

No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

BATHHOUSE LEASE UP IN COUNCIL

Ordinance Turning Park Privileges Over to Private Party Defeated, and Proposal of Citizens Considered

The mooted questions before the city council, that of the leasing of the municipal bathhouse and the lowering of the license for the maintaining of billboards through out the city, like Banquo's ghost, refuse to down. They are still live issues, the members of the council declining to part company with them when the opportunity presented itself.

All members of the council were in their seats when the billboard question was presented through the medium of a protest from the civic improvement committee of the Ladies' Auxiliary. The protest, addressed to the members of the council, read as follows:

"We, the undersigned members of the civic improvement committee, speaking in behalf of the Ladies' Auxiliary of Grants Pass, submit the following for your consideration in regard to the billboard ordinance:

"The petition filed by the representative of the Pacific Coast Advertising association is in direct opposition to and will tend to counteract all of the work carried on by this committee. The matter of a restricted district for the placing of the billboards seems impractical, and hardly advisable, as a thing so thoroughly objectionable in one place in our city could hardly prove a benefit in another location.

"As an advertising agent, we heartily disapprove of it; believing that any concern wishing to advertise in the community should use the legitimate means of advertising through the medium of the press.

"We heartily approved the action of the former council in placing the license fee at the figure of \$200 per annum, having given them a vote of thanks for their action, and we respectfully pray that your honorable body will not lower this fee and thus permit this nuisance to be imposed upon a protesting public."

The ordinance reducing the billboard license from the \$200 at which it was placed last year, to \$20 per annum, where it had previously been, was read, but the council declined to advance the measure and take final action upon it. It will, therefore, come up for final action at the next regular meeting of the council.

The ordinance providing for the leasing of the municipal bathhouse and park privileges to H. J. Schmidt was taken up through the presentation of an ordinance prepared at the instance of a citizens' committee. This ordinance followed the Schmidt ordinance in its provisions, guaranteeing the city five per cent of the gross receipts from the bathhouse and other park privileges. The essential difference was that the profits from the operation of the park concessions are to go to the betterment of the city park property. It provides that if the lease with the citizens is made that a company will be incorporated to conduct the business. The incorporators are to be Messrs. Cramer, Lundburg, Maey, Macduff and Sabin.

The Schmidt ordinance, which has been before the council for six months, was killed when placed on final passage, all the councilmen except Burkhalter voted against the ordinance. A motion then made to advance the citizens' bathhouse ordinance and place it upon its second reading was lost, and this will come up at the next meeting. The most voluminous petition ever read before the council was presented in protest

SWEDEN WARNS AGAINST TRAVEL ON ARMED SHIPS

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
Washington, Feb. 18.—In reply to the Austro-German decree for warfare against armed merchant ships, Sweden has warned her people not to travel on armed ships. Consular and diplomatic representatives were instructed to warn citizens of Sweden that passage taken on armed merchant vessels of the belligerents would be at their own peril.

Sweden is known to be friendly to Germany, and some believe Germany may have influenced her in this warning because of the possible influence it might have in America.

NO 8-HOUR DAY FOR SUGAR REFINERY

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
Sacramento, Feb. 18.—The Spreckles Sugar Refining company of Salinas, Cal., is exempted from the eight-hour law for women by the attorney general today.

State Labor Commissioner McLaughlin charged the company with violating the law by working women in the laboratory 12 hours a day.

The attorney general in ruling the company exempt says:

"Persons employed in the laboratory of a sugar refinery are engaged in work which is necessary in connection with the curing of sugar beets, which are perishable vegetables, and the law makes exemption in case of the harvesting, curing, canning or drying of any variety of perishable fruit or vegetables."

TONG MEMBER GOES TO THE HOSPITAL

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
Portland, Feb. 18.—Apparently dying, a member of the Chinese Hop Sing tong lay at the Good Samaritan hospital today and stoically refused to offer any suggestion why a member of the Bow Leong tong should have shot him. He had five bullets in his body. Another Chinese, a member of the peaceable Ho Yin Quong tong, had a bullet in his leg, but smilingly assured officers that it was all an accident.

Louie Quon was in jail. He cheerfully admitted shooting the Hop Sing man who, he said, tried to steal his wife. Louie Quon is a San Francisco member of the consolidated Bow Leong tong.

Chinatown was in a state of suppressed excitement today. All Chinese denied that last night's shooting was part of the recent tong troubles in California, but police recalled that the Bow Leongs were reported to be allied with the Suey Sings in November, 1914, when the Hop Sings were badly beaten in a street battle here.

Jung Quong, president of the local Bow Leong tong, is also in jail. He was found hiding in a basement and was arrested under the so-called "general cussedness" ordinance. Hundreds of Chinese were crowding the Eleventh street theater when the shooting occurred a dozen blocks away. A squad of police rushed to the theater, and while the Chinese actors blandly proceeded with their drama, the American officers searched every man in the audience for weapons.

