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Naval Conference Opens in Geneva

Uncle Sam Warns Powers to Reduce Navies or Compete.

Geneva.—Naval problems, vitally affecting the future security of the United States were raised by Japan and Great Britain at the tripartite naval conference which opened here Monday. France and Italy have "observers" at the conference. Though carefully avoiding talking terms and figures, Japan virtually recommended the maintaining of the status quo in cruisers, destroyers and submarines, with prohibition on the building of additional warships.

Reopening the Washington conference decisions, Great Britain urged reducing the size of battleships, cruisers and aircraft carriers and also the size of their guns.

The first American reaction to the recommendation of Japan is that it would strangle future American freedom in naval construction, and to the recommendations of Great Britain that it would at least be difficult to have any thought of accepting them.

Hugh S. Gibson, who was elected president after the adoption of a cordial message of greeting to President Coolidge for convoking the conference, proposed in behalf of the American delegation maximum and minimum total tonnage figures slightly under the existing strength, but on the basis of the ratio of five for the United States and Great Britain and three for Japan, and pledged an American welcome for the lower figures, if the other nations so desired.

At the same time he threw out a politely-phrased warning that the United States doubtless would resort to extensive building if an agreement at Geneva were found impossible.

MERGER PLANS OF HILL LINES PROGRESS

New York.—The plans for the unification of the northern railroads have been declared operative by the deposit committee, it was announced here. The committee also has approved the making of application to the interstate commerce commission for its approval of the acquisition of control by the Great Northern Pacific railway company, a new Delaware corporation, of the two northern companies and the Spokane, Portland & Seattle. The plan as announced provides for the acquisition of the stock of the Great Northern and Northern Pacific by exchanging stock in the new company on a share for share basis. The new company also will take over the leases of the Spokane, Portland & Seattle, and roads controlled by the two northern companies. Deposits of 70 per cent of the outstanding stock of the northern companies have been made under the unification plan, the committee announced.

FRUIT SHIPPERS WIN

Delivery From Pacific Coast to Be Made in New York.

Washington, D. C.—Cherries and other fresh fruits and vegetables from Washington, Idaho and Oregon, destined for the New York market, will hereafter be delivered in New York city proper by express companies, instead of being dropped at Jersey City leaving the shippers to bear the extra cost of getting their shipments across the Hudson river.

This, in effect, is the decision of the interstate commerce commission announced in the case of the American Fruit and Vegetable Shippers' association versus the American Railway Express company. In former times fruits and vegetables from the northwest were delivered at piers 20 and 21 at New York, where the fruit and vegetable auction is held daily, but in 1921 the express company suspended delivery in New York and ended its service at Jersey City.

The shippers then were required to pay the Erie railroad \$46 a car to move their produce across to New York.

Wisconsin Oleo Law Held Invalid

Madison, Wis.—The Wisconsin supreme court held unconstitutional the state law restricting the sale and manufacture of oleomargarine.

Athena Trap Shooter Captures Two Medals

M. W. Hansell Brings Home Two Trophies From the Northwest Shoot.

Shooting with the squad from the Pendleton gun club, Marion Hansell swept all crack shots aside Friday in the first day of the Sportsmen's Association at Portland, when he broke 100 straight targets in the shoot-off with six competitors to capture the Dayton medal, and then toed the line to break 25 straight in another shoot-off with Fred Miller to win the Multnomah trophy.

The Athena shooter's record was the best of the entire three-day shoot, in which sportsmen from over the Northwest participated. Of his feat, the Oregonian says:

"The shooting of Hansell, who when he entered the tournament was not considered a strong contender, was a remarkable one. His coolness in the shoot-off was one of the finest examples of trapshooting seen at Everding park in many months. Those who tied with him in the first 100 targets for the Dayton medal were W. T. Lambert, Oscar Hanavan, Seth Miller, A. Bawker, J. C. Morris and R. W. Verley, each of whom shattered 92 targets.

"The medals which are valued highly, have been at stake in the various events each year for more than a quarter century. However, as it seemed that no one would ever win permanent possession of the trophies, the tournament committee this year decided to make them the property of the 1927 winners."

Falling in line with Omar Stephens, Marion's Athena friends could do nothing else Saturday, other than group up and talk over the victory. Arriving at Pendleton Sunday night, when Mr. Hansell left the train he was met by a bunch of Pendleton admirers, headed by the Pendleton band, who gave him a joyous ovation.

