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POSTMASTER GENERAL BURLERSON EXPECTS TO REORGANIZE SERVICE

May Swap Postmasters—For Instance Resident of New York Could be Made Postmaster at Greensboro.

Washington, April 10.—Postmaster General Burleson has determined to effect the most radical re-organization of the postal service ever proposed in the history of the civil reform of this country. The plan upon which he is at work is distinguished by these features: all postmasters shall be placed under the civil service and required to pass an examination for admission, retention and promotion. Postmasters shall be appointed and transferred without regard to locality so that, for example, a resident of New York could be made postmaster at Greensboro and a resident of Greensboro could be made postmaster at San Francisco.

The postmaster general has reached the conclusion that politics is a blight on the postal service; that postmasters are appointed as a reward for political services and not for their fitness to discharge the duties of the office.

Won't Spring Plan at Once.

Mr. Burleson, however, does not expect to spring this comprehensive plan on Congress all at once. He will begin in a modest way to give a demonstration of his ideas. He will begin his radical change by holding examinations for the 36,000 postmasters which were placed under the civil service by President Taft. Those who pass the examination will be retained and those who do not will be removed. This examination will be open to outsiders also and an eligible list of fourth class postmasters will be established and vacancies will be filled from this list.

It is Mr. Burleson's intention in the appointment of fourth class postmasters to experiment with the proposition of ignoring geographical considerations. Wherever a vacancy occurs the man at the top of the eligible list will be appointed regardless of the fact that he does not reside in the community affected. If this scheme works well Mr. Burleson will ask Congress to enact legislation placing first, second and third class postmasters under similar regulations and subject to assignment without regard to locality.

Mrs. Pankhurst is Critically Ill.

London, April 12.—Completely exhausted by starvation and unable to stand, Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst was released from Holloway jail today after serving nine days of a three year sentence for instigating a bomb attack on Lloyd-George's country home. She had not eaten during her confinement and was not forcibly fed. She was taken to a private hospital, under ticket of leave. The plan is that as soon as she is well she will be jailed again, released if she tries the hunger strike, then re-arrested and so on, until her full sentence has been served.

Examination of Mrs. Pankhurst at the private hospital revealed that she is in a critical condition. She is greatly weakened by lack of food and her years.

Gov. Vance's Law Office to be Moved.

Asheville, April 12.—The small building which stands on a lot on Spruce street, and which was used as a law office by Zebulon B. Vance during the time that North Carolina's illustrious war governor was a member of the local bar will be moved to the Buncombe courthouse lawn, if the plans of the local board of aldermen mature. The building belongs to the Smith estate and the manager of the estate has agreed to give the building to the city if it will move it from its present location. The aldermen have instructed the city attorney to take the necessary legal steps and it is expected that the building will be moved within the very near future.

BELGIUM IN THROES OF SUFFRAGE FIGHT.

Manhood in Desperate Effort to Break Shackles That Bind Them.

Brussels, April 9.—The first active move in preparation for a great general strike to enforce the grant of manhood suffrage in Belgium was made today by the sending out of the country of many children of the 300,000 or 400,000 workers who will lay down their tools on Monday, April 14, at the bidding of the Socialist party. It is expected that the train service will cease or be greatly impeded after Sunday and the wives and daughters of hundreds of workmen with the little ones of their own families or those of neighbors are crossing the frontiers on every train placing the non-combatants, as it were, in safety in neutral States. Offers of provisional homes abroad have arrived this week at the rate of 1,000 daily and the directing committee of the strike has received 11,000 offers thus far, 6,000 from France, 4,000 from Holland and 1,000 from Germany.

Trade has increased in all kinds of preserved foods, beans, rice and flour and the sales of illuminating oils and candles have tripled.

Tool of Socialists.

The strike has been decided on by the Belgium Socialist party as the last desperate measure to make the Government give Belgium a system of plural voting now in practice. Its success or non-success will be of consequence to the world at large, for if it succeeds it will demonstrate the practicability of the strike as a political weapon. Previous attempts at political, as distinguished from economic, strikes have invariably ended in failure, notably in Spain and France and the opinion has been generally held that the political strike is impossible. The Belgium movement appears to have been planned with extraordinary skill and care; the workers are determined and full of faith in the justice of their cause, the resources at their disposal are considerable, both in money and kind and they have the practical though unofficial support of the Liberals, none the less vigorous from being indirect. The proprietor of the Liberal newspaper The Petit Bleu has promised formally to pay \$20,000 a week into the strike fund as long as the movement lasts and the strikers assert they can hold out for six weeks.

