

# FLIERS TELL OF LEAPS FOR LIFE FROM BALLOONS

## Six Bags With Twelve Men Shot Down by Germans on Inactive Sector

### SIGHT IN AIR IS GRIM

#### British Planes Ascend From Aerodromes to Chase Germans Away

BEHIND THE BRITISH LINES IN FRANCE, Feb. 15.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)—Leaps for life and burning observation balloons when attacked by German airplanes were described by observers of the British Royal Flying Corps to an Associated Press correspondent when he visited one of the camps behind the lines a few days ago.

The camps usually are located just out of range of the howitzer shells, although still well within the range of the German high-velocity naval guns which devote their time to shelling the back areas.

A balloon ascended at the front is never a light undertaking, and on one day recently when the correspondent visited a station in a fairly inactive part of the line, six balloons containing twelve men were shot down by German airplanes, all within sight of one another. One of the German airplanes was downed by anti-aircraft fire from the ground.

It was a day when the visibility was put down on the chart as "good," but there were many white clouds in the sky which offered good cover for the German airplanes.

One of the twelve officers who were compelled to reach terra firma by the parachute route told the story of his trip. "We were perched at 3,500 feet," he said, "and had been up only half an hour when a column of smoke two miles southward attracted our notice. There goes Number Sixteen," said my observer, and we brought our glasses to bear on the scene.

Two white flecks floating earthward told us that two passengers of the balloon had got clear in time. Just then two similar specks appeared suddenly from under another balloon, warning us that the boche was out for a wholesale killing this time. It seemed like a full minute before we saw a third black streak curl up from this second balloon, and the volume of smoke increased as the balloon sank, with ever-gathering momentum, down to earth. Six more white specks now appeared, and, since it was evident that the entire line was being attacked, I gave the order to hand down.

Assension is 3,000 Feet. "At 1,000 feet, I ordered the winch stopped. No more balloons had been attacked, and although ours was now the only one up, I could see British fighting planes ascending from the aerodromes behind us to chase away the enemy. So I decided to venture up again. We ascended to 3,000 feet this time, and soon were at work again.

