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JAPANESE SENTRY ADMITS SHOOTING WAS UNPROVOKED

Slayer of Lieut. W. H. Langdon, American Naval Officer, Also Told Court of Inquiry That He Had Discharged His Rifle by Accident—State Department Awaiting Reply to Note Sent to Japanese Government—Memorial Services Are to Be Held Today at the Y. M. C. A. Building in Vladivostok—Langdon's Wife Committed Suicide When Informed of Her Husband's Death.

Washington, Jan. 17.—Lieut. W. H. Langdon, American naval officer, who was shot and killed by a Japanese sentry at Vladivostok January 8, was the victim of an unprovoked attack, dispatches to the state department and to the navy department today agreed.

Both sets of dispatches were based on statements elicited from the accused sentry by the board of investigation and court of inquiry convened by the Japanese government. The sentry's statements were described as in agreement with the ante-mortem story of the affair by Lieutenant Langdon in that the sentry was the first to fire. The sentry, who previously had maintained that the American officer fired first, also was reported as having told the court of inquiry that he had discharged his rifle by accident.

While the dispatches received today were more complete than any that had previously reached Washington and while officials expressed gratification that an agreement had been reached as to what actually happened, no tendency was displayed in official circles to relax the determination to investigate the matter thoroughly and for that reason Admiral Gleaves with his court of inquiry will continue on his way to the Siberian port. State department officials also continued to await a reply to the note sent the Japanese government requesting an explanation of the incident and assurances that it would not be repeated.

The state department was informed in its dispatches that Langdon, who is described as "a total abstainer," was returning to his ship early on the morning of January 8, using a flashlight in order to pick his way along an ice-covered street. The sentry was on duty before the headquarters of the Japanese 11th division.

The summary of the report of the investigating board as received by the state department said:

"The sentry admitted that he was very excited but protested that he did not intend to shoot Lieutenant Langdon but that his purpose was to seize Lieut. Langdon's flashlamp and compel him to accompany him to the guard in order that he might ascertain who the lieutenant was. He declared that he then discharged his rifle accidentally. He added that after he had discharged his rifle by accident and wounded Lieut. Langdon in the breast, Lieutenant Langdon fired two or three revolver shots at him."

The state department's report said that all the high Japanese army officers at Vladivostok had visited the cruiser Albany, Lieut. Langdon's ship, to express their regret and sorrow and the Japanese minister of war had telegraphed condolence.

Memorial services for Lieut. Langdon will be held tomorrow at the Y. M. C. A. building in Vladivostok.

LIEUT. LANGDON'S WIFE HAS COMMITTED SUICIDE

Vladivostock, Jan. 17. — Lieutenant Langdon's wife, whom he married under the Russian common law, committed suicide by shooting when informed of Langdon's death. She was the widow of a Russian officer who had been killed by the bolsheviki.

REAPPORTIONMENT BILL COMES UP IN HOUSE TODAY

Washington, Jan. 17.—Lines were sharply drawn tonight for a fight tomorrow to defeat the reapportionment bill, which would increase the membership of the house of representatives from 435 to 483.

After a final check up, leaders announced that the measure as reported would be voted down decisively and that a substitute plan, holding seats to the present total, would be adopted by a big majority.

As mapped out today the program under which the bill will be called up tomorrow provides for five hours of debate. While there was some objection to so much oratory, it was agreed to permit members to express their views at length, and then by a roll call vote, let the country know that the house is big enough as it stands.

The republican steering committee was reported solidly against the increase, not as a committee, but as individuals, southern democrats, it was said, were not expected to oppose the lower total as a body, as the shifting of seats would leave their present number intact.

Under provisions of the bill which house leaders expect to be adopted the increases will be as follows:

California, three; Michigan two; Ohio two; Connecticut, New Jersey, North Carolina, Texas and Washington, one each. To make up this number without changing the 435 total, Missouri would lose two seats and the following states one each: Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Nebraska, Rhode Island and Vermont.

DESPERATE PLIGHT OF THE FAMINE VICTIMS IN CHINA

Washington, Jan. 17.—Chinese victims of the famine that has placed in jeopardy the lives of more than ten million inhabitants of five districts, are being kept alive on a mixed diet of vegetables and cereals, principally millet seed and beans, the state department was advised today by Charles R. Crane, American minister to Peking. Minister Crane's report was based upon the findings of Frederick W. Stevens, representative of the American group of the international consortium of bankers who has just completed an investigation in which careful study of the famine situation was made by different agencies working in the affected districts.

