

North and South Carolina - Rain Thursday; clearing and much colder; Thursday night and east winds. Tennessee: Rain in east.

Elimination Of Cash Feature Of Soldier Bonus Is Considered

SIX ARRESTS IN MURDER MYSTERY IN LOS ANGELES

Would Avoid Heavy Draft on Federal Treasury In Next Two Years

TASK IS GIVEN TO SUB-COMMITTEES

WASHINGTON, Mar. 1.—Elimination of the cash feature of the soldier's bonus bill, but under a plan which would obtain funds from service men to enable former soldiers to obtain service certificates immediately after they were issued is under consideration by majority members of the house ways and means committee.

This would make unnecessary a heavy draft on the federal treasury during the next two years while the refunding of the \$6,500,000,000 short term debt is being progressed. It was said, would remove the fundamental cause of the differences in congress and between the administration and congress over the bonus question.

Committee members said it was not proposed to change the vocational training, farm and home and land settlement features of the Fordney bill. Some of them thought, however, that the bonus feature which was so attractive that a great majority of the men would elect that option of the bill.

Under the plan now contemplated the face value of the adjusted service certificate would be equal to the sum of the adjusted service pay of the veteran (\$1 a day for domestic service and \$12.5 a day for foreign service less the \$60 bonus paid at the time of discharge) increased by 40 per cent.

Immediately after the certificate was received the service man could obtain from a bank an amount equal to 90 per cent of the total of the adjusted service pay. If at the expiration of three years the man had not been paid by the service man the bank could make demand on the federal treasury for the amount due. The government thus would over and carry the loan.

Provisions respecting loans to be made by the government on the certificates after three years from their issue would be retained in the bill, it was said. Under these provisions, if the loan were made within three to five years after issue the amount could not exceed 90 per cent of the sum of the adjusted service pay plus interest from the date of issue or at a rate of 4-1/2 per cent compounded annually.

Representative Longworth expressed the opinion that the suggested plan if it could be put into workable form would meet with approval of President Harding and both the house and senate. He also thought it would be acceptable to the service men. This view was shared by several other members of the committee, who said the program would enable the government to obtain a fairly large sum of cash and at the same time return to them more lasting benefits perhaps than more than had been obtained through all cash adjusted compensation.

Representative Doughton and Campbell will be pitted against each other in the next campaign. The fight will be fought over it. It is believed the contestant will win many little things here in that, but the situation may change.

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British Premier's Resignation Rumor Is Again Sensation

Has Made Definite Threat to Quit Post to Unionist Leaders

LONDON, Mar. 1.—(By the Associated Press.)—Premier Lloyd-George has thus far made no public threat to resign, but he has done so definitely to a number of unionist leaders. His action is in the nature of a protest against the tactics that have been employed to undermine his power in the coalition and in parliament.

If the prime minister presents his resignation, it will merely be a personal resignation, and not the resignation of the government. The resignation of the government would be the resignation of the coalition.

LONDON, Mar. 1.—(By the Associated Press.)—The prime minister's threat of resignation has been the political sensation of the day. His resignation has been current ever since Sir George Younger, head of the conservative party organization, engineered a vote of 50 "die-hard" Tories against the premier during the latter's absence at the Cannes meeting.

Sudden Death of Mrs. Hilliard

Shocks Friends

Mrs. Margaret E. Hilliard, one of the founders of the Laidley Training school, who never-ceasing activities in benevolent work in Asheville for a period of more than half a century had gained for her hundreds of intimate friends throughout the Carolinas, passed away suddenly last evening at 10:30 o'clock at her residence, 191 Biltmore avenue.

Death resulted from heart failure and though she had been in feeble health on account of her advanced age, her passing came as a shock to the members of the intimate circle. Her death was a surprise to her friends. Last evening she seemed well, in fact during the past month in spite of her years, appeared to be in better health than in former months.

Mrs. Hilliard was a native of Western North Carolina and had lived in Asheville for a number of years. She was a devoted wife and mother and was beloved by all who knew her. Her husband, the late Dr. W. L. Hilliard, for years was noted for his assistance without compensation of the poor, destitute and helpless sick in his trips through the mountains. He, too, like his widow, left a large circle of friends. He was a pioneer medical missionary of this section.

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USE FEDERAL FUNDS FOR ROADS OF DURABLE TYPE

No Federal Aid Money for Sand-Clay or Topsoil Highways

NINE DISTRICTS TO SHARE EQUALLY

Highway Commissioners Expected to Get \$1,700 From Government

(Special Correspondence, The Asheville Citizen) FALMOUTH, N. C., Mar. 1.—Federal aid projects in North Carolina are being decided upon for exclusive construction. Around \$1,700,000 is expected to be received from the federal government and the state commission will appropriate equal amount for asphalt concrete construction. Around \$1,700,000 is expected to be received from the federal government and the state commission will appropriate equal amount for asphalt concrete construction.

ACQUIT WELFARE AGENTS CHARGED WITH CONSPIRACY

Arrest Occasioned by Woman They Had Befriended, Testimony Shows

Rev. J. S. Williams, chaplain of the Good Samaritan Mission, and Miss Grace Miller, secretary of the Associated Charities, whose arrests on charges of conspiracy to bring on false imprisonment were occasioned Tuesday by Mrs. J. H. Duckett, a woman apparently abandoned here with her two-year-old child by her husband, and who had been provided room and board by the welfare agencies, were declared not guilty yesterday morning.

The arrest of the social welfare workers, who have been engaged in altruistic work in Asheville for a number of years, caused considerable discussion following the published reports yesterday morning.

Mrs. Duckett, who with her baby was being cared for by the welfare association and who was under parole from the police court to Miss Miller, said she had requested the warrant charging conspiracy against Rev. Mr. Williams and Miss Miller after discussing her arrest on Sunday, with Rev. Dr. Arthur Talmaze Abernethy, pastor of the South Carolina street Baptist church, and others.

In police court yesterday morning, Mrs. Duckett was the sole prosecuting witness against Rev. Mr. Williams and Miss Miller. Mrs. Duckett told of coming to Asheville with her husband and baby and registering at the Swannanoa Berkeley hotel on February 12. They came here from Chattanooga, she stated. After staying here for some days, Mrs. Duckett left for South Carolina, it was said.

CHANGE MADE IN FEDERAL POLICY AS TO RAILROADS

No Longer Entitled to Earn 6 Per Cent Under Commerce Regulations

WASHINGTON, Mar. 1.—Two important changes in government policy toward the nation's railroads became effective today. The portion of the transportation act fixing six per cent as the return of railroad properties which are entitled to earn under interstate commerce commission regulations, expired today.

The six per cent return clause, generally called the guarantee provision, is superseded today by the transportation act provisions which require the interstate commerce commission to make report that will give railroads a "reasonable return on the value of property used in transportation."

Senae Ratifies Yap Cable Treaty Without Amendments

WASHINGTON, March 1.—Following an all-day battle over reservations and amendments, during which dissatisfied senators on the democratic side joined by a few republicans sought unsuccessfully to attach qualifications to the ratification resolution, a half dozen proposals, all presented by democratic senators, were voted down successively by overwhelming majorities.

Leaders of the various senate elements disagreed as to the significance of today's action with regard to the four power and other treaties awaiting senate action. The administration managers declared that on subsequent ratification roll calls they expected to lose. "Very few" of the votes they commanded today, while the "irreconcilables" predicted that at least seven and probably more would vote for the treaty or were absent would vote against the four power pact.

2,090 FAILURES IN PAST MONTH

NEW YORK, March 1.—Failure reported to Bradstreet's last month totalled 2,090, with liabilities of \$68,657,302. These returns compared with 2,797 failures with liabilities of \$115,891,571 in January, and 1,835 failures with liabilities of \$79,124,673 in February, 1921.

French Citizens Favor Payment of Debt to America

Declares 39 Million of Them Stand Behind Nation's Obligations

WASHINGTON, March 1.—Declaration that there are 39,000,000 citizens of France who stand behind the nation's war-contracted obligations was made by Jules Jusserand, French ambassador to the United States, speaking today at the opening session here of the National Rivers and Harbors congress. "I read the other day where there was one man in France opposed to payment of our debts," said the ambassador. "I said I want to say that there are 39,000,000 loyal Frenchmen who stand squarely behind France's obligations and I am one of the 39,000,000."

BRITISH SEEKING CUSTODY OF SIX OF SHIP'S CREW

Claim Jurisdiction In Case of Alleged Murder of Captain Chute

KEY WEST, Fla., Mar. 1.—Efforts of the British government to obtain custody of six members of the British schooner Lewis Brothers, held here in connection with the death at sea recently of Captain H. Chute, of the vessel, took a definite turn today when British Vice-Consul Taylor forwarded to Washington a formal request for the men.

Of the six men, one, V. Brackley, mate of the schooner, is held on a coroner's jury charge of murder. Giuseppe Amory and Charles Carter are held as accessories, and the other three men are held as material witnesses.

The British claim for jurisdiction in the case is based on a convention set up in 1882 providing that a crime committed on the high seas should be dealt with by the country under whose flag the vessel is sailing. The Lewis Brothers, while owned by Borden Brothers of Mobile, was operated under the British registry.

Insofar as citizenship of the principals of the affair is concerned, all appear to be foreign subjects. Captain Chute is understood to have been a British subject; Brackley, a resident of Baltimore, but a native of the Virgin Islands, and is understood to have been unable to show naturalization papers. Amory is an Italian and while Carter is a British subject.

