

VETERANS' GRAB THREATENS TO BANKRUPT U. S.

Whole Treasury Income to Be Gone in 21 Years at Present Rate.
(Continued From Page 1)

average it was assumed to be at the top.

In 1893 the Civil war veterans absorbed more than a third of the national revenue. Four years of treasury deficits and five years of business depression followed.

Investigation of these cycles indicates that soldiers who have served in a national emergency ask, and get, increased bounties when there is a treasury surplus, although at the same time business generally is poor.

No Aid to Economic Conditions

There is no evidence that economic conditions improve with distribution of these huge government funds. On the other hand, business appears to get worse and it is not until veterans' relief is reduced that improvement sets in.

Until the United States began writing new theories into such relief, the history of caring for old soldiers has been the same. It has been based upon disability received in the service and the need of the individual veteran.

Careful search revealed no cases until the nineteenth century in which expenditures in behalf of old soldiers were permitted to cripple a nation's treasury.

Rome had the first carefully organized veteran relief system. It levied a 5 per cent inheritance tax on all legacies not to direct heirs and a 1 per cent sales tax on goods sold at auction.

Each disabled legionnaire got a proportional share of these two taxes. When economic conditions were generally bad, he received less. In boom times his share was larger. He shared with the taxpayer the adversities and advantages of business conditions in the empire.

Church Gave Relief

In medieval times, the church cared for veterans. In exceptional cases, princes made desultory grants for this purpose, but most of the wars were of a religious nature and the bishops assumed the relief obligations.

During the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the British government formally took over the aid of ex-soldiers and in 1592 the first statute was passed. It provided for the disabled who had served since March in the year of the defeat of the Spanish armada.

Only those who "adventured their lives and lost their limbs or disabled their bodies" got the pensions, which amounted to 10 pounds a year to a private and 20 to a lieutenant.

This theory was brought to America and in 1676 the Massachusetts Bay colony appointed a permanent committee to care for disabled soldiers for life at expense of the colony. Maryland followed two years later, amending the Massachusetts plan to include dependents of those who died in the service.

With the outbreak of the Revolution, the Continental Congress immediately provided for care of wounded soldiers and dependents of the dead.

Washington Writes Plea

Then, in 1778, Washington wrote congress, urging that revolutionary officers be granted half-pay for life at the end of the year. He was frank in declaring that this was necessary as an inducement to hold his officers in the army and keep a fighting force in the field.

Confronted with increasing demands and resignations, he told the congressmen in desperation: "I do most religiously believe that the salvation of the cause depends upon it, and without it your officers will molder to nothing, or be composed of low and illiterate men, void of capacity for this or any other business."

Under great opposition, the law was passed, but it promised half-pay for seven years only. After the close of the Revolution, the New England states rebelled against these payments, riotous meetings of protest were held, in which it was charged that the pensions were against the whole theory of American government, in that they set up a favored class. Finally, the officers had to settle for five years' half-pay.

Lever for Veterans

Despite the fact that Washington urged the pensions as a special measure to meet a unique and grave situation, the precedent was established that uninjured men who had served in war were entitled to government largess.

It has remained as a fulcrum on which veterans of all other wars have rested a lever to pry money from the public funds.

In 1818 all needy men who served in the Revolution were granted pensions, after a discussion in congress, of which the following oration is typical:

"Permit not him, who, in the pride and vigor of youth, wasted his health and shed his blood in freedom's cause, with desponding heart and palsied limbs, to totter from door to door, bowing his head, unjoined soul to meet the frozen bosom of reluctant charity."

Pressure for additional pensions increased after this act and in 1830 Senator Hayne of South Carolina launched an attack in which he said pending legislation would admit a multitude of "mere sunshine and holiday soldiers."

His argument was of no avail, for pensions by 1833 were costing four and a half million dollars, having quadrupled since 1828.

Aid Demand Grows

The Civil war brought a repetition on a larger scale of this same constant liberalization of pension policies the more remote the war becomes. In the 70's a group of lawyers specializing in veteran legislation began lobbying for more money.

One, George Lemen, who made \$40,000 a month handling soldiers' claims, even founded a newspaper to promote the cause. The Grand Army of the Republic joined forces with him and formed a steam roller which nothing could stop.

