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NAVAL RATIO SETTLEMENT IS FORECAST

Conference Said to be Nearly Ready For Agreement

SHANTUNG QUESTION NOT SETTLED YET

Japanese Allow Tokio to Act on Proposal to Buy Kiao Chow Railroad From Chinese.

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The Chinese delegation asked the far eastern committee that the famous 21 demands of 1915 be abrogated. It also asked that all treaties granting special spheres of influence in China be abrogated.

The American delegates agreed to Japan keeping the battleship Mutsu on the condition that the United States will retain her newer battleships, Colorado and Washington, in place of the Delaware and North Dakota.

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The naval ratio and the Shantung question are now the outstanding issues of the crucial stage today, but with varying prospects of immediate settlement. Some of the delegates believe that an agreement on the naval ratio will be reached by the big three late today. Regarding Shantung, the Japanese delegates referred to Tokio China's proposal that China buy the Kiao Chow railroad from Japan.

PORTLAND WHEAT

(By Associated Press) PORTLAND, Dec. 14.—Wheat was \$1.05 to \$1.06 today.

Y. M. C. A. DIRECTORS ELECT THEIR OFFICERS

At a meeting held this noon the board of directors of the Y. M. C. A. elected the following officers: Albert Hunter, president; S. D. Crowe, vice-president; H. E. Dixon, secretary and Sherwood Williams, treasurer.

MEN CAN'T HANDLE MOB OF WOMEN AND CALL OUT MILITIA

(By Associated Press) PITTSBURG, Kas., Dec. 14.—The national guard was called out today to check the women coal mine rioters.

Railroad Companies are Favored in New Decision

(By Associated Press) CHICAGO, Dec. 14.—Slashing extra pay provisions for the first two hours of overtime after the regular eight-hour day's work from rules governing railway maintenance of way employees, the railroad labor board has set up a schedule of 10 hours a day as the regular hourly wage for common laborers, in new rules announced Tuesday night to replace the national agreement.

The principle of "eight consecutive hours shall constitute a day's work" is retained, however, and time and one-half pay is granted after 10 hours' work.

The new provisions make possible a 10-hour day without penalizing the railroads, which were compelled, under the federal agreement, to pay time and one-half after eight hours.

The rules become effective December 16, one year after the agreement was made between the railroad administration and the United Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees and Railway Shop Laborers.

They apply on all railroads where agreement has not already been reached on new rules.

Rescission of the two hours overtime penalty was declared by labor board attaches to cut many millions of dollars from the carriers' annual payrolls.

Under the new rules the number of hours work per day may be re-

OFFICERS OF LEGION POST ARE ELECTED

Dr. Ray Murphy Heads Organization of Local E. Service Men for Coming Year.

La Grande Post No. 42 of the American Legion held its annual meeting last evening at Eagle's hall. Dr. Ray Murphy was elected commander for the coming year. Fred Read was elected vice-commander. Lynne Bohnenkamp adjutant, Chas. R. Harding, treasurer, David I. Stoddard, chaplain, and the following were named members of the executive committee: Lester Kingsley, A. E. Powell, L. I. Bussey, Ed Ledbetter, Albert Brinker.

Action was also taken in regard to the proposed memorial tablet. It was decided to definitely settle this matter at a later date and the place selected for its erection will determine just what kind of a tablet will be erected.

A complete list of former soldiers of the county and of the dead will also be compiled by the post. This is something that has never been done before and an effort will be made not to miss any of the boys who were accepted for service during the war.

A ladies' auxiliary will be formed in the near future, according to a decision reached last night. Another decision reached last night. Another basketball team. A team is now being formed and it will be a member of the city league.

Uniform Road Signs Urged By County Court Convention

(By Associated Press) PORTLAND, Dec. 14.—Uniform road signs along state highways, market and county roads were urged by the convention of county judges and commissioners of Oregon in the opening session held at the Multnomah courthouse yesterday. Judge E. H. Smith, of Lake county, president of the association, announced that he would appoint a committee this morning to confer with state highway officials for the drafting of a consistent system for marking roadways.

