

PRIMARY REPEAL BILL LIKELY TO BE SLAUGHTERED

Stubbs Bill Providing for Constitutional Convention Will Be Defeated, It is Predicted.

(BY MAX ABERNETHY)

Raleigh, Dec. 13.—Repeal of the state-wide primary law is the purpose of a bill introduced in the House of Representatives at last night's session by Will Neal, of McDowell county.

Representative Neal introduced a similar bill at the regular session last January-February but it failed of passage. One change is made in the bill and that is county officers shall still be selected by the county primaries.

All predictions as to the fate of the bill are that it will either be "killed" in the committee or defeated when it reaches the floor of the House.

Defeat of the Stubbs bill providing for a constitutional convention in this state is freely predicted in the lower house even if the Senate does not pass the measure as it did at the regular session of 1921.

The bill proposes the calling of a convention to rewrite, revise and amend the state constitution, making the old document live up to present day needs in matters of taxation, and so forth.

Opponents of the measure, and there is a greater proportion of members in the House opposed to the bill than in the Senate, do not like the idea of tampering with what they declare is the only thing left in the state that has not been "done-over".

The House committee on education has sent the Matthews bill providing for a maximum levy of 30 cents for schools in the state back to their body with a favorable report. It is unlikely that any determined fight will be made to defeat this bill.

Four applications were declined in the following order, there being no cases in which the governor thought it advisable to intervene.

HE HELPS WIFE GET DIVORCE



COUNTESS OF DROGHEDA

London, Dec. 13.—"I'm not coming back home. If you want a divorce, you'll find evidence at the Great Northern Hotel."

The Earl of Drogheda wrote that to his wife. She followed directions. In court she produced a chambermaid from the hotel who swore she had seen the earl there with a woman not his wife.

WANTS TO ENLIST TO FIGHT GERMANS

Nome, Alaska, Dec. 13.—An Arctic adventurer, E. D. Seaman, sailed into Nome from the frozen north this month and, not knowing that the war was over, tried to enlist in the American army so he could fight in France.

Seaman said he had been three years getting to Nome from the Coronation Gulf country, which lies far East on Canada's Arctic coast, and during his journey had received no news from the outside world.

He left the gulf, he declared, in October, 1918, when he first heard the United States had entered the war. Seaman was formerly a member of the Royal Northwestern Mounted Police.

Soon after Seaman started for Nome the small schooner on which he was journeying was wrecked in the ice, he said, and he and his companions were forced to walk 27 days before they came to an Eskimo village. On their way they lived on roots.

Seaman gave an interesting description of the life of the Eskimos of Coronation Gulf. The natives, he said, still use the bow and arrow but are gradually getting accustomed to the use of firearms, which were introduced recently. The natives live of caribou and seal.

PUNISHMENT FOR DRAFT EVADERS IS RECOMMENDED

Adjutant General Harris Recommends That Congress Appropriate \$250,000 for the Work.

(BY MAX ABERNETHY)

Washington, Dec. 12.—Energetic pursuit and punishment of the more than 1,000,000 men who evaded the draft during the World War is urged by Adjutant General Harris, Adjutant General of the Army, in his report made public today by the Secretary of War.

"It is imperative," he declares, "that the Government exhibit the greatest possible energy in pursuing these men and in punishing all who are found guilty. If the government permits these deserters to escape the punishment provided for their offense, consequences of the gravest import will certainly ensue."

"Inaction of this sort would tend to set a premium on evasion of military service, with the inevitable result that, should another national emergency arise and another selective draft be put in operation, the number of men attempting to evade the performance of military duty will mount to a figure so large as to imperil the Nation through interfering very seriously with the rapid building-up of an emergency Army."

General Harris says the publication of the "slacker lists," by the newspapers "proved highly useful for the purpose of straightening out the records of a number of non-willful deserters whose names were included therein, despite all the care and effort expended in an attempt to include none but those of willful deserters." He shows that less than one half of one per cent of the names published have been found to be those of non-willful deserters and says these have been removed from the lists.

General Harris' report shows that reported desertions from the regular army in the fiscal year ended last June 30 totaled 14,563, or 4.157 per cent, the largest percentage since 1909, and nearly four times as great as that in the preceding fiscal year.

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REORGANIZATION OF WHOLE FEDERAL FUNCTIONS, RECOMMENDED, HOOVER

Washington, Dec. 13.—Secretary Hoover, in his first annual report made public today, tells President Harding that the establishment of a real Department of Commerce, "effective in service to producers, manufacturers and distributors, able to give economic interpretation of importance to the American public generally, and to stimulate American trade and merchant marine," requires "a thorough reorganization and entire regrouping of the federal functions bearing on these problems."

"The results of reorganization of the bureau concerning industry and trade are in part indicated by the increase in volume of demand upon the department for helpful action or information. These demands have now reached a rate of over 500,000 per annum.

"The further practical results to American commerce and industry will be more evident later in the year and comment upon them can best be deferred until results have been further realized."

