EASTERN OREGON'S LEADING NEWSPAPER—EIGHT PAGES TODAY—FULL ASSOCIATED PRESS LEASED WIRE SERVICE

CITY EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER
OREGON: Unsettled with rain in west, and probably local snows in the east portion tonight and Thursday. Moderate temperature. Fresh easterly winds.

VOLUME XXV. MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS LA GRANDE, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 1927. MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS NUMBER 145

FIRE LOSS IN 1926 CHECKED AT $49,591.09

Figure Larger Than for Preceding Year—Insurance Less

PROPERTY AT RISK TOTALED $350,035

Of 83 Calls Answered, Four False—Largest Fire of Year Was Burning of Foundry.

Total fire loss in La Grande during 1926 was $49,591.09, the annual report of Fire Chief C. O. Murchison, completed today, shows. Of this amount $18,426.17 was loss on buildings and $31,164.92 on contents.

The property at risk was valued at $350,035 and the amount of insurance at risk $47,700. Insurance paid totaled $23,097.23 during the year, leaving $22,493.86 as the total loss.

Compared with 1925, the total insurance paid was less but the property at risk was more. The fire that brought the loss up last year was the burning of the La Grande Iron Works in the summer, which carried but little insurance.

1925 Figures

Figures for 1925 follow: Total calls, 56; value of property at risk, $198,425; insurance at risk, $125,025; loss, $36,528.66; insurance paid, $27,469.99.

The fire calls last year amounted to 83, of which four proved to be false alarms. The many calls issued brought the total property at risk to a high figure although most fires were extinguished before they had gained any headway.

Two calls out of town were answered, including the trip to Perry when burning haystacks threatened the community.

Fourteen thousand seven hundred and fifty feet of hose were laid during the year and 553 gallons of chemicals were used in fighting fires. Miles to and from fires totaled 58.2 and the average speed to fires was 32 miles an hour. The number of call men out for the year was 826. The number of call men at present is 17 and the number of paid firemen six.

Little Insurance

One feature of the report for 1926, it is pointed out, was the comparatively small amount of insurance carried on the property at risk, figuring at approximately 14 per cent. In 1925 the property at risk carried approximately 75 per cent.

WAYFARERS TO GIVE PAGEANT NEXT SUNDAY

The Wayfarer's Guild of St. Peter's Episcopal church will present Sunday night at oinunuolnununu a pageant "Then the Chimes Rang," Sunday night at the church, beginning at 7:30 o'clock. Members of the guild have been working on the pageant for the past month, under the direction of the Rev. and Mrs. Oliver Riley. Mrs. Fred Currey is arranging for the costumes.

Verle Ramm as Holger; Irene Spencer as Steen; Jack Holmes, Bertel; and Lillian Waller, the old woman, will be the leading characters in the pageant.

Other characters are: The king, Marion Crowe; the queen, Doris Barnes; the wise woman, Thelma Bray; the princess, Virginia Warnick; the beautiful woman, Frances Waller. Jay Jones and William Arrivey will have charge of the lights and the stage management.

This pageant is the second of a series to be given by the guild. The choir will assist with the presentation.

Characteristic of An Aggressive Business

Speaking of his business policy before a group of local business men a La Grande business executive announced that his organization "would be aggressive—would advertise."

Advertising is always one of the characteristics of the aggressive business. A business cannot be aggressive—up-to-the-minute—alive to every business possibility — without keeping constant and intelligent contact with its present and prospective customers. That's advertising. It is available most successfully and most economically in The Observer. You naturally prefer the aggressive merchant—because if he is aggressive in seeking your trade he will be aggressive in serving your interests.

"Observer Advertising—A Merchandising Service"

Union Pioneer Dies; Funeral To Be Tomorrow

Vivian Kennedy, Born in 1853 While Parents Were Crossing Plains, Called Beyond.

UNION, Ore., Jan. 5. (Special)—Vivian Kennedy, pioneer, died yesterday at his home at Union shortly after the noon hour. He had been in failing health for some time, finally giving way on Sunday, Dec. 27 to an attack from which he never recovered.

The decednt was born at Raft River, Ida., during the journey of his parents across the plains to the new west on July 27, 1853.

Married in 1872

He settled at Cove, Ore., when but 16 years of age, staying there for some years. On Dec. 25, 1872 he married Ruth Shelton in Polk county and from this union six children were born, three of whom preceded him in death. The three surviving children, Eddie Klineman, of Hillsboro; James, of Medical Springs; and Elmer are here and will attend his funeral service, to be held Thursday from the M. E. church with the Rev. Robert C. Lee in charge. Interment will take place in the Union cemetery.