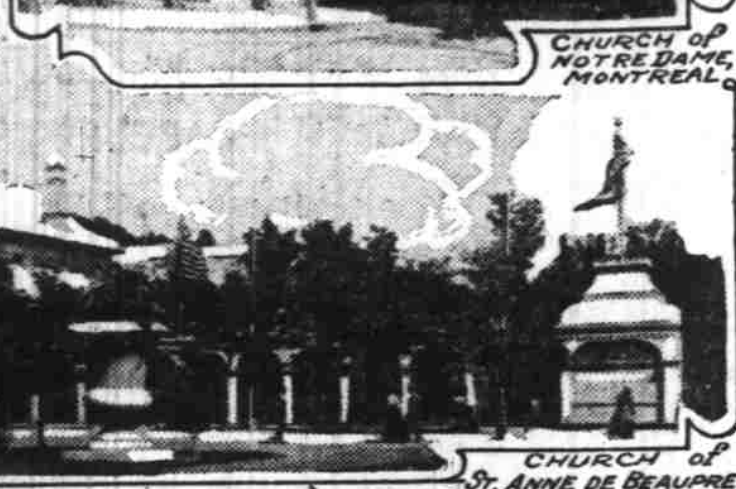
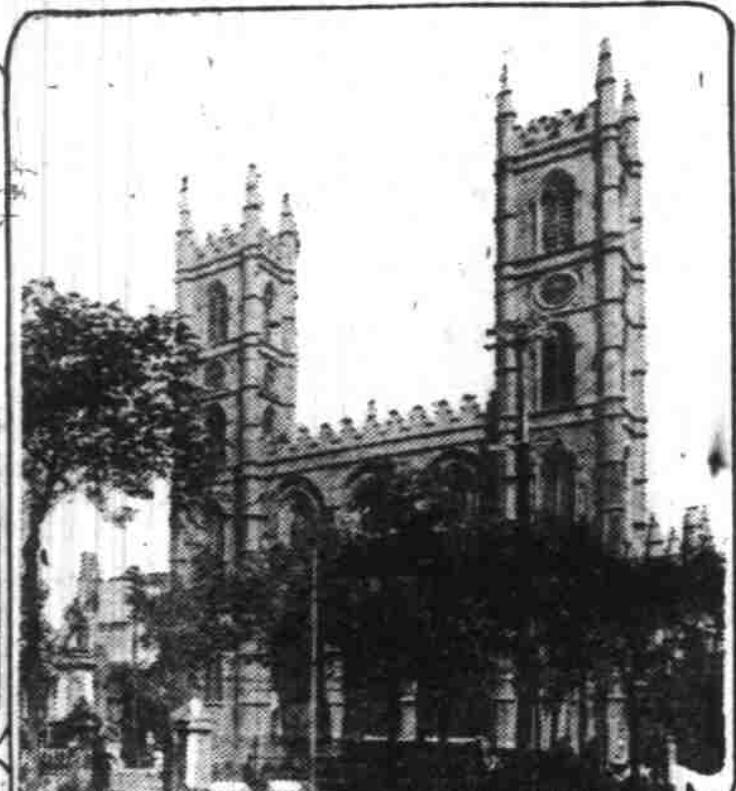
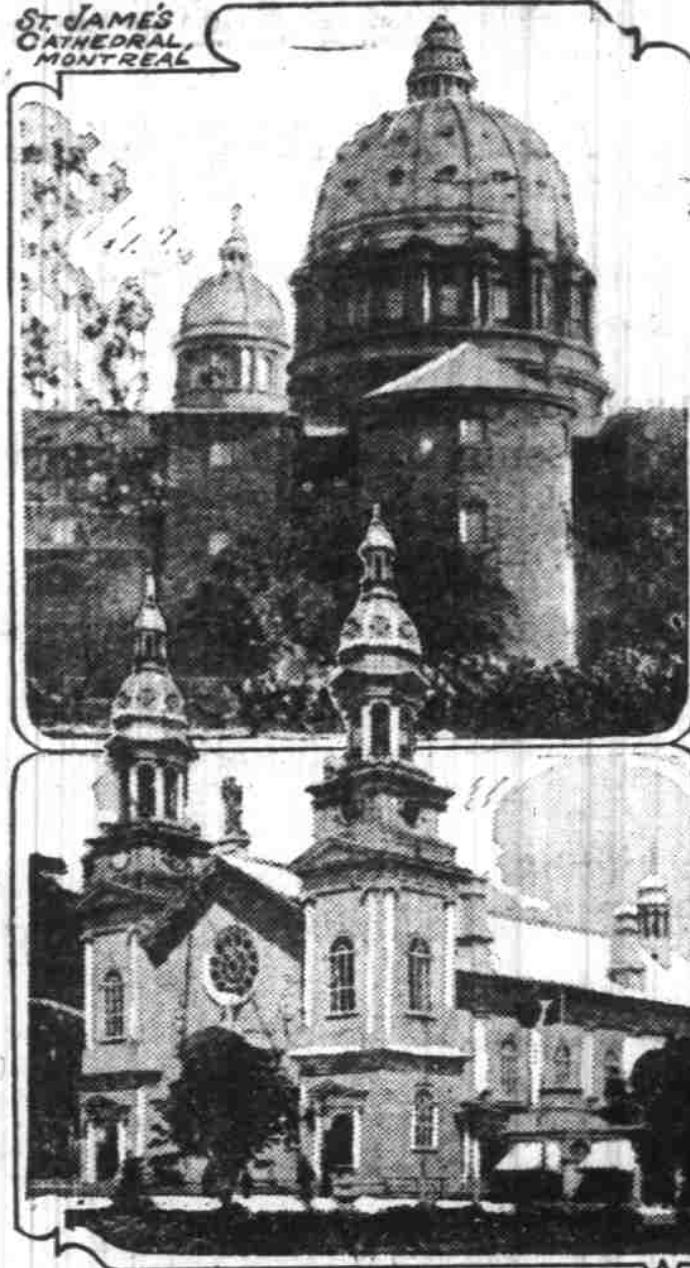
"Then suddenly something happened. It happened swiftly as in a dream. We didn't even see the German Albatross approaching, but our ground officer and his scouts gave us the alarm just a second or two before the hawk was on us. I heard my observer at the telephone, say suddenly, 'What's that? Stand by! Good Heavens.' Then he turned calmly to me and said with a smile, 'Sorry, old man, we must get out at once.' He helped me over the side first, and I had a confused notion that somewhere or other, near at hand, a machine-gun was banging away briskly.

