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NUMBER 1

U. S. Faces Muddle In Foreign Problem

Mexican - Nicaraguan Questions Are Causes for Grave Concern.

Washington, D. C.—The dawning of 1927 found the United States facing an international situation more muddled perhaps than any since the World war.

Prospects of an early settlement of the Nicaraguan and Mexican questions do not appear bright and President Coolidge has appealed to the press of the country to show an "American attitude" and stand behind the administration's efforts to uphold existing standards of international law.

The civil strife in Nicaragua, where American naval forces have been landed to protect American lives and property, and the controversy over the new Mexican oil and land laws, which took effect January 1, remain in status quo as far as this country's policy is concerned, but both questions are developing new turns with regard to the individual parties concerned.

A policy of watchful waiting has been adopted with regard to the new Mexican oil laws, which went into effect while American oil operators owning extensive interests there were adopting a tacit agreement to refuse to apply for the required confirmatory concessions under which they would receive 50 and 30 year leases with privileges of renewal in lieu of their present titles.

While operators who fail to confirm their titles will "renew their rights under the law," they will not have their properties confiscated, according to the Mexican embassy. In other words, the embassy says, they will lose their "privileged position."

President Coolidge feels that the press of the country, which he believes to be thoroughly American, can be helpful through a correct presentation of the government's foreign policies and conduct. He is of the opinion that foreign countries frequently have been misled, especially with regard to the government's policy of protecting American lives and property abroad, by certain articles in the domestic press.

ARMED CONFLICTS SPREAD IN MEXICO

Mexico City.—Disorders and armed conflict were reported from several sections of the country.

Eleven leaders of a demonstration against the government at Leon, state of Guanajuato, were reported executed by government troops when a group of religious agitators awaiting the arrival of rebels from San Francisco Del Tincon, nearby, were charged by the troops and dispersed. Others were arrested.

A battle occurred in Parras, state of Coahuila, when a group of fanatics seized the city hall and looted a train arriving from the west. Troops charged the insurgents with heavy losses on both sides. The rebels fled to the hills.

A large gang of bandits is operating in the vicinity of Mexico City. Fifty armed men stopped a number of automobiles a few miles south of the capital and robbed the passengers. The police believe they are the same gang which robbed several motorists on the Cuernavaca highway Sunday.

SELECT IDAHO SPEAKER

Legislative Caucus Selects Twin Falls Man for Position.

Boise, Idaho — W. D. Gillis, representative-elect from Twin Falls, will be the speaker of the house of representatives of the 19th Idaho legislature, which was inaugurated, together with state officials, in this city Monday. This was the decision of the republican house caucus of members-elect held here. A. F. Bostelsson of Arco will be chief clerk of the house.

Senator-elect John McMurray will be the president pro tem of the senate, succeeding himself in that capacity, the senate caucus decided. The inauguration took place at noon Monday, when Chief Justice William E. Lee of the supreme court administered the oath of office to H. C. Baldridge, governor-elect, and other elective state officials and members of the legislature.

Commercial Club Is Making a Drive For New Membership Roll

A special drive for new members to the Athena Commercial Association is under way this week with indications for many new names on the roster, before the week is over. O. O. Stephens, Art Douglas and Bert Ramsey are the committeemen who have the membership drive in charge, though all members are interested in securing new names.

At the meeting of the Association, Tuesday evening, the matter of putting on the drive and the proposal of giving more attention to the social angle of the Association was discussed, with the result that it was decided that hereafter the Association will keep open house, and utilize its billiard, pool and card tables for the benefit of its members.

The membership committee was given to understand that it would receive assistance in the drive from all members of the Association, and it was instructed by President Rogers to make its report at the meeting next Tuesday evening.

Fall Term Has Dropped Seventy-two Students

University of Oregon, January, (Special)—Seventy-two students were dropped from the University at the end of the fall term because of low scholarship and 120 were placed on probation, according to an announcement of Carlton E. Spencer, registrar, today.

Of those who flunked, 61 were men and 11 were women, according to the announcement. More freshmen, of whom there were 30, were dropped than other classes. Twenty-three sophomores failed.

Business administration led in the number of majors who failed, economics was second and journalism third.

Of the 120 placed on probation, which means that they will be given one more term in which to meet the required standard of scholarship, 88 were men and 32 women. Last year in the fall term the same number, 120, were put on probation, Spencer said. All students who make less than nine hours in a term are put in the probation class.

Twenty-four fewer students were flunked out of the University this fall term as compared with the same period last year, when 93 were sent home, Spencer announced.

