



1—Edwin Denby, retiring secretary of the Navy, being sworn in a major of marine reserve corps. 2—Members of Tenants' league of New York visiting the city hall to protest against high rents. 3—U. S. District Judge T. Blake Kennedy of Cheyenne, Wyo., who is hearing the government's suit to cancel the Teapot Dome lease.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Sensational Evidence Heard by the Daugherty Investigation Committee.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

HARRY DAUGHERTY, still attorney general of the United States despite the predictions of Washington's expert guessers, is now undergoing formal investigation as to his official conduct by the senate committee appointed for that purpose. Brookhart of Iowa is the chairman and Wheeler of Montana the "prosecutor," while Daugherty is represented by former Senator Chamberlain and Paul Howland.

Miss Roxie Stinson, divorced wife of Jesse Smith, the attorney general's confidential aid who committed suicide last May, was the first witness, and she gave a lot of sensational testimony which involved Daugherty in many questionable transactions. Miss Stinson said Smith, after their divorce, supported her and confided in her constantly. Among the important statements she made on the first day of the hearing were:

That Smith told her that "we," meaning, she insists, Smith, Daugherty and perhaps others, were involved in a deal to sell rights to exhibit Dempsey-Carpentier fight pictures, which Smith expected to yield a profit of \$180,000. The transportation of fight pictures in interstate commerce is forbidden by law.

That Smith and Daugherty came into possession of a considerable amount of White Motor Car company stock certificates in blank, twenty-five shares of which she sold "quickly and quietly" on instructions from Smith, and that Smith told her the stock cost "us" nothing.

That Smith and Daugherty came into the possession of shares of Pure Oil company stock, which Smith likewise sold cost "us" nothing.

That Smith had two "blind" stock brokerage accounts in the firm of Samuel Ungerleider & Co. at Columbus, through which he did considerable speculation.

That once when she urged Smith to stop speculating because he was losing money, he told her he had just deposited \$175,000 of "eastern money" in the bank of Mal Daugherty, brother of the attorney general, in Washington Courthouse, to protect his (Smith's) losses.

That Smith told her about a mysterious "green house" in K street, near the Department of Justice, where "they" met to discuss their deals.

That Daugherty and Smith were inseparable in all these transactions and that Smith never acted without the full knowledge and authority of the attorney general.

That Smith disliked the life of intrigue he led in Washington, but said he would stick it out, because of his friendship for Daugherty and that, prior to his suicide, he lived in constant fear of "being closed down upon."

On behalf of Daugherty a long statement, which the committee refused to hear, was made public. In it the attorney general denied "in general and in particular" all the accusations against him in the senate resolution authorizing the investigation, reviewed the activities of his department and declared the record to be "beyond criticism."

EDWARD B. McLEAN, the Washington newspaper publisher, appeared before the Teapot Dome committee and admitted that at Fall's request he had previously misrepresented the circumstances of the famous \$100,000 loan. His testimony may be thus summarized:

Fall, in November, 1921, asked him for a loan of \$100,000 to buy a ranch. He gave Fall two checks for this amount, but Fall returned them uncashed. Two years later, in December, 1923, Fall, a sick man under investigation, called McLean to Atlantic City and asked him to make a public statement to the effect that he had furnished the \$100,000, making it appear that the checks had actually been

cashied. He agreed on Fall's assurance that he had not obtained the money from Sinclair or from any connection with the Teapot Dome. Later, when disclosures before the senate committee began to arouse his suspicions he told Fall he was going to tell the truth and did so to Senator Walsh when Walsh went to Miami in January. He agreed it would have been better for all concerned if the truth had been told in the beginning.

McLean's story minimized the importance of the mass of telegrams that passed between Washington and his place in Palm Beach, and he scoffed at the rumor of a million dollar slush fund.

Senator Lenroot of Wisconsin resigned as chairman and member of the oil lease investigating committee because of ill health. He was succeeded by Senator Ladd of North Dakota, one of the LaFollette group.

OUT in Cheyenne, Wyo., the government's fight for the annulment of the Teapot Dome lease to Sinclair and the Mammoth Oil company was started before Federal District Judge T. Blake Kennedy. Atlee Pomerene and Owen G. Roberts were there for the government, and Sinclair was on hand with his attorneys, ready, he declared, to fight the government's suit "from hell to breakfast." It may be added that Edward Doheny also says he is prepared to defend his rights in any action the government may bring to cancel oil leases held by him.

