

FRANCE WOULD RATIFY NAVAL ARRANGEMENT

Chamber Said Practically Agreed on Recommendation to Foreign Affairs Commission.

SENATE TAKES NO ACTION ON QUESTION

Borah Sees New Ship Building Race Imminent—Urges World Conflagration

PARIS, Dec. 22.—(By the Associated Press.)—The French government today committed itself through a recommendation made to the foreign affairs commission of the chamber of deputies by Premier Poincare, to stand fall on the question of ratification of the Washington naval arrangement.

Chamber Would Ratify Aristide Briand, former premier, seconded the stand of M. Poincare on the question, which also embraced the four-power treaty as amended in the United States senate by Senator Brandegee of Connecticut. The premier declared that the reservation of Mr. Brandegee would in no way "entail military participation."

That the chamber was practically agreed upon ratification was shown when M. Briand, leader of the left, and Andre Tardieu, head of the Clementists, both announced their support of the premier in his attempt to put the treaties through.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Extension of naval disarmament among world powers was discussed in the senate for several hours today but without action, and a virtual adjournment was taken over Christmas. A brief session will be held tomorrow under a "gentlemen's agreement," reached yesterday to meet and adjourn until Wednesday.

Borah Wants Conference The calling of an international conference to curtail construction of naval vessels of less than 10,000 tons and aircraft not covered by the Washington armament conference agreement was urged by Senator Borah, Republican Idaho. He deferred discussion, however, of his amendment to the naval appropriation bill, requesting the president to call an international conference to deal with economic problems and with land and sea armaments.

Tax Reduction Scouted Senator Poindexter, Republican, Washington, in charge of the naval bill, which was given temporary right of way over the administration shipping bill, declared the provision in the bill, as passed by the house, proposing a conference on limitation of small vessels and aircraft was designed to correct the conditions emphasized by Senator Borah. He agreed that competition was reported between naval powers in armaments not covered by the recent arms conference naval limitation treaty.

Senators Poindexter and Stanley, Democrat, Kentucky, declared substantial tax reductions would not be brought about even by abolishing the navy. Senator Stanley said the insistent demand for lower taxes might be met in part by abolishing useless government commissions and boards. Among them, he said, was the railway labor board which he described as a "political enchanter" without power to enforce its decisions.

BEAN TO BE STATE HEAD NEXT WEEK

Ritner to be Out of State and Eugene Man Will Serve as Governor of Oregon

Oregon will have another governor Monday and Tuesday of next week. Under the constitution of the state he is entitled to be called governor, and does not have to be satisfied with a title of "acting governor." He will be L. E. Bean of Eugene, who attains to the position by virtue of his having been speaker of the house at the last session of the legislature.

The succession under the constitution, in event of the inability of the regular governor to serve, is first to the president of the state senate and then to the speaker of the house.

During the last month Governor Olcott has been away and Roy Ritner, president of the senate, has been governor. Ritner will leave tomorrow for his home in Pendleton and Sunday night will leave for Garfield, Wash., to spend Christmas with relatives. He will return to Salem later in the week for a meeting of the state emergency board of which both he and Mr. Bean are members by virtue of their positions in the legislature. While Bean will be governor Monday and Tuesday, he informed Ritner yesterday that he will perform the duties of the office by long distance from Eugene unless something comes up so urgent that his presence in Salem is necessary.

Should Mr. Bean for any reason be unable to serve during Ritner's absence Oregon would have no governor, for the succession extends no further. Governor Olcott is expected to return during holiday week.

HERRIN CASE OPENS AGAIN

Testimony Presented by Defense as to Shooting of First Union Miner

MARION, Ill., Dec. 22.—(By the Associated Press.)—The killing of the first of the union miners slain during the Herrin riots was described today by Edward Crenshaw, one of the first witnesses for the defense at the trial of five men charged with murder in connection with the slaying of 20 non-union workers during the outbreaks.

The defense began introducing its testimony at the opening of the morning session. Stock is Killed A number of the first witnesses called testified that the territory surrounding the mine was peaceful and quiet until union workers had been discharged and non-union men and armed guards sent into the pit by the coal company.

Several witnesses testified that the guards had gone up and down the public highway near the mine in a motor truck, each one carrying two pistols and a rifle, that they held up and searched peaceful travelers, shouted at women and warned everyone to stay off the road after sundown.

Other witnesses told of hiding in their cellars when the shooting began at the mine between 1:30 and 2 p. m. the afternoon of June 21 and after having their stock killed by shots from the mine.

