

BALKAN PEACE CONFERENCE TO GO OVER WEEK

Meeting of European Ambassadors to Settle Dispute Between Serbia and Austria Postponed—Turkey to Renounce All Territory Captured.

Servians Fortify Adriatic Port Which Is Taken as Indicating Intention to Keep It.

LONDON, Dec. 11.—The conference of European ambassadors to settle the dispute between Serbia and Austria over an Albanian port on the Adriatic Sea, will not meet here until next week, according to announcement made today by Sir Edward Grey, British foreign secretary. The conference was originally set for December 13.

It was also announced in the house of commons that all the powers had agreed to participate in the conference, but no reason was assigned for the postponement.

Plenipotentiaries Arrive

LONDON, Dec. 11.—Plenipotentiaries of the allied Balkan states and Turkey arrived here today to open negotiations for peace. It is believed the basis of the bargaining will be Turkey's renunciation of all territories the allies have taken. This would mean that Turkey would retain Adrinople, Scutaria and Janina, which have not yet fallen before the assault of the allies.

Vienna despatches today declare news has been received there from Antivari, Montenegro, that the Servians are fortifying Durazzo, the Adriatic port over which Serbia and Austria may come to blows. This action, despite a strong demand made by Austria that Serbia reduce her army strength, is taken to indicate that Serbia is set and determined on an Adriatic port and that she will defend her claim, utterly oblivious of whether Europe thereby is drawn into a world war or not.

War Is Probable

Other Vienna despatches declare that M. Nockovitch, the Servian envoy now en route to London, declared while passing through Vienna that he feared the differences between Serbia and Austria were so great that peaceful adjustments was hardly possible.

Despatches from Prague declared that the Austrian minister at Belgrade is instructed by his government to obtain a definite announcement of Serbia's intentions. Should this be forthcoming, it is expected here that will clear the air since the Balkan trouble began and will make it practically evident Europe is to know peace or war.

PORT BLAKELY LUMBER MILLS ARE SOLD TO SYNDICATE

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 11.—That the Port Blakely Mill company of Port Blakely, Wash., the largest lumber mill in the world, has been sold to a syndicate of San Francisco, Seattle and German capitalists, is the assertion here today of the San Francisco Post. The Post declares the owners have applied to the county court for permission to change the corporation's name to the Blakely Mill Corporation, but the clerk of the court this afternoon declared that no such application had been filed. He added that such application would have to come through his hands.

"The petition," the Post says, "is made by Dr. E. Skinner, W. J. Hotchkiss, C. A. Nohrhart, W. E. Creed and John W. Eddy, the board of trustees and San Francisco million-aire lumber magnates.

"The reason assigned for the desire to change the corporation's name, which is known in every quarter of the world, is that the corporation is about to dispose of all its assets to a syndicate that wishes to retain the old name, so identified with the lumber trade."

WALL STREET STOCKEXCHANGE GAMBLERS' DEN

Money Trust Probe Shows That Capital Stock Listed Sold From Five to Twenty Times a Month While Books Show Only Few Transferred

Clearing House Reports Show That Profit Made in Collections Instead of Loss Claimed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—Lawrence Scudder, a statistical expert, produced sheets of figures at the money trust hearing today showing how the shares of scores of leading railroad, industrial and oil stocks, have been sold many times over, only a comparatively few shares being actually transferred on company books. A score of New York bankers and brokers sat in the committee room and some of these laughed derisively at Scudder's figures.

Mere Gambling Scheme

The figures showed that capital stock listed for trade sold from five to twenty times over in a single month. Scudder's testimony was introduced by Attorney Untermyer, the committee's counsel, to show that a large number of Wall Street transactions are merely gambling schemes.

The witness testified that 216,644,000 shares of Reading stock sold in the market in 1906 and that only 18,592,000 shares were transferred to the company's books. He said that in September 1906, 6,333,000 Reading shares were sold—over six times the amount of the road's capital stock. He said the highest sales since 1906, in any year were forty-three times the Reading's actual capital stock and the lowest twenty times the amount of its capital stock.

Frew Again Examined

The examination of Walter Frew, president of the Corn Exchange Bank of New York and chairman of the executive committee of the New York clearing house association, was resumed today. Frew described the cost of exchange collections by the clearing house in New York with those in other cities. He said the collection of country checks cost New York banks between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000 a year.

Untermyer, before Frew was exposed, produced clearing house reports showing a slight profit on the collections instead of the large loss alleged by the witness. Frew and Untermyer frequently clashed.

Frederick Lister, an employee in the credit department of the New York clearing house, followed Frew on the stand.

COURT HOUSE WAR BRINGS BLOODSHED

FORT SMITH, Ark., Dec. 11.—"My God, send the militia and save a wholesale slaughter of human life." This message was received here today from the town of Jay, Delaware county, Okla., following a report from New Jay that a mob had seized the court house in the war between the two towns to obtain the county seat.

Immediately after the above message was received the wire broke. It is feared that serious trouble may result.

AMERICANS RESCUED NICARAGUAN GENERALS

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 11.—According to officers of the Pacific Mail steamer Peru, eight Nicaraguan generals who took an active part in the recent uprising in the Central American republic, escaped, with their lives through the intervention of American authorities. The former rebel leaders are now living as exiles in Salvador, and include Juan Carrillos, Antonio Castro, I. Chavez and Don B. Salinas, D. Villavicencio and Caleo Barieto.



DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EARLY. THERE'S A REASON.

