

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear Not—Let all the ends Thou Aims' at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June 1, 1860.

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CONSOLIDATED AUG. 2, 1881.

Sumter, S. C., Wednesday, September 14, 1921

MELLON FIRM FOR LOW TAX ON VERY RICH

Secretary of Treasury Insists on Repeal of Excess Profits Taxes and Sur-taxes on Incomes

Washington, Sept. 8.—Changes in the house tax bill recommended today to the senate finance committee by Secretary Mellon include: Repeal of the excess profits tax effective as of last January 1, instead of next January 1.

Retention of all of the transportation taxes for the calendar year 1922 but at half the present rates, instead of complete repeal as of next January 1.

Repeal of the capital stock tax, effective next year, an entirely new proposal.

Reduction of the maximum income surtax rate from 63 per cent. to 25 per cent., effective January 1, 1922, instead of to 32 per cent. as provided in the house bill.

An increase of 5 per cent. instead of 2 1/2 per cent. in the normal corporation income tax, making the total 15 per cent. retroactive to last January 1.

A manufacturers' tax on cosmetics and proprietary medicines to replace the present stamp taxes which were eliminated by the house.

Retention next year of the taxes on insurance premiums but at one-half the present rates.

With these exceptions the treasury secretary was understood to have approved the house measure with its provisions for an increase of \$500 in the exemption to heads of families who have net incomes of \$5,000 a year or less and \$200 additional for dependents; for decreased rates on sporting goods, yachts and furs; and for other manufacturers' taxes on fountain syrups and other ingredients of soft drinks in lieu of the present so-called nuisance taxes.

Mr. Mellon was before the committee at two sessions and there was general discussion of his recommendations as well as of the probable revenue needs of the government for this fiscal year. The secretary placed these at \$4,034,000,000 on the basis of the reduced expenditures agreed upon at the White House tax conference last August 9 and estimated that \$300,000,000 of this total would be raised from non-tax sources such as customs, salvage and the like, leaving \$3,734,000,000 to come from internal taxes.

This total is \$134,000,000 less than the estimated receipts under the house bill for this fiscal year, the difference being accounted for through repeal of the excess profits tax of last January 1. It was to make up the loss from the proposed tax that Mr. Mellon proposed an additional 2 1/2 per cent. increase in the corporation income tax, retention of the transportation and insurance premium taxes and restoration of the taxes on cosmetics and proprietary medicines.

The additional corporation income tax is estimated by the treasury officers to yield approximately \$260,000,000 a year. The transportation tax would return \$130,000,000 next year at half the present rates and the insurance taxes and levies on cosmetics and medicines an additional \$25,000,000.

Explaining his proposal for a further reduction of 7 per cent. in the maximum income surtax rates, Mr. Mellon was said to have told the committee that the lower rate would eventually return a greater yield to the government than the 32 per cent. rate because additional money would be diverted to active business instead of being invested in tax exempt securities.

It was stated that there was no discussion of new sources of taxation and that one was recommended by Mr. Mellon, who estimated that the house bill as amended would meet the needs of the government, provided the economies agreed upon at the White House conference were effected.

As to the authorization in the house bill for the treasury to issue \$500,000,000 additional in short term notes it was said officially that this had no relation to any anticipated deficit and was not wholly necessary as the treasury had asked for it merely with the idea of having a little more margin in funding Victory notes and certificates of indebtedness into short term securities.

Chicago, Sept. 10.—Wheat has been on the upgrade continuously during the past week, gaining as high as eleven points while corn and oats likewise showed some strength in the same period.

New York, Sept. 10.—The futurity at six furlongs, the classic for the two year olds of American turf and carrying a purse of fifty thousand dollars will see 24 juveniles entered at Belmont Park today.

Pekin, Sept. 12.—China will refuse to entertain Japan's proposals for the settlement of the Shantung controversy on grounds that the Versailles action awarding the territory to Japan was illegal as reported.

Washington, Sept. 12.—The admission of Belgium and Holland to the discussion of the far eastern questions at the disarmament conference will likely be permitted.