SINCE the attorney general declined to give the house of representatives any information concerning the criminal charges said to have been made against two congressmen before a Chicago grand jury, the house decided to investigate the matter and a committee of five, headed by Theodore E. Burton of Ohio was named. Representatives Langley of Kentucky and Zihlman of Maryland, who admit they have been told they are the two men involved, have vehemently denied any wrongdoing and have demanded an inquiry.

WITH all the investigations undertaken and contemplated by congress and all the time it is wasting in acrid partisan debate, one wonders why it does not order an inquiry into its own neglect of pressing public business. There are those, too, who think there might well be an investigation of the influences that induced the house to pass, last week, the bill authorizing acceptance of Henry Ford's offer for Muscle Shoals. McKenzie of Illinois introduced the measure and it was adopted by a vote of 227 to 142, party lines being disregarded. Under the terms of the bill Ford will obtain for \$5,000,000 properties that cost nearly \$84,000,000; he has the right to lease dams 2 and 3 at Muscle Shoals and adjacent power stations for 100 years for a total rental of nearly \$220,000,000; the government is to replace the Gorges steam power plant for not more than the \$3,427,487, for which it sold it to the Alabama Power company, and sell it to Ford along with nitrate plants 1 and 2 and the Waco quarry. It is not necessary to give other features of the bill, but it may be stated that the offer of a group of southern power companies, submitted in the Hull bill, was in the opinion of competent authorities much more generous. Also there is before congress a measure for the starting of a great superpower project in which Muscle Shoals would be a vital link, and many eminent engineers and industrial economists are convinced that superpower development is to be the greatest thing in the country's near future.

There is no intimation of undue financial influence used to secure the adoption of the Ford offer, but the automobile magnate seems to have our legislators "buffaloe" politically.

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE sent a special message to congress last week urging it lay aside all other business and authorize a 25 per cent reduction in 1923 income taxes before March 15, the last day for the filing of schedules. He said the people expected it and it would benefit all elements. Opposition appeared at once, and Representative Longworth told the President there was not the slightest chance of passing the emergency resolution. The Democrats and Insurgent Republicans accused Mr. Coolidge of playing politics.

On all sides, however, it was agreed that the general tax bill, now being debated in the senate, will carry the 25 per cent retroactive reduction.

THE new soldiers' bonus bill, providing paid up life insurance policies, was completed by the house committee. The policies are to be twenty-year endowment and valued on the basis of length of service, with \$1 allowed for each day of home service and \$1.25 for each day of overseas service, and to the total will be added 25 per cent. Provision is made for dependents and for cash payments to veterans not entitled to more than \$50. The total cost of the bill, it is estimated, would be about \$2,000,000,000, and not more than \$90,000,000 would have to be expended by the government in any one year.

FEDERAL JUDGE KENYON having declined the navy portfolio, President Coolidge offered the position to Curtis D. Wilbur, chief justice of the California Supreme court, and that gentleman accepted it by wire, saying he would go to Washington as soon as the appointment was confirmed by the senate.

Justice Wilbur was born in Boonesboro, Ia., in 1867 and was educated in the public schools there and in Jamestown, N. D. He was graduated from the United States Naval academy at Annapolis in 1888. Later he studied law and began practice in Los Angeles. For many years he has been regarded as one of the leading lawyers and jurists of California, and is known especially for his work in behalf of child welfare. He is a Congregationalist and a prominent Sunday school worker. Judge Wilbur's brother, Dr. Ray L. Wilbur, is president of Stanford university.

EDWIN DENBY'S retirement from the position of secretary of the navy was accomplished with dignity on his part and accompanied by hearty expressions of esteem by his associates and personal friends. Before he left his offices he was sworn in as a major in the marine reserve corps in the presence of many high officers of the navy and marines, and as he took the oath the marine band outside played the corps march, "Semper Paratus."

