

# COLONEL HOUSE, WILSON'S FRIEND NOT A MYSTERY

## Unofficial Counsellor of the President Is a Modest But Well Posted Man.

### STUDENT OF WORLD AFFAIRS

#### Now Gathering Data on Economic and Other Problems Which Must Be Solved at the Peace Table—Has Qualifications That Go to Make a Sound Diplomat.

AUTHOR'S NOTE—Men have made a mystery of the life and the doings of Col. Edward M. House, the friend and adviser of Woodrow Wilson. If there has been mystery, it is none of the Colonel's making. I venture the hope that whatever may have seemed to be hidden is disclosed in this article, the material for which was obtained in the only way in which such material can be obtained, by direct personal contact, inquiry and study.

By EDWARD B. CLARK. (Copyright, 1917, Western Newspaper Union.)

Washington.—Who is Col. Edward Mandell House who is to gather war data for the United States government for service on a future day of peace? This is a question that is being asked by a very large proportion of the people of the United States and in fact of all the allied nations.

Colonel House does not wear the record of his deeds on his sleeve. It is probable that if this unofficial counsellor to the president of the United States were to be elected to congress the autobiography which he would prepare for the congressional directory would read like this:

Edward Mandell House, Democrat of Austin, Texas; born 1858; elected to the congress, November.

In this brief, ultra-modest, if you will, way would this Texan be prompted to write an autobiography, justified doubtless from the viewpoint of other men in being extended into many chapters.

Who is Col. Edward Mandell House, who, until the day when the final order "Cease Firing" comes, is to study in behalf of the government of the United States the economic, the geographic, the democratic and the humanitarian problems which the American counsellors at the peace table must seek to solve after a manner which the people of a great democracy can approve?

Consulted by President. In the Washington dispatches something like this is read several times a year: "Colonel House has been in the city for twenty-four hours as the guest of the president. He will leave for New York tomorrow morning."

Beyond this the reader gets nothing from the dispatches except the word that the president and his visitor discussed Mexican matters, or European matters, or it may be, but in this latter case rarely, political matters.

The public has known little more about Colonel House than that he is a man frequently consulted by Woodrow Wilson and a man in whose judgment on political, economic and legislative matters the president puts confidence. There is a sort of a glamour about men and things which are mysterious. It would seem that because of the attraction which mystery has for the people, as shown if you will in their gluttonous reading of detective stories and the like, that writers of the news of the day in part have chosen to treat the goings and comings of the colonel and his conferences with men of affairs as if they were a deliberate attempt to hedge them in and hide them from public knowledge.

It is just as possible to get at the truth in the case of Colonel House as it is in the case of any other man whose doings are of public interest. It is modesty not mystery which has been the basic difficulty.

Colonel House will not tell you that he is a modest man, as I know from personal contact with him. To claim modesty for one's self is to be immodest. He does go from his present abode in New York city to Washington occasionally or frequently as the requests may come, to give what he can of "the counsel of his views" to the president of the United States. Why should he any more than any other man send a trumpeting herald ahead or a band of cymbal clashers?

He goes to the White House, stays his while and leaves, and because no great noises fill the streets at approach or departure, exclusiveness, seclusiveness and secrecy have been the order of the day's words concerning each visit.

#### Gives No Word of Work.

It perhaps is not too much to say that if the full record of the results of the conferences which House of Texas has had with Wilson of the United States is to be read it must be sought in some of the accomplished deeds of the present administration. That Woodrow Wilson has been moved to certain courses or strengthened in his purpose to pursue them, by the counsel of Edward M. House is not to be doubted. The impossible task would be to get from the latter a definite word concerning the public work in which his counsel has played a part.

Those who have built up a wall of mystery about the man who is studying matters against the day of peace apparently have not wished to pull

down their handwork. The wall can be demolished by anyone who tries to get at the foundation of the fiction.

Edward M. House lives as open a life as that of any American whose profession or business does not call him daily into the places where men throng. If one wants to know about him through motives other than those of the idleness of curiosity he can see him and talk with him, and the chances are that he will be told everything concerning the subject of his inquiring curiosity that any man of modest mien and inclination naturally would be willing to tell. Colonel House is a genial man who seemingly never has sought to define for personal use the meaning of either of the words, coldness or austerity. He has a sense of humor well developed, and a temperamental warmth.

