

THREE HUNDRED PEOPLE ARE BURNED TO DEATH IN PACKED MEXICAN THEATER

FIRE CAUGHT FROM MOVING PICTURE MACHINE AND SPREAD QUICKLY, CATCHING A THOUSAND PEOPLE IN TRAP.

PERFORMANCE GIVEN IN HONOR OF VISIT OF THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE

Whole Families Are Wiped Out. The Dead Burned Beyond All Possibility of Recognition Are Buried by the City Authorities in Trenches.

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 15.—Between 250 and 300 people were burned to death and many more were injured in a fire which destroyed the Flores theatre in the city of Acapulco last night.

The floor of the theatre was a wooden affair, and last night over 1,000 people crowded into it to witness a special performance, given in honor of Governor Damian Flores of the state of Guerrero who was visiting the port at the time.

Exits Were Blocked. There were but three narrow exits to the building and the panic-stricken audience rushed to these, many falling and being crushed to death, their bodies choking the way to escape to others.

PAYS \$50,000 FINE TO STAY IN STATE

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Feb. 15.—The ground that the Waters-Pierce Oil Company of Missouri has not complied with the order of the supreme court of the state in an answer filed this morning, Attorney General Major this afternoon filed with the court a suggestion that the order be made effective against the concern.

SENATOR CARMACK'S SLAYERS BEGIN FIGHT FOR LIVES TODAY

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Feb. 15.—On the eve of the trial of Duncan B. Cooper, Robin J. Cooper and John D. Sharp for the slaying of former Senator E. W. Carmack, the factions are figuratively resting on their arms.

SHIPS IN COLLISION -FORTY SIX PERISH

ALGIERS, Feb. 15.—An unknown sailing vessel rammed the Belgian steamer Australia during a storm February 12, near Alboran Island, in the Mediterranean, one hundred miles from Gibraltar. Both vessels foundered. The total loss of life was forty-six.

NAVAL BUDGET AROUSES FIRE OF CRITICISM

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The house prohibition in the naval appropriations bill that no part of the appropriation for powder should be paid to any trust or monopoly "except in the event of an emergency" was the subject of considerable criticism in the senate today.



Senator Philander C. Knox Whose Way to Cabinet is Made Clear.

NAVAL BUDGET AROUSES FIRE OF CRITICISM

House Made Pretended Restriction With Dealing With Trusts.

MUST BUY POWDER OF THE OCTOPUS

Hale Defends Police of Giving Committeemen Navy Yards in Their States.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The house prohibition in the naval appropriations bill that no part of the appropriation for powder should be paid to any trust or monopoly "except in the event of an emergency" was the subject of considerable criticism in the senate today.

STORM SWEEPS ON LEAVING A PATH OF RUIN

Chicago and Middle West Suffered From Wind, Sleet and Snow.

IS FREEZING COLD AT NEW ORLEANS

Tornado Destroys Five Houses in Mississippi Town.

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—The wind snow and sleet storm which started last night and has continued through the day, has swept across the middle west with unrelenting force.

POLICE BILL IS APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Reported Favorably to the House and Will Pass That Body. IMPORTANT NEW MEASURES APPEAR Bill to Pay Solicitors Weekly Salary and Fees to Go to State.

(Special to The Citizen.) RALEIGH, Feb. 15.—The house committee on counties, cities and towns today voted to report favorably the bill introduced by representative Weaver of Buncombe, providing for the creation of a police commission for the city of Asheville.

Senator Harringer introduced in the senate today two notable bills, one making safe cracking in North Carolina a felony punishable by life imprisonment with sentence as low as ten years where the jury recommends mercy and 15 years for having in possession implements for perpetrating this crime.

Senate Passes Refunding Bill. The senate passed on final reading the \$2,000,000 bond issue bill to refund the bonds falling due next year.

Representative Morton offered an amendment to the state prohibition law defining the percent of alcohol in non-intoxicating drinks that can be sold, fixing it at not more than two percent.

A bill by Speaker Graham would establish a drug commission and provide machinery for preventing the sale of adulterated drugs.

The bill carrying the changes in the state military laws desired by the North Carolina national guard association was introduced in the senate by Senator Scott. It would make the state appropriation \$28,000 instead of \$14,000 and would pay 25 cents per month for each enlisted man.

After Mr. Morton had shaken his fist in Mr. Underwood's face at the close of an hour and a half debate on the state drainage bill, which was warm, the house adjourned at nearly eleven o'clock tonight without coming to a vote.

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—The wind snow and sleet storm which started last night and has continued through the day, has swept across the middle west with unrelenting force.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 15.—A violent storm in the Gulf of Mexico today has produced a heavy sea and high winds, and the city is being pelted with rain and sleet.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., Feb. 15.—A violent storm in the Gulf of Mexico today has produced a heavy sea and high winds, and the city is being pelted with rain and sleet.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The house prohibition in the naval appropriations bill that no part of the appropriation for powder should be paid to any trust or monopoly "except in the event of an emergency" was the subject of considerable criticism in the senate today.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The house prohibition in the naval appropriations bill that no part of the appropriation for powder should be paid to any trust or monopoly "except in the event of an emergency" was the subject of considerable criticism in the senate today.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The house prohibition in the naval appropriations bill that no part of the appropriation for powder should be paid to any trust or monopoly "except in the event of an emergency" was the subject of considerable criticism in the senate today.

JUGGLE RULES TO GIVE KNOX CABINET JOB

Democratic Leaders Denounce Methods to Juggle Bill Through. FAILED TO PASS ON THE FIRST VOTE Has Passed Senate and Is Now Ready For Signature of President.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—By a vote of 173 to 117 the house today passed the bill removing the bar to Senator Knox's eligibility for the office of secretary of state.

