

U. S. Plans Showdown With Japan

Senate Foreign Relations Committee to Take Hand in Clash Over Cable Concessions in Pacific Ocean.

To Probe Shantung Row

By ARTHUR SEARS HENNING, Chicago Tribune—Omaha Bee Letter Writer. Washington, Jan. 20.—The clash between the interests of the United States and Japan in the Pacific ocean has reached such a pass that the senate committee on foreign relations decided today to take a hand in the matter.

As the first step the committee will endeavor to learn the details of the agreements entered into at Paris respecting the disposition of the former German cables in the Pacific, the cable station Island of Yap and the other former German islands north of the equator, over which Japan has been given a league of nations mandate.

The inquiry is likely to go into the question of Shantung, which Japan so far has failed to restore to China, and the occupation of Vladivostok and other parts of Manchuria by the Japanese.

Senator Lodge, chairman of the committee, had a conference this afternoon with Acting Secretary of State Davis, who it was stated, will appear before the committee next Tuesday to furnish Paris peace conference documents and such information as the senators desire.

Wilson Consents to Move. It is understood President Wilson has been advised of the purpose of the inquiry and has consented to the disclosure to the committee of the peace conference secrets bearing on the situation.

Whether the committee will be able to obtain the navy general board's recommendations to Mr. Wilson warning him of the strategic mistake of allowing Japan to get possession of the German islands in the North Pacific, enveloping Guam and screening the Philippines, remains to be seen. This is a carefully guarded report which the president ignored in consenting to the award of the mandate for these islands to Japan and on which the committee failed to get any light when it interviewed the president at the White House in August, 1919.

All Mr. Wilson would say on that occasion was that he had made a reservation in regard to Yap and had obtained an oral agreement that the cable station center should be disposed of by the communications conference, which now is endeavoring to settle the controversy over possession of the former German cables in the Atlantic and the Pacific.

Takes Stubborn Attitude. Japan has adopted a stubborn attitude in the communications conference. (Turn to Page Two, Column Three.)

Illinois Senator Attacks Proposal To Control Packers

Washington, Jan. 20.—Pending legislation for regulation of the meat industry was attacked in the senate by Senator Sherman, republican, Illinois, who said the agricultural committee substitute for the Kenyon-Kendrick bill would wreck the packing industry. The senate will vote on the bill Monday.

If the packers have grown to large proportions, it is no more than any other industry has done when operated on a scale profitable to themselves and to the country," Senator Sherman said, in relating monopolistic charges against the packers.

"Our British cousins who have come to think commercially that the world is theirs have led in these attacks," the senator said, "because of the position of Jamaica, a British possession, in the banana producing field."

National Grain Board Proposed by Hoover

Washington, Jan. 20.—Appointment of a national board of experts, with regulatory powers to improve marketing conditions, was suggested by Herbert Hoover, appearing before the house agriculture committee, which is holding hearings on bills to restrict speculation on grain and cotton exchanges.

One function of such a board, he said, would be to provide regulations so that the farmers could store his grain at any country elevator and obtain a recognized warehouse receipt that would open to him new credit.

Charges Against "Spanish Grandee" Are Dismissed

Madison, Wis., Jan. 20.—The charge of larceny preferred against Mrs. P. A. Franzen two weeks ago, was dismissed on motion of District Attorney T. G. Lewis, who told the court that in view of the testimony given by the plaintiff, the state could not successfully prosecute. Mrs. Franzen served divorce papers on his wife. It was understood that she would not contest the case.

Court Hits Dry Law

Richmond, Va., Jan. 20.—The Virginia supreme court overruled contentions of counsel for Edward Allen of Newport News, that the Volstead prohibition enforcement act superseded state prohibition laws and therefore the state courts would not have authority to enforce state laws.

Peggy Marsh, Famous English Actress, Wins Control Of U. S. Ships

New York, Jan. 20.—The name of Peggy Marsh, English actress, was attached to the name of Albert L. Johnson of New York, nephew of the late Tom L. Johnson, mayor of Cleveland, O., at Greenwich, Conn., on January 5 became known here today. The ceremony was performed by Justice of the Peace Albert Meade.

The bride is confined in a sanitarium here, where she recently underwent an operation for appendicitis.

