

NAVAL AGREEMENT NOT FAR DISTANT

INITIAL DECISION LOOKED FOR THIS WEEK.

BRITAIN IN LINE WITH U. S.

Officials Willing to Accept 5-5-3 Ratio, Although It Eventually Places Them on Same Footing.

Washington, D. C.—With the question of land armaments thrust into the background by last week's developments the arms conference will enter its third week with another stride toward agreement on naval limitations foreshadowed.

The naval question, at least so far as its most vital element, the "5-5-3 ratio" of fleet strength between Great Britain, the United States and Japan is concerned, is approaching the point of transfer back to the "big five" committee with the report of the naval experts. There is some expectation that a plenary session of the conference will be called this week to reach first decisions on the naval plan.

Whether the experts of the three major naval powers will submit individual reports is not known.

Both the British and American experts were reported as having concluded their examination of the ship data involved in Secretary Hughes' proposal. The Japanese group was still toiling Saturday, it was said.

A summary of last week's developments on naval proposals indicates the following status:

"American officers have seen no reason in arguments advanced by Japan to make any change in the keystone of the agreement Mr. Hughes proposed, the '5-5-3' naval strength ratio.

"British naval officials have accepted that ratio, although it means ultimate equalization of the American and British fleets.

"Japanese officers have opposed the ratio, urging 10-10-7 instead."

American naval opinion strongly opposes retention by Japan of the battleship Mutsu unless both other powers in due proportion enlarge their fleets. There are indications that some American delegates see strength in the arguments of Japan that the Mutsu might have been included as a completed ship in the retained fleets. There was nothing to indicate however, that a compromise was being considered in the American group.

It has been indicated that Great Britain was not desirous of undertaking any further naval construction at present, which seems to forecast agreement with the American view.

Japanese officials have presented the tables of tonnage to support their claim that they are entitled to retain the Mutsu without similar retention by the other powers. The Japanese have contended she was a completed ship November 11.

The next step, when the three groups of experts finish, will be their report to the armaments committee. It seems likely that even if the British and American experts are found to be in accord, Japanese naval officers will submit differing conclusions. It will then become the task of the "big five" committee to seek an agreement on a report to a plenary session.

Cease in on Auto Thieves.
Cedar Rapids, Ia.—With the arrest here of Bob Smulekoff, a wealthy young business man, state agents announce they have closed in on a gang of automobile thieves that has been responsible for at least 50 thefts of new cars, principally Fords. They have traced 32 of these cars and are ready to take them over. Several of them are the property of prominent local business who bought them without knowing they were stolen.

Outlaws Release Yank Captives.
Buenos Aires.—The ranch owners and others, including the American manager of an Armour packing plant, S. J. MacBoyle, who had been held prisoner by bandits at Paso Ibanez in the state of Vera Cruz, have been released, according to a telegram from the commander of Argentine troops in the region, Col. Varela.

Living Cheap in Germany.
New York.—Garrett W. McEberny, a San Francisco lawyer who returned with his family after three months in Europe, said that living, transportation and all kinds of manufactured goods were so cheap in Germany that he did not see how it could last much longer under present financial conditions.

New York Banks.
New York.—The actual condition of clearing house banks and trust companies for the week (five days) shows that they hold \$14,536,419 reserve in excess of legal requirements. This is a decrease of \$15,053,560 from last week.

To Protect Yank Interests.
Constantinople.—The United States destroyer Williamson arrived at the port of Mersis, Asia Minor, for the purpose of aiding in the protection of American interests.

Too Much Overhead



GREAT BOND FORGERY IS UNCOVERED IN ST. LOUIS

Says He Passed \$63,000 Worth of Bogus Paper on Two St. Louis Banks.

St. Louis, Mo.—A dispatch from New York reporting a warning from the New York stock exchange of the evidence of forged French government certificates, led to the arrest of George V. Halliday, bankrupt stock and bond broker, and two other men in connection with counterfeiting \$1,500,000 in certificates of the French government.

Harry Turner, editor of Much Ado, a semi-monthly publication, and Paul Murphy, an advertising solicitor for Turner, were the others arrested. A federal warrant charging Halliday and Turner with counterfeiting obligations of the French government, was issued. Murphy was not named in the warrant and he probably will be released, it was said.

The arrests were precipitated by reading the dispatches in a St. Louis daily newspaper by Frank P. McGill, head of a local printing company, which printed the certificates. Mr. McGill communicated with his lawyer, who notified United States District Attorney Carroll. The spurious certificates were duplicates of those in a \$100,000,000 issue floated by J. P. Morgan & Co., last June, for the French government.

