

NITRATE PLANT BID FAVORED BY CONGRESS

Canvass of Both Houses Shows Majority for Ford Offer.

POLITICAL FIGHT ON

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21.—A preliminary canvass of Congress reveals that a majority of both houses favor acceptance of Harry Ford's offer for the Muscle Shoals, Ala., nitrate plant.

Opponents of the offer have made the survey. Even opponents of Ford secretly admitted that chances of Congress eventually accepting the offer were good, but stated it would be subject to one of the most bitter political battles in recent history.

ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORT OFFER.

Those supporting Ford are:

1. The "Farm bloc" in Congress.

2. All the farm organizations, including the American farm bureau federation and the national board of farm organizations.

3. Numerous civic and business associations throughout the country.

From the South and West Ford received 6,000 letters last week in support of his offer.

Those against the Ford offer are:

1. The National Fertilizer Association, which is regularly flooding Congress with propaganda against the offering, characterizing it as paternalism and charging Ford is not offering to pay enough for the project.

ELECTRICAL INTERESTS OPPOSE OFFER.

2. The electric power interests. Four Southern electric associations have adopted resolutions against the offer. The Electrical World, said to represent the industry, has made several editorial attacks.

3. Wall street—"financial review" of several New York banking houses have attacked it. The Merchants Association of New York has attacked further development of the project as "a vicious Socialistic enterprise."

4. The American Cyanamid Corporation, with its subsidiary the Alr Nitrate Corporation, which fought the appropriation in the last Congress to complete the dam.

5. The products over Association.

6. Water Power Conservationists, led by Gifford Pinchot, claim the offer is against a conservative policy.

Opposition is expected from the aluminum interests, but it has not been manifested in the open.

BLOOD-STAINED NOTE FOUND IN ROOM OF DEATH

Indications That Murder and Suicide Tragedy Was Planned.

Special to The Times
TERRE HAUTE, Ind., Jan. 21.—A blood-stained note, evidently written after he had slashed his wife's throat but paused with a steady hand, found today in the room where Charles Lewis enacted a murder and suicide, indicated that Lewis may have planned the deed to occur in the event the wife would not accept his proposal of a reconciliation. Addressed to the couple's 14-year-old daughter, the note said: "Go to Grandma Lewis. She will take care of you. There is \$35 in the bank. Take care of mother's watch and trinkets. Forgive me. Grandma."

"Grandma" Lewis is the dead man's 92-year-old mother. News of the tragedy was withheld from her for fear the shock would prove fatal. Lewis had planned the slaying, for, as he was found in the room, he was stupefied with clothing and the gas was turned on.

ROAD SCHOOL OPENS MONDAY

Purdue Has Short Term for Civil Engineers.

LA FAYETTE, Ind., Jan. 21.—Plans are complete for the opening of the eighth annual Purdue road school, which will start next Monday, Jan. 23. Prospects are now to a record attendance, as inquiries have come to the school of civil engineering from every part of the State. The last Legislature passed a law making it necessary for every highway superintendent to attend a road school of one week some time during the year and most of the Indiana superintendents will attend the Purdue school.

The purpose of the school is to bring together all the engineers, officials, contractors and others interested in the street and highway problems in the State that they may hear various phases of their problems presented by experts of national reputation and that they may meet and exchange ideas with each other. The course in public construction methods, maintenance etc., is changing continually and no official or engineer can keep in touch with the new developments except through such road schools. The course this year was extended to one week so that the road superintendents might comply with the law by attending the Purdue school.

Efforts have been made to recruit the program so that these in one special line of work will be able to get their particular subjects in one or two days. Surveyors and engineers will find many of their problems covered in the course or Wednesday and Thursday. City street commissioners will be especially interested in the Thursday afternoon, Friday and Saturday evening sessions. The first half of the course will appear especially to highway contractors, while the latter half will be of greater value to city street contractors.

The program starts Monday afternoon and will end at noon Saturday.

VIRGINIA ROAD FACES INQUIRY

U. S. Rail Board Charges Violation of Order.

CHICAGO, Jan. 21.—The United States Railway Labor Board, it was announced today, has cited the Interstate Railway Company, operating in southwestern Virginia, to appear before it Feb. 6 for an inquiry as to whether the road has violated an order of the board.

It is charged the road has ignored an order of the labor board directing it to reemploy S. B. Arthur and H. E. Brooks, who were discharged, it is asserted, who were discharged. It is alleged, for giving union officials information concerning wage scales paid on the railroad. It was the contention of the unions the Interstate road was not putting into effect the wage increase order issued by the labor board in May, 1920.