Road matters occupied most of the first day of the convention. Herbert Nunn, state highway engineer, declared in an address on "Road Making" that the money spent on obtaining expert engineers to locate a road is money saved on construction costs of the highway. He pointed out that it now costs the state an average of \$20,000 to \$22,000 a mile to grade and macadamize a new road. More than \$500,000 was spent this year by the state in maintenance of highways, he asserted.

RICHARD BAGOT, AUTHOR, DIES

(By Associated Press) MILNTHORPE, Eng., Dec. 14.—Richard Bagot, the author, is dead at his home here.

DECLARES EXTRA DIVIDEND

(By Associated Press) NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—The Northern Securities company Monday declared an extra dividend of 6 per cent in addition to the quarterly dividend of 4 per cent.

Former Army Man Murdered

Body of Man Found Near Molalla is Identified Today

(By Associated Press) MOLLALA, Dec. 14.—Positive identification by Judge Dimick, of Oregon City, of the body of Everett F. Davis, ex-army lieutenant, was made today. The body was found Monday in a cabin on the Davis homestead. All doubts have been removed as to the identity of the body. Authorities are seeking a person who killed Davis by a blow on the head.

Basketball Season of City League to Open This Evening

First Game of Season Will See Stoddard Bros. and "Lingering Five" Meet on Y. M. C. A. Floor.

This evening at nine o'clock the city basketball league will open its season. The game will be between the "Lingering Five," a new team captained by Forrest Scroggin, and the Stoddard Brothers team, which has made an enviable reputation for itself in the league's history.

The probable line-up of the Lingering Five will be as follows: Brown, center; Preston and Christian, forwards; Scroggin and Lynch, guards. The Stoddard team will probably line up as follows: David I. Stoddard, center; Earl and John Stoddard, guards; and Elmer and Lester Stoddard, forwards.

Rail Wreck Averted By Quick Action

BAKER, Dec. 14.—A morning stroll indulged in by James Cavin, real estate dealer, averted what might have been a bad railway wreck. Mr. Cavin had occasion to inspect a dwelling on Seventh street in his charge and late continued across the railway track, north of the depot and near the Standard Oil tanks. In crossing the track he discovered one of the rails broken completely in two, a part of it having been thrown twenty or more feet away. No. 6 express was soon due and with all possible speed he hurried to the telephone at the Standard Oil office and sent in an alarm to the depot office. A man on a speeder was sent out and the express was switched to another track just in time to prevent a probable serious accident.

BASKETBALL CASUALTY

WHEELING, W. Va., Dec. 14.—Francis Dowd, a high school student died Monday of blood poisoning which, according to physicians, resulted from a slight scratch on the knee, received in basketball practice three weeks ago.

HEAVY LOSS

FISMARCK, N. D., Dec. 14.—The state-owned and operated flour mill at Drake operated at a loss of \$21,712.42 between January 1 and October 15 of this year, according to the report of a Minneapolis auditing firm, just made public here.

PARLIAMENTS MEETING TO TAKE ACTION

Irish Free State Being Considered by Dail Eirann and Britain

PUBLIC MEETING OF DAIL ON THURSDAY

King Expresses Hope That Strife of Centuries Will Be Ended by Two Governing Bodies.

(By Associated Press) DUBLIN, Dec. 14.—Ratification or rejection of the Anglo-Irish agreement by the Dail Eirann has been postponed until Thursday when a public session will be held. Meanwhile a secret session of the Dail is discussing the dispute between delegates to the London conference and DeValera as to whether the delegates had the power to conclude an agreement.

