

Death Last Week Recalls Days of 1915

When Henry Ford Sent A Peace Ship to Europe

By Dan H. Sellard

When Henry Ford, in the fall of 1915, read a news dispatch that in the previous 24 hours of World War I fighting 20,000 men had been killed, he muttered, "This thing has gone on long enough." He conceived thereupon the idea of a peace mission—a mission unique in the history of the world.

Ford's death last week at the age of 83 recalls the fact that, apart from his momentous achievements as an industrialist, he was

always interested in world peace. The inhumanity of war always hit Henry Ford hard. He was impatient with conflict and often used his advertising space to decry the futility of it. And he was sincere in the thought that peace could be attained through arbitration led by the world's leading personalities.

So was born Henry Ford's "Peace Ship," which came to be better known as the "Ark of Peace." Unfortunately, it became the brunt of jokes, cartoons, and ridicule.

Ford was in earnest; this wasn't a wealthy man's jest nor a gaudy gesture to get his name in history. He had seen his ideas amass millions and literally place America on wheels. Why couldn't he put his fortune to work on peace?

Jane Addams joined. The time was ripe for such a venture. Some of the most high-minded persons in America, led by Dr. David Starr Jordan, head of the American Peace Society and president of Stanford University, and Jane Addams, head of Hull House and one of the nation's leading pacifists, had organized what they called an "Emergency Peace Conference," and had called on some of the foreign ministers of belligerent nations.

Millions of Americans shared Ford's impulse. To stop the war was the prevailing American wish. And these millions saw hope in Henry Ford who had set the pace in industry and has sponsored other appealing projects.

Ford set up headquarters in New York and sent out an invitation list. By this time the press had jumped on the story, and Ford was besieged by letters and telegrams. The list included the names of Jordan and Miss Addams, plus a long list of such personages as Oswald Garrison Villard, Paul Kellogg, and Mme. Rosika Schwimmer, a Hungarian woman who swore she carried the solution to the world's troubles in her famed "little black bag."

It was Mme. Schwimmer who suggested that the mission needed a ship. Ford hired one—the Oscar II of the Scandinavian Line.

One day Ford was quoted as saying, "Get the Boys out of the Trenches by Christmas." The story made headlines in all the newspapers, and became the keynote of the party.

"A Great Squirrel Cage" By this time the mission had come to be regarded as more humorous than worthy. Many of the people Ford has invited turned down the bid and many others of varied interests and personality took their place. As one writer phrased it, the Oscar II was "the greatest squirrel cage in history—it contained so many nuts."

On Dec. 4, 1915, the Oscar II with its cargo of dreamers, pacifists, and thrill-seekers sailed

Data Prepared On Amazon Job

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er said Saturday, "but we are being held up on the storm sewer portion of our improvement project until the Amazon job is completed."

School Plan Held Up
The Century Fund for Parks and playgrounds depends on the drainage job to make feasible the building of the area for which the whole community is now contributing funds.

The Eugene High School development also is being held up pending the solution of the Amazon drainage problem.

Brenne and Seeger Saturday were awaiting word from Ellsworth as to whether the presence of someone from Eugene at the hearing might make the difference between the project's being accepted or rejected. One of the two men probably will travel to Washington if Ellsworth deems it necessary.

Chamber Outing

Springfield—An estimated 25 cars will be in the caravan of Chamber of Commerce members making a "get acquainted" tour of the upper McKenzie River Sunday.

Chamber members and their families making the trip have been asked by President S. W. Alexander to meet at the Leaburg Dam at 10:30 a. m.

PROPOSAL REJECTED

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld.—(AP)—Newfoundland will send no delegates to Washington, D. C., to find out how the British island colony might become the United States' 49th state. By a vote of 24 to 3 the colony's national convention rejected such a motion Friday after it had been submitted by delegate D. I. Jackman.

from Hoboken, N.J. A German band vied with several other providers of musical well-wishing. The Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones offered prayer from the rail amid hoots and yells at his huge white beard.

William Jennings Bryan wore his white hat and was greeted by cheers. Someone asked, "Why don't you start?" and another answered, "You know it's a Ford."

Not Welcome in Europe

The journey was as eventful as the passengers could make it. Speeches, arguments, and petitions passed away the time. President Wilson's preparedness speech created a furor when Ford read it.

The mission hove to in Kirkwall, Scotland, on Tuesday, Dec. 14. The party stayed there till the following Sunday, then went on to Christiania, Norway.

But the expedition was not welcome in Europe. The European powers resented openly the interference of Americans in a war while America had not entered. Ford attempted to keep the party going and was generous with his money, but the mission gradually deteriorated.

On Christmas Day, when the boys were to have been "out of the trenches," Ford left the mission and returned to the United States. The unique mission had failed. It had not made the slightest impression on the war. Henry Ford later was asked what he actually had gotten from the peace expedition:

"I didn't get much peace," he replied. "I learned," he added, "that Russia is going to be a great market for tractors."