Immediately after this result was announced the house committee on rules held a meeting, which resulted in Mr. Dinkell's bringing in a rule making it in order for the house to again take up the bill and act upon it under conditions which should require only a majority vote to pass it.

Mr. Olmstead, of Pennsylvania, contended that the bill does not accomplish an evasion of the constitution. Among several other precedents Mr. Olmstead cited the case of Senator Morrill of Vermont, who was appointed secretary of the treasury.

In the opinion of Mr. Williams of Mississippi, who opposed the bill, that was the only reputable authority allowed to Senator Morrill, he said, had been confirmed through senatorial courtesy, which, he said, "over rides all bars, constitutional and otherwise."

Mr. Clark of Missouri, for the second time during the day, took the floor in opposition to the bill, and said that congress was making itself "the laughing stock of every man on the face of God's green earth."

Mr. Campbell of New York, who asked "what's the constitution between friends?" and said that if the bill under discussion should pass, Mr. Campbell would stand justified as a constitutional lawyer.

In adding his voice against the bill, Mr. Campbell of Missouri, declared that it was a case of constitutional jugglery or legislative favoritism.

On a ye and nay vote the bill was passed 173 to 117.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The state senate today filed the bill providing for an investigation of the county dispensary by a vote of 15 to 12.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The state senate today filed the bill providing for an investigation of the county dispensary by a vote of 15 to 12.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The state senate today filed the bill providing for an investigation of the county dispensary by a vote of 15 to 12.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The state senate today filed the bill providing for an investigation of the county dispensary by a vote of 15 to 12.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The state senate today filed the bill providing for an investigation of the county dispensary by a vote of 15 to 12.

MAY LEVY TAX TO MAKE UP BIG SHORTAGE

Resurrection of War Time Bogey May Be Found Necessary. MR. ROOSEVELT'S TERM EXPENSIVE Deficit For the Fiscal Year May Run Close to \$130,000,000.

(Special correspondent of The Citizen.) WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Because of the unparalleled extravagance of the Roosevelt administration Uncle Sam will probably be forced to resurrect some war-time taxes to put the finances of the government on good footing.

During January the deficit was nearly \$16,000,000. This brings the deficit thus far in the fiscal year up to \$79,814,443. Official figures do not sustain the position of the republican leaders that the increased deficit is due "entirely or chiefly" to the reduction in the national income because of slackened commercial activity.

During the first six months of the fiscal year, which ended last June 30, the total treasury receipts were \$217,412,629. They were only \$298,422,863 during the first six months of the fiscal year now current, which shows a falling off of \$133,000,000. The expenditures during the corresponding periods were \$228,515,084 and \$257,513,374 respectively. This is an increase of expenditure of \$30,998,312, which accounts for substantially more than half of the actual deficiency.

The deficit for the present fiscal year threatens to run up to \$186,000,000, and the deficit of the next fiscal year, according to Secretary of the Treasury Cortelyou, will be very close to the sum of \$145,000,000. This does not mean that the United States government is on the verge of bankruptcy, because the available balance on Dec. 31, 1908, was \$163,853,327. However, the financiers of the republican party are worrying, for a few annual deficits of more than one hundred million would make quite a hole in a surplus of any size.

It was at first rumored, and now it is being stated as a certainty, that the ways and means committee, which is in charge of the tariff revision, will ultimately have to recommend some and inheritance taxes in its report.

Representative Clark and his colleagues have been canvassing the situation with great care. If the ways and means committee fails to provide for the income and inheritance taxes the democratic leader will formally move a provision for such legislation be inserted when the matter comes before the house.

Here is the program that has rather definitely been worked out by the republican managers, to meet the revenue situation:

To impose a tax of 3 cents a pound on coffee, which it is estimated would produce annually approximately \$12,000,000.

To impose a tax of 10 cents on tea, producing \$10,000,000.

To increase from \$1 to \$2 the internal revenue tax on beer, \$60,000,000.

Total increase in sight, \$97,000,000. The democrats believe the tax on the breakfast table is thoroughly unpopular with the country and wrong in principle. They also believe that the country is more than ever in favor of the income and inheritance taxes, which would fall upon the people of wealth more than those who toil to give assistance in standing increased expenses of the government.

On this issue the democrats are ready to meet defeat on the floor of congress.

(Continued on page five.)

CROWD ASSEMBLING AT OLD POINT TO WELCOME FLEET FROM VOYAGE

(By Associated Press.) OLD POINT COMFORT, Va., Feb. 15.—The advance guard of visitors en route here to view the notable naval demonstration of Monday next and to participate in the welcome home of the battleship fleet began to arrive today. Hotel accommodations at Old Point already are at premium and quarters are now being sought at Norfolk, Hampton and other cities bordering on Hampton Roads.

The program of entertainment here is still indefinite as it is not known as yet just how many of the ships will be detached following the president's review and sent to the navy yards. Some 3,000 of the blue jackets from the fleet are to be sent to Washington to participate in the inaugural parade of March 14, and the vessels from which they are to be drawn undoubtedly will remain here. Efforts are to be made to have President Roosevelt and his guests on the Mayflower come ashore the evening of

the review to attend the dinner in honor of the flag and commanding officers of the fleet by the navy league, of which General Horace Porter is president. This dinner will be followed by a ball and during the stay of the ships in the roads there will be a round of gallics. Officers of the army at Fort Monroe are preparing to have a share in the welcome to the fleet.



WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Forecast: North Carolina: Rain Tuesday, colder in interior, much colder at night; Wednesday, generally fair, colder in east portion; moderate to brisk southwest to northwest winds.