

METAL TRADES MEN
CONFER AT CAPITALCoast Workers and Federation
Officers in Session.

NEW AGREEMENT PLANNED

Ten Thousand Idle Machinists in
San Francisco Bay District Are
Asked to Return to Work.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Representatives of the Metal Trades unions of the Pacific coast, meeting here today with officers of the American Federation of Labor to discuss terms of a new agreement with coast shipyard owners, urged that wages and working conditions, as well as machinery for adjusting disputes, should be included in the agreement.

The question of wage rates was not formally discussed, but the union men said they would ask for an increase over the prevailing scale, which was fixed by the ship labor adjustment board. This scale, it was said, expires with the cessation of the board's activities March 31.

The conferences are to continue for several days for the workers to draft their agreement, which will then be submitted to representatives of the shipyard owners for discussion in connection with the latter's plan for agreement.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 18.—Proposals that the 10,000 machinists and affiliated craftsmen now idle in the San Francisco bay region return to work with the understanding that they will be given the Saturday half-holiday on or before May 1 were made to the executive committee of the unions involved by the San Francisco Iron Trades council here today. It was expected that the proposals would be put up to a general vote of the idle unions. The men were dismissed following their refusal to forego the Saturday half holiday.

NEW YORK, March 18.—A compromise settlement in the controversy between the building trades union and the association of city holding contractors in several cities throughout the country and its carpenters was announced today by State Supreme Court Justice P. Henry Dugore, who was agreed upon as umpire.

The men, who were demanding an increase of from \$5.50 to \$6.50 a day, recently returned to work after having been on strike for nearly four months. The men are to receive \$5.50 a day for shop work and \$6 a day for outside work until July 1. After that date idle men are to receive \$5.75 and outside men \$6.25 daily. The wage agreement expires January 1, 1920.

The carpenters were out last November, but the contract was not signed until they struck in violation of an alleged agreement. A lockout was later declared against the strikers and early this year they were joined by other union basic building trades workers. At the suggestion of the war and labor departments, both sides submitted their cases to an umpire and the men were ordered to work pending the umpire's decision.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 18.—Recommendations for a six-hour workday, a five-day week, an increase in wages of miners and a reduction of cost of living of the country were made today by Frank J. Hayes, president of the United Mine Workers of America, in his address at a meeting of the policy committee of the organization today. He also recommended that miners have the right to organize and to bargain collectively with the government in case of nationalization of mines.

ALLIES AND WILSON MEET

(Continued From First Page.)

Norway is represented by Messrs. Weichmann and Castberg and Baron de Wedel Jarlsberg, the minister in Paris. The Dutch delegation is headed by a minister who has adopted a resolution for presentation to the peace conference, proposing that a maximum be fixed for armaments, that the smaller powers have greater representation and that the constitution of the league be revised after a certain period. The resolution asks that the league may become the seat of the league.

Cable Question Referred.
The British delegation to the peace conference, it was announced today, has consented to refer to the supreme council the question of the future ownership of the German cables to America. All parties interested in the question are preparing briefs.

The American delegates to the peace conference, it was reported from Paris, March 12, were making a strong presentation of their case concerning the captured German cables, as it was realized that if Great Britain's claims to the cables should be sustained, it would give the British a virtual monopoly of cable communication.

DELAY SEEN IN WILSON PLAN

Inclusion of League in Treaty Is Discussed by British.

PARIS, March 18.—(Special Cable.)—Although the treaty and serial terms of peace were before the council of ten yesterday, nothing was talked of in British circles but the situation arising out of the German cables. The reminder that the conference is pledged to include the league of nations in the treaty of peace.

The only argument urged against fulfilling this pledge is that it would cause serious delay in securing peace and thereby give additional play to the forces that have disordered Europe. Various suggestions are thrown out unofficially for securing the president's object without waiting to perfect the league charter, but these suggestions do not satisfy even the British. On the whole the general tendency of feeling in British quarters is that the president's view must prevail if the league is to be attained.

