

### BENSON RIPS LID OFF FOR PROBERS

Sweeping U. S. Inquiry Favored by Admiral.

### HIGHER-UPS WILL BE QUIZZED

Representative Steele Digs for Political Influence.

### TEXAS SENATOR NAMED

Building Firm in Lone Star State Makes Threats to Speed Up Claim Settlement.

NEW YORK, Nov. 10.—Additional evidence of alleged irregularities and mismanagement in the affairs of the United States shipping board were introduced today before the congressional committee investigating the affairs of the board by J. F. Richardson, assistant secretary and statistician of the committee.

The investigation is based largely upon a report submitted by Mr. Richardson and A. M. Fisher, secretary and statistician of the committee, after a year's work.

At the conclusion of today's session Chairman Walsh announced that Commander A. B. Clements, executive assistant to Admiral Benson, chairman of the shipping board, would be a witness tomorrow.

Chairman Walsh read a telegram from Admiral Benson, which states that the board would not object to Commander Clements testifying and that "the records, officers and employes of the board were at the disposal of the committee at any time or place the committee desired."

**Benson May Be Called.**  
Mr. Walsh said Admiral Benson and other officials of the board, as well as Charles M. Schwab and Charles Pies, former heads of the emergency fleet corporation, may be asked to appear. The hearings will be continued in New York for two weeks and then it is likely, said Chairman Walsh, that the committee will go to Philadelphia and Washington.

Cross-examination by Representative Steele of Mr. Richardson took up a considerable part of the afternoon session. Characterizing the witness' previous testimony as "a general indictment," Mr. Steele sought to bring out specific instances of alleged "political influence," favoritism, etc.

The witness prefaced his reply to the first question asked with the statement that he reports to appear in support to fix any illegal act on the part of any person.

**Credit Is Given Board.**  
"The purpose of our criticism is," he said, "that we hope to bring out existing conditions so that they may be rectified by the shipping board itself. I want to give full credit to the board for its achievements. It had a gigantic task—one of the greatest ever met by man."

Answering questions as to specific instances of alleged political influence, he recalled that he had been informed that a shipbuilding firm in Texas had "threatened to appoint a senator from that state to bring about what was claimed by the company to be a delay in a settlement of an account. He added that he had no knowledge as to what, if anything, the senator did."

Another instance recalled was that a former congressman had accompanied an officer of a shipbuilding firm to Washington to assist in obtaining a contract.

**All Contracts Not Criticized.**  
He added that he had no knowledge of any shipyard or contracting firm in which a member of congress was interested. He also said that he did not criticize all of the allocation contracts entered into by the board.

### BURGGLARS PREY ON 12 HOMES; FOUR JAILED

OPERATIONS BEGIN AT 7:30. CONTINUE TILL DAWN.

Dwellers in All Parts of City Report Intruders and Police Pass Busy Night.

More than a dozen robberies and attempted robberies were investigated by the police before midnight last night. Burglars were reported from all parts of the city, and motorcycle and patrol were kept busy answering summons of frightened or irate householders. In the majority of instances the intruders were routed before their self-appointed tasks were fairly begun.

The home of T. F. Metcalf, 1284 East Yamhill street, was entered during the absence of the family. The loot consisted of a \$250 Colt's revolver, a woman's purse, a diamond lavallier and a baby's silver bib holder. No trace of the burglar was found.

By using a jimmy on a bedroom window another robber equipped himself with a revolver from the home of W. N. Spangalis, 909 Borthwick avenue. Other missing articles include a gold dollar stickpin of 1851 and an agate stickpin. A neighbor stated that she heard a man jump from the window about 7:30 P. M. No clue is available.

A third robbery was at the home of H. S. Tutthill, 1611 East Salmon street. Entrance was gained through a side window, the house was ransacked and the thief made good his escape. Owing to the fact that the family is in California, it was not possible to ascertain the amount of loss.

Other reports, none of which resulted in arrests, follow. Mrs. A. L. Fields, 505 East Twenty-ninth street, burglar trying to break in through side door at 9:30 P. M., no loss; Mrs. Manville, 626 East Eighteenth street North, burglar at 9:30 P. M., work up entrance from driveway at 45 E. Davis, 828 Commercial street, burglar at 7:30 P. M., no loss; S. W. Northcutt, 733 East Sixty-second street, burglar surprised at work by son Ray, no loss.

An alley, uniformed patrolman, arrested Charles E. Shepard, 18, son of E. W. Shepard, and Willis Prather, 16, son of Harry Prather of the Mount Scott neighborhood. The boys took the officers to a room where they hid a cache of a revolver, rifle, shot-gun, kodak, mask, field glasses and enough ammunition to have gladdened the heart of a polli. The boys are said to have confessed to stealing the articles from a house near Island City station. They were held on that charge.

