentence of two years in the state penitentiary, at Roseburg after pleading guilty to a charge of possession of a still.

Lakeside, 17 miles north of North Bend, is planning a general improvement system and will start with bonding Eighth street for the nucleus of the system.

Ed Jenks has been awarded a 10-year lease for the Cottage Grove post-office, and will start at once the erection of a fireproof building on North Ninth street.

Portland postal receipts during January totaled \$240,165.27. This total, compared with that of \$238,733.61 for January a year ago, revealed an increase of \$1,431.66.

While fishing on upper Floras creek near North Bend, Harvey Anderson, 24, was drowned when he lost his balance and fell into the raging torrent. He leaves a widow and two children.

The honor of being the first eagle Boy Scout in Yamhill county goes to Allan Patchett, 17. He has earned 22 merit badges, though only 21 are necessary for the award.

The school census of Coos county reveals a total of 8370 children, a decrease of 720 since the 1926 census, the town of Powers being the only district to report an increase.

Lenore Powell, Linn county treasurer, has received a draft for \$3071.95 which is Linn county's share of the 25 per cent of revenue from Santiam national forest rentals during 1927.

Nine persons, five women and four men, received citizenship papers at Coquille, following a naturalization hearing conducted by W. W. Wiggins of Portland before Circuit Judge Brand.

Construction work has started on the new railway line from Nyssa to the dam site of the Owyhee irrigation project. The road will be 25 miles long and is to be finished in 10 months.

Pistol River, on the Roosevelt highway 16 miles south of Gold Beach, now has a postoffice with G. E. Guthridge as postmaster. Mail, heretofore received twice a week, is now received daily.

Fifty-four Albany men have submitted bids for carrying the mail between the Southern Pacific depot and the Albany postoffice. Judd Ross, who died a few weeks ago, held the contract for many years.

Henry Zorn of the Champeog farm has signed up 40 acres of flax for this year. The original Champeog townsite, where the old school house stood, where the first stage station was built, where the first bowling alley appeared and where the first brick yard in that locality made its first brick and ground where, in the early 30s, stood a gristmill, will grow flax this year. S. M. Smith will grow 10 acres. Others will grow flax in 1929. The land is said to be ideal for such a crop.

Organization of the Linn-Benton Schoolmasters' club was effected at Albany with a membership of 42 schoolmen from the two counties. J. O. McLaughlin, superintendent of the Corvallis schools, is president.

A check for \$34,247.52, representing Klamath county's share of receipts derived from sales of United States forest service timber and forest rentals during 1927, has been received by the county treasurer's office.

After several months' delay, Clackamas county has received a check from the United States treasury for \$350,639.17, representing payment in lieu of taxes for revested Oregon & California Railroad company grant lands.

The St. Helens Wood Products company is installing new machinery and making additions to the broom handle factory which will increase the daily output of broom and mop handles from 30,000 to 40,000 in an eight-hour shift.

Both the affirmative and negative teams of The Dalles high school were victorious in a dual debate with Hood River high school teams at Hood River. The debate question involved the proposal for state development of hydro-electric power.

The latest in infant industries for St. Helens is an agricultural implement manufacturing plant, the St. Helens Rotary Harrow works. The new concern will manufacture rotary harrows, a recent invention perfected by Adolph Anderson, who heads the firm.

Admitting liability to the extent of \$6790.09, bondsmen of ex-employees of the state banking department who directed the liquidation of French & Co., defunct bank of The Dalles, have tendered a check in that amount to A. A. Schramme, state superintendent of banking.

The Fossil electric light plant owned by D. E. Flory was destroyed by fire. The origin of the fire is unknown. Nothing was saved but a few personal effects. This plant was built for a mill some 32 years ago and a few years later used to light the town at night.

When the state text book commission meets in Salem next November for its biennial session, it will give consideration to textbooks for six elementary school subjects and nine high school subjects, according to circulars being issued by C. A. Howard, state superintendent of public instruction.