The Hop Sings are enraged. They are the most powerful tong in Portland and the police are fearful of further trouble.

To the leasing of the bathhouse to private parties for individual gain and supporting the proposal made by the citizens' committee.

SCHMIDT IS EXECUTED IN SING SING

Unfrocked Priest Goes to the Electric Chair for the Murder of His Sweetheart, Anna Aumueller, in New York

Ossining, N. Y., Feb. 18.—Hans Schmidt gave his life in the electric chair here at dawn today for the murder of his sweetheart, Anna Aumueller. He went to death as calmly as he would have conducted religious services in the days when he masqueraded as a priest. His dying words were for his old mother in Germany. Down the dark chambers of the death row sounded his good-byes to 20 other condemned men as he vanished out through the "little green door" on his last journey.

Father Cashin, prison chaplain, who had prayed with him through the night hours, accompanied him to the chair. Both the chaplain and the guards were surprised at the condemned man's haste. Disregarding the usual measured tread of the dead march, Schmidt, erect and unflinching, hurried to the chair. He was calm and collected.

Suddenly as he reached the rubber mat before the electric chair, he halted abruptly and wheeled. Above his head he held the ebony and silver crucifix, the symbol which in other days he had made a mockery.

He snapped aside the reaching arms of the waiting guards, and rasped out: "One minute, please; one minute, until I say my say."

The witnesses, in breathless expectancy, leaned forward as the unfrocked priest declared in tones that rang sharp and clear in the little room:

"Pardon me. I beg forgiveness of all whom I have offended, and all whom I have scandalized. I forgive all who have offended against me. My last thought is for my mother. Please give my mother my last good wishes. It is for her, I—"

"My Lord and my God—" interrupted Father Cashin, and Schmidt quietly repeated the final prayer.

At its conclusion Schmidt sat in the grim chair, seemingly unmoved. Dumbly he gazed at the witnesses for a moment as the electrical apparatus was clamped on him. Then he closed his eyes. There were no signs of a shudder, but his face went chalky white as the last piece of apparatus was strapped firmly beneath his chin.

He died without uttering a sound. Three shocks were given. Each was

THE CABINET AND SENATE DEBATE RELATIONS WITH TEUTONIC NATIONS

Washington, Feb. 18.—With the submarine warfare negotiations between the state department and German Ambassador von Bernstorff at a temporary standstill, the cabinet and senate today debated the future course of this government.

Non-partisan congressional support was promised for the administration stand against the decree by Austria and Germany, announcing their intention to attack armed merchantmen without warning.

The cabinet was expected to consider whether to protest formally against the German and Austrian pronouncements, though it was believed the government would decide to await actual developments before making such a move.

The delay of the allies in advising the administration as to their course

BUILD MANY VESSELS AT PORTLAND

Giant Shipbuilding Plant, to Give Employment to 1500 Men, to Be Constructed on Flats in South Part of City

Portland, Feb. 18.—A giant shipbuilding plant will be located on the South Portland flats adjacent to the Northwest Steel company's plant.

Announcement was made today that arrangements are under way between the Willamette Iron & Steel works and the Northwest Steel company for the construction of shipyards which will give employment to 1,500 men.

A contract is now ready for signature calling for the construction of two 8,800-ton steamers for foreign interests at a price nearly five times what the vessels would have cost during peace times. Owing to the allurements held out by this contract, and the assurance of huge profits from the start, the success of the plant is assured, officials of the two companies asserted.

The identity of the two companies will not be lost in the amalgamation. One company will build the hulls and the other will make the engines. Woodwork will be sub-let to Portland firms. The services of a master shipbuilder known throughout the country already have been secured, it was said, but officials refused to reveal his name.

Construction of the two big steamers will begin within 90 days. The cost of each will be over \$1,000,000.

The two craft to be constructed will be of the same type as the vessel purchased by T. B. Wilcox, of Portland, from the Union Iron Works of San Francisco. They will carry 8,800 tons of dead weight cargo and will be equipped with engines capable of driving them at a speed of 13 or 14 knots.

The first ship will be delivered within ten months and the second within 15 months. The two plants concerned in the big deal are among the oldest and most firmly established in Portland.

of 1,880 volts, the first at 5:51 a. m. Eight minutes later he was officially pronounced dead.

Through his attorney, Schmidt had issued a dying statement during the night, denying he had killed Anna Aumueller, and asserting instead that she died from the effects of an illegal operation.

THE GRAND DUKE TO NEXT ATTACK BLACK SEA PORT

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
London, Feb. 18.—Following upon the capture of Erzerum, Grand Duke Nicholas' Russian forces are aiming at Trebizond, the Black sea port of Asiatic Turkey, 120 miles distant. Already the Slav right wing is within 50 miles of the city, after having captured Balburt en route. The fall of Trebizond is expected within a fortnight.