Other suspicious persons arrested were Phillip Ocampo and John Rio, who were found by Patrolmen Fair and Drake. Ocampo carried a .45 automatic pistol, while Rio had a razor-edged stiletto. They were booked on a charge of carrying concealed weapons.

### SIBERIAN STATE PLANNED

Independent Far Eastern Republic Is Proclaimed at Chita.

TOKIO, Nov. 10.—(By the Associated Press.)—The provisional committee on which has been conferred at Chita, Siberia, with the view of establishing a Siberian state, has issued a proclamation declaring the formation of an independent far eastern Siberian republic, controlling the whole territory from the Baikal region eastward.

Whether the new government will command adequate support is problematical. The "whites" military leaders are holding aloof and the Vladivostok government is disinclined to submit to the merger.

### GERMANS IGNORE PLEDGE

Books and Manuscripts Stolen From Louvain Not Restored.

NEW YORK, Nov. 10.—Germany has not yet restored a single book or manuscript of the collection carried off or burned during the sack of the historic library of Louvain, the report of League, today informed the national committee of the United States for the restoration of the University of Louvain.

### T. R. JR. MAY GET PLACE IN CABINET

Post of Secretary of Labor Considered.

### NOLAN ALSO MENTIONED

Hughes and Taft Are Eyed for Supreme Bench.

### FOUR VACANCIES LIKELY

Chief Justice White and Holmes, Day and McKenna Eligible Under Retirement Law.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 10.—From what would be generally accepted as reliable authority comes the information that Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, son of the late president, will be asked to occupy a place in the cabinet of President-elect Harding.

It is said that the post of secretary of labor is to be offered to Colonel Roosevelt, although he is regarded as qualified for any one of three or four good places which the new president would have to offer. While person who ought to know are responsible for the report that Roosevelt is considered for labor chief there is good reason for doubt that President-elect Harding has committed himself to any hard and fast purpose to put the ex-president's son in the place.

**Californian Is Mentioned.**  
There have been persistent rumors that John J. Nolan, representative in congress from California, is in the lead for appointment as secretary of labor. Mr. Nolan more nearly speaks for organized labor in congress than any other man. He is a member of the iron moulder's union and since his election several years ago, largely through the support of labor, he has developed into one of the strong figures in congress.

"He has the absolute confidence of labor, as shown by the recent election results. When Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, issued his famous edict to labor to get in line for James M. Cox for president, Representative Nolan came out with a counter statement calling for labor's support of Harding. The relative influence of the two men is measured by the fact that 97 per cent of the labor vote followed Nolan into the republican party.

It is said that less than 1 per cent of the labor vote in San Francisco was cast for Cox and the election returns from that city indicate that the working class went strongly for (Concluded on Page 2, Column 2)

### HARDING WINS BATTLE WITH BIG GAME FISH

TARPON IS HAULED IN AFTER 15-MINUTE STRUGGLE.

President-Elect Gives \$2500 to Assist Literary Digest in Saving War Destitute.

POINT ISABEL, Tex., Nov. 10.—(By the Associated Press.)—President-elect Harding landed his first tarpon today and came back from the Point Isabel fishing grounds looking prouder than he did when a week ago late election figures confirmed his overwhelming majority for the presidency.

The catch measured four feet and five inches, a fair sized prize as tarpone go, and Mr. Harding handled the reel unassisted while the big fish raced back and forth through the water in its furious attempts to get away. It was pulled in just 15 minutes after it took the bait.

Mrs. Harding shared the honors of the day, for she also hooked a tarpon. It was almost a six-footer, however, and she did not try to land it. She passed the rod over to Senator Hale, a guest of the president-elect and his wife on their vacation trip, and he brought it in after a struggle of more than a half hour.

Senator Harding again spent the whole day on the tarpon fields, three miles off shore, passing up an ideal golf day to devote himself to the sport to which he was introduced yesterday. His fishing will be interrupted tomorrow, however, when he goes to Brownsville, 20 miles away, to deliver an Armistice day address. He probably will give over the whole day to the trip, playing a game of golf at the Brownsville Country club before delivering his address.

Mr. Harding, within 48 hours after election day, contributed \$2500 to the Literary Digest child feeding fund for the relief of 3,500,000 destitute and starving children in Europe. His contribution was announced tonight collected to date which the Literary Digest started with its own subscription of \$5,000 at the urgent appeal of Herbert Hoover.

