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VETERANS BUREAU INQUIRY ORDERED

EXPECT FORBES WILL NOT RESUME POST UPON RETURN FROM EUROPE.

RECENTLY BEEN UNDER FIRE

Special Committee Which Will Conduct Inquiry is Composed of Senators Sutherland and Walsh.

Washington. — An investigation of charges of irregularities, waste and extravagance in the Veterans' Bureau was ordered by the senate.

Authorization for the inquiry was contained in a resolution by Senator Walsh, democrat, Massachusetts, that was adopted without debate. A special committee appointed a year ago will collect evidence and it will be decided later whether a more thorough investigation should be undertaken after congress adjourns.

Recently the bureau has been under fire from several angles, officers of the American Legion, among others, criticizing the methods employed in dealing with former service men. There have been evidences that a sweeping investigation on the part of the executive branch of the government already was under way, and some important shifts have been made in the bureau personnel. Col. C. R. Forbes, the bureau director, now is in Europe and his friends do not expect him to resume his duties when he returns.

The special committee, which will conduct the inquiry for the senate is composed of Senator Sutherland, republican, West Virginia, and Senator Walsh. A year ago they made a similar inquiry.

Among other things the resolution adopted recites these reasons for inquiring into the conduct of the bureau:

"It has been reported in several press dispatches and asserted on the floor of the house of representatives that there is evidence of waste, extravagance, irregularities and mismanagement in the operation of the United States Veterans' Bureau.

"It has been reported that general dissatisfaction prevails among the officials of said bureau. Because of such chaotic conditions and lack of co-ordination it is alleged that officials of said bureau have been removed and others have tendered their resignations.

"The burden of such waste, extravagance, irregularities and mismanagement falls upon the incapacitated soldier for whose relief said bureau was created, and the conditions as alleged to exist would necessarily impair the morale of said bureau."

Germany Protests Land Seizures.
Washington. — Latest seizures of German territory made by French military forces in the Ruhr have been made the subject of a renewed protest by the German government.

The note of protest, a copy of which has reached diplomatic quarters here, characterized the French occupation as "one of purely arbitrary action and force, committed by taking advantage of the defenselessness of the German nation."

Approval expressed by the Rhineland commission of the measures taken by the French government, the note said, "does not legalize these measures which violate the treaty and likewise does not give a legal title to the illegal ordinance of the Rhineland commission."

"The approval shows anew, however," the note continued, "that the inter-allied Rhineland commission lets itself be made the tool of French policy."

"The German government protests also against the violation of the treaty and of right."

Wild Deer Driven From Hills.
Nyack, N. Y. — Forty wild deer from the hills were resting about the lawns, flower beds and open spaces of Nyack, contentedly chewing their cud and ruminating on the adventure which had brought them within 44 minutes of Broadway.

Supt. Robert H. Drummond, of the Oak Hill cemetery, discovered that the herd had invaded his domain and consumed most of the plants and shrubs there. The usually shy creatures remained on the outskirts of Nyack, just 25 miles from the heart of New York city.

Heavy snows in the hills are believed to have sent the deer down in search of forage.

GAS LINE BREAKS AND SIX ARE KILLED

Pittman, N. J. — A family of six were asphyxiated and a dozen other persons were overcome by gas escaping from a broken main in this city.

The dead are: P. Pucci, a shoemaker, and his wife and four children ranging in ages from four to 20 years.

Of those overcome the most critical is Daniel S. Blackman, a broker, with an office in Philadelphia. From the position of the bodies it was evident to the police that some members of the Pucci family had made an effort to reach fresh air.

MANY KILLED BY EXPLOSION

122 MEN WERE ENTOMBED FOLLOWING MINE EXPLOSION AT DAWSON, N. M.

Men Imprisoned in the Mine Are More Than Four Thousand Feet From the Portal.

Denver, Colo. — Rescue parties entered mine No. 1 and found the bodies of more than 100 dead miners, according to a report received by The Denver Post from its correspondent in Trinidad, Colo. Communication with Dawson is impossible, the telephone company reports. There is but one line into the town and more than fifty emergency calls are being rushed over the telephone.

