



1—Re-enacting the Battle of Concord Bridge during the celebration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the beginning of the Revolution. 2—Opening of new headquarters of the American legion in Paris in barracks provided by French government. 3—Capt. Edward H. Campbell, appointed judge advocate general of the navy with grade of rear admiral.



NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Wheeler's Fight for Honor and Toga—Dawes Again Hits Senate Rules.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

SENATOR BURTON K. WHEELER'S trial in Great Falls, Mont., moved swiftly toward its conclusion last week and it appeared probable that within a few days he would know whether he was to retain his honor and his official position, or lose both because he was convicted of misusing the latter. Largely the government's case rested on the truth or falsity of the testimony given by George B. Hayes, a New York attorney, who swore that on March 16, 1923, at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel, New York, Senator Wheeler sought to get him to represent the Gordon Campbell land cases before the Department of the Interior in Washington and offered to split profits, which he said might run into millions. Hayes said his attention was called to Wheeler and the Campbell case by Edwin Booth, then solicitor of the Department of the Interior, whom he had known for years. Booth, he asserted, called him up by long-distance telephone. Under cross-examination Hayes said: "Senator Wheeler and I both went on the assumption that Booth had made the offer of fees. I think he said to me: 'Booth may have suggested that I will split 50-50 with you.' I replied that was satisfactory. I think he stated it would run into a very substantial figure. I think he mentioned millions, the same as Booth did."

Senator Walsh, senior counsel for Wheeler, said he would show that no long-distance call was put in from Booth's office to Hayes' office during March, 1923. A. H. Furr, former secretary to Booth, admitted there was such a call, but could not remember the date.

Booth, on the stand, swore the discussions with Hayes over the Campbell affairs were entirely on the question of getting new capital into this Montana oil field.

Wheeler took the stand in his own defense Wednesday and denounced as false the testimony of Hayes and several other government witnesses. He swore that he never met Hayes in the Waldorf-Astoria hotel, and never had seen him until Hayes appeared in the Daugherty investigation, when the lawyer was subpoenaed as a witness. As to his agreement with Gordon Campbell, he said there was no discussion of permits at any time except once, when he was called into Campbell's office to hear the story of H. J. Coleman, who had a controversy with Campbell over the Lincoln well permit. Under cross-examination, however, Wheeler admitted that after he had been retained by Campbell he was told about a certain government permit and that he also had defended the Stevenson receivership complaint, which recited seven doubtful permit cases. He admitted that he told Campbell that after he got to Washington he would take up the permit in question and that he probably told him he was going to take it up with Booth; but he asserted he was taking it up as his senator, not as his attorney.

Elsewhere the vice president was a conspicuous figure last week, for he was one of the distinguished guests, with General Pershing, at the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the battles of Lexington and Concord. Before those historic battles were fought over again, Faneuil hall in Boston was rededicated and both Dawes and Pershing made eloquent and patriotic addresses. Then they went out and saw Paul Revere and William Dawes, great-grandfather of the vice president, start on their famous ride, heard the "shot that was heard around the world" fired at Lexington, and saw the embattled farmers rout the Red Coats at Concord bridge. Incidentally, Mr. Dawes spoke before the merchants of Boston and told them what he thought of the senate rules, to their great delight.

IN THE four years since the war some six millions of foreigners have been kept out of the United States by the restriction of immigration and that policy has proved of such benefit not only to this country but also to others that it probably will be permanent. Such in effect was the statement of President Coolidge to the Daughters of the American Revolution, assembled in Washington in their thirty-fourth continental congress. The President warmly praised the organization for its educational and Americanization work.

Mrs. Anthony Wayne Cook, president general of the D. A. R., devoted much of her address to the dangers of pacifism and the need of preparedness.

