

International Star

LITTLE FIRST HAND TESTIMONY SUPPORTS CHARGES OF WATSON

Six Witnesses Examined Yesterday and Charges of Hangings Made.

ALLEGES HE WITNESSED A DOZEN EXECUTIONS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—None of the six witnesses appearing today before a Senate committee was able to give first hand evidence to support charges against Arthur Watson, Democrat, Georgia, that American soldiers had been hanged without trial in France.

George H. Taylor, of Philadelphia, and Frank Anderson, of New York, testified that they had seen twelve soldiers hanged, or one more than the number officially listed by the war department. Anderson, in accordance with court martial verdicts, approved by General Pershing, Taylor, confessed as to the number of victims, testified at first he had seen three, and then under direct questioning increased his figures to four. Anderson, however, was put to death in and around Is-Sur-Tille in the period from April to June, 1919.

No instance could the witness say he knew whether any or all of the twelve were tried by a military court.

Because of the evident physical weakness of the witness, Senator Watson suggested that army officers, including Col. Charles Bethel, assistant military advocate general, retire from the room, explaining that Taylor was subject to epileptic attacks and that the presence of officers might disturb him. But the former soldier announced he wanted the officers to remain.

Testimony by Henry L. Coott, 22 years old, of Kenmore, Ohio, that he had seen two soldiers shot down in cold blood by a Major Opley, commander of the 116th Infantry, at Arras, France, brought a quick and sharp denial from Hiram L. Opley, at his home at Stanton, Va., who was in charge of the organization and who announced he would be glad to be tried by a court-martial. Scott was positive in the assertion that he saw both men killed, at different times, that the first shooting of a courier was witnessed by several hundred men, and that he alone escaped the second.

Having Major Opley in mind as commander of the battalion, Colonel Bethel pressed the witness closely as to the names of the men, and later informed Chairman Brandegee privately that Scott evidently was referring to the Virginian. But Scott stuck to "Opley."

In making sweeping denial of the charges, Major Opley, at Stanton, declared in his statement that Scott charged himself down a skulker by his own testimony, that he belonged to another outfit and never should have been in the fighting line with the third battalion.

When he did not know of his own knowledge of any executions without trials, Robert A. Harrison, of Wilmington, North Carolina, told the committee he had witnessed two lynchings, one conducted by "Hardboiled" Smith, and the other by "Red" Smith, who refused to sweep a stockade with tooth brush, that the killing, as he remembered, took place on December 19, 1915, at 7:30 o'clock in the evening, and that he saw the lynching from a distance of 300 yards, and that he witnessed, he said, was a Mexican, who was strung from a tree by officers and men, for a crime against a woman.

In an effort to clear up what he regarded as the confusion in Taylor's testimony, Chairman Brandegee suggested that Colonel Bethel question the witness concerning the twelve executions he claimed to have seen with his own eyes.

Early in the hearing Col. Bethel, the official in charge of the committee, asked Taylor to mention the names, locations, with places and dates, mentioning only the names out of consideration for the families of the dead. The department list showed that two soldiers were hanged after trial at Is-Sur-Tille, and that the official conclusion that Taylor was present, with other men and officers, Taylor's testimony was regarded in the nature of a confirmation of Colonel Bethel's conclusions in this respect, as he did not know the name of one of the two soldiers executed at that place.

After hearing witnesses tomorrow the committee will adjourn until after the holidays.

LIQUIDATION OF LIBERTY ISSUES UPSETS BONDS

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Liquidation of Liberty bonds at extreme overvalued prices of 100 cents and 110 cents, and from \$20 to \$30, has caused high records of a month ago to be broken, and prices on the market to fall today.

Speculation accompanied the reaction in quarters where only recently it had been predicted for some of the Liberty bonds before the year's end, the operations was evidenced, however, by the fact that most Liberty issues have recovered a considerable part of their losses before the close, on what is expected to be a short covering.

Speculation in the entire bond list on December 20 approximated \$20,000,000, and this total the turnover in Liberty bonds represented almost fifty percent.

Notes were the only government securities to hold firm; the market closing within a small fraction of the year's maximum at 100.05.

MAY BE NO AGREEMENT IN DAIL EIREANN BEFORE AFTER HOLIDAY RECESS; NOT COME TODAY ANYWAY

DUBLIN, Dec. 20.—(By Associated Press.)—At the close of today's session of the Dail Eireann it was clear that a decision on the treaty would not be taken before Thursday afternoon at the earliest. Some of the members were even of the opinion that adjournment over the Christmas holidays may be necessary, among them Michael Collins.

Arthur Griffith, head of the plenipotentiaries, and Eamon de Valera, who is strongly opposing the treaty, are agreed, however, that suspension would be bad for the country. As a matter of fact, judging by the attitude of the people in Dublin, the whole country is fairly sick with uncertainty and anxiety.

It was made evident today that the Dail Eireann will tolerate no form of cloture. Twenty additional members, the speaker announced, and probably others will desire to be heard, the idea appearing to prevail that each member is in duty bound to explain his vote to his constituents.

The trend of sentiment in the parliament is eagerly watched, and observers present throughout the days preceding the vote of opinion tonight. The prospects of ratification have improved. One speaker sharply criticized the attitude of some of the members, suggesting that though they really hoped it would be approved, this tended to confirm the reports that several deputies, though unwilling to expose the country to the consequences of rejection, wish to maintain their position as true Republicans.

The main force of the attack on them was based on the argument that even de Valera has abandoned the idea of a republic and framed an oath recognizing the king as head of the community of nations with which Ireland is to be associated.

The most exciting speech at today's meeting was that of Dr. Patrick McCartan, known as the "first ambassador of the Irish republic" to the United States, who condemned everybody impartially and declared emphatically Eastlake is cleared of charge murdering wife; start life anew.

Verdict Comes After 27 Minutes Deliberation; Miss Knox to be Tried Feb. 3.

MONTROSS, Va., Dec. 20.—Roger D. Eastlake, navy petty officer, charged with the murder of his wife, Margaret, at their home at Colonial Beach, Va., on September 30 last was this afternoon found not guilty by a jury in Westmoreland county circuit court here. The verdict was returned at 5:09 p. m. 47 minutes after the jury was given the case.

When the words "not guilty" were pronounced, Eastlake smiled. His mother, Mrs. S. M. Eastlake, and his sister, Mrs. Mabel Chambers, who had occupied seats directly behind the defendant, rushed to his side and showered him with kisses. W. W. Butzner, chief counsel for the defense, thanked the court and Judge Chinn discharged the jury.

"I felt certain, those twelve men would not believe that I murdered my wife," said Eastlake. "I will ask to be transferred to another naval station and will start life anew."

Eastlake is said to be still a petty officer in good standing in the navy and under construction of the rifle is understood to be obliged to report immediately for duty at the Dahlgren proving grounds where he was with his wife and child, according to the testimony he gave at his trial. Lieut. Commander J. H. Green, Eastlake's superior officer, was in court and, at the request of defense attorneys, granted Eastlake a leave of absence for three days. Eastlake left tonight for Fredericksburg, accompanied by his mother, sister, brother and a cousin.

Efforts will be made tomorrow to have his children brought to him from Annapolis, Md.

Attorney Butzner plainly displayed his elation at the verdict. "It was wholly a question of the defendant's presenting a legal proof of his guilt, and this we felt was impossible as he was innocent."

Commonwealth Attorney Mayo who conducted the prosecution said he thought this morning of the crime, and feel that Justice has been cheated. I felt confident of a verdict of second degree murder would be rendered and that would have saved the ends of justice to convict Miss Knox when she comes up for trial in February.

Per one of the attorneys after several "vilest of characters" and said "as guilty as Miss Knox undoubtedly was, I am convinced that she is a very good girl at least played fair in every respect. She was a very nice girl."

WEATHER FORECAST

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Virginia: Unsettled, possibly light rain Wednesday; Thursday partly cloudy and considerably colder.

North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia: Cloudy and unsettled Wednesday and Thursday; probably rain; colder Thursday.

Florida: Generally fair; Wednesday; Thursday cloudy, probably rain in extreme north; not much change in temperature.

Extreme northwest Florida: Unsettled; probably rain Wednesday and Thursday; colder Thursday.

Alabama: Unsettled, probably rain Wednesday; colder in interior; Thursday cloudy and much colder, probably rain in south.

