

NEW CITY OFFICERS ELECTED

U. S. MAY FIX REPARATIONS DUE ALLIES

Great Britain and Germany Said Willing to Submit to American Commission Creation.

PLAN IS NOW BEFORE POINCARE OF FRANCE

Officials at Washington Refuse to Discuss Subject—Caution is Used

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—(By the Associated Press)—A plan under which an American commission would determine how much Germany should be required to pay the allies in reparations has emerged from the efforts to find a way for extending American aid toward solution of the economic troubles of Europe.

Although discussions of the proposal have been kept thus far outside the formal channels of diplomacy, the exchange of views developed a thorough understanding in authoritative circles that the United States, Great Britain and Germany are willing to consent to the creation of such a commission.

The plan now is before Premier Poincare of France, and he is expected to make a decision after conferences with industrial leaders of his own country and of Germany. It is assumed that it will be communicated later to all the nations interested in reparation payments.

Officials of the Washington government today refused to discuss the plan for an American commission. Secretary Hughes, however, issued a statement saying that the "government" had presented no "proposal" on the subject.

Distinctions Drawn
The procedure by which all of those directly interested are sounded out before any definite "proposal" is submitted with government authority behind it is the usual method employed in negotiations of great delicacy.

At the state department there was a disposition to draw a sharp line of distinction between the activities of American and other businessmen in regard to the problem and the moves made by government officials themselves. It became clear today however, that the two groups had kept in close touch and that not only Secretary Hughes, but Secretary Hoover and others high in the administration were fully advised of efforts made by President Julius H. Barnes of the chamber of commerce and men in England, France and Germany who hold similar posts in the industrial world to find a formula for solution of the reparations problem.

Moves Kept Secret
Department officials made it plain that they would not be drawn into any departure for the formal terms of the secretary's brief statement which in itself avoided any mention of details. It follows:

"The department of state cannot discuss tentatively proposals which are made to it with respect to the European situation. The report that this government had presented to other governments a proposal for an American course, it...K...I... commission is unfounded. Of course, it follows that no asset of any other government to such a proposal has been received."

Conditions Hoped
In authoritative quarters it was learned today that before the commission's proposal received

MR. SMITH, HE WON THE WORLD WAR

Johnsons, Browns, Williamses and Joneses Helped Him, Says Bulletin

New light is thrown upon the dark enigma of "Who won the war" in a Washington bulletin received today by George A. White, adjutant general of the state. Not Pershing, but Leguene, not Liggett was the great American fighting man, but rather a composite fellow of the name of Smith.

There were two whole fighting divisions of Smiths, the bulletin shows. It has taken the war department a long time, with the aid of many clerks, to count all the members of the Smith family who went to the front against the Kaiser and with the click of the "total" bar on the war department adding machine the result was 55,180.

Mobilized into one force there were enough Smiths for more than a dozen war strength infantry regiments, enough for two combat divisions, nearly enough for an army corps. If the Johnsons and Smiths had been merged there were enough of them to have stopped the Boche on the Marne, for the Johnson family helped the Smiths by sending 41,580 into the fray. The Brown family furnished a whole combat division, artillery trains and all with 29,960, while the Williams family furnished another full division with 28,140 and the Jones contingent went forward with nearly 26,000.

IMPEACHMENT HEARINGS END

Committee Expected to Report No Evidence in Daugherty Trial

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Winding up its public hearings on the Keller charges against Attorney General Daugherty, the house judiciary committee voted today to meet on January four to reach its formal decision and begin preparation of its report to the house. It was regarded as practically certain that the committee would hold that there had been produced no evidence on which impeachment proceedings could be based.

The public sessions today were taken up with the examination of officials and employees of the department of justice in answer to a number of charges made against the Attorney General by Representative Keller, Republican of Minnesota.

Aside from its report on the impeachment charges, the committee has yet to act on the question of what action it may be taken on the refusal of Mr. Keller to obey a subpoena calling upon him to appear for examination under oath as to information upon which he based his allegations against Mr. Daugherty.

