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REPUBLICAN LEADERS DESERT PRESIDENT

Coolidge Makes Last Futile Effort to Win Votes to Sustain Him

Washington, May 19.—The soldiers bonus bill finally has become law. The measure, which has been the subject of a fight between Congress and two successive Presidents, was repassed today by the senate over President Coolidge's veto by a vote of 59 to 26.

This was a margin of two votes more than the necessary two-thirds majority as compared with the 52 votes there were to spare when the veto was over-ridden in the house last Saturday.

President Coolidge made a futile last minute effort to have his veto sustained in the senate, calling to the White House for a breakfast conference seven Republican senators. Four of these who previously had voted for the bill cast their ballots in support of the executive.

Altogether there were only five senators who had supported the bill on its first passage to vote against it today.

Senator Curtis of Kansas, assistant Republican leader who had charge of the bill, moved for a vote and was joined by Senator Robinson, of Arkansas, the Democratic leader, in suggesting that debate was unnecessary. Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, and other administration leaders, joined with Senator Curtis in voting against the President.

The scene in the senate as the vote came was unusual. The galleries were crowded and many members of the house and others had places on the floor. With the announcement of the vote, which ended a five years fight for a bonus, the spectators broke into applause. President Coolidge threatened to have the galleries cleared, but scarcely had the demonstration gotten under way before a number of Democratic senators joined in the applause.

The bonus bill that became a law is one of 200 offered in Congress since the first effort for this legislation was initiated in 1919. It differs materially from the original proposals, which were for cash payments. However, it is not materially different from the bill which President Harding vetoed in 1922. The senate at that time sustained his veto after the house had voted overwhelmingly in favor of repassage.

The cost of the bonus has been variously estimated at from \$2,250,000,000 to \$4,000,000,000, treasury officials making the higher estimate. The only cash provided for is \$50 to each service man not entitled to more than that in adjusted service credit. Others would receive a paid-up 20-year endowment insurance policy.

The cost for the next fiscal year, when it is figured the cash payments will be made, has been estimated at \$150,000,000, which proponents of the law say can be taken care of and taxes reduced at the same time. After the next fiscal year the cost is expected to decrease slightly and it is figured that an annual appropriation of \$100,000,000 will be necessary to meet the cost over the 20 years.

Machinery to put the law into operation will be set up as rapidly as is possible, all the agencies affected having had under consideration for some time plans for carrying out the provisions of the act. Representatives of the veterans bureau, the army, navy and marine corps decided in conference today up the procedure to be followed.

"Unwarranted and Uncalled For," Says Coolidge

Washington, May 15.—The soldier bonus bill was vetoed by President Coolidge today on the grounds that it was economically unsound and morally unjust. Returned unassigned to the house, where the legislation originated, the measure was immediately taken up by its friends in an effort to override the executive action and only the counsel of leaders of both parties obtained a postponement of a vote until Saturday.

The President in his veto message, a document of more than 2,000 words, declared he could see no justification for enactment of the bill into law, and added:

"Our country can not afford it. The veterans as a whole do not want it. All our American principles are opposed to it. There is no moral justification for it."

Proceeding in his discussion of the

bill, Mr. Coolidge declared no bonus was owed able-bodied veterans of the world war.

"The gratitude of the nation to these veterans can not be expressed in dollars and cents," he added. "The respect and honor of their country will rightfully be theirs for evermore. But patriotism can neither be bought nor sold. It is not hire and salary. It is not material but spiritual. It is one of the finest and highest of human virtues. To attempt to pay money for it is to offer it an unworthy indignity which cheapens, debases and destroys. We must either abandon our theory of patriotism or abandon this bill."

The economic and financial grounds for a veto were stressed particularly by the President with an inference that should the bill become law hope for tax reduction must be abandoned. The government, he said, had reached a financial condition which permitted a reduction in taxation but "if this bill becomes law we wipe out at once almost all the progress five hard years have accomplished in reducing the national debt."

The bill, he argued, would commit the country for a period of twenty years to an additional average annual appropriation of \$114,000,000 and at the end of that time it would be necessary to sell to the public two and a half billion dollars in bonds—a major operation in finance, which he said might be disastrous at that time.

The executive asserted that the disabled veterans were being given treatment and that insurance had already been provided for all veterans.

"We have no money to bestow upon a class of people that is not taken from the whole people," he said. "Our first concern must be the nation as a whole. This outweighs in its importance the consideration of a class and the latter must yield to the former."

Bill Would Increase U. S. Judges Salaries

Washington, May 15.—Salaries of Supreme court and other federal judges would be increased under a bill introduced today by Chairman Graham of the house judiciary committee. The measure provides the following schedule:

Supreme court: Chief Justice \$20,500 instead of \$12,500 a year; associate justices, \$20,000 instead of \$12,000.