Tennessee: Cloudy and colder Wednesday, probably light rain; cold wave in west Wednesday night; Thursday generally fair and much colder.

that the republic had been abandoned in Dublin before the delegates crossed to London. He evoked great applause by expressing preference for Griffith and Collins, who, he said, did their best over the "quibblers," among whom he included de Valera who criticized the delegates in the Dail Eireann, while fighting them on no difference of serious principles.

Dr. McCartan denounced the whole Dail Eireann saying they all went into the boat of British imperialism. He was uncompromising republican, recognizing kings as out of date, and he objected to any association with the British empire. There was no real difference between the opposing sections of the cabinet, he asserted; they were all wrong. The men who died had died neither for this treaty nor for the de Valera document. The republic of which Eamon de Valera was president was dead.

In conclusion Dr. McCartan saw no way out for there was a divided cabinet and a divided country. He declined to vote for the treaty, or for chaos and therefore would abstain from voting.

The narrowing of the issue between the opposing sections in the Dail Eireann cabinet was the main feature of the debate. Several members endeavored to elicit the terms submitted in the private session last week by Mr. de Valera with the object of proving that his disagreement with Mr. Griffith was not worth fighting for. One of the speakers suggested as a way out of the difficulty submission of the question to two typical constituencies, naming South Cork and East Clare, the latter being de Valera's own constituency. De Valera laughed loudly at this suggestion.

Was an alternative to the treaty was generally recognized by all the speakers, and it is understood that the retirement of the members into private session for an hour in the afternoon was for the purpose of the organization M. Briand complained somewhat bitterly of what he termed the suspicion with which certain quarters had judged France's defensive naval program.

"People seem to forget," declared M. Briand, "that France is surrounded by three seas—the North sea, the Atlantic and the Mediterranean. Over, France needs a navy to protect her distant colonies with their sixty million inhabitants."

"It is curious," the premier added, "that the United States, as we know, France mentions her need for a navy the people raise their hands in horror and cry 'French militarism,' whereas the United States, which has been shown that France has a policy of peace, you know, we are getting rather tired of this sort of language."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—American beet and Porto Rican cane sugar interests asked the Senate Finance Committee today for a duty of 2 cents a pound on Cuban raw sugar, while Louisiana cane producers and manufacturers urged that the duty be made 2.5 cents a pound. The rate proposed in the Fordney bill is 1.6 cents a pound.

Spokesmen for the American beet and sugar interests in concluding their presentation of their case declared their case, declared their industries would be threatened with destruction and would be forced to suspend if the present duty were continued. This would leave the entire American field open to the Cuban cane industry, they said, adding that events last year when raw sugar went to 23-1/2 cents a pound in Louisiana would happen to American consumers under such a condition.

The witnesses said the issue before Congress was whether the American beet industry, which now supplies half the nation's need, was to be sacrificed to aid Cuba. They said there was no disposition to injure Cuba, and that if production in that country was restricted to some extent, the raw sugar total of 2,000,000 tons, or half of the amount consumed annually in the United States, the Cuban industry could be put back on its feet.

In a brief filed with the committee, the American producers in Cuba were threatened with destruction and would be forced to suspend if the present duty were continued. This would leave the entire American field open to the Cuban cane industry, they said, adding that events last year when raw sugar went to 23-1/2 cents a pound in Louisiana would happen to American consumers under such a condition.

Representatives of the beet sugar industry said the two cent duty asked for was necessary because of the difference in costs in the United States and Cuba. Spokesmen for the Louisiana cane industry said the cost of producing their sugar was greater than that of producing the beet product and that consequently they were asking for a rate a half a cent higher than the beet interests requested.

In a brief filed with the committee, Gray Silver, Washington representative of the American fur bureau federation, suggested that the maximum rate on sugar be made 1.8 cents a pound with authority given the president to increase this rate "if any time it should become evident that American producers were losing ground to the detriment of the country."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Virginia: Unsettled, possibly light rain Wednesday; Thursday partly cloudy and considerably colder.

North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia: Cloudy and unsettled Wednesday and Thursday; probably rain; colder Thursday.

