

Japs Accept Invitation of Harding

Agree to Discuss Pacific and Far Eastern Problems in Connection With Disarmament Conference.

Other Powers to Attend

By The Associated Press.
Washington, July 27.—Secretary Hughes announced today acceptance by Japan of proposals for a far eastern conference in connection with the disarmament discussions suggested by Mr. Harding.

The Japanese acceptance was based on the understanding that the United States was not opposed to an agreement as to the agenda of the far eastern conference before it convenes.

It was explained that the Japanese government had taken into consideration in reaching its decision the communications and the published statements of the American government of the conversations of the secretary of state and Baron Shidehara indicating that the American government proposed to discuss the Pacific and the far eastern problems because of the close hearing they have on the question of the limitation of armaments. It was on the understanding, therefore, that discussion of the far eastern problems was made a preliminary to disarmament negotiations that the Japanese government has consented to consideration.

May Invite Other Powers.
The state department made public today its reply and the memorandum sent by the United States to the Japanese government through the American embassy in Tokyo, July 23. It was disclosed that other powers besides China having interests in the far east might be invited to take part in the conference on far eastern questions.

The Japanese reply follows:
"The Japanese government has taken note of the contents of the American memorandum of July 23, received through the American chargé d'affaires in reply to the Japanese memorandum of July 13, on a conference on the limitation of armaments to be held in Washington."

"It has been brought to the knowledge of the Japanese government that the government of the United States is willing to proceed with exchanges of opinion regarding the agenda prior to the conference and that it considers it advisable to adjust in that agenda the nature and scope of the Pacific and far eastern questions to be discussed at the proposed conference. The Japanese government, on that understanding, is happy to be able to inform the American government that it is their intention gladly to accept an invitation for a conference which shall embrace discussion of the Pacific and far eastern questions."

Desire Enduring Peace.
"The Japanese government has been made aware through the communications and published statements of the American government and the conversations between the secretary of state and Baron Shidehara, that the proposition of the American government to discuss the Pacific and far eastern problems is based on the close hearing they have on the limitation of armaments which is the principal aim of the conference, and that therefore the main object of discussion of the problems is to reach a common understanding in regard to general principles and policies in the Pacific and the far east. Desiring, as they do, to contribute to the establishment of an enduring peace and to the advancement of human welfare, the Japanese government earnestly hopes that the proposed conference may attain the expected results and their ideals may thereby be brought nearer to realization."

"To insure the success of the conference, the Japanese government deems it advisable that the agenda thereof should be arranged in accordance with the main object of the discussion as above defined and that introduction therein of problems such as are of sole concern to certain particular powers or such matters that may be regarded as accomplished facts should be scrupulously avoided."

Text of U. S. Note.
The American memorandum delivered July 23, reads in part:
"The government of the United States deeply appreciates the readiness of the imperial Japanese government to accept the invitation to attend the conference on the limitation of armaments."

"The secretary of state, in informal conversations with his excellency, the imperial ambassador at Washington, has expressed the hope that the imperial government would not press its inquiry as to the nature and scope of the Pacific and far eastern problems to be discussed at the proposed conference, in view of the fact that it is desirable that the full acceptance of the invitation of the American government leave this matter open for adjustment in the precise agenda to be arrived at later."

The secretary of state is willing to proceed with exchanges of opinion regarding the agenda prior to the meeting of the conference. He considers inadvisable, however, at the present moment to hamper the program and in particular delay the arrangements for the conference pending an agreement regarding this matter."

Three Killed in Explosion of Threshing Machine
Vandalia, Mo., July 27.—Three men were killed and three injured at Middleton, Mo., today when a threshing machine they were operating exploded.

One Killed, Two Hurt In Hotel Gun Battle

Everett, Wash., July 27.—John Higgins of Denver was killed, James O'Brien of Spokane was shot through the neck and Al Solentine of Mount Vernon, a deputy sheriff, was shot through the jaw in a pistol fight in a hotel at Mt. Vernon today.

Sheriff G. T. Rea and Solentine were advised that Higgins and his party, which also included E. T. Wolfe and wife of Everett, were possible drug smugglers and went to their rooms in a hotel to investigate. Rea stepped out of the room and when he returned Solentine had been disarmed and both Higgins and O'Brien were pointing their pistols at him.

Rea began firing and Higgins returned the fire and was shot. Solentine leaped for O'Brien, who fired and shattered the deputy's jaw. Rea stopped O'Brien with a bullet through the neck. Wolfe and his wife, an automobile, reported to have been stolen, are being held by the county authorities.