HUGHES ROOT, LODGE UNDERWOOD

President Names Four Delegates to World Disarmament Conference

Washington, Sept. 9.—President Harding today announced the full American delegation to the armament conference. It consists of four members:

Charles Evans Hughes, Secretary of State, former justice of the supreme court, one time candidate for the presidency, and twice governor of New York; lawyer by profession.

Elihu Root, once secretary of war, later secretary of state, former senator from New York, lawyer, jurist and statesman of international reputation. The late President Roosevelt, his close friend and colleague once paid tribute to his attainment by describing him as "the ablest man in public life in America."

Henry Cabot Lodge, senator from Massachusetts, Republican floor leader, chairman of the foreign relations committee, long time student of international affairs, and author of many works of an historical nature.

Oscar W. Underwood, Democrat, senior senator of Alabama, leader of his party in the senate as he was in the house of representatives, regarded by colleagues of both parties in the senate chamber as "safe and sane," lawyer by profession and in public and political life since 1882. He was for the treaty of Versailles and the League of Nations covenant with or without reservations.

These four will represent America at the table at which will be gathered four from each other nation represented.

Confidence that both Mr. Root and Senator Underwood would serve was emphasized at the White House. Senator Underwood's position as minority leader in the senate, where he might be called upon to support any treaty or other agreement reached, was not expected to preclude his acceptance. In event, however, that he should find it impossible to serve, it was intimated unofficially that John W. Davis, former ambassador to Great Britain might be the Democrat member of the American delegation. Mr. Underwood at present is in the mountains of Tennessee.

The conference proper, or what might be termed its "supreme body," will consist of twenty members. It was announced, each of the five major powers being represented by a "big four." An understanding to this effect has been reached with the other powers, according to the White House announcement.

Only the "Big Four" delegation from each of the five allied and associated powers, will sit in the general conference on armament limitations. The delegation from China, which was invited especially because of Far Eastern problems, will sit with the twenty delegates representing the principal powers. It was announced, only when Far Eastern problems are under discussion. Representatives of Belgium, Holland and other nations, it was explained, will occupy a similar status and come into the powers' conference only when their Far Eastern interests are affected. Armament questions, it was emphasized, would be left solely to disposition of the supreme body of twenty.

No official advices regarding the make-up of the other powers' delegations have been received, but Secretary Hughes, it is understood, is in touch with this question through conversations here with the diplomatic corps.

After the announcement of the four American delegates, it was said that the next step would be the selection of advisory bodies. This personnel at least, so far as the United States is concerned, probably will be limited to twelve or fifteen, including a staff of army and navy experts. The advisory personnel also will include one or more women.

The American advisory bodies, it was announced, would include "representatives of American womanhood, labor and other American interests, peculiarly interested in armament problems." The advisory delegations, it was explained, would not operate separately as a group, but as outstanding interests to be given a voice in the proceedings.

Foreign governments may have more or less members in their advisory or supplementary bodies, no limit having been placed on their number.

The question of a secretary general for the conference is being considered. George Wharton Pepper, Philadelphia lawyer, has been suggested for the position, but officials are not yet ready for an announcement.

A. C. LINE APPEALS FROM RULING

Reduction in Cotton Freight Rates Taken to Inter-State Commission

Columbia, Sept. 10.—The recent order of the railroad commission, for a reduced freight rate on short hauls of cotton, will be appealed to the interstate commerce commission by the Atlantic Coast Line, according to a statement filed with the commission by R. A. Brand, of Wilmington, traffic manager of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad. The other trunk lines in South Carolina, the Southern and the Seaboard, have agreed to the rate. The Coast Line has put it into effect, but under protest and with notice of appeal to the I. C. C.

In retaliation, the railroad commission has refused the petition of the Atlantic Coast Line for discontinuance of trains No. 68 and 69 between Columbia and Sumter. Chairman Shealy, of the commission, told Mr. Brand that if his road would not abide by the ruling of the commission as to the cotton rates, and would appeal this matter, which is entirely an interstate proposition, to the interstate commission, then he would have to take to the interstate commission the petition for discontinuance of the two trains, both being interstate matters. Unless the I. C. C. orders discontinuance of the trains, they will remain in service.