Florida: Generally fair; Wednesday; Thursday cloudy, probably rain in extreme north; not much change in temperature.

Extreme northwest Florida: Unsettled; probably rain Wednesday and Thursday; colder Thursday.

Alabama: Unsettled, probably rain Wednesday; colder in interior; Thursday cloudy and much colder, probably rain in south.

Tennessee: Cloudy and colder Wednesday, probably light rain; cold wave in west Wednesday night; Thursday generally fair and much colder.

LITTLE ACCOMPLISHED ON REPARATION ISSUE AND OTHER QUESTIONS

British and French Premiers Discuss German Reparations and Kindred Questions.

FRENCH AND ENGLISH IN ACCORD—LLOYD GEORGE

LONDON, Dec. 20.—(By the Associated Press.)—Not much progress has been made thus far, it was learned tonight, in the conversations which are going on between Aristide Briand, the French premier, and David Lloyd George, the British prime minister, on German reparations and kindred questions.

The two premiers met again this morning at the official residence of Mr. Lloyd George, but did not get together this afternoon.

Talking to the Associated Press this morning, M. Briand said he was unable to give any details of the conversations, which ranged over a wide field, including reparations and the intentions of France should Germany fail to meet her financial obligations due to the conference. He emphasized that his conversations with Mr. Lloyd George did not constitute a conference, which could be called only after an accord had been reached in principle.

To an observation to the effect that today's London papers spoke of the "French naval puzzle" at the Washington conference, and suggested that M. Briand's recent statement did not square with the announcement of the French delegation in Washington, M. Briand replied warmly that there were no such divergences as had been insinuated. On the contrary, he declared, he was in full agreement with the French delegation and the claims they had put forward in France's behalf.

"People seem to forget," declared M. Briand, "that France is surrounded by three seas—the North sea, the Atlantic and the Mediterranean. Over, France needs a navy to protect her distant colonies with their sixty million inhabitants."

"It is curious," the premier added, "that the United States, as we know, France mentions her need for a navy the people raise their hands in horror and cry 'French militarism,' whereas the United States, which has been shown that France has a policy of peace, you know, we are getting rather tired of this sort of language."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Robt. A. Harrison, of Wilmington, told the Senate committee investigating Watson's charges today that he had seen lynching parties while in the service but never saw any hangings. He is a boilermaker and served two years and four months in the American Legion with Canadian forces, and from the spring of 1917 to the end of the war with American forces, Seventh field artillery, first division.

He said that in the fall of 1917 he was in the company of the American Legion with Canadian forces, and from the spring of 1917 to the end of the war with American forces, Seventh field artillery, first division.

He said that in the fall of 1917 he was in the company of the American Legion with Canadian forces, and from the spring of 1917 to the end of the war with American forces, Seventh field artillery, first division.

He said that in the fall of 1917 he was in the company of the American Legion with Canadian forces, and from the spring of 1917 to the end of the war with American forces, Seventh field artillery, first division.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Control of the treasury department over the affairs of the farm loan board has resulted in defeating the aim of legislation enacted for the purpose of aiding the farmers of the country, Senator Fletcher, Democrat, Florida, charged today. While the farmers were in "distressing conditions" he asserted the agency created by Congress to aid them was being restricted by the treasury department to annual bond issues of between \$10,000,000 and \$20,000,000 whereas the amount of issue, he said, "should be several times greater. He estimated that a bond issue of \$1,000,000 a day is necessary to meet present conditions."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Unless the submarine, "that outlaw, that assassin of the sea is destroyed root and branch, and agreements reached for reduction of land armament and solution of the problem of disarmament, the greatest danger of any possible future war," the armament conference will not have lived up to the measure of its duty and privilege, declared Josephus Daniels, former secretary of the navy in an address today before the Charlotte Rotary Club.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—An agreement to postpone consideration of the Dyer anti-lynching bill until after the Christmas recess was reached late today by the Senate after several hours of ineffectual efforts to maintain a quorum.

Opponents of the measure blocked efforts to begin debate by an effective filibuster. For several hours business was suspended through lack of a quorum.

Under a resolution adopted last night in a split fight the bill had right of way with the understanding it was not to be pressed to a final vote before Congress suspended activities for the holidays.