The continuation of gifts of money is essential if the lives of millions are to be saved, the report indicated.

Many of the famine victims are being cared for in refugee camps established in some of the larger cities. In those districts, under the direct care of the American Red Cross, American marines and infantry troops have been assisting in the distribution of relief, and, cacording to the report, "have made a very good impression on the Chinese officials and the Chinese public."

AGITATION IN AUSTRIA FOR FUSION WITH GERMANY

Vienna, Jan. 15.—Aside from the demand for the right of collective bargaining there has been a further manifestation of the ever-increasing agitation for fusion with Germany, in the opinion of foreign observers in Vienna. This movement has been markedly recrudescent lately, numerous public meets being held and there being much discussion of the situation in the newspapers. Another factor which is acting as propaganda for the fusion idea is the failure of the so-called Goode plan for reparations and of the big powers to re-finance the country and rehabilitate industry.

INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS IN BRIDGEPORT IMPROVING

Bridgeport, Jan. 17.—Industrial conditions here became somewhat improved today when the Salts Textile Manufacturing Company re-opened its plant with 1500 employes, or about 60 per cent of its normal force. The wage schedule is a 31 1-2 per cent. reduction exclusive of the 12 1-2 per cent. bonus, making the net cut about 19 per cent.

The Harvey Hibbell Incorporated plant also resumed operations with 1500. Here a 20 per cent. cut in wages went into effect.

FORMER GERMAN EMPRESS HAS SUFFERED A RELAPSE

The Hague, Jan. 17.—The former German empress is reported to be in a very serious condition today. She suffered a relapse immediately after the former crown prince, Frederick William, who had been visiting her, returned to Wieringen.

HYLAN AND ENRIGHT PROMISE TO AID WHITMAN

New York, Jan. 17.—Former Governor Whitman, appointed by District Attorney Swann to investigate reports of alleged graft and inefficiency in city and county offices, won his first important victory today when Mayor Hylan and Police Commissioner Enright promised to furnish him with the requested police assistance.

The two officials were thereupon excused, for the present, from testifying before the additional grand jury before which they were subpoenaed to appear today. The subpoenas followed their refusal to aid in the inquiry on the ground that it was improper for police to investigate the police department.

Meanwhile, reports that Police Commissioner Enright intended to resign continued to gain circulation, despite the fact that they lacked authentic confirmation. Commissioner Enright would not discuss the reports, while Mayor Hylan, who has the power of appointment and removal, said to reporters: "Don't ask such questions."

Major General John R. O'Ryan, who has been mentioned as Enright's successor, declared today he would not accept the office if it were offered to him.

The police requested by Mr. Whitman will report for duty tomorrow. Mayor Hylan and Commissioner Enright also agreed, Mr. Whitman declared, to abrogate a police rule requiring police taking part in an investigation to furnish the commissioner with a statement of everything that transpired, if the matter in any way affected the police department.

WIRELESS ACROSS CONTINENT IN 1 HOUR AND 8 MINUTES

Hartford, Conn., Jan. 17.—What is claimed to be a world's record for civilian wireless transmission was made early today when a message from the Hartford Courant to the Los Angeles Times was relayed across the continent by the station of Hiram Percy Maxim here. The reply came in one hour and eight minutes.

Several mid-western stations, operated by members of the American Radio Relay League, the national organization of non-commercial wireless operators, of which Mr. Maxim is president, assisted in relaying the test message across continent.

A record of one hour and twenty minutes for cross-continent relay of a wireless message was made by the Maxim station more than three years ago and until this morning all attempts to materially reduce the time had failed. Tomorrow another attempt will be made to better the new record and beginning on February 1 twenty-four amateur operators, many of them formerly in the army and navy radio service, will attempt with both wireless telegraph and radiotelephones to talk across the Atlantic. Hugh obRinson, a New Jersey member of the league with headquarters here, is the only non-commercial operator, it is claimed, who has succeeded in talking across the Atlantic.

APPEAL AGAINST DEATH SENTENCE OF JOSEPH MURPHY

Dublin, Jan. 17.—An appeal on behalf of Joseph Murphy against the death sentence promulgated after he was found guilty by a courtmartial on December 15 of having led an attack on the military in Cork, was heard by the court of appeal today. The case was adjourned until January 25. Murphy's execution has been set for January 27.