President Garfield pleaded in vain that he believed one-sixth of all the Civil war pensions were fraudu-

Odd Jobs—No. 4

Lucky Man Pulls Fire Alarm Any Old Time, Never Pinched



Herman Aker and his city job with a real pull to it.

WHEN you were at the age that the pension system made the high protective tariff necessary and held the general level of taxes at an abnormal plane.

God Help the Surplus'

The spirit at that time is illustrated best by a remark attributed by William H. Glassen, in his study of pensions for the Carnegie Foundation, to James Tanner, United States pension commissioner.

Tanner had been a G. A. R. lobbyist for years and himself was a disabled veteran.

"I will drive a six-mule team through the treasury," he exclaimed. "God help the surplus!"

By the time Civil war pension costs began to fall off, the Spanish war veterans were taking up the slack, and more.

With America's entry into the World war was the Wilson administration decided to block the pension evil in advance. The war risk insurance act was passed, to take care of the whole problem, putting it on an actuarial basis.

Congress Upsets Plans

Congress completely has upset these plans by authorizing expenditures far in excess, both in money and liberality, to the veteran uninjured in service, of anything the world ever has known.

In the past, the nation has been able to meet the increasing demands of its ex-soldiers through windfalls that came into the treasury by expansion of the frontier and industry. Today there is no frontier, and industry is expanded on the limit.

Monday: War Risk Insurance; Its Purpose Defeated.

Polity Institute Opens May 13

RICHMOND, Ind., April 9.—Third annual Institute of Polity, founded and directed by Chester D. Pugsley, will be held at Earlham college here, May 13 and 14, officials of the school announced. The institute, as heretofore, will be devoted to consideration of relations of the United States with Latin-American countries and nations of the Orient.

(To Be Continued.)

SALESMAN IS ROBBED OF \$100,000 IN GEMS

CHICAGO SMILES AS JUDGES WAR

Rival Investigations Make Feud Look Like Farce.

By United Press

CHICAGO, April 9.—What may go down in local annals as the "war of the judges" today took on all the aspects of a musical comedy extravaganza, lacking only grease paint and some pretty chorus girls.

The city's courtrooms presented the spectacle of two judges defying each other by appointing rival special state's attorneys, rival special grand juries, and instituting rival investigations of primary election terrorism.

Figures in the unusual controversy were Circuit Judge Michael Feinberg, Republican state's attorney candidate in Tuesday's primary, and Chief Justice Harry Fisher of the criminal court.

Feinberg appointed his prosecutor and grand jury early this week, and ordered them to investigate election violence, and also his own record in handling bank receivership cases.

Judicial colleagues said Feinberg's procedure was unusual, and Fisher ordered Feinberg to turn the jury and investigation over to him.

When Feinberg refused, Fisher said the Feinberg inquiry was illegal, and promptly appointed his own investigators.

HE has been around fire stations since he was 6.

"I guess it was only natural that I became a fireman and later on a member of the Gamewell division," Aker says.

He has tested fire alarm boxes and placed them in readiness for their emergency calls for ten years.

Aker is married and has one child, a girl.

"So with a girl in the family there's no danger of any one following in my footsteps," Aker said.

(To Be Continued.)

GENTLEMEN BANDITS' BIRD VICTIM IN NEW YORK HOTEL ROOM.

By United Press

SAN FRANCISCO, April 9.—Two "gentlemen bandits," who apparently knew their victim were hunted today for the theft of more than \$100,000 in gems from Bernard Landau, New York jewelry salesman.

The gunman followed Landau to his room in a prominent downtown hotel Friday night, bound him with adhesive tape and escaped with 273 mounted and unmounted pearls, sapphires, emeralds and diamonds.

MECHANICS TO MEET

District Paffey of Junior Order Will Be Held Tonight.

Councils in the eighth district of the Junior Order of American Mechanics will meet at 8 tonight in the hall of Washington council, No. 36, Morris and Lee streets. Stanley Bowell of Pleasant Sun, state councilor, will be present.

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He was less definite about the knee breeches, which it is customary for ambassadors to wear. They were scorned by Mellon's predecessor, Charles G. Dawes.

Optimism for the economic future of Great Britain and the United States was expressed by Mellon.

"The British," he said he believed, "have cause to be much encouraged to the future. In America we are also getting down to fundamentals."

