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U. S. DECLINES THE HAGUE INVITATION

Held That Same Difficulties Would Come Up Again in New Conference.

Washington, D. C.—The state department made public the text of a message to Ambassador Child at Genoa declining the invitation to participate in the new European economic conference at The Hague.

"This government," the American communication said, "is unable to conclude that it can helpfully participate in the meeting at The Hague, as this would appear to be the continuance under a different nomenclature of the Genoa conference and destined to encounter the same difficulties if the attitude disclosed in the Russian memorandum of May 11 remains unchanged."

The state department's communication said the American government "has always been ready" to join other governments in an inquiry by experts into the economic situation in Russia and the necessary remedy. Such an inquiry, it was added, could deal appropriately "with the economic prerequisites" for restoration of Russian production, without which a sound basis for credits would be lacking.

In conclusion the American communication renewed the offer to pay serious attention to any "proposals" issued from a Genoa conference or any later conference, but added that the suggestions for the meeting at The Hague, in view of the Russian memorandum of May 11, lacked "the definiteness which would make possible the concurrence of this government in the proposed plan."

EXPRESSMAN DRIVES OFF TRAIN ROBBERS

Tucson, Ariz.—With two well directed bullets, Express Messenger H. Stewart frustrated a spectacular attempt by eight masked bandits to rob Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific train No. 3, the Golden State limited, bound from Chicago to Los Angeles. Stewart killed one of the outet, apparently wounded a second and routed the band empty handed.

Passengers were not molested in the holdup, which was staged near James, a flag station eight miles west of Tucson.

The body of the slain bandit, whose hands were encased in rubber gloves, was recognized by Sheriff Daniels of Pinal county as that of a pool room habitue. Beside the body was found a sack of dynamite with which the bandits evidently intended to blow strong boxes in the mail and baggage cars.

The robbers stopped the train by placing torpedoes on the rails. They planned to blow open the express safe, said to contain valuable shipments of money, when Stewart opened fire. The gang, when Stewart opened fire, rushed to their automobiles and fled to a nearby desolate district, pursued by a posse.

Long-Term Credits For Farmers.

Washington, D. C.—Federal reserve banks would be empowered to buy and sell farm land bonds under a bill introduced by Senator Fletcher, democrat, Florida. The measure is designed to provide long term credits for farmers and also would establish a farm credits department in each federal land bank.

ELECTION OF BOARDMAN TEACHERS POSTPONED

The school board met at its regular monthly session on Saturday. The election of teachers was postponed to allow the clerk time to sort out the many applications. The question of installing a radio outfit in the auditorium for community use was taken up and it was thought that it could be financed without an additional item in the budget, and the plan will be presented at the annual meeting in June. At that time discussion on manual training and domestic science will come up. Screens were ordered for the lower windows on the east and south sides of the basement.

The reports left by the county nurse shows 87 pupils examined, 5 had defective eyes; 39 tonsils; 10 glands. Fifteen cases have been corrected and more will be. The personal hygiene of the pupils has been improved greatly by the Modern Health Crusade.

Victor Hango, who was the successful candidate for rural carrier at the examination of December 9, has taken up his work.

Mr. and Mrs. Messenger, Mildred and Lois were guests at the Flickinger home for Sunday dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Herrin entertained the Ballengers at dinner last Thursday evening.

CHEESE ASSOCIATION PLAN BUILDING ON THE HIGHWAY

The Boardman cheese association director met Tuesday night in the promotion of the business of the association which is on the upgrade. C. O. Albright, who has been appointed secretary found it necessary to present his resignation owing to other interests and Leo Root has been elected and will begin service as soon as properly bonded. A plan being formed includes a neat building on the Columbia Highway in Boardman which will be used for increased factory facilities and also a department for the serving of dairy lunch as a means of advertising their product.

GENOA GATHERING FAILURE

Meeting Desolate Hulk in Vision of Expectant World.

Genoa.—The economic conference of Genoa, long heralded as the meeting of minds out of which would arise a rejuvenated Europe and a new order of international accord and peace, stands a desolate hulk in the vision of an expectant world.

Out of weeks of negotiations have come the Easter treaty of Rapallo between Germany and Russia, wisely re-establishing the old order of "balance of power"; decision to continue discussion of Russian rehabilitation at The Hague, without Russian representation, and the manifestation of irreconcilable difference between Great Britain and France on ways and means of Russian restoration.

Washington Fruit Value Is \$48,152,033

Olympia, Wash.—The total value of Washington's 1921 fruit crop was \$48,152,638 and the total output was 47,772 cars, according to the annual orchard census, compilation of returns from which has just been completed by C. L. Robinson, state supervisor of horticulture. The apple output of 22,476 cars, with an estimated value of \$20,258,212, made up practically four-fifths of the value of the state's fruit crop.