BANKERS of New York and neighboring cities have gone to the rescue of the French franc by establishing a banking credit of not less than \$100,000,000 in favor of the Bank of France, acting for the French government. The loan will be used to stabilize French exchange and for other purposes, and is so well secured by gold held in the vaults of the Bank of France that the interest rate is said to be relatively low. When the loan was announced there was a sharp rally in francs on the exchanges, and speculators began to wall. Poincare was still having trouble in forcing his tax increase measure through the senate.

There were disturbing rumors from Paris that a military coup d'etat was being hatched and that the government was aware of it and was ready to proclaim a state of siege or martial law.

The German government also was meeting resistance to its tax regulations and other emergency ordinances, and the Socialists were so determined that President Ebert dissolved the reichstag on Thursday. Ebert has told his friends that he will retire after the elections in May.

GREAT BRITAIN has caused considerable excitement in France and Italy by holding her grand fleet maneuvers off the Balearic islands in the Mediterranean, near the Spanish coast. This is on a line between France and her African colonies. Admiral Lord Beatty is in command and seven other admirals are participating. It is the greatest concentration of British warships since the Battle of Jutland, and is said to be the beginning of the transfer of most of Great Britain's naval power from the Atlantic and the North sea to the Mediterranean.

GREECE is now added to the nations that have recognized the Russian soviet government. The Greek cabinet, under Kafandaris having resigned, a new ministry has been formed by Papanastasiou.

SHOULD ALL BE IN THE ORGANIZATION

Walter M. Pierce, Governor of Oregon, says regarding the American Legion:

"Such a body of men organized into a compact whole, can and will wield an influence that will make it possible for this nation to safely ride the severest storms that the peculiar economic conditions of the World war may cause.

"Since American institutions came into existence, students of the world have freely predicted their early decline, alleging that when the opportunity of acquiring free land was gone and the cities grew large, the peculiar character developed by the sturdy farmer of America would be lost in the whirl of great city development. There are those living who believe such a time is approaching.

"The four million boys who received their military training in the late war, all eligible to the American Legion, when gathered, as they should be into that great organization, will constitute the greatest single force in defense of American institutions."

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NEW DIVISION IS NOW IN OPERATION

A new division is now in operation at national headquarters of the American Legion. This, authorized by the fifth annual convention, will handle preparation of a program of post activities and membership detail. It will include an educational course for officials of local posts, and other plans to put Legion efforts on a high plane.

This division was formerly an activity of national headquarters during the earlier days of the Legion's organization. This, because of the expense attached, had been ordered consolidated with other work. Under mandate of the convention in San Francisco this work will be amplified to meet requirements of the organization, a suitable appropriation having been provided.

Prior to the appointment of Russell G. Creviston as national adjutant to succeed Lemuel Bolles, he had, as assistant adjutant, done much of the



Frank E. Samuel.

work in this direction. At the 1923 department adjutant's conference Mr. Creviston reported the results of a survey made of the entire 11,000 posts of the organization in regard to relation to the communities served, what the definite programs of these posts showed, and actual accomplishment. With assumption of the duties of national adjutant, and the authorization of the new division, Mr. Creviston has relinquished active prosecution of the work, though it remains under his direct supervision.

Frank E. Samuel, for four and one-half years department adjutant of the Legion in Kansas, has been granted a leave of absence by department officials to take charge of the newly created division. Samuel, one of the best known workers among administrative officers of the Legion, was chosen for this work because of his intimate touch with the posts in the field. The Legion in Kansas serves 390 communities and regularly enrolls more than one-third of all the service men the state sent to war. Perhaps in no one state is the influence of the local post so carefully responded to as in Kansas. The Legion there had the greatest number of posts participating in the "community chest" raised in its cities; it secured passage of the bonus bill which brought to the former soldier the greatest amount of money—\$1 for each day of service; it established a state-wide publicity service that has gained much favored reputation in every section; and succeeded in ending the fund of \$100,000 provided in acceptance of the Dabney gift for a national home for Legion and World war orphans.

Samuel was an enlisted man during the war, serving in the military intelligence and operations section of the Three Hundred and Fifty-third Infantry, an all-Kansas regiment, and a unit of the famous Eighty-ninth division. At the signing of the armistice, he was attending an officer's training school in France. On his return to the United States, he affiliated with the Legion, and soon thereafter became department adjutant. In point of service, he is the third oldest now at work in 60 Legion departments.

Her View
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