Kennedy was married to Elmira Shaw, July 3, 1918, who remains to mourn his loss. He was baptised before falling into the final sleep into the faith of the M. E. church.

Besides his widow and children, he is survived by 13 grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Wallowa Grange Installation To Be Held Jan. 15

WALLOWA, Ore., Jan. 5. (Special)—The Wallowa grange met in regular session in the basement of the M. E. church, Saturday, Jan. 1. A large crowd of members were out for the meeting, the main feature of which was nomination and election of officers for 1927. A dinner was served by the women of the grange at noon hour.

The results of the elections were: T. G. Johnson, elected master; John W. Gillaspie, overseer; Chas. A. Thompson, lecturer; L. T. Powers, steward; George Werst, assistant steward; the Rev. George H. Feese, chaplain; C. H. Thorpe, gatekeeper; Mrs. Meek, ceres; Mrs. T. G. Johnson, pomona; Mrs. George Werst, flora; and Mrs. John Gillaspie, lady assistant steward.

The members of the executive committee are: A. W. Johnson, T. G. Johnson, G. C. Meek, J. H. Leonard, and Mrs. J. H. Leonard. G. C. Meek was elected as publicity agent for the grange.

Installation of officers will take place at the next regular meeting which will be held Jan. 15. At that time plans will be worked out for handling the various details of the entertaining of the large crowds which are expected to be present from all parts of the county to attend the next regular meeting of the Wallowa county Pomona grange which will meet here, Feb. 5. A sourkraut and weiner feed will also be a feature of the Jan. 15 meeting. T. G. Johnson, master-elect in appreciation of his being chosen by the organization, has offered to furnish the sourkraut, which he avers is the best kraut which he has ever mixed.

License Tags Must Be Clean, Legible

The city police today issued a warning to motorists in reference to keeping auto license tags legible and in correct positions.

The new ordinance provides that tags shall be conspicuously displayed on both front and rear of all motor vehicles, in a position that permits them to be easily read, and also provides that all tags shall be kept free of mud or other matter that tends toward making it difficult to read correctly.

City Traffic Officer Harold Howard announces that anyone guilty of this violation will be arrested.

Union Musicians Organize Band

UNION, Ore., Jan. 5 (Special)—Despairing of receiving outside aid sufficient to hire a director from La Grande as was at first planned, the Union band has organized with W. V. Connor, as president-manager; E. F. Reuter, secretary-treasurer; and Robert Wakefield, director. The band will meet each Wednesday evening at the city hall, the rehearsals to begin at eight o'clock. All those who play any band instruments are cordially invited to attend these meetings. New music has been ordered by the director and will probably be on hand for the next rehearsal.

WOMAN ARRESTED

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 5 (AP)—A woman was arrested and lodged in the county jail today charged with attempting to set off a 50-pound box of dynamite at the home of William Beirne on Deardorf road.

GIRDING FOR NAVY SUPPLY BILL BATTLE

President Reaffirms His Position Against Building New Ships

REPUBLICANS MAY VOTE ADDITIONS

Coolidge Addresses Letter to House Committee to Halt Rumors of Change of Mind.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5. (AP)—The house today approved maintenance of a naval strength of 82,500 enlisted men and 8,710 officers for the next fiscal year.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5 (AP)—In the face of the gathering storm in congress over enlargement of the American navy, President Coolidge today reaffirmed his opposition to the construction of new cruisers at present.

In a letter to Chairman French of the house sub-committee considering naval appropriations, the president declared that the budget's recommendations omitting funds for the new ships, "represent's my best judgment" and added that he felt it his duty to stand by that recommendation.

Coolidge added, however, that he saw no objection to a congressional "authorization" for more warships of the cruiser type provided there was no call on the treasury to carry the authorization into effect.

When the letter reached the capitol, the house naval committee was hearing testimony regarding the condition of the navy, including a statement of Rear Admiral C. C. Bloch, the ordnance chief, that the nation's present naval force includes about 20 old cruisers that "wouldn't have a chance against a modern ship."

On the basis of this and other statements, some of the house republican leaders were giving serious consideration to a proposal to override the budget recommendations and authorize construction of at least three cruisers.

President Coolidge's letter apparently was prompted by widely circulated reports that he had receded from his previous position.