THAT the attempt on the life of King Boris of Bulgaria and the bomb explosion in the Sofia cathedral which killed some 200 persons and mangled scores of others were a part of the Russian plot to establish a Soviet republic in Bulgaria is scarcely to be doubted, despite the angry denial of Tchitcherin, Russian minister of foreign affairs. Some of the conspirators have made full confessions, telling how the whole affair was planned in Moscow and directed from there. Under the vigorous command of Premier Zankoff, himself wounded in the cathedral, the Communists are being run to earth and so many of them have been summarily executed that some observers call the condition there a "reign of terror." Three Labor members of the British parliament were in Sofia at the time of the explosion and they are severe in their condemnation of the ruthlessness of the Bulgarian authorities.

It is likely that other nations, except Russia, will look complacently on the measures adopted by the Sofia government, for it is realized that if the Bolsheviks succeed in their aim in Bulgaria, they can easily crush Rumania, and later seize Macedonia and Croatia in both of which the Communists are strong. The alleged wholesale executions in Bulgaria are said to have caused the spread of

isolation desired by the majority, acting under its constitutional rights, is sometimes a check to mistaken legislation. If that check involves the use of power the existence of which is not contemplated by the Constitution and is inconsistent with the principles of representative government? Of what relevancy are the claims that because the power of unlimited debate in the early days of the senate with its small membership was not abused, this power with its consequences should have existed then or should exist now?

Later he said: "This reform does not mean that the right to be heard at length upon any important question shall be denied any senator. The purpose is not to prevent senators from fully debating a question but to make impossible the prolonging of debate to prevent a majority from settling a question. The purpose is not to deprive a minority of the right to be heard, but to bestow upon the majority the full right to legislate. The purpose is not to interfere with the protection of all proper rights of a senatorial minority, but to prevent the improper use of a minority right under the senate rules from rendering the senate itself impotent. It is important that these rules give every senator a square deal, but it is imperative that they give the American people a square deal."

SITTING silent and unmoved, Joseph Caillaux, exiled as a traitor during the war, the recent recipient of amnesty, and selected by Paul Painleve to be minister of finance, heard himself abused to the limit by the right wing of the French chamber of deputies. Then, after hearing the ministerial declaration of Painleve, the chamber accepted his entire cabinet, the vote of confidence being 304 to 218. The new premier declared the government would pursue the execution of the Dawes plan simultaneously with settlement of the interallied debts, but he gave warning that it would not accept the Luther-D'Abernon security pact to which Germany was to have been one of the five signatories. He pledged reduction of France's armaments as soon as her security was guaranteed. What measures are to be adopted to relieve the financial situation M. Painleve did not say, but he indicated they would be stringent and would require heavy sacrifices. M. Caillaux, who spoke but briefly, said he did not intend to increase advances from the Bank of France nor to force the consolidation of bonds which would be harmful to the state. In June, he declared, would come an important monetary operation to rehabilitate the country's finances.

Next day the deputies elected M. Herriot president of the chamber after a fierce battle in the course of which the acting president was knocked down and kicked and the ballots were strewn all over the floor.

PORTUGAL'S government under President Gomes has survived another attempted military revolution. This one was short-lived, for within 24 hours the rebellious troops had been shelled into submission. Official statements from Lisbon said the dead numbered 15 and the wounded 200.

WHATEVER the outcome of the German presidential election, the cause of monarchy in that country received a big boost last week when former Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria came out against Marx and in favor of Von Hindenburg. This despite the fact that Rupprecht and Marx are both Catholics and the field marshal is a Protestant. The Bavarian is head of the Wittelsbach dynasty, rivals of the Hohenzollerns, and his announcement goes to prove the truth of the report that he and the former Crown Prince Frederick William have reached an agreement whereby the return of the Hohenzollerns to power would mean the placing of Rupprecht on the throne of Bavaria. German royalists are rejoicing over this evidence that the two great dynasties have buried their differences.

ANNOUNCEMENT is made by the State department that an agreement has at last been reached with Canada on the program for official investigation of the cost, practicability and feasibility of the St. Lawrence waterway project. At the same time Secretary of Commerce Hoover, chairman of the St. Lawrence commission, appointed by President Coolidge, said he had instructed the American members to begin work at once. Another special board is studying the feasibility of building a canal from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic via the Hudson river.

