

AMITY WITH U. S. SOUGHT BY EUROPE

Present Strained Situation Caused by Disagreement Over War Debt.

Paris.—Relations between the United States and Europe at the present time are considered by experienced diplomats and observers to be unsatisfactory.

Europe has never accepted America's viewpoint in the war debt question and there is no gainsaying that America has little sympathy in Europe, even among the smaller nations, in the disarmament thesis.

As for President Coolidge's armistice day utterances, the press has been purposely restrained nearly everywhere, and the press comment is far from revealing the real depth of European irritation. About the only nation which liked it was Germany, and this for the special reason that Germany just now is trying hard to effect a rapprochement with the United States to counteract the Franco-British entente.

More and more it is the firm belief of citizens of Europe that Americans are a vast and imperialistic people, whose real aim is a financial and naval hegemony. In the cruiser controversy their sympathies are with Great Britain; in the renewed tariff controversy, their sympathies are with France.

Every single great power earnestly desires an understanding with the United States, but apparently not one is now convinced that such an understanding is possible, not one is willing to effect an understanding on purely American terms, and everyone, while still working for an understanding, seems busy concocting possible alternatives.

FOUR STATES PASS BIG BOND ISSUES

Washington, D. C.—Highway bond issues totaling \$240,000,000 were passed in four states on election day, while two bond issues amounting to \$110,000,000 were defeated.

Victories were registered for a bond issue of \$30,000,000 in Louisiana; \$100,000,000 in Iowa; \$75,000,000 in Missouri and \$35,000,000 in West Virginia. A bond issue of \$75,000,000 in Pennsylvania, opposed on the grounds that the state already had ample funds for construction, was defeated, while a \$60,000,000 bond issue in Colorado also went down to defeat.

California had a \$10,000,000 bond issue up for the elimination of grade crossing, but this was defeated. On the other hand, a \$6,000,000 bond issue for state parks carried by a vote of three to one.

GOVERNMENT LOSES TAX

Couzens and Associates Will Not Have to Pay \$30,000,000 to U. S.

Washington, D. C.—The government's attempt to levy an additional \$30,000,000 income tax assessment against the original Ford Motor company stockholders, including Senator Couzens, republican of Michigan, has been definitely abandoned.

Commissioner Blair of the internal revenue bureau has dropped the case, after the government's defeat both in federal court and before the board of tax appeals. He had been considering an appeal, but instructions have been given to the collector of internal revenue in Detroit to abate the case.

The government contended that the original Ford stockholders had appraised their stock at the wrong value.

The assessment against Senator Couzens alone was \$11,000,000. After a spectacular hearing before the board of tax appeals the Ford stockholders won the verdict. They also won in the federal court, where they contended that the government did not have the right to institute the proceedings.

Hot Battle Starts on Ryan Estate Tax.

New York.—A contest among two states and the District of Columbia, in which each will seek to establish itself as the legal residence of the late Thomas Fortune Ryan, and therefore entitled to the inheritance tax from his estate, estimated in excess of \$200,000,000, is in prospect. The states involved are Virginia, Mr. Ryan's birthplace and where he maintained an estate, and New York, where he lived for 57 years and amassed his wealth. Two years ago he announced he would make Washington his legal residence.

\$33,000,000 Fire Loss Reported.

Washington, D. C.—One of the most convincing arguments yet advanced for federal aid in building roads through the public land areas of the west is the statement by the United States forest service that there was a loss of \$33,000,000 from fires in the forests of the nation last year, according to the American Automobile association.

JOHN G. TOWNSEND



Dr. G. Townsend, Republican, former governor of Delaware, who was elected to represent that state in the United States senate.

WORLD COURT ACTION WANTED BY COOLIDGE

Washington, D. C.—Ratification by the world powers of the senate's reservations to America's proposed entry into the world court is expected to be sought again by President Coolidge, together with his senate program of approval of the Kellogg anti-war treaty and the naval cruiser construction bill.

These hopes of the president, who is about to conclude his occupancy of the White House, were discussed at a breakfast at the executive mansion to which he invited most of the republican senators now in the city—17.