Secret of His Power. In Houston, Texas, in the year 1858, Edward M. House was born. He was educated at the Hopkins grammar school, New Haven, Conn., and at Cornell university. He has been active all his adult life in Democratic politics, but never has been a candidate for office.

Add to these admittedly meager details one fact and unquestionably you will have the secret of this man's power to attract other men to him for the purpose of consultation on really high public matters. From the day that he was old enough to undertake serious study, Edward M. House has been deep in the books of politics, economics and legislation. He has marshaled in his mind all the greater events which have happened in these three words. Moreover, he has the men, the things and the motives connected with each case constantly in procession before him. He is quick to trace a cause to an effect, or to go the reverse route. He has been a student of human nature as it has shown itself in many of the great problems of human life. This means that he has in him, or at any rate men believe that he has in him, the qualifications which go to make up a sound diplomat.

Through successive administrations in Texas the governors of the state, one after another, consulted Colonel

ingly time enough has gone by and things enough have been proved or disproved to give certainty to the word that Woodrow Wilson has found Edward M. House an advisory asset.

There hardly can be much of real mystery about a man who twice since this great war began has been sent abroad as a special commissioner for the president of the United States. Colonel House has been twice in Berlin, five times in Paris, and frequently in other of the great European capitals. Some day it may be that Woodrow Wilson will write what may be called an autobiographical review of his administration. If he does it is entirely likely that the part taken by Colonel House in the shaping of some of the policies of the president may be given the page place which many men believe that it deserves.

#### No Mystery There.

While living in New York Colonel House resides in an apartment not very far uptown. It is a homelike place where good books are found and where good friends may come. It is a genial place and no curtain of mystery hangs over the door of any one of its rooms. Men go there and are welcome. They go and they talk. Man learns as much from man as he learns from books and more perhaps if we believe the ancient saying about the proper study of mankind.

I asked Colonel House what his recreations are. He said, "Friends, reading and walking." His library shelves show the kind of books that he has read, still is reading and will continue to read, for those in the book cases are made the companions day by day of the others as they come from the hands of writers worth while.

No man probably can read politics, legislation, economics and history constantly without getting some of Dr. Dry-as-Dust's characteristics. So it is that Colonel House does not read the four formidable constantly. He turns to fiction and here one finds something of possibly more than passing human interest.

George Frisbie Hoar of Massachusetts was one of the scholars in politics. It was said of him that he had read everything from Aristophanes' "Frogs"



Col. Edward M. House.

House on public matters. How deep an impression he has made on Texas legislative history never may be known definitely, but there is enough salient to make Texans know that they are right in attributing to him many of their public welfare acts.

Though not accounted wealthy in these days of huge fortunes, Colonel House is quite well fixed financially and is not engaged in business of any kind.

#### Has Studied Hard.

I have talked to Colonel House and have learned things which make me feel that I shall not go wrong when I try to put an interpretation upon some of his methods of doing things. He is free enough to say that he has studied hard at economic, political and legislative subjects. He probably even would be willing to admit that he thinks the results of these studies continued and their results retained, have enabled him to be of some service when men were seeking information concerning events in the past which have relation to events in the present or events expected in the future.

Therefore, there is here a man who has held what he has studied, who has collated and correlated the happenings of history, who has drawn lessons from them, who takes an interest as deep in the living present as he does in the dead past, and who men believe is able to make his knowledge serviceable, for old as it is let us say it, history repeats itself.

Woodrow Wilson did not meet his friend Colonel House until the days when he was holding office as governor of New Jersey. It is said by friends of Mr. Wilson that almost instantly he came to understand why the Texan had been of service along constructive lines to some of the governors of the state in which he has lived most of his life. For six or seven years Mr. House has been the confidant and the counsellor of the president of the United States, and seem-

to Locke's "Human Understanding" and from this latter book of "dissimulations" to the lighter minded reader, down to everything heavy and semi-heavy which was published to the week of his death. Senator Hoar kept his mental condition balanced by turning not merely from the heavy to the light on occasion, but to the actual featherweights of fiction. He read "Nick Carter."