"I dropped, and heard a 'wump' as the parachute left its case. This was the last sensation I attempted to analyze as I felt like a stone for 300 feet. I saw the balloon shoot violently upwards, and then my view was blotted out by a large white umbrella which suddenly appeared above my head, and I realized that the parachute had opened. I didn't look down as I felt my body swaying easily in the breeze. The roar above told me that the Albatross had done its work and the balloon was afloat. You cannot, of course, maneuver a parachute and there is always the possibility of the burning balloon overtaking you and burning your only means of escape.

Albatross Goes Down. "But before I reached the ground,

# PRECIOUS RELICS AND RICH ART TREASURES ARE HOUSED IN THE HISTORICAL CHURCHES OF CANADA

ST. JAMES' CATHEDRAL, MONTREAL



Are you one of those travelers whom the world-war is keeping from Europe? Are you lamenting the destruction of the age-old churches in which you have spent delightful hours in years gone by? Are you aware that just across our northern border in what was once New France—now termed French Canada—there are many churches whose beginnings were co-incident with white man's advent in America, churches with interesting histories?

The city of Montreal is highly favored. First and foremost stands the great Notre Dame Cathedral, a \$2,000,000 edifice built on the site of the original church that was founded in 1658. It has high twin towers famous chimes, rich interior decorations and treasured relics. St. James' Cathedral, near the foot of Mt. Royal, is a small edition of St. Peter's at Rome. It boasts the highest dome in the city and numbers its treasures some wonderful work of Jean Leber's

nineteen years of cloistered life. Notre Dame de Bonsecours embodies in its structure the foundations of the first church of that name, built in 1673. The Jesuit Church and that of our Lady of Lourdes as well as Montreal's many other churches are well worth visiting, but we shall hurry on to Quebec. We shall visit first the Church of Notre Dame de la Paix, so named for the Iroquois peace of 1644. This church may well be called the Westminster Abbey of French Canada, for in it are interred many men and women famous in the history of Canada. It has a wonderfully carved pulpit, beautiful chapels and many precious paintings. Under the floor of the Church of the Ursulines, founded in 1641, rest the bones of the great Montcalm. In a little out-of-the-way square in Lower Town on the site of Champlain's house, stands a plain little church—one with a name that tells a whole story—Notre Dame des Victoires. Up and down

the quaint old streets we wander and in and out of the many churches, each with its own particular attractions, all with dimly lighted, incense laden interiors. Then we must take a run to Tadoussac to visit the Jesuit chapel founded in 1615 and the present structure built in 1748. And last but not least, is the visit to the celebrated Ste. Anne de Beaurive, whither sailors go to pray for safe voyages. History tells us that this miracle-working shrine was founded by some ship-wrecked sailors in 1650. It was a fulfillment of a vow of Ste. Anne, mother of the Virgin, to build a chapel in the event they were saved. Their prayers were answered and Ste. Anne's stands a monument to their faith. Miracles have been happening there for several centuries and streams of pilgrims have been journeying thither all the intervening years. The week of July 26th to August 2nd is the time of the great pilgrimage.

I saw, far in front, the Albatross crashing to earth, minus a wing. She had been hit by a cluster of anti-aircraft shells.

"The next thing I knew was that I was lying in the middle of a ploughed field, while a short distance off I saw my observer coming across toward me.

All twelve of the officers of the wrecked balloons escaped safely on this occasion. They were not always so fortunate. At this same station a few days before an officer was shot and killed while dropping in his parachute. His balloon had been set afire by a German plane, and as usual he and his companion took to their parachutes. They had hardly got clear of the balloon when the attacking airplane swooped down on them, its machine-gun in full pay. One of the officers was killed, and although the other escaped, his parachute was torn by a bullet and several of its cords were cut. Few men have been nearer death and lived to tell the tale.

The balloon commander told the story of an officer who had gone up alone, and whose balloon was shelled when flying at 4,000 feet. On these occasions it is dangerous to haul down, for the position of the winch is thereby given away to the enemy gunners. At last, however, after a cloud of shrapnel smoke had appeared almost under the basket, and no response came down the telephone wire to inquire as to whether everything was all right, the ground officer gave the order to haul down. Ten minutes later the car touched the ground, and the observer was found lying at the bottom of the basket unconscious but unharmed. It was a bad case of shell-shock, from which the officer was several months in recovering.

Observers Burned to Death. A few days ago, at a nearby station, a balloon suddenly caught fire, for no apparent reason. The two observers tried to escape in their parachutes, but the blazing balloon vertoo them, and they were killed. Theories as to the cause of the disaster were numerous, but the one most generally accepted was that the balloon had been fired by an elec-

tric spar from a tunder cloud. The fact that the wire cable had parted near the balloon was said to give support to this theory. It was the parting of this cable which was generally responsible for the death of the observers, because it made impossible the towing of the burning balloon clear of the parachutes. One of the officers at this station was up in a balloon a few days ago when it was shelled and the cable severed. The balloon started at 25 miles an hour for the German lines. The officer had not much time to think. He threw all of his maps and documents overboard and pulled the rip cord. He and the balloon fell about 1,000 yards from the German lines.

## HURRICANE STRIKES SENATE IN DEBATE

(Continued from page 1)

had voted for them." Senator Smoot declared that the Republicans had supported legislation asked by the president, although some of it has been revolutionary and socialistic and in some cases unjustifiable and unnecessary. "No Republican," he asserted, "has sought to secure partisan advantage by calling attention of the country to admitted blunders of the administration."

"No man while occupying the white house," the Utah senator proceeded, "has ever uttered strictures against his political opponents as candidly as President Wilson in his Indianapolis speech."

By speeches and actions in national and local campaigns and by refusal to accept proffered services of "a most capable man" of the opposition party, he said the president has proven his partisanship.

President Wilson's recent letter to Mr. Davies stating the "acid test" of patriotism and his letter to New Jersey Democrats were cited by Senator Smoot as proof of the president's partisan purposes.

## GERMAN EFFORT FAILS

(Continued from page 1)

courageously, but such a continued series of shocks from fresh troops was bound to tell on tired men, and eventually the allies were forced to give way. But they did so still fighting. It is known that one Bavarian division lost fifty per cent of its strength. It was clearly apparent that the German high command rely on this method of sacrifice to break through. The French staff derives considerable satisfaction from the fact that many German divisions were thus put out of the battle line, at least for the period required for their reconstruction and in this way a great part of the German reserve was used up, while the allies merely called upon their immediate reserves. Further powerful attacks are expected but it is difficult to foresee at the moment where these will take place. It may be said, however, that the situation is fully in hand, and the heaviest kind of fighting may be looked for.

Virginia, now the only state prohibiting women from practicing law, has taken legislative action to lift the ban.

## 107,000 ACRES TO BE LEASED

### United States Reclamation Service to Develop Oregon Counties

WASHINGTON, March 27.—(Special to The Statesman.)—The United States reclamation service, department of the interior, is asking for proposals for the lease of about 107,000 acres of public land in Gilliam, Sherman, Wheeler, Jefferson, Wasco and Crook counties, Oregon. This land is now withdrawn from all forms of entry under the reclamation act and is available for temporary lease for agricultural, grazing and pasturage purposes.

The land involved was withdrawn in connection with the Benham falls Big Marsh and Crooked river reservoir sites on Deschutes river, also a fringe of land bordering the Deschutes canyon for a distance of about twenty miles; land withdrawn in connection with the Dayville and Clarno reservoir sites on the John Day river, also a fringe of land bordering the John Day canyon for a distance of about seventy-five miles.

Blank proposals may be had from the project manager, United States reclamation service, Hermiston, Oregon. Bids will be received for the rental of all or part of the land, but no bids will be received for the rental of any of the land for less than \$20 a section per annum. The bids should be accompanied by cashier's or certified check, or money order payable to the special fiscal agent, U. S. R. S., Hermiston, Oregon, for the amount of one year's rental. In the event a satisfactory bid is received, it will be understood that the bidder will enter into a lease with the United States for the term of ten years. All annual rentals must be paid in advance.

The lease may be terminated at any time at the discretion of the United States after six months' written notice, and the lease may be terminated by the lessee at any time with the forfeiture of all money paid to the United States thereon.

All bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes marked "Proposal for lease of public land," not later than 2 p. m. on April 5, 1918.

## Sophomores Are Champions in Interclass Ball Games

The sophomores of the high school defeated the seniors yesterday afternoon in an exciting game of basketball. The score was close, 14 to 12. The lineup: Blumenberg, G., Simms, Hicks, G., Van Osdel, Shepherd, G., Mohney, Schaeffer, P., Springer, Thrapp, F., Berger. Second substituted for Berger in last half. Referee, Gill; timekeepers, Elliott and Smith. This game gives the sophomores the 1918 interclass basketball championship, the seniors having previously defeated the juniors.

