

TAX CUT HIT AS PLAN TO ASSIST BOOTLEG SALES

Reduction in Alcohol Levy Branded as Big Aid of Liquor Salesmen

WOULD HELP SALES Move seen as Scheme to Restore Public Confi- dence in Product

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—(AP)—Reduction in the alcohol tax as proposed in the tax bill stirred up a prohibition discussion in the house today when Representative Rainey, democrat of Illinois, argued it would serve as advertising value to bootleggers. "Cut this tax on pure grain alcohol," he said, "and the bootleggers will use it instead of distilled denatured alcohol. They will instill the confidence of customers in their new product and use it for advertising."

Representative Crisp, democrat, Georgia, insisted a reduction in the levy would not harm prohibition enforcement and said "Assistant Secretary Andrews of the treasury department and Wayne B. Wheeler of the anti-saloon league had so agreed."

After half a dozen representatives expressed differing views of the adequacy of the proposed tax, the house approved it as written in the bill. It would cut the present tax 25 per cent beginning January 1, 1927, and an additional 25 per cent a year later.

A proposal to impose a one cent a gallon levy on denatured alcohol was defeated but approval was given an amendment offered by the ways and means committee requiring that confiscated alcohol seized on entry into this country be subject to the tax when sold by the government.

The new tax of one tenth of one cent a gallon on cereal beverages, asked by the treasury department as an aid in checking sales of "high powered beer" was accepted.

Ashland Woman Fires House To Scare Neighbor

Says She Wanted Aged Woman to Leave Town

MEDFORD, Ore., Dec. 18.—(AP)—Mrs. Geo. Whelby, of Ashland, 50 years old, confessed today, according to prosecuting attorney Newton Chaney, that on the night of December 12 she set fire to the home of her neighbor, Mrs. Jane McCoy, 70, because she wanted "to get Mrs. McCoy out of town."

The fire, according to Mrs. Whelby, was set on the back porch with kerosene, during Mrs. McCoy's absence. The fire was extinguished by the Ashland fire department, after damage estimated at \$125 had resulted. Mrs. Whelby will be held to the grand jury on a charge of arson. No explanation of her enmity toward Mrs. McCoy was given other than that she did not like the woman.

Robber Band Besieges Town, Captures Officials And Robs Bank, Securing Large Amount

DAVENS, Iowa, Dec. 18.—(A.P.)—Making captives of the town marshal, the telephone operator and the railroad operator, and severing all wire communication with other towns, half a dozen bank robbers invaded this village early today, wrecked the safe of the State Bank of Davens and escaped with cash and bonds amounting to \$8,000 or \$10,000.

The bandits worked in the bank for more than an hour before they were able to open the safe. Meanwhile the marshal and telephone and railroad operators were held prisoners in a closet of the bank.

Numerous Davens citizens were aroused by the explosions, but no outside resistance was offered the robbers.

The local telephone manager, roused by the explosions and finding all telephone wires cut, drove into the country where he tapped a long distance line and enlisted the aid of officers in surrounding counties.

Civilized Ducks Problem For Federal Game Warden

Birds Kept For Inspection During Epidemic Fall For Luxury's Lure And Want to Stay All Winter in Link River Cage

Civilization, with its substantial luxuries, such as a roof over one's head and a full larder at one's elbow, has scored another victory over fast vanishing wild life.

This time it was ducks. When the Tuie lake duck epidemic was at its height, a group of game wardens caught several score-sick ducks and placed them in a pen near the west side power plant of the California Oregon Power company on Link river.

Time passed. The ducks thrived on three squares a day and a good roosting place and in the meantime the epidemic in Tuie lake was on the wane.

Came Wednesday morning, and United States Game Warden George Tonkin, prompted by altruistic motives, opened the door of the duck pen and amid a flurry of wings, the ducks were soon lost in the distance.