Secs Miner Shot It was during this shooting that Edward C. Crenshaw who testified that he was a former union miner and had lived a half mile from the Lester mine all his life, said he saw the shooting of Jarly Henderson, the first union man killed.

Crenshaw said he was standing in front of his home when he saw Henderson, who was unarmed. Bullets began to come from the direction of the mine. "Did you see any one shot?" "Yes; they said his name was Henderson and he fell about 100 yards from my house. He must have been killed instantly."

The cross examination of Mr. Crenshaw was postponed until tomorrow.

WANT NEW ELECTION

VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 22.—Petition for a new election to choose a mayor for this city was filed in supreme court today on behalf of L. D. Taylor. Major C. E. Tisdell was declared elected in voting December 13. Mr. Taylor, former mayor, asserts that, some citizens voted twice and that other irregularities occurred.

REPARATIONS SITUATION IS KEPT SECRET

No Denials Made of Commission Project—Authorities Would Disclaim Government Aid.

PROPOSAL WILL BE PRACTICAL, IS CLAIM

Plan First Suggested by Officials of Chamber of Commerce of U. S.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(By the Associated Press.)—The situation relative to extension of American aid toward an European reparations settlement continued today to present a badly clouded picture on which little light was thrown from any quarter.

American officials reiterated their denials of government backing at the present stage for the American commission plan sponsored by commercial leaders and various published statements regarding the direction in which American official opinion was tending.

No Denial But there was no clear-cut denial that high officials in Washington had discussed the commission proposal earnestly among themselves and with others and no one attempted to give the impression that the United States government would be displeased should the discussion now in progress result in any agreement.

In all of their negative comment on the subject, state department authorities seemed most anxious to deny that the government itself, despite the close touch it is maintaining with the situation, was in any way a party at the present time to the plan for a survey commission, suggested first in this country by officials of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States.

Prediction Offered The only inkling as to the hopes of the American government in its efforts to find a way to a reparations settlement was a prediction made today that if it ever became possible to announce any official plan, it would be found to be a very practical proposal, lacking in any sensational quality. Anything that is being done officially in the way of getting a clear understanding of the governmental attitudes abroad, it was indicated, was aimed at such a conception of the problem to be solved.

NEW ADDITION ALL PAID FOR

Fred Erixon, Who Has Been Working it Three Years, Is Feeling Elated

Aha! Who's this gentleman stalking down the street with a trigger smile broader than Santa Claus ever wore, with his chin in the air and a general air of "We won't" sticking out all over him? It is Fred Erixon, and he has something to smile about. His Highway addition is bought and paid for, and he has the deeds in his pocket. What looks like a puff chest is the roll of papers and receipts, every nickel paid for and the new road ready to deed over to the city.

The two deeds from the original landowners were taken up Friday, the money being paid over and the property now being ready for re-deed to its new owners. This will be done as soon as the plans can be officially approved. They have to go through a rather elaborate series of examinations: the county assessor, the city engineer, the city council, and the county commissioners. But all these are matters of clerical form mostly. The road plats and dedications are ready to file and deed over to the public, and when that is done the matter will be settled.

Mr. Erixon has worked on this road-opening for three years, and he feels that now he has earned the right to crow a bit, or at least to take a good long breath and call the finish his Christmas gift to the city of Salem and the traveling public at large.

BANDIT GOES TO HOLD-UPS WITH DRIVER

Prevails on Groceryman to Take Him to Store—in Wagon—Then Robs Till

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Dec. 22.—An armed bandit, believed to be the robber who recently compelled a local station agent to accompany him on a series of holdups, tonight jumped beside the driver of a grocery wagon, drawn up at a private house, had himself driven to a local grocery store and there held up the proprietor and several Christmas shoppers. He secured \$25 in cash, ordered the delivery driver to accompany him from the store, forcing him to drive to the edge of the city where he alighted and fled.

STATE WARDS GIVE PROGRAM

Pleasing Performance Given by Inmates of Feeble-minded School

"Santa Claus & Co." a Christmas cantata, was presented three evenings in succession this week at the Oregon School for the Feeble-Minded. Wednesday night it was for the custodial children, those of submerged mentality that makes them hopeless in the social scale. Thursday was devoted to the school children of the institution, of whom there are close to 250 in all and Friday night was for the visitors and friends.

