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Oil Well Explosion Causes Fifteen Deaths.

Chinese Bandit Attacks American Missionaries--Wreckage on Italian Coast Supposed to be that of Dixmude--Trade in Britain Looks more Promising.

OWN TO PIECES IN OIL WELL. OIL CITY, Penna., Jan. 1. Fifteen people suffered horrible deaths in two accidents near here today. Nine were burned to death in a fire that destroyed a farmhouse at Burg, Clarion County, and six were blown to bits when a premature explosion occurred in an oil well that was about to be shut. The men were the well rigging and were killed instantly.

STAIN'S TRADE LOOKING UP. LONDON, Dec. 31. Great Britain is closing the year with her foreign trade larger in amount, both as to imports and exports than for the year 1922. The exports in eleven months of 1922 totaled the imports in the same period for 1922 by \$30,000,000 and exports were more than \$55,000,000 value.

REVOLUTIONISTS PROTEST. WASHINGTON, Dec. 31. The Huerta Revolutionists in Mexico today filed with the State Department a formal protest against the plan of the United States to sell material to General Obregon. Obregon Government is, however, the only forces in Mexico recognized by the United States, and there is no indication that any will be taken of the protest.

MANY EXPRESS SYMPATHY. PARIS, Jan. 1. Herr Von Hoersch, German Charge d'Affaires in Paris, called at the French Foreign Office yesterday to express Germany's deep sympathy in loss of the dirigible Dixmude.

WILL SEARCH FOR AIRSHIP. PARIS, Dec. 31. As soon as the pilot of the Coast Sicily abates the French authorities will institute diving operations around the spot where the body of the dirigible Dixmude's commander was picked up in an effort to determine beyond doubt whether airship with her fifty men went down in that vicinity or if the commander's body alone fell from the ship there.

GREATEST DIFFICULTY FACING LABOR MINISTRY. LONDON, Jan. 1. Assuming that a Labor Government will be in power next March the Budget statement must be sent to Parliament, it is generally believed that the greatest difficulty for the new ministry, inexperienced in the art of governing, will be connected with the nation's finances. There have been statements in the Baldwin Government in the last Budget were unduly optimistic concerning the coming year's trade, and that there is likely to be a large deficit in the next Budget.

REARMS ISSUED ME FOR PRESIDENT. LONDON, Jan. 1. Assuming that a Labor Government will be in power next March the Budget statement must be sent to Parliament, it is generally believed that the greatest difficulty for the new ministry, inexperienced in the art of governing, will be connected with the nation's finances. There have been statements in the Baldwin Government in the last Budget were unduly optimistic concerning the coming year's trade, and that there is likely to be a large deficit in the next Budget.

statements from the both sides, came today in the form of a letter from Rev. Hamilton Schuyler, Rector of Trinity Church, Trenton, N.J. Mr. Schuyler suggested that the whole question of modernism be fought out at the next general convention of the Anglican Church, with definite settlement of the points at issue by which all communicants may be guided.

IRELAND'S NIGHTMARE. DUBLIN, Dec. 31. Finance Minister Ernest Blythe, in a New Year's message to the press today, says Ireland is putting the last two years behind her as a nightmare. The nation has suffered no irreparable loss. The material destruction caused during the fighting with the Republicans will necessitate restriction of national expenditure, but the bill can be met without mortgaging the future.

BIG GUN DEVELOPMENT. WASHINGTON, Dec. 31. United States Army ordnance experts have developed what they believe to be the heaviest and most powerful gun of its type in the world. The weapon is of fourteen inch, fifty calibre type, and is a post war development. It is capable of hurling an armor piercing projectile of fifteen hundred pounds, twenty-three miles.

NOTED PRIZE FIGHTER DIES. MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 1. Billy Miske, of St. Paul, heavyweight, who was only knocked out once in over one hundred fights, and that time by Jack Dempsey, died today after a week's illness, with Bright's disease. He was twenty-nine.

THIEF GETS QUICK DESPATCH. AVENZANNO, Italy, Jan. 1. Francesco Tomel, last night met death at the hands of infuriated townspeople after he had been caught stealing from the Church here, relics of martyred Saints, patrons of Avanzanno. He was badly beaten, trampled upon, then saturated with gasoline and burned alive.