Unlike the many past White House breakfasts for congressional members, which have been confined almost entirely to the social phase, Mr. Coolidge took up with the republican leaders of the senate their calendar of business for the approaching short term and revealed his desire for early action on the Kellogg treaty and the cruiser bill.

It is understood that the president indicated a desire to approach again the world powers on the question of approval of the reservations voted by the senate in adhering to the world court protocol. Several of the nations have declined to accept the reservations.

Chairman Borah of the senate foreign relations committee, a bitter opponent of the world court resolution, will not interpose any objection to the action of the president in seeking adherence to the senate's world court resolution. Likewise, Senator Gillett, republican, of Massachusetts, will not press his resolution asking the president to reopen negotiations with the other nations in view of the intention of the chief executive.

BRIEF GENERAL NEWS

Eighty thousand bachelors in Turkey will be affected financially if the government makes good on its reported intention to impose a heavy tax on celibacy.

Terrific storms off the coast of the British Isles and northern Europe drove shipping to shelter last week. At least nine persons are dead as a result of storms on land and one death is reported in shipwreck.

The body of Dr. George T. Harding, father of the late president, Warren G. Harding, has been laid to rest in Marion cemetery, within a stone's throw of the memorial which the nation built to his son's memory.

The ex-maharaja of Indore, husband of Nancy Ann Miller of Seattle, it is said will contest a suit for about \$60,000 damages filed against him by a Hindu woman who charges the ex-ruler with luring her and her daughter to his residence, imprisoning them for 11 years and despoiling her home of furniture and jewelry.

Guns Keep Quarantine in Alaska.

Juneau, Alaska.—A shotgun quarantine to prevent the spread of smallpox, usually fatal to Indians and Eskimos, has been established in the region of the lower Yukon, following its outbreak in central-western Alaska, said Governor George A. Parks. Persons in the area are weighing the chances of being marked by smallpox if they remain against the certainty of being marked by birdshot if they attempt to leave.

Railroad Workers Get Wage Increase.

Chicago.—Conductors and trainmen of western railways accepted a 6½ per cent wage increase, retroactive to May 1, 1928, when their former agreement with the railways expired. The wage increase affects 42,000 employees and adds \$6,500,000 to the payrolls of the western railway. It will be in force until May 1, 1929.

OREGON STATE NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Assembled for Information of Our Readers.

The Eugene-Bend auto stage service will be discontinued December 2 for the winter.

Six Lane county road districts last week voted special taxes for road work to be done during the coming year.

The first car of Klamath turkeys left last week for southern California, where they will be placed on the Los Angeles markets.

With a fall of 41 inches of snow at the rim of Crater lake during the past few weeks, Crater lake is taking on a beautiful mantle of white.

L. J. Simpson has announced that the Simpson Lumber company will near Eugene will start cutting December 1 with 100 men employed.

A contract for construction of the first two units of Klamath Falls' new \$300,000 sewer project has been let to J. F. Shea & Co. of Portland.

Thieves in Clatsop county are said to be making a regular practice of butchering young stock in pastures and selling the meat in Portland.

The tax levy in Freewater for 1929 will be 9.8 mills, as against 14 mills for 1928, the reduction giving Freewater the lowest levy in Umatilla county.

Installation of an electric light and power line will soon be under way in the Victory district near Sandy. This improvement will also extend to the schoolhouse.

Assessed valuation of property in Deschutes county for 1928 shows an increase of \$21,175 over that for 1927. Only 12 other counties show an increase over 1927.

M. Fickle, 70, one of the best known of Roseburg's residents, died last week. He served as manager of the Postal Telegraph company office at Roseburg for 37 years.

Government men estimate that more than a billion feet of timber has been destroyed in the past six years by beetle infestation in Klamath county and northern California.

Reports read at the annual meeting of the Eastern Oregon Dairymen's association at Haines showed that 612,162 pounds of butterfat were received in Haines during the year.

Several Los Angeles promoters are planning the construction of a \$300,000 sanitarium in Lithia park at Ashland, which, when completed, will be one of the finest in Oregon.