Yesterday afternoon, however, Tonkin was greeted by a spectacular sight. Many of the ducks had returned to their former prison. One fat sprig was running hysterically up and down outside the pen, poking his head in between the wire mesh. A few others were busily eating weeds adjacent to the cage, confident in their hope that somebody would put them back where they could secure free board and room.

Now Tonkin is wondering what to do with the civilized ducks.

Not deterred by the fact that The Herald called off the Christmas fund donations yesterday in the belief that sufficient money had been obtained to give every needy child in Klamath Falls a remembrance, the Christmas spirit proved too strong for some people.

With the morning mail came a check for \$5 from Nan Rinker. A woman who refused to give her name brought 50c.

And last but not least came "Society Red" Pygall, famous woodsman from the Lamm camps, who hurled a round silver dollar at the editor, told the said Ed. that he (Society Red), was having a wonderful time, and went joyously on his way.

So for the benefit of those who wish to give vent to their Christmas feeling, the fund will be kept open. Your gifts will mean another toy and more nuts and candy for the children.

Anyone knowing any case where poverty in the home stands a block bar to the happiness of the children therein, is requested to mail name and address of the family to Miss Lydia Fricke at the county health office, court house. Don't send the name of anyone who will be able to provide for their children. Do it today.

Error Made in Acme Motor Adv.

Due to an error in the mailing department of The Herald, a few copies of the paper yesterday were given to carriers without proof correction having been made.

In these, the full page display advertisement of the Acme Motor company quoted the price of Essex coaches at \$952. The correct delivered here price is \$925.

Vets May Get 5 Years to Convert Wartime Insurance

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—(AP)—Extension for five years of the time for converting war risk insurance has been recommended to the house veterans committee by Director Hines of the Veterans Bureau.

MAE MURRAY HAS CHILD
PASADENA, Calif., Dec. 18. (AP)—Mrs. Louis Lee Arms, better known perhaps as Mae Murray, film celebrity, is the mother of a seven pound baby boy, born at the Pasadena hospital this morning.

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MITCHELL FIRED BY ARMY BOARD FOR FIVE YEARS

Friends Think Flyer Will Resign if Sentence is Approved by President

HE MAY TRY POLITICS

To Run for Senate in Wisconsin, Opposing Lenroot, Belief in Washington

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18. (AP)—Vigorous methods pursued by Colonel Mitchell in ten years of criticism of what he considered an inadequate air defense have resulted in an army court martial verdict finding him guilty of insubordination and suspending him from the service for five years.

Still under technical arrest, the colonel marked time today while the court's decision passed through regular channels to the secretary of war and thence to President Coolidge for review and approval.

After deliberating less than three hours late yesterday the court found Mitchell guilty of violation of the 96th article of war, "to the prejudice of good order and military discipline." Eight specifications in the charges were based on the colonel's published statements of September 5 and 9 in which he accused the war and navy departments of "incompetency, criminal negligence and almost treasonable" and "disgraceful administration of aeronautics."

In suspending Mitchell from "rank, command and duty," in the army for five years, the court viewed the "military record of the accused during the world war," as a mitigating factor and described the sentence as "lenient." With the same nonchalance that has marked him during the long controversy over the air service, Colonel Mitchell received the verdict with a smile, his wife standing beside him. While the court was deliberating, Mitchell had munched chocolates with Mrs. Mitchell and her father and mother.

During the interval he was notified by Major Harry Leonard, judge advocate of the Shenandoah court of inquiry that he would be asked to testify Monday when the court reconvened. The colonel, who once before refused to appear before the court, said he would testify. It is likely that he will be asked concerning his charges that the Shenandoah was poorly conditioned for her last trip.

Colonel Mitchell's friends believe he will remain silent until President Coolidge takes final action on the army court's verdict and that he might offer his resignation if the suspension is upheld. If his resignation should be accepted these friends think Colonel Mitchell might consider entering politics next year in Wisconsin and possibly try for a senate seat in opposition to Senator Lenroot who is up for re-election.