It was a delightful presentation. The chorus singing was remarkably good—the Statesman representative does not know of having heard better, if as good, anywhere in Salem in years. Tendered by the children. The average mental age of the 38 who took part was under 9 years, though their actual calendar ages reached up to 18 years. There was not a hitch in the performance anywhere. The dances of the fairies and their choruses were altogether creditable.

Duplicated in Massachusetts The program is almost exactly what was given at the Massachusetts state home for the feeble-minded, in fact the whole week's program in Massachusetts was an exact duplicate of the Salem school offerings for the week, except that the Bay State people have turkey for Christmas dinner, while the Oregonians have real Webfoot meat—roast goose.

There are more than 700 inmates in the school or home, or hospital, with about 250 of school age who are capable of being made measurably self supporting. Some are there who are past the student age, and these are retained as farm help. They are not capable of self support of their own volition. The greatest pity of all are the hundreds of total losses. These were not brought out for the visitors to see—pitiful wrecks and caricatures of people who will never improve, and whose passing would be almost a Christmas gift to their friends and to themselves. The Christmas cantata was presented.

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CATHOLICS SEE FIREBUG PLOTS

Series of Blazes Which Have Swept Canada Recently Believed Set

QUEBEC, Dec. 22.—The series of fires which have swept Catholic institutions in Canada recently, culminating early today in destruction of the historic \$1,000,000 Notre Dame church, was brought to the attention of the provincial legislature this afternoon with the suggestion that all might be the work of incendiaries.

A short circuit in the electrical wiring was first held accountable for today's blaze, but later, Monsignor La Flamme, curate of Notre Dame, presented to Daniel Lorraine, chief of provincial police, the following letter, postmarked in Montreal: "I will burn your church down on December 28."

Suspicious strangers also were reported to have been seen prowling around the church.

WOULD SEND INFANT VIA PARCEL POST

Mother Leaves Baby in Market Sack—Postal Employees Dump in Mail Sack

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 22.—Amid the hustle and bustle of shoppers in the main postoffice today came the cries of a mother for her lost infant.

While the mother was addressing Christmas packages at a table in the lobby, she placed the child in a market basket, which she placed under a table. Her packages ready to be mailed, she looked for the babe. It had disappeared. The basket, with its contents, had been picked up by a postoffice employee and thrown into a mail sack. Cries from the child as the sack was about to be placed on a mail truck led to its discovery. The woman refused to divulge her identity.

LAKE VICTIMS MISSING MEN

Relatives and Friends Identify Bound Bodies As Daniels and Richards

MER ROUGE, La., Dec. 22.—Relatives and friends late today partially identified the bodies of two wire-bound men cast up today by La Fourche lake, as Watt Daniels and Thomas Richards, missing since kidnapped by hooded men four months ago. It was reported here tonight. Buckles and bits of clothing were said to have been recognized by several who viewed the bodies.

More Guards Arrive

The bodies were late today placed by the coroner of Morehouse into the hands of A. E. Farland, chief investigator of the department of justice and brought here tonight under military guard to await the arrival of a pathologist from New Orleans who will determine whether the men were killed before being bound and thrown into the water or whether they were thrown in alive and drowned.

The coroner announced an inquest will be held here. Fifty additional members of the Monroe national guard, ordered out this morning into this town tonight.

DEADLY FIRE IS FOUND IN SWAMP

Fumes Kill One and Seriously Threaten Family of 5—Gas Responsible

ELMIRA, N. Y., Dec. 22.—One man is dead and an entire family of five is seriously ill and many others are affected by what chemists and local health officials declare to be monoxide gas, produced from a smoldering fire in an old swamp in the heart of the residence section of the village of Sayre, Penna., near here. Expert chemists and mine experts have been sent for in an effort to locate and extinguish the deadly fire.

Robert A. Decker died late today after attending physicians said he had been poisoned by monoxide gas. The Decker home, where five persons are dangerously ill, has been closed to all but officials.

Willamette Professor and Former Student to Wed

The announcement of the engagement of Miss Estelle Satchell and Prof. Robert M. Gatske was made last night at a pretty Christmas party given at the home of Miss Helen Pearce. Miss Satchell is a graduate of Willamette university and has been teaching near her home at Shedd.

Professor Gatske is an assistant in the history department of Willamette university and is popular among university faculty folks.

The date of the wedding has not been announced, but it will likely be an event of early spring or summer. Willamette faculty members, students and friends of the couple were included in the guest list of the Christmas party last night. The announcement came as a surprise to the guests.

SENATE LOOKS INTO AFFAIRS OF OIL KINGS

Identity of Larger Stockholders of Prairie and Standard Companies Are Investigated.