The Warm Springs drainage system, comprising about 56 miles of drain canal in a project of about 25,000 acres, is virtually completed at a cost to the district of about \$270,000.

The S. W. Strauss monthly survey finds Klamath Falls leading in the amount of building for Oregon cities outside of Portland during October with 50 buildings valued at \$97,290.

The Dundee Fruit Products company, capitalized at \$20,000, has put out 15,000 boxes of candied fruit this season. Canned pears, apples, peaches, prunes and quinces are produced.

Hearing of the case involving the proposed construction of a state office building in Salem at a cost of \$600,000 has been set by the United States supreme court for December 3.

Members of the La Grande council of parents and teachers have received an award for having the largest membership in proportion to the school enrollment of any council in the state.

About 40 head of horses raised in the neighborhood of North Powder were recently sold to the United States government for artillery and cavalry work at prices satisfactory to the owners.

Another election is to be held at Richland in Baker county to choose a mayor, G. B. Saunders and R. O. Horning, candidates for that office, each receiving 45 votes at the recent election.

Anticipating a business of \$1,000,000 during the coming year, a new unit to cost \$40,000 is being added to the \$100,000 commercial creamery at Baker, the contract having been awarded to Ernest Stoddard.

Prohibition law violators in Marion county will be requested to contribute approximately \$34,000 of unpaid federal taxes, according to announcement made by F. A. Hazeltine, federal prohibition investigator.

Conversion of the old state training school for boys located five miles east of Salem into a state prison annex will be recommended by Governor Patterson in his message to the next legislature, which convenes January 14.

Distribution to the counties of \$171,338.10, representing 25 per cent of the receipts received by the federal government from forest reserve rentals, sales of timber and other sources, was announced by the secretary of state at Salem.

Armistice day arrests in The Dalles netted the city \$134, according to a checkup made from records in the city recorder's office.

Sidney Frederickson, 10, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Frederickson of Roseburg, found a dynamite cap near his home and tried to explode the interior with a match. The cap exploded and shattered his left hand.

Reforestation of about 300 acres of cut over land lying on both sides of Cannon Beach highway in Clatsop county has been started by a crew of 40 men employed by the Crown-Wilamette Paper company.

A quarter mile of forest road into Lumberport camp, seven miles above McKenzie bridge, has just been completed by Cascade national forest crews. This finishes the road work for the season in that district.

The Raphael Leonard placer gold mine in Democrat gulch near Gold Hill has been sold to the Amalgamated Gold Mining company of Nevada. A crew of 14 men has been employed in extracting the gold from the property.

Two important events in the construction of the new Baker community hotel building occurred recently with the arrival of a carload of structural steel from Los Angeles and the pouring of the first concrete into the floor.

Robert Pointsett, a 97-year-old pioneer of Hubbard, was given a birthday surprise when the members of the Congregational church were hosts at a banquet in his honor. Mr. Pointsett is hale and hearty and takes an active part in all community work.

Oregon is a state of small high schools. This was indicated in a report prepared at Salem, showing that of the 274 four-year high schools filing reports with the state superintendent of public instruction, 130, or nearly one-half, have less than 50 students each.

Salem may be selected as the site for a federal landing field for dirigibles, according to announcement made by Councilman Rosebraugh. He asked Mayor Livesley to appoint a committee to investigate sites. Such a field would furnish employment for 2000 men, it was said.

Concrete work on the big dam across the McKenzie river for the Eugene power plant at Leaburg will be completed this winter, according to J. W. McArthur, engineer for the light and water board. He said that the weather has been excellent this fall for construction work.

One lone pullet from Lane county will make a special trip to St. Louis, Mo., to uphold the honors of the Barred Plymouth Rocks of that district in competition with birds from all parts of the United States at the Greater St. Louis poultry show, to be held November 23 to December 21.

County offices, schools and business houses in the city of Prineville were closed one afternoon last week during the funeral services held at Community church for John Henry Gray, Crook county treasurer, who died recently. The church building was unable to seat the large number attending.

Sherwood held its annual potato and onion show last week. Officials in charge stated that the best type of onions and potatoes ever produced on the black beaverdam soil of the Tualatin valley were on exhibit. The show is sponsored by the Sherwood Chamber of commerce and the office of County Agent McWhorter.

Dairymen along the Mount Hood loop highway have difficulty in driving their herds across this artery, as motorists as a rule are loath to slow down, it is claimed, even when given a signal, as shown recently when Milton Meinig of Sandy stood in the center of the road waving a red flag, but was forced to step aside or be run over.

High on the McKenzie slope, west of the town of Sisters, the Skyliners, central Oregon outdoor organization, have constructed a ski jump and a 1000 foot toboggan slide. The jump and slide have been put in shape and will be ready for use after the first heavy snow. The Skyliners also have flooded a three-acre pond near Sisters. A cabin was built near the ski jump and toboggan slide.

Following an enforced vacation which began some time ago when the La Grande high school building was damaged by fire, students resumed their work where they left off last week. Four different church buildings are to serve as temporary classrooms. Workmen already have started putting a new roof on the high school building, and the school board will advertise for bids for the remaining repair work to be done in the near future.

More than 20,000 gallons of fuel oil covered a considerable area of north Roseburg recently when a thief backed a truck into the Denn-Garretson warehouse, filled containers and drove away, leaving the outlet to the storage tanks open.

The work of placing signs at all the cross roads in Linn county by the Oregon State Motor association and the county court cooperating has just been completed. Linn is one of only a few counties in the state receiving this service.

RAY SCHALK



Ray Schalk, former White Sox catcher and manager, has accepted terms to serve as assistant manager and coach of the New York Giants.

ROAD BUREAU HEAD SCORES TOLL BRIDGES

Washington, D. C.—Private toll bridges, across important streams again are the target for a scathing attack in the annual report of Dr. Thomas H. MacDonald, chief of the federal bureau of roads, submitted to the secretary of agriculture and made public here.

"Taking advantage of the hesitation on the part of public agencies, private promoters have been busy acquiring exclusive franchises to build bridges at commanding locations on the publicly built highways, and in compensation therefor to levy toll upon the annually increasing number of travelers," says Dr. MacDonald's report.

"An investigation made by this bureau showed that on October 31, 1927, there were in operation, under construction, or proposed, in the United States 424 toll bridges, of which number 217 were on the federal aid-highway system.

"In the first session of the 70th congress bills were introduced to authorize the construction of 122 new toll bridges and 67 were authorized by acts passed and signed by the president."

ROAD EXTENSIONS MADE

Total of \$88,056,983 Expended by Government to Assist States.

Washington, D. C.—Extension of the federal-aid highway system, totaling 187,753 miles, by 8184 miles during the current fiscal year, at a total cost of \$205,043,784, with federal expenditure of \$88,056,983, was detailed to the secretary of agriculture in the annual report of Thomas H. MacDonald, chief of the bureau of public roads.

New York spent the greatest amount of all the states on road construction during the year, receiving also the highest total of federal aid, \$6,002,778. The other states receiving more than \$3,000,000 were, Texas with \$5,344,336, Iowa with \$4,115,257, Wisconsin with \$3,983,658, Ohio with \$3,341,632 and Pennsylvania with \$2,037,058. Rhode Island, the smallest state, received the smallest allotment, \$280,149.

Thomas Ryan Dies; \$300,000,000 Left.

New York.—Thomas Fortune Ryan, 77, one of the founders of big business, died at his Fifth-avenue home leaving wealth reputed to be between \$300,000,000 and \$500,000,000.

"Flu" Closes California Colleges.

Los Angeles, Cal.—Occidental and Pomona colleges here were closed to prevent spread of influenza. Children at a number of public schools also were dismissed.

