

FEDERAL JUDGE IN GEORGIA

It will be a source of gratification to his many friends in New Orleans to hear that J. Hansell Merrill of Thomasville, Georgia, a leading lawyer of that state and one of the Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, is prominently mentioned for appointment as United States Judge of Georgia. W. O. Hart, also one of the Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, has laid before the Attorney General of the United States, with whom he has had some acquaintance, the qualifications of Mr. Merrill.

RAILROAD SCHEDULES.

Table with multiple columns listing railroad routes, stations, and departure/arrival times for various lines including Illinois Central, Southern Pacific, and Gulf Coast Lines.

HORRIBLE LIFE OF THOSE WHO ARE SENT INTO SIBERIAN EXILE

In "The House of the Dead," Fyodor Dostoevsky gives poignant and terrible pictures of prison life in Siberia under the old regime. I could never have imagined how terrible and agonizing it would be, never once for a single minute to be alone for the ten years of my imprisonment. At work to be always with a guard, at home with two hundred fellow-prisoners; not once, not once alone! There were here men who were murdered by mischance and men who were murdered by trade, brigands and brigand chiefs. There were simple thieves and tramps who were pickpockets or burglars. There were people about whom it was difficult to guess why they had come. Yet each had his own story, confused and oppressive as the heaviness that follows a day's drinking. As a rule it was rare for anyone to talk of his life, and curiosity was not the fashion; it was somehow not the custom and not correct. I remember how a robber began once when he was drunk (it was sometimes possible to get drunk in prison) telling how he had murdered a boy of five; how he had encircled him first with a toy, led him away to an empty shed and there had murdered him. The whole roomful of men who had [?] then began laughing at his jokes, cried out like one man and the brigand was forced to be silent; it was not from indignation they cried out, but simply because there is not talking about that, because talking about that is not the correct thing. Almost all the convicts raved and talked in their sleep. Oaths, thieves' slang, knives, axes were what came most frequently to their tongues in their sleep. "We are a beaten lot," they used to say, "our guys have been knocked out, that's why we shout at night."

The Daghestan Tartars were three in number and they were all brothers. Two of them were middle-aged men, but the third, Alex, was not more than two-and-twenty and looked even younger. His whole soul was apparent in his handsome one might say beautiful, face. His smile was so confiding, so childishly trustful, his big black eyes were so soft, so caressing, that I always found a particular pleasure in looking at him, even a consolation in misery and depression. When he was in his native place, one of his elder brothers ordered him to take his saber, to get on his horse and to go with them on some sort of expedition. The respect due an elder brother is so great among the mountaineers that the boy did not dare, did not even dream of asking where they were going, and the others did not think it necessary to inform him. They were going out on a pillaging expedition to waylay and rob a rich Armenian merchant on the road. And so in deed they did. His brothers were very fond of him, and their affection was more like a father's than a brother's. He was their comfort in exile, and sullen and gloomy as they usually were, they always smiled when they looked at him and when they spoke to him their sullen faces relaxed, and I guess that they spoke to him of something humorous, almost childish. It was hard to imagine how this boy was able during his prison life to develop such a gentle heart, to develop such strict honesty, such war feelings and charming manners, and to escape growing coarse and deplaved. But his was a strong and steadfast nature in spite of all its apparent softness. As time went on I got to know him very well. He was pure as a chaste girl, and ugly, dirty, cynical unjust or violent action in prison brought a glow of indignation into his beautiful eyes making them still more beautiful. There are natures so innately good so richly endowed by God that they very idea of their ever deteriorating seems impossible. One is always at ease about them. I am at ease about Alex to this day. Where is he now?

Money was of vast and over whelming importance in prison. One may say for a positive fact that the sufferings of a convict who has money, however little, were not a tenth of what were endured by one who had none, though the latter had everything provided by government, and so, as the prison authorities argue, could have no need of money. I repeat again, if the prisoners had been deprived of all possibility of having money of their own, they would either have gone out of their minds, or have died off like flies (in spite of being provided with everything), or would have resorted to incredible violence—some from misery, others in order to be put to death and end it

HIS DREAM CAME TRUE

By ELSIE LEE.

