

Believed U. S. Plans Secret Peace

RAILROAD CRISIS AT HAND NOW SAYS CAPT. SIEMENS

Next Two or Three Weeks to Tell Story

STRABORN BECOMING RESTLESS OVER KLAMATH

Portland Financial Interests and Business Men Ready, But Conditions Here and Over State Not Give Builder Confidence That Project May Go Through—Bond Buyers Are Found, It is Believed.

If Klamath Falls is to see construction start on her railroad from this city to Sprague River, and if the interest heretofore manifested by Robert E. Strahorn, builder, is to be kept up, work must be done in the next two or three weeks that will absolutely insure the starting of construction by March 1st, said Captain J. W. Siemens, president of the First State and Savings bank of this city, who returned last night from Portland, where he conferred with Mr. Strahorn.

"The critical time in this work is here right now," said Captain Siemens today. "Mr. Strahorn is becoming restless over the manner in which our campaign for raising money is progressing. Something must be done, and done immediately.

"The people of Klamath Falls, as a whole, have been behind this work, I believe. Many contributions have been received from people who could not really afford to make them, and in many instances they have given more than they can really afford. They realize what the railroad will do for this country. They are looking into the future and are giving with that idea in mind.

"Mr. Strahorn is interviewed frequently by the financial and business interests of Portland when he is ready to name his terms, but owing to conditions of right of way and other things prevailing here and in other places, it is up in the air.

"One day while there three different men with capital wanted to be in-

Missionary Talks Tonight

Members of the Ladies Missionary Society of the Christian church and their friends will be entertained this evening at 7:30 at the home of Mrs. E. J. Mayer, corner Seventh and Jefferson streets. An interesting program is being prepared, one feature of which will be a talk by Mrs. W. E. Rambo on her life as a missionary in India.

formed of good mill sites and timber along the line. Men who were crazy to operate at once, but could get no satisfaction owing to the above conditions.

"Mr. Strahorn does not anticipate any trouble about the sale of bonds, being in touch with several bond buyers.

"Practically every day men from states all over the Union are in his office asking for advice where to invest money. They ask how the Klamath railroad is progressing, and when work is to start. Mr. Strahorn is unable to tell them.

"I find that Portland is watching Klamath Falls and doing it closely. The building of this road means much for this country. I predict it will make this city the second largest in the state, and I find Portland newspaper men tending to believe the same thing.

"I am going to confer with local men leading in this activity here, and we will ascertain just what the situation is and what Klamath must do.

"The next two or three weeks will tell the story.

"Mr. Strahorn informed me that unless Klamath Falls takes great steps in the near future, owing to conditions in other parts of the state, he will take his family and leave for California for the remainder of the winter, which would mean no road this year, and maybe never.

"It is now up to Klamath. There are interests here that have not responded as they should. I have been asked by Mr. Strahorn and others in close touch to take charge of the finishing touches in raising this money, and am now considering it. Some-

Democrats Lead Revolt Over Bill



REPRESENTATIVE J. L. BURNETT

The president's veto of the immigration bill, which had been the pet measure of Representative John L. Burnett of Alabama through many sessions of congress, was the cause of the first serious overthrow of President Wilson's authority among the members of his own party in the house. Representatives Burnett and Claude Kitchen, the latter the democratic leader of the house, voted to pass the bill over the veto of the president.

thing must be done, and done quickly.

"Although I have plenty of business of my own to take care of, I have never failed to respond, I believe, when a public enterprise has confronted me. When I have investigated the situation, and find just where we stand, I expect to get right after this and see it through. It will take some hard work, and some unpleasant things will have to be done, I expect, but Klamath must have this railroad work started on March 1st.

"Mr. Strahorn allows eight months for the completion of the road from this city to Sprague River—to November 1st, a statement he made to a prospective timber buyer."

SIXTY-ONE SHIPS ARE SUNK SINCE FEBRUARY 1

REPRESENTS A TOTAL TONNAGE OF 122,000

Many Vessels Succumbing to Submarine Warfare in Barred Zone—14,000 Tonnage Destroyed in Last Two Days, According to Lloyd's Report. Danish, Norwegian and Danish Ships Reported Sunk.

LONDON, Feb. 9.—The British steamers Torino, Hollingside and Dauntless were sunk yesterday, making a total of sixty-one vessels submerged since February 1st.

A negro by the name of George Washington was killed when the Torino was sunk. Another American member of the crew was saved. Two lives were lost when the Dauntless went down, believed to have been Canadians.

The sixty-one vessels sunk represent more than 120,000 tonnage.

A report from Copenhagen says that seventeen Danish sailors were killed when the Larkruse, the Belgian relief ship, was sunk February 6th. The captain of the ship took his ship into the barred zone ignorant of Germany's declaration of "ruthless submarine warfare." It is reported.

A cable from Glasgow states that six women and five children are among the missing passengers of the California, which was sunk Wednesday. The cable declared that the California was not warned. Consul Frost at Queenstown has cabled Washington that 162 were saved and that forty-one are missing from the California.

The sinking of the British steamer Boynecastle and the Swallow steamer Varig are also announced here at the admiralty offices.

LONDON, Feb. 9.—The British steamer Hannalarsen has been torpedoed, the captain taken prisoner and four of the crew injured. It was announced today.

President is Up Held for Nominations



DR. WILLIAM C. BRAISTED
LIEUT. COMMANDER E. E. HARRIS
CAPT. SAMUEL MCGOWAN
DR. CARY T. GRAYSON

The United States senate quickly confirmed the president's nomination of Capt. David W. Taylor to be admiral, but held up those nominations made at the same time, including that of Dr. Cary T. Grayson. There may be a fight, not only over the confirmation of the nomination of Dr. Grayson, but of Lieutenant Commander Frederick R. Harris, civil engineer and chief of the bureau of yards and docks; Commander William C. Braisted, surgeon general and chief of the bureau of medicine and surgery, and Captain Samuel McGowan, paymaster general.

