

CHANCE FOR PEACE LOOK HOPELESS

So President Wilson Tells Carranza In Declining His Offer to Cut Off Exports.

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, March 20.—The note to General Carranza, declining his proposal for neutral action to bring peace to Europe by cutting off exports of supplies to belligerents was made public today at the State Department.
The refusal was based first on the apparent hopelessness of peace at the present as shown in the futility of President Wilson's efforts and Germany's attempts to embroil Mexico and Japan in war with this country, and in the belief that any restriction of commerce with the belligerents would in effect be an unequal discrimination.
Nevertheless, the note concludes: "The President would not be understood as desiring to impede the progress of a movement leading to the resumption of peaceful relations between all the belligerents and would not, therefore, wish the Mexican government to feel that his inability to act in the present state of affairs should in any way militate against the attainment of the high ideals of General Carranza by the co-operation of other neutral governments in the use of their good offices and friendly mediation to bring about the end of the terrible war."

The note mentions the "careful and sympathetic consideration" which the United States has given to the proposal, refers to the new vigor of the warfare and goes on to say:

"To render the situation still more acute, the government of the United States has unhesitatingly made by the government dominating the Central Powers, to embroil not only the government and people of Mexico, but also the government and people of Japan in war with the United States. At the time this plot was conceived the United States was at peace with the government and people of the German empire and German officials and German subjects were not only enjoying, but abusing, the liberties and provisions freely accorded to them on American soil and under American protection."

The note then takes up the proposal to cut off commercial relations with the belligerent nations and refers to the American note to Austria-Hungary to show the policy of this government in declining to stop munition shipments.

"Believing that this position of the United States is based upon sound principles of international law," the conclusion says, "and is consonant with the established practice of nations, the President *** cannot bring himself to consider such a modification of these principles or of this practice as compliance with General Carranza's proposal to suspend commercial relations with the warring nations would entail."

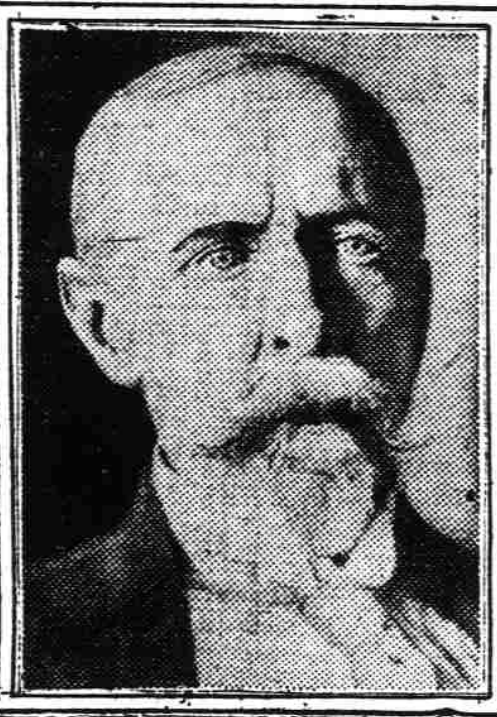
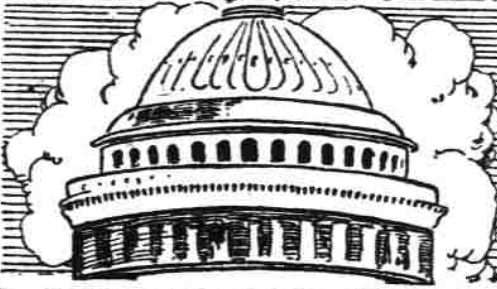
FRENCH TROOPS NEARING LINE OF BIG DEFENSE.

(Continued from Page One)

no change in the situation before tomorrow, although it was possible that discussion at the meeting might lead the President to act at once.

"The National Council of Women embraces 27 organizations having an aggregate membership of approximately 9,000,000 women."

UNDER THE CAPITOL DOME.



Alvey A. Adee.
Washington, March 20.—Alvey A. Adee, Second Assistant Secretary of State, who has held his office in the diplomatic service of the United States for fifty years. Adee is retained by each incoming Administration because he knows more about diplomatic procedure than any other man in the country. Adee knows all of the official forms and all of the red tape and from his desk in the State Department, he has guided the destinies of several thousand diplomatic intercourses over more than thirty years. For knowing what he does Adee gets \$4,500 a year.

FIVE-MINUTE TALKS BY NATIONAL LEADERS.

By Romain C. Hassrick,
Secretary Local Option Committee of Pennsylvania.



ROMAIN HASSRICK.

