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CANNOT LAWFULLY BRING LIQUOR IN

THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT HANDS DOWN DECISION.

EFFECTS FOREIGN VESSELS

Congress Has Right, However, to Prohibit U. S. Ships From Serving Liquor Anywhere.

Washington.—Intoxicating liquors even under seal, cannot lawfully be brought in American or foreign ships within three miles of the shores, the United States supreme court held in a decision which declared, however, that outside the three-mile limit American vessels can legally sell intoxicants to passengers. The fight of foreign ships to do so had not been questioned.

The opinion, rendered in 10 cases brought by foreign and two by American steamship companies, was delivered by Justice Vandevanter. Without expressing his views, Justice McReynolds dissented. Justice Sutherland in a dissenting opinion agreed with the majority of the court in reference to American ships, but declared foreign vessels had the right to bring liquors into American ports under restrictions adequately guarding against leakage ashore.

The effect of the decision was to affirm that Federal Judge Hand in New York insofar as it sustained the opinion of Attorney General Daugherty that intoxicants could not legally be brought into American ports and to reverse it with regard to the right of American vessels to have liquor aboard on the high seas and in foreign ports.

The court pointed out specifically that Congress has the power, if it sees fit to exercise it, to forbid all ships flying the American flag to carry and serve liquors outside the three-mile limit. This view of the court resulted in predictions by "many dry leaders," after the gist of the decision had become known.

Sweeping in its scope the decision left administration officials somewhat at sea as to how they would proceed as a matter of permanent policy. Chairman Lasker of the shipping board announced that for the present, at least, the ban on liquor would be kept on all shipping board vessels. The treasury it became known intends to begin at once to re-draft its prohibition regulations to make them jibe with the decision.

Indians Filched on Fortune Story.

Washington.—A replica of the famous "Spanish heir" fraud is being operated among Southern Indians to the great inconvenience of the Interior Department. Persons, as yet unidentified have been busy in Georgia and South Carolina seeking descendants of Elias Saunders, a member of an Indian tribe residing in Maryland more than 100 years ago, and relating to these the rosy tale of a \$3,000,000 fund held by the Government for distribution to them.

The department announced that no claim has ever been made in behalf of the Maryland tribe now long extinct, that if filed such claims would have no standing since the tribe was under state control, and, finally, that no such fund is being held.

Dry Director Under Charge.

Philadelphia.—A girl clerk testified that William C. McConnell, former Federal prohibition director for Pennsylvania, on trial in the United States District Court charged with conspiracy in the fraudulent issuance of liquor permits, had ordered her not to keep any more records of permits sent out. Twenty-eight other men, some of them members of McConnell's staff when he was prohibition director, are also on trial charged with conspiracy.

The Government alleged that Wolfe sanctioned a forged permit, made out in the name of the Munyon Home Remedy Company, of Scranton and that the permit was used by alleged bootleggers to distribute 3,000 cases of whiskey in the western part of this state. Scranton was not in major Wolfe's territory. Mrs. Devlin identified the copies of the permit blanks in the name of the Munyon Company as having been sent out by her.

She said she had seen McConnell in Wolfe's office but three times during August, September and October, 1921, when the offenses are alleged to have taken place.

BOY SCOUT IS KILLED UNDER TRUCK WHEELS

Lexington.—Henry Dickerson, Boy Scout, met almost instant death here when he fell beneath a moving truck which he was attempting to board. One wheel of the truck, loaded with crushed stone, is said to have passed over the boy's head or neck, and he died before he could be removed to his home nearby.

Young Dickerson was one of a band of Scouts on their way to make inspections of yards following a spring "clean-up" campaign. Several other Scouts caught the rear of the truck, which was driven by John Green, well known known young white man of this community, but Dickerson ran around to the side, and when he attempted to step on the running board he slipped and fell on the paved street.

NOT TO SPEND ANY MONEY

NAVY DEPARTMENT WILL ABANDON ITS PROGRAM FOR PRESENT.

Question of Interpretation of Washington Arms Treaty is Involved.

