THE WEATHER

WASHINGTON, March 28.—North Carolina: Showers Wed.; cooler in the interior; Thursday unsettled and colder, probably rain.

THE ASHEVILLE CITIZEN

"DEDICATED TO THE UP-BUILDING OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA"

ESTABLISHED 1868. ASHEVILLE, N. C., WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 29, 1922. PRICE FIVE CENTS.

16 PAGES TODAY

Injunction Issued In "Par Clearance" Is Now Made Permanent

STATE SUPERIOR COURT DECISION FILED IN CASE

Reserve Bank Must Accept Exchange Drafts Tendered by Plaintiffs.

PLAINTIFFS' NAMES NOT TO BE LISTED

Reserve Bank Through Counsel Has Taken Steps to Appeal in Case.

CHARLOTTE, March 28.—The temporary injunction against the federal reserve bank of Richmond, obtained by certain North Carolina banks about a year ago, in the so-called "par clearance" controversy, is made permanent in a decision filed today by Judge L. Webb, of the state superior court, as a result of the recent hearing of the case at Monroe, N. C.

The defendant federal reserve bank is "hereby permanently enjoined" says the decision "from refusing to accept exchange drafts when tendered by plaintiff banks in payment of checks drawn on them,' under the option given them under the provisions of the so-called "par clearance" act of the 1921 legislature of North Carolina.

The defendant is also enjoined "from returning as dishonored any check payment for which in exchange drafts by plaintiff banks, or either of them, has been tendered under the provisions of said act and defendant refuses to accept the same;" also from protesting for non-payment and check payment for which in exchange draft has been tendered by plaintiff banks and refused by the defendant bank. The reserve bank is further enjoined from publishing of the name of any of the plaintiff banks, about 250 in number, in any list or publication designed to be circulated among bankers or others without the explicit consent of such plaintiff banks.

As previously forecast, the reserve bank, through counsel has taken formal steps to carry the case to the state supreme court on appeal, and the controversy is expected to be taken finally to the supreme court of the United States.

The controversy centers in the question of the right claimed by the state banks to charge an exchange fee for the clearance of checks drawn upon them and to be free from alleged threat or annoyance by the reserve bank, while the latter insists upon a policy of universal "par clearance.'

FEDERAL BANK TRIES ITS CASE IN GEORGIA COURT

ATLANTA, Ga., March 28.—The recent decision of Federal Judge Evans upholding the Atlanta federal reserve bank in enforcing its par clearance order in collection of checks will be appealed to the United States circuit court, it was announced here today by counsel for Georgia banks which sought to enjoin the reserve bank. The announcement followed the formal filing of Judge Evans order.

FACILITIES ARE ASKED FOR BRITISH AVIATORS

WASHINGTON, March 28.—By direction of the foreign office in London, the British embassy here has requested the state department to have all proper facilities extended to Sirs Ross and Keith Smith, British aviators, when they reach the United States in their attempted aerial circumnavigation of the world.

Sir Ross, with his brother, Sir Keith, accomplished the flight from England to Australia more than a year ago. Their latest venture will involve start from London April 20, the first stop being in France. The route lies across southern Europe, Asia Minor, India, China, Japan and Siberia. The Pacific will be crossed at Bering strait, landing being made on some of the Aleutian islands and at Dunalaska in Alaska. The course then will be across Canada to the point where it will swing to the southeast to New York. Thence the line will be along the New England coast to New Foundland, whence the start will be made across the Atlantic.

If weather conditions are favorable an attempt will be made to reach Ireland directly from New Foundland, following the course taken by Hawker. Otherwise the plane will be directed to the Azores, thence to the European continent at Portugal and up the west coast to the point of starting.

The adventurers will use a Vickers "Viking Amphibean" plane which, its name indicates, can be used on either land or water, being provided with wheels which are withdrawn into recesses in the hulls of the pontoons when not needed.