Halliday, whose firm recently went into bankruptcy, with liabilities listed at over \$140,000, confessed, according to the police, that he had counterfeited \$1,500,000 in interim certificates upon the French government and that he had passed \$63,000 worth of them on St. Louis banks in an effort to liquidate his losses.

Harry Turner, editor of a bi-monthly magazine here, and Paul Murphy, a magazine solicitor, are held in connection with the case.

In his confession, police say, Halliday claims he had placed \$43,000 in certificates with one bank, and an additional \$20,000 in another bank.

Halliday said he had borrowed approximately \$32,000 when he gave out \$52,000 of the certificates, which in turn were secured by \$43,000 in certificates.

At the present time Halliday is under seven indictments based on allegations that he had accepted money for securities and that he failed to deliver them.

Negroes Worship with Whites.
Atlanta, Ga.—Mayor James L. Key has vetoed the ordinance passed by the council forbidding the joint worship of whites and negroes in Atlanta churches. The mayor's veto message declared the ordinance "will, and does, invade that which is a matter of conscience with a great many people."

\$20,000 Is Loot of Robbers.
Oakland, Calif.—A gang, which the police said was directed by a woman, overpowered and bound two night watchmen at the Whitthorn & Swan department store, blew open two safes and escaped with \$20,000.

Yeggs Rob S. D. Postoffice.
Yankton, S. D.—Robbers broke into the general store and postoffice at Ravinia, S. D., blew open the postoffice safe and escaped with \$2,000 worth of merchandise, and stamps amounting to \$200.

Receivership for Sammies Oil.
Sioux City, Ia.—The Sammies Oil and Supply company went into the hands of a receiver.

Crown Prince Is Regent.
Tokyo.—Crown Prince Hirohito has been designated regent of Japan.

Give Up Rights in China.
Washington.—Abolition of extra territorial rights in China, by which various powers maintain their own courts for trials of their own nationals, was agreed to in principle by the powers represented in the Washington conference on Pacific and far eastern affairs. The Chinese delegation presented to the committee a statement strongly urging the abolition of the extra territorial rights and sympathetic responses were said to have been voiced by the representatives of the other powers.

BRIAND SAYS GERMANY IS FAR FROM BEING CRUSHED

Disarmament of France Would End World Peace and Furnish a Bait to the Late Enemy.

New York.—Disarmament of France would end world peace and would be a temptation for imperialistic Germany to come back into power, Premier Briand declared here in a farewell address to the American people. France, he said, wanted peace and wanted to live on amicable terms with a democratic Germany.

"But the former Germany has not disappeared," he asserted. "she is still keeping an army in certain form. 'How could you expect France to disarm in such a situation?' he asked. If France was unable to defend herself democratic Germany would be overthrown and the old imperialistic Germany would come back into power. If she weakened herself it would end the peace of the world. France has not the right to desert the cause of democracy and peace.

"France has been fighting not for her security alone," he added, "but she has been fighting in the service of the civilized world. France has no right to desert its own cause or the cause of peace. What she wishes to see is a Germany with which she can maintain noble relations. She is only too anxious to have her voice heard on the other side of the frontier.

"France is a nation that loves peace and hates war," he continued, "and if there is one nation that wishes to have war erased from the world, I have a right to say that that is my country. You will never see France provoke another people or to try to begin another war. France has an army—if she has an army it is because she is obliged to have one to defend her life, her independence, her liberty and her dignity. France has an army which is ready to serve the cause of the world by protecting it against disorder and anarchy in whatever form they may present themselves."

Referring to the Washington conference, he declared he considered it "the greatest honor of my political life" to be a member. Whatever resolutions may be made, he added, they will mark a milestone of progress on the road to peace.

Premier Briand praised the loyalty of Americans of German descent who fought in the American army in France. He mentioned specifically the Thirty-second division which, he said, had been characterized by one of the greatest French generals as the "Tiger division," because of the ferocity of its attack. He made a special appeal to those who were linked by ties of blood with the people of the central powers and urged them to tell the German people that they had nothing to fear from France. France, he added, awaits any gesture of good will from Germany. She will do everything in her power to eliminate the causes of war and to assure peaceful relations, not only between France and Germany, but in the whole world.

Bandits Rob Western Train.
Spokane, Wash.—Two armed, unmasked men boarded the observation car of North Pacific passenger train No. 1, westbound, as it left the Spokane union station and robbed the few passengers in the car of about \$50 in cash and a considerable amount of jewelry.

Lloyd George May Come.
London.—Premier Lloyd George may sail for America on December 3, to attend the Washington disarmament conference, it was learned. His departure, however, is still somewhat dependent on the outcome of the present Irish peace difficulties, it was said.

Youth Quickly Convicted.
Dublin, Ga.—George Walker, 15, faced life imprisonment for killing George Avery, his 18-year-old pal. The boy was convicted after one of the shortest murder trials in the history of this county. His plea had been self-defense. As the last words of the sentence fell from the lips of the judge, George pitched forward in a faint. The court room, crowded with interested neighbors of the lad, and curious townfolk, was immediately cleared. An appeal for a new trial was made.

ROADS ORDERED TO CUT RATES QUICKLY

Neglect to Comply with Order by November 20 Brings New Ruling Effective by Dec. 27.

Washington.—The Interstate Commerce commission issued an order calling upon the railroads in the western and mountain Pacific group to put into effect on or before December 27 the reduction of approximately 15 per cent on interstate rates on grain, grain products and hay recently ordered.

The order follows up the decision given October 20 by the commission, which declared grain and hay rates from the Mississippi valley to the Pacific coast unreasonably high, but which did not carry compulsory orders. The October decision instructed the railroads to make the reduction by November 20, which was not done because the railroads opened negotiations with the commission suggesting that a 10 per cent decrease in freight rates on all agricultural products be substituted for the larger decrease on grain products and hay alone.

The commission, however, by the order just issued, disregarded the compromise proposed by the railroads and makes the larger decreases on hay and grain mandatory upon the roads.

The order just issued made specific and definite the hay and grain reductions. The original decision said railroads should reduce the rates on the products concerned by one-half of the increases given in 1920.

The commission has ordered hay and grain rates between points in mountain-Pacific territory at not more than 12.5 per cent above the rates in effect before the 1920 increases. Between points in the western group as defined in its decision where 40 per cent increases were allowed in 1920, the commission has ordered them made effective as 20 per cent; between other western group points the commission held rates shall not exceed 17.5 per cent above the old schedules, and between points in the mountain-Pacific group and points in the western group the increase above the old 1920 schedules shall be held to 16 2-3 per cent.

The effect of the order thus is to make specific the percentages of reduction in the territory concerned. The commission also reiterated its decision requiring the roads to fix rates for coarse grain such as corn at 10 per cent less than the rates on wheat. The western group mentioned in the order includes territory between the Mississippi and Illinois rivers and the north and south boundary line on which the states of North Dakota, Montana, South Dakota, Wyoming and Nebraska join, and extending south to El Paso, Tex. The mountain Pacific group lies between the western group and the Pacific coast.

Appropriations Cut \$86,000,000.
Washington.—A deficiency appropriation bill carrying approximately \$104,000,000, or \$86,000,000 less than the \$190,000,000 requested by various government departments was reported by the house appropriations committee. The navy asked for \$27,000,000 and was granted nothing, while the veterans' bureau which requested \$121,000,000 was allotted \$65,000,000.

Foch Starts Western Tour.
New York.—New York bade Marshal Foch an revoir Sunday, sending him off on a swing about the continent that will not end until December 13, when he returns here to sail the next day for France. The itinerary announced shows he will travel more than 12,000 miles and visit 25 states and Canada.

Mob Kills Postmaster.
West Frankfort, Ill.—Armed men invaded Freeman Spur, near here, shot and killed Charles A. Matt, the postmaster, held up a saloon and then were put to flight leaving behind one of their companions who was shot to death in a fusillade that followed the saloon holdup.

Germans After Trade Spies.
Berlin.—"Trade spying" in Germany will constitute "economic high treason" in a new law which the government is drafting and which the reichstag and national council will be asked to pass.

Maternity Bill Passes House.
Washington.—The house passed the Shephard-Towner maternity bill under which approximately \$6,600,000 will be spent in maternity aid in the various states.

Bandit Raid Nets \$50,000.
Chicago.—Burglars blew the safe in the Stern Bros' jewelry store here and secured loot estimated at \$50,000.

Sunday Slaps Suggestive Movies.
Tulsa, Okla.—"Billy" Sunday celebrated his 59th birthday by preaching a sermon in his tabernacle here against "suggestive movies" right in the face of Theda Bara, movie vamp. He declared the movies should be censored. Then, Theda, wearing a bright red hat, rode at the head of a parade through the principal streets. "I feel like a boy," said Sunday, in commenting on his age. "Girls, use a little rouge, or even wear 'em short, but don't roll 'em down so they can see your bare knees," he instructed.

CORNHUSKER ITEMS

News of All Kinds Gathered From Various Points Throughout Nebraska.

Plans are practically perfected for the organization of a new national bank in Fremont by a merger of the defunct First National bank, the Commercial National bank and Farmers and Merchants National bank. The total capital will be \$300,000 and the surplus \$250,000. It is expected to open the new bank soon, when the officers and directors will be announced. The name of the new institution will be made public at the same time.

An eighteen inch vein of coal has been found on the Margrave ranch about twelve miles southeast of Fall City. J. T. Margrave, one of the owners, has a small force of men at work developing the mine. The coal so far taken out is of excellent quality and burns splendidly. It is too early to tell how valuable a discovery has been made, but Mr. Margrave states he is positive that he and several of his neighbors will have plenty of coal.

Five thousand copies of a twenty-page pamphlet have just been published by the state department of finance to show voters "how their 1920 tax dollar was spent." Total of all taxes for 1920 is given as \$52,372,919, or \$40.40 per capita. County taxes total \$11,019,000, school taxes \$22,620,000, city and village \$8,374,000 and township \$2,428,000.

Hog cholera is making inroads on many herds of hogs in York county. Henry Berger, who lives two miles west of Bradshaw, has lost more than a hundred head and they are still dying. Various parts of the county have reported heavy losses to many farmers. Anton Sundquist of Dallas, S. D., while at South Omaha last week with a couple of carloads of cattle, said farmers in his section were all burning corn in place of coal because corn is bringing only 18 cents a bushel, while the cheapest grade of soft coal costs \$15 a ton.

In a review of the unemployment situation in Omaha, the industrial bureau of the chamber of commerce, reported that nearly 4,000 men are out of work in the city, half them common laborers.

Herman Wegner, 65, wealthy Scribner farmer, has been missing for several days. Fearing foul play, searching parties have been formed. He left the house to fix a fence, and didn't return.

The North Platte high school football team lays claim to the championship of Nebraska by defeating the Lincoln high eleven at North Platte Thanksgiving Day by a score of 27 to 6.

In an endeavor to prevent, so far as possible, depredations and losses by fire, the Nelson city council and business men are providing night watchmen for the city. The city also will be kept brilliantly lighted.

Harry Slek of Hooper shucked 123 bushels of corn by weight a day for four successive weeks on the George Long farm. In addition to the shucking he did his own hauling.

The Nebraska cement plant at Superior is running full capacity. Twenty-five hundred barrels are being turned daily. Much of the product is being stored for spring.

An organization has been perfected in Dawson county to further the beet sugar industry and to do everything possible toward establishing a sugar factory in the county.

Work has been begun on the erection of an electric transmission line from North Platte to Sutherland, and, according to plans, it will be finished by January 1.

What is believed to be a new corn-husking record in the vicinity of Wakefield was made when Harvey Hass husked 127 bushels in one day.

The farmers of Box Butte county will donate a full carload of potatoes to the Salvation Army in addition to its quota of \$400.

A fire that started in the Wroes Variety store at Fremont caused a \$35,000 damage. Two firemen were hurt while fighting the flames.

Donald Hubbard, 22, of Beatrice, had his right arm almost severed in a circular saw while at work on the farm of his uncle.

Two large farms west of Gretna, Sarge county, sold at auction for \$135 per acre.

Martin Bausch of Leigh, the first Nebraska boy to be arrested on a charge of being a "sinker" during the world war, is in the Fort Crook prison now awaiting trial. Bausch is charged with having failed to answer a draft board call after registering in Holt county.

Work has been started on a Methodist church at Lyman, one of the newest of Nebraska towns. It will be of bungalow architecture with full basement. W. C. Birmingham, former Omaha pastor, will have charge of the new congregation along with his present post at Henry.

State Superintendent John M. Matzen of Lincoln, will dedicate the new \$150,000 consolidated school at Mead, one of the largest of such schools in Nebraska. The building has twenty-one rooms, a gym and an auditorium. Eleven teachers are employed.

Contracts for the foundation of the new capitol will be let next spring and those for the superstructure will be let during the summer so that the building proper will start a year from next spring. Governor McKelvie, chairman of the capitol commission, announced. The foundation will be completed next year.