The order for lower freight rates on short cotton hauls followed the initiation by the railroads of a proposed revised schedule, whereby they proposed to reduce rates on very short hauls, but to increase rates on hauls of more than 130 miles. This the commission would not agree to, but allowed the reduced portion of the new schedule, while disallowing the portion making increases.

Florence is Easy Meat

The Sumter Gamecocks continued their string of straight victories yesterday by defeating Florence by the score of seven to five. The first few innings all went Sumter's way and it looked as if Florence would be shut out. Three scores were checked up to Sumter's credit at the end of the first inning and she added to this so that at the end of the fifth inning Sumter had six scores. In the first inning the first man up for Sumter got a clean single and Shealy up next put the ball over the center field fence for a home run and also winning five dollars by putting the ball over the sign put up by Booth & McLeod to encourage heavy hitting. Carlson pitching for Sumter pitched a wonderful game for Sumter until the seventh inning when he seemed to blow up and the Florence batters hit him almost at will. Florence brought in four runs in this inning by heavy hitting and added another run to their list in the eighth. Things began to look bad for Sumter but she made another run in the eighth by putting her two runs ahead of Florence. No one scored in the ninth and the game ended in victory for Sumter making the fourth consecutive win for the Gamecocks.

Today Sumter meets Florence again in the last game of the season and the fans will have one more chance to see Luther pitch. This will, very likely, be Luther's last appearance in South Carolina as he leaves for Chicago next year to play for the White Sox. All the fans are urged to turn out for this last game and give the team and promoter the necessary support.

Storm in West Indies

Cotton and Sugar Crops on Island of St. Vincent Destroyed

St. Vincent, Westward Islands, Sept. 10.—St. Vincent's sea island crop for 1921 was almost entirely destroyed by a cyclonic storm. The sugar cane fields are washed flat.

Tornado in South Dakota

Siox Falls, S. D., Sept. 10.—A tornado killed two men and destroyed many small farm buildings in West Sioux Falls last night. The towns of Ollis, Hartford and East Sioux Falls are reported hard hit and communication is demoralized.

UNDERWOOD MAY BE NAMED

President Harding Announces That One Delegate to Disarmament Will Be a Democrat

Washington, Sept. 9.—President Harding has written a letter to Representative Jefferson of Alabama, expressing the hope that there will be only four American members of the delegation to the disarmament conference and that one of these would be a Democrat. Senator Underwood is considered the most likely democratic prospect.

G. C. DUNCAN ELECTROCUTED

Lineman's Hand Came into Contact With Wire Carrying High Voltage

Saturday morning about eleven o'clock G. C. Duncan, in the employ of the city of Sumter as a lineman, was electrocuted while moving electric wires on the corner of Hart and Liberty streets. Duncan, at the time of his death was on a high pole a short distance from the corner moving a cross bar up to get the electric light wires farther from the telephone wires. Somehow his hand came into contact with an electric wire carrying twenty-three hundred volts. It was ten or fifteen minutes before the current was turned off and the body brought down. Everything possible was done to revive him but all efforts were unavailing. Death was probably instantaneous as only

Former Football Star Found Dead

Handcuffs on Wrist, Small Rope Around Neck and Head Almost Severed

Chicago, Sept. 9.—The body of Bernard J. Dougherty, who was chosen as an all-American end by Walter Camp, when he played on the Harvard football team in 1901 and 1902, was found manacled and mangled in the Desplaines river near Chicago this morning. Carl Ausmus, a fellow salesman of Dougherty's, with Packard Motor Car company, is missing and H. W. Church, a twenty-year-old youth, to whom Dougherty delivered an expensive motor car yesterday, is held tonight at Adams, Wis., in connection with the death of Dougherty.

A pair of handcuffs were attached to one of Dougherty's wrists, a small rope was twisted about his throat and the head had been almost severed from the body.