The actress came to this country a few weeks ago and announced she would institute legal proceedings to obtain part of the fortune of the late Henry Field, II, of Chicago, on behalf of her 4-year-old son, Henry Anthony Marsh.

Secret Session On Secretary Probe Ordered

Report of Investigating Committee and Discussions on Governor's Appointments Not for Public.

Lincoln, Jan. 20.—(Special.)—The house and senate at a joint session voted, 90 to 38, to adopt rules which will bar the public from information of proceedings at a future joint session, when the members will hear a report of the special investigating committee and vote on confirmation or reappointment of the secretaries. Under rules adopted the public is entitled to nothing excepting the final vote on confirmation and any member or officer of the legislature may be expelled if he divulges information of the proceedings.

Democrats Object. The democrats will offer work for a fight in the future by groundless objections to adoption of the rules. The majority of Non-partisan league in the house voted for secret sessions.

The secret session rule was branded by Lynn of Cedar, Osterman of Merrick and others as a "relic of the dark ages," "an unfair advantage of the taxpayers," and many other uncomplimentary things.

FAMILY AFFAIR. "This is a family affair and one which shouldn't be aired before the public and be used to cripple the efficiency of the secretaries," Senator Wittie of Falls City, declared in defense of the measure.

Those voting against the secret session program are: Acton, Anderson (Hamilton), Anderson (Knox), Beans, Bock, Clizbe, Douglas, Downing, Dreesdow, Essam, Frost, Gilmore, Hilliard, Hoare, Hoffmeister, Kendall, Lynn, Mosley, O'Garra, Osterman, Rankin, Rodman, Smith, Staats, Stephenson, Sturdevant, Thompson, Votaw, Wallace, Webster, Westerloff, Wight, Williams, Wood, Yeiser, Young, Ulrich; senate.

Manufacturer Defends 'Open Shop' Movement

Chicago, Jan. 30.—The open shop is the only true American standard in which no one receives special privileges and all have an equal chance to elect a representative to the members of the association. Mr. Mason emphasized that the association had favored the open shop for years.

"We must do all in our power to quell the spirit of discontent that rests on the country," he said, "Congress can do much by removing the government shackles on private business. We must meet organized labor on our own ground."

Mr. Mason advocated the abolition of the excess profit tax and said that the seamen's bill was essential to the nation's prosperity.

Wilson to Fill Places on Financial Corporation

Washington, Jan. 20.—President Wilson probably will make appointments to fill the two vacancies on the board of directors of the war finance corporation, if suitable men can be found who are available, Secretary Houston said.

Several men have been under consideration, the secretary added, but so far those that have met the requirements have not been available. The present board has a legal quorum and is ready for business, he explained, but it has been thought advisable that a full board should take control.

Mississippi Man Charged With Murder of His Wife

Aberdeen, Miss., Jan. 20.—V. A. Thwait, a planter, was arrested on a warrant charging murder in connection with the death of his wife, who perished in a fire that destroyed their home December 6. A coroner's jury found Mrs. Thwait was insured for \$23,000, payable to her husband, and that when he was awakened by smoke, he dressed and packed some of his belongings before going for water to fight the flames.

Syndicalist Agitator In Spain Nearly Lynched

Barcelona, Jan. 20.—An angry mob attempted to lynch a syndicalist agitator today when the man was arrested on a charge of attempting to kill the proprietor of a steel plant. Civil guards were compelled to charge repeatedly upon the crowd to save the prisoner from violence.

Kansas Bank Closed

Coffeyville, Kan., Jan. 20.—The Peoples State bank of this city closed today. State Bank Commissioner Walter Wilson said the bank's cash reserve was too low to support its branch at Coffeyville. In the last statement published the bank gave deposits as \$650,000 and assets \$710,000.

Senator Jones Declares English Government Actually Operates International Mercantile Vessels.

Washington, Jan. 20.—Charges that the International Mercantile Marine company, an American shipping company, now controlling the operation of approximately 40 vessels leased from the shipping board, is bound by an agreement entered into with the British government in 1903 to pursue "no policy injurious to the interests of the British mercantile marine or of British trade," were made here today by Senator Wesley S. Jones of Washington, author of the merchant marine act.

