

## LIQUOR AGENTS IN DILEMMA ON ENFORCEMENT

Situation Is More Complex Through Supreme Court Edict.

## OPINION TO BE SOUGHT

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—Liquor problems, made more complex by the Supreme Court's recent edict, permitting withdrawals from storage for home use, to-day kept Government enforcement agencies in a turmoil of uncertainty. Some phases of the liquor warehouse question, particularly involving the status of commercial warehouse certificates, were so hedged about with difficulty that Government officers freely predicted that new litigation soon would be started against its upward course to the highest tribunal.

Attorney General Palmer will be asked for an opinion on the restrictions which the internal revenue bureau may invoke as a means of preventing anticipated abuses on whisky withdrawals.

Commissioner of Internal Revenue Williams and his aides meanwhile sought to draft new regulations designed to stand the accepted view of the court's decision.

The accepted view of dry enforcers is that while the Supreme Court in its decision did not specifically deal with bonded warehouses, this phase of the problem cannot be ignored except at the risk of further handicaps to the cause of enforcement.

Advisors of officials of the Department of Justice probably will incline toward making a clear distinction between the bonded and the private storage warehouses and leave the way open for test cases which the highest court may pass on, it was said authoritatively.

The Department of Justice, it was said, will not give its view until the test of the decision has been considered and a request officially made for an interpretation by other agencies directly empowered to administer the Volstead act.

## CONTENTION OF LEGAL EXPERTS.

The legal experts contend it must be conclusively established with proof that such certificates were acquired before the advent of prohibition.

It is most probable that higher officials, in the danger of the Government surely becoming embroiled in numerous injunction suits, which they anticipate would be brought unquestionably by warehouse certificate holders, whose rights might seem to be restricted by any rigid regulations that may be laid down.

A new angle in dry law enforcement came with reports that dry law enforcers in some localities had discovered plots to forge warehouse certificates through counterfeiting devices.

## VAIN SEARCH FOR LOST AVIATORS

Three Men and Plane Believed Lost in Lake Michigan

CHICAGO, Nov. 12.—Belief that three naval aviators in a seaplane which has been missing since Wednesday from the Great Lakes Naval Training Station have perished was growing today as searchers failed to obtain any definite trace of the men or the plane. Stories that have been reported in some ships are declared by experienced Lake Michigan seamen to be more violent than any sea-plane could ride through with safety.

The missing aviators are Ensign Edwin M. Clarke, Peoria, Ill.; Machinist Harry C. Barr, Lake Forest, Ill., and Chief Printer Frank J. Caesar, Hollywood, Ill.

The plane in which they left the Great Lakes station Wednesday morning, according to reports, alighted near Manitowoc, Wis., yesterday. Rescue ships that put out, however, have been driven back into port, damaged and covered with ice.

Commander Wilson and other officers of the Great Lakes station, however, have not given up hope. They say that the aviators may have volplaned to some isolated point on the Wisconsin coast or may have been carried by the wind over to the Michigan shore of the lake.

The two aviators from St. Louis and a seaplane from St. Paul are continuing the search. If weather conditions permit, a fleet of airplanes will be sent out from the Great Lakes station.

One N. Y. Bakery Cuts Price of Bread 1 Cent

NEW YORK, Nov. 12.—New York bread yielded today to the decline in wheat prices and a reduction of 1 cent in the price of ordinary loaves was announced by one company.

Other large bakeries will follow the lead of this company, it was said.

## 3 Children Burned to Death in Home

LOWELL, Mass., Nov. 12.—The three children of Mr. and Mrs. George Dermots were burned to death in their beds today. While the little ones were trapped in the burning house alone, the mother was returning from a dance and the father had left the house to escort her home. The father remained home during the evening to look after the "kiddies." The cause of the fire is unknown.