ENOUGH COAL AHEAD TO LAST FORTY-THREE DAYS

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Consumers had approximately 52,000,000 tons of bituminous coal in storage March 1, according to a statement issued jointly today by the census bureau and the geological survey. This was in addition to 7,160,000 tons on the upper lake docks and 674,000 tons held by producers at mines or intermediate points. Estimates based on the rate at which coal has been moving from the mines recently indicated a reserve of at least 63,000,000 tons by April 1, equal to the supply at the end of [illegible] a fading [illegible] again.

EFFICIENCY HURT BY CIVIL SERVICE SAYS DAUGHERTY

Expects, However, to Enforce It, as All Other Laws While Attorney.

COULD DO WITH FEWER WORKERS

Declares Workers Under Civil Service Hardly as Energetic as Others.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Belief that the civil service is a hindrance to government efficiency was expressed by Attorney-General Daugherty, testifying recently before the house appropriations committee.

"It is probably a gratuitious suggestion, but I believe the civil service is an interference to some extent in the discharge of public," said the attorney general as quoted in the printed record of the hearing. "About one half of the employes in the department of justice are under civil service. While I am attorney general and while the civil service law is in the statutes I will enforce it and observe it as I expect to enforce and observe all laws.

"I believe if it were not for the civil service we could get along with less than two-thirds of the number of employes under civil service and probably get twice as much work out of them."

Asked by a member to explain just how that might be done, Mr. Daugherty said:

"I suppose the department of justice has as good employes and as faithful who are under civil service as those who are under the civil service in any other department but they are not as anxious generally to be in place to commence work on the dot as they are to quit work before the dot. I would rather take the recommendations of a political committee, either democratic or republican, a self respecting committee for the appointment of a man or woman, than to be compelled to go through the requirements of the civil service to secure an employee. They are hardly as ambitious, hardly as energetic under the civil service as are those not under civil service.

"I discovered both before I came here as attorney general and since, that civil service employes spend too much time in trying to work out plans to make themselves secure in their position. While this situation cannot be remedied at the present time, still it is worthy of careful study."

HARDING BREAKS GROUND FOR MEMORIAL TO MEADE

WASHINGTON, March 28.—President Harding stood bareheaded in the rain today in the national botanic garden, just west of the capitol, and turned the first spadeful of earth when ground was broken for the memorial to Major General George Gordon Meade, commander of the victorious union army at the decisive battle of Gettysburg. Secretary Weeks, Governor Sproul, of Pennsylvania; Senator Brandegee, of Connecticut; George Gordon Meade, grandson of the union leader, and George Gordon Meade, jr., a great-grandson, as well as Lieutenant General Nelson A. Miles, participated in the ceremonies. The President was accompanied by Mrs. Harding and the chief justice of the United States and Mrs. Taft.

The spade used by the President in breaking the ground was used in beginning work on the Lincoln and Arlington memorials.

SOUTHERN LUMBER MEN OPTIMISTIC OVER FUTURE

NEW ORLEANS, March 28.—Optimism over prospects of greater business activity in the lumber industry during the current year featured addresses delivered at the opening session of the seventh annual convention of the Southern Pine association here today. The convention will continue through tomorrow.

R. M. Hallowell, of Elizabeth, La., vice-president of the association, in his address opening the convention, declared that the "business of the nation now seems to be coming out of the shadow," and predicted that it would improve steadily.

Edward Hines of Chicago, urged the importance of action by the association to protect the public against deception and fraud in grades and measures in the purchase of lumber from dishonest dealers.

THREE LAWSUITS BROUGHT OVER LOSS OF SWEETHEART

CHICAGO, March 28.—More than 20 years ago Erick Nordstrom lost his sweetheat and sued the city of Chicago for damages. Today another suit for $50,000, an outgrowth of the old case, was recorded in Nordstrom's name against the city.

In the early nineties, Mathelde Sevenson came to the United States from Sweden. Erick loved her. His suit was lost, he alleged, when a city detective circulated false stories about him, and Mathelde married another. Nordstrom sued the detective and the city for $25,000. G. B. Swift, then mayor, agreed to pay the sum if the suit were dropped, Nordstrom claimed, but never did. In 1914, Erick again sued the city, this time for $48,000, but nothing came of it, he said.