While this new drive is on, an investigation of Turkish atrocities in Armenia will begin immediately at Erzerum, and the execution of Turkish officials responsible for them is predicted.

The registration of prisoners and booty in Erzerum has only begun, but it was revealed today that 25 more guns and 1,500 prisoners had been taken in the outer forts.

The Post's Petrograd correspondent attributed the capture of Erzerum to the "cyclonic rush of the incomparable Siberians."

BRANSON SENTENCED TO LIFE IN PRISON

McMinnville, Feb. 18.—Judge Bell today sentenced William Branson to life imprisonment for the murder of William Booth at Willamina October 8.

The trial of Mrs. Anna Booth, wife of the victim, who was indicted with Branson, was set for March 6. Branson is 21 years old.

HOUSTON SLATED FOR WAR SECRETARY

Washington, Feb. 18.—President Wilson is looking for a successor to Secretary of Agriculture Houston, it was stated today, because he has practically decided on Houston as secretary of war. When a change in the agriculture department was mentioned, every suggestion has been that Assistant Secretary Vrooman would succeed Houston if the latter retired.

RYAN BANQUETS MR. UNDERWOOD

New York, Feb. 18.—Politicians put their heads together today in an effort to decipher the meaning of Thomas F. Ryan's dinner to United States Senator Oscar Underwood last night. Ryan came up from Virginia, while Underwood came on from Washington. Guests included John D. Archbold, of the Standard Oil company; Daniel Guggenheim, millionaire mining man; Charles M. Schwab and Henry C. Frick, steel magnates, and D. G. Reid, tinplate king.

The banqueters denied that politics were discussed, except casually, but, despite this, guesses about the affair ran from a surmise that the millionaire's wanted to know the contents of the next democratic platform to the suggestion that they desired to have the government armor plate and shipping bills killed.

The dinner was at the palatial Ryan residence, two doors below where the Gary "billion dollar dinner" was given to Colonel Roosevelt.

Independent of any position the allies may assume, however, the administration is committed to a demand that Germany shall pledge that her future submarine efforts shall conform to the established international code.

The state department intends to ask England concerning her alleged secret order to merchant vessels to take the offensive against submarines, which Germany transmitted with her new decree.

Germany, though displeased over the delay in the Lusitania negotia-

PIRACY PLAN CHARGED TO TEUTONS

Senator Lodge Tells Senate His Idea of the German and Austrian Scheme of Attack on Merchant Ships

Washington, Feb. 18.—Austria and Germany were charged by Senator Lodge of Massachusetts today with proposing piracy in their plans to attack armed merchant vessels without warning.

Discussing the Sterling resolution against recognition of their plans, Lodge said it is inconceivable that the United States would accept the Teutonic decree. He cited precedents to show that arming of merchant ships for defense had been allowed since the days of the Barbary pirates. He recalled that America had approved such armament during the present war, and declared that any change from this position now would be an unneutral act.

"The abandonment of the right of merchantmen to arm themselves or the right of Americans to travel or ship their goods on them," said Lodge, "could rest only on the ground that the centuries-old right of neutrals must be cast aside so that a new instrument of maritime destruction should not be impeded in its work of death and murder. Such a doctrine is revolting to every instinct of humanity and to every principle of law and justice."

He said abandonment of the present system would be a warlike step against the allies which at the same time would make the United States Germany's ally.

Senator Sterling, who introduced the resolution several days ago, followed Lodge.

Denouncing the Teuton decree as a reversion to the ideas of the Dark Ages and as creating a situation which constitutes "our gravest international crisis," Sterling declared:

"Let another sea horror occur in which Americans are involved and the administration and the world will know that there is a real America, not supine, not apathetic and hesitating, but strong and militant."

Referring to the Lusitania case, Sterling said that the administration "at first appeared bold and uncompromising in behalf of a great principle, but in the end yielded the substance for the word."

"The vice in the state department's suggestion that the allies disarm merchant vessels," said Sterling, "lies in the idea that because the deadly submarine is not strong on defense itself, we must make merchant ships helpless against it."

Sterling urged issuance of a very strong protest to Germany against her new plans.

Following Lodge and Sterling, Senator Thomas read into the record recent reports that the administration intends no approval of the decree, as the two previous speakers suggested. He charged that the republican attacks were for political effect and were not based on facts nor upon a sincere desire to better the diplomatic relations of the nation.

REBELS WIN VICTORY OVER CHINESE TROOPS

San Francisco, Feb. 18.—The bloodiest battle of the Chinese revolution, raging for several days at Pah Kong, has been won by the rebels, a cablegram from Shanghai to the Chinese World said today.

The battle started when a Yuan Shi Kai division was hurled at 3,000 rebels at Pah Kong. The rebels surrounded the government troops by a ruse and turned several batteries of machine guns on them.