Alice was beginning to realize a long-cherished dream of an old-fashioned flower garden. When the last brown beds of loose earth had been smoothed and the clay border plants had been transplanted by her rheumatic old negro gardener, she surveyed the result with a satisfied smile. At precisely the same moment, David Markham, seated at his desk in the town's biggest bank, was saying to himself that he could not live without Alice. Two weeks before Alice had told him that it would be easily possible, as well as desirable, for her to live without him. Their quarrel, resulting from David's demand that she refrain from publicly endorsing equal suffrage, was probably responsible for Alice's undivided attention to her garden-making. The county convention was to take place the next day, and Alice was to appear before it as one of a committee of three women who would request the convention's indorsement of equal suffrage. David, though younger than the other members of the "old guard" was a local leader, but his efforts to prevent giving a hearing to the woman's committee had been fruitless. The morning session of the county convention was given up to reports from township chairmen and to other routine work. After the midday dinner at the Watkins house, each man went back to the afternoon session sanguine of carrying the day according to his desires. Not a man of them suspected that the suffrage committee had collaborated with Mrs. Watkins in arranging the menu for that satisfying dinner, so they did not realize that an unseen wire connected their optimistic frame of mind with the appearance of the woman's committee immediately after the afternoon session opened. First, Mrs. Worthington spoke. Being the middle-aged mother of four successful sons, there was some weight to her argument. Second came Mrs. Ellis. She was a handsome matron who had been a trained nurse before her marriage. Third, Alice Hanson spoke, and chivalry was her theme. David Markham tightened his lips as if to prevent retorting the bitter words within. At first he heard not a word she said, but even a surreptitious glance showed him that he had never seen her look more bewitching. And her speech was brief. Concluding, she said: "Is chivalry built upon such an unstable foundation that it falls tottering to earth merely because a woman walks into a booth and puts a piece of paper into a box as a means of approving or disapproving of certain public servants? We women well know that it is not." It was significant that just at this point she dropped her lace handkerchief, and of the four men who darted for it, David was the successful captor who restored it to her. "I have planted a garden of flowers," she resumed. "I shall have to use much care to keep the soil in good condition and to keep away harmful insects. That care will require proper tools. All over the world women are planting gardens—home gardens, school gardens, kitchen gardens, civic gardens—gardens that grow human flowers. They need the ballot as a tool to keep conditions such that their human flowers may grow strong. Is it chivalrous to withhold that tool? We women do not ask to usurp the place of men; we ask you to help us step from the pedestal where your well-meaning but misguided chivalry has so long kept us, and we ask you to understand that what we want is to walk and work side by side with you. Knowing the underlying principle of justice in the heart of the American man, we know that what we ask will be given us." After the completion of the speeches the carefully planned psychological moment came and went with the convention's unanimous indorsement of equal suffrage. David's "aye" was given in an unnatural voice, and he had a trembling feeling in his legs as he rose with the other men while the ladies passed from the room. As Alice passed through the door she turned her head, pressed her lace handkerchief to her lips and flashed upon David a forgiving glance that made him entirely oblivious of what transpired for the next few minutes. He gave himself up to a brief but ecstatic dream of days to come when he would be a welcome visitor to the summer house in her flower garden and subsequently his dream came true. (Copyright, 1917, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

THE FLAG AT NIGHT

New Orleans, April 24, 1917. Editor of the N. O. Bee: Dear Sir—The impression more or less general that the United States flag should not fly at night is not correct, by the authority of the Adjutant General of the United States. Says a recent article in the New York Globe, Article 437 of the Army Regulations, which provides that the flag shall not be raised before sunrise and be lowered at sunset applies only to official flags and have no reference to flags hoisted by individuals. One reason why official flags are raised at sunrise and lowered at sunset is that in connection therewith there should be wherever possible appropriate music which, of course, would be impossible as a general rule in the case of individuals. It is not only improper but highly proper that the flag, except officially, should fly at all times, and certainly no more beautiful sight can be imagined than the flags on Canal street floating in the breeze and brought out in prominence through the many electric lights. W. O. HART.