# FOOD TENSION IS EXPECTATION

## Transportation System Keeps Germany From Lifting Rations

NEW YORK, March 26.—Possibility of a "severe tension" in the spring regarding certain phases of the food question was indicated by Privy Councillor Von Eynern, of the German state food commission in a discussion of the general food conditions in Germany at a meeting of committees of workmen in the war industries at Barmen, Rhine province, according to the Cologne Gazette of February 4, a copy of which has been received here.

Representatives of the military, state and city authorities were present.

Von Eynern stated that the request of labor that the potato rations be increased to ten pounds weekly could not be granted at that time owing in part to transportation difficulties. He characterized the illegal secret trading in food articles as dangerous and a bill was being drafted providing a penalty for such trading, not fines but terms of imprisonment.

During the general discussion which followed Von Eynern's exposition of the food conditions there was some criticism of the government's food measures. It was especially pointed out that it was impossible to live on seven pounds of potatoes a week. First Lieutenant Meinicke, representing the general command in Minster, asked the audience not to underestimate the difficulties standing in the way of granting the wishes expressed regarding the distribution of potatoes. He said there was no lack of food will on the part of the central authorities to relieve the conditions.

Beginning with April, Von Eynern said, the normal distribution of 1250 grammes, about 4 1/2 ounces, of bread per capita per month would be ordered in the principal industrial cities, as the feeding problem was especially difficult in the spring months. The production of food articles from oats, he said, had been hampered by the short crop of that grain.

The unfavorable fodder crop, said Von Eynern, had also not been without effect on the milt and fat supply. He described the decreases in the stock of cattle as not yet alarming but said it was not possible to decrease it much further without permanent injury, especially as the future supply of milk and butter must be considered.

The fact that it was possible to maintain the fat ration of 70 grammes for all parts of the country was ascribed to the greatly increased production of margarine, which, however, was made possible only by decreasing the supply of fat formerly used for industrial purposes. The speaker called attention to the large reduction in the number of pigs.

## STEEL COMPANY BUSINESS GROWS

### Total Earnings for 1918 \$304,151,471, Decrease of \$38,835,621

NEW YORK, March 27.—Coincident with an announcement of an increase of 15 per cent in the wages of its employees making a total advance of 65 per cent since 1915, the United States Steel corporation today made public its annual report for 1917. This showed a tremendous increase in the volume of business, but a decrease in earnings.

The volume of business for 1917, as represented by combined gross sales and earnings, equaled \$1,683,625,552, an increase of \$452,488,773 over 1916.

After deduction of interest and other charges total earnings, including an estimate of some \$23,000,000 for war and income taxes set aside for 1918, amounted to \$304,151,471, a decrease of \$38,835,621. A balance of earnings is further reduced by other interest charges to \$295,292,150.

Net income in the year of \$244,738,908 shows a decrease of \$43,287,656 and final net income of \$107,505,427 represents a decrease of \$94,330,147, resulting mainly from extra dividends of \$47,017,981 paid on the common stock.

## MONEY LENT TO NEW YORK ROAD

### From Half Billion Dollar Revolving Fund McAdoo Loans \$43,964,000

WASHINGTON, March 27.—As the first big expenditure from the \$500,000,000 railroad administration revolving fund, Director General McAdoo tonight agreed to loan the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad company \$43,964,000 for one year at 6 per cent interest to meet notes of that amount maturing April 15.

The company was granted the right of renewal for one year on the same terms. The railroad administration will take as collateral for the advance a quantity of securities now pledged on the maturing notes, with the right to sell them at any time and only the proceeds on retirement of the notes.

This transaction has been under discussion for several weeks between Director General McAdoo, John Skelton Williams, director of finance for the railroad administration, and of-



## Starts Today "ALIMONY" "The Tie That Burns"

AN AMAZING STORY OF THE DIVORCE TRAFFIC, written by an old court reporter who knows every angle of the game from securing faked evidence by private "detectives" to signing 'em up for the dough.

TELLS HOW THE GRAFTERS HAD A "SUCKER SAFELY HOOKED" AND HOW A GOOD WOMAN UPSET THEIR PLANS

From the opening scene in which Mrs. Bernice Flint, discontented wife, tells her wealthy husband that she married him for his money, and—

"THAT'S WHAT I'M GOING TO COURT FOR—NOT TO PLEAD FOR A FAVOR, BUT TO DEMAND MY RIGHT—ALIMONY!"

to the sensational pistol battle in autos at the close, there isn't a moment's time to think of the high cost of living.