Secretary Hoover calls attention to the fact that the total foreign trade of the nation decreased by \$3,176,626,000 during the past fiscal year, there was a slight increase in the visible balance of trade in favor of the United States as a result of the year's operations.

Exports for the year totaled \$6,385,636,039 against \$7,950,429,180 three years before while imports were \$3,854,449,430 against \$5,238,353,114. The balance of trade for the year was \$2,731,186,609 compared with \$2,711,807,512 the year before.

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AN UNFAVORABLE REPORT MADE ON PRIMARY REPEAL

Women, Led By Mrs. Josephus Daniels, Appeal to Committee Against Repeal of Measure.

(BY MAX ABERNETHY)

Raleigh, Dec. 13.—The \$710,000 school deficit bill passed second reading in the senate today without opposition or discussion, but the Everett resolution calling on the department of revenue and education for information about tax rates and horizontal cuts in values, came from the committee with an unfavorable report and no effort was made to revive it.

After passing second reading Monday night the Elmer Long bill requiring publication of all petitions for refund of taxes by the commissioner of revenue and board of equalization was today withdrawn from the calendar and sent to the joint judiciary for consideration. It is predicted the bill will not again reach the floor of the senate.

The primary repeal bill came to the house on an unfavorable committee report, 6-8, but was revived on a minority report. The committee heard the bill this morning when Mrs. Josephus Daniels, Dr. Della Dixon Carroll and Mrs. Palmer Jermon spoke against repeal of the primary.

Fisher, of Transylvania, introduced a bill requesting the interstate commerce commission to begin revising freight and passenger rates in North Carolina by at least 15 per cent.

The bill calling for a constitutional convention in 1923 and introduced in the senate by Senator Stubbs may come up at tonight's session of the senate. Senator Stubbs asked postponement this morning because of the absence of large numbers of members from the senate, some of whom are out of the city.

O'CONNOR GIVES 5,000 POLICEMEN A CHASE

Chicago, Dec. 13.—Lucky Tommy O'Connor, gunman and killer, who had been led to the death cell in the Cook county jail to await hanging next Thursday morning for the killing of a policeman, instead was today leading a combined force of 5,000 policemen and deputies a merry chase after his sensational escape from the county jail here yesterday.

Only heard what Watson said he saw

YES, SHE SMOKES



YES, SHE SMOKES

You'd hardly think that this worker with fork over her shoulder and cigar in her hand is a president's wife. She's the wife of Kalenin, president of Russia.

U.S. TAKES HAND IN DOMESTIC ROW

Employes Do Better Work On Days That They Have Not Quarreled With Other Half.

San Francisco, Calif., Dec. 13.—Uncle Sam wants his married employes to be happy at home so they can be efficient at their work, and, to accomplish this result in one of his San Francisco offices, has decided to take the role of peacemaker and help patch up domestic trouble.

The new rule, said to be the most remarkable of its kind ever put into effect in any federal office in the United States, was announced recently to the 400 married men and women employes of the office of the San Francisco collector of customs by W. B. Hamilton, who recently became head of the office.

Portions of Mr. Hamilton's talk follow: "A married man or a married woman must be happy while they are at work or they will not do their work well."

"A married man cannot reach full efficiency in his work if he comes to the office after a fight with his wife."

QUADRUPLE PACT SIGNED BY FOUR BIG POWERS TODAY

United States Signs Providing the Yap Treaty is Passed Satisfactorily.

(BY MAX ABERNETHY)

Washington, Dec. 13.—The new quadrangle treaty to preserve peace in the Pacific was signed this morning by the plenipotentiaries of the United States, Great Britain, France and Japan.

The signatures were affirmed in the ante room of the secretary of state. There was no formal ceremony and no one was present, except the plenipotentiaries, their secretaries and advisers.

The American delegates signed first under an alphabetic arrangement. The powers put their names to the document and affixed the seals a few minutes after 11 o'clock.

The approval of the United States was given on a written condition providing that the American-Japanese treaty regarding Yap must be concluded before the four power agreement is binding.

Except for the reservation, which are expected to be erased in a few days by signature of the Yap treaty the new Pacific agreement requires only parliamentary ratification by the various governments to make it effective.

The American official copy of the document now goes to the White House for transmission by President Harding to the senate. The new pact, it is generally believed today, will be confirmed by the senate in short time.

Before the signing the American reservations regarding Yap were handed to the Japanese in English and agreed to by them.

Domestic Questions Expected

WAKE FOREST HAZING EPISODE IN COURT

COTTON MARKET Steadier Tone in Cotton

SLAYER OF TEACHER LEFT NO CLEW BEHIND

EMBEZZLERS GETS 22 TO 38 YEARS

CHILD BURNED TO DEATH IN CRADLE

KANSAS WOMEN VIOLENT TODAY

U.S. TAKES HAND IN DOMESTIC ROW

WED BROTHER'S WIDOWS