Circuit judges in the second circuit \$16,000; in the third, seventh, eighth, and ninth circuits \$14,000 and in the first, fourth, fifth and sixth \$13,000.

District judges \$10,000 with \$500 additional for each 100,000 if the population in the district exceeds 2,000,000.

Court of claims \$13,500 for the chief justice and \$13,000 for associates.

Court of customs appeals \$15,000.

Courts of appeals of the District of Columbia, \$15,500 for the chief justice and \$15,000 for associates. With a view to relieving the congested dockets the committee today recommended passage of a bill for the appointments of four additional court of claims judges with the stipulation that there should be no successors to them named.

"I Told You I Would Get Away," Says Otto Wood

Roanoke, Va., May 15.—Bidding goodby to the city and promising to return again Otto Wood, murderer, and Jim Starnes, automobile thief, escaped North Carolina convicts who were captured here Monday evening, left here shortly after 8 o'clock this morning in charge of two guards from the prison from which they escaped on Saturday morning.

The party left in a Packard automobile and was in charge of Warden Sam J. Busbee, who after a hard trip arrived in this city about 6:40 o'clock yesterday evening and paid his first visit to police headquarters around 9 o'clock last night.

"I told you I would get away," Wood, who has one arm shot off or cut off, greeted Warden Busbee. "Yes and I told you I would bring you back, if you did," the warden answered.

"I told you like a man that I was

LA FOLLETTE TO SPRINKLE OIL ON G. O. P. CONVENTION

Senator to Demand Clean-Up of Bureau, Prosecutions and Ownership of Resources.

Chicago, May 12.—Robert M. La Follette, insurgent leader in the United States Senate, is filling up his oil can to give the Republican National Convention a liberal sprinkling in Cleveland next month.

Republican Party pilots have been bending all their efforts to prevent mention of oil at Cleveland. They have had their fill of it in Washington. With more than three-fourths of the delegates lined up for Coolidge they thought they were reasonably near their objective until the plans of the Wisconsin Senator came to light.

The La Follette program provides for an aggressive battle in the convention for adoption of a platform calling for a housecleaning in all executive departments stained by the oil scandal.

Housecleaning Demanded
Planks providing for this have been drawn up and placed in the hands of Wisconsin delegates elected under the La Follette banner. They are:

"We pledge a complete housecleaning in the Department of Justice, the Department of Interior and the other executive departments. We demand that the power of the Federal Government be used to crush private monopoly, not to foster it.

"We pledge recovery of the Navy's oil reserve and all other parts of the public domain which have been fraudulently or illegally leased or otherwise wrongfully transferred to the control of private interests; vigorous prosecution of all public officials, private citizens and corporations that participated in these transactions; complete revision of the water power act the general leasing act and all other legislation relating to the public domain.

"We favor public ownership of the Nation's water power and the creation and development of a National sewer system, and strict public control and permanent conservation of all the Nation's resources, including coal, iron and other ores, oil and timber lands in the interest of the people."

The twenty-nine La Follette braves who will attend the convention from Wisconsin will go prepared to carry their fight for their platform, including the planks of oil, to the convention floor if necessary. Some of their shots in the convention battle will be fired point blank at Harry M. Daugherty former Attorney General, who will attend the convention as a Coolidge delegate from Ohio.

The Wisconsin delegates have no expectation that the convention will adopt their platform. As a matter of fact, it probably would be a serious jolt to their plans if it did. The platform scheduled for adoption is being written in Washington by President Coolidge in conference with some of the party leaders. There is little likelihood that the convention will make any material changes in it.

The main purpose of the fight in behalf of the La Follette platform is to prepare the way for the National Conference for progressive political action in Cleveland, July 4. This conference is planned for the purpose of nominating La Follette as an independent candidate for President.

going to leave, didn't I?" Wood, who wasn't at all pleased with the arrival of the warden, snapped. The warden grunted and made ready for the return trip. Starnes looked on hardly interested.

The prisoners after talking most of the night, according to Dick Arnold, who guarded them, were handcuffed, and their ankles shackled. Every precaution was taken to prevent them escaping.

Warden Busbee brought a check for \$700 to the police here, the reward for the capture of the prisoners. Five hundred dollars of this is for the capture of Wood, who murdered a Greensboro pawnbroker, and the rest for Starnes. The money, it is understood, will be divided among the officers who helped to effect the arrest in the West End yards. Twelve men participated in the arrest, it is understood, and this would make a reward of about \$60 to each.

