

DEBATE IN HOUSE ON APPROPRIATION GAVE TAFT A PAIN

Thinks Argument Used in Travelling Expense Debate Was Proper

REPRESENTATIVES WHO INVITE SHOULD PAY

Declares That Reflections on Hospitality of South Were Unfair

WASHINGTON, May 27.—In all my experience, and I have enjoyed hospitality of many sections and countries of the world, I never had a more cordial, generous, open and lavish welcome than I had in the Southern states during my trip, and the slightest hint that puts me in the attitude of a critic of that hospitality gives me great pain.

This in part, is the manner in which President Taft today in a letter to Chairman Tawney, of the house committee on appropriations told how deeply he resented criticisms passed by democrats in the debate in the house yesterday upon the travelling expenses of the president.

The president says he is especially distressed by "suggested reflection of hospitality."

Visiting Part of His Job.

President Taft's letter continues: "I am deeply grieved over the phase which the discussion of the appropriation for the travelling expenses of the president took yesterday. I think it is a legitimate argument in favor of such an appropriation that congressmen and many others pressed the acceptance of invitations to visit their sections and districts, because the urgency of such requests indicates the opinion on the part of the people that one of the duties of the president is to visit the people in their homes.

But the intimation that acceptance by congressmen of the president's invitation to travel on the train with him in their respective districts or states was a reason why they should not vote their free opinion on the question of such an appropriation, is to me a most painful one. In traveling upon the train they were not receiving any hospitality—they were only making a little more elaborate the cordial welcome

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NEW AMENDMENT DELAYS PASSAGE OF RAILROAD BILL

Senate Finally Includes Telephone and Telegraph Lines in Bill

BALKS AT CLAUSE AGAINST MERGERS

Decides to Put Off Final Vote Until It Can Investigate Further

WASHINGTON, May 27.—At the last moment before reaching the point of voting upon the railroad bill today the senate took the important step of adding an amendment placing interstate telephone and telegraph lines under the supervision of the interstate commerce commission. This action was followed by an effort to restore a portion of section 12, affecting mergers, which heretofore was voted out. Both provisions were introduced so suddenly as to surprise the senate, and the latter was considered so important that rather than vote upon it without more consideration than it was able to give, the senate took an adjournment 'until tomorrow.

The action of the senate on telegraph and telephone companies insures their inclusion in some form in the proposed law as the subject is covered in the house bill. The suggestion for the inclusion of telegraph and telephone companies within the control of the interstate commerce commission was made by Senator Dixon, of Montana, but ultimately his amendment was superseded by one in simpler form which was offered by Senator La Follette, of Wisconsin.

Form of Amendment. The senate reached the voting stage at four o'clock after an animated debate which was carried on largely on the democratic side of the chamber and which dealt especially with the question as to whether the Dooliver amendment regulating the stock and bond issues of railroads was in accordance with the last democratic platform.

Much dissipation against voting upon the Dixon telegraph amendment without an opportunity for examination was expressed. While the discussion and the voting were in progress on the Dixon amendment Senator La Follette prepared an amendment

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CROP OF LAWSUITS IMPENDING FROM PINCHOT INQUIRY

Writer For Collier's Weekly Sues Attorney Lawler For Slander

GOT HIM MIXED WITH ANOTHER MUCKRAKER

Lawyer Thought he Was Man Who Was Far-Hero on Republic

WASHINGTON, May 27.—Christopher P. Connolly, a lawyer of Montana and New York, and a well-known writer for magazines, today filed suit in the supreme court of the District of Columbia to recover \$25,000 damages for alleged slander from Oscar Lawler, assistant attorney general for the interior department.

The suit is the first of threatened legal proceedings growing out of the Ballinger-Pinchot inquiry. It was rumored around the court today that Secretary Ballinger was prepared to invoke the law against some of his alleged traducers.

The basis of the action is the testimony alleged to have been given by Mr. Lawler May 17 before the Ballinger-Pinchot joint committee wherein Mr. Lawler is alleged to have referred to Mr. Connolly and others as "despicable scoundrels who would stoop to any depth of degradation."

Mr. Connolly charges that this connection of him with the person on board the Republic is false and that the accusation was maliciously made. Mr. Connolly said later that at the time of the loss of the Republic he was in Los Angeles, California.



PROMISE TO AID DEVELOPMENT OF STUDENT'S CONFERENCE SITE

Local Board of Trade and Retail Merchants Undertake to Raise Sum to Complete Amount Necessary to Equip Black Mountain Grounds.