GRAND JURY TO QUIZ DEL SNODE

North Powder Man in Jail Because of Inability to Raise Bonds

Del Snode, arrested Friday at North Powder in connection with the finding of a 30-gallon still, about 15 miles northwest of there, was bound over to the grand jury under $1500 bonds yesterday afternoon, when he was arraigned before Judge U. G. Couch, in the absence of Justice Brady, on the charge of possession of a still.

Snode had not yet furnished bond money this morning and was still confined to the county jail. He will probably come before the grand jury in February and may be tried during that month.

Calvin, Marion and Fred Christman, 17, 19 and 20 years old, respectively, who were arrested Thursday night and early Friday morning in the still dug-out, and who were arraigned on the same charge, waived preliminary hearing and were released on their own recognizance, to appear before the grand jury when called.

The arrests were made by Sheriff Bresheears and his deputy, Hugo Klinghamer, and two special deputies, when two stills, the other of 65-gallon capacity, 20 gallons of liquor and a quantity of mash were confiscated.

Thompson's hearing on a bad check charge, which was scheduled for yesterday, was postponed until the return of Judge Brady from Portland. It will probably be this afternoon.

LEGISLATURE MAY ADD AN AUTO BUREAU

Sam A. Kozer, Secretary of State, Slated for New Position

POLITICAL MOVES IN PAST RECALLED

Patterson, If Proposed Department Is Created, Could Distribute Several Juicy "Plums."

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 5 (AP)—A juicy plum of political patronage in the form of an opportunity to appoint a new secretary of state, may ripen and fall square in the lap of I. L. Patterson, governor-elect who takes office next Monday, early in his administration, the Capital Journal today says it is reliably informed.

The situation which would leave the state secretaryship vacant, says the Journal, is one of the eventualities which may grow out of the proposal to establish by legislative enactment during the coming session a motor vehicle department entirely independent of the secretary of states office, the public service commission or the highway commission. The plan drafted as a bill for introduction early in the legislative session, it is understood, would give to the new department all control over automotive traffic, the licensing of motor vehicles and perhaps, collection of the state gasoline tax. Under existing laws these functions are distributed between the secretary of states office the public service commission and the highway department.

Kozer Slated for Post

At the head of the new department would be a commissioner appointed by the governor who would draw a suggested salary of around $5,000 a year, and there is an understood agreement among sponsors of the plan that Sam A. Kozer, secretary of state, is to fill the new post. The report first made its appearance in the political columns of the newspapers during the primary election campaign of a year ago when Kozer announced that he would not be a candidate for nomination for governor against Patterson.

Kozer now draws a salary of $4,500, and while there is a strong prospect that the coming legislature will re-enact the bill passed by the 1925 legislature increasing the salary of the secretary of state to $6,000 a year, which was vetoed by Governor Pierce, there are other circumstances surrounding the proposal indicating that Kozer might accept the new position. Kozer's second term of office expires Jan. 6, 1929, and under the provisions of article six, section one of the state constitution, he is not eligible for a third term.

Move Up Gabrielson?

Kozer's selection to be head of such a motor vehicle department would it is understood mean the elevation of Carl D. Gabrielson, present head of the motor vehicle department in the state secretary's office, to the office of secretary of state by appointment of Governor Patterson, placing

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County Court Is Organized For Next Two Years

The Union county court was organized for the next two years work this morning at the opening meeting of 1927 in County Judge U. G. Couch's office.

Commissioner W. H. Ledbetter took the oath of office, succeeding John Wells, of Alicel, and the county judge was sworn in for another term of office, having defeated Mose Ellidge in the Nov. 2 election.

Business today was of a routine type, such as auditing of bills and the like.

Tigers To Play Union Quintet on Local Floor on Friday Evening

The La Grande high school basketball team will make its initial appearance under Coach Ian MacKenzie Friday night when the Tigers clash with the Union high quintet on the local gym floor. This will be the first game of a schedule that includes two games almost every week end until the district tournament in February.

With about three weeks of stiff workouts back of them the squad members are beginning to look promising, the coach reports. Zundel, Lyman, Berry, Stoddard, Hanks and Wallsinger are among the veterans who are out with 45 others, all seeking a first-team berth. A tentative lineup for the contest will be announced tomorrow.