The law courts lie within the area surrounded by the new military cordon set up Saturday night, and it is understood they were included because the military had received information indicating the Sinn Fein contemplated a raid in order to release Murphy.

PLANS FOR INAUGURAL CEREMONY ON PORTICO

Marion, Ohio, Jan. 17.—Final plans for the simple ceremony on the east portico of the capitol, which mark the inauguration of Warren G. Harding as president of the United States, were virtually approved today as the result of a conference between the president-elect and Elliott Woods, superintendent of the capitol building and grounds.

THREE ROBBERS TOOK SAFE FROM A ST. LOUIS THEATRE

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 17.—Three robbers early today entered the Rialto theatre in the business quarter and escaped with a safe containing $3,500, the receipts of Saturday and Sunday.

Unable to Locate Wrecked Seaplane

Destroyers Have Been Sent in Search—Fate of the Crew is Unknown.

Aboard the U. S. S. New Mexico at Sea, Jan. 17.—(By Radio to The A. P.)—Two divisions of destroyers attached to the Pacific fleet were ordered today to search for the naval seaplane NC-6, reported to be lost off the Gulf of Nicova, Costa Rica. The airship was participating in the group flight from San Diego to Balboa, Canal Zone.

The destroyer Munford is still standing by the NC-5 of the same group, which was forced down and partially wrecked yesterday off the Gulf of Nicoya. The NC-5 crew is aboard the Munford.

The NC-6 was last seen within a short distance of the Gulf of Nicoya. All available craft were searching for her and the two destroyer divisions were ordered refueled and sent out today. The fate of her crew is unknown.

SEARCHING OFF THE PORTO RICAN COAST

Panama, Jan. 17.—The United States cruiser Birmingham with eighteen torpedo boat destroyers is searching off the Costa Rican coast for the missing American seaplane NC-6.

The plane was among those participating in the flight from San Diego, California, to the Canal Zone. The weather off the Costa Rican coast where the search is being prosecuted is reported to be favorable, and the belief was expressed that the missing machine would be located.

ROSTER OF CREW OF MISSING SEAPLANE NC-6

San Diego, Calif., Jan. 17.—The crew of the NC-6 reported missing today was made up as follows: Lieutenant G. D. Compo of Danvers, Mass., commanding; Lieutenant L. C. Avery of Rochester, N. Y., first pilot; Ensign F. R. Whitmore, of Seattle, second pilot; L. H. Hickithier of San Diego, first mechanic; Bert Strand of Brooklyn, second mechanic; J. H. Detynes of Seattle, radio operator.

INFLATION SINCE WAR LESS THAN POPULARLY SUPPOSED

Washington, Jan. 17.—Inflation of credit and loans has been fa rless since the end of the war than is popularly supposed, Comptroller Williams of the currency declared tonight in a statement analyzing the statements of the condition of the national banks on last Nov. 15 as compared with March 4, 1919, four months after the armistice.

"Some of the criticisms which have been made as to the alleged financial inflation is hardly justified," said Mr. Williams in referring to the condition of national banks. "The generally conservative instincts and prudent management of most of our bankers have been a healthy and restraining influence to the orgy of extravagance which raged during the eighteen months period succeeding the armistice."

Loans and discounts of all national banks on March 4, 1919, the comptroller explained, plus government securities owned, which may be regarded in the light of loans to the government, but exclusive of bonds held to secure circulation, amounted to $12,694,050,000, compared with $12,749,926,000 on last Nov. 15. This was an increase, he declared, in loans and discounts and United States securities held during the past twenty months of less than 9 per cent. The comptroller added that it should be taken into consideration that during these twenty months the government sold $4,500,000,000 of Victory notes and bonds, the majority through the national banks.

The total resources of all national banks last Nov. 15 according to the comptroller's reports of the call on that date, amounted to $22,081,000,000, an actual increase since last Sept. 8 of $196,433,000 but a reduction as compared wit hthe corresponding call a year ago of $363,079,000.

Total deposits Nov. 15 amounted to $16,961,702,000, an increase since September of $209,746,000, but a reduction since a year ago of $506,151,000. Loans and discounts on Nov. 15 aggregated $12,311,514,000, a shrinkage since September of $104,245,000, but an increase over the corresponding call of the previous year of $751,272,000.

Comparing all deposits on Nov. 15 with March 4, 1919, the comptroller said the conspicuous increases are shown in the great industrial districts of the east and on the Pacific coast and in the state of Texas.