CHEER FUND MAY FALL FAR SHORT

Salvation Army Needs More Liberal Response for Winter Relief

The Salvation Army Christmas cheer will fall short unless there is a more liberal response than has come in so far. According to Captain Holbrook the returns so far fall far short of what they were last year. It is the custom of the Salvation Army to collect for both Christmas cheer and winter relief and there has always been a liberal response to the call for the unfortunate but somehow the returns have been a little slack.

The amount of money sent in this year so far are only about half what it was last year. Unless there is more coming in there is going to be more suffering than there has been.

WORLD PARLEY IS SUGGESTED BY SEN. BORAH

International Conference is Believed Necessary to Solve Problems of War-torn Nations.

PLAN IS AMENDMENT TO NAVAL MEASURE

Idaho Man Strong Opposer of League of Nations—Stand is Surprise

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Extensive discussion of international affairs is expected to develop in the senate as a result of a proposal today by Senator Borah, Republican Idaho, for an international conference to consider economic, financial and business problems, including German reparations, as well as reduction of land, sea and aerial armaments.

Offered as Amendment
Senator Borah offered his plan as an amendment to the \$330,000,000 naval appropriation bill which was reported to the senate today for preliminary consideration tomorrow. He proposed that the president be asked to call an international economic and disarmament conference instead of a conference merely to deal with limitation of naval vessels under 10,000 tons and military and naval aircraft as provided in the bill as passed by the house.

Need Held Pressing
In offering his amendment as a substitute for the house provision, Senator Borah declared world economic conditions required immediate action and he proposed that President Harding be authorized and requested "to invite such governments to send representatives to the conference as he should deem necessary and expedient with the object of arriving at understandings or arrangements" looking to the restoration "of trade and establishment of sound financial and business conditions."

To Defer Action
With reference to armaments the Borah amendment includes the house bill's provision as to naval vessels under 10,000 tons and aircraft with its provision for consideration of land and sea armaments.

Senate leaders do not expect the Borah proposal nor the house provision to be reached during tomorrow's consideration of the bill. These and an amendment by Senator King, Democrat, Utah, calling for a land and sea disarmament conference, which is pending, are expected to go over until after the Christmas holidays.

Action Causes Surprise
Senator Borah's amendment caused general surprise, especially in view of his strong position in the past in reference to American participation in European problems. He was one of the strongest opponents of the league of nations and treaty of Versailles, but in his statement today he made it clear that he believed action was needed to solve pressing economic problems affecting American trade.

German reparations, he said, were the "key to the European situation," and he thought his proposed conference might "break the deadlock on that subject."

Markets Seize
"We are traveling in a vicious circle," Senator Borah declared. "We enacted an emergency and also a permanent tariff bill. Nevertheless the cry of distress from the producers of the country is even more piteous than at any time since the war. The farmer can find no markets abroad for his surplus products and without a market for his surplus products it is impossible for him to realize the value of that which he produces."

"We now propose to enact a ship subsidy bill, but there are no cargoes to carry and no markets to supply. If we should give our millions in the way of subsidies it would not open a single wheat market nor supply a single cargo. These things are not produced by subsidies. There are millions of shipping tonnage lying idle."

NOT ALWAYS DO CUPID'S BELLS RING

Some Couples Try to Evade Law—One Swain Applies to Postoffice for Permit

Although Miss Ruth Wallace, deputy county clerk of Marion county, is official purveyor of the life certificates which entitle people to marry, nevertheless she also nips many would-be nuptial knots in the bud, according to the county records.

Under ordinary circumstances Miss Wallace will issue a license to any deserving and properly qualified young man with an honest face, but she is a nemesis to the runaway couple who come to Salem from Portland to avoid publicity. The law rules that the marriage certificate must be issued in the county in which the girl resides. Usually all goes well until the girl, who is either too honest or too ignorant of marriage laws, reveals the fact that she is a resident of another county. When the official book is snapped shut with a bang and the unhappy couple are forced to hunt elsewhere for their license.

