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STATE-AID ROAD JOB COMPLETED

Immense Saving Of Funds Made By County Doing Work.

Grading, draining and bridge building on the section of the Owensboro and Hartford State-Aid road north of Beda has been completed and reports of complete cost turned in. The County, some time ago attempted to let contracts for the construction of this work but the bids were thought to be entirely too high, ranging from approximately \$34,000 to \$50,000 and all were rejected and a commission consisting of Messrs. F. M. Hoover, Rowan Holbrook and S. T. Barnett appointed and authorized by the Fiscal Court to have the work done under their direct supervision. The Commission turned the job over to S. T. Barnett, as foreman, or superintendent, who personally supervised, in the manner of securing men, teams, tools and laying of material etc. The section of the road improved was the worst in the County, perhaps, of all the roads much in use. Heavy grades composed of both earth and rock were necessary to comply with the blue-prints made by the State Authorities and some changes were made in the plans, necessitating the removal of at least 3,500 yards of earth in excess of the amount embraced in estimate which the Contractors bid on. A lot of tools were purchased by the Commission, a carload of gravel and sand was left over from the job in addition to the excess of earth removed and in addition to all of these items the commission with the sanction of the authorities did \$2,000 worth of work beyond or north of the point covered by the plans and specifications upon which the contractors filed bids, as afore mentioned and with the excess in work done, tools purchased on hands and in good shape, material left over to be used in other work, the total expenditures approximated \$24,500 saving, under the lowest bid received, around \$10,000.

Presuming that the contractors would have done the work nearly if not as cheap as it was done by the County, it may readily be seen what the profits would have amounted to. Looking at the matter as it now stands, those in authority are to be congratulated for taking the method pursued and the taxpayers are also to be congratulated for the immense sum saved to the County and State Treasuries. And the fact is thoroughly demonstrated that Contractors do not take jobs for their health and that work of this character can be done under County supervision and great sums of money saved to the people.

CHEROKEE STRIP IN U. S. SENATE AGAIN

Washington, Jan. 1.—The "Cherokee Strip" in the United States Senate must be revived again after March 1, in order to provide seats for the heavy Republican majority in the upper House, swept into office by the November election.

When the majority on either side in the Senate exceeds half a dozen members or so, the custom has been to assign the newcomers to desks at the rear end of the minority section. These seats, in enemy territory, constitute the "Cherokee Strip" and while occupied by members of the majority party, are the least desirable seats in the Senate chamber.

Assignment to the "Cherokee Strip" is one of the methods of disciplining a new member of the Senate.

Senator La Follette, of Wisconsin, was the last Republican to occupy a desk in the "Cherokee Strip." He Ashland as an outsider, so far as the G. O. end here, was organization was concerned, and Burns, and he did leave the "strip" to Mr. and Mrs. Ladd, of North Dakota; R. F. Ladd, of North Dakota; R.

N. Stanfield, of Oregon; R. H. Cameron, of Arizona, and Peter Norbeck, of South Dakota.

The three members likely to be accommodated on the Republican side, by transfer of seats are:

William B. McKinley, of Illinois; Frank B. Willis, of Ohio, and J. W. Herrald, of Oklahoma, all former members of the House.

\$275 SQUARE FOOT PAID FOR PHILADELPHIA LAND

Philadelphia, Jan. 1.—The highest price ever paid for real estate in Philadelphia was reported today in the sale of a three-story building, which brought \$27,000 a front foot, or \$275 a square foot. The lot, 20x100 feet was bought by the Fidelity Trust Company from the estate of the late P. T. Hallahan, for \$550,000.

292 GERMANS IN FRENCH PRISONS

Almost 300 Yet Remain In Custody; These are Serving Terms For Crimes

Paris, Dec. 18.—Altho it is now more than two years since the armistice was signed, there remain 292 German prisoners of war in France. They were soldiers when first interned, but today are considered civilian prisoners, for all are serving terms of imprisonment for various offenses not considered of a military nature. There are also some Turkish, Bulgarian, Hungarian and even Polish prisoners left in France.

Some are serving terms of five years' hard labor for theft, for falsifying signatures, assault, destruction of French property, for refusal to obey superiors.

Those serving time without hard labor are called upon to work for French interests and, apart from good food, receive pay averaging one franc a day. To this are added wine and tobacco allowances for good conduct. None of the prisoners complain of their lot, for most of them are reputed dangerous criminals in their own countries. Nevertheless, they are allowed to correspond with their home countries and to receive mail and packages of food or clothing. As a matter of fact, French sentries are warned to show respect to their captives and are told that they will be punished if even heard to call a prisoner a "Boche."