He's Going Just Right

Weston Leader: Nard Jones has just marketed three more stories, as follows: "We're Getting Away With It," to Stage and Screen magazine; "Buddies in Hate," to "War Stories"; "The Silver Frame," to Young's magazine. The young Weston author is rapidly making a name for himself as a short story writer, and as he is a modest and likable youth, his local friends rejoice in his good fortune in winning recognition that is only accorded, usually after years of effort.

Women Escape Prison

A check up at the Washington State Penitentiary revealed the fact that two women, Cecelia Rosenfelt and Maud L. Bode, had escaped from the women's quarters sometime between the hours of six and nine. Escape was made, it was said, over the wall just beyond the women's quarters which is somewhat lower than the wall around the penitentiary proper. Guards trailed the pair as far as the highway, where the trail was lost.

Good Bank Statement

The First National Bank of Athena ended the year 1926 with a commendable financial record as gleaned from its report to the comptroller of the currency at close of business December 31. It is noted that loans and discounts totaled \$564,075.29; deposits \$636,680.65, and cash and exchange \$140,778.56. The annual meeting of the stockholders will be held Tuesday afternoon at the bank's offices.

School Exhibit

A very creditable school display is to be seen in the show window at the Mosgrove building on Main street. An especially attractive exhibit is an Arctic scene, which includes, snow, ice, water, Arctic animals and Eskimos. Another is a miniature log cabin. Map drawings and art exhibits are also featured in display.

Brown of Harvard tomorrow night.

Tragedy Stalk Riders Leaving Dance Hall

Walla Walla Is Death Scene of One Girl, Six Are Seriously Hurt.

As the indirect result of high winds which shorted electric wires early Sunday morning, one girl is dead and six other persons were seriously injured when an automobile in which they were riding turned over.

Evelyn Wilson, 22, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Wilson, of Walla Walla, was killed and the following were injured.

Opal Moore, 21, 306 Park street, concussion of brain, internal injuries; Mary Taylor, 72 East Main, cut on wrist and head; Frances Wilson, 409 South Ninth, gashes on head; Edwina Woods, 310 South Park, gash on face; William Taylor, 72 East Main, cuts about face and head; Nevin Anderson, Second and Oak, deep cut on face.

With the breaking of an electric wire the lights in a dance hall were extinguished and the party had gone for a ride pending the mending of the line so that the dance could be resumed.

Taylor took the girls in his car, and picked up Alderman, a printer, who was standing on the sidewalk waiting for the power to come on so that he could resume work. Owing to the dark street the driver, who declared he did not see the sharp turn, lost control of the car and it crashed into a steel light pole. Marks on the pavement showed the machine skidded several feet.

Miss Wilson died before she reached the hospital. Miss Moore was in a very serious condition, and Alderman was still unconscious at a late hour Monday.

Taylor, driver of the machine, was placed under arrest following the accident, and a coroner's jury placed the blame for the death of Miss Wilson upon him. He was charged with fast and reckless driving of an overloaded car.

The dead girl had attended Walla Walla high school and but recently returned from a visit to California.

Opal Moore is a sister of Mrs. Sibil Kraemer, who was killed in an automobile accident near St. Maries, Idaho, while returning home from a dance a year ago. Miss Wilson, who was killed, lost a sister by drowning near Wallula three years ago. Her sister, Frances Wilson, who was in the accident Sunday morning, is still in a dangerous condition, and as yet has not learned of the death of Evelyn. Alderman was engaged to the dead girl.

A Delco Plant

H. J. Cunningham has recently installed a Delco light and power plant at the farm home of E. E. Tucker. The Delco takes the place of another plant which Mr. Tucker had on trial.

Thomson Family of Deer Killers Caught and Are Fined \$2100

After boasting to a deputy game warden that they had killed 49 bucks, does and fawns since the closing of the deer hunting season, members of the Thomson family, resort owners on the McKenzie river, were rounded up and given fines totaling \$2100, according to word reaching Ed Averill, state game warden from his officers at Eugene, Tuesday.

Averill described the round-up of game law violators as the greatest success the enforcement officers have ever had. He said that wardens have been trying to catch the group for 15 years and that members of the Thomson family have repeatedly bragged about the length of time they have violated the deer laws and the number they have killed.

Carey Thomson Sr., and his four boys, Carey Jr., Marlow, Dayton and York, along with a man by the name of Clark, a lumberman from Michigan, were included in the one haul by the 10 deputies, who have taken a number of other violators in Lane county in the past few days.

Averill said that at first the group was going to fight the case but after hearing only a portion of the evidence the deputies under F. M. Brown had gathered, they pleaded guilty. The charge against them was for killing deer in closed season but the deputies also had evidence to show that they had killed female deer and fawns and that they had wantonly wasted deer meat and that they had sold meat.