FRANCE ACCEPTS CAPITAL SHIP TONNAGE PLAN; CONFERENCE MOVES ON TO SUBMARINE ISSUE

Difference In Opinion as to What Constitutes Embarrassing Conference

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(By the Associated Press.)—President Harding, in a statement issued tonight, said that he had no objection to a construction by the armament conference delegates that the four power treaty includes the principal islands of Japan in its application. The statement said: "When the President was responding to press inquiries at the afternoon interview today he expressed the opinion that the homeland of Japan did not come within the words 'insular possessions and insular dominions' under the four power agreement except as territory proper of any other nation which is party to the agreement."

"This expression," the statement continued, "has been emphasized as a division between the President and the delegates to the conference in connection with the four power agreement."

"The President announced tonight that the difference in view in no wise will be permitted to embarrass the conference or the ratification of the agreement. He had assumed all along that the spirit of the conference contemplates a confidence which pledges respect of territory in every way which will promote lasting peace."

"He has learned from the United States delegates to the conference that they have agreed to the construction which includes the homeland of Japan in the terms 'insular possessions and insular dominions' and has no objection to that construction."

The language of the treaty thus brought into question has also been the subject of Senate discussion, and in response to inquiries based on the assertions of the opponents of ratification, spokesmen for the American delegation have said repeatedly that the major Japanese group must be regarded as included within the provisions of the agreement.

When set forth in an opposite view today, Mr. Harding was said by officials close to him to have acted without consultation with his state department advisers and without any definite purpose of announcing the attitude of the administration. It was declared that he merely was voicing a personal opinion, and had no thought of precipitating a clash in conference circles.

The effect on the delegates, however, was immediately apparent. None of them would comment, but among Americans, British, French and Japanese there was evident a desire to have the attitude of the American government clarified at once. The American delegation held a meeting, and as Senators Lodge and Underwood said in the Senate today, "The British spokesman" not directly connected with the British delegation was telling newspaper correspondents that a view directly opposite to that of the American delegation had been communicated to the principal Japanese islands, and he added that "the meaning adopted at the time of signing might be changed in the future, so I can say nothing at this time."

In British quarters, it was said that it was the British and Americans who took the lead in framing the treaty so as to apply to the Japanese group, and that the Japanese group was posed the arrangement. Arthur J. Balfour, head of the British, was declared to have been insistent on including the major Japanese islands in the British dominions of Australia and New Zealand were to be taken in.

Definition of the geographical scope of the treaty, as finally agreed to, is included in Article one of the agreement and is as follows: "The high contracting powers agree as between themselves to respect their rights in relation to their insular possessions and insular dominions in the region of the Pacific ocean."

"The high contracting powers agree as between themselves to respect their rights in relation to their insular possessions and insular dominions in the region of the Pacific ocean. As interpreted by Mr. Harding in his conference with the correspondents, this language would not apply to the mainland or so called 'mainland' islands of any of the contracting powers. He was said to feel that Japan proper would no more be included among the Pacific islands, for purposes of the treaty than the United States. The islands of the chief Japanese group were considered by him as constituting a party to the treaty rather than a possession or dominion to be dealt with by it."

ARMAMENT CONFERENCE MUST BANISH SUB IF DUTY IS DONE

CHARLOTTE, Dec. 20.—Unless the submarine, "that outlaw, that assassin of the sea is destroyed root and branch, and agreements reached for reduction of land armament and solution of the problem of disarmament, the greatest danger of any possible future war," the armament conference will not have lived up to the measure of its duty and privilege, declared Josephus Daniels, former secretary of the navy in an address today before the Charlotte Rotary Club.

In its achievement toward naval reduction the conference has made the "greatest gesture" pointing the way to world peace said Mr. Daniels, but thus far the conference has made no progress toward reduction of any armaments except dreadnaughts. While armies cost more than navies, armies have been the force upon which militarism has been based in the past, the submarine was a greater factor in the world war than all the capital ships, dreadnaughts and bombing planes will be the "greatest danger in any possible future war."

"Unless we take steps to reduce armaments on land," he said, "we shall not have gone far," adding that while dreadnaughts have been considered the backbone of a nation's fighting strength, "the backbone was tied up in harbor" during the world war.