BIGGER CADDIE NEEDED

(By BILLY BORNE)

AGREE UPON $2.10 CHARGE FOR GAS; ENDS LITIGATION

Agree Upon Increase in Rate of Fifty Cents—Adequate Supply.

Through an agreement between Mayor Gallatin Roberts and officials of the Asheville Power and Light company, whereby the gas rate will be $2.10 per 1,000 cubic feet, a settlement was reached yesterday of a controversy of many months standing. The present rate is $1.60 per 1,000 cubic feet and the new rate will go into effect on April 1.

City officials are well pleased over the result of the negotiations in view of the fact several months ago the state corporation commission proposed a rate of $2.30 or 70 cents higher than the present rate. As soon as the decision was given out by the corporation commission, the city board instructed the city corporation counsel to take an appeal in the case. This was done and the question was referred to the superior court of Madison county. Since that time the matter has been pending, but will be dropped in accordance with the agreement.

The new gas rates will be as follows: $2.10 for first 10,000 cubic feet; next 10,000 cubic feet, $1.95; all over 20,000 cubic feet, $1.90; discount 10 cents per 1,000 cubic feet, if paid within 10 days, minimum charge net, $1.50 per meter. The present gas rate is $1.60 first 5,000 cubic feet; all over 5,000 cubic feet, $1.10, discount 10 cents per 1,000 cubic feet, minimum charge 50 cents. The rates proposed by the corporation commission were: first 10,000 cubic feet, $2.30; next 10,000 cubic feet, $2.10, discount 10 cents per 1,000 cubic feet; minimum charge net, $1.50.

Expend $200,000 In Making Improvements

When the corporation commission first reached the decision for increased rates, the body instructed the local company to install new equipment and make other additions and improvements in order to bring the quality of the gas up to standard. Within the last few months the gas company has expended some $200,000 for additions and improvements. It was argued by the company the Asheville rate was the lowest in the state and that they could not relieve the situation unless the rates could be increased.

According to H. W. Plummer, vice-president and manager of the company, in recent months about three miles of new mains have been laid and a new generating plant and distributing system has been installed, which will furnish the satisfactory amount of gas to the consumers.

"The additions bring the quality of the gas up to the requirements and standards of the corporation commission," said Mr. Plummer. "The generating plant is now in operation and we are sure if any trouble occurs in the homes of the consumers, it will not be the fault of the plant, but is caused by some local trouble. Many times the trouble with the stoves or the auxiliary pipes. If in the future any difficulty is experienced we would appreciate it if the consumers would notify us 'phone No. 879.

S. P. Cobb, resident engineer of the Phoenix Utility company, the concern installing the new plant, has collected detailed data, relative to the quality of the gas and this will be forwarded the corporation commission.

GEORGIA REPUBLICANS OF EIGHTH ARE ORGANIZED

ATHENS, Ga., March 28.—Republicans of the eighth congressional district effected a tentative organization here today for the purpose of organizing the members of their party and decided to hold another meeting at an early date to enroll the women of northeast Georgia. Chairmen were appointed for each of the 14 counties in this district at today's gathering which was attended by several state and national leaders, including J. L. Phillips, chairman of the state central committee.

Amundsen In America, Works On Arctic Exploration Plan

Outlines Details for Aerial Dash for "the Roof of the World"—Says Much Can Be Accomplished by Aeroplane's Use.

NEW YORK, March 28.—(By the Associated Press.)—As fascinating as a tale by Jules Verne was the plan for aerial exploration of the "roof of the world" sketched today in full for the first time by Captain Roald Amundsen, discoverer of the South Pole.

Arriving from Norway, the explorer plunged at once into the work of organizing the expedition which sails June 1, from Seattle to drift across the North Pole—an expedition which Amundsen expects will revolutionize Polar exploration and provide a short cut to invaluable scientific knowledge.

The expedition which sails this time for the North Pole will not be like those which have preceded it, according to its leader.

Its vision will not be consigned to a few miles on either side of the ship but from the air it will be able to take in at a glance objects 200 miles away.

