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PRESIDENT REFUSES TO ANNUL TREATIES

Congress Held to Have Exceeded Authority in Ordering Abrogation.

Washington.—President Wilson has declined to take steps toward termination of certain commercial treaties as directed by congress in the merchant marine act, holding that "such a course would be wholly irreconcilable with the historical respect which the United States has shown for its international engagements."

Formal announcement of the president's decision was made at the state department. The merchant marine act as approved by the president on the closing day of the last congress session directed the executive within 90 days to give notice to foreign nations of the intentions of the United States to terminate any sections of existing commercial treaties which restrict the right of the American government to impose discriminatory charges on shipping in foreign bottoms.

The president, the state department's announcement said, also held that congress exceeded its authority in giving such directions. Secretary of State Clegg, citing as a precedent the action of President Hayes in 1879 in refusing the demand of congress that a treaty with China be abrogated. The power of modifying treaties, President Hayes held, is not lodged by the constitution in congress.

Termination of the 33 treaties, affected by the act, the president was said to have held, "would amount to nothing less than breach or violation of said treaties, which cover every point of contact and mutual dependence which constitute the modern relations between friendly states."

The announcement said that "to have vetoed the act would have sacrificed the great number of sound and enlightened provisions which it undoubtedly contains."

TRADE BALANCE CUT SINCE 1919

Washington.—The American trade balance for the first eight months of 1920 was \$1,483,000,000, compared to more than \$2,000,000,000 for the corresponding period of 1919, according to figures made public by the department of commerce. They showed its import trade is expanding at a more rapid pace than export trade. Imports for the eight months of the year exceeded those of the 12 months of 1919 by approximately \$100,000,000. Imports in 1919 established a new high record. On the other hand, exports for the eight months were \$2,347,171,869 less than those in the 12 months of 1919 and were only \$211,000,000 greater than the exports for the first eight months of last year. The total of exports for the months was \$5,483,354,171.

The total of imports for the eight months was \$4,000,627,446, compared with \$2,261,560,440 for the corresponding period in 1919.

DRYS TRAIL WETS OVERSEA

Would Cancel Citizenship of Brewers Who Start Foreign Business.

Washington.—Resolutions demanding that congress enact laws providing for the cancelling of the citizenship papers of Americans who go to foreign countries "to engage in business outlawed in this country," were adopted by the American section of the World Prohibition federation, meeting here in conjunction with the International Congress Against Alcoholism.

The resolutions also asked that such persons be deprived of the protection of the American government and that so far as possible they be restrained from representing themselves as Americans.

Officer Found Blain Near Still.

Aberdeen, Wash.—Blindfolded, bearing three gunshot wounds and covered with two planks and a tangled mass of weeds, the body of Nicolas Koleski, 24 years old, a special officer of the Aberdeen police department, was found by boys in a shallow creek in dense woods about three miles south of South Aberdeen. He had been missing since last Tuesday, when he was assigned to hunt down operators of a still alleged to be located near the spot where his body was found.

Big League Players Indicted.

Chicago.—The Cook county grand jury voted true bills against the following baseball players in connection with its investigation of alleged "throwing" of world's series games last year: Eddie Cicotte, Claude Williams, "Chick" Gandil, "Happy" Folsch, Charles Barmby, Joe Jackson, Fred McMullin, Buck Weaver. All are members of the Chicago Americans.

TERENCE MacSWINEY



Terence MacSwiney, lord mayor of Cork, who is starving himself in a London prison.

INCREASED RATES ON FRUITS UPHeld

Seattle, Wash.—By a decision made public in Washington, D. C., the interstate commerce commission rules that freight rates on apples and green fruits from points in Washington and Oregon to all destinations are not unreasonable, unjustly discriminatory or unduly prejudicial, and the complaint filed by the public service commission of Washington and Oregon in behalf of the growers and shippers was dismissed.

The complainants objected to the existing rates wherever they exceed the rates in effect on June 24, 1918. They based their chief objection on the ground that the percentage advances hurt the Pacific northwestern shipper far more than their competitors in the eastern fields closer to the large markets.

TO PROBE ISLAND AFFAIRS

Admiral Hughes Ordered to go to Samoa Soon.

San Francisco.—The battleship Kansas will leave the east coast for Samoa, arriving there November 1, with Admiral Charles F. Hughes and officers, to conduct an investigation into the naval government of the island, according to advices received here. Admiral Hughes has been ordered by Secretary Daniels to direct an inquiry into charges concerning the administration of Commander Warren T. Terhune as naval governor of the island.

\$90,000 Stolen From Mail Car.

Chicago.—Masked bandits robbed the mail cars of an Illinois Central flyer as the train was approaching Chicago and escaped with the contents of six registered mail sacks. The loot was variously estimated between \$10,000 and \$80,000. A check was being made to determine the exact amount.

Express Charges Again Increased.

Washington.—Further increases in express rates averaging 13.5 per cent were approved by the interstate commerce commission. The increases which apply to class and commodity rates make a total increase of 26 per cent granted the express companies within the last few months.

THE MARKETS

Portland.

Wheat—Hard white, soft white, white club, \$2.25; hard winter, northern spring, \$2.20; red Walla, \$2.10.
Oats—No. 2 white feed, \$45.
Corn—Whole, \$79; cracked, \$73.
Hay—Willamette valley timothy, \$27@28 per ton; alfalfa, \$24.
Butter Fat—68c.
Eggs—Ranch, 65@59c per dozen.
Cattle—Best steers, \$8.75@9.50; good to choice \$7.75@8.75; medium to good, \$6.75@7.75.
Hogs—Prime mix'd, \$17.50@18; medium mix'd, \$17@17.50.
Sheep—Prime lambs, \$9.50@10.50; all lambs, \$6@8.50; ewas, \$2.25@3.00.

Seattle.

Wheat—Hard white, \$2.40; soft white and red winter, \$2.25; white club, \$2.25; hard winter and northern spring, \$2.25; red Walla, \$2.10; eastern Walla, \$2.22; Big Bend blue stem, \$2.48.
Hay—Eastern Washington timothy, \$29 per ton, alfalfa \$30.
Butter Fat—66@68c.
Eggs—Ranch, 61@67c.
Poultry—Hens, dressed, 28@40c; live, 23@35c.
Cattle—Best steers, \$9.50@10; medium to choice \$8@9.
Hogs—Prime, \$18.75@19.25; medium to choice, \$17.75@18.75.

JAPAN'S ARBITRATION OFFER NOT APPROVED

State Department Against Plan to Have Commission Handle Dispute.

Washington.—Administration officials continue to decline to discuss for publication any of the phases of the negotiations with Japan growing out of the proposed anti-Japanese land law in California, but the impression has gone out that a proposal from Tokio that the question be referred to a joint commission for solution would be unacceptable.

Conversations regarding the California law have been going on between Ambassador Shidehara of Japan and state department officials.

The attitude of the state department is described as one calculated to prevent the development of a feeling of alarm in the United States that might approach even approximately that which appears to be growing in Japan.

Conflicting opinions of both American and Japanese authorities on international law are said to have made the task of the state department officials and the Japanese ambassador more difficult. Proponents of the California law say that California, in enacting a measure barring the Japanese in this country from owning land in that state, would be refusing to the Japanese no rights or privileges that are not refused by Japanese law to Americans.

Japan contends that the California law, which is to be voted on in November, is discriminatory, because it does not apply to all foreigners alike, as does the Japanese law.

FORMER BOLSHEVIK SECRETARY TAKEN

Chicago.—Agents of the department of justice raided a house here, arrested a man alleged to be Witty Schechman, at one time secretary to Nicholas Lenin, Bolshevik premier, and confiscated documents alleged to contain the code whereby Russian radicals in this country communicated with each other.

Schechman, according to police, was secretary to Lenin previous to 1915. For some time after that he resided in San Francisco and only recently did it become known he was in this country.

The documents seized in the raid are said to show that Schechman came to this country as the delegate of the Third International of Russia to the recent convention of the Communist Labor party in Chicago.

Considerable radical literature and propaganda also was seized.

NAVY OIL DEMAND MET

Announcement Follows Repeated Seizures by Naval Authorities.

San Francisco.—Announcement that it had met the navy's price of \$2 a barrel for fuel oil, "in order to prevent the seizure of our plants," was made by the executive office of the Shell Oil company here. The open market price of Shell oil is \$2.35.

"We give up. We can't fight the government," Robert A. Lewin, vice-president and general manager of the company, said.

The announcement followed seizures by the navy from the company's plant at Martinez extending over two weeks' time.

Washington Welfare Officers Resign.

Olympia, Wash.—Declaring that the state industrial welfare commission as now constituted is inactive, Mrs. W. H. Udall, of Tacoma, for five years a member of the commission, and for the last two years secretary, tendered her resignation at a meeting of the commission here. Following adjournment of the meeting, Dr. M. H. Martin, for seven years a member of the commission, and the oldest member in point of service, dictated his resignation to Governor Hart, effective immediately.

Court Against Oregon Dairy League.

Portland, Or.—The Oregon Dairy-men's Co-operative league lost its light in circuit court to prevent milk distributors of Portland from alleged attempts to persuade members of the league to violate their contracts. Circuit Judge McCourt handed down a decision denying an injunction against the distributors and vacating a restraining order which was originally issued pending the outcome of the hearing on the injunction.

Files Suit for Tax.

San Francisco.—Suit for \$1,700,145 inheritance taxes, interest and penalties alleged to be unpaid was filed in the United States district court here by the government against the estate of the late Henry Miller, wealthy California cattle man.

Sherman County Fair, Remember the Date, Oct. 12 to 16

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MORO OREGON

The Wonders of America

By T. T. MAXEY

THE BIG TREES IN CALIFORNIA.

THE biggest trees in the world are found in California. They are of two varieties, both a species of evergreen, sequoia (in honor of a Cherokee Indian) redwood and sequoia gigantea. The former grows quite extensively in certain sections on the western slope of the coast range; the latter only on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada mountains, at an elevation of about one mile above sea level. The former is said to reproduce itself from the stump, the other from little seeds which grow in pods.

The best-known and most-frequently visited grove of the redwood sequoias is near the little city of Santa Cruz on the coast some seventy miles south of San Francisco. Some of these trees are more than 250 feet high and 20 feet in diameter at the base. The gigantea, however, is the real thing in big trees. Some are almost 400 feet high and 90 feet around at the base. The bark is of a reddish brown color, very thick and fluted up and down. The branches are very large, beginning 60 feet or more from the ground.

The secret of their age is still one of the unexplained problems of the universe. Estimates range all the way from 4,000 to 10,000 years. But suppose it is only the former. Think of being a million and a half of days! Think of the changes which have been wrought in that time! That they are the tallest, statelyst and oldest living things in all this big world of ours is an undisputed fact.

Bull Enough There, Too.

When a bull gored a man the other day the first telephoned report set down that the victim was "bored by a fool" and died. The police theory at the time was that he had perished at a political meeting.—London Opinion.

Strong Light Kills Lobsters.

Lobsters are very sensitive to cold and light, being accustomed to the comparatively steady temperature and the obscure light of the ocean bottom. Exposure to strong sunlight is soon fatal to them.

DELCO-LIGHT

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Fifty thousand Delco-Light plants in operation on American farms are saving at the most conservative estimate, an hour a day each—or over 18,000,000 work hours a year. That is equal to an army of 60,000 men working ten hours a day for a full month.

Delco-Light is a complete electric light and power plant for farms and suburban homes.

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