

BRYAN ACTS TO STAY WAR

WIRES GOV. JOHNSON TO OBSERVE TREATIES

Urges California Executive to Withhold Signature from Any Measure Violating Jap. Rights.

PREPARE TO MEET PROTEST OF JAPAN

Administration Endeavoring to Show that Proposed Legislation Doesn't Violate Rights.

Washington, April 19.—Secretary Bryan today telegraphed to Governor Johnson of California requesting him to withhold his signature from any anti-Asian legislation passed by the California legislature which might be in violation of treaties between the United States and Japan.

Secretary Bryan today declined to make public the text of his telegram and with some reluctance discussed the subject at all. The impression prevailed here that it was the desire of the secretary not to make public his text in California until after it has been presented to an executive session of the legislature.

Meanwhile those in charge of the legislation which Japan construed an offensive to her national pride, have asked the state department for specific information as to the exact limit of the guarantees to Japanese and other foreigners by existing treaties, and the department will clear up that point as far as it can, in the absence of any judicial decisions in the question.

Although President Wilson was taking a day off and all callers were strictly barred, he did discuss the situation with Secretary Bryan. All officials here hope for some happy solution of the question before the laws are finally enacted.

Washington, April 19.—The postponement by the California legislature of the alien land bills until next week had the effect of slightly relieving the tension here, although every moment until the bills are again taken up will be utilized in exchange of messages between Washington and Sacramento and other points in California, where influential officials reside who may be able to exert some influence upon the course of legislation at the state capital.

President Wilson and Secretary Bryan make no secret of the fact that although they are precluded from officially interfering in the progress of legislation in California, they are privately addressing themselves to individuals to secure amelioration of the features of the pending land bills offensive to the Japanese government.

But taking into consideration the probability that in its final form the legislation may not apply to other aliens than the Japanese and Chinese, the administration officials here are giving some thought to the best means of meeting a protest by the Japanese government against the proposed legislation on the ground that it is in violation of treaty obligations.

U. S. JUDGE BOARMAN IS UNDER INQUIRY

Washington, April 19.—An investigation of Judge Alek Boorman and the United States court of the western district of Louisiana, with headquarters at Shreveport has just been started by the department of justice. Officials are reticent as to the reason for the investigation, but it was learned that it originated primarily within the department.

Denies Huerta Is in Trouble.

By Associated Press. Oahu, April 19.—In reply to a telegram of inquiry to Secretary of State De la Barra in connection with publication of a prediction of the fall of the Huerta government within the next 17 days, Mexican Consul Roberto de la Barra today received a telegram from De la Barra absolutely denying that the statement was warranted by conditions and branding it as absolutely false.

ORDERS MINISTER FROM HIS OFFICE

Sheriff William Resents Importunities in Behalf of John Huff.

Efforts which have been making to ameliorate the condition of John Huff, the negro accused of killing Patrolman E. C. McConnell, who has been in solitary confinement in the Buncombe county jail, culminated sensationally this morning, when Rev. Charles Mercer Hall was refused permission to see the prisoner by Sheriff Charles F. Williams and ordered from the sheriff's office at the county court house. Rev. Mr. Hall had presented to the sheriff a written request by Solicitor Robert R. Reynolds that he be permitted to see the prisoner.

As a result of this occurrence Foster A. Sandley, one of several who have interested themselves in the status of Huff at the jail, has requested a conference of these and of a number of ministers of the city at his office this afternoon, when some course of action is to be decided upon.

The request from Solicitor Reynolds was obtained last night by Mr. Hall and Miss Maude Waddell, both of whom went to the court house this morning to present it to the sheriff. When Sheriff Williams had read the solicitor's communication he informed Mr. Hall, it is alleged, that he might see Huff if he would confine his conversation to spiritual matters, and not otherwise. This promise, it is said, Mr. Hall refused to give and thereupon the sheriff reiterated his refusal and declined to put that refusal in writing.

Then, according to an eye witness, Mr. Hall advanced toward the sheriff, placed his hand on his shoulder and began, "Come as a Christian gentleman—Don't touch me." Sheriff Williams is alleged to have exclaimed, springing to his feet, "I have been hurried enough about this business. While I am an officer of the law and of peace, if you come here for personal trouble you can get it. You see the door. You get out and I don't want you coming back again."