It will not be for years cut off from the outside. Instead it will talk by radio four times a day with Washington and when it returns in three or five years it will know what the civilized world has been doing during its absence.

It will not have spent years charting merely a narrow strip, but, with the aid of aviation, will be able to chart 1,000,000 square miles, sketching the currents of the air as well as those of the sea.

For centuries scientists have believed that currents at the North Pole have been responsible for climatic phenomena in the part of the world in which civilized man lives and Amundsen hopes to accomplish with his airplanes in a five years voyage what would take 40 years, millions of dollars and many lives if only a ship and dog sleds were employed.

It is upon his two planes that Amundsen pins his chief hopes and it was upon one of them that he focused his attention as soon as he stepped ashore today.

Hardly had he landed than he hastened to a conference with John M. Larsen, a governor of the Aeronautical chamber of commerce of America. After luncheon came the announcement that the larger of the two planes selected by the explorer would be the all metal Larsen monoplane which on December 29, flying over Mineola, L. I., in zero weather, established a world's record for continuous flying of 26 hours, 19 minutes and 35 seconds.

The plane, Captain Amundsen explained, was being supplied by Mr. Larsen at his own expense.

Amundsen is confident that the monoplane—the eyes of his vessel Maude—will be able to do its work well, permitting sallies to either side of the vessel and sending warnings of ice fields and dangerous currents that should be avoided.

The plane already has tried its wings in a temperature of 48 degrees below zero. Last year Mr. Larsen made a 6,000 mile round trip in the ship from New York to the Arctic Circle by way of Edmonton, Alberta, and the Peace river and reported that the plane handled as well as if it were being flown in the balmy airs of Florida. Amundsen said today he expected to encounter a temperature lower than that in which the plane already has been tested.

Besides the monoplane, Amundsen will take an aero scout plane, a smaller British ship will be used only within the vicinity of the Maude. The monoplane, with a cabin in which 11 persons have been carried, will be self-supporting. It is equipped so that it can carry large stocks of fuel and provisions and to it can be adjusted skis, wheels or pontoons, so that it can land on any surface. Lieutenant Oscar Omdel, of the Norwegian naval air force, who arrived today with the explorer, will pilot the ship.

Amundsen had not decided tonight whether he would carry out

—[Continued on Page Two]

PAUL MILUKOFF ESCAPES DEATH BY ASSASSINATION

Russian Officers Would Revenge Czar's Death—Panic in Crowded Hall.

BERLIN, Mar. 28.—(By the Associated Press.)—An attempt was made to assassinate Prof. Paul N. Milukoff, former minister of foreign affairs in the Russian provisional government, while he was addressing a gathering of Russians tonight.

The attempt was frustrated by Vlaydimir Naboukoff, who himself was killed by a bullet aimed at Milukoff.

Prof. Milukoff was not injured. He was immediately surrounded by friends who hurried him from the hall. His assailants were two former Russian officers, who shouted, "We will have revenge for the death of the czar," as they fired from front seats in the auditorium.

Prof. Milukoff was speaking on his recent visit to the United States and regarding the European situation. His address was moderate in tone and non-political.

M. Naboukoff was secretary of state in the first Russian parliamentary cabinet under Prince Lvoff. He was a noted authority on criminology and editor of the Russian newspaper Rul in Berlin.

Naboukoff was sitting on the stage behind Prof. Milukoff. He leaped in front of Milukoff as the assassins fired and fell dead with two bullets through his body. Several persons in the audience were slightly wounded. About 12 shots were fired.

The shooting created a panic among the audience which numbered about 1,500 and many persons were injured in the rush for the exits.

U. S. MISSIONARY KILLED BY SHOT MEANT FOR JAP

Tragedy Occurs When Korean Assassination Plan Fails—Four Hurt.

SHANGHAI, Mar. 28.—(By The Associated Press)—Mrs. W. J. Snyder, of Brazil, Ind., was killed today and four other persons were wounded when two Koreans made an abortive attempt to assassinate General Gilichi Tanaka, former Japanese minister of war, upon their arrival here from Manila.