The total increase in all deposits in national banks between March 4, 1919, and last Nov. 15 was $1,661,895,000, or approximately 11 per cent. during the twenty months.

INVESTMENTS IN EUROPEAN SECURITIES ARE CALLED FOR

New York, Jan. 17.—Both long term credits and investments in European securities are called for by the present situation to supplement ordinary banking activities in effecting the economic and financial rehabilitation of foreign countries, Governor Harding of the federal reserve board declared in an address here tonight before a group meeting of the New York State Bankers' association.

Speaking on "working back to normal," Governor Harding asserted that whatever danger of crisis there may have been is passed and that a bright future is ahead to be attained through hard and intelligent work.

Production must continue if the country is to prosper, the governor said, but surplus production must be disposed of by sale to foreign countries. Under present conditions, he continued, many countries cannot pay for goods in the usual manner and "it is necessary that we should devise new means of financing our foreign trade."

Continuance of trade with Europe is vital, Governor Harding declared, and the maintenance of "the trade relationships of other countries with Europe" is scarcely less important.

"Otherwise there will be a constant tendency," the governor explained, "toward the accumulation here of goods, principally raw materials, from those countries which have been in the habit of selling to Europe but which now, on account of Europe's inability to pay and their own inability to extend credit, are shipping to the United States in order to sell for cash."

WORKING HOURS SUIT AGAINST THE N. H. ROAD

Hartford, Conn., Jan. 17.—Suit was instituted today by United States Attorney Edward L. Smith against the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad, alleging violation of the federal laws in causing employes on trains to work more than sixteen hours in one day. Twelve counts are complained of in the suit, the penalty for which may be $500 on each count.

Brief Telegrams

Students of the Northwestern University, Chicago, began a movement for the abolition of all examinations.

Pan-American Labor Congress, in session at Mexico City, demanded American evacuation of San Domingo.

It is believed in Athens the Greek cabinet headed by Premier Rhallis is near an end as a result of factional disputes.

Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba and Venezuela signed the protocol establishing the International Permanent Court of Justice.

A tax on old maids as well as bachelors was advocated in the Kansas Legislature by one of the four women members.

An unsuccessful attempt to assassinate G. T. Blankenship, former sheriff of Mingo County, W. Va., was made at Bluefield.

Russian bolshevist agents engaged in enlisting German workers for emigration to Russia were ordered to leave Germany.

A practical program of disarmament is to be submitted to Great Britain, Japan France and Italy by the Harding administration.

League of Nations Commission served an ultimatum on General Zeligowski demanding he evacuate the city of Vilna immediately.

A five story oil warehouse of the Cornplanters Refining Co. was destroyed by fire at Philadelphia. A loss of $2,000,000 was incurred.

Dr. Thomas Garcia Paloma, former minister of the Interior of San Salvador and one of the foremost surgeons in Central America is dead.

The 20,000 employes in the operating department of the Pullman company are to work nine hours a day instead of eight it was announced.

Juan Leguia, son of President Leguia of Peru, who is attempting a seaplane flight from Peru to the United States, arrived at Guatemala City.

According to a Turkish nationalist communication, dated last Friday, the Greek offensive in the Eskishehr region in Asia Minor has been stopped.

Twelve men an done woman were arrested at Schenectady, N. Y., in a raid by federal prohibition agents assisted by local police on twenty-three places.

Counterfeit German money, representing hundreds of thousands of dollars in supposed value, has been sold to investors in all sections of the United States.

Policeman James Gavern, in breaking up a riot in a chop suey restaurant in Brooklyn, had to pursue one of the rioters to the top of a big chop suey sign.

Policemen continue to stand guard over public buildings and the homes of officials and private citizens in New York as a precautionary measure against a bomb plot.

An increase in tuition fees at Harvard University necessitated by a deficit of $161,000 for the year 1919-20 is forecast by President A. Lawrence Lowell in his annual report.

It is believed in London that Great Britain will prepare her disarmament program on the return to that country of Sir Auckland Geddes, British ambassador to this country.

The executive board of the Connecticut Federation of Labor, decided to take steps looking toward the organization of public service motor bus drivers in the state into a union.

Sixteen navy seaplanes arrived at Bilboa, Canal Zone, from San Diego, a flight of more than 3,000 miles. They will participate in the manoeuvres of the Atlantim and Pacific beets.