CIVIL DISTRICT COURT

Homesekers' Building and Loan Association vs. Adam Brinkman, executory process, \$1,166.25; same vs. Eugene Decuris, executory process \$2,978.63; Henry G. Hemett vs. C Bertrand, claim, \$1,716.00; The Frager Co. vs. W. F. Stock & Son, Ltd., claim, \$397.06; Dr. Louis Levy vs. J. Beckman, provisional seizure and attachment, \$210; James Heaton vs. Dr. John C. Deshofer, to accept title; The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States vs. William Edenborn, to reform contract and claim of premium, \$9,005; Sarah Smith vs. City of New Orleans, injunction; William J. Irwin et al. vs. John W. Irwin, Philip Joseph Irwin and Catherine Francis Irwin, partition; R. D. Pitard Hardware Co. Inc. vs. Mrs. Margaret Newman et al., claim, \$185.73; Orena Verret vs. Joseph La France, separation bed and board; Albert Guercia vs. Wm A. Bisso, damages, \$5,000; Edward S. Hatch vs. William J. McGeehan notes, \$235; George H. Wille vs. George H. Scheppergrell, executory process, \$600; American Brewing Co. vs. George W. Springer, sequestration, \$705; Frank George Bohne and John Edward Mitchell, emancipation; In Re Tutorship of George Alonzo French.

Successions

William J. Guirovich and Harriet McCubbin, deceased wife and widow of William J. Guirovich; Mrs. Isabella Geraldine.

HURT BY TRAIN

Joseph Gardner, 3614 St. Claude street, a strawberry picker, is being treated at the Charity Hospital for injury he received in jumping from an Illinois Central train I. C. crossing and Carrollton avenue. Gardner was "beating" his way from Pontchartroula at the time, police say.

WIERD EXPLOITS OF FIGHTING "TANK"

London, April 25.—As the Tank travel for the front trench the troops rub their eyes in wonder at their strange coats of many colors. "The deck of the Tank rolls on pitches like a torpedo boat in a storm. But we are all old hands and we came safely through without seasickness. "Hun bullets are rebounding from our tough sides like hail from a glass roof. "We just crawl over the embankment, guns and all. It is not necessary to fire a single shot. "Two or three Huns are brave enough to creep on the back of the Tank from behind. They are no doomed to get the Iron Cross, for we open a small trap door and shoot them with a revolver. "It is almost like playing hide and seek, as we travel backward and forward along the trench. "Life in a Tank, or armored tractor, in action is thus described in a letter to his sister by William F. E. Divall, of Southborough, who was wounded in one of these monsters. He says: "Inside the Tanks are the keen-eyed fighting men, known as the 'crew,' strangely garbed, as becometh their strange craft, while around them is a complicated mass of machinery. "The deck of the Tank rolls and pitches like a torpedo boat in a storm. The crew holds on to anything within reach to steady ourselves, while we rush down a large shell hole. "We succeed in putting out two machine gun emplacements, the guns of which have been worrying our infantry for some time. And now the action begins in earnest. Hun bullets are rebounding from our sides like hail from a glass roof, while inside the tanks the whole crew are at various guns, which break forth in a devastating fire, under which nothing can live. "By this time the fumes from the hundreds of rounds which we had fired, with the heat from the engines and the waste petrol and oil have made the air quite oppressive and uncomfortable to breathe in. "However, those who go down to the land in tanks are accustomed to many strange sensations, which would make an ordinary mortal shudder. "We make a fairly difficult target, as our way lies between numerous tree trunks and battered stumps also much barbed wire. "Our strange craft is battling bravely with the waves of earth now encountered, and the condition inside might be better imagined than described. But, thanks to our protective headgear, we come through it all, still smiling, to find ourselves on the edge of the Hun trench. "The Huns show fight here, and we have a warm ten minutes before they give signs of retreating. "We leave them for a minute or two, in order to ram a machine gun emplacement which is still threatening our rapidly advancing infantry. "We just crawl over the embankment, guns and all. It is not necessary to fire a single shot. "The last trench proves to be the worst, for just as we are crossing a large hole our bus stops. I believe the sparkling plubs have ceased to sparkle, and it is in a very awkward place, as the tree stumps now prevent free traverse of our guns. "And now two or three Huns, seeing our difficulty, crawl out of a hole like rabbits, and are brave enough to creep on the back of the tank from behind. But we hear them on the armor, and they were doomed not to get the Iron Cross, for we open a small trapdoor and shoot them with a revolver. "And now the old bus is going strong again. Only just in time, to a large tyddite bomb bursts against the armored packet of my gun. The flare comes in through the port hole, blinding me for a minute or so, while small splinters strike my face. But my gun is still untouched thanks to the armor-plate, and somehow seems to work much better. "The Germans are now scattered in small parties. It is almost like playing at 'hide-and-seek,' as we now travel backward and forward along that trench. "After a few short runs we find no more Huns to hunt, so as our objective, the wood, has been gained, we leave the scene to the infantry, and find shelter from possible stray shots in a large hole, which has been made by many shells. "After a little exercise we start to overhaul the tank and guns, in readiness for the next joy ride. Then we snatch a few hours of sleep."

