

WILMINGTON ASKS MORE LEGISLATORS

Citizens' Committee Wants Five Senators and Ten Representatives in State House

WOULD EQUALIZE COUNTIES

Special Dispatch to Evening Public Ledger Wilmington, Del., Dec. 13.—The Citizens' Committee on Larger Representation in Wilmington in the General Assembly appointed recently by Mayor Harvey will ask the Legislature to increase the number of representatives from five to ten and to give the city the same representation as Kent, Sussex and rural New Castle Counties.

The Federal Grand Jury yesterday returned an indictment against Samuel J. File, former postmaster, who is charged with embezzlement from the office of Government funds amounting to about \$30,000.

Clarence P. Green, director of the Dayton, O. Bureau of Municipal Research, will visit this city tomorrow to discuss plans for a new city charter with the Charter Advisory Committee of this city. A new charter was proposed at the last session of the Legislature, but the measure was killed in that body.

That Constable Whittington attempted to settle the case out of court on the basis of \$10 was alleged during the trial of Jennie and Nick Jorg, charged with assault and battery, before Magistrate Stradley. J. Frank Ball, counsel for the prosecuting witness, bitterly denounced such methods as alleged to have been practiced by the constable. The defendants were held in \$100 bail for a hearing in Municipal Court.

While Mrs. Alice Handley was being removed to the Homeopathic Hospital in the police ambulance yesterday, the police deposited a baby boy in the ambulance. Mother and child are doing well.

Alarmed at the growing number of hold-ups and robberies in the vicinity of Claymont and Naaman's, State detectives and State highway police are now patrolling the district as a result of a plan which has been a noticeable falling off in the number of crimes reported.

Nine thousand "perfect" and 8000 "good" attendance buttons have been sent to public schools of the State, outside of Wilmington, as a reward to pupils who either did not miss a day or missed not more than two days attendance. The buttons are provided by the Service Citizens to stimulate interest in school attendance.

Controversy over a penny that failed to bring with a drinking fountain from a dot machine on the Wilson Line tramcar City of Wilmington terminated in the arrest of two Negroes, John Day, of Philadelphia, and Charles White, of Chester, when the boat docked at this city. Day, when searched, was found to have a .38 caliber revolver under his trousers' leg with the barrel sticking under his shoe top. On charges of disseminating conduct, they were each fined \$10 and costs, while on a charge of carrying a concealed deadly weapon, Day was fined \$100 and costs or seven months alternative of serving sixty days in the workhouse.

HANIHARA WILL BE NAMED JAPANESE ENVOY IN U. S.

Ambassador Shidehara Retiring Because of Poor Health

Tokio, Dec. 13.—Masanao Hanihara, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and one of Japan's delegates to the Washington Disarmament Conference, will be appointed short-term ambassador to America, the correspondent learns on excellent authority. The well-informed Yomiuri states that Mr. Hanihara's appointment has been approved by Premier Kato and will be announced in a few days. Ambassador Shidehara is retiring owing to continued poor health, which for some time made his return to Washington very uncertain.

Meanwhile a growing feeling is being expressed by the newspapers that the important post at Washington should not be permitted to remain vacant any longer. If Mr. Hanihara returns to the United States he will be greeted by many friends in Washington, as he was secretary at the Embassy there for more than ten years and was popular during the conference. From a source close to Premier Kato comes a verbal confirmation of his choice. Tokichi Tanaka, chief of the Information Bureau of the Foreign Office, probably will be Hanihara's successor.

Little Benny's Note Book

By Lee Paps

Pop was smoking his new meersham pipe and looking at it every puff to see if it was starting to color yet. "I sed, G, pop, wats you know about this, hees a fly on the window all laying on its back and waving its legs, wats it doing that for, pop?" "It's probably the last fly of the year disintegrated with the high cost of living and ending it all, pop sed."

GOSSIP OF THE STREET

Two dividend actions to be taken today are awaited with intense interest both in speculative and investment circles. One is the United Gas Improvement and the other the New York Central. The directors of the latter company are expected to increase the dividend from the present rate of 5 per cent to either 6 or 7 per cent. The market community yesterday was not quite so sure of it as they were several weeks ago when the stock was soaring around par. In some quarters it was felt the directors might find it more convenient to postpone any change in the dividend policy until spring, at which time a clearer outlook of the transportation would be obtainable.

As to the United Gas Improvement, the matter lies entirely at the discretion of the board. If the question of earnings was solely the guiding policy there is doubt as to what the result would be. However, it is generally recognized deliberations on that score are to a large extent outweighed by the influences surrounding the uncertainty of the outcome of the gas lease controversy.

Lean Pickings for the Bears "It may seem unreasonable to say so, and appear unreasonable on the surface, but the shorts are getting very lean pickings out of the current market. As a matter of fact, seven out of ten are covering at a loss," said a broker yesterday.

"I was somewhat surprised to find this when making a casual examination of our books. On the other hand, the long account was in a strong position and, while they are hung up, are not forced to take losses of those playing the opposite side of the ledger. This is not altogether a new phenomenon; on the contrary, is a condition often experienced in all the major market swings. A number of these accounts had an opportunity to realize fairly good profits less than two weeks ago, but the most of them overplayed their market."

Rising Bond Barometer

Under the caption, "Are Bond Prices Going Higher?" Harrison Smith & Co., in a circular letter, present an unusually interesting view of the current investment situation. They say: "Opinions are expressed from quite a few directions just now that we are likely to see after the turn of the year somewhat higher prices for bonds. There seems to be quite a good deal of justification for this view and there has already been some recovery from the recent reaction, particularly in the highest-grade issues, keep in mind that if, as has been confidently predicted by many authorities, the rise in bond prices which started in 1921 was the commencement of an upswing of this pendulum, then the pendulum still has a good deal further to go. In most classes of securities we are still well below 1917 prices and very much lower than the prices of fifteen or twenty years ago, although with such new factors as income taxes, a return to the last-named prices is at best pretty uncertain. Furthermore, while the rise during 1921 was a very sharp one, Messrs. Dow, Jones & Co.'s figures on average prices show that during the last year high-grade railroad bonds have only risen 3.22 per cent, second-grade rails, 3.00 per cent, and the combined average rise for railroad, public utility and industrial bonds is 5.07 per cent."

"All of the foregoing deals with domestic issues, and particularly those of the better grade. The immediate course of foreign issues will naturally depend largely upon political and military developments in Europe, which at the moment seem to be taking a favorable turn. We are still firm believers in the security of foreign issues. Even at prices well above their present levels, they yield so much more than sound domestic securities that we feel it will not be long before investors are again buying them in considerable amounts and at higher prices."

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