Dynastic Crisis.

Many Belgians believe that this strike will prove a turning point in the history of Belgium; that it will result in political changes of incalculable importance and some even predict a revolution—the separation of the Walloon and Flemish provinces or a dynastic crisis. The Government faced with this serious problem, means economic catastrophe for an industrial country like Belgium, has occupied itself chiefly in making arrangements to repress disorder, which the Socialists deride as they are determined the strike shall be peaceful.

The Socialist chiefs, Emile Vandervelde and Edouard Anseele, affirm that any violence which may occur will be provoked by the Government and not by them.

It is understood that all the gendarmes are to be called upon, as well as the civil guard and several classes of troops mobilized, to guard the railroads and assure the public services. Large coal orders have been placed in England and Germany so as to ensure a constant supply of fuel for the State railroads. The primary cause of the movement was the defeat of the Liberal and Socialist coalition in the Parliamentary elections of 1912. The Socialist Congress, specially summoned June 30 of that year, decided to make use of a general strike if all other means of obtaining manhood suffrage failed. Before resorting to that measure, a general suffrage bill was introduced into Parliament by the Socialists and supported by the Liberals. This was refused all consideration by the clerical majority and a general strike was voted for April 14th.

THOUSANDS OF ACRES FARM LANDS FLOODED.

Week's Ravages of Mississippi Took Heavy Toll Through Portion of Great Valley.

Memphis, Tenn., April 12th.—More than 1,000,000 acres of farm and timber land has been flooded, a score or more of small towns have been temporarily depopulated and thousands rendered homeless as a result of the week's ravages of the Mississippi river through the central portion of the great valley. Tonight the center of the fight against the flood had shifted to points south of Memphis, but constant work for several days yet is necessary before the levees on the north-eastern Arkansas shore are out of danger.

From Cairo to Memphis the worst is believed to be over. Beginning with a fall of three-tenths of a foot at Cairo, reports to the office of District Forester Emery show a total decrease in the stage of four-tenths at Hickman and a half a foot at Luxora. While those in charge of the St. Francis levee board are encouraged by these reports they believe that the crisis at Osceola and Luxora has not passed and that those towns will not be considered entirely out of danger for three or four days. At Memphis the river stood at 43.09 at 7 o'clock tonight, a fall of two-tenths since the same hour this morning. The receding waters are bringing a measure of relief to the north Memphis suburb which was flooded several days ago.

Below Memphis the river has made no great strides toward flood conditions. At Helena the stage late today was 53.7, stationary. At Vicksburg a rise of six-tenths was recorded. The break in the private levee at Redford on the Arkansas river early today will do little to relieve the stages in the Mississippi. This crevasse will release the flood waters of the Arkansas river over the southeastern section of that state and then may extend as far as northeast Louisiana, but some experts claim there is not enough flood water in the Arkansas river to spread over any great area.

Reports from Mississippi state that all the lines of embankment on the eastern side of the river are in excellent condition.

With the beginning of next week the government relief forces here, under command of Major Normoyle, will move on down the river following the center of activity.

The Origin of Honey Dew—It is Not Good for Bees.

Wilkesboro Patriot.

The great quantity of honey dew that has been observed in all parts of this county this spring has created much comment and many persons, no doubt, have been speculating upon the reasons for its existence. To use a slang phrase, they have been made to scratch their heads and wonder who put the honey in the honey dew; also as to its value to bees for making honey. Some time ago Mr. T. J. Bryan of Traphill, this county, who has an extensive colony of bees, wrote the Patriot a letter telling about the copious showers of honey dew that had fallen in that section. We sent the letter to the Department of Agriculture at Washington and following is the reply received:

"Honey dew is usually of insect origin, being secreted by plant lice, scale insects and leaf hoppers. There are a few plants which secrete a sweet substance, often called honey dew, from glands outside the flowers. The honey dew reported by Mr. Bryan, of Traphill, N. C., is probably of insect origin.

"When bees gather honey dew and store it, the name honey dew honey is usually given to the product. It is of inferior quality and should not be sold as honey. It is often the source of considerable loss in winter if the bees eat it and are unable to fly in bad weather. It is therefore desirable that it all be taken away from them before the coldest weather comes. I fear Mr. Bryan will be disappointed at the product on more careful examination."

WILL PROSECUTE DEXTER GOAD.