East Las Vegas, N. M. — Approximately 125 miners are entombed in Mine No. 7, at Dawson, New Mexico, following an explosion, according to a telephone message received here.

The explosion, which occurred at about 2:30 o'clock (Mountain time) wrecked telephone lines out of Dawson and direct communication with the town was impossible. The information received here was from Dawson Junction, nearby.

At 4:30 o'clock all the miners of the day shift who were in the mine when the explosion is reported to have occurred, were still entombed, according to the message.

Mine No. 1 at Dawson is owned by the Phelps-Dodge corporation. Calls for help have been dispatched to the St. Louis, Rocky Mountain and Pacific Mining company at Rating.

The mine is the largest in the Dawson district. It was the scene of an explosion in 1913, in which many lives were lost.

All the heavy concrete work at the mouth of the main entry was blown to ruin by the force of the explosion, indicating that the extent of the blast in the deeper workings was tremendous, according to information received here.

The debris choking the mouth of the entrance was partially removed and a rescue crew, which was accompanied by W. D. Brennan, manager of the mine, made an entry.

Abuquerque, N. M. — Reports from Dawson were that two men had been removed from the mine dead and three had been taken out alive. Rescue parties had penetrated the mine to a depth of one mile. The men imprisoned in the mine are more than 4,000 feet from the portal.

Free Bread War on in Chicago.

Chicago. — Chicago customers of 83 chain stores of one firm were assured of a greater supply of "free" bread when the entire product was quickly exhausted under the onslaught of patrons, mostly school children. But the bread produced by extra shifts of bakers was to go only with minimum purchases of 50 cents worth of groceries. Another group of chain stores, with which a price-cutting was engaged in, continued to sell the 16-ounce loaf for 2½ cents and announced there would be no immediate change of policy.

The manager of the first group said the great crowds which besieged the stores forced the stipulation of purchase before receiving free bread. He said 150,000 loaves would be given away.

At the start of the price-cutting both firms, day by day, announced in half-page newspaper advertisements gradual reductions in the charge of bread until one group reached two cents, whereupon the other announced free bread.

Alcohol Stolen by Five Bandits.
New York. — Five bandits overpowered the driver of a truck owned by the Kentucky Distillery and Wholesale company and fled with driver, truck and 2,000 quarts of alcohol that was being taken from the Baltimore and Ohio railroad pier to the Corona Chemical company.

MANY PROOFS OF ACTIVE BUSINESS

LOADING OF REVENUE FREIGHT SET NEW RECORDS FOR THE SEASON.

SECURITIES SHOW STRENGTH

Optimism Continues to be the Dominating Factor in Financial Markets.

New York. — Optimism over the domestic situation continued to be the dominating factor in the financial markets of the past week. Securities showed much strength and the prevailing impression in Wall street was that the upward movement largely reflected the reports on increased industrial activity and the satisfactory annual financial returns which are now being published.

Meanwhile there was a tendency to feel less anxiety over the foreign situation, which distinct satisfaction was expressed over the encouraging progress made in coming to an agreement with Great Britain in the matter of funding that country's debt to the United States.

Many proofs of active business are available. For one thing loadings of revenue freight by the railroads continue to set new records for this season of the year. In the week ended January 27th, some 871,000 cars of freight were loaded, this figure exceeding the total for the same week a year ago by 131,000 cars and that in the comparable week of 1920 by 68,000 cars. The gains are distributed, furthermore, among the various classes of traffic, thus emphasizing the general character of the improvement.

Foreign Commerce of U. S. Increases.

Washington. — The foreign commerce of the United States increased more than 4,000,000 tons in 1922 as compared with 1921, but the tonnage carried in American ships decreased from 49 per cent of the total in 1921 to 47½ per cent in 1922, while in the overseas general cargo trade, less than one-third of the tonnage was carried under the American flag, according to a survey made public by the shipping board.

The percentage given as the totals for the two years, it is explained, "reach their present proportions because they include our enormous traffic in bulk petroleum" and "our trade with nearby countries, which is practically coastwise" in both of which American ships predominate.

