

DIAMONDS SENT TO COMRADE MARTENS

SELF-STYLED SOVIET AMBASSADOR'S CONNECTION WITH SMUGGLING PROVED.

LOOTED FROM ROYAL FAMILY

England About the Jewels Captured From Queen Mother Was Guilty of Communist Literature.

Washington—Traffic by bolshevik agents in precious stones, supposed to have formed part of the famous jewels of the Russian royal family, has been uncovered by Federal authorities.

The 121 diamonds found by Nellie Jacobsen, a Swedish sailor, by various officials in New York July 22, it became known, were enclosed in a package addressed to "Comrade Martens." Using this as a lead, Federal officials began an investigation which they declare has definitely connected Ludwig C. A. K. Martens, self-styled soviet ambassador to the United States, with the traffic. Disclosure of the fact that the package was intended for soviet agents in this country was withheld by customs authorities when Jacobsen was arrested.

Enlightened about the diamonds taken from the possession of the Swedish sailor, Jacobsen, whom officials exonerate from any complicity in the illegal proceedings, was a quantity of communist literature.

SPEEDING CHARGE LAID AGAINST COX

UNPLEASANT INCIDENT MARKED ITINERARY OF DEMOCRATIC NOMINEE AND PARTY.

ENTIRE PARTY WAS ARRESTED

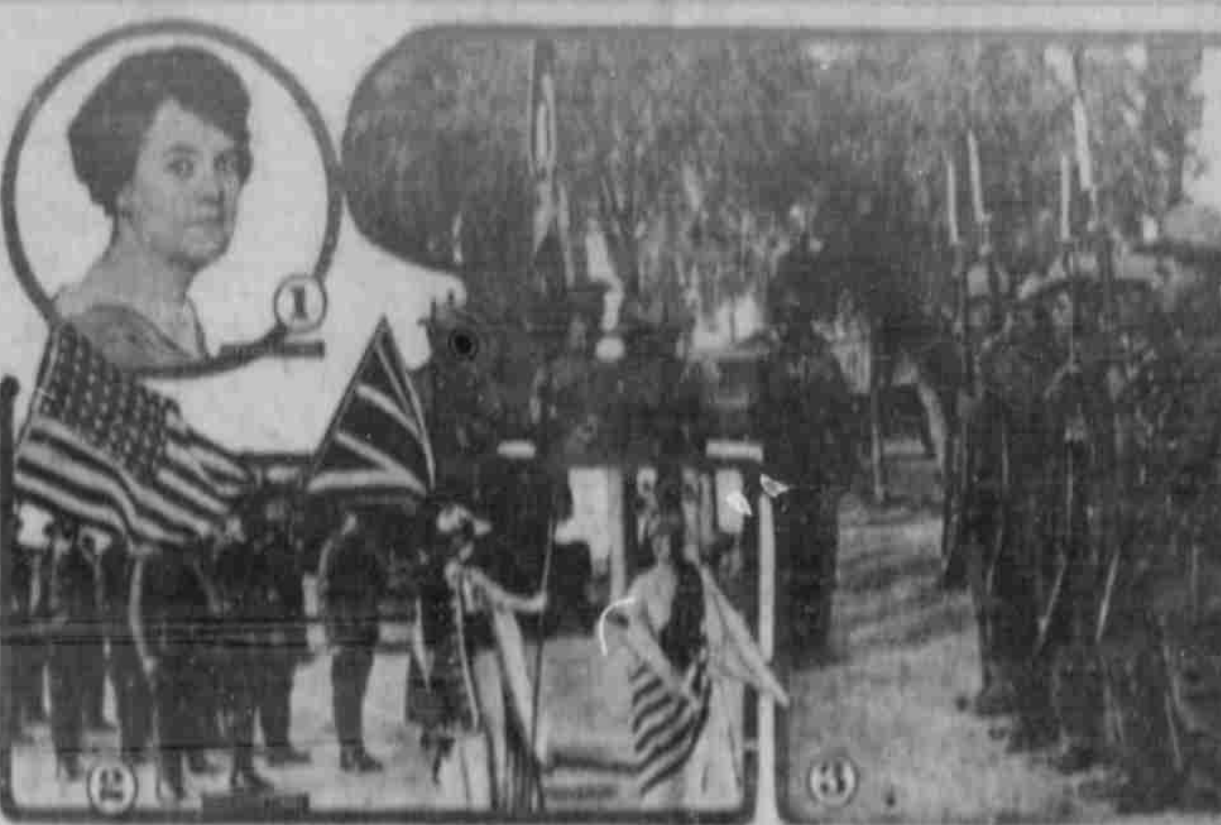
Governor Orders Cars to Proceed and Informed Motor Cops They Could Find Him at Any Time.