Athena Boy Worked on "Spirit of St. Louis"

John Keen, brother of Henry and Louis Keen, is a mechanic in the Ryan air plane works at San Diego, California, and it was his good fortune to have worked on the most noted plane in the world today, Ryan's "Spirit of St. Louis," the ship piloted by Lindbergh, lone eagle of the air, in his New York to Paris flight.

John writes his brothers here that he also cherishes the keen delight in having assisted in getting the "Spirit of St. Louis" in trim for the hop from San Diego to St. Louis, and was one of the boys who was there to cheer Lindy when he made his hop from the California city.

Old Time Residents Return

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rosenzweig of Lamont, Washington, and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rosenzweig of Monroe, Washington, visited friends in Athena Tuesday and Wednesday. The Rosenzweig family formerly resided in Athena for many years, where the father was engaged in the mercantile business. Moving from here to a farm in Franklin county, Washington, they later removed to Lamont, Washington. Harry is employed by the Union Oil company at Monroe. George resides with his parents at Lamont, and is associated with his father in the mercantile business and also manages a couple of wheat warehouses. Mr. and Mrs. Rosenzweig, Sr., visited at Monroe, Olympia, and Portland before coming to Athena.

Pool Dive Breaks Back

R. C. (Doc) Mathews, owner of the Midway cafe, died at Walla Walla last Friday of a broken back sustained when he dived into shallow water at the Freewater pool. The pool which was to have been opened next week, was only partially filled with water. Mathews' companions took him to a hospital at Walla Walla and an operation was performed to relieve pressure on his spine. The widow and one son survive.

Here From California

Roland Andre is here from California, visiting at the home of his mother, Mrs. W. S. Ferguson. Roland is pleasantly located in California, where he holds a good position.

First Degree Murder Is Siskiyou Verdict

Mother Weeps Softly as Son Walks Back to Jail Cell With Hope Gone.

Hugh DeAutremont was found guilty of first degree murder with recommendation of life imprisonment Tuesday evening.

The jury took one hour and 24 minutes to return a verdict fixing on him responsibility for the killing of Charles O. (Coyle) Johnson during the Siskiyou tunnel holdup October 11, 1923.

Hugh paled when the verdict was read but showed no other emotion. He smiled at the press table as he left the courtroom.

In the jail, in response to a query as to what he thought, he replied bitterly:

"I'm not supposed to think."

As he returned to his cell, he called out in a loud voice, so all his prison mates could hear:

"The verdict is guilty as charged."

A large crowd, including the mother, wife and child of Marvin Seng, slain trainman, heard the verdict. There was no demonstration.

The mother of the defendant wept softly, his father looking straight ahead as Hugh left them without a word.

No time was set for the passing of sentence.

According to courtroom reports the jury reached its verdict on the first ballot, and there was no time spent in discussion.

The jury began its deliberations at 4:31 o'clock, following the instructions of the court, which listed five verdicts within the consideration of the jury.

They were:

First degree murder, the penalty of which is death; first degree murder, with a recommendation for life imprisonment; second degree murder which carries with it life imprisonment; manslaughter; or not guilty. The instructions required an hour to deliver.

Registered voters in Umatilla county, those holding certificates of registration from county clerks in other counties, or any one over 21 years of age that is a citizen of the United States and has resided in Oregon six months preceding the election and who can read and write the English language may be sworn at the polls and vote at the special state election which will be held next Tuesday, according to R. T. Brown, county clerk.

The ballot boxes for each precinct have been prepared by Mr. Brown and have been turned over to the sheriff for distribution.

Asleep in Car

Officer Jim King of Weston, mooning around in suburban environs Wednesday morning, found Charles Russell sleeping in his Ford coupe in front of the Athena Hotel. King arrested Russell and in the justice court at Milton, preferred charges of drunkenness. Contrary to reports, no charges of liquor possession were made, as the jug and flask found in Russell's car were empty. Russell's friends say that he frequently sleeps in his car, mornings when coming to work at Harris' barber shop on occasions of arriving before the shop is open.