TURKS SEETHE AT BRITAIN'S STEAL OF OIL COUNTRY

Cabinet in Session Late at Night to Discuss Fishy Award to Sea Power

LEAGUE IS TO BLAME War Clouds Scented as In- dignation Spreads; League Called British-Tool

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 18.—(AP)—The decision of the league of nations awarding Mosul to Iraq which is under British mandate, was received with consternation in Turkey.

When the award reached Ankara the cabinet was called in extraordinary session. Under the chairmanship of President Mustapha Kemal Pasha and with the participation of chief of staff, the ministers sat late into the night examining all angles of the situation.

Turkish public opinion as expressed in the newspapers considers that the question has not been solved but is entering upon a new phase, more complex than that obtaining prior to the league decision.

All papers criticize the "servility" of the league, which they assert is the tool of Great Britain. Most of them are awaiting the lead for Ankara before indulging in any more definite comment, but Djumuriyet declares: "We shall save Mosul as we saved Smyria, Adena and Brussa."

The leading government organ says: "The government has examined all eventualities and has taken the necessary measures to meet every situation. We mention this not by way of a threat, but for the purpose of informing public opinion here and abroad."

TO HOLD YOUTH

DALLAS, Ore., Dec. 18. (AP)—A charge of involuntary manslaughter has been filed against Raymond Miller, 17, following a coroner's inquest yesterday into the death of J. C. Hayter, in an automobile accident Wednesday night.

No Meningitis Cases Reported Here for Week

With no new cases of spinal meningitis reported since last Friday, fears of a general epidemic here have cleared away. There are now four cases of the disease, 3 children and one adult. There have been two deaths.

TIGARD, Ore., Dec. 18. (AP)—Jumping off his bicycle to get his hat which had blown across the road, Stanford Mitchell, 12, was hit by an automobile and killed near here late yesterday.

Five Denver Banks Crash As Holiday Throngs Mourn

With Three Failures Yesterday, Two More Are Closed This Morning; City Sorrows As Thousands See Savings Go

DENVER, Colo., Dec. 18.—(A.P.)—Two Denver banks—the Capitol Hill State bank and the Metropolitan State bank—failed to open their doors today. Three other banking institutions, including two national banks and a state bank, were closed yesterday.

Holiday shopping was at a standstill as downtown buying throngs in stunned surprise heard the news that made their checks valueless and may make some of them paupers overnight.

State Bank Commissioner Grant McPherson announced that his department examiners had taken charge of the Metropolitan and Capitol Hill banks. Both are small institutions.

Steady withdrawal from the Metropolitan bank during the week and a run on the Capitol Hill yesterday were instrumental in the closing, officials said. The banks closed yesterday were the Broadway National; the Drovers' National and the North Denver bank, the latter a state institution. These three banks had deposits of approximately \$3,500,000. The Broadway National was the largest, with deposits totalling about \$2,500,000.

Impairment of capital and frozen paper in livestock loans were ascribed as the reasons for the closing of the two national banks.

Gordon Hollis was president of the two national banks and his wife, Mrs. M. E. Hollis, was president of the North Denver bank.

Contributions are coming in rapidly for the Christmas chest fund, according to the various committees in charge who met last evening. Chest fund boxes are placed in a number of the stores throughout the business district, with the view to securing funds for the unfortunate of Klamath Falls.

Included in the list of stores are: Underwood's Drug Store, Moe's Store, Mecca Pool Hall, The Star Drug, The Pastime, The Waldorf, The Eagle Pool Room, Three K Store and The Golden Rule.