Mrs. Snyder was just stepping off the ship and was not more than 20 feet from the Japanese general, when the Koreans opened fire. She was accompanied by her husband on a trip around the world.

The Koreans, who were arrested immediately, made a full confession that their purpose was to kill General Tanaka.

JUDGE KENYON PRESIDES OVER HIS INAUGURAL COURT

CRESTON, Iowa, Mar. 28.—Former United States Senator William S. Kenyon, of Iowa, today presided here over his first session of the federal district court for which post he resigned his seat in congress.

Judge Kenyon flayed the violators of the Volstead act law in charging a grand jury to investigate numerous violations and urged that the public take upon itself some responsibility for the enforcement of the dry statutes.

"The bootlegger," Judge Kenyon said, was today one of the greatest social menaces in the country.

Senate Will Ratify Treaty To Limit Naval Strength Today; Democrats Promulgated Plan

RIOTING BREAKS IN HAGERSTOWN IN RAIL STRIKE

Western Maryland Railway Yards Are Scene of Serious Disturbance.

TAKE UP MATTER OF GETTING TROOPS

Trouble Follows Attempt to Lower Wages and Increase Hours.

HAGERSTOWN, Md., March 28.—Rioting broke out in the yards of the Western Maryland railroad late tonight when an attempt was said to have been made by non-union employes to turn an engine. Members of the federated shops and crafts and of the maintenance of way employes unions who went out on strike last Saturday because of wage reductions were said to have interferred with the non-union workers and railway guards were declared to have discharged revolvers in an effort to quell the disturbance. One man was reported to have been wounded.

The rioting, however, continued with no sign of immediately abating. Railroad officials were understood to have communicated with their general officers at Baltimore with the possibility that state troops might be called for.

The strike is the sequel to the taking over of the Western Maryland railway shops and maintenance of way work by the Dickson Repair and Construction company of Youngstown, Ohio. The walk out was called as a protest against a reduction in wages and an increase in the work day from eight to ten hours, the unions demanding that the contracting firm restore the rate of pay, rules and working conditions established by the United States labor board while the shops were being operated by the railroad.

The men also protested against loss of their seniority and riding privileges with transfer of the shops and the contractors. The question of the legality of railroads contracting with private firms for shop work is pending before the labor board. The strike is being directed from Hagerstown where the operating headquarters of the railroad are situated.

MINOR DISTURBANCES MARK THE EXTENSION OF STRIKE

About 16,000 People Are Idle In Lawrence, Mass., Textile Strike

LAWRENCE, Mass., Mar. 28.—More active picketing resulting in increases in the ranks of striking mill workers and two minor disturbances marked the second day of the extension of the New England textile strike to seven mills here. Approximately 9,000 persons as compared with 7,500 yesterday were said to be on strike and it was estimated that 7,000 more were idle. The strike was precipitated by a wage cut of 20 per cent.

The disturbances occurred when the workers were leaving the mills tonight. A woman picket in front of the Everett mills attacked a woman worker. Police intervened and crowds gathered, but dispersed after police reserves were called. As workers were leaving the Washington mills, one of those not affected by the strike, two revolver shots were fired in the air. A large crowd gathered but there was no further disorder.

Officials representing the mills which announced the wage cut asserted tonight there was no need for action on the part of the state board of conciliation and arbitration as they were determined to fight the issue to the end. On the other hand, labor leaders said they were ready and willing to lay the case before the board. During the day Mayor Mahoney and Alderman Carr went to Boston to request the state board to take action and were assured that the board had the question under consideration.

Although officials of the Pacific and Everett mills asserted that their mills were running with as large forces as yesterday, strike leaders maintained that their forces had been increased by 1,200 from the Pacific mills alone. In the Everett mills many workers left the plant at noon.

TWO WOMEN MADE MAYORS IN ELECTIONS IN IOWA

DES MOINES, Iowa, March 28.—Activity of women in the political affairs of Iowa towns and cities at yesterday's elections brought about election of two of their number as mayor, one as city treasurer; victory to candidates they endorsed in other towns, the defeat of Sunday motion pictures at Ames and New Sharon and the routing of the town's pool hall at New Market.