CENTURY OLD WOMAN

Central City Argus.

Mrs. Palmella Duvall Baize, was born in Ohio county Kentucky, February 8th, 1819, and is now 101 years 10 months and 22 days old. She is active sound of mind and memory and bids fair to add more years to her extreme age. She talks interestingly of early days when the Green River country was a semi-wilderness, remembers when Pincheco was the market town for southeastern part of Ohio county before the locks and dams were built on Green river, when Oliver Cromwell Porter founded the town of Cromwell, giving it a part of his own name. She was married to Abednago Baize in 1844, and settled on Indian Camp creek, where she made her home for many long years, raised ten children, all of whom have passed to the beyond, except two, Joseph Baize, who now lives near Baizetown in Ohio County, and George Baize now living in Rockport, in the employ of the I. C. R. Co.

Mrs. Baize talks of affairs in the early days of Ohio County, and of the people with whom she was intimately acquainted, the Porters, Stewarts, Wallaces, Arbuckles, Dukes, Warrens, Daughertys, Albins, Fleeners, Jameses, Figleys, Martins, Rogers, Hudsons and many others of the old pioneers; she was a sister of Capt. Ben Duvall, who served in the civil war with the noted 17th Ky. Regt. and served a term as high sheriff of Ohio county, about the year 1866. She has made her home with her son, George Baize, since the death of her husband. The writer remembers well when a boy, how proud he was to have aunt Palmella speak kindly to him and give him something to eat. Mrs. Baize is a member of the Missionary Baptist Church and has lived a faithful Christian life, a faithful wife, a kind and charitable neighbor and a loving mother.

May she live yet many happy years in peace and comfort in the prayer of her many friends.
L. T. REID, Rockport, Ky.

U. S. ENGINEERS SEEK TO SAVE OLD FORTRESS

Efforts Being Made to Preserve Oldest Fortifications in Middle West

Paducah, Ky., Jan. 1.—Working day and night, government engineers are building a concrete wall along portions of the bank of the Ohio River, which threaten to cave in and destroy Fort Massac, one of the oldest fortifications in the Middle West. News that the fort was threatened with destruction was brought here recently when it was learned that preparations were being made to stop the river cutting the banks.

Fort Massac, or, as it is better known, Old Fort Massac, was built by the French about the year 1711, according to Collins' History of Kentucky, which quotes the autobiography of Gov. John Reynolds. It is located on the Illinois side of the Ohio River, a few miles below this city.

The fort was a part of the French system of defenses against the Indians and English, according to the history, and also was a missionary station for the French priests.

Was Strong Structure.

"It was only a small fortress until 1756, when it was greatly enlarged and strengthened," says the history. "In 1855 its outside walls were 135 feet square, and at each angle strong bastions were erected. The walls were palisades with earth between wood. There were three or four acres of walks—in exact angles and beautifully graveled with pebbles from the river—made on the north side of the fort, on which soldiers paraded. A large well was sunk within the fort and the whole appeared to have been strong and substantial in its day.

"It was there the Christian (Roman Catholic) missionaries instructed the Southern Indians and it was here also that the French soldiers made a resolute stand against the enemy. In 1809 it was the only white settlement near the mouth of the Wabash and the Mississippi; a few families resided near the fort and were dependent on it and two companies of the United States army were stationed there.

"Soon after its establishment, probably before 1720, a military road was established by the French when they had dominion over the country from Massac to Kaskaskia. The number of miles were cut in cypher on trees with an iron and painted red and were still visible in 1800. The road makes a great curve to the north to avoid the swamps and rough country on the courses of the Cash river and also to attain the prairie country as soon as possible. Another road also extended to Cape Girardeau."

In the summary of important events in Kentucky history compiled by Collins it is related how on August 6, 1766, Capt. Harry Gordon, chief engineer of the western department of North America, stopped there with his party on a trip down the Ohio River from Ft. Pitt (Pittsburg) to Illinois. It states that the fort is located 120 miles below the mouth of the Wabash River and eleven miles below the mouth of the Cherokee.

MRS. DELBERT BARNARD

Mrs. Delbert Barnard, who with her husband, went to Colorado, some months ago seeking the betterment of her health, succumbed December 31, to a malignant attack of tuberculosis. The remains were brought back to Goshen, her former home, where funeral services were conducted by Rev. T. T. Frazier, and burial took place January 3rd.

Mrs. Barnard was formerly Miss Winnie May Stevens, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Will Stevens, of Goshen. She lacked only three days of being 21 years of age and had been a consistent member of the Goshen M. E. Church for some six years.