Starvation is driving grand opera out of Poland. The Warsaw opera will leave for a tour of America. Exceeme poverty of the country and inability of the public to support opera are the cause.

"Bob" Jones, famous Alabama evangelist attending a conference of city rescue mission superintendent at Grand Rapdis, Mich., said women are to blame if this is a wicked and sinful generation.

Paris police opened their campaign against speculation in foodstuffs. In the largest boulevard delicatessen store, Appendrot's, they seized nearly a ton of hams, chees and imported foodstuffs.

The first meeting of the International Socialist Congress, at Leghorn, Italy, developed strong opposition to the proposal that the Italian Socialists adhere to the precepts of the Third Internationale.

The strike of government employes in Spain has had the immediate effect of interfering with the state machinery, high officials joining with their subordinates in refusing to continue their functions.

A serious shortage of foodstuffs in the northern ports of Chile has been brought about by the suppression of sailings of th esteamers of the South American Steamship company owing to a strike of the crews.

Representative William E. Mason, of Illinois, will file Thomas J. Sutherland's petition of protest against Federal Judge Landis drawing a government salary of $7,500 and a salary of $42,500 as baseball director.

Two men from New York operating an automobile truck loaded with 250 cases of whiskey, valued at $20,000 bootleg prices, were arrested and the the "booteh" seized by Federal Agent Charles W. Hand at Baltimore.

Six armed men robbed the Broadway branch of the Bay County Savings Bank, Bay City, Mich., killing L. M. Prasens, an insurance man, and Martin L. Debats, president of the Valley Telephone Co., and escaped with $5,000.

Representative A. J. Volstead, who made this country dry, and William M. Williams, the man who is trying to have it remain dry, ask the co-operation of everybody to make the country more near 100 per cent. dry.

Persistent rumors that Christy Mathewson, famous New York Giants pitcher, was dead were denied. "Matty's" physician, Dr. Packard, at Saranac Lake, N. Y., said Matty is on the road to recovery, although still confined to bed.

Reports of collusion between building contractors and material dealers such as the Lockwood committee discovered in New York are said to be the cause of the shortage of housing in Boston. An investigation by he city is planned.

To Hurl Seaplane From a Catapult

Navy to Experiment With That Method to Replace "Taking Off" From Decks.

Washington, Jan. 17.—Naval airplanes, instead fo "taking off" from the decks of ships while at sea, will be hurled from catapults if experiments of the navy department prove successful, the house naval committee was told today by Captain T. T. Craven, director of naval aviation. Tests are being made, he said, at the Washington navy yard where it is planned to shoot a seaplane from a catapult soon to see if the plan is feasible.

Captain Craven said he was convinced the new method would prove superior to present attempts to get under way from decks, limited in size.

The navy is attempting also to construct collapsible planes, the committee was informed, so they can be taken down and stored inboard during bad weather at sea. The present system of keeping planes on top of the turrets, Captain Craven said, has proved unsatisfactory as they are in the way and obstruct vision.

An appropriation of $35,000,000 has been requested for naval aviation during the coming fiscal year. During that time, the committee was told, the navy's station at Hampton Roads will become the most important aviation operating base on the Atlantic coast. Further improvements, Captain Craven said, are planned at San Diego, Calif., the main base on the Pacific. He urged that a "considerable sum" be expended on the Coco Solo station at the Panama Canal in order to protect "the canal adequately."

LATEST REPORTS OF CONDITIONS IN IRELAND

London, Jan. 17.—Since the suspension of the negotiations begun by Father O'Flanagan there has been a complete cessation of unofficial conversations for an Irish truce, and it is not likely they will be renewed for at least two months. During this interval the authorities in Ireland will be permitted to tighten up repressive measures and prove their belief that Ireland can in this manner be restored to order, and the extremists confounded.

The government view is that nobody entitled to speak for the Sinn Fein has yet come forward to discuss matter with the government whose attitude remains unchanged. The government declines to discuss peace until the claim for independence and a republic has been withdrawn and the republican army has surrendered its arms. Further, the government refuses to negotiate except on the home rule bill as a basis. On this ground, however, it is generally believed, it would probably be willing o grant complete fiscal autonomy to southern Ireland, if peace could be obtained thereby.

