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DATA ON NAVIES OF WORLD IS GATHERED

Great Britain's Sea Power Double That of United States; Japan Third.

Washington.—Information now in possession of the American government on the relative strength of the three principal naval powers, believed to be complete, shows the present naval strength of this country to be about half that of Great Britain, while more than double the sea power of Japan. In first line major ships, including battleships and battle cruisers, the British navy January 1, 1921, this information shows, numbered thirty-two vessels of \$11,050 tons, while the United States possessed sixteen vessels of 435,750 tons and Japan ten vessels of 288,320 tons.

While capital ships under construction for the American navy, including twelve dreadnaughts and six battle cruisers, to be completed in 1923, will virtually offset the British preponderance in this class of vessels, the information shows that the American fleet still will be greatly inferior in types of vessels regarded by naval officers as of first importance in naval strength.

These types include notably destroyer leaders, cruisers and light cruisers and cruising submarines.

Although with completion of the authorized building program of the two countries, the American navy will have only six battle cruisers as compared with twelve for that of Japan, it will more than maintain a 100 per cent superiority by virtue of its greater number of battleships and supplemental types of war craft.

INCREASE OF 48 IN HOUSE IS PROPOSED

Washington.—Membership of the house will be increased to 484 under a bill reported by Chairman Siegel of the census committee to fix the reapportionment for ten years under the 1920 census. The bill would mean an increase of 48 over the present membership. No state would lose any representation.

California would make the largest gain of new members, five, bringing her total to 16. Michigan, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania would gain four each, Illinois and Texas three, Massachusetts, New Jersey and North Carolina two each; while Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Georgia, Maryland, Minnesota, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia and Wisconsin would gain one each.

The basis of representation is fixed at one member for each 218,979 inhabitants as compared to 211,873 as at present.

Charles Grant's Hotel Burned.

Charles Grant, who lost a restaurant by fire in Athens several years ago, is again the victim of the fire fiend. His hostelry, the Summit hotel at Condon, was badly damaged Friday of last week, when flames broke out in the kitchen and despite the prompt action of the fire department, kitchen and dining room were destroyed and other rooms of the hotel were badly scorched.

To replace the familiar steam roller a gasoline machine has been developed which, in addition to economizing on fuel, gives its driver an unobstructed view of his work.

FROM "OVER THE HILL" BRITISH CENSOR U. S. MESSAGES

Mrs. Ralph Haynie has been seriously ill with tonsillitis, this week. Born—To Mr. and Mrs. Louis Bergevin, Jr., January 10, 1921, a daughter.

John Ridenour left yesterday for a visit with relatives at Auburn, Wash. and Portland.

The Press notes that Dell Stanton's "Yellow Peril" resteth by the way side on the hilltop, west of town.

G. W. Dickson has been appointed deputy sheriff. His oath of office was filed with the county clerk Monday afternoon.

Frank Rogers, well known Pendleton farmer and politician, was in the city Wednesday.

Miss Carrie Sharp is at Hot Lake sanitarium where she will remain for a while. Miss Sharp is recovering from her long invalidism, following influenza about year ago, and hopes to thoroughly recuperate. She visited relatives in Pendleton, en route.

Mr. Homer I. Watts and Mr. Ray Logan entertained Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Douglas, Mrs. Lulu Read, Miss Rea Allen, Miss Jennamie Read and Mr. M. L. Watts at dinner Saturday evening.

The anniversary of the signing of National Constitutional Prohibition will be observed next Sunday by the local W. C. T. U., when they will give a program and conduct the evening service at the Christian church.

Street lights may be expected soon. A specially made transformer for the new lighting system was shipped out from the factory in the east on December 24. The shipment was made in a carload lot direct to Seattle, and it should not be much longer before the transformer reaches its destination.

The Warren Construction company sent up a force of men from Pendleton this week and finished paving on Adams street.

Mrs. Leslie Gibbs, Mrs. Swearingin and Mrs. T. D. Taylor of Pendleton, were guests at the W. R. Taylor home Thursday. Mrs. T. D. Taylor left immediately afterward for Portland and Los Angeles.

Mrs. W. T. Hill has been seriously ill the past week at her home in the north part of town.