ALLOY OF MANGANESE AND ZINC

A composition consisting of about four per cent of manganese to 96 per cent of zinc is said to be an excellent substitute for copper, bronze and brass.

The alloy, it has lately been found, is twice as hard as zinc. It may be stamped and rolled and when warm may be forged.

GERMANY FACES YEAR OF GLOOM

Financial and Economical Ruin Faces Nation; War Clouds Also Loom Large.

By Karl H. Von Wiegand.
Berlin, Germany, Jan. 1.—A dark, gloomy and uncertain portent, generally speaking, is the outlook visioned by Germany as the nation peers into the uncharted and trouble-promising year of 1921.

On the eve of the New Year a veritable drum fire of French and British notes were falling upon Germany's political front calling aloud "disarm further, and these promise developments in the New Year which can not be forecast but which, without exception, serve to intensify the uneasiness of the German people and to create a state of affairs which gives a poor outlook for the coming year. They will prevent the mental consolidation so necessary to the work of reconstruction.

With but few exceptions, the situation in Germany is no better at the beginning of the year than it was at the beginning of the revolution.

Count Von Bernstorff, former ambassador to the United States, in a written statement, declares the one bright and promising ray piercing the black political clouds hanging over Germany is from America, with the establishment of a new government there. He believes President Harding's first official act will be the restoration of peace between the United States and Germany.

Germany's statesmen are seeing war looming up in the early spring between Russia and Poland. Military specialists are convinced Poland will collapse, if not military, then politically and economically, and point out that Germany must be prepared fully to reckon with the Red armies at the main German border.

Persons coming from Warsaw paint the political, economical and financial condition of Poland as well-nigh hopeless. They point out that the German mark, which is worth less than a cent and a half in American money, buys ten Polish marks. They also express doubt whether France can much longer carry the burden of keeping up Poland's military machine.

With that prospect in the East, the Germans are both enraged and depressed by the Entente demand for the dissolution of the German "security police." It is pointed out that with the advance of the Red army, the radicals in Germany are prepared to make an important move and not lie inactive as when the Red armies were at the German border the last time.

AMERICAN LEGION ITEMS OF INTEREST

Charging that army overcoats are being solicited from former service men for disabled veterans because the government has failed to clothe them adequately, Miles D. King, a member of the West End Post of the American Legion in New York City, has written a letter of protest to Secretary of War Baker. The writer states that "surplus army clothing is being sold right and left at what is supposed to be sacrifice prices, and I am therefore unable to understand why these convalescent soldiers cannot be furnished with sufficient clothing."

The appeal to former service men to give up their overcoats, according to the letter, was made from the American Red Cross, thru a Legion member at a meeting of the New York post.

In an effort to alleviate the national shortage of employment, American Legion posts in many parts of the country have established employment bureaus for local former service men where industrial establishments and business houses of the community list their "help wanted." These post bureaus are operated free of charge and eligible to any veterans applicant, regardless of Legion membership.

A recent report that the International Molders' Union had advised all its members that if they became affiliated with the American Legion their union cards would be forfeited has been declared a falsehood in a letter from an officer of the union

to Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor. The letter states that "we do not wish to mar the wonderful record our members made during the war by prohibiting them from joining such a patriotic body as the American Legion."

By way of showing their gratitude to the newspapers of the state for their loyal support during the year of 1920, the Minnesota Department of the American Legion has sent each newspaper a letter of thanks. Each letter bore the signature of A. H. Vernon, department commander.

Bookkeeping for American Legion posts has been simplified by a complete post accounting set, which has been prepared by a special committee and now is ready for delivery. The Emblem Division of National Headquarters is filling orders for them.

American Legion members in Pine-dale, Wyo., claim that their Phillips-Edwards Post is farthest from a railroad of any post in the United States. The distance from the nearest railway line is said to be 110 miles. There are thirty-five members in the Post, which represents a territory of five hundred square miles.

Patrolman Joe Treglia, an American Legion member of Omaha, Neb., will receive a medal and a cash purse as a result of his bravery in putting out a burning fuse leading to tins of gasoline and kerosene in a restaurant. The whole block probably would have gone up in an explosion if Treglia had not investigated the unlocked door of the store and found the flaming fuse.

SHAKEUP AT FORD PANT, THREE QUIT

Lack of Harmony With Company Policies Cause Given By Officers.

Detroit, Jan. 2.—Important changes in the executive department of the Ford Motor Car Company are being made, it became known tonight. Three executive heads have resigned. They are: C. A. Brownell, advertising manager; F. L. Klingsmith, vice president, and L. H. Turrell, chief auditor. Brownell said the resignations were due to lack of harmony with the business policy of the company.