Parts of the text of the alleged agreement entered into for period of 20 years, were read by Senator Jones in an address before the annual convention of the National Merchant Marine association, in which the senator made sweeping charges of attempts by British interests, supported, he said, by certain American interests, to destroy the American merchant marine.

Women on Flight To Washington Reach Des Moines

Electoral Delegates Met by Reception Committee—Stay in Iowa Capital Over Night.

Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 20.—(Special Telegram.)—Mrs. H. H. Wheeler of Lincoln and Mrs. Draper Smith of Omaha, the flying grandmothers, presidential electors from Nebraska, arrived at Swan's field at 4:20 this afternoon, completing the second leg of their aerial journey to Washington in an hour and 40 minutes.

Lieutenant Governor Hammill of Iowa and three members of the council, as well as a large crowd of spectators, greeted the distinguished tourists. They remained in Des Moines over night and plan to "take off" for Chicago at sunrise Friday morning.

Greeted by Grandchildren. Almost before the two planes had landed, Mrs. Wheeler's three little grandchildren, Rose, Simon, and Hortense Cassidy, the children of Mr. and Mrs. Simon Cassidy, Jr., rushed forward to greet "grandma." They were in her arms before the ring of camera men could get the first "shots." Both women said that they were enjoying their trip immensely and rosy smiles with which they greeted the reception committee made their assertion very convincing.

Mrs. Wheeler carries the certified vote strapped to her flying clothes in a pouch belt. She will personally deliver the document at Washington. Every indication points to favorable flying weather for Friday and the two women told their friends that they planned to go to bed as early as possible tonight so as to get started by daylight.

Hop Off Here at 2:40. Confident that their trip would not be marred by accident and waving a cheery farewell to the little crowd of spectators, Mrs. H. H. Wheeler, 55, and Mrs. Draper Smith, 66, hopped off in twin airplanes from the flying field at West Center street at 2:40 yesterday afternoon, for Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Wheeler, in Pilot W. R. Holcomb's machine, left the field first, followed one minute later by Mrs. Smith in Pilot Noel Bullock's. Both planes got off to a perfect start.

Mrs. Wheeler reached Omaha by airplane from the state capital at 12:59 yesterday noon. Her plane was accompanied by the ship of Pilot Bullock.

Mrs. Wheeler left Lincoln in Pilot Holcomb's ship at 12:21 o'clock. Three hundred legislators and friends of Mrs. Wheeler were at the flying field.

Mrs. Draper Smith, alternate, arrived at the field at 1:40 p. m. and immediately began to don her flying suit. Meanwhile the pilots were filling their gasoline tanks and giving their planes the final inspection.

A number of prominent Omaha folk were present to see the taking off of the women. The crowd surged about Mrs. Smith, bidding her farewell and bidding her goodby for the trip.

After a delay of several hours from the time first set for the flight to start at 8 in the morning, Pilots Holcomb and Bullock hopped off to the Ashmun field for Lincoln at 10:41 o'clock.

The delay was caused by a heavy fog which enveloped the city. As soon as the fog began to rise, gasoline and oil tanks were filled and motors tuned up, and the flight was inaugurated.

Nickel Cigar Doomed Unless Tariff Is Cut

Washington, Jan. 20.—The old-time nickel cigar, once hailed by Vice President Marshall as the nation's crying need in its return to normal, is gone unless tariff and tax levies on tobacco drop, manufacturers and importers told the house tariff framers. The gloomy forecast emerged from a smoke break in the committee's hearing on the tobacco men.

Witnesses asked for a reduction of the 25 per cent ad valorem duty on Sumatra wrappers in order that cigar prices might go down in keeping with the trend of the times.

Move Made to Stimulate Trade With South America

Washington, Jan. 20.—D. S. Bullock, newly appointed agricultural trade commissioner in Argentina, has called for Buenos Aires to open an office devoted to stimulating the South American market for purchased live stock from the United States.

The Department of Agriculture announced that a representative might shortly be sent to Australia and another to Russia as soon as trade with that country is re-established.

Midwest Shippers Urge Waterways Improvement

Washington, Jan. 20.—Improvement of the Mississippi, Ohio and Missouri rivers to insure year-round navigation between Minneapolis, St. Paul, St. Louis, Pittsburgh and Kansas City was urged before the house rivers and harbors committee by a delegation of shippers and barge line operators. The improvement, it is estimated, would cost \$60,000,000.