Ambush Party Surprised

Dublin, Jan. 17.—A detachment of soldiers from the Essex regiment, says an announcement from general headquarters, today surprised a pary of men preparing an ambush at Timoleague, County Cork. There was an exchange of firing and twenty-five civilians were captured. The troops suffered no casualties.

Six Arrests for Attempted Arson

London, Jan. 17.—Six men were arrested this morning in connection with attempt to set on fire the premises of the Vacuum Oil company at Wandsworth last Saturday. The police allege that it is their belief one of the prisoners is the virtual leader of he so-called Sinn Fein terrorist gang in London.

Barricades in North Dublin

Dublin, Jan. 17.—The barricades and the troops cordoning a wide area in North Dublin this afternoon. Sentries were posted on roofs of houses and armored cars patrolled the neighborhood during the withdrawal.

Report of Irish Investigation

London, Jan. 17.—(By the A. P.)—A supplementary report of the Irish investigating commission of the labor party which recently visited Ireland to investigate conditions in that country, was issued this evening by the labor party. It states that the publication of the testimony of one witness before the investigating commission resulted in a visit to his home by armed men, who, not finding the witness, proceeded to damage the furniture.

The supplementary report challenges the accuracy of the government's accounts of the "battle of Tralee" drawing the conclusion that "the Battle of Tralee is a figment of the imagination," and alleges that "there is serious conflict between the evidence gathered by the commission and the fanciful, highly colored story of the battle of Tralee presented in the house of commons by the chief secretary."

HARDING UNRECOGNIZED IN STREETS OF CLEVELAND

Cleveland, Ohio., Jan. 17.—Travelling incognito, President-elect Harding slipped into Cleveland today on personal business and succeeded in making his way about the downtown section for several hours unrecognized by street crowds.

Accompanied by Mrs. Harding, the president-elect made the trip from Marion in an ordinary parlor car attached to a regular train, so carefully had they laid their plans to escape attention that they got away from the railroad station as quietly as ordinary travelers, and tonight some of their closest friends here had not learned of their presence.

Mr. and Mrs. Harding reached Cleveland late in the afternoon and were driven directly downtown in a closed secret service automobile. After a circuit of several shops and offices they went to a hotel where they dined privately and remained overnight. They will leave for Marion early tomorrow forenoon.

RESULT OF OFF-YEAR CITY ELECTION IN MIDDLETOWN

Middletown, Conn., Jan. 17.—A heavy vote was polled here today in the off year city election. James T. Stew (dem) was elected city clerk by a majority of 598 over Harris L. Wilcox (rep.). William J. Kreft (rep.) was re-elected tax collector. A woman was elected an assessor, Miss Clara A. Kelsey (rep.) defeating William J. Dorgan (dem.) by 200 majority.

The republicans elected six members of the common council and the democrats two, which will give the republicans a majority of four in the body.

A BANK MESSENGER HELD UP IN DETROIT

Detroit, Mich., Jan. 17.—Automobile bandits held up a messenger for the Highland Park State bank in Highland Park, a suburb, late today and escaped with a satchel containing about $2,000.

CONGRESS VOTES TO LIMIT REG. ARMY TO 175,000 MEN

Action of Both Branches Was Taken Against Recommendations of War Department Heads and General Pershing—Representative Mondell Severely Criticized Secretary Baker—Senate Set Aside Decision to Reduce Army to 150,000 Enlisted Men—Debate Was Lively, But There Was No Party Division in the Senate—Vote in House Was 285 to 4—No Record Vote Was Taken in the Senate.

Washington, Jan. 17.—Congress voted today to limit the size of the regular army to 175,000 enlisted men.

The senate by a vote of 41 to 33 set aside its decision of last week to reduce the army to 150,000 men and then without a record vote, adopted the original joint resolution of Senator New, republican, Indiana, directing the secretary of war to stop recruiting until the army is cut to 175,000 men.

The house ten minutes later adopted a joint resolution sponsored by Chairman Kahn of its military aairs committee also directing the secretary of war to cease enlistments until there are not more than 175,000 enlisted men in the regular establishment. The house vote was 285 to 4.

The resolutions adopted by the two houses are almost identical in their provisions, each providing that the 175,000 limit shall not prevent the re-enlistment of men who have served one or more enlistment in military service. The language of the two measures, however, differs somewhat and either the senate or house will send its resolution to conference for rearrangement. Action by the joint conference committee of the two houses is expected to be taken speedily and the resultant measure sent to the president.