STEAMER GROUNDS ON SABLE I. HALIFAX, Jan. 1. The Swedish steamer Chrialholm, three thousand tons, en route to Stockholm, ran ashore on Sable Island today and floated off again a few hours later, according to meagre reports from the island by radio. The freighter sent out wireless calls to the life saving station soon after striking, asking for assistance, but later countermanded the request and said she was proceeding apparently undamaged.

BIG FREIGHTER SHORE. LONDON, Jan. 1. The Hamburg-American Line freighter Minnesota, the largest freighter afloat, twenty thousand, six hundred tons, gross, was reported this morning ashore in Jade Bay, off Wilhelmshaven, and assistance has been sent to her. The Minnesota was built for trans-Pacific service, but was used as a transport during the war after which she was tied up until last November, when she was sold to the German Merchant Marine.

NEVA OVERFLOWS. MOSCOW, Dec. 31. Reports from Petrograd say part of the city is submerged under the waters of the Neva, which have flooded the banks, despite the severe weather, and many factories have been inundated.

GERMANS IN RUHR MORE OPTIMISTIC. ESSEN, Jan. 1. The end of the year 1923 finds the industrial population in a stage of transition from the languid pessimism of passive resistance to a sort of stolid optimism over the possibility of better times. More factories are in operation now, but there are still nearly two millions of workers unemployed in an area comprising five million persons. Within the past month there has been a marked change of attitude in the relations between the French and Belgian occupation personnel and the population generally, and this is regarded as of

as much importance as the material progress in production thus far made.

GETTING AFTER INDIVIDUALS. SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Jan. 1. The Government of President Obregon has taken steps against Senators and Deputies who are making propaganda in favor of the revolutionary movement, headed by De La Huerta. A Senator and Deputy have been made prisoners, the first in Tampico, and the second in San Angel, on charges of rebellion.

SOME HONORS. LONDON, Dec. 31. Baron Incheape, one of Great Britain's noted merchants, is made a Viscount in the list of New Year's honors, made public to-night. Sir Chas. John Darling, recently retired as Judge of the King's Bench division of the High Court of Justice, is among the new Barons.

BELIEVED DESTROYED BY FIRE. PALERMO, Italy, Dec. 31. Bits of charred wreckage, swept in by the sea at Scaccia and along the coast near Palermo, have been examined by experts, and the conclusion has been reached that the French dirigible Dixmude was destroyed by fire following an explosion.

Charming Production at the Nickel. A local event of considerable importance in the photoplay world took place yesterday at the Nickel Theatre, with the first presentation in this city of Laurette Taylor in a screen version of her most famous role, the title part of "Peg O' My Heart." The brilliant star of the stage was seen by many for the first time as "Peg," and to these especially the occasion was a memorable one. In its celluloid form the celebrated play by J. Hartley Manners is destined to win new greatness, and the charming star an even greater renown.

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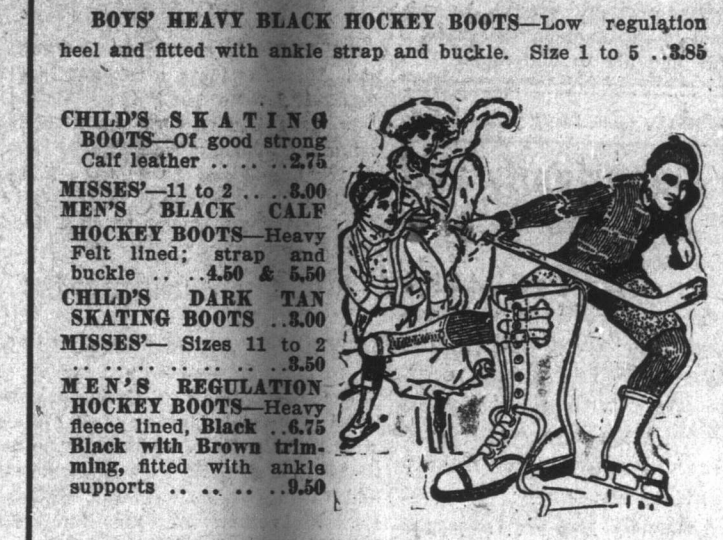


