PRE-WAR CONTRACTS BIG ALLIED PROBLEM

United States Submits Plan for Cancellations.

SAFEGUARDS ARE PROVIDED

Dissolving Agreements as From Time of Their Breaking by Enemy Opposed by America.

BY JAMES M. TUOHY.

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PARIS, April 23.—(Special cable.)—The suggestion as to the annulment of pre-war contracts made by the sub-commission has proved a thorny question for the economic commission of the conference which is considering the report upon the subject submitted by sub-commission.

In brief, the English and French delegates proposed that all contracts concluded with enemies shall be dissolved as from the time of their breaking by the enemies, except in the case of debts or other pecuniary obligations incurred before that, subject to certain exceptions.

This proposal is supported on the general principle that it is desirable to break pre-war economic relations and that contracts made at this time do not correspond, economically or commercially, to the existing situation.

United States Against Plan.

The United States declines to agree to this scheme which is calculated to lead to unjustifiable hardship both to enemies and neutrals and made the counter proposal. This is based on the principle that the nationals in each belligerent country should be allowed to withdraw from commercial relations with their respective enemies subject only to conditions to be imposed by each government on its nationals, thus making the provisions for reasonable compensation and also safeguarding the rights of neutrals.

To avail himself of such a right, the national must notify his own government within three months of the date of this treaty. This shall not apply to any contract heretofore dissolved, abrogated or terminated by the operation of law, by acts of war or otherwise, nor debts, nor to any obligations or contracts providing only for the payment of money, nor to any contracts under which payment of money alone remains to be done.

Court to Decide Consideration.

Nor shall this affect the right of any neutral acquired in good faith and for value without his or his government's consent.

All notices with respect to such withdrawals must be notified to the secretary of the conference promptly, also to any governments whose nationals are affected. Each national proposing to withdraw from a contract shall pay to his government such a sum as shall be adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction in his country or by the international commission, which will be set up, to be a fair and reasonable consideration in return for such right of withdrawal or cancellation. All such money received by any government shall be charged against such a country and credited to the respective enemy country.

Agreement Is Reached.

There has been a general agreement in the sub-commission on the principle of the establishment of a tribunal for the settlement of pre-war contracts within the competency of German courts and the liquidation of the pre-war position of commercial exchanges and associations and the settlement of questions relating to pledges and bills of exchange.

The financial section of the economic commission is now considering a compromise on the important question of annulment, concerning which, as shown above, the sub-commission has been unable to reach an agreement.

LUMBER ORDERS OFFERED

Railroad Administration Wants Ties and Fir Boards.

Manufacturers of fir lumber and ties, according to announcement of West Coast Lumbermen's association officials, have been tendered contracts to supply about 50,000,000 feet of lumber and 2,000,000 ties to the railroad administration in the past few days. The contract offers have resulted from the visit of Walker D. Hines, director-general of railroads, and heads of the rail administration purchasing bureau.

The government's purchases are to be handled by O. H. Wood, L. Cresweller and G. W. Saul, regional purchasing agents of the northwest. Lumbermen are not wholly satisfied with the prices offered, but will absorb the orders and count on a strengthening of the market as an indirect result.

MEDICINE SALESMEN HELD

Alcoholic Substitute Alleged Sold to Umatilla Indians.

PENDLETON, Or., April 23.—(Special.)—As the result of efforts to break up an alleged ring, believed to have developed a business of considerable magnitude in providing Indians of the Umatilla reservation with patent medicines containing a high percentage of alcohol as a substitute for whisky, R. L. Crowder, Walter Ogilby and Harold Cominger were arrested here today by government officers.

It is said the men have been receiving $3.50 a bottle for bitters which they bought at $1.50.

CROWD IMPELLED BY LOVE

Policeman Confesses He Helped to Start Rush on Parade.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 23.—Policeman John O'Connor today confessed being the man who broke up the big parade here yesterday when the 363d infantry and the 347th field artillery were welcomed home.

"A little old lady saw her boy in the ranks after she had been told he was dead," the policeman said. "She reached out her hands and called to him, the tears streaming down her face. It was more than human nature could stand. I tucked my club in my belt and boosted her over the ropes. A minute later she was in his arms and the rest of San Francisco was right behind her."