Yesterday Dougherty undertook to deliver an automobile to Church, who said he was buying it for his father. He asked to be driven to a bank so that he could obtain a certified check to pay for the machine. Dougherty, accompanied by another car driver and followed by another car which was to return them to the salesrooms, soon after the transaction had been completed, started out with Church.

The two machines became separated and the second drove alone to the bank and waited. The driver finally became impatient and entered the bank to look for Dougherty. When he returned he found a note tied to the steering wheel telling him to return to the shops and signed with Dougherty's name. According to officials of the company, this note was not in Dougherty's handwriting.

Neighbors told of seeing Church drive up to his home in the car accompanied by two men. The three were said to have entered the house, which is a two-story apartment building, the lower floor being occupied by Church and his mother. No one has been found who could remember seeing the two automobile men leave, but several hours later Church took the car to drive his mother and another woman to Indiana Harbor. Early this morning Church and his mother again took the car, telling neighbors they were going to Adams, Wis., to visit at their former home where Church's father had just bought a farm. Young Church was arrested as he entered the town in the machine tonight, but denied all knowledge of Dougherty's death.

Arrest of Customs Agents Predicted

Alleged Suicide of Revenue Agent Results in Sensation

New York, Sept. 10.—The arrest of members of the United States customs service is expected as a result of the investigation of the suicide of Frank Fitzpatrick, internal revenue agent, following the spectacular raid on the Greek steamship, King Alexander, when seven of the crew were wounded in a pistol battle and vast stores of contraband goods were seized.

Lynching Threat Made by Negroes

Charleston, Sept. 9.—Augustus Weston, negro, charged with criminally assaulting a negro girl of eight, was spirited to the county jail here early today from McClellanville, where it is said a mob of negro men were gathering for the avowed purpose of lynching him.

Judges of World Court

Geneva, Sept. 9.—The international court of justice, on which the hope of the league of nations seems now largely to be centripetal, foremost in the pre-occupation of the delegates of the league assembly here today and likely will remain so until the judges of the court are elected next week. The assembly committee in the meanwhile will establish a basis for the work of the session on disarmament, amendments and blockades.

The time limit for nomination of judges closed Monday with eighty-nine candidates put forward by thirty-five different states. Five of these since have been removed from the list on account of declarations to stand for election.

No direct word has yet been received from Elihu Root and the league council still considers him a candidate.

The American group of judges at the Hague court allowed the time limit to expire without sending in a nominee. The delegates here generally agree that an American must be elected to the court, and that he will be Mr. Root, if he does not officially decline, in which case probably John Bassett Moore, will be chosen.

The election is expected to be a long one, with many of the countries voting for favorite sons, who are considered as having no real chance of election. It will require twenty-one votes to elect, if all the states now present at the assembly participate in the election. The appointment of a joint committee of the assembly and the council, composed of three men from each party, as provided for in the statutes, it is generally expected will not be necessary in order to compile the lists which will be elected separately by the council and the assembly.

Bank of Draper Looted

Pulaski, Va., Sept. 10.—One hundred thousand dollars in bonds and cash and other valuables were stolen by robbers who looted the safe of the Bank of Draper.

SAN ANTONIO SWEEP BY DEATH DEALING FLOOD

Searchers Have Found Thirty Bodies and the Official Estimate of Death Toll is Five Hundred

San Antonio, Sept. 10.—Thirty bodies have been recovered from the flooded district, the majority being women and children, while the military and city official search of ruins continues for other dead, estimated to be at least five hundred. The damage runs into millions.

The waters are now receding. Two thousand are homeless. Relief plans are under way, with the entire state aiding. A temporary morgue has been established to receive the bodies for identification. Martial law likely will be unnecessary. The devastated residential district was inhabited mostly by Mexicans, while the business section is under water and sumers serious damage to important business houses. The water was fifteen feet deep in some places. Though threatening weather menaces, the authorities fear no further flood waters.

San Antonio, Sept. 10.—Troops from Fort Sam Houston are patrolling the flooded city and aiding in the rescue work. The water supply and the telephone and electric light service are off. The estimate of the loss of life may reach five hundred. Only six reports coming from the valley of the San Antonio river. Both of the banks and the river are strewn with the wreckage of homes.