The action of the two houses was taken against the recommendations of war department heads and General Pershing. Secretary Baker in appearing before the senate military affairs committee advised against an army of less tran 250,000 men after the "present necessity of economy had been relieved." General Pershing told the same committee that an army of 200,000 men constituted a safety margin.

The vote in the senate showed that several senators who last week went on record as favoring an army of 150,000 had changed about, placing their support behind the 175,000 figure. No reason for the change was announced, but some senators said privately that they believed President Wilson would sign a resolution placing the future army at 175,000 men but would not approve a smaller number.

There was no party division in the senate on the question and the final votes were taken after an all-day battle over the question of army size. This debate was enlivened by a clash between Senators Phelan, democrat, California, and Williams, democrat, Mississippi, over the question of Japanese aggression. Senator Phelan urged stronger garrisoning of Pacific posts and Senator Williams declared that Japan had "neither power nor desire to fight this country over what may be done in California" regarding Japanese questions.

Called up unexpectedly, the Kahn resolution in the house provoked considerable partisan debate in which republicans charged Secretary Baker had violated the will of congress in running the total army strength above the figure for which appropriations had been made. There was little opposition to the reduction, however, when put to a vote.

Chairman Kahn told the house that while the army reorganization bill provided for 280,000 as a maximum, the army appropriation measure provided for only 175,000 for the current fiscal year. Heavy enlistments, he added, meant a larged deficit.

The house debate also brought a sharp verbal clash between Chairman Kahn and Representative Hayden, democrat, Arizona, when the latter wanted to know if the chairman had abandoned his plan for universal military training.

"I deny that I have changed my mind," said Mr. Kahn, "but I am trying to tell the secretary of war that he must comply with the law of congress. I am not trying to press my views as to military training at this time. But I realize that this country may be attacked at any time, and I know that if anybody does attack us, we can quickly pass laws to give us the army needed for protection."

Representative Mondell of Wyoming, the republican leader, declared that when the house passed the military appropriation bill providing for 175,000, the secretary of war understood its will and intent.

"Instead of following it," said Mr. Mondell, "the secretary of war in a spirit of pique and willfulness, defined the will of congress and recruited to 225,000. Democrats now squirming ought to be thankful that this is not a resolution of censure. In all history there has been no example like the secretary of war's contempt and violation of the people's will as expressed by congress."

THREATS OF A BOLT FROM PAN-AMERICAN A. F. OF L.

Mexico City, Jan. 17.—(By The A. P.) Open threats of a bolt fro mthe Pan-American Federation of Labor conference by the Spanish-speaking delegates came today at the conclusion of a storm morning session, the possibility of defection hinging upon the delay of Samuel Gompers in directing a telegram to President Wilson concerning the American occupation of Santo Domingo.

At the outset of the morning's session Mr. Gompers was asked by the Santo Domingan delegation to answer a question whether a telegram protesting against American occupation and demanding an immediate evacuation of the island had been sent in accordance with the resolution approved by the labor congress last Friday. Mr. Gompers' reply that he desired to modify the text of the convention's telegram, inasmuch as the American government already had declared itself in favor of evacuation, started a heated argument in which the Latin-American policy of the United States was bitterly criticized by the Dominican, Salvadorean and Mexican delegates.

Senor Solano of Salvador openly declared that his delegation would abandon the congress unless Mr. Gompers immediately sent the telegram. The Dominican and Colombian delegations asserted after the meeting adjourned that they would act likewise.

Although the trouble had its origin with the technical refusal of Mr. Gompers to abide in detail by the resolution passed unanimously by the congress, it is said behind it lies an effort by the Spanish-speaking delegates to test their strength against the American delegation, which doubtless will be supported by the Porto Rican representatives.

PLEADED GUILTY OF WAR RISK INSURANCE FRAUDS

Washington, Jan. 17.—William F. Salisbury, Jr., of Buffalo, N. Y., and David M. Griswold, of Brooklyn, N. Y., pleaded guilty today in the District of Columbia supreme court to two indictments in connection with the war risk insurance frauds by which a number of wounded war veterans were mulcted of large sums of money to expedite their claims against the government.

The pair held positions as examiners of claims in the bureau and were charged with having furnished information of claims about to be allowed and having had others interview the prospective claimants and arrange with them for a division of the awards. As much as fifty per cent. of the claims was demanded in some cases, the government contended.

Justice Gould, presiding, set no date for the sentence, the men being at liberty under bail.

