

FORTY FEET DEPTH ON COLUMBIA BAR GIVES BATTLESHIPS ROOM

Comparison With Other Possible Naval Base Sites Is Very Favorable.

DEEPER WATER INSIDE BAR

Puget Sound, Its Only Nearby Rival in Depth of Channel, Has Disadvantages That Must Be Considered.

Washington, Nov. 13.—(WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE JOURNAL)—The mouth of the Columbia river, with 40 feet of water over the bar and "more inside," will occupy a favorable position, from the channel standpoint, as a site for a submarine station and for possible development at a later date into a full naval station.

This is shown by comparison with other harbors of the country where navy yards are located, as given by the last available reports of the army board of engineers. Most of the adopted projects for harbors up to the naval stations do not show a greater depth than 25 feet.

Battleships Need Depth.

This lack of depth is something that causes uneasiness just now in proposed expenditures for equipping navy yards for the construction of ships of the line. The increasing size and tonnage of battleships calls for greater depth of water than many of the yards seem able to supply.

Philadelphia, possessor of the League Island navy yard, is exerting herself to secure part of \$5,000,000 appropriated by congress for shipyard improvement. Improvement of the Delaware river to a depth of 30 feet is the "urge" with chief emphasis. This is a recent account from New York and this depth was secured, the League Island yard naturally could not be logically urged for big ship building.

Situation at League Island.

The League Island yard is several miles below Philadelphia, and a project of 35 feet was adopted in 1910. Thirty feet at mean low water is the depth now secured, and there is a tidal variation of about five feet. Rear Admiral Benson, chief of operations of the navy department, is quoted as saying that the reason heretofore given for not improving the Philadelphia yard, lack of water, no longer exists.

When congress set aside \$5,000,000 for equipping yards for battleship construction it made the provision applicable immediately to Boston, Norfolk and Puget sound. Discretion was vested in the secretary of the navy as to similar work being done at Philadelphia, New Orleans and Portsmouth.

Figures in the report of the engineers show that the Boston yard is located on a 25-foot project, which is reduced by shoals to about 22 feet, and is seven and one-half miles from the sea.

The is a completed channel of 25 feet to the Norfolk yard, and a project for that depth adopted in 1910.

Depth of water is not a problem at Puget sound, and this is practically the only harbor where that element does not make the existing yard of doubtful availability. The doubtful element at Puget sound is strategic, and concerns the matter of building ships at a plant where the ships must

pass to sea within range of the guns of a foreign country.

The New York navy yard has one good channel, a project for a 20-foot channel, adopted in 1911, with a tidal range of five feet. The last reports give an actual depth of water of 25 feet at the shoals in this channel.

The Charleston yard has a 20-foot project, also, and a secured depth of 28 feet. This yard, like Boston's, is seven and one-half miles from the sea. The Washington navy yard is located on a 20-foot Potomac river project. The project is completed and there is a usable channel of 21 feet.

Minimum Depth on Bar.

These figures go to show that a navigable channel of 40 feet, either actual or prospective, in approaching a naval station, is a most unusual thing. Some allowances may have to be made at the Columbia river for the fact that the minimum depth is at the bar, where navigation difficulties are greatest, while in most of the other cases the minimum depth is found even should it be in the interior.

Even with an allowance of this sort, the Columbia river stands well up at the head when it is able to proclaim 40 feet at the bar, New York and Puget sound are its rivals in the sense of water depth, but New York, standing in a class by itself, is hardly to be called a rival, and the League Island yard, because of its proximity to foreign territory, has strategic disadvantages that must be considered.

ABNORMAL INCREASES IN PRICES OF FOODS UNDER INVESTIGATION

Washington, Nov. 13.—"Abnormal and suspicious" increases in the prices of various commodities are being investigated by officers of the department of justice, it is announced, and it is likely that these inquiries will within a short time take a sharp turn.

There is growing belief in government circles that not all the increases in prices recently made are justified by economic facts, but are the result of combination and the disposition to take advantage of unusual conditions to demand higher prices. The war abroad is blamed for each advance, from shoes and sugar to coal and cabbage.

The connection between many of these advances and the war is not readily apparent, and even the car shortage does not fill the gap. The pinch has been felt here by an army of government clerks, whose salaries do not readily expand, and find living costs a difficult problem.