"You'd be surprised where people go for licenses," Miss Wallace says. She often keeps the door open after 5 o'clock to accommodate some frenzied couple who have searched everywhere but at the court house for a license. Not long ago she kept the lights burning overtime until one young man could post haste over from the postoffice. He had been hunting a marriage license there.

FIRE RAZES POLK DEPOT

Well Known Chicago Station Now Only Blackened Shell—Loss \$300,000

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—Fire this afternoon destroyed the Dearborn street railroad station, formerly known as the Polk street depot and left eight railroads homeless in Chicago.

The building was valued at \$300,000 but would cost more than \$1,000,000 to replace. Within a little more than half an hour after a traffic policeman saw smoke issuing from the roof, the flames swept through the thirty-eight-year old brick and wood structure, once the pride of railroadmen, and left only a smoke-blackened brick shell behind.

Trains Saved
Hundreds of passengers and 200 men and women clerks fled to safety. Mrs. Hazel Locker, age 26, a woman clerk, fainted and was trampled on by the wild rush of girl clerks from the upper floors. A policeman found her unconscious on the stairs and carried her out.

Postal clerks with motor trucks rescued 150 tons of holiday mail and railroad employees saved all passenger cars in the train shed. The Los Angeles Limited of the Santa Fe, and the Dixie Flyer, crack Chicago-Jacksonville train of the Chicago and Eastern Illinois, were being made up in the sheds when the fire broke out. They were despatched from the yards while firemen were still vainly trying to cope with the blaze.

Pioneer Woodburn Man Dies at Age of 81 Years

WOODBURN, Dec. 21.—James A. Austin, pioneer merchant of Woodburn, died Thursday night at his home here. He was 81 years of age and came to Oregon in 1839 from his home in Minnesota. He was born in Monroe, Wis., in 1842. Besides his widow he is survived by five children and several grandchildren. His sons are A. E. Austin and Harold Austin, Woodburn merchants; Lloyd Austin, Pasadena, Cal.; Miss Laura Austin, who returned a year ago to India where she is a missionary, and Mrs. W. B. Cornutt of Portland. Miss Ruth Austin, member of the Capital Journal staff, is a granddaughter. Mr. Austin was a member of the Methodist church and of the A. O. U. W.

DISPUTES AT EAST PARLEY THREATENING

Session is Adjourned When Greeks and Turks Start Fracas Over Asia-Minor Controversies.

BLAME FOR DEFEAT PUT ON VENIZELOS

Moslems Declared Mistreated and Forbidden to Leave Crete Area

LAUSANNE, Dec. 21.—(By the Associated Press.)—A stirring altercation occurred at a meeting of the sub-committee on minorities today between the former Greek premier, Venizelos, and the Turkish delegate, Risaia Nur Bey. The dispute arose over the question of responsibility for deportations in Asia-Minor and was so violent that it became necessary to adjourn the session.

Venizelos Blamed
According to spokesmen of the Turkish delegation, Risaia Nur Bey declared that the Greek army was not so much responsible for the recent military disaster as was Venizelos himself, because it was Venizelos who had inaugurated the idea of a "military invasion of Anatolia." Risaia affirmed that in his opinion the Greek ministers who were recently executed at Athens were in all probability entirely innocent of deceiving the Greek people because the real father of Asia-Minor campaign was Venizelos.

The Italian chairman of the sub-committee, Signor Montagna had previously warned both the Turkish and Greek delegates that references to massacres and cruelties must henceforth be avoided, but the Turks alleged, Venizelos today refused to obey this injunction. Another indication that feeling is running high between the Turks and the Greeks was found in a communique which the Turkish delegation issued later, declaring that recent advices from Angora prove that the Greeks are confiscating all the farms belonging to Moslems in Crete and that the Moslems in the hills, fearing massacre, have fled to the cities and are dying of hunger.