A GREAT REPORTER

One man has come to the front as the foremost writer on the problems arising from the world war. The tremendous overturning of the last three years has revealed H. G. Wells as probably the greatest living reporter. G. R. Shaw has written some clever pieces. Kipling has produced some descriptive matter. Mrs. Humphry Ward and Hilaire Belloc have taken a hand. In this country Frank Singsons has shown remarkable comprehension of the military aspects of the situation. Will Irwin, Irvin Cobb and Mrs. Rhinehart have done admirable reporting. But H. G. Wells has been in a class by himself in his comprehension of essential problems, in his insight into the spirit of the peoples, in his account of states of mind and of the real meaning of things, and in his ability to set forth what he has learned in nervous, vivid language. "Mr. Britling Sees It Through" is one of the best pieces of reporting ever done, although the book is fiction. It is the reporting of what a nation went through in a terrible crisis—of how people felt and thought. All his work in the war has shown this same quality. Evidently he has been educated by events. They have made him the most authoritative interpreter of the war in its relation to the people of Britain.

STATE FLAGS

The example of Louisiana in adopting and legalizing a state flag through the efforts of the Louisiana Historical Society through the committee of which Mr. W. O. Hart was chairman, has been followed since then by several other states, among them Oklahoma, Colorado, Oregon and Delaware, and perhaps there may be other states which have done the same, and Mr. Hart is endeavoring to get pictures and histories of each state flag to make a complete record thereof and deposit same in the state museum when ready.

ASK WAR WELFARE MEASURES

Republicans and Progressives Would Guard Against Injustice

New York, April 22.—Progressive and Republican party leaders issued a statement here to-night pledging their support of the administration's war plans and urging the adoption of measures they said they believed to be "immediately necessary." Among those who signed the statement were: Hiram W. Johnson, Raymond Dabner Lewis, Harold L. Ickes, William O'Brien, Gifford Pinchot, Miles Poindexter, Ogden Reid, E. A. Valkenburg, Chester Rowell and William Allen White. The statement says, in part: "To carry forward the war plan of our government with full success and thereby achieve the ends just named, we believe that the following measures are immediately necessary: "1. Universal military service to insure equality of sacrifice in the national defense. "2. Universal industrial service of both men and property in support of the nation. "3. An official guarantee that the government will buy at stated prices all agricultural products offered, so as to encourage the largest possible production on our farms. "4. Government control of the price of the necessities of life, including rent, food and fuel, to stop undue increase of the cost of living. "5. Federal and State guarantees to the wage earners of America that their rights shall not be lost, so that the sacrifices that are required of them in common with all other citizens during the war shall not continue after peace is restored. "6. Government co-operation to maintain and develop the efficiency of law abiding enterprises, thus preserving the foundations of our commercial prosperity. The tremendous struggles for the markets of the world which will follow the war must not find us unprepared. "7. A graduated income tax by which an increasing part of the larger incomes shall be conscripted for public purposes, so that wealth may bear its fair share in the general sacrifice. "8. A limit upon profits on American and allied government orders and a super-tax on excess profits due to war conditions. To lend our allies three billion dollars and then exact the return of much of it in exorbitant profits would be indefensible. "9. Conservation of grain so far as possible for food purposes. "10. The payment of as much of the cost of the war as can be met out of current revenues. "11. National and State legislation granting women equal political rights with men, thus completing the establishment of democracy."