Policeman O'Connor will have no explanations to make to the police commission.

"I would have defied any police department in the world to have held that crowd back," said Captain Daniel O'Brien, acting chief of police. "What did they want us to do, club the mothers, wives and sisters, or ride down women and children with our horses?

"I have a son in the navy, and all of the policemen in the world will not be able to keep my wife from catching him up in her arms when he comes back."

BELL-ANS FOR INDIGESTION

DON'T GET RUN DOWN

Weak and miserable. If you have Dull Head Pains, Dizziness, Nervousness, Pains in the Back, and feel tired all over, get a package of Mother Gray's AROMATIC-LEAF, the pleasant Medicinal Tea. We have many testimonials. As a gentle laxative it has no equal. Ask for Mother Gray's Aromatic-Leaf at Druggists or sent by mail for 60 cents. Sample FREE. Address, Mother Gray Co., Le Roy, N. Y.—Adv.

DRAFT CLAIM UP IN TRIAL

SLAYER OF WOMAN ALLEGED TO HAVE FAMILY.

Sam Rolli Admits Shooting of Mrs. Taug in Jealous Rage—Killing Is Recalled.

That Sam Rolli, on trial for the murder of Mrs. Betty Taug, has a wife and child in Serbia, on account of whom he endeavored to claim exemption from draft in his questionnaire, is a contention of the prosecution made during the progress of the trial before Circuit Judge Gatens yesterday. The state's theory is that Mrs. Taug left Rolli in Seattle, after their illegal marriage, when she found out from him that he had a family in Serbia.

Rolli denied on the witness stand that he had a wife in Serbia from whom he was not divorced, but when Deputy District Attorney Bernard pursued his questioning as to statements made in Rolli's questionnaire, the defendant admitted that he might have made such a statement in that document, though insisting that it was not true.

Under cross-examination yesterday Rolli said that when he heard that Mrs. Taug had gone back to her divorced husband, Hans Taug, living at 965 Congress street, he was possessed of a jealous rage and went out and shot her.

Before he fired, all grew black before him, he said, but not so black that he could not see where he was aiming, he confessed when questioned. He killed the woman in the kitchen of her home February 14, 1919. He went through the house, out the front door and down the steps to the sidewalk before shooting himself. The prosecution argues that the shooting of Rolli was accidental. He has admitted the killing of Mrs. Taug was not accidental.

Rolli testified yesterday that Mrs. Taug had fooled him; that she had told him she was not married to Taug and had not been for four years, when, as a matter of fact, she had been divorced less than the statutory six months which must expire before another ceremony may be legalized.

The case probably will go to the jury today.

COSTA RICA FEARS DRIVE

2000 Troops on Border to Prevent Invasion by Exiles.

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, April 23.—The Costa Rican government has concentrated 2000 troops on the frontier between Nicaragua and Costa Rica. The Costa Rican government is said to fear an invasion by exiles from Costa Rica in Nicaragua.

The Costan Rican government has had troops on the Nicaraguan frontier for several months. The purpose of the concentration has had two explanations, one being to protect the frontier from invasion by Costa Rican exiles, and the other that the Costa Ricans were to aid in the overthrow of the government of Nicaragua. The government of President Tinoco of Costa Rica has never been recognized by the United States. The members and adherents of the government of President Gonzales, who was overthrown by Tinoco, are exiles in other South American countries.

HEROIC CHAPLAIN SPEAKS

Father Kelly Tells La Grande Folk How Hindenburg Fell.

LA GRANDE, Or., April 23.—(Special.)—A big crowd tonight heard Father Kelly, chaplain of the 27th (New York) division. Captain Kelly participated in the drive on Mount Kemmel and later saw the Hindenburg line break. He wears decorations of Belgium, France, England and America for extreme heroism.

Aside from having an unusual war record, Captain Kelly is a polished speaker. He explained the fall of Hindenburg and boosted the liberty loan. He received a great ovation. The community choir furnished music.

MAN, 62, INJURED BY TRAIN

Lamar Carter of La Grande Struck in Attempt to Board Passenger.