Mrs. Anna Ahrens, who has spent the winter here with her mother and brother, Mrs. Hopper and Rex Hopper, will leave next week for Spokane where she will engage in her profession of nurse.

Miss Hazel Burton writes friends here that she is visiting the Athens colony at Long Beach, and relatives at Los Angeles. Her father, Rev. B. B. Burton joined her there for a short while.

Miss Alta Chandler of Sheridan, Oregon, has been elected to fill the place vacated by the resignation of Mrs. Weaver in the 5th and 6th grades of the Athens school.

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Crabill have been up from the farm at Holdman, visiting the paternal home in this city.

Mrs. F. S. LeGrow left Wednesday for Seattle to visit her mother, Mrs. Bowles, who has been ill the past week.

Increases Surplus Fund.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the First National Bank of Athens, held at the offices of the bank, Tuesday afternoon of this week after election of officers and board of directors for the ensuing year, the surplus fund of the institution was increased from \$50,000 to \$60,000 the capital and surplus of the bank now being \$110,000.

General conditions considered, the showing made by the bank for the past year was a most creditable one. The official staff and the personnel of the board of directors were re-elected, as follows:

President, W. B. Shaffer; vice-president, M. L. Watts; cashier, F. S. LeGrow; assistant cashier, Max Hopper. Directors: W. B. Shaffer, M. W. Hansell, M. L. Watts, F. S. LeGrow and Henry Dell.

Play Basket Ball Tonight.

Both the boys and girls basket ball teams of the Athens high school will journey to Pilot Rock, where this evening a double header game will be played, the first of the season for the Athens teams. The boys team comprises Leon Kretzer, center; Herman Geissel, John Pinkerton, Alton Hodgen, forwards; Babe Knight, Mose Banister, Brooks Anderson, guards. The players on the girls team include Beulah Banister, Audra Winship forwards; Hilda Dickson, Lela Shubert, Joyce Johnston and Florence Maxwell, guards; Elsa Ringle, Edna Pinkerton and Mildred Winship, centers.

Honored Guests With Party.

Honoring Mr. and Mrs. John Gross who are visiting here from their home at Brownsburg, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gross entertained most pleasantly at their home on Fifth street, Wednesday evening at 500. Six tables were occupied, progressively, by the interested players, George Thompson receiving the prize for the highest score, while Dean Dudley was consolidated for winning the least number of games. A delightful luncheon was served at 12 by host and hostess, assisted by Miss Charlotte and Master George Groas. Several numbers were given on the piano by Miss Rea Allen and Jennamie Read, closing an evening of pleasure.

The New Woman's Club.

The new woman's organization of Athens, the J. P. W. Club, met Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Charles McFarland, where a busy time was spent with needles and sociability. An entertaining feature of the occasion was a recitation by Master Wendell Booher, and a vocal solo by Miss Hazel McFarland. A delicious two-course luncheon was served by the hostess, assisted by her daughter and Mrs. Walter Booher. Four new members were received into the club. They were Mrs. Samuel Harworth, Mrs. Frank DeFreece, Mrs. Patterson and Mrs. Durning. The next meeting, January 26 will be with Mrs. Harworth.

A Family Reunion.

A family reunion of the relatives of Mrs. S. S. Parris was held yesterday, January 13, at the home of her sister, Mrs. Addie Rasmus, in Walla Walla, the Parris family attending. More than forty years have elapsed since the sisters and brothers have all been together. They are, Mrs. S. S. Parris, Mrs. Rasmus, Mrs. Yoo of Seattle, Mrs. Ura Price of Nez Perce, Idaho, Nelson Cox of Prescott, and Dr. W. C. Cox of Everett, Wash. The parents are both dead, the mother having been a sister of the late Dr. N. G. Blalock of Walla Walla.

You'll Know Him.

Sometimes Trouble masquerades as Joy, but we recognize him before he plays one tune on the fiddle, for the fiddle strings snap, and the dancers fall down, and darkness drowns the lights.

BRITISH CENSOR U. S. MESSAGES

Washington.—Charges that the British government exercises surveillance over American cable business passing through the British isles and that the state department had extended its controversy with the Western Union Telegraph & Cable company to bring in the Cuban government, came up before a senate committee considering cable legislation.