"Every day more than 20 Moslems are lying either through massacre or hunger," said the communique, "and Moslems generally are forbidden to leave Crete." The Turks also allege mistreatment of the Moslems in Mytilene.

Lord Curzon, M. Barrere and the Marquis di Gironi held an important conference tonight in an endeavor to straighten out the difficulties over the straits control. The Turks are insisting strongly that the international commissions shall have no jurisdiction over such matters as the lighthouses and plotting in the straits, and especially shall have nothing to do with the demilitarization of the zones.

GRAND DAUGHTER SHOT, KILLS SELF

Man Responsible for Accidental Death, Found Suicide Beside Grave

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Six months ago Ernest Fuchs accidentally shot and killed his six-year-old grand daughter, Emma Fuchs. The little girl had dressed as a gypsy, and Fuchs, counterfeiting fear of the strangely costumed mite, had playfully pointed a pistol at her. Today Fuchs was found dead on the grave of his grand daughter, a bullet through his temple; a pistol, one cartridge gone, beside him. Charles Fuchs, son of one and father of the other, found the body. He reported that his father had been moody and thoughtful since last summer's tragedy.

SHAKE-UP OCCURS IN POLICE FORCE AND 6 NEW MEN ADDED TO SALEM FIRE DEPARTMENT

POLICE SEEK WEIR'S SON

Helen Leary, waitress, Says Boy Admitted Body Was Sunk in Willamette

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 21.—Every lead visible was being followed tonight by police detectives in an effort to establish the truth or falsity of the story told them last night by Mrs. Helen Leary, a waitress who said that she had seen Cash Weir, a 62-year-old boatman, attack and murder a 15-year-old girl on a houseboat last September and had then seen Weir and his son, Earl Weir, take the body away in a launch.

Young Weir Sought
The officers were concentrating their efforts in the search for Weir was said to be on a boat trip down the Columbia river. Their object is to find out whether Earl Weir will back his father's denial of the charges made by Mrs. Leary and to learn whether he himself is implicated in the murder, if there was a murder.

Mrs. Leary repeated her story several times today without substantial variation, saying that she had gone to the houseboat in search of Earl Weir, with whom she had been keeping company; that she heard voices inside and peered through a knothole to discover Cash Weir and a girl struggling on a bed; that the girl became quiet finally and that when Earl Weir returned later he and his father made futile efforts to revive her, finally taking her body away in a launch.

Admits Body Sunk
Later, Mrs. Leary declared, Earl Weir had admitted to her that the girl's body had been weighted and sunk in the river.

CHRISTMAS IS MUCH OBSERVED

Special Services Announced by Many Churches for Yuletide Season

Christmas programs in the different churches with special services for the holiday are rapidly taking form. A few were given early and others will not be given until Christmas eve.

The Sunday school of the First Congregational church will give a special musical and literary program tonight at 7:30 at the church. H. M. Mead, superintendent, is in charge. A tree with a visit from Santa Claus will enliven the church for a short time at least.

Christmas will be observed at the Unitarian church Saturday evening with a program in Channing hall. The Unity club is in charge. A playlet, "Christmas in Rhymeland," will be given during the evening. Special numbers will be contributed by Louise Fershetian, Helen Pollack, Arabella Kubin, Francis Huston, LaVerne Kubin and Marjorie Taylor.

Those taking part in the play are Rose Huston, Truth Huston, Gerald Kubin, G. Goodrich, Mable Goodrich, Olive Goodrich, Virgil Kubin and Frederika Carlton. Those in charge state that Santa Claus has given assurance that he will be present some time during the evening.

