

2 EXPLORERS MEET DEATH

TRAGEDY IN MARSH ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

Wireless Brings News of Death of Lieu. Ninnis and Dr. Merz in Adelle Land

DR. MAWSON MAROONED FOR ANOTHER WINTER

Ship, Driven by Ice, Compelled to Leave Him and Six Others in Antarctic.

By Associated Press. Sydney, N. S. W., Feb. 25.—Another was added to the list of Antarctic tragedies by the news received here today of the death of two members of the expedition commanded by Dr. Douglas Mawson.

Once again the British army is affected by the loss of a brilliant officer, Lieutenant D. E. Ninnis of the famous royal fusiliers regiment. He was a close friend of Captain Lawrence Oates of the Inniskilling dragoons, who perished while returning from the South Pole with Scott.

Switzerland also has suffered a great loss by the death of Dr. Merz, a prominent scientist and sportsman. After winning the ski jumping championship in Switzerland in 1908, he offered his services to Dr. Mawson.

Lieutenant Ninnis was the expert of the expedition on surveying and sledging. The wireless messages hitherto received from the Aurora do not state the cause of his death or that of Dr. Merz. The expedition started out, not with any idea of rushing to the South pole but with the intention of exploring and naming the unknown lands of the Antarctic and making numerous observations around the magnetic pole.

According to the wireless reports received from Dr. Mawson, the principal objects of the expedition were attained. Unfortunately, Dr. Mawson and six of his companions after they had been picked up by the Aurora, undertook another expedition and were unable to rejoin the ship, which was compelled to leave them to spend another year in the Antarctic.

Prof. David receives news. Prof. David, who was a member of Sir Ernest Shackleton's South polar expedition received the following wireless dispatch from Adelle land: "Dr. Douglas Mawson and several of his men missed the Aurora which had gone to fetch him under the command of Captain J. K. Davis. This happened owing to unfortunate circumstances."

Lieutenant B. E. Ninnis of the city of London regiment of royal fusiliers and Dr. Merz, who was ski champion of Switzerland in 1908, are both dead. All the others are well. "Dr. Mawson and six other members of his party probably will winter on Adelle land. "Some very successful sledging expeditions were made during the sojourn of Dr. Mawson and his companions in the Antarctic."

The last previous message received here from the Aurora arrived on February 7 and said that all the members of the expedition were on board the vessel. It would appear therefore, that Dr. Douglas Mawson with some of his companions must have landed and gone on an expedition from which they were unable to get back in time to rejoin the Aurora before the ice compelled her to leave.

The expedition headed by Dr. Mawson set out from Australia in the latter part of 1911. It consisted of nearly 60 men, most of them graduates of the University of Australia and New Zealand. It was financed by popular subscription. Dr. Mawson was not seeking the pole, but proposed to make a complete geographical and magnetic survey of the Antarctic region between Cape Adare and Queen Mary, a distance of over 2000 miles. The expedition landed on Adelle land, which is a barren tract of what has always been known as Wilkes land, after the American explorer, and the men there divided into three parts.

From time to time there have come reports of the success of the explorers in the discovery of new islands, and only recently after having been out (Continued on page 2.)

MADEROS TAKE REFUGE IN STATES

Brother of Late President Has Nervous Collapse at Ithaca, N. Y.

Ithaca, N. Y., Feb. 25.—Evaristo E. Madero, whose elder brothers, Francisco and Gustavo Madero, were killed in the overthrow of the Madero administration in Mexico, believes that the surviving members of his family will seek refuge in the United States. Evaristo, who obtained his degree from the state agricultural college at Cornell last week, is confined in his room at the Spanish-American club, having collapsed under the weight of the events in Mexico City. He has wired to his younger brother, Carlos, who is studying at St. Joseph's academy, at Delaford, Wis., to join him here at once and the latter is supposed to be on his way east today. The two young men, the youngest members of the Madero family, will hold council as to what they shall do. Both have waited in vain for some word from their father and their brothers' widows, but all that they have learned has been in press dispatches. Evaristo has been in such an excited and hysterical condition since the news that fellow members of the club have been remaining with him day and night.

FAVORITISM ALLEGED IN POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT

Charge Made that Brother of Senator Cummins Was Unduly Favored.