One hundred cherry trees, gift of the imperial Japanese government to the Coos Bay Lumber company, were burned by the customs office of Marshfield, upon orders from the federal board of horticulture. The trees were refused admission because of fear that they carried fruit tree disease.

Investigation has been started into the failure of the Portland brokerage firm of Overbeck & Cooke, which suspended with accounts on its books estimated at substantially more than \$2,000,000. Indications point to an aggregate loss by the hundreds of customers of the company that may run to \$1,500,000.

Ellsworth Kelley, convict, who is under death sentence for the part he played in the slaying of two guards during a break at the state penitentiary in August, 1925, is not entitled to release from the prison through habeas corpus proceeding, according to an opinion handed down by the state supreme court.

The necessity of improving the transportation possibilities of the Willamette river between Salem and Portland was stressed by representatives of a large number of industrial concerns at a meeting in Salem. The meeting was called by Colonel Lukesh, federal district engineer, to assemble information for submission to the war department.

From power sites in the Molalla river basin in Clackamas county, 38,900 horsepower may be developed 50 per cent of the time and 13,000 horsepower 90 per cent of the time, under regulated flow, according to a report from the U. S. geological survey. Regulation would be obtained by construction of a reservoir with suggested heights of 260 and 310 feet, the report states.

What threatened to be a strike at the Thomas B. Kay Woolen Mill of Salem was amicably settled, and 33 weavers went back to work. Because of poor conditions in the woolen market Kay was on the verge of making a cut in wages when the workers walked out. As the result of a conference the workers returned and accepted a 5 per cent wage cut, reaching a 50-50 agreement with the owner.

Governor Patterson has refused to remove Clare A. Lee, state insurance commissioner, from his office, as requested by assessment certificate holders in The Bankers' Life Company of Iowa. The request for Lee's removal, on grounds that he refused to cancel the company's license in Oregon, was made to the governor both by letter and at a verbal hearing. The governor said he saw no reason why he should interfere with the operation of the insurance department as now conducted.

W. S. WASHINGTON



W. S. Washington, collateral descendant of George Washington, who has been elected worshipful master of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22, A. F. & A. M., the lodge presided over by George Washington 138 years ago.

ANTI-WAR TREATY MADE WITH FRANCE

Washington, D. C.—A bond of peace and friendship between France and the United States, which had its beginning just 150 years ago, on February 6, 1778, was sealed anew at the state department, when signatures were attached to the new peace pact, which virtually renounces war as an instrumentality ever to be called into play between the two republics.

The anniversary is not alone that of the first Franco-American treaty of the first Franco-American treaty with its solemn declaration that "there shall be a firm, inviolable and universal peace, and a true and sincere friendship between the most Christian king, his heirs and successors, and the United States of America," but also of the first treaty of any character entered into by the American government. It is the anniversary of the first recognition by any power of American nationalism as it had been asserted in the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

But the new treaty goes far beyond the assertions of peace and friendship contained in that original covenant with France. It not only asserts that war between the two nations is unthinkable, but it sets up new and strong machinery for the adjustment of arbitration or conciliation of disputes between them which might otherwise lead to war.

BRIEF GENERAL NEWS

Granting of increased bonuses to enlisted men serving on submarines has been recommended to the house by Secretary Wilbur.

Automobile accidents in 1927 resulted in 20,891 deaths, an increase of 1240 deaths, or more than 5 per cent over the previous year.

Close to 2000 persons were without their regular jobs as a result of the fire which swept through five blocks of the business section of Fall River, Mass.

General Pershing and General Lasiter have been honored by the Peruvian government, which approved a request to name two new streets after the two American generals.

Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh Saturday celebrated his 26th birthday by a 250-mile air jaunt from San Juan, Porto Rico, to Santo Domingo, where fully 100,000 enthusiastic spectators witnessed his arrival.

Uncle Sam's family is growing. The population of continental United States two years hence is estimated at 123,283,324 by Dr. Joseph A. Hill, assistant director of the census bureau. In 1920 it was 105,710,620.