"That we make any showing in the overseas commerce at all," continues the report, "is due almost entirely to the fact that the shipping board maintains in world service a number of vessels at public expense. For 1922 privately owned American vessels carried 7.76 per cent of our overseas tonnage."

Americans Seek Tobacco Control.

New York. — American financiers are negotiating with the French government for a monopoly on the manufacture and distribution of tobacco in France, the Evening Mail asserts.

The deal was reported to involve \$300,000,000 of which \$25,000,000 would be paid upon conclusion of the agreement. James B. Duke, George J. Whalen and Thomas Fortune Ryan were said to be the men interested.

Reports of negotiations for a French tobacco monopoly have been circulating from time to time for two years, but always have been met with denials.

"Fruit" Turns Out to be Liquor.

New York. — Federal agents seized 350 crates of Florida "oranges" destined for Boston, in the Bronx freight yards of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad. The "fruit" proved to be bottled whiskey with a prohibition value of \$30,000. The liquor cases were hidden by crates of genuine fruit.

State enforcement officers said they had been tipped when the shipment left Florida to be re-routed here for Boston.

Bandit is Shot and Killed.

Santiago, P. I. — Ronquello, the noted bandit who has been sought for killing Junde Andres Borroneo last month, was shot and killed by a platoon of constabulary who surrounded a house in Cavite province, where Ronquello was hiding.

Twenty-five of the constabulary surrounded the house and began firing from all sides. Nearly 1000 shots were fired.

Finally one of the constables crawled under the house and fired up through the floor, killing Ronquello.

THRILLING RESCUE MADE BY NEW YORK FIREMEN

New York. — A fireman's daring rescue of a woman from a fourth floor window while hanging by his heels, thrilled spectators at a blaze in a West Fifty-third street apartment house occupied by negroes.

Eight persons were injured, two of them seriously, by jumping from windows.

Fireman John Donales, suspended by his feet from the roof by other firemen, grasped a frantic woman in his arms and hoisted her to safety. Across to a window where she stood screaming was impossible from the ground because of the flames and of elevated railway tracks.

Several firemen reached the roof from an adjoining structure, and Donales was let down to save the woman.

SOLDIERS WELCOMED HOME

AMERICA'S "LAST THOUSAND" HOME FROM EUROPE; LAND AT SAVANNAH.

Congressmen, Army Officers and Others Meet Transport; Many Bring Their Wives.

Savannah, Ga. — America's "last thousand" came home from Europe, signaling the nation's closing action in its participation in the World War.

From the deck of the U. S. army transport St. Mihiel the soldiers who kept watch on the Rhine gained their first glimpse of their homeland after an absence of five years. With them were French, Belgian and German wives and children, who saw for the first time the land they are to call home.

Savannah turned out to a man to welcome home in behalf of America the returning troops and to greet the women and children from the country's former allies and enemy nations. The reception began when the cutter Yamacraw and the tug Mc-Gauley met the transport beyond Tybee bar. At quarantine a party of congressmen, Governor Thomas W. Hardwick, of Georgia, Mayor Paul E. Seabrook and other state and local officials and army officers boarded the St. Mihiel from the cutter Yamacraw.

As the transport neared Savannah she was greeted by a salvo from two historic cannon presented to the Chatham artillery by George Washington and from a battery of French 75s, trophies of the World war. The soldiers answered each blast with cheers. Bells, whistles and sirens throughout the city and on river craft took up the cry.

Spectators scattered along a mile and a half of water front kept pace with the transport as she progressed up the river. They stormed the docks, overpowering police guards. Fire hoses were brought into play to clear the crowd from about the ship. The stream of water struck members of the official congressional reception committee just as the party boarded the transport. The congressional committee, including Senators Harris and Robinson and Congressman Johnson, Linberger, Scott, Conley and Bulwinkle, were met aboard ship by Col. Walter T. Bates, of the eighth infantry, in command of the troops.

Asks Congress to Pass Ship Bill.