So far the individuals and business houses making donations to the chest include The Elks Lodge, Klamath Ice and Cold Storage, Moe's Store, Vasa Lodge No. 460, The American National Bank, The Club Cafe, The First National Bank, The Palace Meat Market, Whitman's Drug Store, John Vale, Woolworth Company, Sanford Grocery, Roberts and Harvey, The Baldwin Hardware Store, The Lincoln Market, The Dodge Garage, Roy Call Garage, Balin Furniture, Klamath Hardware, Hotel Hill, Glover's Jewelry Shop, Lorenz and Company, A. R. Nelson, Bellamy Photo, Imperial Garage, Shepherds Music Store, Mecca, Houston and Jester, Gordon.

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Many Give To Chest Fund For Klamath Poor

Nearly All Business Firms in City Con- tribute

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COUNTY SCHOOLS HAVE BIG GROWTH IN LAST 2 YEARS

Chairman of County School District Gives Figures at Luncheon Club

ENROLLMENT JUMPS

Pupils Increase from 726 in 1919 to Total of 1353 at Present Time

Cost of operating Klamath county schools has practically doubled within the last few years, while revenue remains about the same, was the assertion of C. H. Underwood, chairman of the county school district No. 1, who spoke this noon before the Rotary club.

"Six years ago, in the fall of 1919, there was an enrollment of 726. Today there are 1353 pupils. By far the largest portion of this increase has come within the past two years," Mr. Underwood declared.

"During the past four years, expenditures for buildings and new grounds has totaled more than \$350,000, all financed by bond issues. During this period bonds totaling \$37,000 have been retired. All bonds issued prior to 1918 have been paid in full and provision has been made to retire \$310,000 in outstanding bonds as soon as possible.

"All school property in this district is now valued at approximately \$550,000.

The school board is limited in its authority to increase its expenditures by more than six per cent each year and it has been necessary each year to submit the budget of the board to the voters for approval.

In closing, Mr. Underwood mentioned the will made by a former Klamath citizen, Jos. Conger, by the terms of which a \$14,000 estate has been made available for school needs, in many cases having proved a God-send. The estate has earned for the district the sum of \$10,000 during the face of the principal.

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Quake Felt in Southern Town

SACRAMENTO, Calif., Dec. 18.— (AP)—A slight earthquake shock at 1:05 a. m. was felt at Redding, according to a dispatch received by the Sacramento Bee.

Portland Has Poor Business For Christmas

Warm Weather Blamed For Poor Sales in Market

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 18.—(AP)—Trading continues light in the local commission district. Not much of Christmas buying, although an increase in the activity is expected to affect conditions along produce row during the next few days.

Nothing occurred this morning to change the trend of events. Few of the houses are doing a normal volume of business.

Mild, open weather, with lots of home grown produce on the market, is said to be a big factor in the present stagnant situation.

PICK HAMMOND
WASHINGTON, Dec. 18. (AP)—Ogden H. Hammond of New Jersey, was nominated today to be ambassador to Spain.

Olives and Milk Poisoned; Police Seek Mystery Man

MADISON, Wis., Dec. 18. (AP)—Police here today were concentrating their efforts toward running down a poisoner who has stricken fear into hundreds of homes. Discovery of a poison in a large vat of olives in a grocery establishment of Piper Brothers yesterday provided police with a new mystery. None of the olives have been sold.

This is the fourth time in two years that poison has been found in olives intended for consumption in homes here.

The police investigation thus far has failed to uncover any tangible clues.

Crossword Puzzle Fan In Anger Kills Self, Wounds Bride Who Refused To Aid

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—(A.P.)—Angered because his bride of 17 months would not help him solve a crossword puzzle, Theodore Koerner, an ardent devotee of the pastime, seriously wounded her and killed himself.

Koerner last night asked Mrs. Koerner for help in solving a particularly hard combination of words.

"I have a headache," she replied. "I think I'll go and lie down."

A moment later as she was in the bedroom of their apartment, Koerner appeared at the door with a pistol in his hand. He fired without speaking and the bullet struck Mrs. Koerner in the right temple. As she fled, Koerner fired another shot at her, which missed its target, and then turned the pistol on himself.

He had had two nervous breakdowns since summer and was on sick leave from his work.