Rail Merger Quiz Opens in Tacoma.

Tacoma, Wash.—The interstate commerce commission Monday opened a hearing here of the case of the Pacific Northwest, both for and against the proposal to merge the Great Northern and the Northern Pacific railroads into one system. The hearing here is the fourth and final of such hearings to be held. It also is considered one of the most important, as the stories of many communities served exclusively by one of the two lines will be told. Perhaps the most serious opposition is the protest of the public works department of the state of Washington, which is on record as being against the unification.

Committee Favors "Civilian Cabinet."

Washington, D. C.—The Willis bill to establish a "civilian cabinet" in the Philippines was ordered favorably reported by the senate territories committee.

ATTACK U. S. POLICY IN CENTRAL AMERICA

Delegates in Havana Conference Differ With Ex-Secretary Hughes.

Havana.—The first major attack on United States policy in Central America was heard by delegates to the Pan-American conference Saturday.

It represented for the first time in the session open disagreement between leading delegates and former Secretary of State Charles E. Hughes. It brought the question of sovereignty of the western hemisphere nations and intervention out for public debate. Finally, it caused Hughes to be the objective of indignation which at times was violently sarcastic and bitter.

Victor Maurtua, Peruvian delegate, precipitated the argument when he read an official secretarial report urging declaration by the conference that states, although having the right to independence, must respect the rights of others while holding that independence.

The attack broke with stunning suddenness as soon as Charles Evans Hughes, head of the American delegation, had finished a speech giving the Maurtua report the full and unconditional support of the American government.

Following each other without delay in short speeches remarkable for a lack of oratorical flourishes, speaker after speaker arose to pour a greater or lesser measure of censure on the Maurtua proposal.

Argentina, Mexico, Guatemala, Salvador, Santo Domingo, Honduras, Columbia and Uruguay joined with varying degrees of intensity in assailing the principles approved by the United States.

Cuba's ambassador to Washington, Dr. Orestes Ferrara, supported the United States. Dr. Ferrara declared that the question of intervention or non-intervention has no place in the present discussion and added that Cuba cannot join other nations in expressions on intervention, because: "In the case of Cuba the word intervention has had one meaning, honor, glory and goodness."

AMERICA READY TO ABOLISH SUBMARINES

Washington, D. C.—Secretary Kellogg has advised the house foreign affairs committee that the American government would be "willing to sign a treaty with all powers of the world prohibiting the use of submarines entirely."

The secretary's views were set forth in a letter to Chairman Porter in response to a request for an expression on a resolution by Representative Frothingham, republican, Massachusetts, to prohibit the construction of submarines.

"There is no objection to the resolution," the secretary said, "provided it expressed the opinion of congress that submarines be abolished and their construction prohibited by all the nations of the world."

RUSSIAN BONDS OPPOSED

State Department Objects to Sale of Railway Bonds.

Washington, D. C.—Secretary Kellogg announced that the American government did not view with favor the sale of Russian soviet government bonds in the United States, and that he was confident American bankers would cooperate with the government to that end. The secretary said the American banks concerned in the proposed bond issues had been so notified by the state department.

Mr. Kellogg was referring particularly to the recently advertised sale of approximately \$30,000,000 worth of Russian soviet government 9 per cent gold bonds, offered to the American public at 95, to obtain funds for Russian railway purposes.

Honey Association Shows Expansion.

Boise, Idaho.—The Mountain States Honey Producers' association, meeting here in annual session, voted to expand its territory by taking in the states of Washington, North Dakota and Colorado. The states originally included in the association were Idaho, Oregon, Montana and Wyoming.

Hoover Is Mum on His Candidacy.

Washington, D. C.—Secretary of Commerce Hoover was asked Monday whether he intends to permit use of his name in the Ohio primaries. "You know I do not discuss politics," he replied.

New York City Crime Decreases.

New York, N. Y.—Crime in New York city in 1927 showed a marked decrease over the preceding year, says Police Commissioner Warren in his annual report.