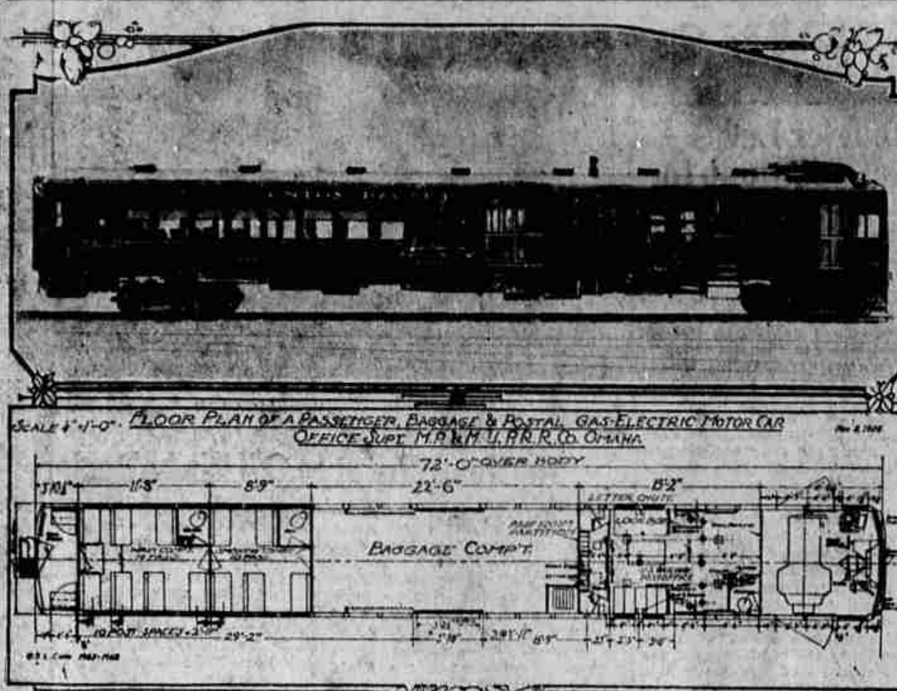
In reference to seating and time of starting games, E. D. Towler, principal of the high school, announces that students will be seated in the south balcony and sections 5 and 6. General admissions will be diverted to the north balcony and sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 8 downstairs will be reserved. The front row in sections 2 and 6 will be reserved for players and officials.

No one will be allowed downstairs unless having a reserve seat ticket and spectators are asked to keep clear of the playing floor.

All Friday games will begin at 7:30 o'clock during the season and Saturday, if a doubleheader, at the same time, with the main game to begin at 8:30 o'clock. All but two of the games for the season are scheduled on Friday night.

Student body tickets and business men's tickets will be honored at all games here.

GAS-ELECTRIC CARS TO REPLACE TRAINS ON U. P.



New type of motive power soon to be placed in operation by the Union Pacific, in the upper picture. Below, the floor plan of the new car. The average cost of the above car, which is to be used on branch lines, is figured at $40,000. Thus 10 can be made for $400,000, the cost of four modern steam locomotives. These cars will be used in Kansas, Colorado, Idaho and Washington, beginning in February.

RISBERG FACES MEN HE ACCUSED

Former White Sox Player Tells His Story to Commissioner Landis

CHICAGO, Jan. 5. (AP)—"Swede" Risberg, accuser of the White Sox and Tigers in a "bought" series in 1917, appeared to face the involved players in a dramatic hearing before Commissioner Kenesaw Landis this morning.

Risberg showed up at 1:45 p. m. after failing to appear at 10 o'clock when the hearing was to have started. It was postponed until this afternoon when Risberg, in a mysterious telephone call to the commissioner, said he could not appear at the appointed time.

Cobb First In.

Ty Cobb was the first to come in as Risberg arrived and took a seat at the left of the commissioner's desk. Ray Schalk, Eddie Collins, Howard Ehmke, Oscar Dauss, Ownie Bush, Clarence Rowland and Bennie Dyer were called by Landis and edged into the commissioner's office, crowded to rim of his desk.

"Mr. Risberg," said Landis, "you made a statement here New Year's afternoon. Will you repeat that statement?"

Then Risberg began:

"In 1917 we were playing Detroit Sept. 2 and I was informed by Mr. Clarence Rowland that everything was all fixed and we won four ball games from Detroit.

Tells of Collection

"About two weeks later in the Ansonia hotel, Chick Gandil and I collected $45 apiece from the boys for the Detroit team.

"Rowland gave us permission to go to Philadelphia and there we gave the money we had collected to Bill James. James said he would give Howard (meaning Ehmke) his share."

"What was the first thing you heard about this?" asked Landis.

"We were down in the dugout the morning of the first game," Risberg said, "and Rowland said to me, 'everything is all fixed.'"