Women mayors were elected at St. Charles and Calamus, and at Council Bluffs, a city treasurer was named.

CHANGE OF VENUE DENIED IN NORTH CAROLINA CASE

WINSTON-SALEM, March 28.—Formally arraigned in court here today on the charge of killing H. B. Ashburn, an insurance agent, J. L. Peake, through counsel asked for trial in another county. The petition was denied and the case set for trial at the next term of superior court.

EX-EMPEROR CHARLES IN SERIOUS CONDITION

FUNCHAL, Madeira Islands, Mar. 28.—(By The Associated Press)—Former Emperor Charles, of Austria, is ill with bronchial pneumonia. His condition is serious.

Espionage System Over Business is McLaurin's Charge

Declares Business Submitted to Greater Activity Than Were Aliens

ATLANTA, Mar. 28.—The federal trade commission and the department of justice are carrying on an espionage system over business that is greater than the espionage system over enemy aliens during the war, J. H. McLaurin, Jacksonville, president of the Southern Wholesale Grocers' association, declared here today.

"The present administration promised us less government in business and more business in government," declared the speaker, addressing the Georgia Wholesale Grocers' association convention, "but if there ever comes a time when there is more government imposed on business than there has been during the last year, I sincerely hope I won't be alive to see it."

A. J. Long, of Macon and Atlanta, was elected president of the Georgia association at the closing session today.

BLAIR REFUSES TO ADMIT ROW ON WITH DAVIS

Harding Says Friction Is Not Serious as Ouster Gossip Goes Rounds.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Reports of friction between Assistant Secretary Dover of the treasury department and Commissioner Blair of internal revenue relative to reorganization of the revenue bureau are not regarded as serious by President Harding, it was said today at the White House. The President was said to look on the disagreement between the two officials as the product of publicity rather than facts.

GUARANTEE BLAIR WILL GET A FAIR HEARING

WASHINGTON BUREAU THE ASHEVILLE CITIZEN (BY H. E. C. BRYANT)

WASHINGTON, March 28.—David H. Blair, commissioner of internal revenue, will not be ousted without a fair hearing if the North Carolina democrats here can prevent it.

Senator Simmons and Overman and various house members resent very much the plan to force him out of the treasury department just because he will not permit his bureau to be made a republican campaign organization. Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Elmer Dover was selected for the job he holds to make "a clean sweep." Representative Fordney virtually announced that in the house December 1. The first move was to demote George W. Ashworth, republican, head of the customs division, because he would not advocate the Fordney program for the American valuation plan. Now, the purpose of Mr. Dover is to make it so uncomfortable for Mr. Blair that he will resign so that his office, with its thousands of employees, can become a partisan camp.

The treasury and the state departments have never been used to promote political ambitions before. President Wilson retained many republicans who were in them when he took office.

"When the nomination of Mr. Blair was considered in the senate," said Senator Simmons today, "I told the senators that he was a man of character, and good repute, and that if a republican had to have the job a better one could not have been selected."

Blair Has Not Retained

"It is not true that Mr. Blair has retained democrats in office. He has gotten rid of all of the democrats that could not hold on through the civil service. These who are after his place want it for some stake that means more to the party, and would stack it full of partisans.

"Instead of efficiency the republicans would substitute the old spoils system."

Administration leaders tried to hush up the row between Messrs. Dover and Blair today, but made a poor job at it. The White House refused to admit that the differences between Dover and Blair had attained the dignity of an official controversy. Mr. Harding showed little inclination to discuss the case, but explained most emphatically that the executive is the final arbiter in the question of appointments and in disputes between officials. The matter, he thinks, would be quickly straightened out.

Others are not so hopeful as the President, for the Dover-Blair row is deep seated, and has been brewing for months.

Senators Watson and Frelinghuysen are among the republicans who have voiced dissatisfaction with the way things were being run at the treasury department. They have been disappointed in reaching the pie counter.

On the surface all was quiet about the office of the commissioner but underneath there was real wrath. Friends of Blair asserted that he would not be forced out by Dover.