San Antonio Hit by Flood

San Antonio, Sept. 10.—The entire business section of the city is under water as a result of heavy rains causing an overflow of the San Antonio river and Lazon creek. Six persons are missing and the damage is estimated at millions. Merchants are removing stocks. A number of dwellings along the creek have been washed away. A tornado striking Austin and some nearby villages soon before the flood adds injury and damage to persons and property.

Latest Estimate of the Loss Caused by the Flood That Swept San Antonio

San Antonio, Sept. 12.—The property damage from the flood is now estimated at eight million dollars with a death list probably reaching one hundred, including forty-seven bodies received from the train service in and out of the city. Normal relief funds are being raised and the Red Cross caring for the refugees.

Shot Himself Through Head

Greenville Man Was Too Careless With Pistol

Greenville, Sept. 11.—As his wife was in the act of warning him to be careful with a revolver which he held to his head, Sam Skelton, 26, bookkeeper of this city, blew his brains out at the house in which he lived on River street here this afternoon. Young Skelton had been exhibiting the pistol to some friends that were spending the day with him and had offered to sell the weapon to one of them and when he became careless in handling the pistol, he was warned to be careful. He then unbreeched the pistol and, as he thought, all of the cartridges fell out. It was then that he held the weapon to his temple, apparently to demonstrate that there was no harm in it, and, pulling the trigger, shot himself through the head to his friends, stopped at door and as she begged him to be careful the fatal shot was fired. Young Skelton lived about 45 minutes after he was shot, though the bullet went clear through his head, spattered his brains on the floor and lodged in the wall beyond. He never regained consciousness.

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DEMOCRATS OPPOSE THE TAX SCHEME

Leader of Minority Party Says There Will be Solid Opposition to Repeal of Rich Men's Taxes

Washington, Sept. 10.—A solid democratic opposition to the retroactive repeal of excess profits tax and a reduction of income surtaxes is likely to delay the completion of the tax bill. Senator Simmons, of North Carolina, says the Democratic party will carry the fight, if necessary, to the floor of the senate.

EIGHT MILLION DAMAGES

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LLOYD GEORGE SMOOTHS THE WAY

Resourceful Diplomat Places Responsibility For Peace or War on Sinn Fein

London, Sept. 8 (By the Associated Press).—Premier Lloyd George's letter to Eamonn De Valera, the Irish Republican leader, which was forwarded to Dublin after the meeting of the British cabinet at Inverness on yesterday, seems at last to insure that Sinn Fein plenipotentiaries will meet the special committee of cabinet ministers at Inverness on September 26, for the purpose of clearing up any ambiguity the Sinn Fein leaders may entertain about the six conditions the British government stipulated as reservations in granting Ireland a dominion status.

The premier's letter, like all his communications since the Irish negotiations began, is characterized by punctilious consideration for the Sinn Fein. While it suggests a date for the proposed conference it is in no sense an ultimatum and sets no time limit to the negotiations. In fact it tends to prove what has been maintained throughout by those close to the premier that he earnestly desires a settlement.

"We have invited you to discuss our proposals on their merits," says the premier and he adds that it will be open to the Irish leaders to raise the subject of guarantees on any particular point.

The belief is almost universal tonight that Mr. De Valera will accept—that what the premier offers is what Mr. De Valera desires, namely an untrammelled conference with the single condition that Ireland remain in the British empire. The guarantees which Mr. De Valera is supposed to have in mind are membership in the league of nations and the dominion conference and these, it is believed, the government would be willing to grant.

Assuming that the conference will meet as suggested, there is still the question of Ulster which is not touched in the premier's letter. Mr. Lloyd George's original proposal was for a tripartite conference including Ulster but up to the present there is no sign that Ulster has yielded in the slightest in its determination to base itself on the home rule act and the northern parliament.

A representative of the government in an interview in Inverness today said that in the event of the conference failing the government would proceed with the home rule act, which by inference may be interpreted to mean that the government regards the act in partial abeyance.