Ak-Sar-Ben Crew Takes Trail to West's Shindig

Noise - Makers Conserve Strength to Let Cheyenne Know Samson's Subjects Are in Town.

Grand Island, Neb., July 27.—(Special Telegram.)—A roar from the Gate City is scheduled to descend upon Cheyenne at 9:30 tomorrow morning. Take it from three governors of Ak-Sar-Ben, Everett Hutchinson, John W. Gamble and J. E. Davidson, that when the Union Pacific special rolls into the train sheds at Cheyenne the entire state of Wyoming will sit up and take notice. All was calm and serene as the special pulled out of Omaha promptly at 6 p. m.

"They are conserving their strength," declared Charlie Gardner, the shy and retiring secretary, at the same time struggling to make a four-pound cowboy hat look rakish, which is no slight task for a guy whose head was made to fit an iron bowl.

"They are conserving their strength," he reiterated. "They got their orders. No noise tonight, but Oh, boy, wait until tomorrow. All the boiler factories between Chicago and Salt Lake City will be drowned out by the noise."

It's a high-class rattler the Omaha boosters are traveling. It consists of four Pullmans, three private cars, a diner and a baggage car, all of which H. M. Adams, vice president of the Union Pacific, announced with proper pride are all steel of latest design and construction. The purpose of the baggage car remains to be solved, but the diner was the most popular car on the train pulling out of Omaha.

The biggest engine on the Union Pacific is pulling the Omaha excursionists. It's a post-prohibition engine, according to William Jeffers, general manager of the Union Pacific. It can go 125 miles without a drink. Therefore the first stop out of Omaha was Central City, Fremont and Columbia, where it treated to a meal from the breeze and a sad salute to the Nye-Schneider.

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Sugar Men Oppose Admission of Chinese To Hawaiian Islands

Washington, July 26.—Admission of Chinese coolie labor to the Hawaiian islands to relieve the agricultural shortage, was opposed before the house immigration commission by H. T. Oxford, vice president of the American Beet Sugar company, with factories in California, Colorado and Nebraska. Beet sugar manufacturers were selling their product at 5 cents when the cost of production was around 8 cents a pound, he insisted, and Hawaiian planters should not be permitted to increase the sugar supply by the aid of Chinese unless the same labor was freely admitted to the United States.

"All we want is a square deal," he said.

Oxford said there was no danger of the Japanese acquiring business control of Hawaii.

"Why we could blow them up in five minutes," he said, adding that he meant the navy could go to the islands and bottle up the Japanese.

Harding Approves Plan of Co-ordinating Purchases

Washington, July 27.—An executive order to co-ordinate purchasing for the army, navy and shipping board and to permit transfer of surplus supplies from one government agency to another was signed today by President Harding. Director Dawes of the budget bureau, originated the order which divides the country into zones corresponding to army corps areas for supply purchasing with a general purchasing agent for each area, all working under a purchasing supervisor in Washington.

Leaders Concede Defeat of Norris Farm Aid Bill

Washington, July 27.—Failure in the senate of the Norris bill to create a government agricultural export financing corporation virtually was conceded today by republican leaders, and the agriculture committee of which Senator Norris is chairman, decided to attempt drafting of a compromise substitute to be brought up tomorrow. The action followed President Harding's recommendation that the war finance corporation be given power to finance agricultural exports.

New Laws Operative In Nebraska

Changes in Marriage Law Expected to Cut Down Licenses Here—Teeth Given to Dry Enforcement.

Court Holds Up Two Acts

Omaha no longer will be the Greta Green for loveless couples who hie to the city to be married without asking ma or pa. A new law, which goes into effect today, requires that females between the ages of 16 and 21 must have written consent of parent or guardian before they may be legally married. The former requirement was 16 to 18. No change is made in the old law which requires males between ages of 18 to 21 to have consent of parent or guardian. Nor has any change been made in the law which prohibits marriages of males under 18 or females under 16.

Cupid Stubbendorf, marriage license clerk at the court house, explained that the new law does not apply to females who have reached the age of 18 prior to this date. He believes the new law will affect his office materially by reducing the number of marriages here more than 500 a year. He explained that in Iowa females may be married at the age of 18 without parents' consent, which situation will boost the marriage market in Council Bluffs at the expense of this city.

Laws Operative Today.
This is one of the many laws which become operative today in Nebraska, the time fixed being 90 days from adjournment of the legislature.