Thought Neutral Nations to Form Peace League

MILITIA BEGINS TO MOVE FROM BORDER AGAIN

MOVEMENT SUSPENDED LAST SATURDAY STARTS

Oregon and Washington Guardsmen Expected to Start Home Tomorrow. Merely Awaiting Arrival of Cars, Stated at Headquarters, Which Left Los Angeles Today—German Break Caused Halt, Belief.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 9.—Movements of the militiamen on the Mexican border, which were suspended last Saturday, have been resumed, General Funston announced today. Secretary Baker said, when asked why Funston's movements had been interrupted, that it could be explained possibly by a misinterpretation of orders resulting from the German break.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 9.—The Oregon and Washington militiamen at Calexico will probably start home tomorrow, it was reported at headquarters today. They are said to be merely awaiting the arrival of cars which left Los Angeles.

In City From Poe Valley. Loson Roes and Frank Crossfield, Poe Valley farmers, are in the city today on business.

Fort Man Is Here From Portland. E. D. Stout, district manager of the Ford company out of Portland, is in Klamath Falls for a few days.

AMERICA AVOIDING AUSTRIAN BREAK

While America Preparing for Eventualities Over Diplomatic Break, Sub-surface Movement Probably Harshly Viewed by Government—May Hold Conference of Neutrals—Bernstorff Expected to Stand for Peace.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 9.—While America is preparing for eventualities in the German-American diplomatic break, there is a tremendous sub-surface movement under way to keep this country working on peace proceedings. The move is developing with what is believed a secret informal sanction of the government.

Practical all neutral nations are making efforts to have a conference called with the purpose of attempting to confine the war to its present limits, and possibly get a secret assurance from Germany that neutral rights will not be harmed.

The government of this country is attempting to avoid a break with Austria, and is endeavoring to have her modify the endorsement of Germany's submarine campaign.

Coups Bernstorff is expected to attempt to preserve peace when he reaches Berlin, provided no "overt act" which might precipitate the already strained relations, is committed before he reaches home.

A belief is growing here in official circles that if an "overt act" is committed the United States may merely drift into a state of war without an open declaration of hostilities.

Sawyer Reported Better. Bert Tompkins, lawyer at Ackley Brothers' mill, is reported to be improving at the Blackburn hospital, where he has been confined for some time.

First Step Taken On Sinnott Bills

Twin Bills for Permitting Entry on Reclamation and Power Site Withdrawals Under Conditions

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 9.—Congressman N. J. Sinnott of Oregon has been successful in the first step toward passage of each of his twin bills for permitting entry on reclamation and power site withdrawals subject to the right of the government to retake the lands or such parts thereof as it may later be necessary to use for the purposes for which originally withdrawn. The committee on public lands of the house of representatives authorized Mr. Sinnott to report for it favorably on both these bills, and they are now on the house calendar awaiting their turn to be considered on the floor of the house.

HANGED AT SAN QUENTIN

JOSEPH WILT HANGED THIS MORNING AT 10:30 FOR MURDER OF WARREN SMITH AT GERMANTOWN

SAN QUENTIN, Feb. 9.—Reiterating with his last words his innocence, Joseph Vance Wilt was hanged this morning at 10:30 for the murder of Warren Smith at Germantown. He wrote a brief statement denying his guilt, forgiving his enemies, saying that "possibly I can better serve with my death those causes of righteousness for which I have been zealous."

HOBBS CASE TO LAST OVER WEEK

AFTER SIX HOURS OF TESTIMONY AND EXAMINATION, MRS. J. H. HOBBS LEAVES STAND—OTHERS ARE EXAMINED

The J. H. Hobbs murder trial is progressing more rapidly since the wife of the defendant who has occupied the stand for six successive hours has retired. Other witnesses are being placed on the stand. Considerable attention has been centered on argument that the plea should have been "insanity" rather than "self defense." It is expected that the case will run over the week. Among the witnesses for the defense today were Chas. Hawkins, Lee Hawkins, Mr. and Mrs. Howell and Edith Soudrey.

50 RABBITS ARE "GOT" BY POISON

KELLER BROS. REPORT THAT LANGELL VALLEY FARMER GETS HALF A HUNDRED WITH TWO QUARTS STRYCHNINE

Keller Bros. brought the report to the city yesterday that Bill Irwin of Langell Valley had killed fifty jack-rabbits with but two quarts of the strychnine sent out by E. A. Ward, government agent working here. Mr. Ward was out working yesterday with the Southwestern Klamath Development League at Piovia.

Ashland Basketball Teams Here Tonight

Boys' and Girls' Teams Will Arrive This Evening For Games With Klamath High

The basketball games with Ashland high school tonight and Saturday night of this week are stirring up more interest and enthusiasm than any athletic contests since the football season closed. The crowd promises to be a record breaker. Yesterday in the assembly at the high school over 150 tickets were sold, and in the afternoon many were sold to the townspeople. Several stunts have been arranged for the amusement of the crowd between halves. The K. C. H. S. roster section will be reserved in the south end of the pavilion, and if rooting will help, K. C. H. S. is after the basketball championship of Southern Oregon. The two Ashland teams, sixteen players, will arrive tonight, and will leave Sunday morning. The K. C. H. S. students are planning several forms of entertainment for them while they are in the city. Tickets are for these four games—two each night—and are on sale at Fish's and Underwood's drug stores.