

## HARDING WILL PROTECT U. S. DEALINGS

Assurance Given His Negotiations Will Be Marked by America First Policy.

### CASES INVOLVED CITED

WASHINGTON, March 12.—Definite assurance that the Harding administration will insist on American rights, is growing out of the war and peace settlement, was given in high official quarters today.

This was the first authoritative statement of the policy of the Harding administration touching foreign affairs. It came from the highest possible source. The policy will be seen in all questions in which the United States now has a voice and in all other cases where it is believed American interests will be affected. Specific questions in which the new administration will maintain this policy are:

The Mesopotamian oil question in which the United States is insisting on equal rights.

The controversy with Japan over the status of the island of Yap, in which this country opposed the Japanese mandate.

The negotiations for disposition of former German cables which have been at virtual deadlock in Washington for weeks with the United States insisting upon an equitable division of these cables.

The fact that the Harding administration would uphold essential points of the Wilson administration's contentions in these matters has been predicted. The statement today, however, was the first formal assurance that this was to be the policy.

It closely follows the development that the United States will be careful in dealing with the allies not to be put in a position of sympathizing with Germany. No decision has yet been reached on the invitation of the committee of the League of Nations that the United States send a representative to the next meeting of the council when mandate forms for Mesopotamia and other enemy territory will be considered.

## GERMANS MAY RATIFY STAND ON WAR DEBT

(Continued From Page One.)

Premier Aristide Briand today, "We are not resolved to recede from the line we have chosen."

Replying to criticism that the military and economic penalties against Germany will prove ineffective, the premier said: "They will show their efficiency."

The results of the London conference were discussed at a Cabinet meeting this morning when the premier made a report to his colleagues.

The outcome of the London conference is accepted as a big victory for France and for the French policy toward Germany.

Stephen Lauzanne, editor of the *Matin*, pointed out that the amount gained from the seizure of German customs houses and the establishment of a new frontier along the Rhine will not exceed 50,000,000 gold marks (\$12,500,000) annually. He suggests that the allies exact their sanctions or penalties to include seizure of the coal mines in the Ruhr basin and the great Rhine and forests which are the property of the German people.

M. Lauzanne estimated that not only would the new duties increase the French customs receipts to 500,000,000 marks annually, but said that "the moral effect of separating Germany from her richest province would be enormous."

## ALL PEACEFUL IN OCCUPIED CITIES

FRENCH MILITARY HEADQUARTERS, NEISS, March 12.—Allied military leaders expressed gratification today over the success of their measures to force German obedience to the entente's demilitarization demands.

There has been neither fighting nor friction with the townspeople of Dusseldorf, Dusseldorf and Ruhrort, the three German cities that were occupied.

The workers are pursuing their usual routine which was not interrupted by the entrance of allied troops.

## Shamrocks to Be Worn in Irish Relief Work

St. Patrick and the festive celebrations about his natal day will be asked to help in the collection of funds in Indiana for Irish relief.

The Indiana committee, under the direction of J. F. Lucey, national director of the American committee for the relief in Ireland, is sending to all the workers in Indiana and in the State the suggestion of inaugurating a shamrock campaign, using as tags green cardboard, cut in the shape of a shamrock, with some old Irish slogan printed on one side and the names of the local committee on the other.

In all the Catholic churches in Indiana, tomorrow, in the dioceses of Indianapolis and Ft. Wayne, an appeal, already received by Bishop Charrand of Indianapolis and Bishop Allard of Ft. Wayne, will be ready, asking Catholics of whatever racial descent to give liberally to the Irish.

## City Buys Oil Close to Pre-War Quotation

The high cost of motoring will not be quite so high for the city of Indianapolis for the next few months, City Purchasing Agent Dwight S. Ritter announced today.

An agreement has been effected with a manufacturer of automobile lubricating oil whereby the city will buy from time to time as needed approximately one car load of oil at from 40 to 45 cents per gallon. In December the purchasing department received a quotation of from 70 to 75 cents from the same company, but was able to buy at from 50 to 55 cents elsewhere.

The new price is getting close to the pre-war figure, the purchasing agent stated.

## Rats Used Bankroll to Feather Nest

INDIANA HARBOR, Ind., March 11.—Mysterious robberies in Anthony McQuisk's soft drink parlor were solved recently when police found a rat nest made of \$100 in bills.

McQuisk had just placed \$92 in a cigar box when he turned to make change for a customer. When he came back the money was gone. Policemen John Berzucha lined up everybody in the place and searched them. None had even \$20, however. Then a search was made of the entire store, its cellar and garage. The searchers were about to give up when a squeak from a rafter was heard.