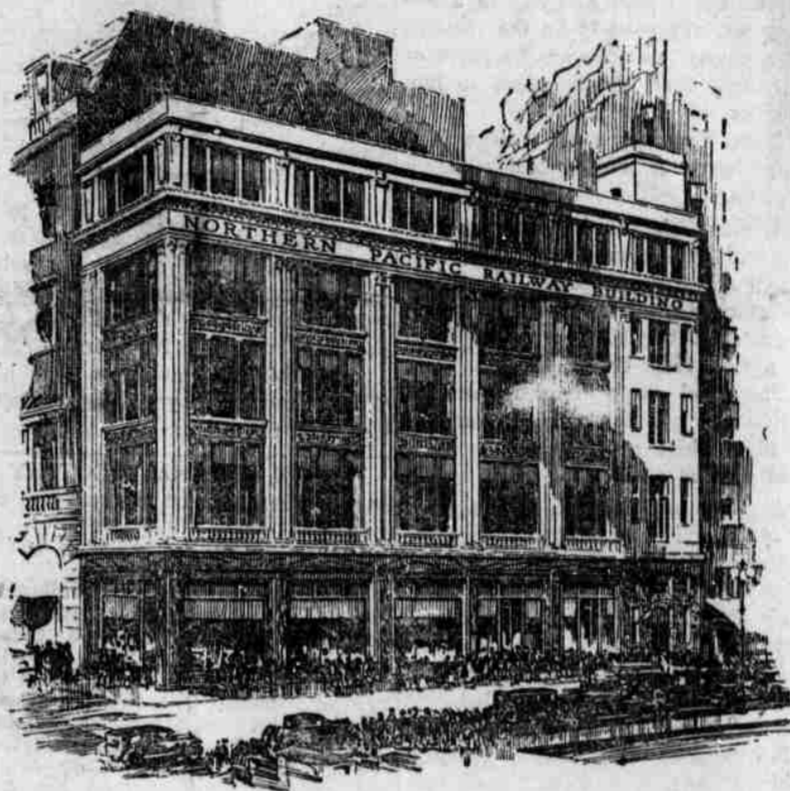
Christian Church Repaired

The local Christian church is undergoing repairs this month. The plaster has been removed from the walls of the main auditorium and vestibules and is being replaced by plaster board. The foundation under the basement floor will be reinforced also. S. F. Gore has charge of the work and L. H. Moon of Milton, J. D. Clemmens and Dan Gray are also employed. Charlie Smith will do the tinting and painting to complete the job.

Changes on Weeder

A number of changes have recently been made on the Snider Weeder, manufactured at Weston by the Snider Weeder company. One of the changes made is the substitution of solid cast boxings to carry the trailer wheel. The Snider Weeder is sold in Athena by Rogers & Goodman.

New Northern Pacific Building Now Open in New York City



The industrial, agricultural and social progress of the Northwest and the recreational advantages of that territory are to be set constantly before countless thousands of persons at one of the busiest corners in New York.

The Northern Pacific Railway Company has just opened a new passenger office in New York at Fifth Avenue and Forty-sixth street in a reconstructed building which for many years was the home of the famous Dreier & Company. Here is to be provided a convenient headquarters for northwest travelers in uptown New York and at the same time this new Northern Pacific office will serve Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon as an exposition building where every day in the year this territory served by the company's lines will be called to the attention of New Yorkers and transients.

The new Northern Pacific Railway building is a five-story structure of black marble and white stone. The interior of the passenger office carries color and theme of the railroad's trademark—black and red predominating. Large display windows on Fifth Avenue and Forty-sixth street picture Northwest scenes and products, which are effectively shown as upon miniature theater stages with novel lighting effects to emphasize Northwest attractions and to catch and hold attention of passersby.

In announcing removal of the company's offices from 280 Broadway to the uptown location, A. B. Smith, passenger traffic manager, said this step is a part of the new policy of Northwest railroads. Recent public discussions have shown the need of better acquaintance and better understanding as between the people of the east and the people of the west, he said, and by establishing this office in the heart of the New York shopping district and equipping it to furnish information about the Northwest the Northern Pacific not only will facilitate the handling of its own business but will contribute in an important way to that better understanding.

With indications this year that travel to the North Pacific and intermediate territory will compare favorably with other "heavy passenger travel years," the opening of the new New York offices of the Northern Pacific is timely, Mr. Smith said.

C. F. Cummings, 66, Pioneer of Wallula Passes

Charles Fremont Cummings, 66 died Sunday at his home at Wallula following a stroke of paralysis suffered early in the week. He had made his home in and near Wallula for 61 years coming across the plains from his birthplace in Kansas with his parents when he was a year old. He was born in Patosa, Kansas, September 5, 1861. Upon attaining years of maturity he was engaged in the livery business at Wallula for a number of years, then in farming, later entering the employ of the W. & C. R. R. (now owned by the N. P.). He was a stationery engineer in their shops. He then engaged in the mercantile business in Wallula and made a fruit farm near Wallula. He was postmaster for many years.