Whether action will be directed to the relief of Huff, whose physical condition is declared to be bad, or at the sheriff is not definitely determined, but it is said that both courses will be discussed. Mr. Sandley is acting as attorney for Mr. Hall. General Theo. P. Davidson and a number of ministers are taking an active part in consideration of the Huff case and the latest aspects of the movement in his behalf.

LIBERAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE MASONIC HOME.

Contributions Received by Secretary-Treasurer Phoenix Now Total \$1336.75

Gazette-News Bureau, Daily News Building, Greensboro, April 19.—Many liberal contributions have been received by John J. Phoenix, secretary and treasurer of the Masonic and Eastern Star home near Greensboro, during the past several days. The donations include a complete outfit for the dining room valued at \$56.4 and given by Chester Cone, president of the district; Rev. E. R. Revell and White Oak cotton mills. Mr. Cone has also donated \$75 from the outfitting of room No. 1 in the home. Other donations received include \$75 from Masonic bodies at Bryson City; \$75 from Greensboro chapter No. 14, Order of the Eastern Star; \$75 from J. B. Stroud, North Carolina representative for Cradock-Terry company; general fund donations include \$100 from grand chapter, Order of Eastern Star; \$200 from Charlotte consistency No. 1, Scottish Rite Masons; \$25.75 from Pigeon River lodge No. 336; \$1 from Mrs. Ransour of Hendersonville; \$10 from Durham commandery, Knights Templar, No. 2; \$25 from J. C. Pierce Print-Ing company of Greensboro. The total contributions amount to \$1336.75.

OGDEN AGAIN CHOSEN HEAD OF CONFERENCE

Richmond, Va., April 19.—Robert C. Ogden of New York was re-elected president of the Conference for Education in the South at the closing session last night, despite his telegram urging that he be retired to the ranks of the organization. William A. Blair of North Carolina, as treasurer, and A. P. Bourland of Washington, as executive secretary, succeeded themselves. The following executive committee was named: H. W. Laird, Alabama; George B. Cook, Arkansas; A. A. Murphy, Florida; Harry Hodgson, Georgia; M. O. Hughes, Kentucky; J. B. Aswell, Louisiana; Joseph Cook, Mississippi; J. Y. Joyner, North Carolina; Clarence H. Foy, North Carolina; Thomas F. Parker, South Carolina; R. P. Brooks, Texas; J. H. Kirkland, Tennessee; H. H. Pritchard, Virginia; M. R. Shawkey, West Virginia.

POPE MUCH IMPROVED; LUNCHES WITH SISTERS

Rome, April 19.—For the first time since his illness the pope and his sisters lunched at the Vatican, together with Angelo Sarto, the pope's brother. This is considered an omen that the pope is really on the convalescent stage.

LODGE PROTEST AGAINST VOTE

Anti-Suffragists Appear before Senate Committee to Oppose Giving Women Franchise.

MANY LETTERS READ OPPOSING ACTION

First Effect of Amendment Would Be to Admit Negroes to the Polls, Says One.

By Associated Press. Washington, April 19.—A throng of anti-suffragists appeared today in the capitol to protest to the senate committee against any constitutional amendment giving the right of franchise to their sex. They expressed regret that only two hours had been allotted them in which to present their arguments, but they settled down to make the best of their time.

Among the principal speakers to present the views of the opposition to woman suffrage, were Mrs. Arthur M. Dodge, president of the national association opposed to woman suffrage; Mrs. A. J. George, secretary of the Massachusetts branch of the organization, and Mrs. Lucy J. Price, one of its foremost lecturers and workers.

The women also brought them letters of protest from many anti-suffragists throughout the country. Among them were arguments written by Kate Douglas Wiggin and Molly Elliott Seawell, authors, who condemned the suffrage cause.

Miss Alice Paul and several other leaders of the suffragist cause had placed near the committee table and listened to arguments of the "Anti." Dr. Mary Walker, who has the statutory right to wear trousers, sat just behind Chairman Thomas.

William Putnam, of Massachusetts, read a paper by Kate Douglas Wiggin, the author. "I cannot believe that the ballot is the first or the next best thing to work for," he read, "I want woman to be good, home maker, a good mother, and a loyal, intelligent, active citizen, but above all, to be a helpful, stimulating, inspiring force in the world rather than a useful and influential factor in politics. It is even more difficult to be an inspiring woman than a good citizen and an honest voter."

