

### Japanese Agree To Let Chinese Have Railroad

Price of 53,000,000 Gold Marks to Be Paid in Installments Covering Term of Years.

By The Associated Press.  
Washington, Dec. 17.—A tentative agreement to return the Kiao-Chow railway to China within nine months was reached yesterday during the conversations between Japanese and Chinese delegates. An agreement was also being approached on other points concerning the mode of payment, it was said by the Chinese.  
It was decided that the road should be paid for in installments, but no decision was reached on the period over which 53,000,000 gold German marks, the price agreed upon, would be spread.  
The Chinese offer to pay in cash, made Thursday, was not accepted by the Japanese and the Chinese countered with a proposal that payments be completed within two or three years, making the time as short as possible. The Japanese, according to a Chinese delegate tonight, said this time was too short and suggested what to the Chinese seemed a very long term.  
The sudden turning back of the railway, the Japanese are understood to have said, would adversely affect Japanese trade interests. China will not borrow any money from Japan with which to meet the payments, the Chinese said, nor will any loan be negotiated.  
Mr. Hanjira of the Japanese delegation, after the meeting said: "We are steadily coming forward to a satisfactory settlement on the questions under discussion."

### Cut in Navy Personnel Decried by Capt. Knox

(Continued From Page One.)  
minimum requirements for keeping up efficiency of material and personnel of the present naval establishment. It is 30,000 men short of ordinary peace complements. There is a similar shortage of 2,000 line officers and many hundreds of staff officers.  
"When these figures are digested," said Captain Knox, "it is apparent that talk of reducing the personnel of the navy is folly. Those now serving in the navy understand fully the critical conditions to which the successive reductions of personnel made by congress have brought the navy. At present it is extremely difficult to maintain the material even in such condition as will prevent permanent serious deterioration.  
"It is with difficulty that the necessary drills to keep up the rudimentary efficiency of the personnel can be held. Lack of men, money and fuel prevents the ships from being active enough to insure adequate training in fleet work and other higher forms of naval efficiency. If further radical reduction of personnel is made there is no question whatever but that our navy, already on the ragged edge of being merely a paper navy, will become one in fact, and the country will deceive itself if it believes that the ratio of strengths agreed upon in the conference reports seems even an approximate measure of our strength compared with the other navies.  
Efficiency Doubly Important.  
"It requires but little analysis to demonstrate, even to laymen, that when number and size of ships are limited the efficiency of each unit becomes doubly important. Competition in building may cease, but competition in efficiency will go on forever. This fundamental fact is already well recognized abroad.  
"Almost immediately after announcement of the Hughes proposals, comments appeared in the Japanese press to the effect that their well trained and efficient personnel would bring their actual strength to parity with the American strength, notwithstanding the lesser Japanese allowance in ships. The British press similarly made the point that the quality of their personnel would ensure a superiority for the British navy over us.  
"These views are not mere bragadocio. They are based on the fact little known in this country that both the British and Japanese navies have long enlistment periods and keep an adequate number of really well-trained personnel available at all times, whereas we have enlistments too short to ensure thorough training, and worse, the number of our men and officers is now, and nearly always has been, very insufficient.  
Hughes' Efforts Threatened.  
"If we had actually in commission the 'Hughes navy' the ordinary peace complements, afloat and ashore, would be 138,000 men and 7,600 line officers. Hence the present personnel is insufficient, by about 38,000 men and 2,400 line officers, to man with normal peace complements the naval tonnage proposed by Mr. Hughes as appropriate to the national interests of the United States.  
"If congress follows the lead of Mr. Kelley and reduces the personnel of the navy still further our national legislative will effectively nullify the diplomatic accomplishments of our secretary of state and his eminent American associates. To reduce the navy personnel by half the present quota, as Mr. Kelley proposed, would be just as serious a matter as if Mr. Hughes had proposed the ratio of tonnage to be America 2, Great Britain 5 and Japan 3. The 5-3 plan would become merely food for American self-deception."