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS HAPPENING DURING WEEK

H. M. Schilling, manager at Hariston for the Umatilla project, has received instructions to begin on July 1 negotiations for the purchase of lands lying above the proposed McKay creek dam which will be inundated when the waters are impounded for irrigation purposes. It is understood that high prices will not be paid for the lands. The move to purchase is considered proof that the government expects to complete the McKay creek project as quickly as possible.

After a conference with Forester Greeley, Representative Hawley announced that three units of the Roosevelt highway in Oregon are to be constructed this summer through forest reserves. The first is from Tidewater bridge to Waldport, in Lincoln county, eight miles, at a cost of \$100,000. The second will be from Brush creek to Mussel creek, in Curry county, six miles, at a cost of \$150,000. The third, south of Neskewin, in Tillamook and Lincoln counties, 20 miles, will cost \$300,000.

A luten arch type steel and concrete bridge was selected by officers and directors of The Dalles-Oregon-Washington Toll Bridge company, meeting at The Dalles, for the span across the Columbia river three miles above The Dalles. The plan was one of three submitted by President Sears of the Union Bridge company. The complete working plans for the construction of the bridge will now be made, the financing campaign put over and the contract awarded probably this summer, it was decided at the meeting. All but three of the bridge spans will be of concrete. The longest span of steel will cover the main river channel, a distance of 267 feet. The total estimated cost is \$250,000.

Wool sales in central Oregon last week amounted to nearly 400,000 pounds, with the announcement of the purchase by Charles H. Green of Portland of the 20,000-pound fine wool clip of Ned Murphy of Sumner Lake at 55 cents, with other Lake county clips totaling about 40,000 pounds, at 32 to 34 cents.

GRADE TEACHERS ELECTED

At a special school board meeting last night, Miss Stella Gunter of Shelby, Mont., was offered the position of teacher in the fifth and sixth grades for the next year. Arrangements made to improve the walk leading to the school building with a layer of gravel and cinders, and permission given to do class room work on Wednesday of next week. Wednesday night will be Senior class night, Thursday night, commencement, with the address "The Call of Civilization" by Prof. N. H. Cornish of O.A.C. There are to be three graduates, Edna Broyles, and Wilma and Leroy Gilbreth.

The program follows:

PROGRAM OF COMMENCEMENT WEEK

Baccalaureate Sermon, Sunday, May 21st.

Senior Class Night, Wednesday, May 24th

Piano Solo, Loretta, by Sadie

Women in Business

Piano Solo, Valse Chaconnette; Godard

The Survival of the Fittest,

Quartette, Little boy blue, by Parks

Alaska

Piano Duet, Cecilia-Phille,

COMMEMORATION, Thursday, May 25th

Piano Duet, Careless Elegance, Schisafauth,

Address, "The Call of Civilization",

Presentation of Diplomas,

Announcement of Honors,

Vocal Duet, "Where the Warbling Waters Flow,"

A winter wheat condition considerably lower than the condition of the crop a year ago, and unusually heavy losses of livestock, particularly of sheep and lambs, are features of the May 1 crop and livestock report for Oregon just issued by the United States bureau of markets and crop estimates.

The annual Oregon Jersey jubilee, four of Jersey breeders of the Pacific northwest will be inaugurated in Albany on the night of May 24. Tourists from all of the northwestern states and from British Columbia will gather here for the trip, which will take them over many parts of the Willamette valley on visits to famous Jersey herds.

By a margin of two eggs over the nearest competitor, Barred Rock pullet No. 88, of the Oregon Agricultural college, is the high point holder at the end of the first six months of the western Washington egg-laying contest for Barred Rocks at Wallula, Washington, extending over one year. The Aggie hen has laid 159 eggs.

Recommendations that a road up the North Umpqua river be sponsored by the government for the purpose of increasing the value of its range and grazing lands in the Halco, Big Camas and Diamond lake districts will be contained in the range appraisal report being prepared by the forest service to submit to congress, according to D. C. Ingram, appraiser.

Officers charged with enforcement of the state anti-purse seine law, are planning to ask for a submarine chaser to patrol the coast to prevent violation of the law by purse seine fishermen operating within the three-mile limit. Reports have been received that 24 feet of purse seines from Washington is planning to come to the mouth of the Columbia river July 1.

Lumber production of the 127 mills of the northwest reporting to the West Coast Lumbermen's association during the past week, continued to improve and the reports indicated that the output was 2 per cent above normal.