"Nothing was said at that time about money, was there?" asked Landis.

"No, there wasn't," said Risberg.

"Can you tell me how the talk about money started?" asked Landis.

"Who collected money besides you?" asked the commissioner.

"Chick Gandil," Risberg said.

"During that first game did anybody say anything to you about 'sloughing' games?" asked Landis.

"No. The only thing I remember is that in the afternoon game Eddie Collins said when Bennie Dyer, Detroit shortstop, booted a ball, 'that's terrible.'"

Risberg made no explanation of his failure to appear this morning.

$1,100 Collected.

The collection for the Detroit club at $45 apiece netted $1,100 Risberg said.

"What did you understand Rowland meant when he said, 'everything is all fixed'?" asked Landis.

"I thought he meant that the Detroit team was going to 'slough' to us."

"The Detroit pitchers did not seem to be putting much on the ball and there was lots of base stealing."

"Do you remember any talk among the Sox players about 'sloughing' that series?"

"No. I don't recall any talk now," said Risberg, "until we got to the Ansonia hotel (in New York) about two weeks later."

"When you played in those four games," asked Landis, "did you

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U. S. Marines to Patrol Managua; Diaz Is Pleased

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Jan. 5. (AP)—A force of 160 sailors and marines today disembarked from the U. S. S. Galveston at Corinto, and began entraining for Managua to guard the U. S. legation and to protect American lives and property.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5. (AP)—The state department has notified the Diaz government in Nicaragua that it will permit exportation from the United States of arms and war munitions to be purchased, in this country by that government.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5 (AP)—Announcing today that an American marine guard had been ordered to Managua, capitol of Nicaragua, the state department disclosed that British and Italian diplomatic representatives there had requested protection for their nations.

Marines will be sent from Corinto by Rear Admiral Latimer, in command of American forces in Nicaragua. Decision to send them was reached yesterday and observers took the decision as a definite answer to rumors current for several days that the administration was contemplating withdrawal of its naval forces from the Central American republic.

Tells of Requests

A state department announcement telling of the plea of the British and Italian representatives said:

"The department of state has

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Coolidge Urged To Come to West

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5. (AP)—A group of members of congress from the west coast descended upon the white house in a body today, headed by Senators Dill and Jones of Washington and McNary of Oregon to picture to President Coolidge the advantages of their section as a place for him to spend his summer vacation.

This move by coast spokesmen is one of many which have recently been made to have the president go west of the Mississippi for a summer white house. Coolidge has indicated no decision in the matter.

PITCH BLAST IS FATAL TO FOUR

Thirty-Five Hurt When French Barque Explosion Traps Workers

BALTIMORE, Jan. 5 (AP)—Two men are dead, three are missing and 35 injured as a result of an explosion in the pitch-filled hold of the French barque Richelieu that transformed the trim four-master into a seething inferno.

Percy Lewis, 25, negro of Tampa, Fla., and Thomas Daniels, negro, Baltimore, died early today of burns and inhaled smoke and flames. All the ship's officers and 10 French cadets aboard the vessel escaped injury.

The 35 injured were in hospitals here suffering from serious burns. Thirty-one of them are negroes. Two of the five white men burned are members of the crew while the others are dock hands.

No Warning

The explosion occurred last night in the vessel's No. 3 hold as she lay alongside a Baltimore and Ohio railroad pier at Curtis bay, loading pitch. Without warning, and but a few minutes after a score of workmen had left the hold for the day, a billow of flames and smoke shot from the hatchway enveloping workers nearby.

The blaze spread rapidly through the inflammable cargo, and despite the efforts of fire fighters raged for six hours, when the Richelieu sank.

Describes Scene

Captain Jules Cornec, of the Richelieu described the scene on deck immediately following the blast: "A terrible pillar of flame and smoke came pouring from the hatch of No. 3 hold. All about were men with their clothing ablaze, and as I watched, many of them leaped to the pier."

After ordering all workmen ashore, Captain Cornec said he followed them and helped tear the burning clothing from many of the victims.

Loss $200,000

Two men were seen by firemen to fall back into the burning hold as they struggled to escape through the fiery hatchway. Many workers were found unconscious, their clothing in flames.

The loss was estimated at $200,000.

Portand Boy Still Lost on Hood; Tracks Found, Searchers Hopeful

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 5. (AP)—Searchers who sought tracks believed to have been made by Leslie Brownlee, 20-year-old Portland boy lost on Mount Hood since Saturday, returned to Battle Axe Inn on the mountain this morning, and reported that the tracks were not made by the kind of snow shoes that Brownlee wore when he disappeared.