Another law, known officially as S. F. No. 185, has to do with the prohibition enforcement. This law makes more "definite and certain" some of the features of the prohibitory act and also includes various features of the national 18th amendment. It covers possession of stills, mash or utensils for making intoxicating liquors which were not provided for in the old law. It also prohibits the advertising of formula, recipes or utensils. Another provision prohibits the sale of any compound, remedy, perfume, extract or syrup in bowling alleys, pool halls, places of amusement or soft drink parlors. Requires druggists to keep a record of names and addresses of all sales of medicines containing alcohol.

Sanction Christian Scientists.
Christian Scientists henceforth will be permitted to practice their religious tenets in this state, providing they do not prescribe drugs or medicine or perform surgical operations and providing that they shall not be exempt from state quarantine laws.

L. B. McCoun, Omaha Christian Scientist practitioner, explained that since 1894 Christian Scientists have

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Man Says He Shot Companion in Car

Declares He Killed Him During Dream About Hold Up

Los Angeles, Cal., July 27.—Theodore West, 36, late last night confessed to deputy sheriffs here that he shot to death his companion, Lem Smith, whose body was found between Oatman and Ludlow, Ariz., early Sunday morning. Both were oil workers of Brownwood, Tex. The confession was made to Deputy Sheriff E. C. Nolan.

Sheriff Mahoney of Kingman, Ariz., who traced West from Kingman to Los Angeles and was responsible for his arrest here yesterday by Los Angeles officials, declared the circumstances of the crime point to murder. West said he and Smith were riding in an automobile and that he fell asleep. Awakening and believing they were being held up, he fired, he told the police, and the automobile turned to the side of the road, tossing Smith out and pinning him down.

When learning his companion was dead, he said, he made his way to Los Angeles by picking up an automobile with three youths and by hopping on a freight train.

He was arrested here when he attempted to claim baggage belonging to him and Smith, which he is said to have expressed from Ludlow.

West, who, with Smith, was making a cross-country trip in the latter's automobile, asserted he is the son of Bruce West, former sheriff of Ellis county, Texas.

Ocean Grain Rates Are Cut Two and Half Cents by Agents

Galveston, Tex., July 27.—A reduction of two and one-half cents in ocean rates on grain now loading for Antwerp, Rotterdam and Havre, were put into effect today by steamship agents here and at other gulf ports. The arrival of increased ocean tonnage at gulf ports is reported to have been the cause of the reduction. Rates were previously quoted at 29 1-2 cents.

Turk Nationalists' Head Seeks Allied Intervention

London, July 27.—Mustapha Kemmal Pasha, head of the Turkish nationalist government, has sent a telegram to Constantinople asking that the central government intervene with the allies in an effort to obtain a cessation of Greco-Turkish hostilities, according to dispatches from Constantinople to the Exchange Telegraph company.

Beer Regulations Soon To Be Issued by Blair

Washington, July 27.—Announcement by Internal Revenue Commissioner Blair of his policy on the question of medicinal beer regulations, will be made in the next few days.

The commissioner is also working out the final form of the beer regulations might take, which is understood, would provide in general for prescriptions of one case at one time, but without limit as to the number of prescriptions. According to Prohibition Commissioner Haines, however, the probability of the eventual issuance of beer regulation is slight. There was apparently little desire on the part of brewers he said to obtain the regulations in view of the pending hostile Willis-Campbell bill.

Garage Owner Is Slain by Holdup In Display Room

Sioux City Merchant Murdered in Office by Robber While He Talks With His Partner.

Sioux City, July 27.—Walter A. Lapham, senior partner of an automobile sales concern, was shot and instantly killed in the display room of the garage, 1300 Pierce street, late last night by an unidentified robber.

O. J. Harman, Mr. Lapham's partner, who was present at the time of the holdup and shooting, was unharmed. After firing the shot the murderer fled, without robbing his victims.

When Mr. Lapham saw the masked man pointing a gun toward him and his partner he scoffed at the representation of the intruder that he was a footpad.

"What's the joke? Quit your kidding," said Mr. Lapham, as he arose to his feet and turned to face the robber.

"I mean business. Lay your rings on the counter," warned the robber. Mr. Lapham made several steps toward the robber, his hands still raised above his head.

"Stop," shouted the burglar, "or I'll shoot, and shoot to kill."

Mr. Lapham took one more step. A shot rang out and Mr. Lapham reeled and fell in a heap. The robber dashed out the rear door of the garage through which he had entered.

Diamond Was Object.
Had R. L. Newton, factory representative of the Cadillac Motor Car company, postponed his trip Tuesday from Sioux City to Omaha he might have been enveloped in the shooting that resulted in Mr. Lapham's death.

Mr. Newton had left Mr. Lapham in his office but a short while before the fatal shooting.