The French press, significantly enough, entirely ignores the subject.

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MARVELOUS WIRELESS TELEPHONY APPARATUS, WHICH BROKE
ALL RECORDS BY TRANSMITTING MESSAGES 150
MILES FROM AIRPLANE.Secretary of the Navy Daniels, on March 12, conversed with the aeroplane of
Ensign Harry Sadeauwater, in flight 150 miles away. This conversation, carried on via wireless telephone, was from the secretary's desk to the plane at sea, 150 miles away, and broke all former records, which were from 40 to 50 miles. Our photo shows the wonderful apparatus used on the plane, which has done much toward making wireless telephony an everyday possibility.

not even publishing Foreign Minister Pichon's statements regarding it made at his conference with the foreign correspondents yesterday. The absence of support for Minister Pichon's view is interpreted as indicating that the French delegates are reconsidering their position.

O. A. C. GIRLS WANT DEBATE

Movement Begun to Establish Inter-
society League.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, Or., March 18.—(Special.)—Inter-society debating in the latest addition to forensics to be considered here. The fraternities recently established a league for debating and the girls of the college are now interested in a like organization. Dean Mary E. Fawcett and Professor S. H. Peterson, coach of forensics, are favoring the society league and a movement is on foot to establish it soon.

The second inter-fraternity debate will be held April 10 and winners of the first series will compete. The question is the same as that to be used in the college debate with the University of Washington. "Resolved that the railroads of the United States should be owned and operated by the government."

The contest last week eliminated many fraternalities and about a half dozen will qualify for entrance in the debate. Donald Morse of Portland is manager of the inter-fraternity debates.

JEFFERY DENIES CHARGES

Major, Charged With Fraud, Avows
Patriotic Purposes.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 18.—The \$1500 yearly expense account given Major John B. Jeffery, retired, by the National Defense League for services rendered during the campaign for his needs, but through patriotic motives he asked for no more, Major Jeffery testified in his trial here today on charges of defrauding through the mails in connection with the collection of funds for the league.

Major Jeffery produced evidence to show that he had been bred a major during the Philippine campaign and that he at a was awarded a congressional medal of honor for distinguished service during the campaign.

Major Jeffery denied the secret or misappropriation of funds collected by him for the league.

On trial with Major Jeffery are Major L. Williams, of San Francisco, and Mrs. Alice F. Rogers, Los Angeles, field secretary of the league for northern and southern California, respectively.

TRAILS TO BE IMPROVED

Cascade Forest Will Be Made At-
tractive to Tourists.

EUGENE, Or., March 18.—(Special.)—Extensive improvement of the trails in the Cascade national forest and added facilities for campers, fishermen and hunters will be possible this spring and summer owing to an appropriation of \$11,000, in addition to the yearly maintenance sum, which has just been secured by Clyde H. Zeitz, supervisor of the forests.

Trails will be built from Oakridge to Hardy's cabin up Christie creek, also from Kithon springs to the base of Diamond peak, and another along the ridge of Little Falls creek to the McKenzie valley. The camp at Salmon creek, above Oakridge, will be improved and made more desirable for campers.

LENROOT ATTACKS LEAGUE

(Continued From First Page.)

The league's decrees and powers would be merely advisory. He insisted that its action would be mandatory and involve "command of the world."

"If, however," he argued, "it is contended that the obligation is morally binding, then indeed we are worse off—because the United States will keep its moral obligations, whereas some other nations might not."

Declaring that the tentative constitution was of British origin, Senator Reed asserted that America would be directly entangled in European alliances.

Phone your want ads to the Oregonian. Phone Main 7070, A 6095.

WHEN BEER IS BEER
PUZZLE TO OFFICERS

Revenue Men Seek Interpretation of Statutes.