Washington.—Modernization of the older ships of the American fleet will await specific authority of Congress, Secretary Denby announced, and the navy department will abandon for the time being the program which it considers may have been approved under a misapprehension of the situation.

The secretary's decision, which was said to have the approval of President Harding, was regarded as closing the incident created through the protest of the British embassy against statements made before congressional committees when the department was seeking appropriations for installing post-war improvements in the battleships. Navy officials then asserted that no criticism of the work could be made as contravening the five-power naval treaty since Great Britain had completed similar alterations. This was denied by the embassy.

As a result of discussion the \$6,500,000 appropriated by the last Congress for gun elevation will be left in the treasury and refunded at the end of the fiscal year as "unexpended money."

With official opinion in the navy from Secretary Denby down holding unanimously that the modernization program is permissible under the treaty drawn up at the Washington arms conference and essential to the American naval standing, it was regarded as certain that the matter would be presented anew to Congress during the December session. The department's recommendations, however, then is expected to be based on the technical necessities of the situation without regard to what any other nation has done or may do.

While the immediate problem was removed by Secretary Denby's statement, naval officials declared that a large question of treaty interpretation remained which ultimately would have to be answered. Among the five signatories of the Washington naval convention, Great Britain has indicated specifically she considered changes in gun elevation to come within the provisions prohibiting lateration of design of main batteries. France has taken the opposite view, several battleships now being in dry dock for such improvements.

Dry Laws Being Investigated.

Washington.—Prohibition troubles from bootlegging to allegations of bribery in several states accumulated here and engaged attention of high officials of at least three federal agencies, the treasury and justice departments and prohibition enforcement headquarters. There were indications that facts developed from the several investigations in progress might ultimately come before President Harding for action.

Charges of fraud among former and possibly present prohibition agents caused orders for an investigation by the bureau of internal revenue. Another investigation, along similar lines, involving alleged tenders of bribes for "protection" to former prohibition officers already is under way by the department of justice, whose agents are making inquiries among "bootleg" circles in a number of cities.

The internal revenue bureau's investigation also was said to extend into several states, involving the personnel of several state prohibition staffs.

JUDGE DENOUNCES HOUSE OF DAVID

CALLS CULT GIGANTIC FRAUD CLOAKED BY RELIGION—AWARDS \$15,000.

PERJURY HID IMMORALITY

Finds Girls Were Forced to Conceal Truth About King Benjamin's Holy Rites in Michigan Sect.

Grand Rapids, Mich.—The Israelite House of David has been found by United District Judge John E. Sater of Columbus, Ohio, to be the gigantic fraud alleged by John W. Hansel and his family of Nashville, Tenn., who spent eight years in the Benton Harbor colony.

Based on his findings, Judge Sater gave to the plaintiffs a verdict which will amount to upward of \$15,000 as compensation for their services from May, 1912, until Dec. 20, 1920, when they alleged they were expelled. They had sued for \$80,000.

The court decision, filed here, declares Benjamin Purnell, head of the colony, "has deliberately and systematically taught utterance of falsehoods and the commission of perjury."

Benjamin, also, he finds, has so taught his religious creed as to cause some of the female members of the colony to submit to improper relations with him as a holy rite.

The colony, despite its "low moral tone, fornication, adultery, attempted rape, if not rape, and petty theft" has gone unpunished and in almost all cases unreuked, Judge Sater said.

"In political matters, the members of the colony vote solidly for the persons designated by Benjamin," states the decision.

Benjamin, it is declared, has, in his writings, made statements of no other rational interpretation than that if an investigation of the colony be had, its members should answer untruthfully. The evidence, it is pointed out, discloses that on other occasions Benjamin avoided and sought to stifle investigations "concerning Benjamin and the girls."

The court ponders as to the reasons of "Queen" Mary, wife of Benjamin, for failure to take the witness stand at the Hansel trial, despite "evidence which cast a doubt, at least, on her virtue," in an attempt "to vindicate her honor or to shed light on transactions in which she was said actively to have participated."

Convict Brutalities to Be Aired.

