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Acceptance of Allied Demands is Expected

SHOWDOWN ON MARINE LAW IS DECLARED A NEED, BY MEMBERS OF SENATE COMMERCE AND HOUSE COMMITTEES

WANT JONES SHIPPING ACT ENFORCED

IF REQUEST IS NOT GRANTED, THEY WANT DECLARATION FROM HARDING

DELAY HELD DANGEROUS TO FISHERIES, MARINES

Nation Is Losing the Benefits in the Trade Gained During the War, Say the Leaders, Who Are Urging That Immediate Action be Taken; Act Has Never Been Put into Effect.

(Observer Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Members of the senate committee on commerce and of the house committee on merchant marine and fisheries have started rumblings in their committees that portend trouble for the administration.

It is over the merchant marine act, which went into effect last June theoretically, but which actually has never been put completely into effect. The bill was the crystallization of the best thought in congress as to means for rehabilitating the sea trade of the United States. One of its most important provisions is that it should be put into effect within ninety days of the approval of the act, to take the necessary steps to abrogate commercial treaties with other nations which prevent the United States from imposing discriminatory duties on goods carried in foreign vessels and entering American ports.

Wilson Doesn't Act President Wilson refused to carry out this mandate on the plea that it was offensive to other governments. In so doing, he disregarded his own action, taken several years before, in abrogating those provisions of treaties which interfere with the operation of the La Follette seamen's act, a measure enacted at the behest of organized labor.

Existing law, carried in the Underwood tariff act of 1913, provides for the levying of discriminatory duties on imports in foreign bottoms wherever treaty provisions do not intervene. This provision gives imports carried in American bottoms a duty of about 10 per cent less than applied to similar goods imported in foreign bottoms. But, inasmuch as the United States has commercial treaties with some twenty-six maritime nations providing that no such discrimination shall be practiced against those nations, this part of the Underwood act has never become effective. Were the treaties to be abrogated as directed by congress, this discrimination provision would automatically be applied.

Benefits Are Seen

It is the judgment of many maritime authorities that nothing could be done that would have a more wholesome effect on the rehabilitation of American water-borne commerce than the application of this discriminatory provision. The merchant marines of America's chief rivals on the seas operate under certain favoring conditions which are denied the American merchant marines under laws enacted by congress for the safeguarding of seamen and for the maintenance of a high standard of working conditions.

In addition, the government authorized combinations and discriminatory practices of foreign merchant marines placed the American ships at a disadvantage in other respects. It was expected that the Harding administration, upon taking office, would proceed to carry out all of the provisions of the Jones shipping act, including the abrogation of treaties and the appointment of an enlarged shipping board with increased powers and duties.

Harding Delays Action

President Harding has been in of five some weeks and has not yet moved. Although he is a member of the senate committee on commerce which covers the larger portion of the Jones act, and hence as the work can begin and as soon as the shipping board is pulled out of the

PRESIDENT HARDING ASKS ATTORNEY GENERAL TO LOOK INTO PROFITEERING

WASHINGTON, May 10.—The President has asked Attorney General Daugherty to investigate the charges of profiteering in contracts and purchases made by the war department during the war.

The President is not asking for delay in the adoption by the house of the peace resolution, but because of the reparations situation in Europe he is not insisting on any haste in putting the measure through, it is said in high administration circles.

TAKE PICTURES OF LA GRANDE FROM AIRSHIP

"WOODY," PORTLAND AERONAUTIC PHOTOGRAPHER, HERE

Negotiating With La Grande Company to Purchase Ships For Tour of Northwest

He who thinks there is nothing new under the sun is mistaken, for C. S. Woodruff, whose pet name is "Woody," when he is at home in Portland, is in La Grande to take pictures of the city from an airship. His photographs will be mounted, showing every street, building, machine and everything in the city. They will be taken from a height of 5000 feet and Pilot Woodruff has contracted to do the flying with a Lincoln Standard plane. "It is something entirely new and even in the east only a few cities have had the same pictures taken," explained Mr. Woodruff today. "If proper arrangements can be made with Mr. Lee and the planes he controls I will take airplane pictures of the various highways in Oregon, the different cities, railroads and other important industries. Many ranches want pictures of their ranches from the air and the opening of aerial pictures in the west is starting right here in La Grande."