Other resignations are impending, it was said tonight. Among them, it was said, will be that of William B. Mayo, chief engineer. A conference is scheduled to be held tomorrow. Mayo is expected to hand in his resignation at that time.

Charles Sorensen, general manager of the Ford tractor plant, will become executive vice president, according to Mr. Brownell, succeeding Mr. Klingsmith, and together with E. G. Liebold, Mr. Ford's private secretary, will have full control of the future destinies of the big organization, except for the controlling voice of Mr. Ford.

Mr. Liebold said today he could make no statement other than that he had "been informed" that the resignations of Klingsmith, Brownell, and Turrell had been accepted. No successors have been named to either he said, and declared that all details would be threshed out at the meeting tomorrow.

Turrell said a "combination of circumstances" had developed that made remaining with the company impossible and forced his resignation. Brownell said he was leaving on account of his wife's health. He will accompany her to California, Tuesday, he said.

Klingsmith denied he had resigned, but the denial was regarded as technical. It was said he refused to be discharged by Liebold and Sorensen, and will hold his position until Henry Ford asks his resignation. This is expected after tomorrow's conference.

Among the causes for dissatisfaction was the recent price-cutting of cars, it was said.

COMMON SCHOOL EXAM.

Examinations for Common School Diplomas will be held in Fordsville, Beaver Dam, and Hartford, Friday and Saturday, January 28 and 29.

It is the desire of the County School Authorities to have every boy and girl in the County who may be qualified, take this examination at one of these points.

BALFOUR SCORED FOR TRICKING U. S.

Ex-British Official Silent On Treaties While Securing Loan.

Washington, Jan. 1.—William Denman, of San Francisco, first chairman of the Shipping Board, declared today in an open letter to members of Congress that the reason Arthur J. Balfour, former British secretary of state for foreign affairs, failed to disclose to American government officials the existence of the secret treaties between Great Britain and Japan required "no further explanation than his quest for the \$4,000,000,000 which the United States loaned Great Britain early in the war.

Mr. Denman said Mr. Balfour arranged for "these moneys" in May, 1917, when he was in this country as head of the British war mission.

"His protestations of deep friendship for the interest of the United States" wrote Mr. Denman, "filled our press and warmed his auditors in the halls of Congress and at the tables where our hospitality was extended to him. While he was making them the ink was scarcely dry on the last of the three notes constituting the so-called secret Shantung treaties which, from a naval standpoint, destroyed the island of Guam, probably our most valuable naval base in the Pacific.

Japan Given Advantage.

"Japan our rival in the Pacific, by agreement with Great Britain, was confirmed in the possession of the Marienne group of islands, which placed an unsurmountable barrier between us and the North Asiatic coast and the Japanese islands. Great Britain's price for this was the British control of the islands of the South Pacific coast, which, in the event of hostilities, to which such diplomacy inevitably tends, isolated Guam from the Philippines.

"It is obvious that Mr. Balfour owed to us the disclosure of the existence of these agreements. Why he did not require no further explanation than his quest for the \$4,000,000,000.

"It will help liberal England to understand the growing mistrust of America toward her to know that there was active deception in addition to suppression of the facts, at the time the loan was negotiated."

Mr. Denman then charges that at a conference between the Balfour mission and himself and Secretary Lansing and Assistant Secretary Polk, of the State Department, Mr. Balfour stated that "all the agreements between the allies affecting the interests of the United States and general world shipping conditions would be fully disclosed to the American conferees," but that he had never "redeemed his promise."

LIBERTY BONDS LEGAL TENDER, WATSON PLAN

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 1.—In a copyrighted statement, to be published in the Atlanta Constitution tomorrow, Thomas E. Watson, United States senator-elect from this state, announced that at the extra session of the Sixty-seventh Congress he will introduce a bill to make Liberty bonds and other government war paper legal tender.

Mr. Watson, according to the announcement, declares that such action would have an electrifying effect upon American business life and that upon enactment of the legislation "all apprehension of a panic would as quickly disappear."

The plan would require the federal reserve and farm loan banks to lend money directly to individuals and the secretary of the treasury to issue the unissued greenbacks authorized by a bill signed by President Lincoln. The total of these authorized but unissued greenbacks, according to the senator-elect, is \$102,000,000.

The announcement also declares for ending the war with Germany by a resolution and favors establishment of prewar trade relations with Russia and with Germany.

All of the students and teachers noted in these columns as visiting the home folks here, during the past two weeks, returned last Sunday and Monday to their respective points of labor.