From Marion, O., on November 4, Mr. Harding forwarded his check and telegraphed: "I have just now read your splendid appeal to the people of America, in behalf of 3,500,000 of unfortunate children in central and southern Europe who are the helpless victims of the great war. Because such a movement for relief reveals the true heart of America; because it speaks an American desire to play a great part in relieving and restoring God's own children, I want to commend and support your noble undertaking. In seeking God's blessing for ourselves, I am sure, we will bless as the more abundantly if we share our good fortune in acts of sympathy and human fellowship. I wish you a success which will reveal among the unselfishness of our great people. I am forwarding you my check for \$2500 by mail today." (Concluded on Page 2, Column 2)

### "VICTIM" NOT INSIDE VAULT WHEN OPENED

FEAR FOR TELLER OF BANK CAUSES FRENZIED FIGHT.

OTTAWA, Ill., Nov. 11.—After electric torches and dynamite had been used throughout the night in efforts to free Francis Carey, bank teller, from a time-locked vault in the National City bank here, in which it was believed he had been locked early last night by a robber, who took \$50,000 from the safe but dropped it when frightened away, the safe was found empty.

After attempts to loosen the door with electric torches and small charges of dynamite had failed, a call went to the Joliet penitentiary for safeblowers believed to be in prison there and arrangements were made for a special train from Chicago to bring them here. The warden reported, however, that he had only a few "old-fashioned safe-crackers" who would be of no use on a modern time vault.

About 7:30 Terrence Connolly stepped out of the rear door of a store next to the bank and noticed a man standing nearby. Connolly took out his watch, and the stranger apparently thinking Connolly was drawing a revolver, ran, dropping a bundle. The bundle contained \$50,000, later discovered to be missing from the bank.

Mr. Charles Taylor, president of the bank, set the time lock as he left the bank, fixing it to open automatically at 9 A. M. Friday, as the bank would be closed tomorrow, Armistice day.

### S. C. SPENCER KILLS SELF, SHOOTS WIFE

Financial Worries Upset Mind of Attorney.

### WOMAN EXPECTED TO LIVE

Life Hangs in Balance for Many Hours at Hospital.

### FAMILY LIFE PEACEFUL

Trouble With Stock Farm and Suffering From Paralytic Stroke Causes Derangement.

Schuyler C. Spencer, well-known Portland lawyer and member of the law firm of Wilbur, Spencer & Beckwith, was dead, and his wife, Mrs. Naomi Spencer, lay dangerously wounded at St. Vincent's hospital last night as a result of the temporary mental derangement of Mr. Spencer, during which he made an intellectual effort to slay his wife, and then turned his revolver upon himself. Mr. Spencer died almost instantly with a bullet wound through his heart.

Mrs. Spencer for several hours was not expected to live, but at St. Vincent's hospital it was announced by attending physicians that she probably will recover unless complications set in as a result of a bullet wound in the abdomen.

### 725-POUND JULIET WEDS

Don't Let Her Sit on You, Justice Warns. 155-Pound Husband.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Nov. 10.—A bride weighing 725 pounds was brought home tonight by John H. Hamilton, employed by a Los Angeles machinery company, who weighs 155. The bride, formerly Miss Alma Emily Selm of Venice, Cal., was attended at the wedding, which took place at Santa Ana, Cal., by her sister, Mrs. L. C. Kring, who weighs 420 pounds.

The bride and bridegroom are the same age—27. "She's a mighty fine girl; but don't ever let her sit on you," advised J. B. Cox, justice of the peace, after he had finished the marriage ceremony.

### BOY PRODIGY BEATS VETERANS AT CHESS

CHILD PLAYS 18 SIMULTANEOUSLY, TRAPS ALL.

WEST POINT, N. Y., Nov. 10.—Eighteen officers—strategists all, and most of them trained in the post-graduate school of war—and one picked cadet, the chess star of the academy, went down to defeat in as many games of chess tonight before the invincible onslaught of Samuel Rzeschewski, 8½-year-old Polish wonder of the chessboard. One of the boy's 20 opponents played to a draw at the end of 45 moves.

The boy who tonight added to the laurels he has won from the champions of Vienna, Berlin, Paris, Warsaw, London and other European capitals played all of his adversaries simultaneously, moving rapidly from one board to the other and making his plays after lightning calculations.

Throughout the play, Samuel, who is rather an under-sized child for his years and apparently differing in no respect other than in his proficiency on the chess-board from others of his age, was unperturbed in the presence of his opponents, many of whom were gray-bearded senior officers whose after-dinner games at the officers' mess table are noted throughout the service.

Before a gallery which thronged the academy gymnasium, the childish prodigy, clad in a blue suit with knickerbockers and sailor collar, effected his first checkmate after 12 moves which occupied 15 minutes.

His first victim was F. C. Mayer, organist of the school, who is counted one of the most formidable players in the state. Mayer, like those who followed him to the downs, settled his respective pet "systems," got caught in a trap skillfully laid for him by a succession of plays leading to an open formation.