Tallahassee, Fla.—Additional reported convict brutalities will be aired this week by the joint legislative committee investigating State and county prison camps. State Senator T. J. Knabb, former owner of a private lease convict camp, and John Roddenbury, his alleged whipping boss, the latter now under an indictment, will be the principals in the coming inquiry.

Counsel for Paul Revere White, of Washington, D. C., who is alleged to have received brutal treatment while serving a sentence in the Knabb camp, telegraphed the committee that his client would be unable to leave his home in Washington to appear before the committee. An affidavit made by white together with the records of the Department of Agriculture relative to his case will be introduced in his behalf.

White, a 19-year old youth, was arrested while walking on the highway, near White Springs, Fla., it is alleged, and after being arraigned in a justice of peace court, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment in the Alachua county jail.

He was charged with vagrancy. He was later leased to State Senator Knabb, who operated a turpentine camp near Macclenny. White contends he was put to work scraping turpentine boxes and "because I could not do as much work as the negro hands" his affidavit reads, "I was whipped the third day after I arrived. I was kicked, beaten and whipped practically every day during the time I was there."

Methodists Name Conference Dates.

Nashville, Tenn.—Dates for annual conferences fixed by the Methodist Episcopal college of bishops, south, in session here, include Virginia, October 10; Western North Carolina, October 17; Upper South Carolina, October 31; North Carolina, November 14; South Carolina, November 28; Kentucky, September 5; Louisville, September 26 and Baltimore, April 21, 1924.

1,846,293 GERMANS SLAIN DURING THE WORLD WAR

Berlin.—Germany last 1,846,293 dead in the World War, according to official statistics, just brought up to date. The number of dependents left by those who lost their lives is fixed at 1,945,000.

Of the dead, 56,138 were officers and officials, 212,069 non-commissioned and warrant officers, 1,572,523 enlisted men and 5,568 men whose ranks were not reported.

The dependents comprise 533,000 widows, 1,134,000 children who were left partially orphaned, 58,000 orphans, 38,000 parental couples, and 162,000 parents who were already widows or widowers.

The statistics have been submitted to the Reichstag by the Minister of Labor.

LARGER TAX ON CIGARETTES

GOVERNMENT COLLECTS THIS MUCH DURING MONTH OF MARCH.

Figures Indicate Healthiest National Business State, Says Treasury Officials.

Washington.—An upward trend of general business, in the opinion of treasury officials, is shown definitely in detailed statistics on gross federal tax collections for March, which place the total for the month at \$533,542,000. While some specific items show a reduction in returns as compared with March 1922, officials regard the analysis of payments, which was made public, as giving evidence through generally increased returns from the various tax sources of a healthier national business state.

Proof of a more liberal spending the country over is shown, as the officials view the situation, in the increase in manufacturers' excise taxes on automobiles and accessories from which in March the treasury received \$12,173,000, or \$5,100,000 more than in March, 1922. There also was a marked increase reported in the tax on capital stock of corporations from which was derived \$778,000, an indication, it was said, of expansion in industrial program. The tax is small and an increase of about \$150,000, as reported, was declared to represent important developments in capital stock additions.

Tobacco taxes afforded observers another evidence, it was said, of greater use by most of the public of the current buying power, taxes on this commodity aggregating \$25,667,000 in March, as against \$21,427,000 for the corresponding month a year ago. The principal increase in the aggregate amount came from larger taxes on cigarettes, which yielded a total for the month of \$15,130,000. Cigar taxes netted the treasury \$3,849,000 and chewing and smoking tobacco about \$5,000,000.

Documentary stamp sales for the month were reported at \$3,849,000, almost \$400,000 greater than for March last year and also greater by about \$50,000 than in February. There has been a generally larger sale of stamps each month in the last year as compared with previous months, except for one or two periods when small declines were recorded.

Theater admission taxes brought in \$6,700,000 in March as compared with \$6,284,000 in the same month a year ago, while the club dues produced \$643,227, or about \$75,000 more than in March, 1922. Many other tax sources also showed increases, but the majority were small and inconsequential although important in the aggregate.

Texas Town is Wrecked by Wind.