SAN FRANCISCANS SWAT EXPENDITURES TO LESSEN TAXES

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 11.—A majority of the 36 charter amendments submitted to the voters of San Francisco yesterday were defeated. The most pronounced feature of the election was an apparent unified sentiment on the part of the taxpayers to swat every measure which provided in any way for possibility of increasing taxes. The proposed two-platoon system for the fire department, which would add \$500,000 a year to the city's expense, suffered with a dozen others, all of which were defeated.

Proposed charter provision for local option was badly beaten. In addition to the opposition to any form of local option, many organizations opposed the measure it set no definite boundary limits for option districts.

The administration measure for easing restrictions on franchises for public service corporations, eliminating the minimum wage from the present charter, extending franchise terms and guaranteeing profits and full return of capital invested to private interests and further providing a means for extending United Railroads franchises to an indeterminate period, with recognition of its watered values, was defeated.

Another amendment providing for construction of utilities by direct taxation or assessment district for municipal operation or for private operation under lease, was defeated.

COMMISSION TRUST PROBED AT SEATTLE

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 11.—Operations of the Seattle Produce Distributors' company, to ascertain whether it is an illegal combination, may be investigated by an extraordinary session of the federal grand jury. The organization is composed of a number of local commission men. United States District Attorney Colner said today that if an extra session of the jury is not called immediately, the company will be probed at the regular convening of the jury February 17.

DARROW'S TRIAL SET FOR NEXT JANUARY

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 11.—Clarence Darrow, labor attorney and counsel for the McNamara brothers, will go on trial January 6 on a charge of influencing Robert F. Bain, a juror in the McNamara trial, according to Assistant District Attorney Joseph Ford's announcement today. Ford predicted that nothing will arise to delay the trial further. Darrow was acquitted recently of a charge of having influenced George N. Lockwood, a prospective juror in the same case.

CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR IS GIVEN SEVERE BEATING

Asserting that Councilman J. W. Mitchell, candidate for mayor, had insulted his family, Claude Miles this morning stopped Mitchell on the street at Main and Central avenue, and demanded an explanation or Mitchell's withdrawal from the race. When Mitchell refused either stating that it was a "frame-up" to put him out of the race for mayor, Miles struck him. Bystanders interfered, but not until Mitchell had been punished considerably.

This afternoon both Mitchell and Miles stated that the quarrel was due to a misunderstanding and each exonerated the other for the stand he had taken.

MARKET RALLIES AFTER A SAVAGE RAID BY BEARS

NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—With all first prices showing gains, stocks were in brief demand at the opening of the stock market here today. Reading, Union Pacific and Canadian Pacific each recorded a one point gain while Steel opened at 65 3-4 to 66 1-8 against 65 3-4 at yesterday's close.

Savage bear attacks shortly after the opening undermined the market, forcing prices below yesterday's close. New buying orders were resumed and the tone became stronger. Southern Pacific was particularly strong, reaching 110 5-8.

Just before noon the market began to lose ground again and moderate selling was on the decline. The market closed unsteady. Bonds were irregular.

SENATE TO FIND RAILROAD VALUES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—That a law authorizing a physical valuation of railroads, considered most necessary in the proper estimating of freight and passenger rates, could be passed with a little agitation among senators is the belief here today of those who advocate the measure.

The bill was passed in the house of representatives, it is said, with the belief that it would be buried in committee upon reaching the senate.

ROOSEVELT'S COUSIN DEAD OF CONSUMPTION

BERLIN, Dec. 11.—Miss Maud Roosevelt Levinson, second cousin to Colonel Roosevelt is dead today from tuberculosis. Miss Levinson, after divorcing her husband, Baron William Mumm Schwartzstein, went on the stage in America, calling herself Maud Roosevelt. She was a native of Washington.

RIDES THROUGH TUNNEL AT RISK OF LIFE

EVERETT, Wa., Dec. 11.—John Ostad is the only man who ever rode through the Great Northern Cascade tunnel on horseback. Failing to find a path through the deep snow yesterday evening, he took the black ride through the three mile single track tunnel. If he had encountered any trains death would have been certain.

FROM WASHINGTON TO HONOLULU BY WIRELESS

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 11.—All records for long distance communication are broken today, following the transmission of messages between S. B. Maddams, federal wireless operator at Honolulu, and C. F. Elwell, chief engineer of the Poulsen system at Arlington station, near Washington, D. C.

The distance in a bee line is 5,600 miles, and the feat is considered more remarkable because about half the distance is over land.

BUNNY HUG DOOMED BY WALLA WALLA

WALLA WALLA, Wa., Dec. 11.—All dances here will be licensed by the city commissioners, and the turkey trot has finished and no more will the "bunny hug" for the commissioners have lopped off their heads.

SIR THOMAS CANS VALET FOR HAVING BAWTH COLD

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 11.—Myles MacKenzie is no longer Sir Thomas Lipton's valet. He explained here today that Sir Thomas called him a "bloomin' fool" when a "bawth" was prepared too cold for the baronet.

TAFT TRAIN BANDITS \$5000 REWARD FOR

TAFT, Cal., Dec. 11.—Spurred on by the offer of a \$5,000 reward for the capture of bandits who robbed a Wells Fargo safe on a Santa Fe train a few days ago, new posses took the trail to join the hunt.

It is believed the bandits left the train at Benthon, where the train stopped for several minutes.

NEW YEAR'S ISSUE

In accordance with its annual custom the Mail Tribune will on New Year's day issue a special edition descriptive of the growth and progress of Medford and the Rogue river valley during the past year.

The issue will be profusely illustrated and be replete with cuts and maps descriptive of the valley's development.

This is the only chance to send your friends the story of the valley brought up-to-date, to let the world know what we are doing in the march of progress.

Send in orders early for extra copies. Price 5 cents.

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE.