

NEWS ITEMS FROM WASHINGTON, D. C.

TRYING TO GET RESULTS.

Naval Conference Is Struggling With Task Roosevelt Set.

Newport, R. I., July 25.—The naval conference met again today to continue the discussion of battleship plans and, it is believed, will continue daily meetings for some time to come. In the executive council, following the president's speech of yesterday, Mr. Roosevelt plainly told the officers present that he wanted "results" and would insist on them before the conference adjourned.

It was said that one result of the conference would be to abolish the general board of the navy, but officers now attending the sittings of the conference are widely varying in opinion as to the possibility or desirability of any such course.

APPROVES STOCK INCREASE

Interior Department Ratifies Action of Umatilla Water Users.

Washington, July 21.—The secretary of the interior has approved an increase of stock in the Umatilla Water-Users' association from 9,000 to 22,000 shares. The association, made up of landowners under the Umatilla irrigation project, was organized with a capital stock of \$340,000, divided into 9,000 shares of a par value of \$30 each. The project has since been extended to include a total of 22,000 acres, and in order that there may be one share of stock for each acre of land it has been necessary to increase the stock to \$1,320,000, divided into 22,000 shares, of a par value of \$60 each.

New Immigration Record.

Washington, July 25.—Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Labor William R. Wheeler predicts that during the next 12 months America will see the greatest flood of immigrants in her history. In an interview he declared today that all the aliens who fled to Europe on the advance of hard times last year will return, bringing others with them to the "land of promise." New York steamship companies alone, he says, have 600,000 return tickets out and the reappearance of good time will induce the foreign laborers to return to America. Wheeler gives it as his opinion that this influx will be headed toward the Pacific coast, where many opportunists await the laborer.

Benzoic Acid Harmful.

Washington, July 24.—In the interest of health both benzoic acid and benzoate of soda should be excluded from foods. This is the conclusion of Dr. Harvey Wiley, chief of the bureau of chemistry of the department of agriculture, after a prolonged investigation to determine the effect upon the human system of these preservatives. The chemicals were given in various kinds of foods to Dr. Wiley's so-called poison squad, and he declared that their use is highly objectionable and produces very serious disturbance of the metabolic functions, attended with injury to digestion and health.

Postoffices on Warships.

Washington, July 24.—Arrangements are being perfected for the installation of a postoffice on every ship in the United States navy, authorization for this action having been made at the last session of congress. Under the provisions of the enabling act enlisted men on each ship may be appointed as postmaster and assistant postmaster, their regular pay to be increased \$500 and \$300 a year, respectively. They will be required to give bond of \$100.

Baldwin Balloon Shipped.

Washington, July 23.—The balloon and frame of Captain Baldwin's dirigible balloon was shipped from New York Thursday and is expected at Fort Myer today. The balloon must be assembled by July 25, according to the contract with the government. Lieutenant Foulers, in charge of aeronautics at Fort Myer, assisted by the balloon squad of the signal corps, consisting of ten men, is busily preparing for the tests to be held at the fort within the next month.

Secure Data in Europe.

Narragansett Pier, R. I., July 24.—At the forenoon session today of the monetary commission, a proposition was submitted for the appointment of a subcommittee to go to Europe in August. The subcommittee probably will comprise Senators Aldrich, Hale and Daniel and Representative Pagget, and Representative Burton, of Ohio, a member of the commission who is now in Europe, would be the fifth member.

Land Fraud in Oklahoma.

Washington, July 23.—Senator Owen of Oklahoma is to be one of the respondents in a suit to be begun in the courts of Oklahoma before July 27 to set aside what the government will contend are fraudulent conveyances of Indian lands. Theodore N. Barnsdale, Pittsburg millionaire and oil and gas land speculator, and practically every man of prominence in Oklahoma are also to be included in the litigation.

New Bids Are Called For.

Washington, July 23.—Instructions have been sent to the army construction quartermaster at San Francisco to invite new bids on 30 days' notice for the construction of the big army supply depot and the shipment station at Fort Mason, Cal. The contract was awarded to the P. J. Carlin Construction company, of New York, but they failed to sign the contract.

WIRELESS IN FAR NORTH.

Government Will Establish New Stations in Alaska This Year.

Washington, July 23.—There is probability that, after all, wireless stations at Nome and Fort Gibbons, Alaska, will be established this year. The chief signal officer of the army is advised that the steamer Ohio reached Nome with her cargo in good condition. The cargo includes equipment for the wireless station at Fort Gibbons. As the equipment for the Nome station was damaged by the flooding of the hold of the boat in which it was shipped, it was feared that it would be impossible to install the Nome station this season, but now it is believed that the working instruments can be got together to establish the Nome station, and every effort will be made to do so.

The war department is highly pleased with the work done by the wireless stations. It has just received a report that the station on the Farallones held communication with the St. Louis for 53 hours outside of Honolulu, 1,460 miles distant, her signals coming in loud and clear. Several messages were received and transmitted.

War on House Fly.

Washington, July 23.—A national campaign against the house fly and mosquito has been planned and is about to be begun by the government bureau of insects. It will cover the entire country, and in its prosecution measures are to be urged by which not only communities but whole states will be enabled to rid themselves of these deadly enemies of mankind. In order to attain this end it is necessary merely to adopt a few simple and well-understood methods, the application of which may be entrusted to local boards of health. Where the mosquito is concerned, however, it is deemed advisable that there should be a general control by the state, because of the fact that certain species of these tenebrous marauders are migratory and liable to appear suddenly in multitudinous swarms in places far from their breeding areas, giving profound discouragement to local efforts toward extermination.

Bids on Dry Dock Opened.

Washington, July 22.—Bids Saturday were opened at the navy department for the construction of drydock No. 2, at Puget sound navy yard. The dock will be built of concrete and granite; Congress appropriated \$2,000,000 for it. Bids were asked on two alternate propositions, one a dock 883 feet long, the other a dock 740 feet long. The bids follow: Cassey Lohse Winters company, Seattle, \$2,250,000 and \$2,108,000; Westlake Construction company, St. Louis, \$2,237,000 and \$2,111,000; C. J. Erickson, Seattle, \$1,625,000; no bid on smaller dock; Jack Black Masonry Contracting company, St. Louis, \$1,999,196 and \$1,915,000; Puget Sound Bridge & Dredging company, Seattle, \$1,975,000 and \$1,880,000.

Billion Dollar Congress Reports.

Washington, July 21.—The last session of congress made necessary total appropriations amounting to \$1,008,397,543.56, according to the announcement made yesterday under the law which requires the publication of the total volume of appropriations after each session. In addition to the appropriations already made, the contracts authorized by the session require the future appropriation of funds for public works, aggregating \$49,443,750. This makes the total expense of the session \$1,057,841,293.56.

Takes Charge of Timber.

Washington, July 22.—A joint board representing the war department and the bureau of forestry has taken up the matter of preserving the forests on military reservations. An arrangement will be made for a beneficial cutting of timber and for preserving the trees which will remain. Under this arrangement the war department retains control of the forests on the reservations, and at the same time gets the valuable services of the forestry bureau.

Mixing Paper Lust a Dose.

Oyster Bay, L. I., July 21.—Attorney General Bonaparte was here Saturday in conference with President Roosevelt regarding the prosecution of the paper trust. After his conference with President Roosevelt Attorney General Bonaparte, in answer to questions, said: "The only trust I know anything about is the vicious reporter trust of Oyster Bay."

No Notice of Lumber Rate Appeal.

Washington, July 22.—Judge Martin A. Knapp, chairman of the interstate commerce commission, Saturday stated that he had not been officially informed that the transcontinental railroads would contest the commission's decision in the lumber rate cases, but he has heard in an indirect way that they are considering such a course.

A. Y.-P. Money Available.

Washington, July 22.—The treasury department Monday notified W. M. Geddes, currency distributing officer for the exposition company, that the government appropriation for the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition at Seattle, amounting to \$600,000, is now available.

Uncle Sam Demands Protection.

Washington, July 21.—The state department yesterday made a demand on the Persian foreign office to take up the demands of the United States government for the protection of American missionaries and their property at Tabriz.

Government Accepts Montana.

Washington, July 22.—The new battleship Montana has been accepted by the navy department. Captain Alfred Reynolds is in charge.

BISHOP POTTER DEAD.

Foremost Figure in Episcopal Church in America Passes Away.

Cooperstown, N. Y., July 22.—Henry Codman Potter, seventh Protestant Episcopal bishop of the diocese of New York, died last night at Fernleigh, his summer home here, after an illness of several weeks, aged 74 years. He was unconscious all day and the end, which came at 8:35 o'clock, was peaceful.