The Lewis Brothers was well outside the three-mile limit when approached by a passing tanker who learned that something had happened aboard the vessel and placed one of its officers in charge to bring the schooner into port. Federal officials took charge of the crew when a story of the captain's suicide was disproven, it was said in the manner in which he met death.

WOULD SAVE NAVAL MIDSHIPMAN CLASS

WASHINGTON, Mar. 1.—The navy department stepped forward today in an effort to save the naval academy graduating class from being forced to walk the plank in June.

Taking cognizance of a movement in congress to turn the 541 member class of 1922 into a reserve class, Secretary Denby, Rear Admiral Wilson, superintendent of the academy, and Rear Admiral Washington, chief of the bureau of navigation, insisted before the house naval committee that the year needed that the three other classes should be permitted to graduate according to schedule and that no reduction be made in the number to be admitted next fall.

Rear Admiral Washington, asserted that the need for the services of the mid-shipsmen would be far greater ten years hence than now.

A growing sentiment was indicated in favor of commissioning the first class, and retiring at least an equal number of older men in the service, many of whom have reached the age of retirement and reported to be anxious to get it.

Acting on the advice of Admiral Wilson, the class has delayed the purchase of first year naval equipment and meanwhile a number of business concerns have approached the admiral with a view of obtaining the services of a large part of the class if it is to be dropped under the naval appropriation bill.

BOY IS STRUCK BY AUTO; DIES

WINSTON-SALEM, March 1.—Henry Malcolm Mastie, 11 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry M. Mastie, was fatally injured this afternoon when struck by an automobile, which was driven, according to a statement from the police, by L. C. Crofts of this city. The boy sustained internal injury which resulted in death in two hours. Police are investigating the case. No arrest as yet has been made.

Failure To Appropriately For Navy Fuel May Tie Up Whole American Navy, Is Declared

BRITISH SEEKING CUSTODY OF SIX OF SHIP'S CREW

SCRAPPING SAVES THEME OF BOARD'S REPORT

May Save the West Virginia and Cruisers Lexington and Saratoga

WASHINGTON, Mar. 1.—(By the Associated Press.)—The battle ships West Virginia and the battle cruisers Lexington and Saratoga probably will be the three capital ships now building which, with the battleship Colorado, will be retained under the naval limitation treaty for completion or conversion.

ALL SHIPS MUST STOP OPERATION REST OF FISCAL YEAR UNDER ACTION

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A special naval board headed by Rear Admiral McElroy has examined the facts as to the state of completion of the West Virginia and her sister ship, Washington, visiting the yards where the ships are under construction. Her report has not been submitted as yet to Secretary Denby but there are indications that board members found the West Virginia to be much further advanced than the Washington, confirming the previous impression of officers at the department.

The board was not directed to make recommendations as to the advisability of the West Virginia, but merely to advise the secretary as to the facts in view of the probable completion of the West Virginia for completion instead of the Washington, indicated by information in the hands of the board. It was said that the former probably would be ultimately added to the fleet and the Washington be scrapped.

While the navy department has authority under existing law to create deficiencies as an emergency matter, it is known that the policy of the administration is against that practice and that Secretary Denby proposed to keep expenditures of the navy department within limits set by the department. It is known that the policy of the administration is against that practice and that Secretary Denby proposed to keep expenditures of the navy department within limits set by the department.

In presenting the fuel deficiency situation to the sub-committee on naval appropriations Secretary Denby pointed out that the original estimates for the current year were \$37,000,000 which was still \$10,000,000 in excess of the \$27,000,000 provided for in the fiscal year 1922.

Secretary Denby explained that should every ship now in commission remain at anchor throughout the year the maximum of five days under necessary steam in port would amount to \$12,500,000 which would leave the navy only \$14,500,000 for operations under way against \$15,500,000 requested for the year of 1922.

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Latham On Stand In Banking Case Denies Coercion Charge

FALMOUTH, March 1.—Preliminary hearing for R. G. Allen former president of the old city bank, later the defunct Central Bank and Trust company of this place, was continued until March 13, after five hours had been spent today in the examining room of Chief State Bank Examiner Clarence Latham, principal witness against the former bank official charged with misappropriation and misapplication of \$92,000 of the bank's funds.

The hearing was begun as scheduled at noon and the entire afternoon was spent in hearing the testimony of Mr. Latham.

At 5:30 o'clock the hearing was continued by Magistrate Tilley until March 13, in order to permit Mr. Latham to attend tomorrow the hearing of Jesse Arnold, former president of the Thomasville bank who is charged with misappropriation of \$150,000 of the bank's funds.

The hearing of Allen took a sensational turn late this afternoon when attorneys for the defense sought to prove that Mr. Latham had threatened the young lady bookkeeper for the former bank president by intimating that she would be prosecuted if she testified against him.

The principal evidence offered against Allen today tended to prove that he had frequently overdrew his account at the Central bank for large amounts and that these overdrafts had been covered by notes which lacked proper collateral and which has been accepted without the approval of the bank's directors.

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