Columbus, O.—An unsuccessful attempt to arrest Governor Cox, on a charge of automobile speeding and careless driving, in the city of Columbus, resulted in the arrest of the entire party of Governor Cox returning from Wheeling, W. Va.

The attempt was declared by Roy E. Layton, adjutant general of Ohio, to have been planned to embarrass the democratic nominee.

At Jacksonville, O., about 22 miles east of Columbus, the governor and his party rode slowly through, disregarding unobstructed arms of a sharp crooked man, and also a large group of persons gathered there. Within a few minutes two motorcycle officers stopped the governor and press correspondents, declaring all under arrest and demanding their return to Jacksonville. Governor Cox identified himself, but the officers said they had orders from Jacksonville authorities to arrest all four automobiles of the party, no matter who they contacted on charges of speeding.

"You can reach me at the executive office at Columbus any time," Governor Cox replied, ordering all the cars to proceed and leaving the officers busy taking down car numbers on the fly.



—Mrs. John E. Pratt, newly elected vice president of the Republican national committee, says she has organized a new committee with headquarters in Chicago.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

France Acts Independently of Great Britain in the Russo- Polish Complication.

PROMISES AID TO WRANGL

America to Use "All Available Means"

to Preserve Poland's Independence —Resistance to Red Armies in Creeping-Express Workers Get Wage Increases.

The United States will employ "all available means" to safeguard the independence and territorial integrity of Poland, and will not recognize the soviet government of Russia.

The French government has promised the Wrangel government of southern Russia and will give it military aid against the bolsheviks, and the French representative in London has been instructed to break off all relations with Kravink and Kameneff, the soviet trade commissioners there.

The British government, though somewhat dismayed by the American and French announcements and the apparent break with France, still hopes and believes a peace can be negotiated between Russia and Poland.

The Russians protesting to their refusal to permit mediation by any third party, sent a delegation to Minsk to meet the Poles, and continued their striking movement designed to rupture Warsaw.

The Poles sent representatives to Minsk to talk amicably, and having withdrawn in good order from their advanced position, established a line of defense before Warsaw and prepared for an extensive counter strike.

Turning to the Russian representatives who sat in the gallery, the little Washington said: "If you want peace, get it now. If you are not to challenge the liberties of Europe, we will meet you and fight to the end."

British labor leaders had already warned Lloyd George there would be a general strike if the nation went to war, but at the conclusion of the premier's speech Mr. Clynes, their chief, declared the labor force will not favor soviet ideas and methods, and that if they were convinced the soviet government was aggressive, they would be forced to consider supporting the British government.

The British parliament passed the law which approved the new Irish constitution. The debate in the House of Commons was bitter. Very optimistic persons think the law will restore order to Ireland.

Much interest and some excitement were caused by the British government's course in dealing with the Irish Archibishop Mannix of Australia, the warm advocate of free Ireland, who spent some weeks in the United States. He intended to lead in Ireland, but government agents removed him from the line and put him aboard the Peninsula under technical arrest. He proceeded to London, but his movements were restricted by orders. He rebuffed invitations to address meetings in many places in England, Scotland and Ireland. The treatment of the archbishop looks of this distance, like a characteristic bit of British "padding" but probably the government knew what it was about. To an interviewer the archbishop said what he wanted was to see England get out of Ireland, intimating that the latter was an independent country would be no more the enemy of Great Britain than it is now.

Another big wage increase award was made last week by the United States railway labor board, the employees of the American Railway Express company being the beneficiaries this time. They were granted a 3 1/2 percent increase over the 1929-30 award. The total will amount to \$26,500,000 a year. The heads of the four unions affected appeared well satisfied with the award.

The railway rate increase was again a thing to discuss when the state public utility commission ruled that the lowest passenger fare in the state was to be the passing of the wartime transportation act; distinct application for increases in 2.5 percent per mile, for increased surcharges on Pullman and parlor car fares, for increase of commutation rates and for increased milk rates; and desired application for 40 per cent increase in freight rates, granting a temporary increase of 25 to 30 per cent.

Franklin Roosevelt was formally notified Monday of his nomination for the vice presidency by the Democrats, and two days later opened the Democratic campaign in Chicago with a speech in which he made a special plea for the support of the old Bull Moose element. Both in this address and in his speech of acceptance he mentioned a April 15th nomination (which was commended) Governor Cox began his speaking tour the latter part of the week.