Gathered at the bedside of the dying churchman were Mrs. Potter, his wife; Mrs. Mason C. Davidge, who came from California, and Miss Sarah Potter, daughters; Alonzo Potter, his son; Edward S. Clark, Stephen C. Clark and Mr. and Mrs. F. Clark. Mrs. Charles Russell and Mrs. William Hyde, his other two daughters, who are abroad, have been notified.

Death was due primarily to embolism in the right leg, following a long attack of liver and stomach trouble, and the end had been foreseen for several days by the bishop's physicians. Bishop Potter suffered a severe relapse in the morning and though oxygen was given, his decline was gradual and he sank into unconsciousness, which lasted until the end. No arrangements for the funeral have as yet been made, but it is probable that services will be held here and that the body will be removed to New York, where a public funeral will be held at Grace Church.

Bishop Potter's illness first became publicly known early in the spring, when announcement was made that he was unable to take part in the Easter services. A diagnosis showed that the bishop was suffering from a stomach and liver malady and after it was given out that he would not be able to attend the Pan-Anglican conference June 21, plans were immediately made to bring the bishop here when his condition would permit the journey. Early in the present month he was near death, but rallied and for a time he was thought to be on the road to recovery.

FINE WILL STAND.

Court of Appeals Sustains Standard Oil Assessment.

Chicago, July 22.—John D. Rockefeller will know at 10:30 o'clock today that the Standard Oil company of Indiana must pay the fine of \$29,240,000 assessed against it by Judge Landis in the United States supreme court here nearly a year ago. The court of appeals will report its finding at that hour and positive assurance is given that the original decision will be affirmed in every particular; that the fine will stand and that a new trial will be denied.

This is the final outcome of a day full of wide speculation and excitement among the attorneys on both sides of the famous case. The fact that the court of appeals had reached a decision and was ready to report came as a great surprise, as it had been thought the case would go over until fall. The court of appeals is made up of Judges Peter S. Grosscup, Francis E. Baker and William H. Seaman. There was a hint last night that one judge will dissent, but this will not affect the finding, as the other two are said to have sustained Judge Landis throughout.

Early reports yesterday were to the effect that the fine imposed by Judge Landis would be greatly reduced; in fact, cut down to the ordinary fines assessed against corporations—somewhere in the thousands instead of the millions. From an authority which cannot be questioned, however, it is learned that the majority of the court sustains Judge Landis.

Nevada Stage Is Robbed.

Reno, Nev., July 22.—A special to the Journal from Likely, Nev., says the Likely and Alturas stage was held up by two masked men who were heavily armed. They compelled the Wells-Fargo messenger to throw down the box containing, it is believed, a large sum in gold for the payroll at Alturas. The passengers were not molested. No description of the robbers could be given, as it was dark, and after securing the box the men disappeared in the brush. The sheriff of Alturas and a posse have started in pursuit.

Ruef Again Pleads Prejudice.

San Francisco, July 22.—The battle of the affidavits was renewed yesterday, when three affidavits were filed by Abraham Ruef to support a motion that his counsel will make today to have his trial on one of the many charges of bribery against him transferred to another court than that of Judge Lawlor. It is set forth in the affidavits that Ruef's defense will include the famous immunity contract in which Judge Lawlor is involved, and further that Judge Lawlor is biased and prejudiced against the defendant.

More Plague in Venezuela.

Willemstad, Island of Curacao, July 22.—The steamer Maracaibo arrived yesterday from Puerto Cabello. Among her passengers was Charles W. Vogel, surgeon in the United States health and marine hospital service, who went to Venezuela to investigate the bubonic plague. The steamer was refused admittance at Puerto Cabello. There are rumors that the plague has broken out afresh at Caracas and La Guayra.

Shoot Up Boston Saloon.

Boston, July 22.—Three men armed with heavy caliber revolvers dashed into a crowded Jamaica Plains bar-room 10 minutes before closing time last night and yelling "Hands up!" began shooting up the place. When they had grabbed the money till and emptied it and had finished shooting and made their escape, one man was dead on the floor, another lay dying and a third was seriously injured.

Cotton Mills Sesame.

Augusta, Me., July 21.—The Edwards cotton mills, of this city, which have been running on half time since March 1, will resume full time today in all departments. The mills employ about 1200 hands.

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