### HOME AND CHILDREN BURN

Four-Year-Old Hero Perishes in Attempt to Save Sister.

MARSHALL, Tex., Nov. 10.—Impoverished by flames, four-year-old Frederic Murphy today sought vainly to save the life of his infant sister, Mary Virginia, 17 months old, and himself perished in the attempt.

The child's heroism was disclosed with the discovery of the two bodies, fearfully burned, in a corner under the bed in a flame-deavored room of the Murphy home today, the little boy hugging his sister closely in his arms.

Mrs. Murphy, returning from a neighbor's home, saw her own residence in flames and suffered critical burns trying to reach her children.

### ADMIRAL HOWARD IS DEAD

Retired Navy Officer Passes Suddenly at Annapolis Home.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Nov. 10.—Rear-Admiral Thomas B. Howard, 86 years of age, United States navy, retired, died suddenly at his apartments here today.

He was found unconscious in the bath tub and died within a few minutes. Death was attributable to heart disease.



### BASEBALL PEACE IN MAJORS LIKELY

Belligerent Clubs Will Confer Today.

### WAR CLOUDS ARE VANISHING

Committee of Minors to Aid in Adjustment.

### LAWYERS ARE BARRED

Owners Expected to Be Able to Patch Differences If "Technicalities" Are Excluded.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Nov. 10.—War clouds tonight were vanishing from the major league baseball situation, with indications favoring a settlement when the belligerent major leaguers meet in a joint session in Chicago Friday, to effect a peace pact.

The national association of minor leaguers, after listening to both sides in the controversy, voted to help avoid a war by agreeing to appoint a committee to act with the major leagues in devising a plan for baseball reorganization.

The 16 clubowners of the two warring leagues agreed to meet in the same room in Chicago and attempt to adjust their differences without the aid of any outsiders. It was agreed that only the clubowners shall attend this meeting and that both President Johnson of the American league, and President Heydler of the National, and others who have participated in recent sessions shall remain away.

**Peace Is Held Possible.**  
Major league leaders pointed out that if lawyers are excluded from the meeting so that no "technical" matters are raised, the threatening war could be quickly settled. The agreement to make a last-minute attempt to avert a baseball war was reached at a meeting of the directors of the American league at noon today, and was one of the results of conferences between the owners of the rival major league factions. The peace news was announced in dramatic fashion in the middle of an address that Guy B. Johnson, owner of the Cincinnati Nationals, was delivering to the minor league meeting.

Mr. Herrmann, ex-chairman of the national conference of the American league in commenting on the joint meeting, issued the following statement:

"The American league has been standing for the principle that a reorganization of baseball should be worked out primarily by a committee composed of representatives from the National league, the American league and the National association. It seems now that such a committee is to be created and that it will have the plan for reorganization. There have been certain points of difference between the two major leagues, which thus far they have not been able to agree upon. It has now been arranged that an informal conference of major league clubowners shall take place. This conference to be limited to clubowners and to be purely informal. The purpose of the conference is to see if the two major leagues may not in some way iron out their points of difference. It is an attempt to see if there can be found some satisfactory basis on which they can harmonize those differences."

**Change Is Not Expected.**  
While the National league clubowners issued no formal statement, most of them took the stand that what already has been done in the advancement of baseball reorganization could not be changed at the conference Friday. This was taken to mean that the selection of Federal Judge Landis of Chicago as chairman of the new board of control at a salary of \$50,000 a year must be accepted by the American league clubowners.

The National leaguers frankly admitted they did not want a 12-club league unless it is forced upon them to organize and that it would be a "joke. Mr. Herrmann made a statement that it would be ridiculous to form a league with two clubs in three cities. Before leaving for Chicago tonight, he declared that he was confident the situation could be adjusted to the satisfaction of all.

**Others Also Make Speeches.**  
After Mr. Herrmann's address, Charles Ebbets of the Brooklyn club, and Barney Dreyfus of the Pittsburgh Nationals, were called upon, and the keynote of all three speeches was harmony. Mr. Herrmann said the 11 clubs which he represented would be willing to meet with a committee of any size from the minors for reorganizing the control of baseball. President Sexton of the National association of Minor Leagues, will appoint the minor league committee tomorrow.

After listening to the pleas of the National league representatives, the school board favors changes in teacher tenure law. Page 12.

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Operators who run their own vessels (Continued on Page 2, Column 2)

EUGENE, Or., Nov. 10.—The large sawmill of the Booth-Kelly Lumber company at Springfield narrowly escaped destruction by fire tonight when the fuel bin of the Mountain States Power company, only a few feet away from the mill, was destroyed.

### POWER COMPANY BLAZE ENDANGERS PLANT AT SPRINGFIELD.

The loss to the power company is about \$8000, according to officials of the company. The origin of the fire is unknown.