

TEA POT DOME LEASE GOOD ONE FOR GOVERNMENT

CASPER, Wyoming, Mar. 3.—(Special.) Anent the Teapot Dome excitement, H. C. Chappell, of Casper, Wyo., has written a letter in part as follows:

"Our little Teapot seems to be making quite a fuss at Washington. To those of us out here it is plain that Fall made one good lease for the government when he contracted with Sinclair. I think there is not a lease in the state where the royalties are so favorable to the owner as in the case of Teapot. It is also a dead sure thing that the government would have had no oil at all should development of Teapot been delayed any great length of time. Teapot as an oil producer is and has been a disappointment. In addition to a cracking good lease so far as the government is concerned, Sinclair increased the price of all government oil in this state by putting it in direct competition with the Mid-Continent prices, which had never been done until he came in here. I am betting seven dollars to a hole in a doughnut that Harry Sinclair will be tickled pink if he can return Teapot to the government for the actual cash he has spent out here in its development. If Fall got any graft out of the deal, which so far has failed of any proof, he ought to be put in the penitentiary, but the senate should lay off trying to cancel that lease. It's a lucky thing for Casper that the lease was let to someone who had money to develop it. Had the procedure of selling that structure in small lots to the highest bidders been adopted, a lot of little financial men would have gotten those small parcels and endeavored to develop them. It would have required financial help from the banks here who would have loaned more money on the touted potential possibilities of Teapot than the actual results would have justified, with a disastrous result to the whole state. As the thing turned out it was a great benefit to the city of Casper, the state of Wyoming and the United States government. I imagine Doheny is also sick of the deal he got and is quite willing to turn it back to the government. In case either one or both of these leases are turned back to the government it will result in the same disaster that has overtaken every other government enterprise in the business world."

POSTMASTER GENL. WANTS MORE DATA ON WAGE RAISE

WASHINGTON, March 3.—Submittion to some general body such as a congressional commission of all proposals affecting increases in salaries and changes in conditions of employment involving increases in pay for postal service workers was recommended by Postmaster General Harry S. New to Chairman Grist of the post-office committee of the house in a letter made public today.

Mr. New pointed out that there are more than fifty postal bills pending in congress and it was probable a readjustment for the whole service along lines provided in the bills would involve an increase annually of \$150,000,000. In addition, he said, there are several bills proposing a reduction of postage rates.

Certain classes of employees are not provided for in the bills. Mr. New said and readjustment of salaries must necessarily include the whole postal establishment.

The postmaster general said the deficit for the present fiscal year is estimated at \$20,000,000. Suggestions that the increases could be met by a revision of postage rates, especially upon fourth class (parcel post) matter, he asserted, were not based on reliable information which would justify them.

Readjustment of salaries, he declared, should not be made until it is possible to determine their relation to postage rates.

C. P. Francis, president of the United Association of Postal Clerks, declared the clerks should not be disheartened over reports of opposition by President Coolidge as well as Mr. New to salary increases at this time.

Postal salaries need not be paid from tax revenues, Mr. Francis insisted with reference to the president's objections, but should be provided through a revision of postal rates, especially on parcel post matter, which, he asserted, "are absurdly low," as compared with express charges.

WAR DEBT HAS BEEN CUT NEARLY 5 BILLION

WASHINGTON, Mar. 3.—The public debt has been cut more than \$4,800,000,000 in the four and a half years since the great war indebtedness was at its peak, August 31, 1919. Figures made public today by the treasury show that at the opening of business Saturday the national debt was \$21,781,966,852. It has been reduced \$933,000,000 in the last year.

The Stage

Georgia Minstrels Tomorrow

For singing and dancing none can excel the colored race, and it seems the cream of the colored talent has been brought into the Famous Georgia Minstrels, at least this company has established itself as a top liner attraction and is not thought of as a "nigger show"—it being in the same class and character as any white minstrel, unless it be that it is superior, and the white people appreciating the efforts of these deserving people are very liberal in their patronage.

So far this season, reports verify the fact that five nights out of the week, hundreds are turned away from the Famous Georgia Minstrels.