Norman H. Davis, acting secretary of state, and Newcomb Carlton, president of the Western Union, conducted an argument over the Cuban allegation. Clarence H. Mackey, head of the Postal Telegraph-Cable company, told the committee that English secret service authorities were obtaining copies of cable messages.

Mr. Carlton expressed reluctance to discuss the subject of English surveillance because "it would make trouble," but at last yielded.

"Ten days after messages have been transmitted," he explained, "our copies are turned over to the British secret service, which keeps them for a few hours and then returns them. No exception is made and the American official dispatches, like the dispatches to all other countries to and from England, are included."

Magnet Has Many Uses.

A highly important use of a magnet is that in which it is sometimes employed to withdraw small pieces of iron from such out of the way places as the human eye. Another use of the attractive force of magnetism on a much larger scale was that to which it was put by Edison in his magnetic ore separator, in which the ore, previously crushed to a fine powder, is dropped down a chute past the poles of powerful electro-magnets, in passing which the iron particles of the ore are deflected to one side, while the non-magnetic stone dust continues undeflected down the chute. Still another instance of the employment of magnetism in a small way is that in which a magnetized tack hammer is used in the manufacture of strawbery baskets on a large scale in conjunction with a mechanical device which presents the tacks, one at a time and head up, to the operative, thereby greatly facilitating his work.

Laundry work done at home. Mrs. R. R. Riley, S. Broad street.

HARDING RESIGNS AS SENATOR FROM OHIO

Retirement to Take Effect Six Weeks Before Inauguration.

Marion, O.—President-elect Harding resigned as senator from Ohio, forwarding his letter of resignation to Columbus for action of the newly elected republican governor, Harry L. Davis, who assumed office Monday.

Mr. Harding made January 15 the effective date of his resignation, or six weeks before his inauguration.

In the interest of national thrift, President-elect Harding requested officials arranging for his inauguration to abandon all plans for an inaugural ceremony.

In a telegram to Mr. McLean, Mr. Harding declared he preferred simply to take the oath of office, deliver a brief address and then take up his duties. He said it would make his position very unhappy if the outlay for an elaborate inaugural created the impression of extravagance.

He also telegraphed Senator Knox of Pennsylvania, in charge of the congressional end of the plans, suggesting that the proposal to erect stands on the capitol grounds be abandoned. This proposal has been the subject of heated debate in congress.

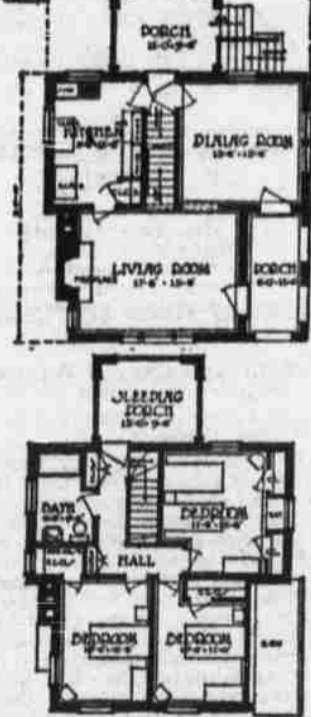
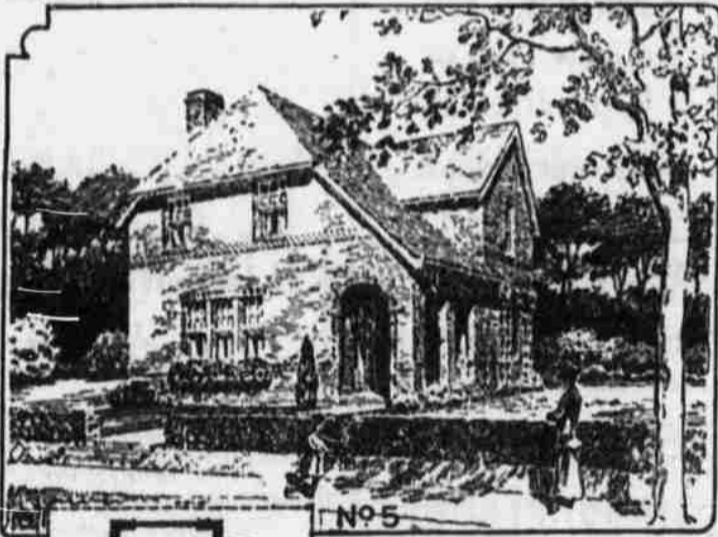
"CHINA EGG" LAW IS VALID

Supreme Court Says State Has Right to Require Signs.