Deputies found, according to Averill, that the Thomsons were saving only the hams and heavy meat portions of the small deer, leaving the rest in the woods and were jerking the venison and selling it in Portland and other cities. They reported that 500 pounds of jerked meat was shipped to Chicago just before Christmas and sold there. Eleven deer had been killed on the last trip and all that saved a Portland banker from being included in the arrest was the fact that he failed to arrive in time for the hunt, according to the deputies.

O. W. Plans a Bus Run To Pendleton

Application for the contemplated stage operation between Portland and Pendleton was filed at Salem, by the Union Pacific.

The plan of operation as outlined at the office of J. P. O'Brien, general manager of the O.-W. R. & N., call for two trips daily each way between Portland and Pendleton with intermediate stops. Service is to be started within three months from date permission may be granted by the public service commission.

The equipment of the proposed line will include five de luxe parlor type buses, each with a seating capacity of 25 persons. Four of the coaches will be in continuous operation. The fifth will be held in reserve.

Two New Ordinances Before City Council

One Defines Boundary Limits and Second Provides for Officer's Pay.

Ordinance No. 187, defining the corporate boundary lines of the city of Athena, and Ordinance No. 188, providing pay for services of the mayor and councilmen, were before the members of the council, at the meeting Monday.

Ordinance No. 187 defines the boundary lines of the city as they existed prior to the error made in changing the city charter at which time the omission of the words "thence south" to Wild Horse creek, left that portion of the Kirk estate south of Adams and east of Fifth streets out of the city limits, whereas before, it was included within the boundary lines. The new ordinance provides for the following boundary lines:

"Beginning at the Northwest corner of railroad addition to the city of Athena, formerly called Centerville, thence south to Wild Horse Creek; thence down Wild Horse Creek to a point where it is intersected by the range line between ranges 34 and 35 East of the Willamette Meridian; thence North along said range line to the Northwest corner of section 19, Township 4, North, range 35 East of Willamette Meridian; thence East along the section line between sections 18 and 19 of said Township 4, North of range 35 east of the Willamette Meridian to the place of beginning."

Ordinance No. 188, which went to its second reading, provides for pay to the mayor and members of the city council. It makes provision for the payment of \$3 to the mayor, and \$2 to each member of the council for attendance at each and every regular, special or adjourned meeting. The ordinance stipulates that any member not attending a meeting, forfeits his pay for that meeting, and does not draw pay for attendance at the next succeeding meeting.

Indian Hunter Freezes

Louis Van Pelt, Umatilla reservation Indian, who, with four other Indians, was on a hunting expedition in the Blue mountains, was found frozen to death in the mountains by his companions. The Indian, his companions said, got lost from them during the hunt, and evidently lost his sense of direction. He traveled on foot until he was exhausted. Van Pelt was the father of three children. He was second baseman on the Indian Blue Mountain league.

Miss Audrey Winship of Salem was in Athena visiting friends for a short time Saturday evening. Miss Winship is employed at the State house in Salem.

Annual Junior Class Benefit Show Tomorrow

Tomorrow night the Standard Theatre presents its annual Junior class benefit show, when the college play, "Brown of Harvard" will be screened in connection with a prelude in which the class members and others of the student body will take part.

"Brown of Harvard" has been acclaimed with as much fervor on the silver screen as it was when presented on the stage. It is perhaps one of the greatest college plays ever shown, and its photoplay version is enhanced by the clever acting of an all-star cast, including Jack Pickford, Mary Brian, Mary Alden, Francis X. Bushman, Jr., and William Haines.

Sunday night Dorothy Phillips, Lew Cody and Carmel Myers will be seen in John M. Stahl's "The Gay Deceiver," another of Metro's sparkling comedy drama's.

Fred Thomson and his great horse, "Silver King" return to the Standard one week from tomorrow, in a fine Western play, "The Tough Guy."

ADOLFO HUERTA MAY LEAD REVOLUTION

Tucson, Ariz.—Adolfo de la Huerta, one time provisional president of Mexico, asserted here he was "marking time" for an opportunity to go into Mexico and assume charge of the uprising in that country.

Although the Mexican consulate announced that De la Huerta had been arrested on charges of violating American neutrality laws, United States authorities denied the Mexican notable was being sought and he was located with his secretary and a companion at a dingy hotel.

"The United States authorities are acquainted with my aims and I am keeping in touch with department of justice agents at Los Angeles.

"I know the neutrality laws of this country and am keeping within them. My relations with the United States are perfectly friendly and as soon as the revolutionists capture a certain border town I am going to return to my country and lead the movement against the Calles government.