See and Hear Our Brand New Osborn BABY GRANDS at \$425.50

### U. S. Must Pay to Hold Oil Supremacy

(Continued From Page One.)  
duction comes to this country. Suppose that source of supply were shut off. Some will point to our large stocks of crude oil in storage. But do you realize that the total quantity of crude oil above ground in this country is only about four months' supply?  
Feast or Famine.  
"Remember this: In oil we have either a feast or a famine. We have been having a feast. With four months' supply on hand, are we well fortified against a possible famine?  
"First, we must have greater co-operation between oil company managers and employees, with steadily improving efficiency in operation.  
"Second, we must say to the American public, 'American oil men do not seek success by cutting the other fellow's throat.'  
"Third, American oil companies must work together in obtaining a firmer foothold in foreign fields; they must follow a policy of mutual helpfulness in developing foreign sources of supply; they must take effective means of assuring to their own country an adequate share of the world's supply, not merely for a few years, but for all time.  
"Fourth, the American government must back up the oil men of America in every legitimate effort to bring about this lasting assurance, and.  
"Fifth, the American people must realize that this co-operative effort on the part of their government, of oil corporations and of oil men is vital to their security and prosperity.  
"I can say truthfully that a spirit of co-operation is permeating the American petroleum industry more thoroughly than anyone would have believed possible before the war.  
Against "Freeze Out."  
"As an independent, I am happy to say it is my opinion that the leaders of the Standard Oil company do not want to 'freeze out' the independents and that neither Standard Oil nor the big independents want to oust the smaller independents.  
"No American worthy of the name, whether an oil man or not, would encourage international irritation. It is because I am keenly aware of the delicacy and at the same time of the importance of petroleum in this connection that I venture to put my finger upon a possible point of irritation.  
"Let us suppose for a moment that all of the leading nations were to engage in the petroleum business as a government activity. Under such circumstances, could the diplomacy of the world ward off international conflict? The answer seems obvious.  
"Why, then, should any nation engage in the petroleum business as a government activity? The danger is the same, except in degree.  
"Can this danger be avoided if a government becomes a heavy investor in a private oil enterprise? The danger is not removed; it is merely glossed over.  
"We, as American citizens, expect the firm backing of the American government in every legitimate effort to extend American interests abroad. We can compete with any private foreign interest or group of private interests, but can we compete successfully with interests backed and financed by powerful foreign governments?"

Man Not Seeking Danger; Would Be 'Just Policeman'  
"I want to hire out as a police man," expostulated six feet of masculinity standing before the desk of Catherine Savage, secretary to Chief of Police Dempsey yesterday.  
"How long have you resided in Omaha," replied Miss Savage, reaching for an application blank.  
"One week," replied the applicant.  
"Well you have to live here six months under the regulations, but you might see Commissioner Dunn as he is putting on several extra men to help out on the South Side during the packing house strike. You'll find his office in the city hall."  
"Not me," replied the applicant.  
"That's too dangerous. I don't want any dangerous job. I just want to be a policeman," answered the man as he briskly walked out of the office.

Christmas Goods Seized.  
Alfred Larson's Christmas "goods" are gone.  
Federal prohibition agents confiscated three gallons of it and Larson's car, too, yesterday. His home is at 2714 Shirley street.  
He confessed the liquor was "Christmas goods." He told officers he wouldn't have a very merry Christmas explaining to his wife why the family car was missing.

Impressive Ceremonies for Woman Credited With Saving 100 Lives—Award Includes \$1,000 Cash.  
Today will be a big day for Mrs. Mildred Lothrop, operator for the Northwestern Bell Telephone company at Homer, Neb.  
Noted officials of the company will be there to present her with the Theodore N. Vail gold medal and \$1,000 in cash for her heroic service during the flood at Homer the night of May 31, 1920, at which time she is credited with having saved the lives of at least 100 persons by awakening them by telephone and warning them to flee to the hills for safety.  
Large Crowd Expected.  
It is expected that 5,000 persons will be present at the ceremonies, which will take place at 2 in the Farmers' Exchange hall, Homer. Governor McKelvie and Chairman H. G. Taylor of the state railway commission will participate in the ceremonies.  
W. B. J. Belt, president of the Northwestern Bell Telephone company, personally representing Harry B. Thayer, president of the American Telephone & Telegraph company, will present the medal and cash to Mrs. Lothrop. Thomas Ashford, mayor of Homer, will preside and deliver the address of welcome. Musical numbers will be furnished by Homer talent.  
Manager to Get Award.  
At the same meeting, a silver medal and \$250 in cash will be presented to Frank Forrest, manager of the telephone company at Dakota City, for his exceptional service during the same flood. He is one of nine selected from the 260,000 telephone workers in the United States to receive the second award for noteworthy public service during the year.  
The Vail medals and awards are presented annually under provision of the Vail memorial fund, established by Mrs. Vail, widow of Theodore N. Vail, and the American Telephone & Telegraph company, as a memorial to Mr. Vail, late president of the company. He died April 16, 1920.