ITALY AND FRANCE GET 175,000 TONS UNDER U. S. PLANS

British Want Plenary Session to Present Plan For Abandonment of Sub.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(By the Associated Press.)—Acceptance by France with reservations of the American proposal of 175,000 tons in capital ships each for France and Italy swept the arms conference forward tonight to its next major problem—the submarine issue. Italy, it was stated, already has accepted the 175,000 ton figure, conditioned only on its acceptance by France.

Formal announcement of French acceptance and details of France's reservations apparently were reserved by the sub-committee of fifteen for the full naval committee of the conference, called to meet Thursday. The subcommittee has not yet met, and apparently, however, to publish the messages exchanged by Secretary Hughes and Premier Briand which led up to the signing of the French agreement. The messages were read and discussed by the sub-committee but the official communiqué disclosed no more than the texts of the cablesgram.

The premier's message showed that reservations attached to acceptance of the 175,000 capital ship tonnage had to do with "light cruisers, torpedo boats and submarines. This has served to bring the conference forward until the submarine issue can be solved, when the five power capital ship agreement will be completed automatically. It is anticipated that the full naval committee was called to order in a program for the discussion of submarine and anti-submarine craft as the two are interwoven in French and British opinion.

"This implies that the auxiliary craft elements of the American plan must be shaped into agreement before the conference committee can return to ratify the capital ship agreement. A direct step toward bringing up the submarine issue in its first phase—the British proposal to abolish submarines—will be accomplished by the British delegation during the day. The British delegation asked that a plenary session of the conference be called to permit presentation of their case against submarines." A direct step toward bringing up the submarine issue in its first phase—the British proposal to abolish submarines—will be accomplished by the British delegation during the day. The British delegation asked that a plenary session of the conference be called to permit presentation of their case against submarines.

At such an open session Lord Lee for the British would set out in detail the technical and other points why the British believe that submarines should be banned by the world of naval weapons. He will read a statement, and the British press care having been taken in its preparation, that statement the British will show lack of conviction that the conference will share the British attitude of opinion. It will, it is understood, set out also the secondary British proposal that if submarines are to be retained, the tonnage allotments of each power be cut far below the present principle of the American proposals.

There is also a suggestion in British views on submarines prevail, the British would deem it their duty to seek radical increase in their allotments of anti-submarine craft as a more light of their own. That means possibly, airplane carriers, and other these weapons are used against submarines.

Mr. Hughes and Premier Briand shows that as conference chairman, Secretary Hughes dealt very frankly with the situation created by the French proposal to build a new capital ships. "I regret to say," he said, "that after canvassing the matter thoroughly and taking the best information I can obtain, I am compelled to conclude that a suitable understanding on this basis to carry through to agreement."

Mr. Hughes added after pointing out that the retained fleet agreement between Great Britain, the United States and France was contingent on "an appropriate agreement on the part of Italy" and that "there will not be the slightest difficulty in making an agreement with Italy if we can reach a suitable understanding with France."

"You will observe," he said, "that France will determine the success or failure of these efforts to reduce the heavy burden of naval armament. The American chairman has stressed his view that the French proposal, the particular situation of France with respect to land armament" seemed to point to "the very great importance of reduction in naval armament."

"At this time," he added, "when we are anxious to aid France in full recovery of her economic life, it would be disappointing to be advised that she was contemplating putting hundreds of millions into battleships."

This portion of Premier Briand's reply is taken with acceptance of the American 175,000 capital ship tonnage proposal and beyond the strict letter of which, it is indicated, the French group in the committee of 15 did not go today, reads as follows: "With regard to the tonnage of capital ships, that is to say, attacking ships, which are the most costly, I have given instruction to our delegations in the sense which you desire. I am certain that I shall be sustained by my parliament in this view."

"But so far as the defensive ships are concerned (light cruisers, torpedo boats and submarines) it would be impossible for the French government, without putting itself in contradiction with the vote of the chambers, to accept reductions corresponding to those which we accept for capital ships under this formal reserve which you will certainly understand."

Mr. Hughes pointed out to the premier's instruction to our delegations in the sense which you desire. I am certain that I shall be sustained by my parliament in this view."