Washington, Feb. 25.—Charges of favoritism of the postoffice department toward B. F. Cummins, a contractor, a brother of Senator Cummins of Iowa, in that First Assistant Postmaster General C. P. Grandfield entered into an "outrageous" arrangement with Cummins and that the department's cancelling machine committee was guilty of "gross neglect," were made to the house yesterday in a report of the committee on expenditures in the postoffice department. The committee majority reported that B. F. Cummins exerted an influence on both Grandfield and E. T. Bushnell, chief clerk to Grandfield, which was "highly prejudicial to the government interests;" that Grandfield and Bushnell deliberately and systematically favored the Time-Marking Machine company and the B. F. Cummins company, represented by Cummins and that there was an understanding between Cummins and the department officials in the advertisements of four year contracts for the cancelling machines, that if his lump sum bid was the lowest he would receive an exclusive contract. The report also charged that the cancelling machine committee was dominated by Dr. Grandfield so as to render its findings partial.

SAFEGUARDING PUBLIC IN FINGER BOWL USE

Hereafter in Pennsylvania You May Assume They Have Been "Thoroughly Cleaned."

Harrisburg, Pa., Feb. 25.—It will be a customer in this state to give to a diner a finger bowl that has not been "thoroughly cleaned" since its last previous use, if a bill passed by the lower branch of the Pennsylvania legislature last night becomes a law. The measure was defeated a week ago, but was offered again last night. After G. W. Richards, a member from Allegheny county, had pointed out some of the dangers to public health through careless handling of the bowls, the bill passed by a vote of 144 to 47.

COLD BREAKS STRIKE

Paterson Silk Operatives Walk Out, but Low Temperature Drives Them Back Quickly.

Paterson, N. J., Feb. 25.—It was so cold here that 5000 striking silk operatives who quit work this morning went back to their machines within an hour rather than shiver in the streets. The strike order was issued by the Industrial Workers of the World.

Enters Penitentiary at 87.

Leaverworth, Kans., Feb. 25.—J. W. Washington, aged 87, the oldest prisoner ever admitted to the federal penitentiary here, began today serving a sentence of one year and a day on a charge of violating the federal liquor laws in Texas.

WILL PROTECT U.S. INTERESTS

Huerta Regime Disposed to Adopt More Friendly Policy than Madero Administration.

IMMEDIATE RETURN OF PEACE UNLIKELY

Zapatistas Refuse to Treat with Huerta and He Plans Vigorous Military Measures.

Washington, Feb. 25.—Now that the first shock of the tragic death of Madero and Suarez has passed over, influenced largely by the reassuring reports from Ambassador Wilson and has appeal to the American people to suspend judgment in the matter, officials here are beginning to accept the official version of the affair. Unquestionably they believe great carelessness was exhibited in failing properly to protect the prisoners, but that offense, it is pointed out, is less than a deliberate murder plot.

Ambassador Wilson will be permitted to continue to exercise his own discretion in dealing with the new government and some satisfaction is derived from his report that not only is the new government very friendly toward the United States but that it has shown a disposition to meet reasonable requests for protection of American interests in Mexico which were in a large measure ignored by the Madero administration.

Officials do not expect immediate restoration of peace throughout Mexico. It is recalled that the dominant party in that country now practically is a new one; unless, indeed, it can be considered a reincarnation of the old party of Porfirio Diaz. There is nothing in common between it and the revolutionists which for more than a year have been warring upon the Madero regime.

Already President Huerta has been offering terms to the Orozco followers in the north with a degree of success. Indications are that similar negotiations with the Zapatistas in the south have failed; wherefore the decision to begin a most active military campaign against that party.

The threatened dispatch of Texas militia by Governor Coquilitt into Mexico is not expected to materialize. The governor himself, it was pointed out here today, would lay himself open to a charge of violation of the national neutrality laws which provide severe punishment for anyone organizing and forwarding a hostile expedition into the country of a foreign state with which the United States is at peace.

The law recognizes no difference between the governor of a state and any other civilian; it simply maintains the right of the national government, and especially the legislative branch, as the sole authority competent to make war and the sending of an armed force into Mexico would constitute such an act.

Sheppard Urges Frontier Protection. Senator Morris sheppard of Texas today made representations to the state department about what he considers the unprotected condition of parts of the Texas-Mexican frontier. Senator Sheppard recently sent telegrams to the Texas county judges along the Rio Grande river from El Paso to Brownsville, and his statement to Secretary Knox today was based upon the replies.

They contend for the need of more troops in two extended stretches of territory, one of about 200 miles, between Brownsville and Laredo and the other of almost as great length between Del Rio and El Paso. It was represented that there had been much looting along the upper region, and in one case a Texas ranch 50 miles from the border had been raided within the last few days.