The line-up on the Dover-Blair row is: Dover supported by Senator Watson, of Indiana, Representative Fordney and other leaders of congress, and Roy A. Haynes, prohibition commissioner on the one side, and Blair, backed by the President and Secretary Mellon. Anti-Saloon league leaders are with the Dover forces in this particular contest, and an effort is being made

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DEMOCRATIC IDEA OF 1916 IS USED BY REPUBLICANS

Lodge and Underwood Both Give Approval to Naval Limitation Treaty.

SUDDEN PROGRESS IS ENCOURAGING

Many Hope That All Conference Treaties May Be Acted Upon This Week.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Five hours of debate on the naval limitation treaty today revealed a virtually unanimous senate sentiment in its favor and resulted in an agreement to vote finally upon its ratification tomorrow.

Throughout the day's discussion not a single voice was raised in opposition, although from the democratic side there were numerous expressions of disappointment that the treaty did not go further in the direction of both land and sea disarmament. Claiming a share of credit fo rthe reduction actually accomplished, the democrats at the same time sought to show that the whole idea of an armament conference originated with the democratic congress of 1916 and finally was forced upon a reluctant republican administration.

Tonight the administration leaders were predicting that the ratification would be unanimous and that the submarine and poison gas treaty would be approved by a like vote tomorrow. The sudden sweep of progress roused hope in some administration circles that the two Chinese treaties might also be ratified and the whole group of arms conference covenants returned to the White House with senate approval by the end of this week.

Debate on the naval treaty, which began with today's session, was devoid of the colorful touches which had characterized the fight over the four-power pact. Senator Lodge, Massachusetts, explained the treaty's provisions in a detailed statement of more than two hours, and later Senator Underwood, of Alabama, added his approval in a short speech, declaring the treaty would be accepted as an epochal achievement by the American people, regardless of party.

Senator Hitchcock, Nebraska, took the lead in claiming for his party the credit to be derived from the accomplishments of the conference. He pointed out that the naval appropriation bill of 1916 contained a suggestion for such a conference, and declared that the resolution for a conference introduced a year ago by Senator Borah, republican, Idaho, was heartily supported by the democrats of the senate and was opposed actively by President Harding.

The assertions of Senator Hitchcock regarding the President's attitude were denied by Senator Kellogg, republican, Minnesota, who said Mr. Harding had been anxious for an international meeting of minds, although he might have withheld approval from some of the specific proposals in that direction considered in congress. The discussion finally resolved itself into a league of nations argument, in which Senator Williams, democrat, Mississippi, predicted that the league would remain a political issue until the United States had become a member of it.

Making his only observation during the debate, Senator Borah, author of the conference resolution, asked how it could remain a political issue "with one party going in the front door and the other going in the back door."

MELLON ASKS FORD ABOUT RETURN OF $29,000,000

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Secretary Mellon has written to Henry Ford inquiring as to the reported return of $29,000,000 in war profits to the country by the Detroit manufacturer, it was said today at the treasury.

Reports that Mr. Ford had made such a return to the government were understood to have been investigated by the treasury which was unable to locate the reported refund.

Mr. Mellon, it was declared, has received an acknowledgement of his letter from Mr. Ford's secretary just before Mr. Ford left for the south but it was understood that an explanation of the reported transaction had not yet been made.

GETS PACKAGE OF MAIL ON THE ROAD FOR TEN YEARS

SALEM, Ore., March 28.—J. R. Luper today received a package of photographs which were mailed to him at a town some 200 miles away in eastern Oregon nearly 10 years ago.

photographs were in good condition.

in the possession of the postal department since early in 1912, the photographs were in god citizen.

There was nothing to indicate where the parcel had stopped by the wayside.

FRANK D. WILLIAMS MADE MANAGER OF DIVISION

RICHMOND, Va., March 28.—Frank D. Williams of Richmond, widely known leaf tobacco grower was today made manager of the dark tobacco division of the Tobacco Growers' Co-operative association of Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina.

Mr. Williams is president of F. D. Williams and company of this city.