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 5 (AP)—Hardy and experienced mountaineers braved darkness and snow last night and early today in following tracks of Leslie Brownlee, the 20-year-old Portland boy who has been lost on Mount Hood since last Saturday. Discovery of the tracks three and a half miles above government camp late yesterday revived fading hopes that the lost boy might be found, and immediately a group of five men familiar with the mountain and its dangers prepared to set out to follow the new clue. Throughout the night they worked through the region in which footsteps believed those of Brownlee had been discovered by searchers.

The trail was found between the forks of the Salmon river, and indicated that Brownlee had swung westward after having parted Saturday from his companion, Alfred Feyerabend, near Triangle Moraine.

The tracks found by the searchers were imprints of beaver-tail shoes like those the missing youth wore. The expert trackers who are on the trail can follow such tracks even if they are covered with newly-fallen snow.

100 Searching

More than 100 volunteers from Portland, Hood River and other points are engaged in the search on the mountain. Food and other supplies for them, donated by Portland people, have been sent by truck loads to government camp. The Portland Advertising club has taken charge of the work of assembling the food and equipment. A radio appeal sent out by the club for help stated that the cost of conducting the search is about $500 a day.

HANKOW SAID UNSAFE FOR FOREIGNERS

Coolies, Beseiging British Concession, Gaining Upper Hand

CHINESE MILITARY FORCES HELPLESS

England Orders Three Warships to Hankow—Frantic Appeals for Aid Reach London.

LONDON, Jan. 5, (AP)—The admiralty announced today that the eighth destroyer flotilla has been brought to full strength for possible service in the far east. At the present time the flotilla is attached to the Atlantic fleet and consists of eight destroyers including its leader, the Bruce.

An Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Shanghai says that all available naval forces are leaving there at full speed for Hankow.

PEKING, Jan. 5 (AP) — Official foreign dispatches from Hankow where the british colony is beseiged by thousands of infuriated coolies as the result of anti-foreign agitation, show the situation is growing increasingly serious and indicate that the angry natives are out of control of the Chinese military forces which undertook to maintain order.

Practically all barricades to the concession have been destroyed and a consular dispatch says the British bund, the principal thoroughfare for foreigners along the water front there is "unsafe for foreigners." It adds that "the situation is very discouraging."

A German citizen was stabbed and seriously wounded Monday by agitators within the British concession.

Aimed at British

A Reuter's news agency dispatch from Hankow said charges were made at a mass meeting at Hankow attended by government and union representatives that several Chinese were killed and wounded in yesterday's encounters.

The object of the meeting was avowedly to form an organization to disarm the British forces and take possession of the foreign concessions.

Resolutions were passed providing for denunciation by telegraph all over the world of "British cruelty in wounding innocent persons."

British volunteers were called out last night when Chinese mobs gradually invaded the concession.

ORDER SHIPS TO HANKOW

HONGKONG, Jan. 5 (AP)—The British warships Vin-Dictive, Carlisle and Wishart today were ordered to Hankow.

APPEAL FOR AID

LONDON, Jan. 5 (AP)—Frantic appeals for more land and naval forces are being made by the British community at Hankow to the British government.

The foreign office today said that the situation at Hankow was fraught with the gravest dangers but that it was felt that the British authorities on the spot would be successful in avering armed conflict.

The situation is considered eased by the evacuation of the British marines and the placing of responsibility for law and order within the British concession on the Chinese authorities themselves.

Evacuation Ordered

It was stated that the position of the British merchant marines, who were holding mobs at bay but under the strictest orders not to fire a shot, was untenable, and that consequently the evacuation had been directed.

The foreign office says that the Hankow disturbance was due to

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AMERICANS IN HANKOW NOT IN DANGER, CLAIM

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5 (AP)—It is estimated here that 300 or more Americans are living in Hankow or its suburbs or in Wuchang, across the river from Hankow. Considerable numbers of these make their homes in the British concession.

Additional American war vessels were sent to the Hankow vicinity a week or two ago to be held available for the protection of American nationals for their evacuation should the need arise.

The American consulate at Hankow is located on the old Russian concession. Extraterritorial rights in connection with the concession were surrendered by the Russians and the consulate has been in an area policed by the Chinese authorities.

Dispatches of the last day or two have not indicated that demonstrations and rioting were directed at the American consulate or that there had been any disturbance in its immediate vicinity.