Even should the proposed conference at Inverness surmount the initial difficulties there would still remain Ulster, on which Mr. De Valera holds strong views. The question of the desire of Formanagh and Tyrone to be separated from the northern parliament also is likely to be raised in the conference and this would bring a bitter conflict with Ulster. It will thus be seen that there are yet many difficulties ahead.

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BATTLE WITH DRUG SMUGGLERS

Seven Members of Crew Greek Steamship Shot at Brooklyn Dock by Officers

New York, Sept. 9.—Seven members of the crew of the Greek steamship King Alexander were shot and wounded by federal prohibition agents in a pistol battle on the vessel which is lying at the Brooklyn dock when fifty thousand dollars worth of liquor and seventy-five thousand dollars worth of drugs were seized.

The authorities say the crew offered to sell this liquor and drugs for fourteen thousand dollars.

Suicide Follows Battle

New York, Sept. 9.—Following the raid on the Green Steamship King Alexander, in which seven members of the crew were wounded, Frank J. Fritpatrick, chief narcotic officer, who led the prohibition agents in the pistol battle, was later found dead with two pistol bullet wounds in his heart in a nearby ferry house. The police say he committed suicide. The motive is unknown.

Tobacco Crop Shows Decline

Washington, Sept. 8.—There was a decline in the production of tobacco in the principal southern producing states during August, with the exception of Tennessee, as shown by the department of agriculture's monthly report today. The forecast of production, based on September 1 conditions, was placed at 948,000,000 pounds, compared with 839,000,000 pounds a month ago. The improvement, amounting to 59,000,000 pounds, was almost wholly in the northerly producing states, Kentucky showing 63,000,000 pounds more than a month ago, with a total of 314,738,000 pounds; Pennsylvania 10,000,000 pounds more, with 55,523,000 pounds; and Ohio 7,000,000 pounds more, with 35,245,000 pounds.

North Carolina's forecast showed a reduction of 23,000,000 pounds, Virginia's a reduction of 10,000,000 pounds and South Carolina's a reduction of 3,500,000 pounds. Tennessee's forecast increased 7,000,000 pounds.

The September 1 condition of tobacco and the forecast of production by states follow:

Virginia: Condition 58 per cent of a normal; production forecast 5,276,000 pounds.

North Carolina: 61 and 129,738,000.

South Carolina: 65 and 52,954,000.

Tennessee: 72 and 52,531,000.

Clipping Coupons

Richmond, Sept. 8.—More than \$400,000 will be paid out in South Carolina by the United States treasury on September 15, when the semi-annual interest on Liberty Bonds of the third issue falls due. Holders of bonds bought in this state or sold through South Carolina banks will clip coupons amounting to \$412,808. It is urged by treasury officials that the interest collected on the bonds be re-invested in other government securities. A complete list of these securities, ranging in denomination from 25 cents to \$1,000 is now on the market at postoffice, and offers an exceptionally attractive investment opportunity.

Figures compiled by the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond show that there were 87,905 subscribers to the third loan in South Carolina. This represents a per capita subscription of \$22.20 as the total amount of bonds sold in the state was \$19,426,250.

In the Fifth Reserve District, nearly \$4,000,000 in interest will be paid out September 15. A total of \$186,259,650 was subscribed in the district at large, by investors numbering 853,358. The per capita investment for the district averaged \$20.40.

Stabilize Foreign Exchange

Washington, Sept. 10.—The secretary of the treasury calls a meeting of the finance ministers of the Latin-American countries in an effort to stabilize foreign exchange. Meetings will be held simultaneously here and in other countries on December 21.

Williamston, W. Va., Sept. 12

The second Matewan battle trial began with the taking of testimony in the case of Reese Chambers and Fred Burgess, charged with the killing of W. J. Ferguson, one of seven Fairview Felt detectives slain in a gun fight in Matewan in May of last year when ten men were killed.

Washington, Sept. 12

The government takes steps to get the famous Bergdoll "pet" of gold when alien property custodian Miller declared of the mother of the slack-harvey W. Church, aged 29, the arrested salesman, delivered the car to the church home, and then disappeared.