"A woman's job, to my mind, is with other women, with children, and with men, who next to children are most dependent upon what she thinks and says and does, and is. I would have woman strong enough to keep just a trifle in the background; the limelight never makes anything grow."

Molly Elliott Seawell told the committee in a letter that 19 states could be counted upon to vote against an amendment to the constitution giving women the ballot. "The first fruits of this amendment," the letter stated, "would be to admit negro women to the polls when 11 states have successfully defied the federal government in an effort to admit negro men to the polls."

Suffragettes Use Bomb. Plymouth, England, April 19.—A militant suffragette "bomb troop" this morning attempted to blow up the famous Sisson tower on Plymouth Hoe. The tower is the original Eddystone lighthouse, built by John Smeaton in 1759-59, dismantled when it became antiquated, and re-erected on the Hoe as a historic relic.

As in many instances of recent date the bomb employed by the militant suffragettes failed to explode. It consisted of the usual cylindrical tin canister filled with explosives and a wet fuse attached at the top. The bomb was placed by the women under the entrance gate to the tower. The fuse had been lighted, but was apparently put out by the wind. On the cylinder was painted in bold letters the words "Votes for women! Death in ten minutes," while all around was scattered suffrage literature.

PROPOSITION IS REJECTED

State Commission Refuses to Accept Concessions of Railroads, as to the Freight Rates.

PROPOSAL WAS BASED ON FEDERAL RULING

Scores of Messages Received by Governor, Some Suggesting Extra Session Call.

Special to The Gazette-News. Raleigh, April 19.—Seven railroads, including the Seaboard, this afternoon offered the special freight rate commission reductions of nine cents on first class and one cent on lower classes on shipments from western points to North Carolina cities. This is on the basis of what the interstate commerce commission decided was fair and reasonable for Durham and Winston-Salem. The commission has the matter under consideration but there was no chance of their accepting the proposition.

L. E. Chaloner, traffic manager of the Seaboard, came in today and explained that the non-participation of his road yesterday was on account of the illness of the vice president.

The commission rejected the proposition offered by the railroads and began formulating a counter-proposition. Governor Craik and members of the commission received scores of telegrams today. Some of these suggested that the legislature be called in extra session to consider the matter. "I have not thought of that phase of the matter," said the governor in response to an inquiry by correspondents.

WASHINGTON BANKER HITS HOUSE MEMBER

Charles Glover Twice Strikes Representative Sims of Tennessee.

Washington, April 19.—Representative Garrett of Tennessee conferred with Speaker Clark and looked up precedents today preparatory to bringing the attention of the house to the assault yesterday upon Representative Sims by Charles Glover, a local banker.

Mr. Glover, in public statements, admits he struck Representative Sims on the face twice. Garrett declared today the incident should not be permitted to pass without notice of the house.

GOV. BLEASE DEFIES STATE COURT ORDER

Columbia, S. C., April 19.—Governor Blease this afternoon honored requisition papers from Governor Sulzer of New York for A. A. Carter and Frank Tarbaux, who are wanted in New York for wire-tapping. The men were immediately turned over to Lieutenant Gegan and McKenna, both of the New York police department.

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Stephen A. Jenks Dead. (By Associated Press.) Harrison, R. I., April 19.—Stephen A. Jenks, president of several textile companies and son of the inventor of the spinning ring which revolutionized the industry, died here today.

STRIKE'S COST IS ENORMOUS

Two Million a Day Estimated Loss to Belgium as Result of Great Walkout.

CABINET REJECTS COMPROMISE PLEAS

Movement Constantly Extended and Half the Nation's Workers Now Are Idle.

By Associated Press. Brussels, Belgium, April 19.—Twelve million dollars is the figure compiled in trustworthy circles of Belgium's loss in the first six days of the strike for equal political rights, which has been joined by about 400,000 men, half the male working population of the country.

Two-thirds of this loss of \$2,000,000 a day falls, according to the socialist trade union leaders, upon the employers and supporters of the existing system. The organ by exercising self-denial, can hold out as long as the capitalists are willing to endure their deprivation of dividends for a political reason only.