Game Warden Fined For Violating The State Game Laws

(By Associated Press) PORTLAND, Dec. 14.—Special Deputy Game Warden Tom Shafer, of Burlington, Ore., yesterday paid fines amounting to \$150 for violations of state game statutes. Shafer was convicted on two charges—the first for violating game laws while holding a special warden's commission, and the second for killing ducks after sunset. The first charge culminated in a fine of \$100, and the second in a \$50 fine.

According to State Game Warden A. E. Burghdoff, Shafer has been for many weeks consistently violating game laws on Sauvie island, where he was keeper of several duck lakes. Efforts were made repeatedly to catch Shafer. Sunday the efforts were successful.

Junior Class Play Friday

High School Talent to Present "All of a Sudden Peggy"

The annual junior class play will be given by the junior class of the high school on Friday and Saturday evenings in the high school auditorium. The play chosen for this year is "All of a Sudden Peggy," a play which has met with much success in all the large cities of the country and which gives the class's best histrionic talent an opportunity to show its wide range.

The seats for the first night will go on sale tomorrow morning at Silverthorn's and for the second night will go on sale there on Friday morning. The advance ticket sale is reported to be very heavy and the class hopes to pack the house on both nights.

Good Exhibition of Boxing Put on Yesterday Evening

Main Match Last Night Was Close; Two Preliminaries End in Draw; Youngsters Put Up Good Scrap

The boxing bout between Karther and Dempsey last night at the Star theatre resulted in a draw, each having been given a decision in four of the eight rounds. The referee's records show the following results: First, Dempsey; second, Karther; third, Karther; fourth, Dempsey; fifth, Karther; sixth, Dempsey; seventh, Dempsey; and eighth, Dempsey.

Dempsey proved himself a good hitter with the left and Karther proved himself a hard-hitting right hander. Dempsey's hitting was more spectacular, but from the point of view of clean hitting the honors were evenly divided, although some of the friends of both fighters would probably have given their favorites the decision if they had been referee. Both boys showed that they had some real fighting blood in their veins.

In the preliminaries the spectators were treated to some good exhibitions. Terry failed to appear and Birdie took his place in the three-round bout with Butner. Tiffany was given a decision over Littlejohn. Samson and Allen, two youngsters, fought three rounds to a draw and put up a good scrap throughout the three periods.

Former Deputy Is Sent To Jail For Killing Officer

SALT LAKE, Dec. 14.—Charles McKellar, a former deputy sheriff, accused of killing William McCushton, also a former deputy sheriff, near Wendover, Utah, November 7, pleaded guilty Monday in the district court at Brigham City to a charge of manslaughter and was sentenced to from one to 10 years in the state prison. A dispute over a heifer which McCushton said belonged to him, and which he alleged was on the McKellar ranch near Wendover, led to the killing, witnesses testified.

CANCELLATION OF DEBTS OF ALLIES URGED

Lloyd George Has Scheme Which Would Eliminate Billions of Debts

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Some foreign diplomats in attendance at the arms conference have received word which they interpret as indication that Premier Lloyd George of Great Britain is preparing to take the initiative in world economic matters having become convinced from the results of inquiries made here that the American government does not intend to call an international economic meeting, at least not in the near future.

His plan, according to the information, contemplates cancellation of all war debts owing to Great Britain by Italy, France, Belgium, Russia and the smaller Balkan allies, amounting with interest to upward of 2,000,000,000 pounds.

The premier, it is recalled, proposed to President Wilson that all interallied debts should be cancelled, but his present design, according to the understanding, does not include renewal of that suggestion to the United States. He is said to intend to annul the debts of the other countries due Great Britain, subject to conditions; one, it is understood, being that France should forgive the debts of allied countries to her, amounting to about the equivalent of \$2,000,000,000, and another being a reduction of German reparations due France by \$3,511,000,000 francs. This is the amount France borrowed of England during the war and is about as large a sum as that loaned to France by the United States, which was 15,285,000,000 francs.