Passage of a local option law is inevitable in Pennsylvania. The people demand an opportunity to declare themselves on the question as to whether applications for the sale of intoxicating liquors shall be granted in their respective counties. If this Legislature fails to enact a local option law, giving the citizens this privilege, a very early Legislature will pass such legislation.
Pennsylvania is held up as a horrible example from a liquor standpoint—one of the blackest of the black spots on the map of the United States. In spite of this odious representation eleven of the sixty-seven counties of the State—practically one-sixth—are "dry" counties.

COUNTRY RAPIDLY GETS READY TO COMBAT THE SUBMARINE MENACE.

(Continued from Page One)

bringing in of prisoners.

Berlin, March 20.—(Via Sayville.)—There were several engagements of infantry and cavalry detachments yesterday between British and German forces in the territory on both sides of the river Somme and the river Oise, abandoned by the Germans, according to the official statement issued today by the army headquarters staff.

The French yesterday and last night directed violent attacks against the German positions on the left bank of the Meuse, the statement adds, but everywhere they were repulsed.

As the cabinet convened the sentiment was generally expressed that the United States is virtually in a state of war.

BOMB PLOT IN AMERICA HELD UP AS WARNING.

(By United Press.)
Paris, March 19.—(By Mail.)—A vast army of German agents engaged in surveillance of Spanish ports and shipping" is condemned by the Spanish press and demands made on the government to take steps to get the spies out of the country in papers arriving here today. German bomb plots and intrigue in America are pointed to as examples of what the Spanish government is confronted with.

Since Spain's refusal to openly break with Germany as a protest against the submarine blockade, the Spanish press, except the Germanophile organs, is open in its criticism.

The objecting papers carry lengthy and detailed revelations of the methods of German agents, working in conjunction with the submarines. El Liberal, the great newspaper of Madrid, leads in openly declaring that no ship now leaves a Spanish port before its description, cargo, sea route, speed, armament against submarines, make-up of its crew and its destination is known to the submarines lying in wait off the Spanish coast.

This information is transmitted to the submarines by signals or by wireless and it is so accurate that a German agent can say to a ship captain, "Your vessel will be sunk at such and such a time." And these predictions are nearly always confirmed by facts. Other vessels, which pass the tests of the agents, are spared, the paper says, and continues:

"The German organization is very vast and admirably disposed to take advantage of all the elements at its disposition. Of the 60,000 to 80,000 Germans now in Spain the most part are officers of the German army, marines, inventors, industrial workers, commercial agents and technicians of all sorts who have sought employment on all parts of the Spanish coast. In some instances they work for the lowest wage."

"This German army is directed by the consuls and heads of big German enterprises, commercial and industrial, organized before the war."

"They have created friendships everywhere, especially among the provincial authorities, the military chiefs, the commandants of marines, the officers of the civil guard, the carabinieri, the chiefs of public service, among which are the posts and telegraph and the civil police."

RETREAT BUT FOR MASTER STROKE

German Press Has Great Faith In Move By Von Hindenburg.

(By Associated Press.)
Berlin, Monday, March 19 (Via London, March 20).—The morning newspapers today gave the German public the news of the big events at the front in France. All publish articles by military experts explaining the movement as part of the strategic plan of the general staff for a decision on the western front and a master stroke to vitiate the preparations of the entente for an offensive, giving a decided advantage to the Germans. These writers are unanimous in expressing the fullest confidence in Field Marshal von Hindenburg. The Deutsche Tages Zeitung says:

"This is not the first strategic retreats of Von Hindenburg always this war. It is necessary only to remember his great retreat from before Warsaw and the partial evacuation of Transylvania. Thus far these retreats of von Hindenburg always have borne fruit a hundredfold, so that we may face the new measure of our highest military command with well-founded confidence and the fullest assurance that it furnishes the preliminary to new German successes."

The Morgen Post says: "The German people can and must have the fullest confidence in their leaders, especially Von Hindenburg and his able counselor and assistant, Von Ludendorff. Developments may be awaited with calm confidence."

The Vossische Zeitung says: "We must not forget that the same Von Hindenburg who began the Transylvania campaign with a retreat and who in 1914 evacuated a conquered strip of Poland to strike the Russians like a bolt of lightning now stands master of the battles on our western front."

"This has given birth to a system of espionage, sallying and ambushing, which acquaints the Germans with most mathematical and precise information for their submarine campaign."

Nearly all of the countries of Europe maintain what is known as a "Black Cabinet," a mysterious room set apart in the general postoffice in which the correspondence of persons suspected by the government is opened and read without their knowledge.

Miss Julia Landers, of Indianapolis, is the first woman to serve as an election sheriff in Indiana.