All appearances go to show that the strike will continue for a considerable period, as the determination of the men is met by the equally firm rejection of any idea of compromise by Premier Charles de Broqueville and the other cabinet ministers. The premier declares that he did not offer his resignation to King Albert on Thursday as reported, nor will he consent to submit to a referendum of the country the demand of the men for equal suffrage.

The printers of the capital struck at midnight, but as the newspapers were printed at 11 o'clock this morning, at that hour, all appeared this morning. Even the men employed on the socialist organ, Le Peuple, walked out, but enough will be permitted to stay to print a sheet containing strike news. Some of the evening papers came out today in reduced form.

The strike also extended to the tailors in Brussels and there is a marked increase in the total of men who have joined the movement.

From the province come reports of firm intention to succeed on the part of the men. Reports of minor incidents of violence have been received but as a rule all is pacific.

EXPRESS MESSENGER ADMITS BIG THEFT

Atlanta, Ga., April 19.—J. D. Stringer, an express messenger, has confessed to the theft of \$5000 from a package Wednesday night, according to Southern Express company officials. The money has been recovered from the spot where Stringer had buried it near Jessup, Ga.

TENNIS TOURNAMENT AT COLUMBIA

By Associated Press. Columbia, S. C., April 19.—The National Lawn Tennis Association, under whose auspices the Southern Intercollegiate Tennis tournament is conducted, has given this year's tournament to the University of South Carolina, here, according to announcement today. The preliminaries will be played here May 5 and 6 and the finals on May 9.

AMERICANS KILLED IN PARIS

Paris, April 19.—A triple automobile fatality, in which the two children of Isadora Duncan, the American dancer, and their governess were killed, occurred at Levallois Perret, just outside the walls of Paris today, under circumstances which are being investigated by the authorities.

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CONTEMPT CASE HELD BASELESS

FULL ATTENDANCE AT PRESBYTERY

Fine Progress in Many Lines Shown in Reports to Waynesville Meeting.

One of the Asheville members of the Presbyterian church, returning from Waynesville, gives the following account of the meeting of presbytery, which has closed there: "There was an unusually full attendance. The presbytery covers eleven western counties but by agreement Madison county is under the exclusive care of the Northern Presbyterian church."

"Rev. J. O. Wallace of Bryson City, the retiring moderator, preached the opening sermon. Rev. Lewis Collins of Asheville was chosen moderator. "On Wednesday night Rev. R. P. Smith of Asheville presented the presbytery's most successful work, all in behalf of the young, viz: At Balfour orphanage, Henderson county; Morrison industrial school for girls and Maxwell home and school for boys, both in Macon county. Stereopticon views prepared by Dr. J. F. Ramsey of Asheville added much to the interest in these institutions."

"There have been no changes of pastors during the year. "The financial reports were most encouraging, those of the presbytery exceeding any year of its history; while those of the General Assembly reported \$154,000 received for the home mission work and more than \$700,000 for the foreign missions.

"Rev. R. F. Campbell, D. D., was chosen commissioner to the General Assembly meeting in Atlanta on May 15. Elder Lindsey of the Waynesville church was chosen from the elders. "The hour devoted to the Sunday school interests brought surprises in the way the country school began to grow through the influence of the conventions. This Oak Forest Sunday school increased its roll from 28 to 53 in six months through starting a cradle roll, home department and adult Bible class. Naturally the spiritual interest grew and seven were added to the church on profession.

"It was interesting to hear of organized adult Bible classes, at Barnardsville of 25, and at Horse shoe of 65, including Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterians. The denomination fellowship grows. "The next meeting of the presbytery will be held September 16-18 at Davidson river in Transylvania county. "A unique business decision was the order to purchase an adding machine for the use of the treasurer and auditing committee, the work having increased so much under the new system of accounting."

This gentleman stated that the hospitality of the Waynesville people in the entertainment of those attending the presbytery was splendid.

TWO PHYSICIANS TO GO TO BREVARD TOMORROW

To Make Examination of Major W. E. Brees, for Information of District Attorney.

Dr. F. Webb Griffith whom District Attorney Holton has secured, with Dr. F. T. Meriwether, to go to Brevard and ascertain the state of health of Major W. E. Brees, has stated that he and Dr. Meriwether will probably go to the home of Major Brees tomorrow morning. After making the examinations, the two physicians will make their report to the district attorney.