The front porch campaign plan for Senator Harding has not been changed, but the Republican leaders will make extensive use of "publicity" news stories, advertising and the movie. It was expected that Harding would soon declare himself as to just what kind of a League of Nations he thinks would be acceptable to the American people, for he does not wish the nation to believe that because he is against the Wilson league, he is against any league.

The prohibition situation, Watkins and Curtis, both defended their respective speeches at Germantown, Pa., and plans were made to carry on a vigorous campaign, largely by airplane.

Charles F. Fox of Boston, whose revolutionary operations in international postal companies attracted the attention of the authorities, came to grief, at least temporarily, when a state bank executive closed the Bancroft Trust company, through which he carried on 75 per cent of his business, and he was arrested on a state lottery charge. The same day the "straw" admitted he had been an inmate of prison at Atlantic and in Canada. Fox has not retained the exact period by which he made so much money for his clients and himself in a few weeks. He says he can take care of all his Boston affairs.

Technically the world war came to an end Tuesday, so far as the allied nations and their opponents are concerned. On that day the last of the German fleet, that with Turkey, the Japan fleet, was sighted in the Pacific. Japan's fleet refused to sign because the treaty provided that the Ottoman fleet be partitioned among former Turkish territories allocated to other states and because Jugoslavians did not receive Heredonias as she asked. The United States did not sign the treaty owing to President Wilson's objection to the presence of the salt in Constantinople, the allocation of Thrace and Smyrna to Greece, and the Achaia Minor mandate.

A conference of the British and French premiers was held at Briks and returned to London. Lloyd George told the lower of common sense that he still believed in peace. He said Rome was entitled to strict guarantees against a repetition of the Polish attack but was not entitled to destroy Poland as a nation; if Rome acted within those conditions there would be no war by the contents. If the Minsk meeting failed of results, he declared, the allies had decided on these lines of action: (1) No action, except to support Poland in the struggle for existence; (2) only to give support to the nation which fights its own struggle; (3) to give military aid to Poland; (4) to give military aid and guidance; (5) to give military aid to help Wrangel and all other counter-revolutionaries; (6) not to trading negotiations.

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GOVERNOR BICKETT SPEAKS TO SOLONS

APPEARED IN PERSON BEFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO DELIVER HIS MESSAGE

REVALUATION ACT IN DETAIL

The Governor was in Good Form and Held Undivided Attention of Members and The Crowded Galleries

Raleigh.

Governor Bickett appeared in person before the legislature to deliver his message. He was in good form and held the undivided attention of both the members of the general assembly and the crowded galleries. A part of that part of the message relating to the revaluation act follows: Gentlemen of the General Assembly:

For many years the tax books of North Carolina presented conditions of error and injustice. These uneven exhibitions were not due to any vicious principle in our organic law, nor to any moral perversion of our people. The condition has always required property to be listed for taxation at its true value. The average citizen has always desired to speak the truth and to do equity. The errors and inequalities that have made our tax books look like the minutes of an Arabian club were born of machinery acts utterly unsuited to modern conditions, and hopelessly inadequate to execute the virtuous wishes of the people as declared in the main language of the constitution.

This general assembly at the regular session of 1919, concentrated itself on the task of devising a machinery act that would list all the property in the state and determine its true value. I am grateful to report that this high purpose has been accomplished with remarkable completeness and perfection. For the first time in our history tax values are true values. For the first time the citizen and the stranger within the gates may go to the tax books and find a fair and accurate inventory of the property of the state, and a fairly accurate appraisal of its value in the new machinery act the people were for the first time seriously asked to tell the truth, and they have responded in this appeal in noble fashion. From every quarter of the state word has come that the people are happy to get away from the old system of concealments and evasions, and to let the exact truth about their property stand forth.

Taking the state as a whole 70 per cent of assessments were made at only the value shown in the 1920 returns, and the value shown in 1928 were substantially increased and a per cent were decreased.

The law gives to every property owner the right to appeal from the judgment of the county board on the state tax commission. The local authorities approximated true values so closely that not one person in a thousand appealed from their judgment. This is a record without parallel in the history of judicial tribunals. The vital guarantee secured by a law people do not against the failure of the act, but is against its success.

The high objective of the act is to equalize the burden of taxation and to wipe out discrimination. And just as government as true values have appeared on the tax books errors and inequalities have vanished. True values are always equal values, but neither wisdom nor ethics, nor public spirit nor power, nor length nor strength, nor height nor depth, nor things prevent our things to come nor any other creature can equalize a list of lists.

