

DEFENDS NAVY FROM ATTACKS

Commander John Rodgers Takes Stand

Vital Changes Necessary, However, In Aviation Arm, He Declares

(U. P. Leased Wire to The Bend Bulletin) WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—A stirring defense of the navy department against attacks by Colonel William Mitchell was made today before the special aircraft board by Commander John Rodgers, leader of the unsuccessful Hawaiian seaplane flight and

the last witness heard before the board adjourned until Monday. Rodgers absolved the department from all blame for failure of his flight. "Had we had the wind with us and the gas mileage we estimated," Rodgers declared, "we would have reached our objective."

Rodgers threw his full weight against Mitchell's unified air proposal and also voiced opposition to the separate air corps as advanced by other naval pilots. He recommended establishment of a secretary of national defense to control the army, navy and supplies. Under this system, the secretary of the department would have three assistant secretaries charged with administering the three divisions.

Replies Bring Laughs In a droll style Rodgers levelled criticism at some phases of the management of the navy. He kept the board and the huge crowd laughing with his wit in replying to inquiries by members.

Rodgers said the aviation problem could not be solved without taking the entire national defense system under consideration.

"It has become so complicated that it may die of its own complications unless these complications are treated by highly skilled physicians, unprejudiced to any particular branch."

"The history of aviation is that the airplane has in the last few years become an integral part of the ship and it is easy for me to imagine that in a short time within the next 20 years we will find it the most important weapon that the navy has to wield."

Despite his defense of the department, Rodgers insisted that "vital changes are necessary." He recommended a separate promotion for the air service, abolition of "unnecessary" training and maintenance of flying pay.

The hearing adjourned after Rodgers had been on the stand nearly three hours. It will meet again next Monday.

Asking for Incendiary To Go to Institution

(Continued from page 1)

The second of these fires occurred about a year ago, and shortly before Bessie suffered a nervous breakdown which was caused by gas pressure on she said. It was on account of illness following this breakdown that she came to Bend for her health.

The girl was advised at that time by her sister, who lives at The Dalles, to go to a sanitarium, but she refused. Later after she came to Bend the sister made the same suggestion, but Bessie decided she would rather work, she said. The sister was to arrive here today.

Born in Ireland, Bessie came to the United States with her uncle. She lived for many years with a grandmother at Richfield, and attended school through the eighth grade.

Not Up to Test In spite of this degree of education, however, the girl failed to answer some of the simplest questions in an intelligence test put to her by District Attorney Moore, and it was partly on this basis that the insanity complaint was filed by Pomeroy.

The girl's confession was first made to Mrs. Ethel V. Johnson of the woman's protective division, while they were at dinner Thursday evening and after the officers had questioned her steadily since early in the morning. The girl shed a few tears after the admission, then remarked that she "felt better."

Pomeroy stated after the confession had been reduced to writing, that solution of the mystery could not have been secured without the complete cooperation of the city and county officials with himself as representative of the state—a cooperation has always been given here, but which cannot be obtained in some

TUESDAY

NEXT WEEK is

PAYDAY

at the

CAPITOL

parts of the state. In addition to the officers already mentioned, Sheriff S. E. Roberts and Deputy George Stokoe took part in the investigation Thursday and Chief of Police P. J. Hanson and other police officers had worked on the case previously. A brother and sister of the girl were expected in this morning from The Dalles.

JUST 5 YEAR TRUCE ON DEBT, THAT'S ALL

Terms Agreed to In Settlement Only Stop Gap

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—A provisional five year truce on settlement of the \$4,200,000,000 French debt to the United States will be laid before congress and the French parliament as the sole result of eight days of stormy negotiations here between the American and French debt funding commissions.

If ratified by both, France will pay to the United States \$40,000,000 a year for the next five years. At the end of that time, the question of full payment of the debt will be reopened, if not before.

This stop gap "basis of settlement" was proposed to the French mission by the American commission yesterday when the negotiations stood at the brink of failure and was accepted by Joseph Caillaux, minister of finance of France, with the plain statement that he could not agree to it, but would submit it to the French

government. Caillaux left Washington for France by way of New York at 7:45 a. m. today.

Verses of Bend Girl Published In "Lariat"

Four verses by Helen S. McMunn of Bend, a graduate of the local high school in 1924, appear in the October number of The Lariat, western poetry magazine published at Salem. Although separate in thought, the verses are similar in spirit and are grouped under a heading "Night and Silence." They reveal unusual appreciation of subtle emotional influences in nature, an appreciation which is ably expressed.

One, entitled "Silhouette," is as follows:
Like lighted lamps
The stars hang in the autumn sky—
And like a beggar gold by
A ragged pine stands silhouetted
against the moon.

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