It was the intention to take pictures today but the cloudy weather delayed the work. From here the airship will take Mr. Woodruff to Baker, then to Enterprise, Pendleton and other Eastern Oregon cities.

Work on Victory Way Getting a Good Start

Yesterday afternoon when the fifteen-ton Caterpillar owned by the county was put to work pulling trees from the sides of the Victory highway out on the way to the city park the work on that memorial drive actually started.

Young, with true patriotism donated ten feet of ground along his ranch to the memorial drive and on that margin stood a row of trees that he planted thirty years ago. These trees he cut down and moved his fence without assistance from the public in any way.

With the stumps of the trees standing, the question was how best to eradicate them. C. W. Bunting, who is agent for the Holt Caterpillar, said, "I'll get the Caterpillar onto them and pull them out." W. H. Bohrenkamp, who is looking after the work, agreed to the plan and the fifteen-ton machine was brought into service. It was almost unbelievable the way the tractor jolted out those tree stumps that had stood for thirty years. Hitting the chain and getting it firmly adjusted was the job William Keltner performed and he knew exactly what he was doing. When the chain was in place Peter Bell, driver of the Caterpillar, would take up the slack in the chain and then the big machine would dig in until the stump slowly turned out of the ground.

Mr. Bunting could not have selected a better demonstration for work for the big tractor. It was put to every test imaginable and in no instance did it show inefficiency.

Victory drive is being on proportion and with the labor and the road will be ready to go. Already the Eastern Oregon Light and Power company has removed its pole so that the work can begin and as soon as the Caterpillar is pulled out of the

J. M'NAMARA IS RELEASED FROM PRISON

SENTENCED TO FIFTEEN YEARS IN SAN QUENTIN AND HAS SERVED NINE YEARS

PLEAD GUILTY OF DYNAMITING IN 1910

Release of Well Known Figure Brings To Mind Again the Occurrences Which Led to Arrest of McNamara Brothers Following Strike in Los Angeles.

SAN QUENTIN PRISON, Los Angeles, Calif., May 10.—John J. McNamara was released from the state penitentiary today after serving a period of nine years and five months for the dynamiting of the Llewellyn Iron Works in Los Angeles, in 1910. Sentenced for 15 Years.

John J. McNamara, former secretary of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, was sentenced to fifteen years' imprisonment in San Quentin penitentiary, in the Los Angeles superior court, December, 1911, when he pleaded guilty to a charge of having conspired to dynamite the plant of the Llewellyn Iron Works in this city. The plea was made while he was on trial on a charge of murder in connection with the blowing up of the Los Angeles Times building, October 1, 1910. James R. McNamara, brother of John, who was being tried jointly with the latter, pleaded guilty to murder and was sentenced to life imprisonment. The state alleged the McNamaras conspired with others to blow up the Times building, and that the plot was carried out by James McNamara planting a dynamite bomb in the rear of the structure. Twenty employees of the Times were killed in the destruction of the building.

Bomb Occurred During Strike. It was alleged the motive of the crime was that the Times had taken the side of the Llewellyn Iron Works during a strike of structural iron workers there, and that the McNamaras were also concerned in an attempt to blow up the Llewellyn plant.

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MARINE WORKERS LEAVE WASHINGTON TODAY WITH STRIKE STILL UNSETTLED

WASHINGTON, May 10.—The representatives of the marine engineers left Washington today, following their failure in the negotiations to end the strike. Chairman Benson of the shipping board is understood to have reiterated his stand for a flat fifteen per cent reduction.

Vote To Accept Cut.

MOBILE, Ala., May 10.—The Mobile branch of the marine engineers' beneficial association voted today to accept the terms of the shipping board for a settlement of the strike. Galveston and Pensacola also voted "yes," say advices.

Strikers After Negroes.

BALTIMORE, May 10.—Three hundred alleged marine strikers and sympathizers stormed the Customs House today to reach a party of negro strike breakers who had fled into the federal building for protection. Several of the negroes were severely beaten before the police drove off the rioters.