Evidence is being sought of conspiracies to boost prices or of other unlawful practices, and federal grand juries in different parts of the country are expected to be on the lookout for testimony that will furnish a basis for prosecutions.

Postmaster at Grass Valley. Washington, Nov. 13.—Albergo M. Bryant has been appointed postmaster at Grass Valley, Sherman county, or, to succeed E. H. Thompson, resigned.

Liner Hits Mud Bank.

New York, Nov. 13.—(U. P.)—The Cunard liner Carpathian, outbound, with about 200 passengers, struck her nose in mud bank off Owl's Head, near the entrance to New York harbor Saturday evening and sent distress calls for tugs to pull her out. There was no danger in the position and passengers exhibited no panic.

UTILITIES BOARD OF NATIONAL CAPITAL IS OBJECT OF ATTACKS

It Has Dawdled Three Years, Doing Nothing to Lower Living Costs, It Is Charged

TELEPHONE RATES CITED

Electric Light, Gas, Streetcar Service Items That Worry Folk Who Live in Washington.

Washington, Nov. 13.—(WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE JOURNAL)—Regulation of public utilities by a government commission in the District of Columbia is reaching an interesting stage. After about three years of life the commission is in the midst of valuation proceedings and also murmurs on the part of citizens who are dissatisfied with the progress it has made.

Some of the citizens' associations are rapping it for not "going after" the telephone company, but there are two street railway companies, each of which controls about half the mileage, and they do not interchange transfers. This is another prolific source of complaint.

Valuations Being Made.

The commission is valuing the plants of the gas, electric and street railway companies. It has done little in the way of regulating rates so far, preferring to wait until its valuations are completed. Congress at the last session went over its head and lowered the gas rate from 35 to 25 cents a thousand feet.

The electric rate is high, as compared with many other cities. The initial rate is 10 cents per kilowatt hour, and the average consumer pays that rate for all he consumes, for the next lower rate of five cents a kilowatt hour is not reached until the consumption goes beyond 20 kilowatt hours.

While the commission has done nothing on the question of ordering an interchange of transfers between the streetcar systems, it recently did make an order restricting all passengers outside of rush hours, and at least seven square feet of floor space for every passenger standing during rush hours.

Ruling Is Ineffective.

This ruling does not particularly affect the situation, as it does not render the company subject to penalty in an individual case, such penalties attaching only when an average on the basis named is not maintained. That is to say, if a passenger in a non-rush hour fails to find a seat, he has no ground for complaint if the company shows from its traffic record that during the non-rush hour period it ran enough cars to furnish a seat for every passenger who rode during that time.

The telephone situation, which is the basis of much of the criticism, has not been touched thus far. There is a large use of pay telephones, and the charge for each is five cents. Many of the "kickers" think the rate should be fixed at 1 cent.

Next in line as the most frequent cause of complaint is the residence rate, which stands at \$4 a month for individual unlimited service, and \$3 a month with a limit of 50 calls per month. The limited service plan is a new device put into effect by the company voluntarily during the present year.

All this indicates that a regulating job like the same in the District of Columbia as it is in the states. The commission's defenders assert that it should be given time to work out its valuations, and thus be sure of its ground. Others say that it has killed off the jitneys and whiled away its time on matters of little concern without making the improvements in service that were reasonably to be expected after a period of three or four years.

Ten Years in Prison; Says Brother Guilty

Prisoner in San Quentin Penitentiary, Sentenced for Murder, Says He is Innocent of the Crime Charged.

San Quentin, Cal., Nov. 12.—(U. P.)—That for 10 years he has been serving a prison sentence for murder he did not commit because of a promise of secrecy made to the real murderer, his brother is the remarkable statement made today by Avalon Cramley, a prisoner at the San Quentin penitentiary. The statement was made only after his brother was dead, and had made a death bed confession that he had killed Joseph W. Fear at Pasadena in 1912.

Cramley's statement was that he had been at the scene of the killing a short time before his brother, in a jealous rage, killed Fear. Afterwards, according to Cramley, he asked his brother if he killed Fear, and the answer was in the affirmative. His brother then asked Avalon to flee as though guilty, hoping to arrange an alibi for himself in the meantime and exchange Avalon's youth for a clear conscience. Instead, Avalon was convicted and sentenced.

Hawaii Unpopular With Postoffice

Officials Call Island Enervating and Hereafter Employes Will Not Be Required to Stay Over Two Months.