At a joint meeting of the directors of the board of trade and the Retail Merchants association held yesterday afternoon addresses in the interest of the proposed students' conference to be established near Black Mountain made by prominent national Y. M. C. A. workers resulted in the committee agreeing to urge the people of Asheville to subscribe \$11,500 of the \$50,000 needed to carry out the great project. A joint committee of ten representing both associations having as its chairman Mr. George S. Powell was appointed, and this committee will immediately begin the campaign towards raising the amount promised.

Announcement is made that \$2,000 of this amount has already been subscribed by local citizens. When seen at the Swannanoa hotel last night, Messrs. W. D. Weatherford, student secretary for the international committee in the South,

and C. K. Ober, field secretary for the international committee whose work lies principally among the city associations, appeared to be much pleased with the reception accorded them in Asheville, and were of the opinion that the conference is an assured proposition.

In speaking of the Black Mountain proposition they said that the students' conference department of the Y. M. C. A., the Y. W. C. A. and the Young Peoples' movement had already secured \$50 acres located near Black Mountain which it was proposed to develop on a definite plan. The property will be equipped with a hotel and cottages which will accommodate 400 guests at the start and plans will be made to erect an auditorium, gymnasium, athletic field, and swimming lake. The project when completed will cost in the neighborhood of \$100,000 and a

ZEALOUS OFFICIALS OF CUSTOMS HOUSE ORDER LADY'S TRUNKS IN LIMBO

Well Known Virginians Embarrassed by Suggestions of Smugglings.

WAS ALL A MISTAKE

NEW YORK, May 27.—Mr. and Mrs. Henry C. Stuart, of the well known Stuart family of Virginia, had a clash with the customs authorities today on their return from Europe on the Mauretania. Both sides admit tonight that there had been misunderstanding. Eight of Mrs. Stuart's twenty-five trunks were seized and sent to the public stores as containing valuable goods not declared, but as Mr. Stuart has expressed his willingness to pay duty in full they will be released when he does so, and he may appeal for redress, if he considers the appraisal unjust.

George Smith, a deputy surveyor of the port, held a conference with the Stuarts late this afternoon. Afterward he acknowledged that inasmuch as Mrs. Stuart had been living abroad for the last two years, she thought she was a non-resident, and this misapprehension caused all the trouble. The fact that Mr. Stuart is a resident, however, suits Mr. Smith, as, according to rulings of the treasury department, made his wife also a resident.

"But I am sure," he added, "that the declaration was made out in good faith and that there was no intention on the part of Mr. and Mrs. Stuart to evade the payment of duties."

Mr. Stuart, he concluded, was ready to pay all the duties. Mr. Stuart said "I do not charge that there is any intention on the part of the customs officials to do me any injustice, but I believe that there had been some misapprehension. But I do claim non-residence for my family. I know the law and I am going to stand by my rights. I am sorry that this whole thing has attracted so much attention and the superfluous vigilance of the customs officers has put me in a queer light."

SUBMARINE DRIFTING AT BOTTOM OF CHANNEL WITH ALL HER CREW DEAD

Rescuers Unable to Make Investigation Because of Strong Current.

SIGN OF EXPLOSION

CALAIS, France, May 27.—The French submarine Pluton which was struck by the cross channel steamer Pas de Calais yesterday morning, was again located tonight after having been driven from her usual moorings at the bottom of the English channel today and carried higher and thither by the swift flow of the currents.

Tonight various craft are moored above the spot and are sending down divers in an endeavor to fasten the chains about the wreck so that it may be raised to the surface.

That the 27 officers and men of the Pluton perished, is the opinion of navy officials who are assisting an abundance of nutha on the surface of the water and this leads them to the belief that the inner shell of the submarine was shattered by the blow of the Pas de Calais and that all the crew were drowned.

LOST HIS MILLIONS AND GOES A FISHING

BERMINGHAM, Ala., May 27.—Creditors of Knight, Yancey & Co., the bankrupt cotton firm of Decatur, adjourned this afternoon to meet in Birmingham again next Wednesday. William Yancey and W. D. Newbutt, two members of the bankrupt firm, were on the stand this afternoon. John D. Knight, who was in charge of the company's office at the time of the failure, was still absent, his special deputy marshal who was sent for him bringing back the summons marked "Fishing, not in Decatur."

GENTLEMAN FARMER IS WANTED TO EXPLAIN HOW TRUNKS WERE STOLEN

'Old Skooth' Indicted in Virginia Fights Against Extradition.

DENIES IDENTITY

KINGSTON, N. Y., May 27.—George Washington Thomas, arrested as "Old Skooth" whom detectives say was the head of a band of Southern baggage thieves bitterly fought extradition to Virginia before County Judge Cantine this afternoon. He was indicted in Virginia on a charge of grand larceny and Governor Hughes has issued extradition papers.