The Interstate road did not combat the charges but replied it did not care to present any evidence in the case, because it does not deal with its employees through representatives of labor organizations. The labor board sustained the positions of the labor unions and ordered Silvers and Arwood reinstated.

SAVES TO HELP UNFORTUNATES

Banker Joe, 4, Proposes to Adopt an Orphan.



JAPAN'S DELAY IRRITATES ALL OTHER POWERS

Question of Meeting Expenses of Arms Conference Raised by France.

DELEGATIONS RESTIVE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21.—With some of its teeth extracted the resolution providing for a listing of all existing secret treaties and commitments of the various nations of the world regarding China was adopted by the Far Eastern committee of the arms conference today. As it now stands, the resolution exempts the listing of private Chinese commitments, granting trade and other advantages.

The conference agreed to list all international agreements.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21.—The Japanese policy of delay in the arms conference is beginning the irritate other delegations as well as the United States Senate.

A review of the conference status reveals that at every turn the Japanese are holding up the proceedings, the lack of particularity this week, is beginning to chafe the other powers.

Japanese insistence upon joint financial and operative control of the Shanghai Railway is blocking a settlement of this issue. This led to the breaking of the first real debate on conference issues.

WISH TWO ISLAND GROUPS EXEMPTED.

Japanese insistence that the Bon and Oshima Island groups be exempted from the following provisions of the new treaty, preventing final acceptance of this all important document.

In the Far East committee proper, Japanese objection to filling with the conference the list of treaties and agreements on Chinese matters so far has prevented the adoption of the "ordinance" resolution adopted at all times.

To earn money to enable him to "adopt" an orphan of the Bible lands Japan, who is four years old, keeps an "Armenian bank," where most of the pennies in the neighborhood find their way. He will soon be ready to make his first \$5 payment to Near East Relief.

Joe is one of the stanchest friends the Armenian unfortunate have in this city and has told his mother that he would like to "adopt" every one of the 17,000 orphans in the Near East supported by the relief organization, and he would like to bring them all to his home. His mother is rather glad the boy's opportunity in this direction are limited.

JOSEPH ASBURY, JR.

Out on Ashland avenue this little boy is known as "Banker Joe." He is Joseph Asbury, Jr., and lives at 1824 Ashland avenue.

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The cost of the conference is beginning to trouble some of the delegations. It was said the question of who is to bear the expense of the Washington meeting and of the future conferences which have agreed upon was recently brought up by the French in a committee meeting.

In the Far East committee proper, Japanese objection to filling with the conference the list of treaties and agreements on Chinese matters so far has prevented the adoption of the "ordinance" resolution adopted at all times.

The French inquired how the expenses were to be met. They were informed that while there had been no agreement as to who would bear the expense of the Washington meeting, the United States had agreed to bear the cost of the future meetings.

The French then put forward a tentative suggestion that if such was to be the case, the amounts expended should be deducted from the war debt. In other words, the United States would bear the entire cost of this and future meetings.

There was no support to this suggestion and the matter was allowed to drop. It caused considerable quiet comment, however.

The increasing restiveness of the foreign delegations, reflected in the way they are looking for footprints and found them. They led from one house to another until they reached the home of H. R. Reeves, 1221 Union street. The footprints went in, but they didn't come out. Hence, the police deduced, the burglar was still in the house.

Today the Far East committee again tackled Chinese problems while the drafting committee met again to whip into treaty form the agreements already reached.

The police were called to Morris and Charles streets early today on the report of a burglar working in the neighborhood. Worthy Sherlocks that they are, they looked for footprints and found them. They led from one house to another until they reached the home of H. R. Reeves, 1221 Union street. The footprints went in, but they didn't come out. Hence, the police deduced, the burglar was still in the house.

Following the usual procedure in a case that has been a bane to the police, the burglar, a negro, ran into the room where Mrs. Reeves was sleeping and ran across the bed, as the sergeant ran around it in pursuit.

Then the negro plunged through the door where Norman and Baker were standing. He bumped into Norman and Norman sat down in the snow. With the sergeant at the door, Baker, the sergeant and the three went round and round. Then Sergeant Allison climbed on the pile of struggling humanity in the best football manner.

When the fight subsided, the negro was placed under arrest. He gave his name as Frank J. Sanders, Haworth street. He said he couldn't remember the name of the house he had been in.

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