One thousand troops, the senator said, were required to protect that country. It was believed that not so many would be necessary along the lower Rio Grande, but it was represented that there were many roving bands of Mexicans just across the river on the Mexican side from Cameron, Starr and Hidalgo counties, and it was feared that some of them might cross over at any time. At Laredo, Earle Pass and El Paso there was said to be a sufficient number of troops.

Revival of Diaz Influence. Mexico City, Feb. 25.—Revival of the Diaz influence in Mexico is indicated by an order issued by Provisional President Huerta today that all portraits of former President Porfirio Diaz be restored to places in public buildings from which Madero removed them. Several large pictures of the old dictator were replaced immediately in the National palace.

The new cabinet ministers, anticipating the presidential order, had ordered pictures of Porfirio Diaz hung on the walls of their various departments.

Railroad traffic by way of Laredo is still uncertain. No trains were able to get through yesterday owing to the burning of bridges near San Luis Potosi. Communication with the United States by way of El Paso is possible, but trains arriving from that direction suffer considerable delay. There has (Continued on page 2.)

MAN IS STRANGELY SLAIN IN ATLANTA

Wife of J. A. Applebaum, Traveling Salesman, Held Pending Investigation.

By Associated Press. Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 25.—J. A. Applebaum, aged 48, a traveling salesman from Chicago, was mysteriously shot to death in his room at a downtown hotel here today. Three shots, two in the right arm and one in the chest caused death. The body was found in the bathroom of the apartment by the clerk, T. P. Thomson, who hurried to the room in response to a call. According to Thomson's story, as he started to climb the steps to the second story, Mrs. Applebaum came rushing down stairs and fell fainting into his arms. He said he thought the shots were fired after she had left her husband's room.

Mrs. Applebaum is held by the police pending an investigation. The Applebaums, the police learned, quarreled frequently and about a month ago the woman swallowed poison in an attempt to commit suicide, while in a jealous rage.

Both the Applebaums, it is said had been married twice and the dead man was paying alimony to a previous wife. It was stated that Applebaum had married his present wife twice, the last time in Illinois some time last June. Mrs. Applebaum is said to have a 16 years old son by her previous marriage.

In a statement to the police Mrs. Applebaum declared she had quarreled with her husband last night, when he wanted her to give up some diamond jewelry. He drenched her with a pitcher of ice water, she said, then early this morning he locked her out of their room. She could give no coherent statement of the shooting.

PHYSICAL VALUATION BILL PASSES SENATE

Changes Made in the Upper Branch Will Necessitate a Conference.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The Adamson bill requiring the interstate commerce commission to ascertain the actual value of the property of all railroad, telegraph and telephone companies and other common carriers passed the senate last night at the end of a short debate and with practically no opposition. Changes made in the bill by the senate from the form in which it passed the house will require a conference, but it is believed all differences will be adjusted and the bill sent to the president before this session adjourns.

The valuation bill is designed to furnish a basis recognized by the courts for fixing equitable freight, passenger and public service charges. The proposed law would require that the interstate commerce commission determine the original cost of all common carrier property up to the present time, the cost of reproduction, if they were to be built over again, the value of all properties held by them and the value of their intangible properties such as franchises good will and "going value."

GOV. WILSON RESIGNS JERSEY GOVERNORSHIP

By Associated Press. Trenton, Feb. 25.—Woodrow Wilson resigned the governorship of New Jersey at 1 o'clock today to take effect at noon Saturday, March 1. The governor wrote his resignation in his own hand and sent it by Secretary Tumulty to David S. Carter, secretary of state.

At the same time he sent a message to both houses of the legislature notifying them of his act.

BECAME MOTHER OF IN ELEVEN MONTHS

By Associated Press. Columbia, S. C., Feb. 25.—A special from Sumter says a negro woman in that community became the mother of six children in 11 months. They were born in triplets, 11 months apart. All have died.

Probation System for U. S. Courts.

By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 25.—A probation system for all United States courts except those in the district of Columbia was proposed in a bill favorably reported today from the senate judiciary committee.

Jack Johnson's Case Postponed.

By Associated Press. Chicago, Feb. 25.—Jack Johnson's trial on smuggling charges was postponed indefinitely today because of the fighter's illness.

VERNON JURY FREES SNEED

Texan Is Declared Not Guilty of Murder of Man Who Eloped with His Wife.

SHOT HIS FOL DOWN ON AMARILLO STREET

Unwritten Law and Self-Defense Plea in Latest of Series of Texas Tragedies.