Allen Sympathizers Have Not Changed Their Plans.

Richmond News Leader:

The program of the Allen sympathizers is said to be unchanged as regards their intention to attempt to prosecute Dexter Goad, clerk of the circuit court of Carroll county at Hillsville, who has been charged with committing perjury at the trials of the claustrics in Wytheville. As printed in The News Leader several days ago Attorney Louis O. Wendenburg, of Richmond, at the request of the sympathizers here, prepared a statement in which he expressed the belief that a good case could be made out against Goad, if the sympathizers desired to prosecute the matter further. This statement he forwarded to L. L. Sherer, who, in turn, handed it to others.

It is understood that this document is at present in Roanoke in the office of Attorney R. H. Willis, who was counsel for Claude Allen, and who was very active in all of the proceedings before Governor Mann, the supreme court of appeals of Virginia and the supreme court of the United States in an effort to save the lives of the doomed father and son, more particularly the life of Claude.

It was said by certain sympathizers today that the arrest of Goad might be looked for within the next two weeks and that a prosecution of the court clerk would most certainly follow in the event of his indictment. It is said that the Allen cases will be made a political issue during the coming elections in southwestern Virginia and that the prosecution of Clerk Dexter Goad, should such a proceeding in reality result, will be conducted with vigor. Roanoke Times, 13th.

Mr. Willis, of the firm of Hairston, Hariston & Willis, principal attorneys for the Allens in their long fight for life, admitted today that he has in his possession the document prepared by Attorney L. O. Wendenburg, of Richmond, but said he had been so busy with other matters since it came into his hands that he had been unable to look it over carefully, and was not prepared to comment on the case at this time.

Who Will Fly First Across the Atlantic?

New York, April 14.—Can the Atlantic be crossed in a hydro-aeroplane in seventy-two consecutive hours? Aviation experts here are discussing this proposition seriously since a London paper offered a prize of \$50,000 for the aviator who first succeeded in doing it.

Most opinions concur with that expressed by Captain S. F. Cody, an English aviator, who says with in ten years men will be flying over the Atlantic and think nothing much of it. He has entered the contest and is planning a machine to be ready in a year with which he thinks he can make the attempt. The great difficulty, experts say, is to construct a hydro-aeroplane which will be powerful enough to carry fuel for the entire trip without a stop, thus doing away with the necessity of a supply ship. Some contend the trip could be made in twenty hours in one straight flight, provided the aeroplane went high enough and was favored by the wind. At any rate, speculation as to flight across the Atlantic is rife throughout the land in aviation circles, and it is a subject which keenly interests the general reader. Will Captain Cody be the first to fly over the sea?

Kills Woman in Hospital and Then Commits Suicide.

Goldboro, April 14.—Mrs. May Carter Lomax, confined in a hospital by an automobile accident, was killed by Cleveland Prince, a Wayne county farmer, who then committed suicide. Prince called at the hospital and was shown to the patient's room. Attendants heard the shot, and discovered the tragedy. Prince was with Mrs. Lomax and others in the automobile accident. The alleged cause of the killing and suicide was jealousy.

SENSATIONAL STORY OF MADERO'S MURDER.

Hundreds of Mexicans Know True Facts, Says Martias Oviedo, But Are Afraid to Tell.

New Orleans, La., April 12.—A sensational story of the manner in which President Madero and Vice-President Pino Suarez, of Mexico, were put to death and of how the rufales who did the assassin's work on the direct orders of their superior, were likewise slain in an effort to conceal the evidence of the major crime, was brought here today by Martias Oviedo, former private secretary to President Madero, who escaped from Mexico City and later joined the constitutionalist forces of Governor Carranza, of Coahuila.

"President Madero died almost immediately after he was shot," said Oviedo, "but the Vice-President did not die from the effects of the shots. The shock of the pistol bullets revived him from his stupor and he tried to raise himself to look at his murderer. Immediately he was seized about the throat and strangled to death, his tongue protruding from his mouth. Marks on his body gave physical evidence in corroboration of the detailed story which was secured from persons who were but a few feet away when the murders were committed."

He declared that hundreds of people in Mexico City knew the true facts concerning the killing of Madero and Pino Suarez, but even Mexicans who have escaped from the country fear to tell what they know because it would mean the prompt execution of relatives whom President Huerta is holding prisoners with the constant threat of death hovering over them.