GOBS ARE TO BE EDUCATED

Pacific Fleet Sailors Will be Given Chance to Put Spare Time to Good Use

(By Associated Press) LOS ANGELES, Dec. 14.—Educational work is being organized in the Pacific fleet which brings to the officers and men the full advantages of the extension or correspondence courses in the best universities in the country, according to L. R. Alderman, senior educational adviser for the navy department and former state superintendent of schools in Oregon. Not only are the most valuable points in the best extension courses in the country being made available for the navy men, but conditions for their absorption are far superior than for civilians in the arrangements of the navy department and its educational advisers in providing for the instruction courses with the practical groundwork of application in practice aboard ships.

Many of the courses are highly advanced and a large number of officers on the battleships are participating in them. The latest activity of Adviser Alderman was installation of the courses on the battleship Texas, with Commander Charles R. (Continued on Page Five)

FLOOD AREA INCREASED IN WASHINGTON

Skagit River Lowlands Covered for Twenty Mile Stretch

PEOPLE SEEK HIGH SPOTS TO ESCAPE

Many Marooned on Rafts But are Being Rescued by Boats; Water Subsiding.

EVERETT, Wash., Dec. 14.—The dike above Stanwood dividing the Skagit and Stillaguamish valleys broke today.

(By Associated Press) SEATTLE, Dec. 14.—Thirteen lives have been lost and damage estimated at half a million dollars done by the western Washington floods.

(By Associated Press) BELLINGHAM, Dec. 14.—Hundreds of people on the Skagit river lowlands at daybreak today gazed over an expanse of water 20 miles from Lacomber to the Chuckanut mountains. Streets in Lacomber, Burlington, Conway, Millon and Edison are flooded. At Lacomber 300 people slept on a hill with cattle taken to the high grounds for safety. Scores are marooned on the flats, yesterday the home of Lee Davis between Mt. Vernon and Burlington was overturned. Mrs. Davis and three children were rescued by men in boats. The water is now receding.

BULLETINS

(By Associated Press) NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—Marshal Foch today sailed for France with every honor America could bestow and six great cases filled with gifts.

(By Associated Press) PARIS, Dec. 14.—France is willing to temporarily forego the cash reparations payments from Germany, a high official told the Associated Press today.

(By Associated Press) PORTLAND, Dec. 14.—Livestock was steady, butter steady and eggs unsettled here today.

(By Associated Press) WAUKON, Iowa, Dec. 14.—Earl Throst, 26, confessed today, said the authorities here, that he killed Miss Inna Magnuson, pretty 22-year-old school teacher, in a school house near Dorchester Monday, because she rejected his love.

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Chairman Fordney of the house ways and means committee today announced that the soldier bonus bill will be taken up immediately after the Christmas recess.

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Thirteen recommendations, including legislation of cooperative marketing combinations lowering freight rates on agricultural products and the establishment of agricultural attaches in Europe capitals, are set forth in the report of the joint congressional commission agricultural inquiry filed today in the senate.

LET'S GET AWAY FROM THIS CONDITION THIS YEAR



Tokio Jubilant Over Four-Power Treaty

(By Associated Press) TOKIO, Dec. 14.—Conclusion of the four-power entente for preservation of peace in the Pacific brings to an unusual completion the aims of the conference on limitation of arms. Premier Baron Takahashi is quoted as declaring:

"The American president must be congratulated on the grandest contribution to the cause of peace ever recorded in history," he said. "The people of the world are likewise to be congratulated upon the most significant assurance ever given for the promotion of their welfare."

He expressed the hope that the nations co-operating in the cause of peace eventually would realize the ab-

The Jiji Shimpo expresses hope for an agreement for the restriction of fortifications in the Pacific. It says the four-power entente will undoubtedly prevent a clash, but says it fails to remove a source of sinister rumors regarding future relation. The editorial asserts that the treaty is "too loose and vague."

Weather

Tonight and Thursday rain in the western portion of the state and cloudy weather in the eastern portion.