Mr. Lapham showed me his diamond ring, said Mr. Newton today. "I remarked about its beauty and enormous size, but little did he appear to fear a holdup."

Mr. Lapham was widely known throughout the middle west as an automobile man. He was in Omaha last Sunday exchanging several cars at the J. H. Hansen Cadillac company.

Mr. Lapham's body will be taken to Chanute, Kan., his former home, for burial.

Credit of \$403,827,771 Shown in Report of War Finance Body

Washington, July 27.—In a statement of its financial condition the war finance corporation showed a cash credit on hand with the treasurer of the United States, of \$403,827,771; outstanding loans amounted to \$99,903,839, of which \$65,856,479 were represented loans made under the war powers. Outstanding loans under special authority totaled \$34,047,359. Total loans heretofore made aggregated \$359,586,049, while repayments aggregated \$259,682,210.

While the credit with the treasurer would be available for payments to the railroads in the event of the passage of legislation suggested to congress by President Harding, corporation officials declared it would probably not be considered advisable to withdraw the whole sum from the treasury, as it would necessitate the treasury's borrowing the money, which could be done by the corporation itself.

Seaman Burned in Saving Submarine Tender Dies

Honolulu, T. H., July 27.—Henry A. Gaddis, seaman, of Sherman, Ill., died of burns received yesterday in a heroic effort to extinguish a fire aboard the United States submarine tender, Rainbow. Gaddis, who disappeared the fire, assisted several others to escape and then turned his attention to fighting it. The ship was only slightly damaged.

Fair Sex Give Cold Reception to Ban on Smoking by Women

Washington, July 27.—Out of a roomful of women at a house committee hearing today, only one indicated she favored a law to prohibit feminine smokers from puffing cigarettes in public.

A bill by Representative Johnson, democrat, Mississippi, would provide a fine of \$25 for women who smoke in public places in the District of Columbia, a \$100 fine if they repeated the offense and a similar schedule for proprietors of hotels, restaurants and "public vehicles," who fail to enforce the ban. One male spectator saw need for the law, while 19 women opposed it.

This Is About the Time of Year When



—destroys vast areas of beautiful timber.

U. S. Demands Reds Release Citizens Held Prisoners

Curt Communication Handed To Soviet Representative At Reval by American Consul

Washington, July 27.—Formal demand for release of American prisoners in Russia has been made on the Soviet authorities by Secretary Hughes. The state department was advised today that the communication had been handed to the Soviet representative at Reval yesterday by Consul Albrecht.

The text of the curt communication dispatched July 25, has not been made public. It is understood, however, to be a brief insistence that the Americans be released before there can be any thought of better relations between the United States and Russia. The action was taken in the name of humanity and because all efforts to secure the release of the Americans, made through Dr. Nansen of the Red Cross, have failed.

Future Course Vague.
What course will be taken by the United States if the Soviet authorities ignore or refuse to accede to the demands, was not indicated.

The dispatch of the communication was timed so it would reach the Russians approximately simultaneously with the message sent by Secretary Hoover in response to the appeal made by Maxim Gorky. The state department's message is regarded officially as wholly independent of the Hoover-Gorky correspondence.

There are now held as prisoners in Russia eight or 10 Americans. A larger number are believed to be detained within the borders of Russia, some of whom are restricted to limited areas.

Costa Rica Holds Boundary Dispute Settled by White

Washington, July 27.—Proposals for submitting the boundary dispute between Costa Rica and Panama to special arbitration at the Hague, laid before the state department by Narciso Caray, Panamanian secretary of foreign relations, have been rejected by Costa Rica. The attitude of the United States has not been publicly expressed, but is believed to be adverse.

Octavo Beeche, Costa Rican minister here, in a statement today, declared Costa Rica holds the controversy to have been legally determined by the White award.

Two Millions Worth of Fake Revenue Stamps Seized

New York, July 27.—Government agents assisted by city detectives of the Italian squad today seized forged revenue stamps having a face value of approximately \$2,000,000 of forged whisky labels, bottle in bond certificates and withdrawal permits. Three men were arrested.

Police said the men had been engaged in selling the articles to illicit liquor dealers at the rate of \$2.15 for a set of a dozen each.

Prince's Betrothal Announced
Vienna, July 27.—The betrothal of Prince Alexander of Yugoslavia to Princess Sophia of Vendome, daughter of the Bourbon pretender, is announced in Belgrade dispatches received here.