San Francisco, Nov. 12.—(I. N. S.)—Hawaii, with its crimson dawns and purple twilights, its wondrous Waikiki beach, its azure sea and other delights, apparently doesn't appeal to certain members of the postoffice department's force. As witness this announcement: "Because of the many protests of officials against being obliged to live in the enervating climate of Hawaii, the position of postoffice inspector there has been abolished. Hereafter, inspectors will be assigned there for special duty of from 30 to 90 days. No one will be obliged to remain there permanently."

Struck by Automobile.

Thomas Mack of the Bay City rooming house, was struck Saturday night by an automobile driven by E. P. Furrer of 693 Sixty-sixth street north. He sustained a fractured shoulder and other injuries of a minor character. He was attended at his lodgings by Dr. Lundquist, assistant city physician.

Asks Wilson to Give Thanks in Colorado

Denver, Colo., Nov. 12.—(I. N. S.)—The Denver Post by telegraph has sent an invitation to President Wilson to come to Colorado for Thanksgiving day for an extraordinary celebration of his reelection, basing its plea on the ground that the west carried the election for the president. All senators, congressmen and governors from each of the states carried by Wilson will also be invited to come here to join in the celebration.

England Has Army Of Working Women

London, Nov. 12.—(I. N. S.)—There are 4,085,000 working women in England. In the past year there has been an increase of about 800,000 in the number of women doing men's work. About half of these are engaged in industrial plants. Nearly 200,000 are farm workers.

Russian Battleship Reported Destroyed

Berlin, via Sarville wireless, Nov. 13.—(U. P.)—From Bulgarian headquarters came reports tending to confirm the already reported destruction of the Russian dreadnaught Imperatritza Maria. A fireman from the warship, landed on the Bulgarian coast, is said to have stated the ship sank near Sulina or Feodosia Island after a mine explosion.

COUNTY COURT NEWS

A petition to probate the will of the late Maurice E. Smith was filed in the county court today by Mrs. Ida Whitcomb, executrix of the estate. Maurice Smith was former door-tender of the Orpheum theatre. He died last May, leaving personal property to the value of \$150, which was bequeathed to Mrs. Whitcomb, in the absence of any heirs.

Owing to necessary repair work on landing slips, the board of county commissioners today ordered the discontinuance of the Burlington ferry for an indefinite period.

When writing or calling on advertisers, please mention The Journal. (Adv.)

Killing the Calves

—All sorts of excuses are offered for the high price of beef, the most plausible being the alleged demand for veal—"the killing of calves which should be allowed to grow into regular beef." You cannot have beef if you eat it as "veal," but you can have Shredded Wheat Biscuit which contains more real nutrition than beef and costs much less. Shredded wheat biscuit is the whole wheat steam-cooked, shredded and baked. Make it your "meat" for ten days and see how much better you feel. Wholesome and strengthening for any meal with milk or cream or in combination with fruits. Made at Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Pine Needles Cause Street Car Collision

Two Men Slightly Hurt in Smash-up at San Francisco—Brakes Fail to Hold on Slippery Tracks.

San Francisco, Nov. 12.—(I. N. S.)—Seven streetcars were in collision in the Ingleside district here yesterday, when their brakes failed to hold the

Knabe Piano

We Announce a Series of Wednesday Afternoon Musical Recitals From 3 to 4 o'clock, Beginning Wednesday, Nov. 15.

—They are to be given with the purpose of acquainting the public with our Piano Store

where we sell and are exclusive agents for the world famous Knabe Piano

The afternoon program of this coming Wednesday will consist of Music Appropriate for Thanksgiving

consisting of numbers rendered at the last Symphony concert.

The Victrola and Grafonola will also be used in completing these weekly musicals.

Request Numbers from Mme. Schumann-Heink's last concert will also be given.

—The Knabe Piano will also participate in the program.

Come and Enjoy This Hour of Music. It is Free to All.

Auditorium, 8th Flr.

Sipman Wolfe & Co Merchandise of Merit Only

Fire Destroys Home, Grocery Building

John Peterson at the Intersection of the Boone's ferry and Palatine Hill roads last night. The loss of the building is estimated at \$2000.

No one was at home at the time of the blaze and the fire companies which were sent outside the city limits on telephone calls from the district were not able to find the owner of the place.