Mr. Cummings' father, Gideon Cummings on arrival in the country bought an interest in the missionary farm of Rev. H. H. Spalding. He was the first to attempt to farm the hills south of Wallula and was successful.

Very sincerely Yours,
MRS. GILBERT E. HOLT, Secretary.

Has Leg Amputated

The East Oregonian reports John Lathrop, former city editor of that paper, and recently editor of the California Tax Digest died Tuesday at his home in Pasadena. He was operated upon at the Pasadena hospital April 16, when his right leg was amputated because of a bone infection. He appeared to be recovering his strength but had taken a decided turn for the worse.

Woman's Burns Fatal

Mrs. Clara Russ Ramp, 47 of Walla Walla died of injuries sustained at her home earlier in the day, when gasoline exploded while she was cleaning some clothes. She was a native of Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Her widower, an assistant cashier at the Baker-Boyer National bank, and two children survive her.

Became Overheated

Wendell Bell, working on the Fred Gross place, west of Athena, became overheated Monday afternoon. He was brought to town and placed under the care of Dr. Sharp. The young man has recovered.

Red Cross Appreciates Athena's Contribution

The following letter of appreciation has been received recently from the Umatilla county chapter of the American Red Cross:

My Dear Mrs. McEwen:

Your letter enclosing a check for \$52.00 for the Mississippi Flood Relief was received yesterday and on behalf of the Directors of the Chapter I wish to express our appreciation for your interest and help in securing this fund. I think the generosity of your community is very fine and it is encouraging to have a cause of this kind so well supported. Will you please convey to your group of Red Cross members and friends the appreciation of the Chapter and National Society of the American Red Cross for the generous and sympathetic spirit toward the greatest disaster the United States has every had.

In addition to the above fund, four dollars was contributed by Mrs. V. A. Gholson.

Base Ball Results

In the Blue Mountain league Sunday, Walla Walla defeated Pendleton, 3 to 2, while the Reservation Indians won from Hermiston 5 to 3. These games closed the league season, with Pendleton winning the pennant, Walla Walla in second place, the Indians third and Hermiston in the cellar position. In the Valley league Adams won from Gardena 11 to 7. Fruitvale leads the race in this league with Adams and Whitman tied for second. Weston trounced Milton-Freewater in the Big Four league, 10 to 2. Weston is leading the league.

"Moon" Outfit Seized

Sheriff Cookingham and Deputy Hoskins passed through Athena Sunday night with a moonshine still outfit which they had taken in the Dry Creek neighborhood, northeast of Weston. The outfit which had been concealed in an abandoned cistern on the Staggs place, consisted of 109 gallon still, 12 barrels of mash, gas stove, gas tank and a pressure tank.

University Gridders of 1902 Met in Reunion

Homer Watts Was Captain of the Winning Crew, Played Tackle.

A University of Oregon special says—The Oregon football team, season of 1902, held a reunion on the university campus recently and played the old games over again. They were good games in 1902, but age improved them and if improvement is as rapid in the next quarter century as the last, they will be perfect by 1952.

The Webfoot team of 1902 is a strong argument against the belief now prevalent that football stars are seldom good for anything else. Every living member of the team is now a successful business or professional man. The team of 25 years ago was a husky one. It had to be as there were but 12 men on the squad and if more than one of them was knocked out the Webfoots had to play with ten men. Virgil D. Earl, director of athletics at the University of Oregon, was a member and can recall the whereabouts of practically every member of that illustrious eleven. Earl played tackle. His running mate was Homer (Ish) Watts, captain, now practicing law at Athena and conducting on the side one of the largest wheat ranches in eastern Oregon. Watts was a whale of a tackle and president of the Oregon student body.

The team was coached by Mike Dolp, ex-Williams college star, member of the Dolp family of Portland which is well known in northwest pioneer circles. Dolp, now deceased, was assisted by Fred Ziegler, ex-captain and backfield who is now a busy and popular physician in Portland. Elmer Wright, manager, is a commission merchant in Portland and David Graham, assistant manager, is in the shoe business in Eugene.

Ends were William Chandler and David Jordan. Jordan is no longer living, but Chandler, better known as "Wenry," is a well-known architect of Marshfield. The guards are Porter Frizell, who is now farming on an extensive scale near Rickard, and Henry McKinney. The latter is sheriff of Baker county and a member of the university board of regents. Together with Fred Thayer, husky center, these players gave Oregon an excellent center trio. Thayer is now a doctor in Medford. Seth Kerron, Eugene doctor, played either at guard or in the backfield as occasion demanded, and gave a good account of himself in either position.