But the mission had one serious result. It had spoiled for good any other peace mission's chances for constructive work. And it put pacifists on the defensive against a weapon more deadly to them than guns—laughter.

Air Signaling Practice Set

Practice in the use of plane and body signals in air rescue work will be conducted Sunday by members of the local Civilian Air Patrol and members of the Obsidian while the latter group is on a ski trip to Three-Fingered Jack. Bob Lyon, Obsidian president, said the planes from Eugene would attempt to contact the Obsidians about noon in the mountainous Santiam area.

\$50 Award Granted To Stanley Turnbull

George Stanley Turnbull Jr., 17, a senior at Eugene High School, has been awarded a certificate of merit by the Pepsi-Cola Scholarship Board as runner-up for one of the soft drink company's 128 four-year college scholarships being granted this year. As a certificate of merit winner, Turnbull will receive \$50 when he enters college next fall.

Eugene High's winner is the son of Dean and Mrs. George Turnbull, 2175 Agate St. Planning to specialize in journalism, he hopes to enter the University of Oregon following his graduation in June. He is a member of the National Honor Society and editor of the school paper, and has participated in both basketball and track. His father is dean of journalism at the University of Oregon.

The winners for 1947, who were first elected by their senior classmates as "the ones most likely to make an important contribution to human progress," took a scholastic aptitude test, prepared and scored by the college entrance examination board in February.

Wesley Jean Eyres, a student at Eugene High School in 1945 and 1946, won a similar scholarship to the University of Oregon last year.

JAPANESE SENTENCED

MANILA—(AP)—Two Japanese Kempell (thought police) were sentenced to death by hanging Saturday by a U. S. military commission for the murder of five Filipino civilians in 1940 at Iloilo City.

NFTW Appeal Judged Likely

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(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1) bargain out their own contracts. There were these additional points in the situation:

1. Negotiations stood at a virtual standstill. Schwelienbach's aides said they will continue private talks with both sides over the weekend seeking some new approach to a settlement.

2. The striking unions apparently were digging in for a long period of idleness, possibly lasting weeks longer.

3. The NFTW claimed the number of workers idle had grown from 320,000 to 335,000. The addition, NFTW said, is due to refusal of non-striking telephone workers to cross picket lines in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Illinois and northern California.

Collapsing of negotiations to end the key long lines phase of the dispute left the government trying to figure out some way of getting bargaining sessions going again.

The A. T. & T. withdrew an arbitration offer covering the long distance service phase of Bell system operations when a midnight deadline passed Friday night without union acceptance. NFTW's Policy Committee would not approve arbitration of basic wage issues for long distance workers alone.

Meanwhile the nation faced continuous crippled long distance service. Dial service still operated in most areas although there was a mounting danger the automatic operations may begin deteriorating with only skeleton maintenance crews to keep them going.

Contractor Names Dorena Dam Chief

PORTLAND—(P)—A. H. Steiner will be project manager for Dorena Dam, the Northwest office of Guy F. Atkinson Co., holder of a contract for construction of the project, said Saturday.

Steiner and his assistant, L. J. Kelly, will inspect the Row River site next week.

Homemakers' Day Attracts 300 Women

Nearly 300 women attended the Lane County Homemakers' Achievement Day program Saturday at Colin Kelly school, an annual all-day session with noon luncheon.

Mrs. Agnes McCornack presided at the meetings, and Mrs. Vere Ebbert was toastmistress at the luncheon. Guests at noon included Mr. and Mrs. Allen Wheeler, Mrs. Truman Chase, Mr. and Mrs. O. S. Fletcher, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Danielson, Mrs. Vernon Meyer, F. L. Ballard, Dr. D. Dadjemarkos, Miss Frances Clinton, Miss June Sullivan, Mrs. Fred Broders, Mrs. Retta Otto and others.

F. L. Ballard, in a luncheon address, told the group that conditions in the rural area are of utmost importance, as good citizenship stems from the country, not the city.

Obsidians Plan Dance On Campus Thursday

Obsidians will have a dance for members and friends Thursday at 7:30 p. m. in the campus YWCA bungalow. Any one who enjoys dancing the Scandinavian schottische, polka, waltz and habo is also invited.

Music will be furnished by Chester Pietka and his orchestra, and refreshments will be served.

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Officials Expect Quiet Meetings

Officials of Eugene Water Board and Eugene School District said Saturday their regular meetings at city hall Monday night would be comparatively quiet.

Water Board members expected to have a report from engineers on the feasibility of rebuilding the old Watterville power plant on

the McKenzie. In addition to only routine affairs were on agenda Saturday.

City School Superintendent Clarence Hines said several teachers would be appointed that no other important items had as yet been placed on agenda.

PUNCHING CRITICISM
BUTLER, Pa.—(AP)—Fina wound up in jail on assault and battery charges after taurant for playing a juke that Fina didn't like.

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