LA GRANDE, Or., April 23.—(Special.)—Lamar Carter, aged 62, this morning was struck by a train at Thorn Hollow on the west slope of the Blue mountains, as he was running to catch a train to come to his home here. One leg and one arm were broken, ribs cracked, head lacerated and hips were injured. He has a family.

Mr. Carter explained that he was running to catch the train and presumed he was on a siding where he would be safe.

MADRAS SCENE OF TRAGEDY

(Continued From First Page.)

reports among those who saw the family leave, Sar was not treating the boy as even a stepfather should, and the relatives of Mrs. Sar declare that Sar made life miserable for the lad of 16, which cruelty brought on Sar the wrath of the mother, the quarrels often ending in serious conflicts, but at no time was any word of murder or threatening of lives heard in the family quarrels.

Coroner Mason, when informed of the double murder and suicide, left for the scene to take charge of the bodies. No papers, notes or will were found in the house.

The property was owned by Mrs. Sar.

Loyal Legion Is Active.

ABERDEEN, Wash., April 23.—(Special.)—Six thousand mill and logging camp workers in the Grays Harbor district have joined the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen, according to a statement of H. R. Briggs, organizer, today. The organization work is still being pushed, and it is the expectation of the leaders of the movement that an organization of 12,000 men will be secured.

Dry slabwood and inside wood, green stamps, for cash. Holman Fuel Co. Main 352, A 2352.—Adv.

SAAR BASIN QUESTION DEFINITELY SETTLED

Terms of Agreement Ready to Be Put in Peace Treaty.

FRENCH RIGHTS CONFIRMED

France to Have Full Ownership and Exclusive Right to Exploit Coal and Mineral Deposits.

BY JAMES M. TUOHY.

(Copyright by the New York Herald Company. Published by Arrangement.)

PARIS, April 23.—(Special Cable.)—The Saar basin agreement now has been reduced to definite terms for insertion in the peace treaty. It secures absolutely to France full ownership and exclusive rights to exploitation of the coal mines and all mineral deposits classified as mines under German legislation within the territory of the Saar valley boundaries, which are set out in detail.

French rights not only will cover deposits not yet hypothecated, but all deposits to which concessions have been granted to any other power, corporation or individual. Ownership of mines comprises ownership of all accessories, equipment, buildings, means of communication, schools and documents.

Boches to Receive Credit.

Germany will get credit in the reparation account for the value of the properties ceded. A boundary commission will be appointed within 14 days after the signature of peace to mark the boundaries on the spot.

Germans are to be debarred from establishing any tariffs on the railways or canals which may prejudice the working of the mines, and means will be taken to prevent the placing of any impediment by the Germans on the improvement of railways and communications or on the introduction of French or foreign labor in the mines.

There will be reciprocal arrangements under which no taxes will be levied upon metalluragical products of the basin which may be consigned to Germany, nor by Germany on German exports intended for the purposes of the industries of the basin. This arrangement is to remain in force for five years from the signature of the treaty.

Commission to Control.

As already stated in these dispatches, governmental rights heretofore exercised by Germany will be transferred to a commission of the league of nations, consisting of five members chosen by the council of the league, including one French citizen, one non-French inhabitant of the basin, the others to be selected from three countries other than France or Germany. The chairman of the commission, who will be its executive, will be appointed by the league for one year.

The commission will take over all the powers of government heretofore exercised by Germany, Prussia or Bavaria; will appoint and dismiss all functionaries; will control the railways and canals and the right of use of all property in the basin, other than the mines, which belong to the government of any German state.

It will set up special civil and criminal courts and a court of appeals for the hearing of cases carried beyond the local courts. Power to levy taxes in the basin will belong exclusively to the commission.

Nationality Changes Allowed.

The inhabitants may retain their present nationality or they may change nationality if they so desire. They will retain their local assemblies and all over 20, without distinction or sex, may vote. There will be no voluntary recruiting or military service.

At the end of 15 years a plebiscite will be held in the Saar basin to decide whether the inhabitants desire a continuance of the regime established by the treaty or desire to be united to France or Germany. The league will supervise the plebiscite, which will be taken by communes. Should the inhabitants vote for the maintenance of the league regime, Germany will be called upon to renounce her sovereign rights in favor of the league. If they vote for union with France, Germany will renounce her rights in favor of France. If they vote to go with Germany, the league will re-establish German government in so much of the territory as it may think fit.