By Associated Press. Vernon, Tex., Feb. 25.—John Neal Sneed, a wealthy Texas ranch owner, was today declared not guilty of the murder of Al Boyce, Jr., at Amarillo, Tex., last September. The jury returned last night and returned the verdict when court opened this morning. Sneed shot Boyce to death on a Boyce street in Amarillo at what was said to have been the first meeting of the two after Boyce eloped with Mrs. Sneed about a year before the killing.

Al Boyce, Jr., was the second member of the Boyce family Sneed had killed on account of developments following the elopement. The first killing was that of Captain Albert Boyce, Sr., the father of Al Boyce, whom Sneed shot in a Fort Worth hotel. His defense was that Captain Boyce was aiding his son, Al, in the elopement and also that he feared for his life at the hands of Captain Boyce.

Two of the largest and wealthiest families in the southwest are concerned in the Sneed-Boyce tragedies. On October 13, 1911, Mrs. Sneed confessed to her husband her love for Al Boyce and proposed that she leave Texas with Boyce and go to South America. A few days later Sneed placed his wife in a sanitarium near Fort Worth. On November 2 Boyce received a letter from Mrs. Sneed at the sanitarium, saying: "For God's sake come and take me out of this madhouse."

Six days later Boyce and Mrs. Sneed eloped. During the several weeks following, Sneed spent \$20,000 in searching for the pair. Finally they were found at Winnipeg, Canada, where Boyce was held by the police on charges of theft made by Sneed at Fort Worth. Sneed went to Winnipeg, persuaded his wife to return to Texas with him and the charges against Boyce were dropped. Several months later Boyce returned to Texas and Sneed, at his trial, declared that for months before he killed Boyce in Amarillo he had lived in expectation of death at any time at Boyce's hands.

PARSON CAUSES A SHOCK BY UPHOLDING BOXING

Rev. Frank Bruner Refuses to Condemn Bills Before Illinois Legislature.

By Associated Press. Chicago, Feb. 27.—Rev. Frank C. Bruner, a Methodist Episcopal pastor, caused a stir at a meeting of Methodist ministers today when he came out as a champion of boxing. He dissented when resolutions condemning two boxing bills now before the Illinois legislature were offered at the ministers' meeting. "I believe boxing is an art in which every man should take pride," said Rev. Mr. Bruner. "I cannot agree that it is demoralizing. My father was the best boxer in his county. Often I have seen him and my brother put on the gloves and mix it in lively fashion. "I did not have the gloves on myself, but I did not see anything demoralizing in the fight between my father and my brother. I am not going to vote for the resolutions." Nevertheless they were adopted.

F. M. TOWE

Funeral Services Took Place This Morning and Interment Was at Haw Creek.

The funeral services of F. M. Towe, a well known resident of the city who died Sunday, took place this morning and the interment was made at the Haw Creek cemetery.

The deceased was a veteran of the war of the states, having served in the federal army. He had lived in this city for many years and his death caused grief to many friends.

Surviving are the widow, three sons and three daughters.

Gen. Booth a Nobel Prize Candidate.

By Associated Press. London, Feb. 25.—General Bramwell Booth, head of the Salvation Army, has been proposed as a candidate for the Nobel peace prize this year on the ground that the Salvation Army is a great international peace force.

INCOMES OVER \$1250 SUBJECT

DISSOLUTION PLAN HAS OPPOSITION

California Commission Refuses Assent to Scheme for Sun-dering Pacific.

By Associated Press. San Francisco, Feb. 25.—Open competition between the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific railroads is the only condition under which the California state railroad committee will approve the steps now being taken in compliance with the United States Supreme court for dissolution.

In a decision handed down late last night bearing on the situation of the two roads in California the commission denied the application of the Union Pacific for a 99 year lease of the Southern Pacific's connecting link between Oakland and Sacramento, known as the "Benicia Short Line" and further declared that wherever the South Pacific granted the Union Pacific's subsidiary in California, the Central Pacific, joint use of its terminal facilities and industry tracks, it should grant the same privileges to any other competing line on similar terms.

Western Pacific railroad attorneys demanded equal rights with the Central Pacific and were upheld in each instance. This ruling of the commission, together with the findings on the other points in the application, were telegraphed immediately to General Wickersham at St. Louis, where the dissolution plans are being considered in the federal court.

The telegram contained a strong criticism of the plans as previously agreed upon in Washington between the attorney-general and the railroad officials, and another method of bringing about the dissolution was suggested. Instead of forcing the Southern Pacific to sell the Central Pacific line from Ogden to San Francisco, the commission recommended that the Central Pacific be leased for a long term of years to the Union Pacific, thus making a through line for the Union Pacific from Omaha to San Francisco.