Citing the new tax bill in the United States, he commented:

"It will impose a heavy burden of new taxes at a time such a load is not easy to carry, but it is a necessary step on the long road to full recovery, and an omen of encouragement for the future."

Mellon to Serve Liquor, Visit King in Knee Pants

By United Press

LONDON, April 9.—Andrew W. Mellon, new United States ambassador, arrived Friday and in his first press interview indicated he would serve liquor at the embassy's social affairs and probably wear knee breeches at court. Regarding serving of liquor, he said:

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SELLING COP'S JOB LAID TO ATTORNEY

Investigation of safety board charges that an Indianapolis attorney has solicited and obtained money on the pretense of obtaining a police department appointment for a client, was opened Friday by the county grand jury, it was learned.

The board laid facts before Prosecutor Herbert Wilson following declarations of an Indianapolis man that the attorney refused to return money paid, after the appointment was not forthcoming.

He exhibited a receipt for \$40, signed more than six months ago, for services to be performed. The receipt stipulated another \$50 was to be paid "if the services terminate successfully."

Safety board officials said the witness had no application on file, and that the attorney never had mentioned the appointment to the board.

The case was referred to the grand jury at the request of Mayor Reginald H. Sullivan.

Board members said they were determined to stamp out the practice.

EX-SHERIFF IS SLAIN

Oklahoma Bandits Answer

Raid With Gunfire.

By United Press

BIXBY, Okla., April 9.—Erve Kelly, former McIntosh county sheriff, was slain today in a machine gun battle with two men believed to have been Charles (Pretty Boy) Floyd, notorious fugitive and his companion, George Birdwell.

The battle occurred at 3 a. m. today in a timbered area near here.

Kelly, A. B. Coopur, Burns detective, and Deputy Sheriff Long of Bixby, had gone to the reputed hideout in search of Floyd, accused in almost a score of Oklahoma robberies, and suspect in several slayings.

Fletcher Ave. Savings & Loan Assn.
10 E. Market St.

Mail Accounts
Safety Handled

Has paid dividends on savings for 41 years

LINDBERGH HUNT AT STANDSTILL; SAILOR QUIZZED

Saw What Appeared to Be Baby Clothes Drying on Ship's Deck.

By United Press

HOPEWELL, N. J., April 9.—Search for the kidnaped son of Colonel and Mrs. Charles A. Lindbergh was at a standstill today with no progress reported from any of the points where clews have been investigated.

The three Norfolk negotiators, through their spokesman, Rear Admiral Guy H. Burrage, were inactive. "This simply is a new period of watchful waiting," the admiral said.

At the Hopewell estate of Colonel Lindbergh there were few visitors during the last twenty-four hours.

One called was a seafaring man from Martha's Vineyard, Mass. He was understood to have told a story of watching a mysterious ship off the New Zealand coast, presumably a rum runner, and that one day he saw drying on the decks what he believed to be an infant's clothes.

Colonel Lindbergh was reported by a neighbor to have left his estate Friday morning but it was not established whether the flier had left his home or not.

In the state police bulletins Friday night, Colonel H. Norman Schwartzkopf refused to disclose the name of the police department which had given information concerning Harry Fleischer, Detroit purple gang member and his New York aid, Abraham Wagner.

Both were sought for questioning, as their actions following the kidnaping March 1 have been called suspicious.

Gone, but Not Forgotten

Automobiles reported to police as stolen belong to:

H. Y. Tinch, 919 East Sixty-third street, Ford sedan, M-152, from state fairground parking lot; Martin Parks, 726 North East street, apartment 17, 1926 Chrysler sedan, stolen from 721 North East street.

Washington Auto Sales Company, 2441 Central avenue, M-1-279, from 37 East Dorothy Siegal, 729 North West street, 1930 Chevrolet sedan, 34-014, from 729 North West street.

SAFETY HOME AGAIN

Stolen automobiles reported recovered

Edward H. Haas, 559 West Moreland avenue and Humpback roadster, found at Tremont Avenue and West Michigan street, 638-125 Illinois, from 1 Washington street.

SAFETY HOME AGAIN

By United Press

WATSON, April 9.—Reports that Governor Sir John Middleton had told a citizens committee he had authority to "blow you all to hell" brought open threats today.