The First Christian church will enjoy a Christmas pageant, "The Adoration," Sunday evening. Special musical numbers with chorus numbers and a sermon by the pastor, Rev. J. J. Evans, will be part of the evening's program. The South Salem Friends church will have a musical program featuring solo and chorus numbers. A male quartet will also sing. St. Joseph's Catholic church will begin with midnight mass

Police Matron Eisaman Dropped and Mrs. Blanche Coe Elected—Night Sergeant Davis and Day Sergeant Elmer White Lose Jobs—Engineer's Post Causes Contest—Rosebraugh on Council

CITY OFFICERS ELECTED LAST NIGHT

Chief of police, W. W. Birtchett. Chief of fire department, Harry Hutton. City attorney, Ray Smith. City Street Commissioner, Walter S. Low. City Engineer, Hugh Rogers. City Health Officer, Dr. Mary Rowland. City Plumbing Inspector, Batty Cooper. Member of park board, Homer H. Smith. Alderman for second ward to take place of Fred Kirkwood who moved away from the ward, W. W. Rosebraugh.

With the exception of strong competition for the office of city engineer, no contests developed for the various city offices at a caucus of the new Salem council last night, as far as the voting for the aldermen was concerned, though there were opposing candidates for a number of offices. The caucus was called by Mayor-elect John B. Giesey.

W. W. Birtchett, who was elected chief of police on November 7 over Verden Moffitt, incumbent, was appointed by the council last night under the new charter amendment adopted on November 7 whereby the office becomes appointive instead of elective.

The caucus last night unanimously followed the recommendations of Chief-elect Birtchett and Fire Chief Harry Hutton to the letter in the naming of members of the police and fire departments. This results in some shake-up in the police department by the dropping of Mrs. Elsie Eisaman, police matron, and the election of Mrs. Blanche Coe in her place. Also Ralph Davis, night sergeant, and Elmer White, day sergeant are dropped.

Mrs. Coe Experienced
The members of the police department elected last night, on recommendation of Chief-elect Birtchett, are O. F. Victor, Walter Thompson, George White, Troy Branson, Marion Putnam, Frank Minto, W. Edwards, Rol and Parrent, F. Shelton and Mrs. Blanche Coe as matron. Minto and Edwards and Mrs. Coe are the new members.

Mrs. Coe has made her home in Salem for many years. However, she is a teacher and has held positions elsewhere many times. During the war she served two years as city and county matron at Astoria and has high recommendations from Astoria and Clatsop county officials. She formerly was principal of the junior high school at Silverton.

New Engine Makes Difference
The city budget provides for 10 members of the department, but it was the opinion of the aldermen that nine will be sufficient for the present. Chief Birtchett will later decide who his sergeants will be.

The members of the fire department as elected last night, in addition to the chief, are W. H. Phillips, William Iwan, F. Friebert, C. Thrapp, B. Faught, B. Mills, E. Savage, R. Gomer, W. Eberhard, H. Savage, C. Dixon, R. Knighton, W. Edwards, D. Johnson, W. Lindsay, F. Baggett, D. Ellis, W. Hunt and C. Lindley. The last six named are new additional men, made necessary by the purchase of the new fire engine that is soon to arrive. W. Edwards, chosen for the fire department, and W. Edwards, named for the police force, are twin brothers.

Four Re-Elected
Fire Chief Hutton, City Attorney Smith, Street Commissioner Low and City Engineer Rogers are all re-elected. Dr. C. E. Cashatt, present city health officer, did not want the place again, and Mrs. Dr. Rowland was the unanimous choice for the position. Batty Cooper as plumbing inspector, succeeds J. N. Skaffit.

A spirited contest of ballots developed for city engineer, Rogers, the incumbent, an engineer named Neet who is connected with the state highway department, and

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How Would You Spend \$50.00 for Christmas?
Salem's Leading Merchants
Are going to help you solve this problem, and earn the \$50.00.
For the solution see page 3 First Section

THE WEATHER

OREGON: Friday, fair except probably rain in northwest portion.
LOCAL WEATHER (Thursday)
Maximum temperature, 48. Minimum temperature, 36. River, 5 feet above normal; rising.
Rainfall, .02 inch. Atmosphere, partly cloudy. Wind, south.

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