They will be here at the Armory Tuesday night, March 4th.

The Screen

Pola Negri in "The Cheat"

Pola Negri in "The Cheat" comes to the Rialto theatre tomorrow matinee for a three days' run. Jack Holt is featured as leading man and Charles de Roche heads a thoroughly artistic supporting cast. This production is intensely dramatic and brings Miss Negri to the screen in a sympathetic role, with a happy climax to the story. There are dazzling gowns and beautiful and elaborate scenes galore. The final showings of "The Silent Partner," will occur at the Rialto theatre tonight. Leatrice Joy, Owen Moore and Robert Edson are the players featured.

CARDINAL MERCIER SCORES GERMANY

BRUSSELS, Mar. 3.—Cardinal Mercier has issued a pastoral which alludes to the after-war disappointments, including the general impoverishment of Europe and the gathering of great fortunes by the profiteers. He denounces Germany for her "evil determination" not to pay the allies, for organizing fictitious bankruptcy, making any generous move on the part of the victors out of the question and for provoking perturbations, responsibility for which she falsely placed upon the allied governments.

"Shoot to Kill!" Butler's Order PHILADELPHIA, Mar. 3.—"Shoot to kill!" orders were issued today to those of the city firemen armed under a recent order of Public Safety Director Butler, in an effort to suppress banditry.

FRANCE DENIES SHE WANTS TO CONTROL EUROPE

LONDON, Mar. 3.—(By Associated Press.) Premier Ramsay MacDonald's second letter to M. Poincare published today sets forth some of the apprehensions regarding France's policy held by numerous Englishmen, and these fears the French premier in his reply endeavors to allay.

Premier MacDonald's letter says that the people of England "regard with anxiety what appears to be the determination of France to ruin Germany and dominate the continent without consideration of our reasonable interests and future consequences to a European settlement; that they feel apprehension of the large military and aerial establishments maintained by France."

Macdonald expresses hope that the report of the expert committees on German reparations will draw France and England together. If cooperation can be reached, he says, "it will be possible for us to approach the United States, not as debtors disputing one with the other, but as a united Europe anxious by mutual sacrifice and arrangement to cure the ills from which our people are now suffering."

Premier Poincare characterizes as "mistaken" those Englishmen who believe that France dreams of the political or economic annihilation of Germany disclaiming a spirit of militarism on the part of France, he says: "Are there really Englishmen who suppose that France would be capable of making fratricidal preparations against their country? Our military and aerial establishments are exclusively designed to defend us against attempted German revenge. 'It is infinitely to be desired,' he agreed, 'that the questions of inter-allied debts and reparations should be settled at the same time.'"

Three Children Burned to Death. MEMPHIS, Tenn., March 3.—Three children of John Bridges, negro, were burned to death and his wife and other child were injured when their home here was destroyed by fire today.

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EVIDENCE SHOWS LUDENDORFF HAD REICHSWEHR AID

MUNICH, Mar. 3.—(By Associated Press.) The Ludendorff-Hitler treason trial ended its way along with the hearing of minor witnesses today. On Wednesday former Dictator Van Kahr and General Von Lossow, commander of the reichswehr in Bavaria, are to be heard.

The court today took considerable testimony concerning the guns, ammunition and other supplies intended for Hitler's army and it was intimated by one witness that the leaders of the November "putsch" with consequences of which this trial is dealing, obtained a large number of arms which were the property of the reichswehr.

After hearing Lieutenant Wagner, one of the defendants, the judges decided that further testimony concerning the arms would be taken. The state prosecutor contended he would show that two machine guns belonging to the military academy where the trial is being held, had got into the hands of the Hitler band.

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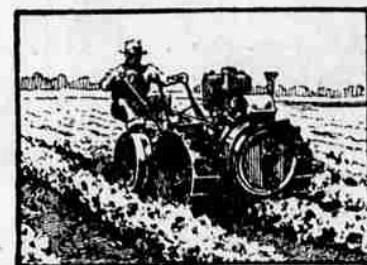
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