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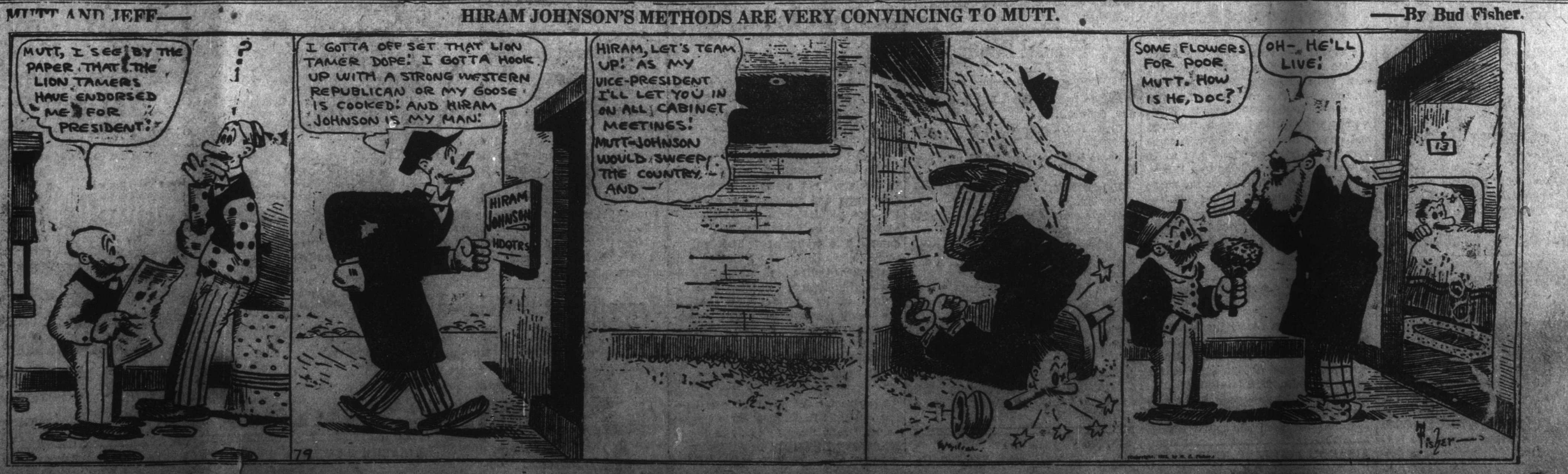


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ed the bride, resplendent in chiffon beaded with sea pearls, over white satin, and a tulle veil attached to an Egyptian headpiece of pearls and orange blossom. Her mother, who is a millionairess by her inheritance of the anti-ink hair business, wore a gold metal dress made in Paris. The bridesmaids wore creamy Chantilly lace over silver cloth, and carried Ivory-bound Prayer Books, the bride's gifts. The bridal party was followed up the aisle by a little ring-bearer wearing a white satin suit. The presents on view at the reception included many handsome gifts from prominent negroes. The bride received cablegrams from negroes in many parts of the world. After the reception the bridal couple began their honeymoon at Boston. There was an astonishing display of negro wealth as the guests arrived in expensive motor-cars, and wearing costly furs. They showed great pride in such evidence of negro advancement. Numerous reporters and cinema photographers were present. As each large limousine drew up at the curb a reporter remarked to the usher: "Are these people important?" The usher replied: "Boy, these is only the lightweights. You jes hang aroun', an' when de real heavy stuff gets here we'll let you know." The "real heavy stuff" came, heavily jeweled and wearing gorgeously colored gowns and brilliant hats, escorted by dapper negroes in frock-coats and silk hats. The only untoward incident occurred when Verner Tandy, aged three, got stage fright half-way up the aisle blocking the ring. He had to be coaxed to proceed. The reporters received a written description of the gowns, headed "Outfits," and concluding with the announcement: "The groom, best man, and the ushers are all attired in the formal morning attire."

HIRAM JOHNSON'S METHODS ARE VERY CONVINCING TO MUTT. --By Bud Fisher.



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