THIEVES WORK WHOLESALE DISTRICT IN NEW YORK

New York, Jan. 17.—Thieves operating in the wholesale fur district during the last two weeks have carted away loot valued at more than $300,000, merchants said today, coincident with an announcement that police were investigating three burglaries which occurred Sunday.

Three establishments in a six-story building in West Twenty-fifth street were entered some time Sunday and furs valued at $61,000 taken.

No trace had been found tonight of the two unmasked bandits who this morning entered the foyer of a fashionable apartment house, in Park avenue, beat the assistant manager, and escaped wit ha payroll of $3,700. Employes waiting in line to be paid knew nothing of the holdup until they heard a shot inside the office. The two men brandished revolvers before them and fled.

BRIDGEPORT TO ASK BOND ISSUE OF $2,700,000 FOR SCHOOLS

Bridgeport, Jan. 17.—The board of aldermen tonight voed to ask the state legislature to approve a bond issue of $2,700,000 for the construction of schools by the city.

BANDITS KILLED RAILROAD DETECTIVES AT TOLEDO, O.

Toledo, Ohio, Jan. 17.—Police early tonight arrested Royce Richardson, negro, whi is said to have been the driver of the car used by five bandits at noon today in the robbery of a New York Central ticket agent and the shooting to death of two railroad detectives.

The bandits are believed to be surrounded in a house a mile from the scene of the robbery and detectives armed with shotguns are preparing to raid the place.

Richardson was in bed when arrested. The police found $2,200 hidden under the mattress and an additional $125 was found on the negro when he was searched at police headquarters.

The dead officers are Sergeant Louis Schroeder and Detective A. E. Long of the New York Central police. The ticket agent who gave up about $12,000 to the bandits is A. H. Breed.

The stolen money was the receipts of the Union Station ticket office, the amount taken in since the banks closed on Saturday. When the automobile occupied by Long, Schroeder and Breed left the Union station it was followed by another car containing five men and the driver.

A block from the station the second car crowded the first into the curb. Two of the bandits opened fire, killing the two railroad officers almost instantly.

The bandits then shot their way through a mass of citizens and escaped in their automobile. The car was recovered by police in the underworld district.

LIVING COSTS INCREASE IN 21 CITIES, DECREASE IN 10

Washington, Jan. 17.—Living costs last December as compared with those in December, 1919, showed an increase in 21 of the principal cities and a decrease in ten, according to the monthly review today of the department of labor. The greater decrease noted was in Chicago, 3.6 per cent., and the largest increase was in Los Angeles 6.2 per cent.

The percentage of increase in some of the other cities was: Cleveland 4.6 per cent.; Memphis 2.9 per cent.; Boston 2.7 per cent.; Jacksonville, 2.3 per cent.; Minneapolis 2.3 per cent.; Philadelphia 2.1 per cent.; New Orleans 2.1 per cent; Houston 1.1 per cent.; St. Louis 0.9 per cent.; Portland, Maine, 0.8 per cent.; Denver, 0.4 per cent.; Atlanta 0.4. Cities which showed decreases, included: Portland, Oregon, 1.9 per cent.; San Francisco 1.4 per cent.; New York, 1.2 per cent.; Baltimore 0.8 per cent.; Mobile 0.6 per cent.; Buffalo 0.55 per cent., and Cincinnati 0.4 per cent.

TWO MEN KILLED BY BOMB EXPLOSION IN PHILADELPHIA

Philadelphia, Jan. 17.—Two men were killed here tonight when a bomb exploded in the main garage of the Quaker City Taxicab company. The victims were Percy H. Dean of Philadelphia and George McKee of Haddonfield, N. J. Several other employes of the company were slightly injured.

Chauffeurs of the company have been on strike for several weeks and a number of acts of violence have occurred. About ten days ago bombs were found in two cabs of the company. One of these cabs was demolished but no one was injured. Several cabs have been stolen and wrecked.

BODY OF GRAND DUCHESS OLGA ON BRITISH STEAMSHIP

London, Jan. 17.—Bodies supposed to be those of Grand Duchess Olga, daughter of former Emperor Nicholas of Russia, and her maid are aboard the British steamer Devanha, which is due to reach Egypt at the end of the present week. Disinterred at Yekaterinburg, the bodies are said to have been smuggled through Persia and thence to Shanghai.

Upon arrival of the steamer they will be disembarked and taken to the Holy Land for final interment.