"Not even Americans and other foreigners in Mexico dare express themselves truthfully on such questions," he added, "for the fear of the confiscation or destruction of their property, or, perhaps, a worse fate. Scores of people have been put to death right in the capital since the beginning of the Huerta era of misrule and, in many instances, the colossal crime which brought the death penalty upon them consisted solely in their lack of sympathy with a government founded upon treachery and assassination of personal and political liberty."

Alleged Illicit Distiller Comes in and Gives Bond.

Statesville Landmark.

Isaac Rash, a young farmer of Union Grove township, against whom a warrant was issued some time ago, charging him with illicit distilling, called at the office of Sheriff Deaton Friday and gave \$500 bond for his appearance at the next term of Superior Court. Rash said he had found that it was useless to try to evade the law; that he realized he was in the wrong and had decided to plead guilty when his case comes to trial. The officers had made several efforts to arrest Rash, but he always gave them the "dodge." Recently Sheriff Deaton sent Rash word that he didn't intend to give him a chance to work a crop this season unless he submitted to arrest and gave bond. Rash answered the sheriff through a friend to the effect that it was imperative that he should work a crop this year and rather than be molested by the officers he would arrange the bond, and he kept his word.

Rash was a partner with Grover Mitchell, the young man who was captured at a still in north Irrell several months ago and received a sentence to one year on the roads at the last term of court. The young men's excuse for blockading is that their fathers made liquor regularly in the days before it was prohibited by law and that they and their people are just now being forced to recognize the authority of the law which forbids that it be made. The father of Rash is now indicted in the Federal court for distilling and it is believed that he, like his son, will plead guilty.

GERMANY'S GREAT WAR TAX.

The Most Remarkable Income Tax of Modern Times.

Berlin Correspondence New York Post.

"The centenary of the political uprising and new birth of Prussia and Germany calls up memories of selfless patriotism, of unexampled self-sacrifice." This sentence is taken from the bill authorizing the Government to levy on the wealth of Germany a "single extraordinary war contribution" of one-half of one per cent upon private fortunes and of two per cent upon incomes of 12,500 and upwards, the recipients of which are without taxable capital. Fortunes, if they may be so called, of less than \$2,500 will escape. Any amounts above this limit are to be drawn upon without regard to circumstances. A widow living on the interest of a few thousand dollars, and there are many such, will willy nilly afford an example of selfless patriotism, while a successful lawyer or doctor, who has not taken the trouble to save, and earns a little less than \$12,500, will go unscathed.

The German way levy, perhaps the most remarkable politico-financial measure of modern times, deserves a little closer study. The Government proposes to raise by means of it from \$244,000,000 to \$250,000,000, calculating the taxable wealth of the Nation (omitting savings and other possessions under \$2,500) at about forty-eight billion dollars. This should bring in about \$239,000,000, and incomes should yield another \$12,500,000. Herr von Gwinner, of the Deutsche Bank, estimates the National wealth at seventy-five billion dollars, which leaves the working masses of the country, who escape the war levy, with a combined fortune of twenty-seven billion dollars—a little more than one-third of the total.

For the economists the result of the tax should provide interesting clues to the distribution of wealth in a modern State. The levy is to be paid in two annual instalments. The compulsory returns of property and income for income-tax will provide the basis of assessment. There is, of course, an infinite amount of lying and concealment in connection with income-tax wherever it exists, and to encourage backsliders who would like to be patriotic, but are afraid of the consequences, a plenary indulgence for past signs of omission is promised to all who now tell the truth about their worldly possessions.

The whole of the yield of the levy will be absorbed by the military increases, but much more will be needed before the War Office is glutted. One hundred and thirty-six thousand officers and men are to be added to the peace strength of the Army. Fifty-two million dollars will be spent on new fortresses on the Russian frontier and another fifty-seven millions on barracks and other buildings. These things mean a permanent annual increase of the War Office appropriation by from \$45,000,000 to \$47,250,000. The maximum annual cost will not be reached until the financial year 1916. For the next three financial years, 1913-15, the recurring expenditures will total \$98,250,000.

Will Build Longest Tunnel.

Winnipeg, Man., April 12.—The Canadian Pacific railway announced today that it would begin construction shortly of the longest tunnel in America. The tunnel will be built through Kicking Horse Pass, in the Rocky mountains, will be sixteen miles long and will cost \$14,000,000.

It will take seven years, it is estimated to build it. The great hole through the mountain will be four miles longer than the famous Simplon tunnel through the Alps.

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