THE MARKETS

Portland
Wheat—Big Bend bluestem, hard white, \$1.49; soft white, western white, \$1.20; hard winter, \$1.14; western red, \$1.14½; northern spring \$1.13. Hay—Alfalfa, \$19@19.50 ton; valley timothy, \$17@17.50; eastern Oregon timothy, \$20.50@21; clover, \$14@15; oat, \$15@15.50; oats and vetch hay, \$15@15.50. Butterfat—55c. Eggs—Ranch, 29@50c. Cattle—Steers, good, \$12@12.50. Hogs—Medium to choice, \$7.25@9. Lambs—Good to choice, \$11@12.
Seattle
Wheat—Soft white, \$1.18; western white, \$1.17; hard winter, \$1.12; western red, \$1.12; northern spring, \$1.11; bluestem, \$1.48. Hay—Alfalfa, \$22; timothy, \$23. Butterfat—54c. Eggs—Ranch, 29@45c. Cattle—Prime steers, \$11@11.50. Hogs—Prime, \$7.50@9.15. Lambs—Choice, \$11@11.50.
Spokane.
Hogs—Good, and choice, \$9.10@9.25. Cattle—Steers, good, \$10.50@11.50.

NEW BILL FOR FARM RELIEF PROPOSED

Will Provide for Market Control by Board; Equalization Fee Abandoned.

Washington, D. C.—A new farm relief bill, designed to meet administration desires, has been drafted by Chairman McNary of the senate agriculture committee and will be pressed for a vote at the approaching short session.

The measure, like the twice vetoed McNary-Haugen bill, calls for establishment of a federal farm board with a membership of 12 to take over control of the marketing of surplus crops. The board also would have authority to establish agencies throughout the country with a view to providing more orderly marketing.

Senator McNary, who was co-author of the old controversial McNary-Haugen bill, says he has sought to incorporate the administration's antidote for farm ills in his new measure. His old bill would have created an equalization fee to be assessed against surplus crops to pay for their marketing, but the new proposal puts the cost of surplus marketing on the government, and abandons the equalization fee.

The proposed farm board under the new bill would be permitted to set up stabilization corporations throughout the country to supervise marketing of various crops. It is the theory of the legislation that, in the event a surplus develops in the production of a commodity, the stabilization corporation would keep this surplus off the market in the interest of price maintenance. The surplus then would be disposed of in off-seasons.

WASHINGTON FACES BIG TAX PROBLEM

Olympia, Wash.—Washington is confronted by its most serious tax problem of recent years, brought up by the prospect of the 39 counties losing more than \$1,000,000 annually which they now collect from national and state banks, and the question is certain to arouse and puzzle the 1929 legislature.

The state tax commission, which warned the 1927 legislature of the impending tax difficulty, has been making an extensive search for a solution and, because of constitutional and federal restrictions, it is not unlikely that the commission's findings will convince the legislature that the only immediate solution lies in the enactment of some form of income tax.

Just now the national banks are before the courts with claims for refunds and tax exemptions on the basis of the federal law that prohibits states from taxing the stock of national banks at higher rates than taxes imposed on competing capital.

If the federal banks win, as they won in Oregon, California and other states, the total loss in current tax revenues will be more than \$1,000,000. If the banks lose, the rival financial institutions will continue to conduct business untaxed, while the national banks will unquestionably continue their fight with the idea of winning relief in the United States supreme court. Meanwhile, revenues from such sources will remain in jeopardy to the discomfort of the counties and state.

NEW ERA UNDER HOOVER

Observers Believe Aggressiveness Will Feature Administration.

Washington, D. C.—Political leaders gathering for the opening of the short session of congress next Monday are becoming firmly convinced there will be a real change at Washington March 4, not just a change of faces in the White House.

This impression grows out of numerous developments current and impending, including the bold venture of the president-elect into South America, his proposal that the states raise a \$2,000,000,000 public works fund to relieve unemployment during depression, the prospect of disposing of the farm relief problem which has been in stalemate for several years due to irreconcilable differences between Mr. Coolidge and congress, the impending revision of the tariff and the probability of an almost entirely new group of faces in the cabinet and the higher executive positions.

Ezra Meeker, Aged Trail Blazer, Ill.

Seattle, Wash.—Ezra Meeker, pioneer of the Pacific northwest, lay seriously ill in his bed in a hotel here. It was the second and, according to attending physicians, probably the last illness of the 97-year-old patriarch. His condition was too critical to permit his being moved to a hospital.

Spokane Plane Crash Probed.

Spokane, Wash.—A government investigation of the airplane crash in which four men were killed and 170 injured began here Monday.