GEN. GREGARIO FERRERA, defeated candidate for president of Honduras, is conducting a revolution down there that has resulted in several battles. To protect foreign lives and property, a detachment of 165 officers and men from the United States cruiser Denver was landed at Ceiba, where there had been fighting

peasant revolts and there is a report that King Boris contemplates leaving the country until the storm is over. Jugo-Slavia is massing troops on its borders, ostensibly to preserve peace on the frontier but actually to be ready for intervention if the Communists gain the upper hand. The council of ambassadors in Paris authorized Bulgaria to increase her armed forces by 7,000 until the end of May. This action was largely due to the message from the Jugo-Slav cabinet asserting the menace was an international one and that the Bulgars should be aided.

LEGISLATURE HAS ADJOURNED

Assembly Met Only on Forty Legislative Days.

VOTED \$135,000,000 TOTAL

Considered 2064 Bills, of Which 775 Were Passed and Sent to Governor. Voted Bond Issues.

Harrisburg, Pa.—When the 1925 General Assembly adjourned it brought to a close a session unique in the legislative annals of Pennsylvania. Convening on January 6, it met on forty legislative days, establishing a record as one of the shortest sessions since biennial meetings were started in 1870, and equaled only by those of 1903 and 1909.

It considered 2064 bills, practically as many as were introduced in the 1923 General Assembly, which was in session seventy legislative days. Of these 1363 were introduced in the House of Representatives and 701 in the Senate. It passed and sent to the Governor more than 775 bills.

It passed appropriation bills carrying a total estimated by State officials at more than \$135,000,000 for all purposes. Of this \$87,910,502.67 was carried in the general appropriation bill providing funds for State departments and schools.

It continued the emergency gasoline tax for two years more and passed four other revenue raising measures in the form of bills amending existing tax laws. One permits the State to collect 25 per cent of the federal inheritance tax, another amends the bank stock tax by making it uniform and the third amends the gross receipts tax to include hydro-electric and water power companies and motor transportation companies, excepting taxicab companies and individuals engaged in freight transportation.

The emergency gas-line tax, it is estimated, will return \$5,500,000 during the next two years, the money to go to the motor fund. The other three taxes, sponsors estimate, will bring in the neighborhood of \$5,000,000 in the biennium.

It prepared the way for submission to the voters of \$48,600,000 in State bond issues. This includes \$35,000,000 for forest land purchases; \$8,000,000 for Pennsylvania State College and \$5,600,000 for State armories. In addition it got underway, by passing them for the first time, amendments carrying \$235,000,000 more. These include \$100,000,000 for new State buildings and Capitol Park improvements; \$50,000,000 more for highways; \$50,000,000 for buildings for State welfare institutions and \$35,000,000 for soldiers' bonuses.

An amendment providing this sum for soldiers' bonuses passed in 1921 and 1922, but owing to a question as to the possibility of submitting this amendment, a new one was started on its way. All of these amendments must pass another Legislature before they may be submitted to the voters. The Legislature also passed a bill creating a commission to investigate the State's indebtedness.

Many other proposed constitutional amendments were introduced. One passed for the second time and now ready for submission to the voters, is designed to permit the State to do its own printing. Among others passed for the first time were amendments permitting Philadelphia to increase its debt limit to fourteen per cent of the assessed property valuation, permitting Pittsburgh to levy special assessments against both abutting and non-abutting property for public improvements, providing tax exemptions or rebates to residents of other States which grant exemptions and permitting the General Assembly to make appropriations for old age assistance.

All but seven of more than 600 recess appointments sent the Senate by Governor Pinchot were confirmed. Those who were not recommended for confirmation were Lex N. Mitchell, Punxsutawney; John L. Stewart, Bethlehem; Fred J. Miller, Centerbridge, and J. Henry Scattergood, members of the Public Service Commission, and Charles C. McGovern, W. K. Hodgkinson and Ida L. Allen, three of the four members appointed to the Pittsburgh Registration Commission. The commissions all expired with adjournment of the Legislature.

Among the measures defeated or which died without a vote were bills amending the Workmen's Compensation Act, appropriating \$100,000 to the Public Service Commission for rate-making investigations, repealing the anthracite tax and imposing a tax on capital stock of manufacturing concerns.