County Court News

A high wind Saturday plied the tracks with pine needles from the nearby Suto forest. When the first car, coming down grade, struck the carpet of needles the wheels, with brakes set, slid on the rails until the car left the track at a turn. When a wrecking car arrived it was unable to stop and crashed into the first car. Before warning could be sent back five other cars had skated down the

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Sipman Wolfe & Co Merchandise of Merit Only

Pictorial Review Patterns Sold Here Exclusively

Sipman Wolfe & Co

Merchandise of Merit Only



For Men Union Suits

In a Winter Weight At \$1.15

—Natural gray worsted, made with patent trouser seat, extra quality — patent spring needle ribbed. —First Floor

These New Bathrobe Blankets

Come Complete With Cord and Tassels and go on sale Tuesday At \$3.50

—Just 100 in this sale and shown in all the most wanted shades and Indian patterns. Sufficient material in each blanket to make a full size robe complete for men and women. —Second Floor

Tuesday We Shall Offer

Three of the Most Popular Models in IN ONE-PIECE DRESSES

Of Fine French Serge and Taffeta Silk At \$14.85

And these dresses of this quality and style are becoming rare each day at such a price. The newest Grecian straight models and plaited effects—effectively trimmed with plush. In black, navy, brown, green and Copenhagen.

These Three Models Illustrated.

—Third Floor

The Newest Heatherbloom Petticoats

These Waters Heatherbloom Petticoats Sold Here Exclusively

Will Solve the Petticoat Question

Look Like Silk—Feel Like Silk—Wear Better Than Silk

Every garment bears the Heatherbloom label. The newest and most original styles, with fitted elastic tops, displayed for the first time in this,

Our Annual Petticoat Sale

At \$1.69

—Two styles in tailored effect, one with pleated and tucked ruffle, the other with flare flounce.

At \$2.50

—One tailored style with deep flare flounce and wide shirring. Also dark figured patterns with rosebud or check designs.

At \$1.98

—Three styles—two in plain colors, and the other in flowered patterns — ruffled or shirred flounces.

At \$2.98-\$3.50

—The most attractive styles ever shown in petticoats — in novelty patterns and colorings with novelty flounces. —Fourth Floor

A Noteworthy Offering Tomorrow Of Two Exceptional Suit Sales For Misses and Small Women On the Fourth Floor

Suits at \$22.50

—Smart simplicity is the charm of these pleated and belted suits, with their fancy pockets, and convertible collars, adding the last word of style. They are of chevots, corduroys and gabardines, in navy blue, new greens, and browns.

Suits at \$27.50

—Modes of youth and dignity, for young women, cleverly fashioned in correct styles. Gabardines, chevots, velours and broadcloths, with the materials, in most wanted colors, for the winter season. Models here suited to the small woman, as well as misses, at this price. —Fourth Floor

Extra Special for One Day Only Ten 50-Piece Dinner Sets

—An exquisite free hand painted border design with full ivory and gold rims.

—Six each dinner, breakfast, bread and butter and Coupe soup plates—six each fruit saucers and tea cups with saucers—one each, 10-inch platter, 12-inch platter, one 8-inch nappy, one 8-inch baker, one sauce boat, sugar and cream pitcher.

Extra Large 50-Piece Assortment \$19.45

For Set Complete. —Sixth Floor

Only 2 More Days

For After Nov. 15 you will have to pay \$45.00 for this most renowned and most satisfactory of all


Sewing Machines THE FREE

Come in Tuesday and Buy One of these Machines at the Old Price \$40.00 and pay for it on our Special Club Plan 5c Down and 5c Additional Each Week

Demonstration Second Floor

New 1917 Wardrobe Trunk Now on Sale

Home & Warmth



Perfection Oil Heater

Ready and glowing at the touch of a match—giving a cheery, odorless warmth. Burns PEARL OIL, the clean, cheap fuel. In blue or white enamel or plain black—harmonizing with the finest surroundings. Dealers everywhere.

Prices: \$3.75 to \$7.75

STANDARD OIL COMPANY
(California)
Portland

Today —and Always



Pilsener

To Consumers: In recommending Pilsener, we sincerely believe that we are offering one of the best drinks on the market of its kind. You'll find it gently stimulating as well as refreshing with no bad after effects. If you try a bottle we know you will be a permanent customer and strong booster.

THE DRINK THAT FITS

FOR SALE EVERYWHERE
Portland Brewing Co.—Both Phones—Portland, Oregon