William Murphy, much better known as "Pat," was the quarterback of this assemblage, and an elusive open-field runner. He was small but scrappy and tough. He is now teaching business English at the High school of Commerce of Portland.

The halfbacks were Ray Goodrich and Joe Templeton. Goodrich, now dead, was cashier of the First National bank of Eugene. Templeton, a member of the family that furnished many athletes to Oregon, is now an attorney in Seattle. He was a hard-hitting back in his day and a brilliant kicker. Clyde Payne, fullback, completed the backfield foursome. After leaving Oregon he was president of the old Ashland normal school for a number of years, but has since dropped out of sight.

Predatory Birds Destroyed

F. Bigler, county game warden at Walla Walla, is compiling a list of the owls, crows and magpies killed and eggs of predatory birds destroyed preparatory to paying youths for killing them. In the vicinity of Walla Walla the total bird bag is 11,950 and outside points are yet to be heard from. The county game commission pays 2 1/2 cents for each egg, 3 cents for each young bird and 5 cents for each old bird.

Billy Sunday Wanted

Walla Walla Protestant churches have tentatively agreed to call Rev. Billy Sunday for a series of meetings in the fall or winter. Another meeting will be held next week and arrangements made for dates.

Moose Lodge Holds Picnic

Members of the Moose from Pasco, Kennewick, Dayton and Walla Walla had a joint picnic in the Walla Walla city park Sunday.

32 States Pass Anti-Crime Laws

Legislatures Adopt Methods Designed to Check Crime Wave.

New York.—Measures designed to check crime have been passed by 19 state legislatures thus far in 1927, a survey revealed.

Thirteen other states adopted measures, such as those altering the penal codes to make former misdemeanors felones, which were considered general anti-crime legislation, but not specific checks on crime.

The measures adopted in the 19 states generally tended toward an increase of sentence, with a tightening of the legal net about the habitual criminal, the gangster, gunman and hold-up man.

A significant feature of the anti-crime legislation was the tendency to follow New York's pattern in curbing the activities of habitual criminals and the operations of bands of organized criminals. A number of states enacted laws comparable to New York's Baumes act, a piece of anti-crime legislation passed in 1926. It provides a mandatory life sentence for fourth offenders and generally tightens up the criminal code.

The measures enacted in the 13 states range from Montana's banning of the chewing of mescal nuts by Mexican laborers, a practice thought by some to be necessary to certain religious rites, to Oregon's new measure making it unlawful to skin dead stock without the owner's consent. The last measure is a check on cattle rustling. Oregon was also one of the 19 states adopting legislation to check crime.

The most drastic action towards curbing crime was taken in California, South Dakota, North Dakota, Iowa and New York.

ST. LOUIS WELCOMES LINDBERGH HOME

St. Louis, Mo.—St. Louis gave Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh a tremendous ovation in its public acclaim of its youthful trans-Atlantic flier, when he arrived home.

"The most enthusiastic, yet most orderly demonstration I have seen since my landing in Paris," said Lindbergh after he had ridden two hours through eight miles of unbroken cheering men, women and children packed two to 20 deep on sidewalks along the route.

His reception at Sportsman's park lacked only numbers to equal that of the parade. Even then, an estimated 37,000 persons, the greatest regular season throng ever to attend a St. Louis baseball game, jammed their way in to see the young flier assist Rogers Hornsby, previously St. Louis greatest individual hero, raise the world's series pennant won last year when he managed the Cardinals.

SEIZE WAR MUNITIONS

Gun Runner's Truck Taken in California by Federal Agents.

San Pedro, Cal.—A rumored plot to ship millions of dollars worth of war munitions to some southern country was believed frustrated with the seizure by department of justice agents of \$50,000 worth of arms, ammunition and other supplies purchased in San Francisco and stacked on a dock here awaiting expected arrival of a ship to transport them south.

The capture was made 50 miles north of Santa Barbara and the four Mexicans on the truck and trailer carrying the materials were ordered to proceed in accordance with their instructions. The munitions were then brought on to Los Angeles, with federal agents accompanying the truck, and later driven here where watch was kept for the craft. Coast guard cutters stood by to assist in the seizure if the materials were loaded on to any vessel leaving this country and the shipment of arms law thereby violated.

Pioneer Idaho Woman Dies

Spokane, Wash.—Mrs. George L. Shoup, widow of the last territorial governor and the first state governor of Idaho, died at Salmon, Idaho, according to word received by relatives here. Her husband, who was United States senator from Idaho for 10 years, died about 20 years ago.