D. W. STARTS BALLASTING NEAR BAKER

ROADBED BETWEEN HERE AND BAKER TO BE WORKED.

Hundred and Fifty Men Will Be Employed On the Work; Engineers Are Ready To Start.

BAKER, May 10.—Carrying out the plan for ballasting and improving the road bed, the D. W. R. & N. Co. will have a crew of 150 men working out of Baker toward Haines within a few days, it is reported authoritatively. The engineers to have charge of the work, R. T. Eaton and W. M. Nunn, are here and have established their headquarters at the Crabill hotel.

It is understood that the road bed is to be ballasted with gravel between Baker and La Grande, or as much of it as may be completed during the summer. The gravel is to be hauled by trains, according to the report, from some point in Washington. It was first thought that gravel from Baker county pits would be used for the ballast but the company decided gravel from pits along the Columbia river was better suited for the purpose. It is said nine trainloads of gravel a day will be delivered along the road for the purpose.

The ballasting is carrying out the program of railroad improvements and it is understood when the section between here and La Grande is completed gravel will be placed on the roadbed east from Baker to Huntington.

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AMENDMENTS TO CHARTER ARE OUTLINED

IMPORTANT CHANGES IN CITY'S BASIC LAW ARE PROPOSED

ELECTION WILL PROBABLY BE HELD DURING AUGUST

Bonding Limit to be Doubled and Improvement Bonds to be Made a General Lien of City Under Proposed Changes—Liquor Provision Also to be Changed.

The special election for the purpose of submitting amendments to the city charter to the voters of La Grande will probably be held some time in August. It was first expected to hold the election in June at the same time the special state election is held but it was impossible to get the amendments ready that early. The amendments provide for the bonding of the city to 20 per cent of its assessed valuation and cover other clauses relating to the issuance of bonds as well as minor details in the present charter that need to be clarified. Second in importance of the amendments offered is probably that empowering the city court to issue search warrants in cases where possession of liquor is involved. While the proposed changes in the charter have not been put into the proper form to be voted on the following have been decided on, according to James D. Slater, city attorney, who is now working on the new charter.

Double Bonding Limit.

Section 14, Chapter 10, to be changed so as to increase the general bonded indebtedness of the city from ten to twenty per cent of the assessed valuation of property within the city limits.

The bonds to be issued are to be made a general lien of the city whereas now they are a lien against the property and because of this are practically unmarketable.

Section 7, Chapter 9. This section refers to the handling of warrants for sale of property and the changes are aimed at simplifying the process, the present procedure being extremely cumbersome.

Sections 8 and 9, Chapter 9. These sections are to be repealed. They relate to the levying of assessments and are now practically obsolete and useless.

Section 10, Chapter 6. This section relates to the manner of making assessments. Instead of making assessments through a committee of the city commission, it is proposed to have them made by the city engineer, or in case of no

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Four Men Arrested, Wanted For Murder

Tacoma Taxicab Driver Left Stand Sunday And Body Found Yesterday—Men Were Driving His Car.

SEATTLE, Wn., May 10.—Four alleged army deserters from Camp Lewis, wanted in connection with the slaying of Karl A. Timbs, Tacoma taxicab driver, were arrested at Snoqualmie Pass this morning, according to a message to the sheriff. The men were driving Timbs' automobile, in which they were alleged to have fled after the killing. Timbs left his stand in Tacoma Sunday night, and was not seen again until his body was found yesterday six miles north of Seattle, the body having been robbed and the skull crushed.

Two Girls Arrested.

TACOMA, May 10.—Two young women were arrested here in the belief that they could disclose the identity of the murderers of Timbs. The girls, the police said, were recently passengers in the Timbs' car with the soldiers.

MISSIONARY TO SINGAPORE COMING HERE

FORMER LA GRANDE BOY WILL RETURN TONIGHT

Worked For Long Time Among the Head Hunters and Has Interesting Experiences to Tell

A telegram was received this morning from Lester Proebstel, a former La Grande boy who more recently has been doing missionary work in Singapore, Java and Borneo, stating that he would arrive on this evening's train for a visit with his cousin, Mrs. E. L. Eckley and family.