SCALES FOR CHAIRMAN

Name of Greensboro Man Will Be Presented When Constitutional Commission Meets. Special to The Gazette-News. Raleigh, April 19.—The name of Col. A. M. Scales of Greensboro will be presented for chairman of the constitutional commission when it meets in preliminary session Monday. Organization will be effected and adjournment taken.

Martin Not in Vevey.

By Associated Press. Vevey, Switzerland, April 19.—The police of this city have visited every hotel, boarding house and clinic, talking with them a photograph of Joseph W. Martin of Memphis, who has been missing from London since April 2, but they were unable to find him. They are convinced he is not in Vevey.

MISSOURI JUDGE WHO ORDERED EDITOR NELSON TO JAIL FOR CRITICISM IS NOT SUSTAINED.

INACCURATE REPORTS NOT CONTEMPT BASIS

"Cause for Comment" in the Decision to Which Newspaper Excepted, It Is Declared.

By Associated Press. Jefferson City, Mo., April 19.—William R. Nelson editor and owner of the Kansas City Star, was found not guilty of malice in the publication of articles for which he was adjudged guilty of contempt of court and sentenced to a day in jail last February by Circuit Judge Joseph A. Guthrie. The article itself was "substantially true," and "unless in the court's opinion that article in itself is contemptuous" the petitioner should be discharged.

These were the findings reported to the Missouri Supreme court today by its commissioner in the case, Charles C. Crow, of Kansas City.

The article complained of states that Judge Guthrie had refused to dismiss the divorce suit of Minnie L. against Claude F. Cleveringer until attorneys fees were paid and that the refusal came after the Cleveringers had been reconciled and had asked dismissal of the case.

"Your commissioner finds," says the report, "from the evidence submitted and considered, that the article referred to was substantially true and as nearly a correct report of court proceedings as could be expected from a layman, and the experience of your commissioner has been that many lawyers would have made as many errors as appear in this article."

Reporter Is Upheld. "The author of the article complained of, Mr. Murphy, was a layman and moreover had been learned in the law, he would have been of the opinion that the order in the Cleveringer case was unusual in that it imposed conditions on the rights of the plaintiff to dismiss a suit for divorce. "Your commissioner is of the opinion that under the evidence, petitioner had no personal knowledge of the article complained of until after its publication and Mr. Murphy and Karl Walker (the man who edited the article) were servants of the petitioner and made an honest effort to report correctly the proceedings that had occurred in the circuit court of Jackson county, Mo., without any intention of offending the dignity of or impeding the proceedings of the Circuit court, and there is no evidence tending to prove that the servants and agents of the petitioner had any intention of obstructing the orderly course of justice as administered by the court, or of criticising the court."

"Cause for Comment." "There was cause for comment on the order in the Cleveringer case denying the plaintiff the right to dismiss the case until her husband complied with the conditions imposed in the order and I am inclined to believe that Mr. Murphy was correct in saying that it tended to prevent a reconciliation of husband and wife, in which society is deeply interested. "Your commissioner finds from all the evidence in the case that the petitioner was merely exercising his right to report and discuss proceedings in a court of justice and the mere fact that the statements are inaccurate and that mistakes actuated in the article would not render him guilty of contempt; if so, every layman or person learned in the law that misconstrues, misinterprets or misunderstands the rulings, orders and judgments of our courts would be guilty of an offense, and punishment might be administered, as in this case, by depriving citizens of liberty.

"Your commissioner has heard the court say too often that he has misconstrued, misinterpreted and misstated the ruling and judgments of our courts, ever to concur in the theory that you must be technically correct in the interpretations of the judgments and rulings of the court. "Every person has the right to publish his understanding of what a court has decided and to differ with the court as to what the law is and also to criticize the law, as long as it is in the station does not attempt to impugn the motives of the court or to charge corruption or infamy and thereby attempt to bring our courts into disrepute. "In this case there is no evidence either in the article itself or in the oral or written evidence introduced, that there was an intention or purpose on the part of the agents or servants of the petitioner to reflect in any way upon the integrity of the court, and unless the court is of the opinion that the article in itself is contemptuous, the petitioner should be discharged."

The conclusion that the article was "substantially true," as stated in commissioner Crow's report, was reached through reports of testimony in the case by Mr. Murphy of the Star, by Paul Rutenfranz, a reporter for the Kansas City Journal, who corroborated Mr. Murphy's testimony, and by testimony of other witnesses.

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