BREWERS' ACTS WATCHED

Government Experts Think if Beer
Contains Over One-Half Per Cent
Alcohol it is Intoxicating.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Answer to the question of when beer is legally beer and whether it may contain 2½ per cent alcohol without being officially considered intoxicating was sought today by internal revenue bureau officials in existing statutes, court decisions and administrative regulations, but with no definite conclusion.

Pending a decision by the legal division of the bureau and an opinion by Attorney-General Palmer, Commissioner Roper declined to say what he would do in case New York brewers carry out their announced intention of resuming manufacture and sale of beer containing 2½ per cent alcohol under President Wilson's recent order permitting the making of "near-beer."

Conferences Are Held.

Internal revenue bureau officials held a number of conferences. The bureau's legal experts argued that all precedents of acts of congress and of revenue bureau practices point to the rule that if beer contains one-half of 1 per cent or more alcohol it is intoxicating and is taxable as real beer. Drinks to be "soft" and "non-intoxicating" and "non-alcoholic" must contain less than one-half of 1 per cent of alcohol, they said, therefore it was argued that the president's order of last September 16 forbade the use of grain or other food products in making beer with one-half per cent or more alcohol.

Commissioner Roper, however, decided to fortify himself fully and arranged to call on the department of justice for an opinion.

In any event, officials said, the manufacture of beer with more than one-half per cent alcohol is prohibited after May 1 under the food conservation provisions of the act of November 21, 1918, forbidding use of grain, cereals, fruits or other food products in the production of fermented malt liquors after that date. Under this regulation, brewers of near-beer will be considered technically as producers of alcohol with the beverage as a by-product.

Revenue Acts Cited.

Various provisions of recent revenue acts were cited by bureau officials in support of the contention that one-half per cent is the maximum for non-intoxicating beverages. Revenue bureau regulations promulgated February 6 provide that after May 1 producers of near-beer will have to qualify as "industrial distillers" since the business of brewing, it was said, cannot be recognized under the act of November 21, 1918, forbidding use of grain, cereals, fruits or other food products in the production of fermented malt liquors after that date. Under this regulation, brewers of near-beer will be considered technically as producers of alcohol with the beverage as a by-product.

Anti-Saloon League leaders are depending upon the specific mention of beer and wine in the war-time prohibition act to make it unnecessary to prove that beer is intoxicating in order to prevent its sale after July 1. Wayne B. Wheeler, general counsel for the league, in a statement today, said it was his belief that the act would prove that any vinous or malt liquor other than beer was intoxicating, and for that reason congress would be forced to repeal the act before July 1.

Three at Eugene Get Degrees.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, March 18.—(Special.)—One degree of master of arts and two of bachelor of arts were granted at the regular meeting of the executive committee of the board of regents. The degree of master of arts in mathematics was granted to Chester E. Kronenberg, of Portland, member of the class of 1916, and bachelor's degrees were taken by Mrs. Eva K. Stetson, of Eugene, wife of F. L. Stetson, professor of education in the university, and Miss Cora E. Ware of Hillsboro. Mrs. Stetson specialized in botany and Miss Ware in commerce.

Charter Rates Announced.

NEW YORK, March 18.—Maximum time charter rates for American steamships have been fixed at \$2.50 a deadweight ton per month, less the usual advance commission of 2 to 3 per cent. W. H. A. Walker, charter executive of the United States shipping board, announced here today. The new rates, which are effective immediately, are an increase of approximately \$1.25 a ton on the previous maximum rate.

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BAKER SHOWS WAR'S COST

PROPERTY LOSS EXCEEDS
VALUE OF NORTH AMERICA.Deaths in All Armies Total Nine
Millions, Says Secretary in
San Francisco Speech.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 18.—"The cost of the war in money alone was \$137,900,000,000, or \$11,000,000,000 more than the total property value of all of North America," Secretary of War Newton D. Baker told a gathering at the commercial club here today following his arrival with General Peyton C. March, chief of staff, to inspect army posts here.