DEPOT WILL BE BUILT AT BOARDMAN SOON

The following letters have been received by the Commercial Club from the Portland offices of the O. W. R. R. Co.:

"In answer to your letter of May 9 am pleased to advise you that we have received authority for the construction of the depot at Boardman and will commence actual work as soon as the material now under order can be assembled.

Yours very truly,

J. P. O'Brien

"In answer to yours of May 9, I am pleased to inform you that I have arranged with the operating department to show Boardman as a 'flag stop' for trains 23 and 24, in the new time card, effective May 21.

Yours very truly,

Wm. McMurray"

The above information will be a cause of real rejoicing in this district and ends a long campaign of effort for such service and accommodations. We understand the depot will be of the standard type like the one at Messner, and with the possibility of travelers being able to take or leave trains at Boardman should be appreciated by our traveling population.

LIGHT WIRES RECEIVE RADIO

New Invention Perfected by Army Officer Ends Static Troubles.

Chicago.—Elimination of the crackling and buzzing accompanying radio signals, which has proved the greatest obstacle in the development of wireless communication, has been accomplished by army experts, it was announced here.

The invention, which separates all static noises from the radio signal, was perfected by Major J. O. Mauborgne, signal officer of the sixth corps area, and Dr. Louis Cohen of George Washington university, consulting engineer of the war department, after more than two years' experimentation.

Another invention announced in connection with the elimination of disturbing noises was a resonance wave coil by which a radio receiving set may be plugged into any ordinary electric light socket and radio signals received as well as with an aerial.

House Cuts Highway Money.

Washington, D. C.—The house voted to eliminate from the postoffice appropriation bill the senate amendment under which \$100,000,000 of federal funds would be made available during the next three years for state aid for highway improvements. In place of this provision, however, the house attached as a rider to the measure the "good roads" bill, passed recently by the house but as yet not voted on by the senate, which provided appropriations of \$55,000,000 for the coming finance year and \$75,000,000 for the twelve months period beginning July 1, 1923.

Washington Republicans Meet June 10

Spokane, Wash.—Calling of county conventions in the first part of June, within two weeks of the state convention in Chehalis June 10, is asked in instructions in the call for the republican state convention, issued here by Charles Hebbard, state party chairman.

Carpenter Defeats Kid Lewis.

London.—Georges Carpenter knocked out Ted (Kid) Lewis in the first round of what was to have been a 20-round bout for the light-heavy weight championship of the world, won by Carpenter.

PROBE OF STEEL MERGER ORDERED

Department of Justice Asked For Report on Purchase of Lackawanna.

Washington, D. C.—An order from the senate to the department of justice and the federal trade commission to make an investigation followed closely upon the announcement in New York of the purchase of the Lackawanna Steel company by the Bethlehem Steel corporation and upon reports recently circulated of a prospective merger of six large independent steel companies.

The order, embodied in a resolution offered by Senator La Follette, republican, Wisconsin, and adopted with little discussion except for an address by the Wisconsin senator, directed the federal agents to inform the senate what steps have been taken or proposed to ascertain the probable effects of the merger and what action has been instituted "to protect the public interests."

The department of justice was further requested to advise the senate if proceedings under the Sherman and Clayton acts to restrain the combination were advisable.

TO INVESTIGATE GASOLINE ADVANCE

Washington, D. C.—The department of justice, acting on a complaint filed with it in behalf of parties whose names were not disclosed, has instituted an investigation into the recent increase in the price of gasoline put into effect by the largest producers.

The senate passed the McKellar resolution providing for an investigation of increases in the price of oil and gasoline.

McKellar asked that investigation be conducted to explain why the price of gasoline has been increased throughout the country, despite the decreased cost of crude oil, and hinted that there has been an agreement between companies to make price increases simultaneously.

Further increases in gasoline prices will be made effective soon in all parts of the country, it was learned at the interior department.

These increases may total 4 or 5 cents per gallon by the middle of June, it was stated.

This is in addition to increases made during the last six weeks, ranging from 4 to 5 cents on the gallon.

Governor Olett has sent a letter to

Charles E. Hughes, secretary of state, urging that his department dispatch a request to the Canadian government to allow a detachment of Royal Mounted police to attend the annual Rose festival to be held in Portland during the month of June this year.

Fire losses in Oregon outside of the city of Portland for the month of April aggregated \$150,575, according to a report prepared by the state fire marshal. There were a total of 36 fires reported. The most disastrous fire was at Elgin, where a warehouse burned with a loss of \$41,000.

More than \$1000 was netted as a result of the so-called Cherringo held in Salem. This money will be turned over to the committee in charge of the construction of Salem's new hospital. The event was staged by the Salem Cherringos and was attended by people from all parts of the Willamette valley.