ROCKEFELLER POWER IN BOTH CONCERNS

Crude Petroleum Declared to Have Reached Peak—Must Import Soon

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Affairs of two oil companies, the Prairie Oil and Gas company and the Standard Oil of New York, were delved into today by the senate oil investigating committee with the respective presidents of the two corporations, James E. O'Neill and H. C. Folger as the principal witnesses.

John D. Is Power Inquiry into the identity of the larger stockholders of the two concerns was pursued at length through questions by G. E. Roe, attorney for the committee and brought from Mr. O'Neill that eight interests owned 37 per cent of the stock of the company and from Mr. Folger that four interests held approximately 35 per cent of his corporation's stock.

Mr. O'Neill gave the eight principal stockholders of the Prairie Oil and Gas company with the percentage of their holdings to the total outstanding stock as Edward S. Harkness, 3 per cent; Northern Finance corporation, 4 per cent; John D. Rockefeller, Jr., 12 per cent; A. M. Harkness, 3 per cent; trustees of the Henry H. Houston estate, a little more than 1 per cent; General Educational board, about 8 per cent; Laura Spellman Rockefeller memorial, 3 per cent, and the Rockefeller Institute of Medical Research, 4 per cent.

Price Said Natural The larger stockholders of the Standard Oil company of New York with the percentage of their holdings as compared to the entire outstanding stock were given by Mr. Folger as John D. Rockefeller, 25 per cent; A. M. Harkness, about 3 per cent; Edward S. Harkness, 3 per cent, and the Northern Finance corporation 4 per cent.

Mr. O'Neill was questioned closely by the committee attorney and also by Chairman LaFollette as to the reason that prices for the crude oil posted in the mid-continent field by the five leading buying companies had risen and fallen almost simultaneously during 1921 and 1922, but declared that it could not be considered unusual and was a natural process. He asserted emphatically several times that the rise and fall of prices was not preceded by any conference between the com-

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MAY FIND LABBEE GUILTY OF MURDER

Mrs. Odessa Wright Dies, Bullet in Brain to Be Examined for Slayer

YAKIMA, Wash., Dec. 22.—Mrs. Odessa Wright, widow of L. A. Wright, for whose killing Claude A. Labbee was acquitted last month, died at St. Elizabeth's hospital tonight as the result of wounds which she received during an alleged gun battle between her husband and Labbee last June.

Labbee is in the county jail charged with first degree assault, the warrant for his arrest alleging he fired the shots which produced her injuries. A post-mortem will be held tomorrow morning at which two fragments of a bullet imbedded in the tissues of her brain will be recovered. If the calibre of the pellets of lead aggregates 25 of an inch, Labbee will be charged with first degree murder, according to Sydney Livezey, prosecutor tonight. If of .32 calibre, Labbee will be given his freedom, the prosecutor indicated.

Mr. Livezey tonight stated if the bullet is of the larger size it will indicate it was from the weapon used by Mrs. Wright's husband and that her wounds were inflicted by Wright accidentally as he attempted to shoot Labbee.

FOXY JUDGE FOOL-PROOF, INVESTIGATES

Attorney Represents Pardon-ed Man's Family as Des-titute—Well Provided For

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 22.—After federal Judge J. W. Wooddrough pardoned Sam Nanfito, serving three months for violating the national prohibition act, he decided to verify for himself the representations made by Nanfito's attorney that Nanfito's wife was dying and numerous little children were crying for bread.

Call a taxi, the federal judge cast judicial dignity aside and hastened to the home of Nanfito. He found the newly freed Sam in the bosom of his family and the family by no means in the poverty stricken condition, or illness, described by the attorney. "I am sorry, Sam," the judge said, "but I have been misinformed about your family. You can stay for Christmas, but you must go back to jail January 2."

M'NARY PROPERTY IS REPORTED SOLD

Court and Liberty Street Corner Taken by Owl Drug Company, Rumor

A report became current late yesterday that the McNary property at Court and Liberty streets now occupied by the Stiff second hand department, has been sold by John McNary, for many years the owner, to the Owl Drug company, a coast-wide concern. Mr. McNary could not be located last night for a confirmation of the report.

The property is one of the best corners in the Salem business district. If the deal has been made it is presumed the Owl Drug company will erect a new building on the property and establish a business there.

PIERCE PROMISES FARM BETTERMENT

Governor-Elect Talks Before Convention of Oregon-Idaho Farmers

LEBANON, Ore., Dec. 22.—At the convention of the Farmers' Union for Oregon and Southern Idaho today the following officers were elected:

President, Herbert Eggett, The Dalles; vice president, A. G. Rempel, Dallas; secretary treasurer, Mrs. G. B. Jones, Monmouth; executive board, A. R. Shumway, Milton; H. C. Jackson, Eugene and Frank S. Miles, Dufur.

Governor elect Walter M. Pierce was the chief speaker before the convention at tonight's session. He promised that as governor he would use every means at his command to better the condition of the farmers.

EMERGENCY BOARD WILL BE CALLED

Funds Must be Provided to Pay National Guard Expenses at Astoria

A meeting of the state emergency board will be called, probably Thursday of the coming week, to provide funds to pay the expenses of the Oregon national guard in providing meals for the fire-stricken residents of Astoria.

About \$2000 will be needed, according to an estimate of George A. White, adjutant general. Had it not been for this emergency the national guard department would have gone through the biennial period between legislatures without a deficit, but the emergency provision is now made necessary.

PEN WARDEN ILL

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Dec. 22.—Warden John V. Pace, head of the state penitentiary here is seriously ill at his home, according to announcement made tonight by his secretary. He was said to be suffering from asthma.

TURKS IN BAD HUMOR. PARLEY MAY COLLAPSE

Moslems Disagree to Everything Brought up—Air of General Dissatisfaction is Evident.

DELEGATE FROM EAST BECOMING INSOLENT

Christian Exemption from Military Service and Protection Denied

LAUSANNE, Dec. 22.—(By the Associated Press.)—Christmas threatens to be a stormy time at the Lausanne Near East conference. Thursday was a bad day; today was worse. A temper which did not seem to harmonize with the usual spirit of the Yuletide pervaded today's session of the sub-commission on minorities.

Rad Humor Noted Efforts were made to get Dr. Riza Nur Bey, the second Turkish delegate who formerly was accredited by the Ankara government to represent it at Moscow, to agree to the exemption of the Christian minorities in Turkey from military service. But he refused flatly and seemingly sullenly. He declined to give any reason for this declaration and several others equally as flat. M. LaRoche of the French delegation made an appeal to Riza Nur Bey on military exemption, saying: "Come on, make the allies a little Christmas present on this point."

The Turkish delegates, however, retorted angrily: "We don't believe in Christmas presents."

Turks Insolent Riza Nur Bey also refused to agree to a provision for the preservation of Christian cemeteries in Turkey. This caused much surprise among the other representatives, as the Turks ordinarily are extremely careful to protect all cemeteries.

The allies insisted upon consideration of the clause providing that the Turks must respect the work done under the league of nations in recovering and restoring to their families Christian women and Christians who were seized and Islamized by the Turks before the close of the great war.

The Turks also declined to agree to this provision, and the sub-commission ended the session seemingly with a feeling of utter disgust at the attitude of Riza Nur Bey, which several members of the sub-commission described as "highly insolent."

The Turkish delegation has received instructions from Ankara that no agreements are to be made at Lausanne on economic questions which are to be left over for negotiation at some later time.

This has created dissatisfaction among the allies, especially the French, who are anxious that economic questions should be settled at this conference.

Control of the straits still is being considered in private sessions. Lord Curzon, M. Barriere, Signor di Geronzi and Ismet Pasha were in conference on this subject yesterday and again today. The representatives of three great powers have made it clear to Ismet that if they give the special guarantees Turkey seeks to protect Constantinople from attack, Turkey in turn must give the allies jurisdiction over the straits and the entire demilitarized zone. Ismet has this under consideration.

Dr. Keene is Appointed Silverton Health Officer

SILVERTON, Ore., Dec. 22.—(Special to The Statesman.)—Dr. C. W. Keene has been appointed health officer for Silverton by State Health Officer Frederick Strickwer of Portland. Silverton has been minus a health officer for the past four or five years.

POSTAL CONVENTION SIGNED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The postal convention recently negotiated between Canada and the United States was signed today by President Harding and Postmaster General Work and thus became officially in force effective January 1. Many reciprocal and additional mail facilities between Canada and the United States are provided in the convention.

THE WEATHER

OREGON: Saturday fair except rain in northwest portion.

LOCAL WEATHER (Friday)

Maximum temperature, 53. Minimum temperature, 35. River 4.5 feet above normal level. Falling. Rainfall, .03 inch. Atmosphere, partly cloudy. Wind, south.