Seven prizes for essays on "How Limitation of Armaments would Help Our Schools" and seven prizes for posters illustrating Nebraska League of Women Voters, will be awarded by the State League of Women Voters according to an announcement sent to every school superintendent and county superintendent in Nebraska by Mrs. C. G. Ryan, president of the league. The contest will close December 23, 1921, at which time the best essay from each school where students compete must be in the hands of the county superintendent.

United States Civil Service Commission announces an open competitive examination for auditor. Income Tax Unit, Bureau of Internal Revenue, Treasury Department, to be held December 14 in the following cities of Nebraska:—Allance, Beatrice, Broken Bow, Chadron, Columbus, Fremont, Grand Island, Hastings, Holdrege, Lincoln, McCook, Nebraska City, Norfolk, North Platte, Omaha, O'Neill, Scottsbluff, Sidney, Superior, Valentine.

Alleging unjust valuation as the basis for 1921 tax levies, the Chicago and Northwestern and the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha railroads started suit in federal court at Omaha against the state tax commissioner, asking restraining orders to prevent the collection of taxes based on such alleged excess valuations.

Beatrice retail butchers have asked the city commissioners to pass an ordinance levying a tax of \$25 on parties who peddle fresh or cured meats in the city. The proposition is strongly opposed by many and the commissioners are being deluged with protests.

Men employed on Gage county roads will receive fifty cents an hour for the time they actually spend on the road instead of \$120 per month as heretofore as a result of action taken by the board of supervisors.

Members of the state capitol commission will visit B. G. Goodhue, in New York City, December 9 and 10, to inspect final pencil sketches of the new \$5,000,000 Nebraska capitol, Governor McKelvie, chairman, announced.

A state railroad spur nearly a mile long from the Burlington tracks to the new capitol building at Lincoln is being advocated by George Johnson, state engineer. Johnson says the track will save the state \$150,000.

The N. M. M. O. highway association which will supervise a road from North Platte to Oberlin, Kas. traversing Lincoln, Frontier, and Red Willow counties was organized at a meeting at Maywood.

After being in a deep sleep for more than six weeks and unconscious since May 20, Joseph Hale Johnson, 3, son of W. R. Johnson of Long Pine, died here. Physicians believe the child suffered inflammation of the brain.

So much land has gone into the Missouri river the last few years in the neighborhood of Stella that consolidation of some of the school districts has become necessary.

A baby girl has been born in the home of Rev. W. C. Porter, pastor of the United Presbyterian church at Burchard, thus each of the three preachers in the town now have just six children, or a total of eighteen.

Henry Freudenberg of near Madison has lost nearly 100 head of swine from hog cholera and reports say many other farmers are losing stock from the same cause.

Due to the fact that the Lower Platte Valley irrigation project is coming along with such favorable results, Lincoln county has been admitted to the preliminary survey.

The Methodist church building at Shurbert, which has not been used for several years, has been purchased by the village board for community meetings.

Rumors are current in Northwest Nebraska that oil has been struck at the Big Chief Development company's oil well, 23 miles northwest of Gordon.

The Nebraska University football team won the Missouri Valley championship by winning from Ames, Iowa, 35 to 3, last Saturday.

United States Marines are now guarding mail trains passing through Nebraska. A force of 200 men have headquarters in Omaha.

Hot lunches at noon are being served in four of the rural schools of Fillmore county and a fifth will begin in a few days.

Preparations are being made at Pawnee City to begin paving the streets of the city next spring.

Miss Mary Aden, of Lincoln has assumed the duties of county nurse for the south Madison county chapter.

"The Cost of Living Probe," ordered by Governor McKelvie, is in session in Lincoln this week. Assistant Attorney General Charles Reed is conducting the investigation.

A public sale of poultry, the first on record, held under the auspices of the Johnson County Live Stock and Poultry Breeders' association at Tecumseh, was well attended. The poultry was sold in the new sale pavilion, three auctioneers presiding. All poultry was scored before the sale and score announced as the birds were offered. Over 300 chickens were sold, and some ducks and geese.

County commissioners of Richardson county accompanied by an advisory board inspected court houses at Fremont, Schuyler, Ord, St. Paul and Clay Center in order to obtain ideas that may be of help in building the new \$230,000 court house at Falls City.

D. Burr Jones of Omaha, state director for Near East Relief, announced that 780,000 pounds of corn grits have been received from all parts of the state in the last three weeks. "This grain has come into Omaha elevators and is now on the way to the people in the stricken countries," said Mr. Jones.