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CONFERENCE FORMED TO PROTECT PUBLIC

300 Delegates Attend Railroad
Valuation Meeting in
Chicago.

Chicago. — Railroad labor leaders, representatives of the "progressive bloc" in congress, members of various agricultural organizations and proponents of government ownership of the railroads, meeting here organized the "conference on railroad valuation" for the announced purpose of promoting and protecting "public interests in the valuation of railroad property."

Approximately 300 invited delegates from all parts of the country attended. The conference named Robert M. La Follette, senator of Wisconsin (republican), permanent chairman of the conference, and W. T. Logan, democratic representative of South Carolina, secretary.

The conference, in closing, adopted resolutions to formally demand before the interstate commerce commission that the commission "comply with the valuation act," under which it is determining the value of the nation's rail lines, especially as to reporting the original cost, donations and methods of compiling valuations.

William Jennings Bryan in addressing the conference declared that he did not like to think of government ownership, but was afraid it might be forced on the country.

The great orator of the democratic party said that 24 years ago he had suggested government ownership of the railroads, but asserted that he feared "centralization of power in Washington."

He declared that God did not make men good enough to withstand the temptations of monopolistic control.

Clara Phillips Brought Back.
New Orleans, La.—Clara Phillips, Los Angeles "hammer murderess" who escaped from jail after having been sentenced to serve ten years to life for the murder of Mrs. Alberta Meadows, arrived here Monday from Honduras.

Joseph W. Folk Is Dead.
Washington, D. C.—Joseph W. Folk, former governor of Missouri, and once a leading figure in democratic party politics, died in New York.

DOCTOR HALSTEAD



Dr. Joseph Halstead of Breckenridge, Mo., one hundred and five years old, is the oldest Mason living. He joined at Lexington, Ky., in 1842.

Governor Pierce has issued a commission to E. E. Bragg of La Grande, who recently was appointed state industrial accident commissioner to succeed J. W. Ferguson. Mr. Bragg will assume his new duties June 1.

Italy Will Pay U. S. War Debt.

Rome.—Formal announcement was made by the finance ministry that Italy will honor her war debt to the United States but expects consideration similar to that granted England by the United States. The Italian debt amounts to \$1,648,034,000, not counting accrued interest.

Rail Workers Oppose Board.
Chicago, Ill. — Railway labor, as represented by the heads of the sixteen standard unions, with one exception, tentatively mapped a legislative program for submission to congress. The organizations would abolish the United States railroad labor board.

Seaman Gets \$40,000 from Ship Board.
Washington, D. C.—Johnny Murphy, ordinary seaman, obtained a \$40,000 verdict against the Emergency Fleet corporation when he proved he would no longer be able to work at his calling because of flat feet resulting from injury aboard a shipping board vessel.

BRITISH DENY RIGHT TO REGULATE LIQUOR

Say U. S. Has No Jurisdiction
Over Stores of Foreign
Vessels.

Washington, D. C.—Great Britain's position on the ships' liquor question as communicated to the state department by the British embassy, is understood to be based on a contention that American port authorities have no jurisdiction in international law over liquor brought into American waters as a part of the regular supplies of foreign vessels.

The authority of American officials, under this construction, extends only to portions of the cargo of foreign ships which are intended for importation into the United States, and in no way permits of interference with either the physical mechanism, rations or stores of such vessels when they put into American ports.

While this principle apparently conflicts with that recently laid down by the supreme court, indications are increasing that the treasury department has found a way to reconcile the two by permitting ships under foreign registry to list the wine rations of their crews as a part of the medicinal stores permissible under the law.

RESIGNATION OF POINCARÉ DECLINED

Paris.—Premier Poincaré and his colleagues in the cabinet submitted their resignations to President Millerand, but the president declined to accept them.

The action of the ministers was the outcome of the refusal of the senate to proceed with the trial of Marcel Cachin and other communists charged with illegal acts against the French republic. The ministerial crisis ended as quickly as it arose; to be exact, it lasted a half hour.

The entire chamber of deputies, with the exception of the communists, gave Premier Poincaré a great ovation when he entered the chamber for the continuation of the interpellations on the Ruhr. The communists booed the premier.

The charges against the communists still stand in spite of the senate's decision, which was simply on the method of procedure.

SOVIET YIELDS POINT

Makes Important Concessions to British Demands.

London. — Russia, in a note signed by Leonid Krassin, the soviet representative here, and personally handed by him to Lord Curzon at the foreign office, makes important concessions to the demands in the British ultimatum to the soviet government recently.

The soviet expresses readiness to conclude forthwith an agreement granting British citizens the right to fish outside the three-mile limit off the Russian coast, pending settlement by an international convention of the dispute over the extent of territorial waters, but still insists that an international conference is necessary to settle the territorial limit question.