Twelve baby rats were nibbling at the edges of McQuisk's \$92 roll. They had eaten \$1.07 worth before he rescued it.

ANNOUNCES CARD PARTY.

The Trubadore Club will give a public card party in Musicians' Hall tomorrow afternoon.

## INDIAN ADONIS IS LOVE THIEF, CHARGES BANKER

Named as Co-respondent in Canadian Wilds of Mrs. James A. Stillman.

NEW YORK, March 12.—Photographs and letters seized by armed raiders at Mrs. James A. Stillman's summer camp near Ilman, Quebec, are expected to play an important part when the divorce suit of Mrs. Stillman, multimillionaire president of the National City Bank, one of the biggest in America, comes to trial.

Details of the spectacular raid upon Mrs. Stillman's summer camp came to light today following the revelation that the banker had named a half breed Indian as co-respondent. This Indian, who is described as a beautiful specimen of manhood, was attached to the entourage of the Stillman summer camp as a guide.

One version of the story indicated that the raiding party was made up of armed men from this city. The defenders of the camp were residents of the nearby village, whom Mrs. Stillman employed, when her husband and his husband had employed a detective agency to gather evidence for his divorce suit.

The exact nature of the photos and letters is a secret and a matter of considerable speculation. Mrs. Stillman, it is known among her friends as an enthusiastic amateur photographer and frequently took her camera with her on jaunts about the Canadian camp.

The evidence is situated in the heart of a dense wood and its front approach is cross-cut by a small stream which the raiding party had to ford in its secret advance upon the place.

Mrs. Stillman, it is understood, was not at the lodge at the time of the raid. The half-breed Indian was said to have been either at the lodge or in the village at the time of the raid. The Indian, it is known, Mrs. Stillman has not seen the Indian during the past year.

The relations between Mrs. Stillman and the half-breed occupied a large part of the divorce suit. It is known, Mrs. Stillman has not seen the Indian during the past year.

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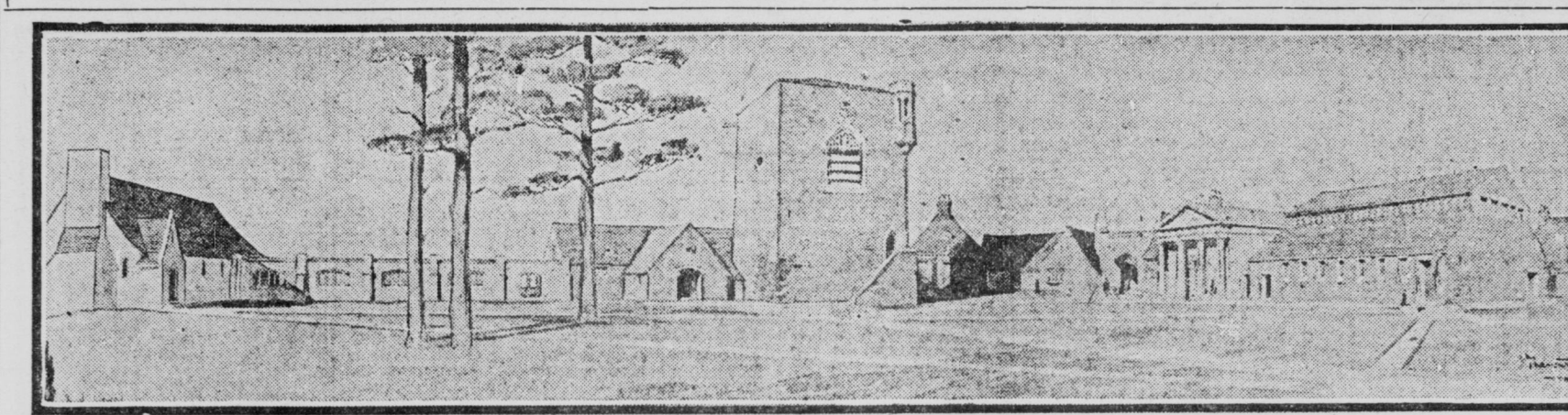
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## UNIQUE 'ETON' IN CONNECTICUT FARM HILLS AS VIEWED FROM THE VILLAGE GREEN