The deaths from wounds in battle numbered 7,300,000 and the total deaths in all the armies reached a grand total of 9,000,000," he said.

Referring to the proposed league of nations, Secretary Baker said unless such an organization was formed under some name and under some constitution anarchy, bred by disease, hunger and despair, would overwhelm the earth.

"Every historian for the next thousand years will start his story at this hour," Mr. Baker remarked. "He would not start it at the beginning of the war, nor in the pre-war period, for those times now belong to the time of acropolis and the coliseum."

"No child born in a civilized nation in the next hundred years will escape paying a considerable portion of the debt this war has brought about."

ASSEMBLY MAY RECONVENE

(Continued From First Page.)

pendents and communists that they intended the general strike to be a peaceable one, Colonel Reinhardt said:

Reds Somehow Get Arms.

"How do such vast quantities of weapons happen to come into the hands of the criminal insurgents?" How do even cannon get into the hands of so-called innocent persons and how is it that those weapons are regularly supplied with ammunition?"

Colonel Reinhardt recalled the repeated orders of the government for the surrender of all weapons in unauthorized hands, and he declared that, notwithstanding these orders, the government troops found on Sunday in the single small suburb of Adlershof 27 machine guns, 650 rifles, 232 bayonets and 475,000 cartridges. The war minister said that the government troops of a single division had lost 20 officers

and 80 men up to Thursday, and he charged that some of these had been tortured by the insurgents.

Herr Reinhardt assailed Adolf Hoffmann, minister of education, for terminating former Emperor William a deserter.

Tribute Paid to Kaiser.

"Any other decision which the Kaiser could have made on that November 9," said the war minister, "must necessarily have led to further sanguinary fighting and to further sacrifices, whether in battle against the enemy or in civil war. In order to prevent this, in other words, through pure humanitarian and patriotic feelings, the Kaiser went to Holland."

BERLIN, March 18.—The Diet at Munich was opened yesterday to the accompaniment of a strong military display, according to a Munich dispatch. All entrances to the building were strongly guarded and machine guns were posted on the roof. Militia and police were distributed throughout the house.

Dopelers and newspaper men were searched for arms before they were allowed to enter. No one was allowed in the galleries except the press gallery.

The precautions mentioned were apparently due to the fear that there might be a repetition in the diet of the scenes that accompanied the convening of that body last month. Numerous shots were fired on that occasion, killing one of the deputies and wounding others present, including Herr Aser, minister of the interior, who was reported later to have died of his injuries.

CONDUCTORETTES MUST GO

Cleveland Car Company Agrees Not
to Reinstate Women.

CLEVELAND, O., March 18.—The Cleveland Railway company will abide by its agreement with the city and carmen's union not to employ women conductors after March 15, notwithstanding an order of the war labor board directing the reinstatement of 64 conductorettes, John J. Stanley, president of the company, announced late today.

Under the agreement a three-day streetcar strike was settled. Mr. Stanley said he could not reinstate the women and be a party to another strike.

HEROISM IN ACTION TOLD

Spokane and Seattle Soldiers Are
Awarded Service Crosses.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Sergeant Glen O. McEwen, machine gun company, 161st Infantry, of Spokane, Wash., has been awarded a distinguished service cross for extraordinary heroism in action near Moulin de Guenouville, France, September 26, 1918. Sergeant McEwen, with three other soldiers, advanced nearly 200 yards over an open hillside exposed to machine gun fire and carried two wounded men to the protection of a nearby trench.

Private Joseph J. Le May, company K, 364th Infantry, of Seattle, Wash., also was awarded the distinguished service cross for extraordinary heroism in action near Bellfontaine, France, September 28, 1918. Responding to a call for volunteers, Private Le May, with five others, advanced 100 yards beyond their front to bring in wounded comrades. They succeeded in rescuing seven of their men and also bringing in the dead body of a lieutenant, who was exposed to terrific machine gun fire.

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