Washington. — President Harding personally urged upon Congress that it not only approve promptly the British debt settlement agreement, but that it also come to a decision one way or another at this session on the administration shipping bill.

"There is time, abundant time, for decisive action on both these tremendously important questions," he declared. "Either is fit to be recorded a chapter in great achievement and both will mark a signal triumph. I remind you that both are inseparably related to our good fortunes at home and our high place in the world."

Approval of the debt settlement, for the formal submission of which the President went to the capitol, was forecast by republican congressional leaders. The first step along the legislative way was taken immediately after Mr. Harding concluded his address before a joint session of the house and senate in the house chamber, identical bills, amending the existing debt funding law being introduced in both branches.

Party managers in the house predicted action by that body within a week at least, but the situation in the senate was less clear. Some leaders there favored calling up the debt bill immediately after the house acted, but others thought there should be first a renewed effort to obtain a vote on the shipping bill.

IMMIGRATION TO BE RESTRICTED

SWEEPING CHANGES IN LAW PROPOSED BY HOUSE COMMITTEE.

BILL CONTAINS PROVISIONS

New Bill Would Limit Immigration to Two Per Cent of National Residents Under 1899 Census.

Washington. — A bill providing for sweeping changes in the immigration laws was reported by the house immigration committee.

The measure would restrict immigration from all countries to two per cent of their national residents in the United States under the census of 1899, and exclude Japanese with the exception of certain students and scientists as well as other persons not eligible to citizenship.

The bill contains provisions designed to prevent the division of families, by admitting immediate relatives of naturalized citizens and those who have declared their intention to become citizens.

It also provides that all nations should have a minimum quota of 400 persons eligible to enter the United States before the two per cent is applied. To prevent the deporting of aliens under the law, the bill would provide for the issuance of certificates of eligibility abroad.

The bill was brought out as a substitute for a senate measure providing for the admission of 25,000 Armenian orphans. Under this procedure committee members believed it could be placed before the senate as a conference report, which would have the right of way, and assure the final action at the present session of congress.

Chairman Johnson, of the committee, said the Japanese exclusion section, which would not apply to ministers of the gospel, members of learned professions, or bona fide students, merely would translate into the law the "gentlemen's agreement" between the United States and Japan affecting immigration.

Under the present law, which the bill would replace, the quotas are fixed at 3 per cent based on the census of 1910, and, it was explained, the change would increase the proportion from southern and eastern Europe. "Although the number admitted under the quota restrictions would be very sharply reduced, committee members said the provision designed to avoid the division of families would materially offset the reduction.

The bill would not operate against immigration from Canada, New Foundland, Mexico, Cuba and Central and South America, provided those seeking admission had been resident in those countries for five years.

35 Dead in Canadian Mine Explosion.

Cumberland, B. C. — The death toll in an explosion in No. 4 mine at the Canadian collieries (Dunsmuir), limited, two miles from here, was definitely placed at 14 white miners and 20 Chinese, in a statement issued by mine officials here. Twenty-six bodies have been brought to the surface.

Seven men, brought to the mine's mouth by rescue parties after heroic endeavors, were taken to a hospital where they lay unconscious, but with a chance for life. There were 300 men on the night shift, which was on duty when the explosion occurred.

Cumberland was a place of mourning. Women and children gathered about, awaiting fearfully for identification. During the long night, while rescuers worked feverishly with the determination to save the lives of at least a few of the imprisoned men, the groups gathered conversed frightfully in unbroken tones. The rescue work went on slowly. The men would work only four abreast. Each of the rescuers worked until he was exhausted. Then he was relieved by another.

Men familiar with the mine said the explosion was undoubtedly due to the presence of both gas and dust. The work of penetrating the mine is extremely dangerous with volumes of gas pouring through the tunnels.

The first body found was that of a 15-year-old boy. Rescue workers saw him in the hoist some time before they reached him, but he died before help arrived. Like many others he was bleeding at the nose, ears and mouth and the skin on his face and hands was scorched from the heat following the explosion.

The explosion occurred in No. 2, east drive, and that portion of the mine was badly wrecked.

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