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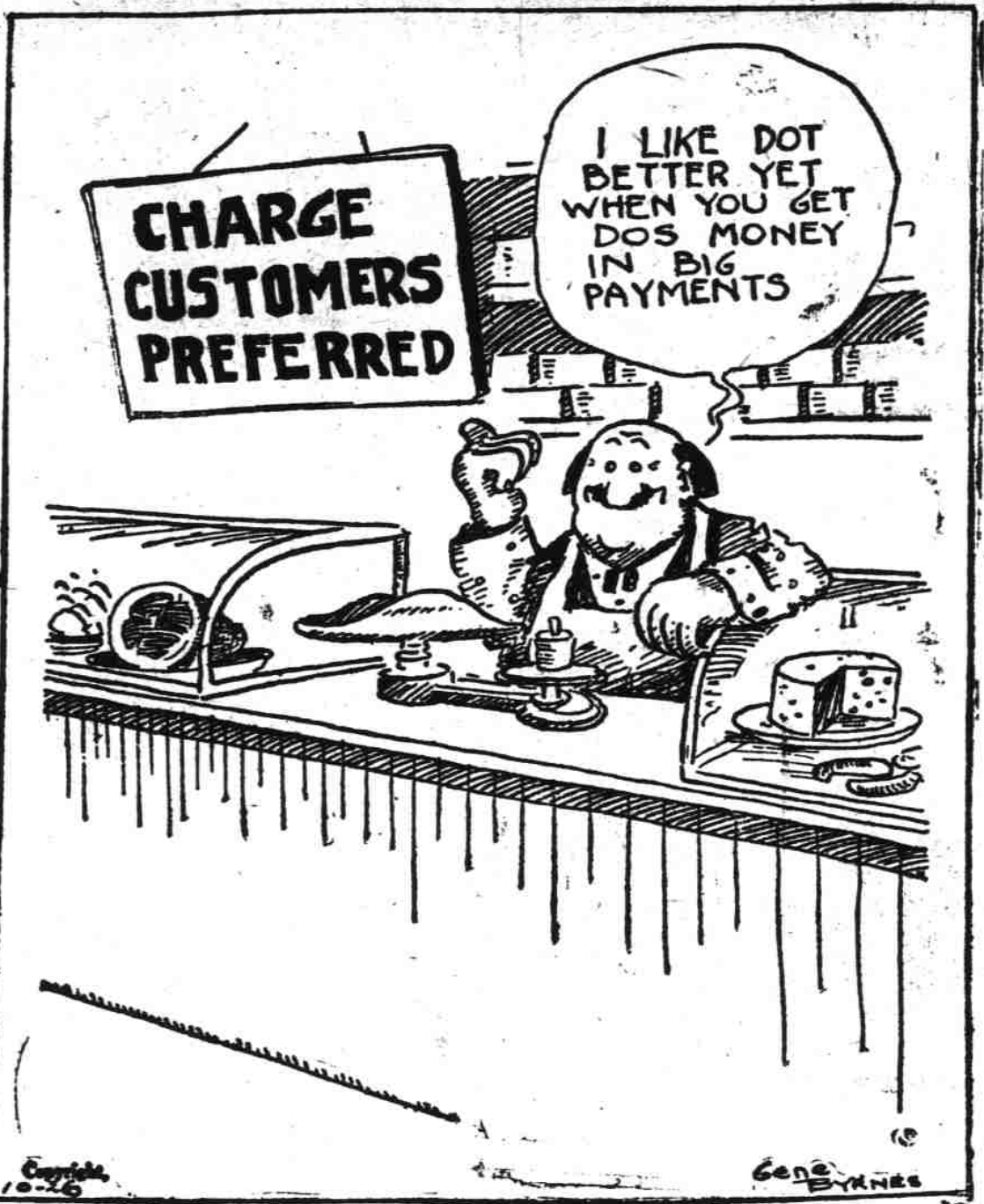
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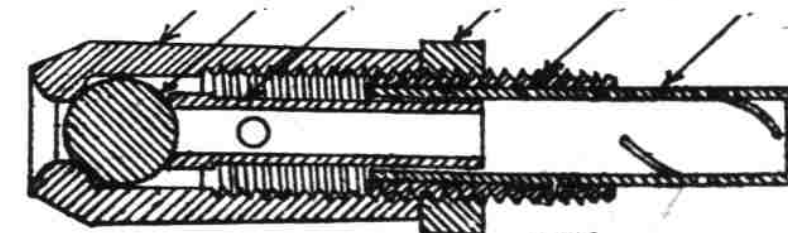
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