FILIPINOS FIGHT WOOD

Governor General Put on Offensive By Cup of Opposition.

Manila.—Two boards of directors were named for the National Coal company, opening the fight between Governor General Wood and legislative leaders over the chief executive order abolishing the insular board of control.

The governor general was put on the offensive when Alberto Barretto, president of the company, recognized the board appointed by Manuel Quezon, president of the senate, and Speaker Roxas of the house, both of whom were ex-officio members of the board of control as originally created. This means that General Wood will be obliged to bring quo warranto proceedings in court in the attempt to force recognition of his appointees.

Kratz Renamed Astoria Manager.

Astoria, Or.—O. A. Kratz, city manager of Astoria for four years, and around whose head a bitter controversy has been raging for several months, was reappointed to the office when the new city commission took office. The retiring commission had declared the office vacant January 3.

Salaries of Federal Judges Increased. Washington, D. C.—The house passed, 295 to 89, the bill to increase salaries of federal judges. The measure has been approved by the senate. The house, by a vote of 155 to 29, also approved an increase in the salary of Chief Justice Taft from \$15,000 to \$20,500 a year.

Anti-Oleo Measure Introduced.

Washington, D. C.—A bill to regulate the manufacture and sale of butter substitutes to protect makers of butter and consumers from fraudulent imitations was introduced in the house by Representative Tincher, republican, Kansas.

Coolidge Offered South Dakota Lodge.

Washington, D. C.—An 80,000-acre tract of land in the Black Hills of South Dakota, and a lodge containing 80 rooms, were offered to President Coolidge as a site for next summer's White House by a delegation of South Dakotans.

Will Discontinue Its Poisons In Alcohol

Secretary Mellon Announces Dangerous Denaturants Will be Eliminated.

Washington, D. C.—On the theory that more effective prohibition enforcement is bound to drive drinkers to the use of industrial alcohol, Secretary Mellon announced a determination to eliminate the use of poisons as denaturants.

The secretary's attitude is that he does not conceive it a duty of the government to permit poisoning of citizens in order to enforce the law. He expects government chemists soon will be able to denature alcohol so that it will be too distasteful to drink rather than too poisonous.

The decision not to use poisons in dangerous quantities is based on a conviction on the part of Secretary Mellon that complete prohibition enforcement is impossible. He thinks that as enforcement grows stronger bootleggers and drinkers will turn to bad alcohol and other substitutes. He is not willing that the government should poison these substitutes to enforce the law and believes other concoctions can be placed in them to prevent their use.

The controversy over deaths during the holiday season from the drinking of poisoned alcohol reached both the senate and house floors as soon as congress reconvened.

At both ends of the capitol the personal conduct of members in the observance of the dry law was questioned.

While Representative Celler, democrat, New York, was accusing his colleagues in the house of "drinking to excess," Senator Edwards, democrat, New Jersey, in a lengthy speech, in the senate, was condemning the "hypocrisy of some of the representatives of the people who vote dry and drink wet."

The senate adopted the resolution of Senator Edwards, calling upon Secretary Mellon for any correspondence between the treasury and the Anti-Saloon league with respect to the poisoning of industrial alcohol.

VETERANS BONUS LOAN NOW POSSIBLE

Washington, D. C.—Saturday, January 1, 1927, ushered in the lawful period during which American World war veterans who were entitled to more than \$50 cash in adjusted service credit, may, if they desire, obtain the first benefits from their 20-year insurance policies or bonus certificates by depositing them as security for loans.

It is estimated that there are approximately \$3,048,932 such certificates in the hands of veterans or dependents of deceased service men, with a face value of \$3,197,658,062, and that loans up to \$262,540,000 may be made during the year 1927 on that aggregate. Applications for certificates may be made up until January 1, 1928.

IMPERIAL VALLEY SHAKEN

Tremblers Injure Score and Cause a \$1,000,000 Loss.

Calxico, Cal.—Imperial Valley, desert garden spot, famed in romance and crop reports, ushered in the New Year with a series of earthquake shocks which damaged many buildings, injured a score or more persons and caused property loss of approximately \$1,000,000.

The tremblers were felt in all parts of the valley, east to Tucson and other parts in Arizona, west as far as San Diego and the coast, and in the northern states of Mexico.

The quakes started shortly after midnight on the heels of the valley's welcome of the new year. They continued until 6 a. m., coming at intervals. At least 50 distinct shocks were felt.

Commission to Hold Grain Parley.

Washington, D. C.—To perfect plans for an investigation of western grain rates, the interstate commerce commission announced that preliminary conference would be held at Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 20, between representatives of the commission, grain shippers, railroads, and state corporation and railroad commissions.