Grand Jury May Probe Failures

Action Comes as Result of Investigation by Assistant Attorney General T. J. McGuire

Judges Hold Conference

Grand jury investigations into the failure of the Guaranty Securities company and several other Omaha concerns which recently have become bankrupt, has been recommended by T. J. McGuire, assistant state's attorney general.

Attorney General Davis, in Lincoln, admitted at noon yesterday the calling of a grand jury had been taken up with district judges here. He will come to Omaha today to take action in the matter.

The proposed investigation will bring to light manipulations in high finance which will make fiction look tame, according to Mr. McGuire, who has been carrying on a quiet investigation of recent failures.

To Call Conference.
Judge A. C. Troup, presiding judge of the district court here, said he would call a conference as quickly as possible, if Attorney General Davis requested him to do so.

"I can't say what attitude the other judges will take in the matter," said Judge Troup, "nor do I care to commit myself on it at present. There will be enough judges in Omaha within a few days to hold a conference and make a decision."

The defunct Colonial Timber and Coal company, whose destinies were so closely entwined with that of the Guaranty Securities company and its bankrupt mother organization, the Pioneer State bank, will also be a subject of the proposed probe, Mr. McGuire said.

Hint Other Investigations.
It also was intimated that the affairs of the Skinner company, the bankrupt Lion Bonding and Securities company, the Omaha Refining company and another Omaha organization which has sold much stock, would be looked into if the grand jury is called.

"Attorney General Davis has assured me that he will use every means at the command of his office to insist on bringing justice where criminal statutes have been violated," said Mr. McGuire yesterday.

Meet Little Co-Operation.
"In the investigations which I myself have conducted we have met with little, if any, co-operation with those concerned. I am ashamed of the law which permits bank wreckers to go on riding around in automobiles when boys who accidentally overdraw their bank accounts are sent to the penitentiary. I have urged, and will continue to urge, a grand jury investigation."

On the heels of the Guaranty Securities company failure comes information that stockholders in the Lion Bonding company will receive not a cent from the wreck of that organization.

Discover Manipulations.
Although the auditing of the bonding company's books has not been completed discoveries are being made of manipulations which will result in the filing of charges by the state, it was intimated yesterday.

Asked if he planned to take any action in the Brewer Potash company, which has been investigated by the government, Mr. McGuire explained that its failure occurred before he took office.

Great losses were suffered throughout the state by stockholders in this company, and four officers are now under federal indictment for using the mails to defraud in the sale of its stock.

Audit Not Complete.
Asked yesterday whether the auditing of the books of the Lion Bonding and Surety company had been completed sufficiently to warrant him to direct Attorney General Davis to institute criminal proceedings against its officers, W. B. Young, state insurance commissioner, said:

"It would be ridiculous to draw any conclusion as to whether officers are guilty of any criminal act. The audit is far from completed. Canceled policies are coming into the office in Omaha by the thousands each day. From five to six entries are necessary, and it may be weeks before the audit is completed."

Turks' Resistance of Drive by Greeks Declared Broken

Athens, July 27.—Information from all sources indicate that the resistance of the Turkish nationalists in Asia Minor is completely broken, the Greek official news agency declares in a statement issued here today.

The Turkish losses in killed, wounded and prisoners to date are estimated 60,000. The Greeks, the statement says, are constantly pressing the Kemalists along the road to Angora.

Volcano of San Miguel Threatening an Eruption

San Antonio, Tex., July 27.—For the first time in 75 years, the volcano of San Miguel threatens an eruption, according to a news dispatch from Mexico City received here today, vapor smoke and boiling water have spouted from the crater recently.

The Weather

Forecast.
Nebraska—Generally fair Thursday and probably Friday; not much change in temperature.

Iowa—Generally fair Thursday and probably Friday; continued warm.

Hourly Temperatures.

5 a. m. ... 76
6 a. m. ... 78
7 a. m. ... 80
8 a. m. ... 82
9 a. m. ... 84
10 a. m. ... 86
11 a. m. ... 88
12 noon ... 85
1 p. m. ... 86
2 p. m. ... 88
3 p. m. ... 90
4 p. m. ... 92
5 p. m. ... 94
6 p. m. ... 96
7 p. m. ... 98
8 p. m. ... 100
9 p. m. ... 102
10 p. m. ... 104
11 p. m. ... 106
12 noon ... 108

Highest Wednesday.

Cheyenne ... 80
Denver ... 82
Des Moines ... 84
Dodge City ... 86
Lincoln ... 88
North Platte ... 90
Pueblo ... 82
Salt Lake ... 84
Santa Fe ... 86
Shelbyville ... 88
Sioux City ... 90
Valentine ... 92