Olympia, Wash. — The so-called "China egg" law, requiring hotels, restaurants and other places that use foreign eggs in the preparation of food, or that serve foreign eggs, to advise the public of that fact by a "plainly readable sign" was upheld as constitutional in a decision handed down by the state supreme court.

The decision reverses the ruling of the Thurston county superior court in the suit brought by Parrott and company, egg importers of San Francisco, to enjoin the state commissioner of agriculture and other state officials from enforcing the law. The lower court granted the injunction but the supreme court ordered it dissolved, holding the law to be a proper exercise of the police power of the state.

TIME DEFYING — LOW COST



very little to maintain, the insurance charges are small, and the most careful watching fails to show any depreciation in the first five years, and almost a negligible amount after that time. Brick houses built five centuries ago are still in daily use.

From a small porch whose archways are a most attractive feature, you enter the living room, 17 1/2 feet by 13 1/2. At the opposite end of the room is the fireplace, in the middle of the inside long wall is the stairway. At one side of the staircase is the dining room, 13 1/2 feet square, and lighted from three sides.

Crossing a little back hall under the stairway, you come to the kitchen, 9 1/2 feet by 13. There is no pantry, but a large closet takes the place of one. The kitchen range is so placed that a single chimney carries the flue for that as well as those for the furnace and the living room fireplace.

Opening from the rear hall is a porch 12 feet by 9 1/2, which can be used as a living and dining porch in the warm weather.

The upper floor contains three bedrooms, all of fair size or better, and with unusual closets. There are also two closets opening from the hall, and a rather large bathroom. But the most unexpected feature of this floor, for such a house, is a screened in sleeping porch over the living porch of the first floor.

Such a house is a first class investment, particularly in these times of high rents. It is cheap to build—the first cost is not more than five or six per cent greater than frame construction, and in a few years, this is far more than balanced by the difference in upkeep and insurance.

If your contractor is not familiar with fire resistive construction, write or have him write to the Permanent Building Bureau, in the Chamber of Commerce, Chicago, for suggestions and advice.

A MAN builds a house for a home, but sometimes he must change his home, and therefore is obliged to sell his house. The prudent man of moderate means must make his dwelling a good investment, which he can sell on favorable terms if necessary.

This house pretty nearly guarantees the owner against loss if he is obliged to sell. It is beautiful outside, both beautiful and practical within. It is built of common brick, the inside is finished with gypsum plaster on metal lath, the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. It is almost impossible for such a house to take fire, and quite impossible for it to burn down. It costs

The TELEPHONE COMPANY and WAGES

Salaries and wages constitute 72 percent of the expenses of this company. Out of every dollar spent by the telephone company, 72 cents is turned over to its employees in the form of compensation. It is our purpose to retain competent and experienced employees. An efficient and contented organization is the main factor in good service.

The deficit in earnings which we have experienced in Oregon has been largely augmented by necessary increases to our employees. It will be of interest to our Oregon patrons to know what our increased expense for salaries and wages in Oregon has been since 1916, as shown in one of the exhibits filed with the Public Service Commission in connection with our recent application for an increase in telephone rates.

Increase in wages of Plant employees, present over 1916	\$ 307,000
Increase in wages of Traffic (operating) employees, present over 1916	681,000
Increase in wages of Commercial employees, present over 1916	98,000
Total annual increase in wages	\$1,086,000

Although these large increases in wages have been made, they represent only approximately a 60 percent increase over pre-war wages, as compared with increases of over 100 percent in many trades and occupations requiring no greater skill or preparation on the part of the worker. We do not think our employees' wages should be reduced under present conditions or under conditions now possible to forecast.

The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co.