Life-Termer Seeks Release From Prison

Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 20.—(Special.)—Ernest Rathbun, convicted for assault on Ida Grove, after a sensational trial, three years ago, and now under life sentence at the Anamosa penitentiary, applied for a writ of habeas corpus today to secure his release, according to a telegram to the attorney general.

Hearing will be held Saturday morning at 11 in Marion, Linn county. The Rathbun case attracted wide attention two years ago, when Governor Harding issued a pardon, which was later revoked after a wave of protest over the state. The present action is believed to be based on the claim that a pardon once granted cannot be revoked.

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Head of Defunct Brokerage Firm Is Released on Bonds

Spokane, Wash., Jan. 20.—Jay E. Hough, partner of the Spokane investment firm of Milholland & Hough, which is alleged to have embezzled over \$400,000 in cash and bonds from James F. Callahan, wealthy Wallace, Idaho, mining man, was released from jail here yesterday on bonds of \$30,000.

Bee Contest Offers Prizes to Amateur Photographers

Here's a chance to find out how good you are as an amateur photographer. How will the best of those pictures you are making from time to time "stack up" in competition with the artistic productions of other Omaha and Nebraska and Iowa photo amateurs?

There's a chance also to gather in some "easy money," in addition to the title of premier amateur photographer of Nebraska and Iowa. The Bee, in announcing its Amateur Photographers' Contest, offers \$50 in prizes for the three best pictures submitted.

Here are the conditions of the contest: Pictures must be taken by amateurs "somewhere in Nebraska or Iowa." Pictures taken either before or after the opening of the contest are eligible.

There are no restrictions regarding the subject matter of the photographs. There is no restriction on size of pictures eligible to entry in the contest. Prize-winning pictures to be published in The Sunday Bee Rotogravure section.

All pictures submitted to become property of The Bee, with the condition due credit be given to the photographer for all pictures published. The Bee asks permission to use the original negatives of prize-winning pictures for purposes of enlargement. First prize to be \$25; second prize \$15; third prize \$10. Prizes to be awarded by a board of three judges, composed of two professional photographers and the editor of The Bee Rotogravure. Pictures to reach contest editor by February 19. Name and address of contestant to be on back of each picture submitted.

Bids to Be Asked For Hospital at Soldiers' Home

Winning of Suit in Supreme Court Paves Way to Getting Building Authorized in 1919.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 20.—(Special.)—Having won its right to choose any bid for state building contracts, in an opinion of the Nebraska supreme court handed down Wednesday, the State Board of Control announced Thursday that it would advertise for bids on the new \$100,000 hospital at the Milford, Neb., soldiers' home, for which the last legislature appropriated \$100,000.

The Nebraska Building and Investment company, which was the low bidder, was awarded the contract on a mandamus in the Lancaster county district court to compel the board to award it the contract over Ernest Rokahr, whose bid was \$77,969.

After this action was started, the board canceled all contracts and re-tendered all certified checks. The new bids are to be in by February 18.

Chairman L. C. Oberlies says the board looks for lower bids this time, on account of recent declines in material costs. The \$100,000 appropriation covers both the building and equipment, but the bids are on the construction of the building alone.

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Allied Experts Complete Report on Reparations. Paris, Jan. 20.—The allied experts on reparations have completed a report which will be presented to the allied governments interested. It is understood that the experts recommend that the final determination of the total amount of reparations Germany must pay shall not be postponed beyond May 1, the date fixed by the treaty of Versailles.

It is suggested that meanwhile a provisional arrangement might be advisable under which Germany would be called on to make a definite payment of five annual installments of 3,000,000,000 marks gold each, in money and kind.

Moscow Internationale Urges Boycott on Spain. London, Jan. 20.—The executive body of the third internationale of Moscow has addressed an appeal to all workers asking them to boycott Spanish products, says a wireless. The appeal is made, the dispatch adds, owing to the manner in which Spanish workers "are being persecuted."

Sonnambulist Walks in Storm. Idaho Falls, Idaho, Jan. 20.—Clad only in her night dress, a woman said to be a teacher in the local schools, walked downtown in her sleep through the heaviest snow storm of the season, Wednesday night.