JUDGE AND ATTORNEY IN SQUABBLE IN COURT

Judge Peebles and Col. Barringer Have a Tilt, Which Enlivens Proceedings.

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New Revenue Measure Imposes Taxes on Inheritances, Incomes Licenses and Franchises.

LAWYERS, DOCTORS AND TRADESMEN MUST PAY

Method of Assessing Express and Telephone Companies Altered to a Mileage Basis.

Special to The Gazette-News. Raleigh, Feb. 25.—The first of three revenue bills, introduced last night, provides for taxing inheritances, incomes, licenses and franchises. The question of realty is left open, probably until fall, when a reassessment will be ordered. Inheritances are taxed at the rate of \$1.00 a \$100 for parent or child and the rate increases as the kinship becomes less. Property not exceeding \$200 is not taxed in the case of close relatives.

Complete Re-assessment Contemplated. The revenue bill except schedule A, dealing with the ad valorem tax rate, was introduced in the house. Schedule A is understood to be left out for a later bill which will provide for a state tax commission and complete reassessment of real and personal property to be reported at an extra session next fall. Inheritance, income and franchise taxes are materially increased, with stringent machinery. The house is indulging in a second lengthy discussion of the Bryant jury bill from the senate, which would reduce peremptory challenges in murder cases from 23 to 12 for the defendant.

At noon the senate and house went into joint session to elect trustees of the State University. Senator Weaver introduced a bill relative to the tax on mortgages. The senate passed bills to amend the act of the present session for an Asheville bond issue and also a bill for refunding bonds for Encombe.

Trustees of University. Judge J. C. Fritchard, J. E. Swain, H. Parker are elected trustees of the state university by the legislature. Incomes in excess of \$1500 are taxed at the rate of one and one-half per cent, above this to \$5000 two per cent and above \$5000 three per cent. Theaters, traveling theatricals or circuses, attorneys, doctors and all classes of tradesmen are taxed from \$5 to \$500. Druggists selling liquors must pay from \$25 to \$300, depending on population. A privilege tax of 5 per cent is charged dealers selling soft drinks containing cocaine, caffeine or ingredients. This gets coca cola and pepsi-cola, etc.

The method of taxing express companies is changed from 5 per cent on the gross receipts to \$4 per mile of track operated over and telegraph companies pay \$2 per mile per wire. The bill provides a system of checks and balances for making collections. The house last night passed a substitute for the senate resolution asking President Taft not to veto the Webb-Kenyon bill, the substitute being by Murphy and merely expressing gratification that North Carolina congressmen supported the bill, and provided that a telegram to the effect be sent to the president. Mr. Murphy declared that to call on Taft to veto the bill would be rank presumption. The Murphy substitute was sent to the senate and concurred in by that body.

Currituck Member Assailed. Representative Long called the attention of the members of the house to the fact that in the early evening Representative S. J. Payne of Currituck county, was assailed by E. R. Johnson, a well known merchant of Currituck county, and his eye and nose much disfigured by a blow dealt him. He offered a resolution that Johnson be arrested by the sergeant-at-arms and brought before the bar of the house for punishment for wanton and malicious assault upon the gentleman from Currituck.

It was explained that Mr. Payne had introduced a bill to increase the membership of the Currituck board of education from three to five, and Johnson was here opposing the bill; that Johnson approached Payne in the corridor of the capitol, when a heated argument arose in which Johnson accused Payne of bad faith and misrepresenting his constituents and being really a republican. Payne replied that 400 citizens were asking the change and with two of the three members of the present board, Johnson applied the "lie." Payne replied that he was not out calling people liars, but that Johnson knew he was telling what was false, and turned away. As he did so Johnson struck him a glancing blow on the brow, eye and nose. This was the case as stated by Payne to friends.

Representative Long informed the house that Johnson was leaving on the 9:15 Norfolk Southern train for home, and the resolution passed directing the speaker to issue his warrant and have Johnson taken in custody before he could get off on this train. It was then 7 o'clock. By 8:30 Johnson was brought into the hall and the resolution read to him. He made answer, admitting the attack on Payne, but denied the manner of the assault or that it was wanton or malicious. (Continued on page 11.)

Recall Resolution Adopted. By Associated Press. Topeka, Kans., Feb. 25.—All the senate amendments to the resolution providing for the recall of public officials in Kansas were adopted by the house of representatives today. The governor will sign the resolution.