Immediately the court informed the prisoner of his right to a writ of habeas corpus, two Kingston lawyers retained by him applied for and obtained the writ upon the prisoner's affidavit that he never had been in Virginia and was not the person who was wanted there. Upon this statement they contended he could not be a fugitive from that state and even if operations had been carried on from an adjoining state, he could not be extradited.

By agreement the hearing was fixed for next Friday morning. Judge Cantine meanwhile refusing to admit the prisoner on bail.

Thomas was arrested recently at his country place near Marlboro, Vt. as a gentleman farmer. He is charged with being the leader of the gang that made its headquarters in Richmond, and by means of fraudulent baggage checks succeeded in getting away with \$200,000 worth of baggage.

PROF. KOCH, WELL KNOWN BACTERIOLOGIST DEAD

Made Famous by His Discovery of Tuberculosis and Cholera Bacilli.

BADEN BADEN, May 27.—Prof. Robert Koch, the famous bacteriologist, died here this afternoon from a disease of the heart. He was born at Klumthal, Hanover, December 11, 1843.

Prof. Koch became distinguished as an investigator of micro-organisms, but probably gained most renown as the discoverer of the bacilli of tuberculosis and cholera. It was in 1882 that Prof. Koch first announced his discovery of the bacilli of tuberculosis. The following year he was sent by the German government to India and Egypt to study cholera, and he discovered the comma bacillus. His presence of which is regarded as an infallible test in diagnosing Asiatic cholera. It was in 1890 at the meeting of the international medical congress that Prof. Koch announced his discovery of a specific for tuberculosis, but while his announcement created much sensation, the medical profession generally did not accept it as a fact and subsequent experience did not fully substantiate the claims of Koch in this direction.

TROUBLE IN SALLY LEAGUE

COLUMBIA, Ga., May 27.—Following complaint made to President Jorner of the South Atlantic League by Empire Club that he had been insulted and his life threatened by Manager Fox and Players Krebs and Lewis of the Columbus team, Fox was indefinitely suspended today. An investigation of the affair will be made.



SMASHING RECORDS ON THE HOOSIER SPEEDWAY

Kincaid Cuts Down Chevrolet's Time in Hundred Mile Race.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., May 27.—Records went down before the onslaught of desperately driven motor cars in today's races at the motor speedway, and the new course, the only brick track in the world, justified all the hopes of its constructors that it would prove satisfactory.

In three different classes of American stock cars, time was hammered down. The greatest event of the day was the one hundred mile race, for cars of 301 to 450 cubic inches displacement. It was won by Kincaid in a national in 1:23.43. The previous record, set by Chevrolet in a Buick at Atlanta was 1:44.8.

Ed Burton took this race away from Dawson, driving a Marmon. He lost the lead by the fouling of a spark plug and could not regain it. Kincaid, pounding down the long stretch, barely escaped crashing into the press stand when one of the rear tires ripped off and landed high in the air. By sheer strength he held his car to the track.

In the five mile race, for cars of the same class as entered the 100 mile, Kincaid broke another record, winning over Dawson and Harroun, both driving Marmons, by a burst of speed in the home stretch that carried him from the field to the fore. His time was 4:05, bettering the former record by 40 seconds.

Harroun had his timing in the ten mile event for cars of 251 to 300 inch displacement. He won in 8:16, smashing the former record of 9:03.

Chevrolet, driving a Buick in the five mile race for the little cars of 161 to 220 inch displacement, won with a brilliant dash in 4.41, breaking the previous time of 5.13. There were no serious accidents today. The feature tomorrow will be the 200 mile race which was called off last year because of fatal accidents.

'PENNSY' ATHLETES ARE LEADING IN EVENTS

Enters Fourteen Men in Meet and Carries Off Honors at Trials.

PHILADELPHIA, May 27.—Pennsylvania showed up so well in the trials today as to make it appear that the Philadelphia institution will probably carry off the inter-collegiate championship in the finals which will be held on Franklin Field tomorrow.

The Pennsylvania athletes came up to the expectations of their coaches, and in a number of instances qualified men in events that were not looked for.

Providing Pennsylvania wins the meet it looks like a warm battle for second place with Michigan, Yale, Harvard and possibly Princeton as the contenders.

Pennsylvania qualified fourteen men for the finals: Yale and Princeton twelve each; Harvard eleven; Cornell eight; Michigan six; Amherst four; Syracuse and Columbia, and Wesleyan two each, and Rutgers, Colgate, Dartmouth, New York and Bowdoin one each.