Excelsior



Plan to Cut Armament Approved

Senate Committee Returns Favorable Report on Resolution to Reduce Navies of Three Great Powers.

Washington, Jan. 20.—A definite step toward international disarmament was taken by the senate foreign relations committee today in ordering a favorable report on the resolution of Senator Borah, republican, Idaho, proposing negotiations between the United States, Great Britain and Japan to reduce naval programs.

Discussion of the resolution is not planned before next week and action at the present session is conceded to be in doubt. The committee approved the Borah resolution without a roll call, after it had voted down, 8 to 3, an alternative resolution by Senator Walsh, democrat, Montana, proposing American participation in discussions of the league of nations disarmament commission.

All democrats present supported the Walsh measure and all republicans voted against it. Text of Resolution. The resolution as ordered reported follows: "Resolved by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America, in congress assembled, That the president of the United States is requested, if not incompatible with the public interests, to advise the governments of Great Britain and Japan, respectively, that this government will at once take up directly with their governments and without waiting upon the action of any other nation the question of naval disarmament, with a view of promptly entering into a treaty by which the naval building programs of each of said governments—to-wit, that of Great Britain, Japan and the United States—shall be reduced annually during the next five years to such an extent and upon such terms as may be agreed upon.

"Section 2. That this proposition is suggested by the congress of the United States to accomplish immediately a substantial reduction of the naval armaments of the world."

Changes Made. Some changes were made in the Borah resolution. One was the inclusion of the provision that any agreements between the United States, Great Britain and Japan for naval building reductions, should be promulgated formally by treaty. Another amendment struck out the original proposal to negotiate for a 50 per cent reduction in naval building, the committee deciding to leave this question open.

Confinement of the negotiations to the three principal naval powers as originally proposed by Senator Borah was approved by the committee.

General Pershing and Henry White, former ambassador to France, are expected to appear tomorrow before the house naval committee to discuss disarmament.

Military Funeral Held for American Officer Killed at Vladivostok

Vladivostok, Jan. 20.—A military funeral for Lieut. W. H. Langdon, United States navy, was held today at the Y. M. C. A. building, close to the dock where the United States cruiser Albany, of which he was the chief engineer, is moored. The Russian and foreign military officials and the civilian authorities attended.

General O. the Japanese military commander, was present. The wreath, it was taken alongside the Albany, mounted on a gun carriage. A salute in honor of the dead man was fired. After this a big flag was lowered, cutting off the view of the public.

Langdon was shot recently by a Japanese sentry. Increase in Lumber Prices Is Predicted. New Haven, Conn., Jan. 20.—Declaring that the price of lumber is not high, but that it will go higher before coming down, W. S. Woodman, former of Marinette, Wis., chairman of the economic committee of the National Lumber Manufacturers' association, spoke on the timber supply and prices at the Yale forest school.

"The price of lumber will be lower only on short reactions and its trend in the commodity scale is slowly upward," he said. "This means a continuously better utilization of our forests, a higher appreciation of lumber's real value, more judicious use and careful preservation of it. It also means an awakening of the public interest in forestry."

Utah Postmaster Arrested On Charge of Embezzlement. Salt Lake City, Jan. 20.—Charged with embezzling \$29,841 of government funds while postmaster of Clear Creek, Utah, Parley E. Nev. 32, was brought from Clear Creek to Salt Lake by deputy United States marshals last night.

The Weather. Forecast. Friday fair; not much change in temperature. Hourly Temperature. 5 a. m. 37 6 a. m. 37 7 a. m. 37 8 a. m. 37 9 a. m. 37 10 a. m. 37 11 a. m. 37 12 noon 37 1 p. m. 37 2 p. m. 37 3 p. m. 37 4 p. m. 37 5 p. m. 37 6 p. m. 37 7 p. m. 37 8 p. m. 37 9 p. m. 37 10 p. m. 37 11 p. m. 37 12 midnight 37

Shippers' Bulletin. Protect shipments during the next 24 to 36 hours from temperatures as follows: North, 25 degrees; west, 20 degrees. Shipments east and south can be made safely.

Jail Is Sold. Wausauke, Wis., Jan. 20.—The jail in Wausauke, Marinette county, has been sold to Joseph Jeil for \$30. Under prohibition, the jail which had been in service for 30 years, has been idle. The new owner will use it for a woodshed.