In "Alimony" the story centers about the love of two women for one man. One, losing him, seeks the strangest revenge imaginable—a revenge unique in its fiendishness.

Some revenge—but wait till you see.

"Alimony" is a picture the whole family can see with profit and remember with pleasure.

### Prices Will Not Be Raised

STARTS TODAY

## LIBERTY THEATRE

Officials of the New Haven, whose financial predicament was represented as serious considering the difficulty of floating \$43,000,000 worth of new securities to meet the maturing notes. These securities were issued a year ago at terms which made the interest cost to the New Haven approximately 7 per cent.

## War Aspects Hopetful; Grain Prices Move Up

CHICAGO, March 27.—Hopeful aspects of the war developments did a good deal to bring about higher prices today in grain. Corn closed firm, 3/4 @ 1/2 net higher, with May \$1.25 1/4. In provisions, the finish varied from 5c decline to an equal gain.

Advices from the armies in France continued to dominate the corn pit, and gave prices an upward slant from the outset. In addition, the bull side of the market was favored by knowledge that suspension of the grain priority rule on the railroads would tend to curtail the movement of the corn crop.

Signs of big sales to export interests hoisted oats. Falling off in receipts was looked for and word that seeding was making rapid progress failed to act as an offset.

Provisions averaged a little higher, influenced by the strength of hogs and grain. Buying, however, was only of a scattered character.

## COMPANY M WINS FROM IRISHMEN

### Salem Soldiers Are Now Ready to Take on Kaiser Bill's Gang

A member of Company M, writing to his home folks from "somewhere" in France, tells of two victories of the Salem boys in baseball and soccer. He says:

Company M played a baseball game the other day with another outfit who had many more to choose from, but with the usual happy outcome. Result: M Company, 13; other outfit, 5.

Yesterday the Scotch and Irish contingents of another outfit came over and "invited" us to play them a game of soccer. We had practiced a trifle before, and we went over, accepting the invitation, and managed to trim them, 1 to 0.

Any invitations from the Germans we will accept if possible and trust for similar results when the time comes.

The soccer team lined up as follows: Corporal "Speck" Keene, Corporal Rene Jackson, Pat Bailey, Sergeant "Pet" Peterson, and Sergeant Jake Fuhr were four wins and center.

Pat Gaynard, Sergeant Collins and Sergeant Maurer were the three halfbacks. Cook Plant and Corporal Follock

were the two fullbacks. Sergeant Hendricks was goal keeper. Sergeant "Mike" Van Laanen and Corporal "Hub" Taylor also played.

The baseball team had several of these men, the two Gill boys and others who are not known in old Salem.

If some kindly disposed, philanthropic, patriotic, etc., organization would lay off the ditty bags, etc. and round up a few gits for a couple of baseballs and then procure them and send them, and the subs don't pot them, they would sure be used here, as our last ball is now knocked just about square.

Well, for the love of Barnum, Colonel Hofer and Lydia Pinkham, don't get panicky about the village gossip, and sit tight.

## PRESIDENT AND HEADS CONFER

### Questions Affecting Ship Construction Occupy Weekly Conference

WASHINGTON, March 27.—The second of the weekly conferences between President Wilson and heads of the executive departments, or special war administrations was held today with Secretary Daniels and Acting Secretary of War Crowell added to the list of officials who participated in the conference last week. The heads of the war making branches were called in by the president to discuss questions of industrial production directly affecting their department.

The conference which occupied the entire afternoon was taken up with discussion of problems affecting ship construction and operation, railroad transportation and the harmonizing of industrial production with shipping facilities. No definite decisions were reached, it was said.

Others participating in the conference were Edward N. Hurley, chairman of the shipping board; Barney Baruch, chairman of the war industries board; Secretary McAdoo, Vance McCormick, chairman of the war trade board; Food Administrator Hoover and Fuel Administrator Garfield.

## Relapse Is Suffered by Son of Oregon Governor

Governor Withycombe has received a message that his son, Earl Withycombe, who is in a hospital in Washington, D. C., has developed bronchial pneumonia, following a third surgical operation. He has been critically ill in the hospital for nearly 10 weeks. His first illness was measles, and pluriy developed later.

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