To the genius and generosity of a woman will be due an important and unique addition to the rank in this country of those great preparatory schools for boys—Eton, Rugby and Harrow, in England; Groton, St. Paul's and St. Mark's in America—which wise men have credited with a significant influence on the progress of the Anglo-Saxon race. A wise man privileged to become a boy again could ask for nothing better than to become one of the first 300 pupils at the novel and fascinating Pope School for Boys, being built on a bluff overlooking the Farmington River at Old Farms, Avon, Conn., by Mrs. John Wallace Riddle—formerly known as Theodate Pope, architect—as a memorial to her parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Atmore Pope. Architecturally and educationally the Pope School for Boys, for the establishment and management of which Mrs. Riddle has incorporated the Alfred Atmore Pope Foundation, will be unlike any other great preparatory school. It will differ from Groton, St. Paul's and St. Mark's, for instance, in giving its students the daily interest of genuine country life in the shape of a little practical farming, forestry, dairying, carpentry and what not, in addition to a full allowance of the highest standard of academic work.

## GUARDS AGAINST SLACKER ERRORS

Legion to Watch for Names on List by Mistake.

To protect men who may be wrongfully classed as draft evaders in the lists soon to be issued by the War Department and to make certain that none guilty of evading military service escapes, national headquarters of the American Legion today sent a bulletin to the 2,072 legion posts and 2,292 units of the women's auxiliary in all parts of the country, directing them to place themselves at the disposal of the Department of Justice.

The War Department's efforts, men who performed their duty well as drafted men, and slacker in the lists issued, F. W. Gallagher, Jr., national commander, declared, "Posta are instructed to scan the lists carefully before their publication is possible to make sure no ex-service man's reputation will be sullied by error."

"The department is doing every possible and immediate assistance to duly constituted authorities that no draft dodger or slacker will follow in the steps of Bergdoll. We want all men guilty of evasion of military duty behind the bars twenty-four hours after their names are announced."

The general order of construction should be as follows:

1. Clearing and widening roadway from Kentucky avenue to the gravel plant. (The plant is on Sellers farm.)

2. The straightening of roadway through the plant grounds connecting Kentucky avenue with drive and the junction of the two roads.

3. Completion of the Harding street road to the pumping station.

4. Clearing and widening roadway from the gravel plant to the gravel plant.

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## Replacement Parts Sales

Make City's Motorcycle Contract Desirable One

The motorcycle monopoly enjoyed in the city administration by the Merz Motor Company is a pleasant and profitable monopoly—for the Merz company, as is shown by the city's records of purchase of replacement parts in the years 1919 and 1920.

Records for the year 1918 are not immediately available, but are said to be proportionately the same as for the other two years.

Records of purchases of replacement parts for the motorcycles used by the city of Indianapolis, all of which were purchased from the Merz company, show that it is not always the initial price charged for an article that brings a profitable business to the vender.

In 1919 the city paid the Merz company \$238.31 for replacement parts on five motorcycles, an average of \$47.66 apiece.

"The city paid the Merz company \$35.52 for replacement parts on thirteen motorcycles, eight of which were in service only a little more than half the year."

Thus, it will be seen that in selling to the city, the Merz company insured for itself a line of continuous sales on a very profitable basis. Just how much of this was due to the fact that parts are not generally known outside the industry, but it is known that the percentage of profit on parts is generally so great that agents can afford to supply parts at a price of 25 per cent to 10 per cent to "the trade."

When the Merz company succeeded, in January of this year, in selling its motorcycles to the city, it was regardless of a lower bid made by Donald T. Pope, there was an agreement between the purchasing agent and the Merz company that hereafter the city would be required to pay the city a 20 per cent discount on the parts it buys.

This discount was one of the inducements offered by Pope in the bid which was turned down. It was met by the Merz company in its effort to retain the lucrative business it had enjoyed from the city.

Under the Merz company has charged the city full list price for parts and to offset the discount it will have the added advantage of more machines in service for which to supply parts.

Figured on the cost of replacement parts for 1918, the Merz company should double its charges to the city for parts in 1921, even though it sold the city the 20 per cent discount.

NONE SO FAR FOR PRESENT YEAR.

To date no bills have been paid by the city for replacement parts in 1921.

Representatives of the Merz company insisted at the time their higher bid was accepted by the city that there was "no money" in selling to the city. They said they would not do all they could to provide the city with parts, provided the contract carried with it an agreement to buy replacement parts from the city.

Records show that the up-keep of the motorcycles sold by the Merz company is a small item. The cost of parts is merely a fraction of it, for the city does its own repair work and the cost of parts are not included in the \$91.83 paid the Merz company for parts in two years.

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