Vancouver Blayer Sentenced to Hang.
Vancouver, Wash.—After a new trial had been denied him by Judge Simpson of the superior court, George Edward Whitfield was sentenced to be hanged for the murder of 11-year-old Anna Nosko, whose mutilated body was found near her home the night of March 8. The date of execution was set for Thursday, July 12.

German Industrialists May Carry Loan.
London.—It is stated that the federation of German industrialists has informed the German government that the members of the federation are prepared to give requisite guarantees for international loans for reparations purposes, says a dispatch from Berlin.

Polish Cabinet Resigns In Body.
Warsaw.—The Polish cabinet, headed by Premier Sikorski, has resigned. The resignations were accepted. Vincent Witos, leader of the peasant party, was designated to form a new government. He is known throughout Poland as "king of the peasants."

Olympia Vase Plant Burns.
Olympia, Wash. — Fire originating from an undetermined cause completely destroyed the veneer plant of the Henry McCleary Timber company in west Olympia with a loss well insured, estimated at approximately \$200,000.

Corvallis Man on Oregon Road Board.
Salem, Ore.—Wade H. Malone of Corvallis, former county judge of Benton county was named by Governor Pierce to succeed R. A. Booth of Eugene as a member of the state highway commission.

CHINESE BANDITS REPORTED SPLIT

Shanghai.—The Chinese bandits at Pao-tuku who hold 15 foreigners, including several American prisoners, as well as 100 Chinese, have divided into two factions, according to advices from Lincheng.

One faction is willing to mediate an agreement for the release of their foreign captives, while the other faction is so hostile that they fired upon a mediating party coming to confer on terms. Fortunately none was injured.

The situation, as a result of the deadlock of the two bandit factions, remains in a state of suspense. It has been since the foreigners were kidnapped.

According to latest advices from Tsao Chwang the negotiations of J. B. Powell, American newspaper man, have proven fruitless. Powell was permitted to come out of the bandit stronghold under heavy escort, and returned with new terms from the Chinese government.

DE VALERA ENDS FIGHTING

Calls for Cessation of Hostilities in Ireland.

London.—Eamon de Valera and the chief of staff of the republican irregular army issued an order to all irregular forces in Ireland to cease fighting the Free State troops at once, said a dispatch from Dublin.

De Valera is the last of the prominent republican leaders at large. The others have either been killed or imprisoned. De Valera is still in hiding, but it is understood that the Free State could have seized him at any time within the past few months.

The republican irregular army has dwindled to a mere handful and most of the country is tranquil.

It is reported here that the Free State government will launch a \$25,000,000 (\$121,500,000) loan next month.

WM. P. HOLADAY



William P. Holaday is the man who will succeed "Uncle Joe" Cannon in the next congress.

Fishermen Lose Canadian Privileges.

Ottawa, Ont. — American fishing trade in the North Atlantic is seriously threatened as a result of the decision of the Canadian government to cancel all Canadian port privileges to United States fishermen. Canadian officials denied this was in reprisal for the customs barrier erected against Canada by the United States. They claimed it was the result of American refusal to grant similar privileges to Canadian fishermen.

Would Release Political Prisoners.

Washington, D. C.—President Harding has received a petition signed by a notable array of prominent persons asking for the release of the 52 political prisoners still serving time in federal penitentiaries. Five governors and 11 college presidents are among the signers.

SCIENCE, RELIGION HELD COMPATIBLE

Washington, D. C.—A joint statement holding that there is no antagonism between science and religion was issued here as representing the conclusions of a group of 40 distinguished Americans on a subject which has aroused bitter and widespread controversy.

The names of two cabinet officers, Secretaries Hoover and Davis, three bishops and many others in positions of leadership in the political, business, scientific and religious world are attached to the declaration, which was prepared by Dr. H. A. Millikan, director of the Norman Bridge laboratory of physics at Pasadena, Cal.

The purpose, said an accompanying explanation, is to assist in correcting two erroneous impressions that seem to be current among certain groups of persons. The first is that religion today stands for medieval theology; the second that science is materialistic and irreligious.

STRIKE IN RUHR SPREADS

300,000 Men Now Out, According to Germans.

Essen.—The workers' and the communists' strike in the Ruhr is spreading and German officials estimated that 300,000 men were out. The strike was extended from the Dortmund region, where many mines and metal works are closed, into the Bochum mining district, where 31 shafts and 15 metal works are shut down and 70,000 men are idle.

Band of communists attacked and looted the warehouses here and overran the market place.

The Salem chamber of commerce has appointed a committee to investigate the feasibility of a railroad line up the Santiam river to tap and develop the resources of that part of the state.

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