Henrietta, Texas.—Virtually every building in Henrietta was damaged and five residences and six oil derricks at Burkburnett, 30 miles north of here, were blown to bits by a terrific wind storm which swept up from the southeast.

A fifty mile wind drove large hailstones through every window in Henrietta, and blew in the roofs of the three-story St. Elmo hotel, several business buildings and a dozen residences.

Hail piled up nearby a foot deep in Henrietta streets, and a torrential rain which followed the windstorm caused water to fill basements.

Methodist Plan \$10,000,000 Fund.

St. Louis, Mo.—Plans for the raising of a \$10,000,000 endowment fund for super-annuated ministers and widows and orphans of ministers of the Southern Methodist church, will be presented to each of the thirty-eight annual conferences of the church for approval this year, it was announced by the board of finance of the church.

TWELVE DIE IN TENEMENT FIRE

SIX CHILDREN AND SIX ADULTS BURN TO DEATH IN SUDDEN FLAMES.

FORMER PUGILIST ASSISTS

A Hundred Women and Children Passed Down Rusty Fire Escape to Safety.

New York.—Flames that suddenly enveloped a five story tenement in east 109th street killed 12 persons, six of them children, and led to injury of more than a score of other tenants.

Two hours before daybreak Harhis Vogel, from his home across the street, saw flames burst suddenly from every floor of the building. He called Patrolman John Halone and accompanied him through the flames to the second floor of the burning tenement. They shouted, broke down doors and made their way to the first landing of the rickety fire escape. Above them women and children screamed.

Malone tried to drop the ladder to the side-walk. Rusted with age, it stuck. A taxi-cab, driven by Manne Friedman, a former pugilist, pushed through the hysterical crowd until it was directly beneath the fire escape. A hundred women and children were passed down the fire escape to the top of the cab and were saved.

Meanwhile, on the top floor, the family of David Mandelbaum, painter, was trapped. Mandelbaum's son, Hyman, crawled with his family to the fire escape and was saved.

Mandelbaum tried to go back for his wife and six other children, ranging in age from one to sixteen years, but failed.

In the apartment adjoining that of the Mandelbaums an entire family perished. Aaron Kuzis, his wife, their daughter, Bertha, 21 years old, and their 18 year old son, David, were found on the floor near the open door.

Bertha was engaged to be married. She would have been saved but went back to get her wedding dress. When her body was found a bit of scorched lace was clutched in one hand.

Mrs. Isaac Brownstein, who lived on the third floor, died in a hospital from burns.

Announce New Gas Price Cuts.

New York.—The Standard Oil Company of New Jersey announced another cut of one cent a gallon in the price of gasoline throughout its domestic territory with the exception of a few points where varying adjustments were made. This is the second cut within a week and is due, the company states, to a surplus production of crude oil and a consequent lowering prices.

The Standard Oil company of Louisiana, a subsidiary of the New Jersey Company, also has reduced the price of gasoline one cent a gallon in Louisiana, Arkansas and Tennessee.

The Texas Company and the Gulf Refining Company also announced reductions of one cent a gallon in the price of gasoline in their territories.

Robbers Take 20 Barrels of Rum.

Louisville, Ky.—Fifteen men held up guards at the W. B. Samuels distillery, near Bardstown, Ky., and carried away twenty barrels of whiskey in a stolen truck, according to reports received by Federal prohibition officers here.

After overpowering the guards, the robbers fired more than 150 shots, apparently for the purpose of preventing interference, the report said.

Soon after receiving a report of the robbery, P. Green Miller, chief prohibition agent for Kentucky and Tennessee, left Louisville, at the head of a posse of Federal agents and police, armed with riot guns. The posse members were to block roads leading from the scene in an attempt to head off the robbers.

Amnesia Victim Drops Off Map.

Baltimore.—As mysteriously as he appeared in, Baltimore the amnesia victim from Charlotte, N. C., disappeared a few hours later. Before dropping out of sight he visited several of the leading hotels and examined their registers for several years back. He explained that the could recognize his handwriting although he could not recall his name, which he thought was W. G. Farnsworth. Writing his name he compared it with three other names he found on one hotel register, and pointed out discrepancies which proved he had not written the originals.

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