Income Tax Installments Estimated at Half Billion  
Washington, Dec. 17.—Receipts from the December 15 installment of income and profits taxes are expected to reach \$500,000,000, according to preliminary reports received last night. While it is too soon to estimate accurately the total for the quarter, officials said, early reports indicate that the treasury's original estimate of \$500,000,000 will be realized.  
See Want Ads Produce Results

### Phone Operator At Homer, Neb., to Get Medal Today

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## Select Your Piano or Player From These:

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Conover  
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See and Hear Our Brand New Osborn BABY GRANDS at \$425.50

One Price No Commissions **OAKFORD** 419 S. 16th Street, Omaha **MUSIC CO.**

## An Ideal Gift

Golden melody pours from the little throat of our "LIVING MUSIC BOX" (U. S. Pat. No. 96855)

The Musically Educated Canary


These canaries are especially bred and trained for us in Germany and sing entirely different from the American bred canary. They are famous for their wonderfully sweet voices, the infinite variety of their soft, clear, nightingale-like notes and an unquenchable singing spirit which brings

Happiness in Thousands of Homes.

Special price for Xmas. Sold on 5 days' approval. **\$12.00**

Other varieties of singing canaries from \$6.00 up. All kinds of foreign birds, thoroughbred puppies, goldfish, cages, etc.

**MAX GEISLER BIRD CO.**  
1617 Parkman St.—22 Years in Business in Omaha.



## We Are on the Threshold of Christmas


To some this is a season when great pretense is expected to show remembrance without the true expression of love and regard.

Happily the useless, meaningless gift is becoming a custom of the past---giving way to

### Thoughtful Giving

A small, well-chosen gift is infinitely preferable to mere display without regard to distinction or appropriateness.

**Thompson, Belden & Co**



## Christmas Gifts from 25c to \$1800

### For Femininity

- A feather fan
- A Spanish comb
- A leather bag
- Sheer silk hose
- Trefousse gloves
- A woolen sweater
- A handsome fur
- A becoming veil
- A teddy, or
- A gown, Philippine
- Or sheerest silk
- Gloves, silk vests
- Colored bloomers
- A Camisole
- A powder bowl
- A night lamp
- English motor robes
- A gay boutonniere
- A real lace kerchief
- High heeled mules
- A colored umbrella
- Lace front hose
- A skating sweater
- A brushed wool scarf
- A lovely blouse
- A silk petticoat
- Vestees and collars
- An overnight bag
- A corduroy robe
- A silk negligee
- A Mandarin coat
- Book ends

### For a Man

- A lounging robe of silk or wool
- A leather belt with a silver buckle
- A fine madras shirt
- A silk tie
- Enameled cuff links
- A silk knit muffler
- Good gloves of kid, mocha, cape
- Wool golf hose
- Linen handkerchiefs white or colored
- Clocked hose
- Silk pajamas
- Initialed handkerchiefs
- Silk umbrellas
- A flannel bath robe
- Evening dress accessories

### For Twelve Years and Under

- A set of furs
- A brushed wool tam
- A fur collared coat
- A hand made dress
- A bright hued sweater
- A quilted sacque
- A knitted set, cap, sweater and leggings
- Tiny silk or wool booties
- A small bath robe
- An embroidered kimono
- Brush and comb sets
- Floating toys for baby's tub
- Fine flannel undies
- Soft wool hose

From Nine o'Clock Until Six Are Shopping Hours at Thompson-Belden's

Not Open Evenings