No records were broken today but the performances were all of a high order. In the 229 yards dash, Mills, of Pennsylvania, ran in 21.5, or one-fifth of a second slower than the record held by Wefers, Harvard, the present intercollegiate track champion, did not come up to expectations, all luck following the Crimson team.

OPPOSE PARCELS POST. ROME, Ga., May 27.—Determined opposition to the parcels post proposition was expressed today by the Georgia Retail Hardware association in convention here, and a resolution was adopted urging the Georgia delegation in congress to use their best efforts to defeat the measure should it be brought up for consideration.

ALCHEMISTS' HOPE REALIZED AT COST OF BANKER'S LIFE

Chemist Declares he Has Discovered Secret of Transmutation of Metals

BANKER KILLED BY GAS IN LABORATORY

Was Watching Final Experiments and Got too Near Crucible

SCRANTON, Pa., May 21.—The lure of gold led Charles Coulter Dickinson to his death. Even as Paracelsus of old died of a draught of his newly discovered "elixir of life," so the young financier whose meteoric career made Wall Street gasp, died of the fumes that were, he thought, to make him the richest man in the world.

To manufacture gold, or at least create a metal that would pass for gold—the dream of the alchemists for centuries untold—was the will of the man that drew the banker along until nature, in rebellion at such daring inquisitiveness, snuffed out his life with a breath of death dealing gas from the crucible in which he had sought to discover her secrets.

Chemist Tells Story. Dr. F. W. Lange, the chemist who conducted the experiments which Dickinson was watching when he inhaled the fatal fumes, has made possible a statement of what was being attempted—what the banker had expected to realize.

Behind this technical description by the chemist lies a romantic story. Dr. Lange did not touch upon it when making his statement, but a friend who was in the secret told some of the story today.

Four years ago a man whose father had been a friend of Dr. Lange, and had dabbled with him in chemical experiments, visited the chemist and told him of a wonderful dream he had some nights before. It seemed to him, this man told Dr. Lange, that his father had come to him armed with a weighty secret.

The secret ran in the terms of a chemical formula, and was so comprehensible to the dreamer, who had little or no knowledge of the intricacies of the science. But the dream made such a vivid impression on him that he remembered every detail of the formula which it seemed his father wished him to convey to Dr. Lange.

Would Unravel Mystery. By means of this formula, so it was explained in the dream, the chemist would be able to unravel the great mystery of the relations between inorganic substances, especially applied, so the dream went on, it would result in the actual transmutation of base metals into those more precious.

The dream was told to Dr. Lange and the extraordinary familiarity with chemical terms which it involved convinced Dr. Lange, coming as it did from the mouth of a man who

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WORK ON STATESVILLE AIR LINE WILL SOON BEGIN

Convicts From State's Prison Will be Put to Work on Construction.

STATESVILLE, May 27.—The news that work will begin on the Statesville Air line railroad from Statesville to Mt. Airy within a few weeks is now given out authoritatively. The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Statesville Air Line railroad company was held in Statesville yesterday and was attended by delegates from practically every township in Fredell, Yadkin and Surry counties, interested in the road, the event being one of unusual interest to the railroad promoters.

After the formal opening of the meeting Mr. D. M. Ausley spoke before the body regarding the progress being made toward building the road and in connection with the presentation of the bright outlook, read a letter from Governor Kitchin, in which the governor gave assurance that 79 convicts, those now at work on the Matamoraskeet railroad, would be ready to turn over to the Statesville Air Line by July 1st. A letter was also read from the president of the Matamoraskeet road saying that he would be through with the convicts in 40 days. The Statesville Air Line has had the promise of these convicts for some time, conditional when the Matamoraskeet road would be through with them.

It was explained at the meeting that with the convicts, supplemented by an equal amount of other labor, 24 of the 50 miles can be built in a year. Reversal construction companies are willing to build the road and rush it through at once on certain terms. The total amount of bonds already voted for the road is \$357,500 and a large amount of this is now available.

HALLEY'S COMET. May 28. Halley's comet sets today 11:22 p. m.; tomorrow, 11:25 p. m. Comet's speed today about 1,571 miles per minute. Comet's position at eight o'clock, 9 hours, 24 minutes, 35 seconds; declination, 4 degrees, 45 minutes; north. Comet's distance from the earth, 32,600,000 miles.

MILL SHUTS DOWN. MERIDIAN, Miss., May 27.—The Meridian cotton mills closed today for an indefinite period on account of the high prices of raw material. More than two hundred employees are thrown out of work.