Mr. Proebstel was born in this city, but when about ten years of age, moved to Portland with his parents. Later he attended Willamette University, and is a graduate of that institution. Several of the Epworth League societies of Portland sponsored his going to foreign lands as a missionary, and some time ago, Mr. Proebstel returned to the United States, where he has been doing work of a special type.

Mr. Proebstel did work among the head hunting tribes of the islands, and his old friends are looking forward to hearing him tell of his experiences.

Mr. Proebstel will speak tomorrow afternoon at the meeting of the Methodist Foreign Missionary society, which meeting will be held in the Methodist church parlors, beginning at 2:30 o'clock.

PROMINENT FARMER DIES

FRANK McALISTER PASSES LAST NIGHT.

Member of Pioneer Family of Union County To Be Buried Thursday Afternoon.

Frank McAlister, one of Union county's prominent farmers, living three miles east of North Powder, passed away at Hot Lake Sanatorium at ten o'clock last night after an illness of several months, having been brought to Hot Lake for treatment February 5.

Mr. McAlister was a member of one of the substantial old pioneer families, his father, Daniel A. McAlister, who served several terms in the state senate, having settled near La Grande about 1866.

Frank McAlister was born in La Grande on August 18, 1868, and has made his home in Union county all his life. He was married on November 30, 1889, to Lizzie Stanley and she and one son survive him. Mrs. McAlister and the son, Elmer, were with him when he passed away. Besides the widow and son four brothers and one sister survive Mr. McAlister. They are Mrs. Willard A. Shaw, of Island City, Ariz.; and Agnes McAlister, of La Grande; William, of Joseph; Clyde, of Oakland, Oregon.

Funeral services will be held at the Henry chapel on Thursday afternoon at two o'clock. Interment will be in the Island City cemetery.

REICHSTAG IS CONVENED EARLY TODAY

ULTIMATUM RELATIVE TO REPARATIONS IS APPROVED BY MAJORITY OF OFFICIALS.

COMPETITION APPEARS FOR FIRST PLACE IN CHANGE

Dr. Wirth, Former Minister of Finance in the Cabinet of Chancellor Fehrenbach, Has Consented to Form A New Cabinet for the German Government.

BERLIN, May 10.—Acceptance of the allied ultimatum relative to reparations was expected in the Reichstag when it convened today.

The centrists and the majority of the socialists, as the result of conferences yesterday, were believed to have definitely aligned themselves in favor of yielding to the demands of the entente. It seemed yesterday that there was competition among the various parties for first place in the assenting column.

Dr. Wirth, former minister of finance in the cabinet of Chancellor Fehrenbach, today agreed to form a new cabinet.

PLAN HOSPITAL DAY PROGRAM

In order to fittingly commemorate National Hospital Day, May 12, the Grande Ronde hospital will hold open house on that day from one to five in the afternoon. Plans are also under way for a public meeting at the L. D. S. Tabernacle in the evening. At this meeting several prominent men will address the audience and a number of musical numbers will be rendered. The program is being prepared now and will be announced in a day or two.

General J. Pershing has given the following endorsement of National Hospital Day, of which the national committee is headed by Matthew O. Foley:

"My Dear Mr. Foley: I hope that many of our citizens will avail themselves of the opportunity on May 12th to visit the hospitals throughout the country and learn for themselves how the disabled veterans of the World War are being cared for. Much has been said regarding the hospital service offered these men; Congressional action of some sort concerning this service is expected shortly; and National Hospital Day is the time for the citizens, generally, to inform themselves as to the actual facts in the case, that they may intelligently support their representatives in Congress. Very sincerely yours, JOHN J. PERSHING."

INCITED ACTS OF VIOLENCE

CHICAGO, May 10.—Two of the three officials of the upholsterers' union now on trial, charged with inciting slurrings, bombings and other acts of violence during the 1919-20 strike, were today found guilty.

BABE RUTH HAS HIT ANOTHER

DETROIT, May 10.—Babe Ruth knocked out his home run number nine in the first inning today, one runner being already on a base.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

PORTLAND, May 10.—Cattle and hogs were steady, sheep steady, prime claims selling for \$7.50 and \$8.25. Eggs and butter were steady.