CAMP ARE CLOSED

From the New York Sun. Bridgeport, Conn.—Because the soldiers stationed at Bridgeport have been spending too much of their time when off duty in the cabarets here, all cabaret managers were notified by the police that they must suspend their entertainments. They will be allowed to serve food and liquor, but all forms of entertainment, including dancing and orchestral music, are barred. The change will affect seven restaurants that have cabarets.

OIL TRUST EXIST BUT IS INVISIBLE

Washington, April 25.—An invisible trust, heir to the Standard Oil Trust which was dissolved by the Supreme Court of the United States, controls to a large extent the gasoline market and is partially to blame for the sensational rise in gasoline prices which began at the outbreak of the European war. This is the substance of a special report filed by the Federal Trade Commission at noon to-day with the United States Senate, pursuant to instructions of that body to make a thorough investigation of the reasons for the increase in gasoline and oil prices. The commission reported to-day that despite the fact that the Standard Oil Company was apparently ground into some thirty separate competing companies by the Supreme Court decision, there is a conspicuous absence of real competition among those companies. Common ownership of stock, which holds these concerns together by invisible ties, has resulted in a situation in which the Standard Oil Company in one State does not trespass upon the territory of the Standard Oil Company of another State. The commission suggests remedies at law. Thus, a reopening of the famous anti-trust litigation which sensationally revolved about the Standard Oil Trust a few years ago is forecast. The commission, in its report, suggests that the Department of Justice may start new anti-trust proceedings based on the new evidence gathered by the commission in its gasoline inquiry; that Congress enact a statute authorizing the Attorney-General to reopen anti-trust cases, when conditions require, and file a bill of review in a Federal court, thereby bringing the whole matter under the eyes of a law court again; that Congress abolish in certain cases common ownership of stock in corporations which have been members of a dissolved combination; that Congress curtail the voting powers of stock commonly owned, in companies wearing the aspect of a potential trust; that Congress fix upon owners of stock interlocking among several companies responsibility for acts of those companies preventing competition. Aside from these measures the commission suggests that trust control of gasoline and oil can effectively be struck at by divorcing producing and refining companies from pipe line transportation companies. The commission holds the view that monopoly is cemented by the ownership of pipe lines. The body also believes that some branch of the government should be charged with the publishing of statistics on the petroleum industry so that the trade may be informed as to supply and demand. Finally, the commission states, it would be highly desirable for the Federal government to fix gasoline standards. The commission admits that there has been some economic pressure which would send prices upward. The war brought a greater demand for gasoline and oils, and this demand was contemporaneous with a decreased supply of light crude oil, the report sets forth. In addition to these causes, certain large companies withheld tremendous supplies of crude from the market at a time when such action tended to raise prices. The commission observes that there existed a wide disparity among prices charged by the various companies in the several States and general sections of the country, indicating by inference that there were some artificial elements in the market. So far as the economic aspect of the oil and gasoline industry is concerned, the commission says that it would be well if the people and the trade would seek to curtail use of the commodity, because petroleum is a natural resource which may, confidently be expected some day to become exhausted. Numerous wastes should be stopped, more economical methods of refining should be employed and motors and carburetors should be adapted to cheaper fuels or to more moderate rates of consumption.