## Officer Disturbs Reputed Craps Game

Patrolman Nagelstein interrupted an alleged craps game at 526 Indiana avenue today and took three negroes in custody. Norman Reilly, 545 North California street, was charged with keeping a gambling house and gaming. Reilly has been arrested a number of times on similar charges before and always claimed the place was a "little club" where the boys played checkers and boxed." The other two were Nathan Gardner, and August Fulton, both charged with gaming and visiting.

Harry ("Goosie") Lee, negro political worker, saw to it that the men obtained bonds, which were signed by "Bull Moose" Walker, a professional bondsman.

## WEATHER

Forecast for Indianapolis and vicinity for the twenty-four hours ending 7 p.m., Nov. 13: Fair and continued cold weather tonight and Saturday. Lowest temperature 32°, highest 55°.

6 a.m. .... 30

7 a.m. .... 18

8 a.m. .... 17

9 a.m. .... 16

10 a.m. .... 15

11 a.m. .... 20

12 (noon) .... 25

1 p.m. .... 28

2 p.m. .... 28

3 p.m. .... 24

## New Tales of Attempted Graft Told at Ship Hearing

NEW YORK, Nov. 12.—Fresh revelations of attempts to cheat the United States Shipping Board out of huge sums by "padded" contracts were made at today's hearing of the congressional investigation committee.

John Meehan, chief deputy investigator for the board, told on the witness stand that a contract involving millions of dollars for surplus lumber, with heavy loss to the Government, was almost put over.

By the use of a dictaphone, Meehan said, his investigators ascertained that bid for \$130,000,000 of lumber by the Chicago House Wrecking Company, owned by Harris Brothers, for ostensibly \$90,000,000, actually was for only \$240,000.

E. S. Kiger, then an employee of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, and J. E. Fawcett of Pittsburgh, a former em-

ployee of the Harris Brothers but at the time head of the lumber department of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, were concerned in making the bid, Meehan testified.

Fawcett and Kiger, according to the witness, had agreed to divide \$82,000 if the bid was successful, and \$82,000 was deducted after Meehan's investigators had learned of the alleged collusion. The lumber finally was disposed of at a saving of \$180,000 to the Government, Meehan said.

Kiger, according to the witness, was being sought by post office officials at the same time that shipping board investigators were trailing him. Said Kiger: "I was with the men from the post office, and they were trying to take the charge of taking the money to demand."

"Kiger came to New York from Detroit," the witness continued. "Within a (Continued on Page Fifteen.)

## DEMOCRATS TO AWAIT ACTION OF REPUBLICANS

Reorganization in Congress Will Hang on Movements of Opposition.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—Congressional leaders are disposed to "take the count" following their defeat in the elections and await further development of Republican plans and policies before determining their scheme of opposition and reorganization.

Congressman Claude E. Kitchen of North Carolina, who will be the House Democratic leader in the next Congress, favors this plan.

"We cannot reorganize," he said to day, "until the Board of Directors of the foreign countries the \$10,000,000,000 they have borrowed from us and adding about to the large burdens of our people. Neither can we reorganize on the Governor Cox plan of repealing the excess profits tax and substituting for it a general sales tax to raise over a billion dollars."

"I think it better that these so-called meetings to consider plans for reorganization be held or to be held, should be postponed for four months.

We could see by that time that the Republicans are going to do with the great problems that confront them and what is to be their policy."

Mr. Kitchen will give up reluctantly active work on the ways and means committee, where tariff and revenue legislation is framed at the sessions of the new Congress, but will be the Democratic leader in the House, but will take up no committee assignments. Although no longer in health since his vacation last summer, he is fearful of the strain of committee work. He said today that he did not anticipate legislation at the approaching short session of Congress, except the appropriation bills for the fiscal year 1921, and the usual grant of money to the Board of Education.

The appearance of Senator Harding on the northern side of the Rio Grande has given many indications of a friendly feeling on the part of the Mexican border have increased perceptibly as the result of the visit of President-elect Harding here.

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