But so far as the defensive ships are concerned (light cruisers, torpedo boats and submarines) it would be impossible for the French government, without putting itself in contradiction with the vote of the chambers, to accept reductions corresponding to those which we accept for capital ships under this formal reserve which you will certainly understand."

Mr. Hughes pointed out to the premier's instruction to our delegations in the sense which you desire. I am certain that I shall be sustained by my parliament in this view."

But so far as the defensive ships are concerned (light cruisers, torpedo boats and submarines) it would be impossible for the French government, without putting itself in contradiction with the vote of the chambers, to accept reductions corresponding to those which we accept for capital ships under this formal reserve which you will certainly understand."

(Continued on Page Two)

SETTLEMENT OF SHANTUNG CONTROVERSY IS NOW A MATTER FOR TOKIO

Negotiations Between Japanese and Chinese Delegates Come to An Abrupt End.

BOTH DELEGATIONS FAR APART ON RAIL ISSUE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(By the Associated Press.)—Settlement of the Shantung controversy now rests with Tokio.

The conversations between the Japanese and Chinese delegates which have proceeded during the past three weeks outside of the Washington conference proper under the "good offices" of Arthur J. Balfour, of Great Britain, and Mr. Hughes, late today came to a sudden halt with both delegations far apart on the question of payment for and administration of the Tsing Tao-Tsinfu railway, the heart of the dispute.

After a session lasting more than three hours and a half, which conference circles hoped would bring about a satisfactory agreement between the two groups, the Japanese delegates announced they could go no further in the conversations without instruction from Tokio. The meeting was adjourned at 10 o'clock without agreeing on the major issues.

"We got to the point where we could not proceed further," said Dr. Koo, of the Chinese delegation, after the meeting.

The principal stumbling block, which was regarded tonight as threatening the entire Shantung negotiations, was the Japanese proposal that Japan be appointed by the Chinese in the service of the railway.

"We have already gone beyond our instructions, and can go no further without receiving instructions from Tokio," said Mr. Hanhara, the principal Japanese delegate attending the conversations. "We have made concession after concession until we can make no more. The Chinese delegates refused to agree on no point."

Replying to a question, Mr. Hanhara said that the Japanese considered the question of appointment of a Japanese trustee manager of the railway essential to an agreement, as a safeguard to efficient operation of the road and to assure protection to the Japanese financial interests involved.

Details of the "efforts of the Chinese delegates to meet the Japanese on every point" were given the Associated Press tonight by one of the Chinese delegates.

Decision of the Japanese to discontinue the discussions, according to the delegate, was made known to the Chinese in a formal statement ready to be made to the Chinese delegation. The Japanese delegation "could not recede on any settlement of the railway question" and that the whole matter would be put up to Tokio for decision.

Agreeing to the installment plan in principle, the Japanese wanted to know what security they would have for future payments, and were offered Chinese treasury notes. To this reply the Japanese said they must have these secured on the Chinese counter with an offer to pledge the revenues of the railway.

The Chinese finally offered to spread the payment over 10 years with an option to make a final settlement after three years. The Japanese suggested five years as the option period. The Chinese, asserting that this would be only two years longer than their proposal, suggested a two year term to be paid to the full term of 10 years making it 12. This was declined by the Japanese, who then opened the question of cash payment, asking what assurance they would have that China would pay if the road was turned back.

China agreed to make deposits every three months over the nine months period to make a final settlement after three years. The Japanese finally agreed the road should be turned back, if other details were satisfactorily arranged, but the Japanese delegates replied they could not accept periodic payments and read the formal declaration to discontinue the conversations and refer the question to Tokio.

POSTAL NOMINATIONS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—David A. Huffines has been appointed postmaster at Spout Springs. Nominations were submitted to the senate today, as follows:

Amelia B. Stepp, Black Mountain; George T. Whitaker, Franklinton; Joseph P. Jessup, Hertford; Wesley L. Norman, Banner; Thomas E. Harwell, Catawba; Walter Morgan, Elberton; Grover L. Harbison, Maiden; Ell D. Byrd, Ronda.

PROMINENT MAN SUICIDES

CLAYTON, N. C., Dec. 20.—Ernest L. Hinton, age 55, who was prominently connected with many business enterprises in this section, committed suicide at his home here tonight.