THE FIGHT FOR FARM AND HOME AGENTS

Who's to Blame, the People or the Officials?

Editor Mount Airy News—
Dear Sir:

Last week's issue of the Mount Airy News carried a news note from Carthage under the heading "And Surry Does Nothing," telling how the women of that county had gone before the county commissioners with a request for a Home Demonstration Agent for their county; and that after due deliberation the commissioners decided to grant their request. Your heading "And Surry Does Nothing" raises the question as to just what constitutes Surry—the people or the board of county commissioners?

On the first Monday in October 1921, the Home Economics Dept. of the Mount Airy Woman's club working in conjunction with Mr. E. M. Linville, Secretary of the County Fair Association, organized a delegation of forty or fifty men and women from Mount Airy, a number from Elkin and several rural sections, who appeared before the county commissioners in the Court House at Dobson in an organized effort to secure both a Farm Agent and a Home Agent for Surry County. Talks showing the incalculable value of these agents to a county were made by Mr. Millsaps, State Farm Agent; by Miss Wallace, Assistant State Home Agent; by Mr. Linville of the Fair Association; by the late J. E. Carter of the local bar; by Dr. L. L. Williams of the County Health Dept. and by Mrs. Reid Jackson, President of the Mount Airy Woman's club. The delegates were very cordially received by the chairman of the Board, Mr. W. W. Thomas, but he told us that while they were very much in sympathy with the movement definite action would have to be deferred on account of lack of sufficient funds.

Then again on the first Monday in November 1922, a committee from the Woman's club accompanied by Miss Wallace from the State Department, met with the present Board in Dobson and again requested that when the new budget was drawn an appropriation be made for a Farm Agent and a County Agent. We were told by Mr. Byerly, the chairman of the Board, that the matter was under consideration, having recently been agitated by the Mount Airy Kiwanis club. The Commissioners referred us to the Board of Education then in session, so we presented the matter to them. They agreed to cooperate with the commissioners if they saw fit to make the appropriation.

Then a third time, the Woman's club brought to Dobson, Miss Creighton, the District Agent from Charlotte. She was so encouraged that she began the work of selecting a suitable home agent for Surry. But time has passed, the term of office of the present board will soon expire and our county is still without these valuable agents. This forces us to believe that this is one of the departments referred to by Mr. Byerly in his article (Page 4, Mount Airy News May 15) when he says: "There is hardly a commissioner's meeting held that we do not have some one from the State Department before us with a proposition for the creation of another office or a new job, but the commissioners have gotten rid of them in every instance without a single exception, which has saved no little expense and in the judgement of the commissioners the county is just as well off."

The people of Surry county are willing to be taxed for better roads, better bridges, better schools, etc., now that these things have proven county assets; but they had to be taxed for them against their wills until they saw the benefits of them. We believe the same would be true of the county agents or any innovation. And while our present board has been as stated in article referred to above a most economical one, the question arises whether it is better to economize and keep our county in a rut, or tax the people in moderation and make Surry one of the progressive counties of North Carolina?

Taxes are the county's talents, and it remains to be seen whether County Boards will bury the good produced by these talents, or let in increase ten or a hundred fold.

Yours very truly,

Chairman Home Economics Dept.
Mount Airy Woman's Club

May 16, 1924.

EARLY ASHBURN LOSES HIS APPEAL

Jail Sentence For Republican Congressman

Washington, May 16.—Representative John W. Langley, recently convicted in Covington, Ky., on a charge of conspiracy in connection with the issuance of liquor permits and sentenced to two years imprisonment, is critically ill at his home here. His condition is described as nervous collapse and he displays strong symptoms of a slight cerebral hemorrhage.

He had been in a deep sleep from Wednesday night until yesterday afternoon when Dr. Everett M. Ellison, his family physician, was summoned to his bedside. The physician found the patient's voice labored and locomotion difficult.

Representative Langley, a very heavy man, is full blooded, high tempered and excitable, friends say, and it was feared the ordeal of the trial, and especially the result, might prove fatal to him. He stood up well under the strain incident to the trial, but was so surprised and shocked by the verdict and sentence that his nervous system gave way. When Dr. Ellison reached the sick man he found his pulse and temperature were below normal, his blood pressure was normal and his heart action sluggish and irregular. The physician also found the patient's mind was not as alert as usual.

Mrs. Langley, daughter of Mrs. J. M. Budger, Jr., of Asheville, visited the capitol two or three days ago and informed house leaders that her husband would not attend the sessions for the present. She said her husband became ill immediately following his return from Kentucky where he went for trial.

WILD ANIMALS GOING CHEAP IN EUROPE

Snakes Can be Bought by the Foot—Rhinoceros Only \$3,000 F. O. B.