Conditions Are Elaborate.

In the last-named event the German government will be required to take over the rights of the French government under this convention at a price payable in gold to be determined by a commission of three to be appointed by Germany, France and the council of the league. Should Germany fail to pay the stipulated sum the territory will pass to France, but if Germany should pay and thus recover ownership of the mines, the league will retain the right to determine what portion of the Saar basin shall, upon fair terms, be assigned to French industries.

OFFICIAL HEADS TO MEET

Plans Under Consideration for Merchants' Annual Convention.

WARRENTON, Or., April 23.—(Special.)—A special meeting of the officers and directors of the Oregon Retail Merchants' association in Portland May 19 is proposed in a call issued here today by President G. Clifford Barlow. Matters pertaining to the association will be discussed and plans outlined and dates set for the next convention, to be held in Portland.

"We have been inactive for some time, due to unprecedented conditions prevailing among merchants, but we are now awake to the new conditions, and we will once more make our statewide, state-controlled association of retail merchants properly function in matters pertaining to the general welfare of the retail trade in all its branches," said Mr. Barlow. "Our reconstruction plans will be prepared and presented at the 14th annual convention next fall."

Four Escape Injury.

COTTAGE GROVE, Or., April 23.—(Special.)—Harry Culver, Fred Anderson, Warren McFarland and George Anderson had a narrow escape from being severely crushed Sunday while setting up an ice box in a local market. The top of the box is in separate pieces and the four were putting it into position when it slipped and fell onto them. Only a brace which they had put up saved them from serious injury.

Amended School Bill Passes.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., April 23.—The assembly of the California legislature today passed, 57 to 4, Senator Sample's school bill, amended in the assembly to prohibit Japanese from attending regular elementary schools where special schools for Mongolians are provided.

Read The Oregonian classified ads.

—Looking for New Clothes?

Most every day, men come to us who have been shopping around from store to store.

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Spring Styles
$25 to $65

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MEN'S WEAR
Corbett Bldg., Fifth and Morrison

ACCIDENT STORY ACCEPTED

CORONER TAKES NO ACTION IN DEATH OF ORVILLE BILLINGS.

Dead Man Said Not to Have Been Worried by Approaching Trial on Statutory Charge.

TACOMA, April 23.—Police and Coroner G. D. Shaver today took no steps to clear up the mystery of the shooting last night of Orville Billings, former republican candidate for governor and at one time one of the wealthiest men in Tacoma. Coroner Shaver declared an inquest was not necessary and the police said it was evident Mr. Billings died from a gun held in his own hands, whether with suicidal intent or not, since the accounts of the death as told by Mrs. Billings and M. B. Hubbell, the only witnesses, were the same.

Both said Mr. Billings, after having eaten a late dinner, was standing by the dinner table with a revolver in his hand which he had just procured as protection against automobile thieves.

While a conversation was in progress, Mr. Billings snapped the gun several times. Then he pointed it toward his head, pulled the trigger and a bullet entered his mouth and crashed through his brain, seemingly by accident.

Attorney Maurice Langhorne, who was to have defended Mr. Billings on a statutory charge in Seattle today, said he had prepared for the trial and that Mr. Billings had not seemed greatly worried over the case.

Orville Billings came to Tacoma in 1991 as a solicitor for a building and loan association. In 1907 he had made such a reputation in the community that he was able to finance a building and loan association of his own, which, it is said, he developed into one of the largest associations of the kind in the nation. Its capital is $20,000,000. He made $50,000 a year out of the business, his friends say.

In the last two years reverses came. He went into the theatrical business at Camp Lewis and his losses there were heavy. Other ventures failed, and last winter he turned his palatial residence into an exclusive apartment house. Then the deaf and dumb daughter of a friend charged a criminal assault and the case was postponed from time to time. A few months ago stockholders in the building and loan association forced the retirement of Mr. Billings.

Lately Mr. Billings had told friends he expected to be cleared of the charge hanging over him, after which he would move to California and start over again. He had a family of five daughters.