In the beginning, when the north was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep, (God said, let there be light). The true valuation act is a consolidation effort to promote that high command. Let there be light! Let the white light of truth beat and clear on the tax books of North Carolina, and in the shining promise no relative will live.

The Governor on Suffrage.

"I refrain from advancing the usual argument in behalf of suffrage. I leave entirely out of consideration the needless advantage or disadvantage which ratification might entail. I urge ratification, first, in the hope of thereby clearing the political atmosphere, second, in the belief that the suggestion of effective opinion works best in the whole body politic, and, finally, in the conviction that we owe immediate action as a measure of simple justice to American women. I trust you will help in this."

Gain in Real Estate Value

The total value of all real estate listed for taxation last year amounted to \$262,200,000.

The total value of all corporate property listed in 1929 was \$203,000,000; the total value this year is \$271,000,000.

The value of the cotton crops listed in 1929 was \$20,000,000; in 1930, \$30,000,000.

The value of the wool crops listed in 1929 was \$7,000,000; in 1930, \$10,000,000.

State will not ratify.

On the eve of what promises to be a busy session, the most spontaneous session of the North Carolina general assembly in recent years, supporters of the Susan B. Anthony Amendment express the belief that ratification is doomed in the house, but that it may pass the senate. Even that appears doubtful.

Governor Bickett's message will deal only with the revaluation act. Later, he will send a special message on woman suffrage, salary increases and other matters. But the governor wants the machinery to put the revaluation act into operation passed first of all. As far as the Susan B. Anthony amendment is concerned, he will recommend it, but it will be secondary importance with him.

Repair Funds Available

Washington, (Special)—The Navy Department has made available funds for the repair of buildings owned by the State of North Carolina at Camp Oglethorpe, prior to being taken over by the Navy Department. During the activities of the war, Camp Oglethorpe, became a naval air station at Morehead City.

Money for Salaries Short

So many teachers in the State have taken the Department of Education at its word and equipped themselves for higher salaries that the necessary budget for the coming year cannot be met out of the regular school funds and keep within the promised limit of only 10 per cent increase in gross revenues under the revaluation act. Department H. G. Brooks led the Senate committee.

Judge Retirement Bill

A bill to retire on part agree the Supreme and Superior Court judges of North Carolina after they reach the age of 70 has been drafted and will be introduced in the Senate.

Senator Joseph Addison Brown, of Wadesboro, is author of the proposed measure, which is modeled somewhat after the Federal retirement act. It would pay the judges who have served fifteen years or longer on either bench 25 per cent of their annual salary.

To Resume Work on Roads

Work will be resumed on construction hardening road construction projects suspended several weeks ago when the Interstate Commerce Commission stopped shipment of crushed stone in order to direct all upon freight cars to the government of coal from the mines. The order has been amended sufficiently to enable the Highway Commission to requisition such cars as are needed for work actually under way.

Officers to Get More Pay

If the bill now being framed goes through all stages of state affairs will be increased as follows:

Secretary of state, from \$3,000 to \$3,500; state treasurer, from \$2,500 to \$3,000; state auditor, from \$2,500 to \$3,000; superintendent of public instruction, from \$2,000 and traveling expenses to \$2,500; attorney general, from \$2,000 to \$2,500; commissioner of labor and printing, from \$2,000 to \$2,500; commissioner of agriculture, from \$1,500 to \$2,000; corporation commissioner, from \$2,000 and actual traveling expenses to \$2,500; judge of the supreme court, from \$5,000 to \$5,500; judge of the superior court, from \$4,000 and actual traveling expenses to \$4,500; clerk of the supreme court, from \$2,000 to \$2,500; clerk of the superior court, from \$1,500 to \$2,000; clerk of the state bar, from \$1,000 to \$1,500.

Find 1,250 Acres Land

The machinery of the act also found and put in the tax books 1,250,000 acres of land not heretofore taxed. The average value per acre of land on the books this year is \$40 per acre. This makes the new lands put upon the tax books worth \$50,000,000. The average county in North Carolina contains 275,000 acres of land. It will be seen, therefore, that the resolution set forth and placed on the tax books of the state four counties of average size.

May Drop "Grandfather Clause"

In view of enlightenment which might arise in the matter of governing suffrage in North Carolina if the Susan B. Anthony federal amendment should be ratified by a sufficient number of states to make it operative, the recommendation at Raleigh and other constitutional amendments devised by our state to bring our state into line with the "grandfather clause" from the educational class of the amendment.