Berlin.—Mary, the largest and most popular pet at the Berlin Zoo who died some weeks ago from eating too many peanuts, may not be replaced for some time, the park management has decided, because of the cost involved.

Inquiries made of animal trainers since Mary passed away have revealed that an elephant today is worth from \$1,800 to \$5,000, according to age, sex, size and health, and the manager has closed up Mary's old home and posted a sign on the front gate reading: "Untenanted. Elephant house may be used as an aviary in the summer."

A perfectly good hippopotamus in the European markets today is worth between \$3,000 and \$4,000. An Indian rhinoceros may be had for approximately \$3,000 f. o. b. at the animal farm. All wild animals buyers take into careful consideration the question of freight rates, because of the weight and investment involved.

A splendid tiger may be bought these days for from \$1,000 to \$1,500, according to the supply and demand, while lions, fresh from the South African jungles, may be had singly or by the dozen from \$550 to \$900 each, according to size, disposition and appetite. Wildcats are cheaper, but the wilder they are the more they cost. Snakes are the cheapest things on the zoo price list and are sold generally by the running foot for the little fellows and by the yard for the big ones.

Will Continue to Prosecute Coopers For Bank Failure

Wilmington, May 14.—"Say for me, that the Cooper cases will not be compromised, unless they submit to terms in the federal penitentiary," declared Irvin B. Tucker, United States district attorney, discussing today probable disposition of cases pending against Lieut. Gov. W. B. Cooper, his son, Horace Cooper and brother, Thomas E. Cooper, and the latter's business associate, Clyde Lassiter, who stand charged with violating the national banking laws as a result of the failure of the Commercial National Bank.

The district attorney made his state-

Must Begin 15-Year Sentence For Infanticide—Last Hope For Freedom at Hands of Court Gone

For nearly two months the Supreme Court of this state has had under consideration the appeal of Early Ashburn of this city, under a 15-year sentence for infanticide. The final opinion was handed down last week affirming the sentence of the trial judge and his last ray of hope for freedom at the hands of the courts has vanished. Many were predicting that he would get a new trial, basing their opinion on the length of time the Supreme Court was consuming in handing down their decision. The papers will be forwarded to F. T. Lewellyn, clerk of court, at Dobson after which it will be his duty to issue commitment papers and place them in the hands of Sheriff Haynes who will then convey Ashburn to the state penitentiary to begin his long sentence. As far as the courts are concerned his case will then be brought to a close. The next possible step for Ashburn to take will be to ask for a pardon at the hands of the Governor but so far no move has been started in that direction on his behalf.

Ashburn was convicted of one of the most revolting crimes ever committed in this section, that of murdering a new born babe, the child of Essie Handy. The remains of the child were found dumped into a privy in the lower part of Mount Airy and suspicion soon pointed to Essie Hardy as its mother. She, together with her mother and father, was placed under arrest after which she made a confession implicating Ashburn. The Handy girl had not lived with her husband for several months and she told the officers of her clandestine relations with Ashburn and that he had carried the baby from her home after its birth and disposed of it. She never did accuse Ashburn of killing it but told that he had promised to carry it away to another home and see that it was properly cared for. At the trial she denied any knowledge of what became of her baby boy until it was found lying dead in a privy pit where it had been for several days. An examination of the baby showed that it had first been choked to death by rummaging wads of rags down its throat. The material used was identified as belonging to Essie Handy by comparing it with goods found in her room.

During the trial of the case at Dobson the Handy girl entered a plea of guilty and was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary where she now is. The court then continued on with the Ashburn trial which resulted in conviction, and Judge Lane sentenced him to serve not less than 15 years nor more than 20 years.

Ashburn is a married man about 40 years old, having married a Miss Stewart, of this city, several years ago. They have no children. For years he was a valued salesman for G. C. Welch Company and up to the time of his arrest took an active part in church and Sunday school work.

Bergdoll's Buried Gold

Eberbach, Germany May 12.—"Finders, keepers," says Grover Bergdoll with reference to the gold he buried in 1917 when his game of hide-and-seek with the United States authorities began.

All told, say Bergdoll, there was exactly \$270,000 in nice shiny \$10 gold pieces.

ment relative to compromise of cases when asked if there was any possibility of them being compromised. He indicated that he preferred the Cooper trials in Wilmington, but apparently will not oppose transfer of cases to the federal court in Raleigh.

Lieut. Governor Cooper, his brother and son were acquitted of a charge of conspiracy to violate the banking laws at the last term of federal court here, but the counts now standing against them and Mr. Lassiter involve alleged actual commission of banking law irregularities.