COLFAX TEACHERS ARE OUT

Union Results in Nine Vacancies in Public Schools.

SPOKANE, Wash., April 23.—(Special.)—As a result of the union organized among the high school teachers of Colfax, Wash., to the demands of which the school directors refuse to submit, vacancies exist in the nine positions which the striking teachers have held. All members of the high school faculty except the principal are parties to the movement, and Principal Coill had previously resigned to go into another line of work. The contracts which had been prepared for the signatures of the teachers carried salaries averaging about $127 a month, about $12 over last year's rate.

The teachers demand an average of about $150 a month. The grade teachers are still on the job.

EDITORIAL FORCE CHOSEN

Next Issue of Oregon Exchanges Will Appear in May.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, April 23.—(Special.)—Miss Frances Blurock of Vancouver, Wash., will be the editor-in-chief of the next issue of Oregon Exchanges, the newspapermen's magazine issued by the senior class in editing of the school of journalism. The next number will appear in May. Miss Blurock's associates, chosen, like herself, by the class, are Mrs. Clytie Hall Frink of Eugene, managing editor; Miss Frances Stiles of Portland, circulation manager; Tracy Byers of Eugene and Miss Elizabeth Aumiller of Yakima, Wash., copyreaders; James S. Sheehy of Portland, "All Over Oregon" editor; Miss Erma Zimmerman of Eugene and Miss Helen McDonald of La Grande, proof readers.

Cowlitz Short of Jurors.

KELSO, Wash., April 23.—(Special.)—The trial of Martin Swift on a charge of murdering John Gilmore at Sightly several months ago, which came up for trial in superior court Monday has been held up by inability to secure a jury from the original panel. A panel of 45 additional jurors has been called to appear when selection of the jury will be continued. Swift killed Gilmore after a neighborhood quarrel, and is making a self-defense plea. More than 65 witnesses and jurors went from the Silver Lake and Castle Rock districts yesterday for the trial.

New Sugar Factories Building.

YAKIMA, Wash., April 23.—(Special.)—Both the Sunnyside and Toppenish factories of the Utah-Idaho Sugar company will be completed this season and operated, according to Merrill Nibley, the company's manager, who arrived here from Salt Lake City yesterday to complete details of the work.

Yakima Banker's Estate Large.

YAKIMA, Wash., April 23.—(Special.)—Appraisement of the estate of the late George Donald, filed in superior court yesterday, puts the value of his personal property at $268,743, and of the real estate at $94,500. The largest item in the personal property was the 518 shares of stock which Mr. Donald held in the Yakima National bank, of which he was president for many years. The stock was valued at $207,200.

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TWENTY-THIRD AND WASHINGTON.

New classes for beginners start Monday and Thursday evenings this week. Advanced classes start Tuesday and Friday evenings. All ballroom dances taught in eight lessons—ladies $2.50, gentlemen $5.

To All Joining These Classes This Week

Take one or four lessons a week. Tickets are good until used. The only school teaching from 8 to 11. Plenty of practice. No embarrassment. Separate step room and extra teachers for backward pupils. A thorough printed description of all dances free for pupils. We have large and select classes, and the social feature alone is worth double the price, and this is the only school where they guarantee to teach you to dance. Private lessons given all hours. Call afternoon or evening. Learn from professional dancers who can dance and teach dancing. Learn the gingle fox trot and new jazz steps. Phone Main 7656.

WIVES OF MEN

The Music That Rests and Soothes Us

When the day is done, we seek those influences which rest the weary mind. Music, more than any other one thing, brings real and genuine relaxation.

To listen to the works of great masters of the Piano—Chopin, Greig, Beethoven, and others—played with all the splendid technique and interpretative ability of a Paderewski, a Godowsky, a Hoffman, or any of the greatest of modern artists, is indeed the ideal recreation.

More than any Player Piano that we have ever known of moderate price,

The Euphona Home Electric

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Designed for your home, reproducing with photographic truthfulness every gradation of tone, every varying shade of interpretation, the Euphona Electric charms all hearers. Equally, it interprets the latest popular and dance music with charming vigor and breeziness.

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