Bills passed in the closing hours included one sponsored by Representative Edmonds for the State Tax Commission, providing for reciprocity with other states in the taxation of the transfer of property of non-resident decedents; abolishing the occupation tax and imposing a poll tax in Lackawanna, Luzerne and Westmoreland counties; a code of poor laws, a bill providing for fingerprints or footprints of infants born in other than private homes; increasing marriage license fees; licensing osteopathic nurses, and creating a state dental council.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE ITEMS

Sunbury.—After seven weeks of desperate underground fighting the fire in the Cameron colliery of the Susquehanna Coal Company was subdued by flooding.

Lewistown.—The new assembly hall of Sacred Heart parish was dedicated.

Hazleton.—William Key's automobile, stolen from in front of a theatre, was found destroyed by fire near MeAdoo.

Lewistown.—Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Drake celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary at the home of their son.

Washington.—A gas well drilled in by the Carnegie Natural Gas Company on the Forest Murdock farm, Whitely township, Greene county, is reported to be making 1,000,000 cubic feet daily.

Rockview.—Angelo Gelfo, of Westmoreland county, was electrocuted in the Western Penitentiary for the murder of his wife, Josephine, in November, 1923. He went to the chair without making any statement. He was attended by the Rev. Father Angelus, of State College, and seven minutes after he was placed in the chair he was pronounced dead. Gelfo shot his wife because she locked the door of their home and refused to open it when he demanded her to do so.

Lewistown.—The Board of Education re-elected 73 teachers and employees, most of the teachers at increased salaries.

West Chester.—Edward J. Langley, of Sugartown, near here, died as a result of being kicked by a horse.

Wilkes-Barre.—The porch of the home of Joseph Rocco, at Hughes town, near here, was dynamited.

Cresson.—Three additional buildings will be erected this summer at the state sanitarium here, ground being broken for the first building by Secretary of Health Miner.

Pottsville.—Troop C, state police, will remove from here to Reading May 15. It was definitely announced.

Bloomsburg.—Yeggmen entered the office of the Paragon Plaster and Supply Company, but after breaking the combination knob off the safe failed to open it.

Wilkes-Barre.—Sixty terrified mine mules had to be removed from the huge Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre haul to the ground, at the estimated loss of \$15,000. Several car loads of hay added fury to the flames.

Harrisburg.—Ella Finnegan, 50 years old, who lives with her sister, Mrs. Edwin Hart, in Philadelphia, was killed by a Pennsylvania railroad train near Royaltown. She had been visiting a brother and tried to cross the track to call on relatives nearby.

Altoona.—Stockholders represented by Harry F. Faber, Altoona, purchased at receivers' sale the plant, equipment and inventory of the Confederated Home Abattoirs Corporation, a meat packing plant, for \$250,000. The plant was built largely by local capital, over \$1,000,000 of stock having been sold. Scarcely had it begun to operate when differences developed among the stockholders, followed by court action. The sale enabled the company to start over again, with the holders of a controlling interest of common stock eliminated.

Greensburg.—Lugio Curcio, 45 years old, of Slickville, near here, was found shot to death along the tracks of the Pennsylvania railroad. Four bullets had entered his body. Curcio is believed to have been waylaid by members of a black hand society.

Franklin.—Flames swept the T. M. George cigar and sporting goods store. Three persons, one a baby a few weeks old, were almost suffocated. The loss was \$3000.

Pittsburgh.—Four men were seriously injured and twenty-one others suffered minor injuries when a 50-gallon drum of oil exploded in the junk yard of Eber Brothers here. The cause of the explosion is a mystery. The flaming oil scattered over the junk yard and burned the men at work.

Sunbury.—With an iron rivet lodged in her right lung, Pearl, 7-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Troup, Northumberland, was rushed to the Fountain Springs State Hospital for an operation. The child was at play when she placed the metal in her mouth and accidentally swallowed it. An X-ray photo showed the foreign object after she became seriously ill.

Hollidaysburg.—Twenty-two forest fires have burned over 6000 acres of brush and timber land in Blair county thus far this season.

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