Woodrow Wilson, it is said, turns away from the studies of states, past and present and in perspective to the reading of what the English call penny dreadfuls, and what the Americans in the old days called yellow backs. It is said that the speaker of the house of representatives, Champ Clark, stops frequently his mental digging into all kinds of history to take up for relief purposes books of the kind which make a boy happy.

#### Reads Good Fiction.

In the library of Colonel House there is plenty of good fiction. He does not turn to Nick Carter, nor to "The Hidden Hand" of Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth, nor yet to "Owl Face, The Pawnee" of Beadle dime novel fame, but he manages to keep the mental balance even by an evening lamp hour or two with the writers of fiction who can lay claim to what the book reviewers call literary merit.

Today Colonel House is entering upon the work of preparing material which one day, perhaps far in the future, will be serviceable to the American commissioners at the great peace conference. Another has written this concerning the choice by the president of Colonel House for this work: "He is peculiarly qualified for it by his diplomatic experience of recent years, by his study of political problems which the war has raised and by his integrity of mind and character."

"Sherlock, will you take on the House Mystery Case?" "Mystery? my dear Watson, there isn't any."

# GREEK TO FILL "SHOES" OF TURK

## Prof. Andreade, Athens, Says Countrymen Cover Region Down to Dardanelles.

### WOULD BE BAR TO GERMANS

#### Hellenic Preponderance in Constantinople and Adrianople Basis for Claim—Principle of Nationality Hitherto Ignored.

Athens.—If the Turk is to leave Europe, as the entente allies have required in their war terms, then there is a well defined belief in the Balkans that two results will occur of high importance to Greece and all Europe: 1. That the Greek inevitably will succeed the Turk throughout Thrace and in the whole region down to the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus.

2. That a new zone of territory friendly to the entente will thus be stretched horizontally straight across the Balkans as a barrier to the German dream of making the Balkans a German high road to the Orient.

Professor Andreade of the University of Athens, one of the foremost authorities on international affairs relating to the Balkans, holds this view, and in the course of a talk he explained how these two results would naturally come about in the final peace adjustment, by reason of the principle of nationalities now accepted by the entente allies as a basis for territorial readjustment.

#### Points to Greek Predominance.

Professor Andreade, who is a specialist on the extent of Greek citizenship beyond the Greek frontiers—in Macedonia and the other Balkans, in Turkey, Syria and Asia Minor—pointed out the great predominance of the Greeks in the regions to be evacuated by the Turks if they are to leave Europe.

The whole vilayet, or province of Adrianople, extending from the Balkans down to Constantinople, he declared, is as much Greek as it is Turk and with the Turks out it is practically all Greek. "Even Constantinople," he said, "is a Greek city—the largest of Greek cities—with a population of 300,000 Greeks. That gives an idea of the extent of Greek citizenship in all this section down to the straits, which will have to be considered, on the basis of nationality and race, when the Turk leaves Europe.

"That is why I say," added Professor Andreade, "that if the Turk is to withdraw, the principle of nationality, which recognizes the racial condition of a community, will lead to the recognition of Greek paramount influence in that section. Thus far, the principle of nationality has been ignored and violated in all Balkan settlements, and force has prevailed. Austria and Bulgaria have not occupied any of the territory annexed in recent years by reason that their race or nationality prevailed in these sections, but solely by reason of their military force. That has been the cause of the endless wars in the Balkans, for people are never satisfied when their race is ignored and they are attached to a foreign conqueror by force."

#### Two Barriers to Germany.

Professor Andreade, referring to the Balkan map, showed how the readjustment of Balkan boundaries, based on nationalities, would interpose two barriers to Germanic expansion toward Asia Minor and the Orient—one, the Greek zone across Thrace, and another, the Serb-Roumanian link of territory which lies as a dam between Hungary and Bulgaria. This Serb-Roumanian link is only fifty miles across, but with Roumania getting the Banat region, to which Professor Andreade says she is entitled by the principle of nationality, this entente link will be 150 miles across.

"And thus entente Europe can accomplish what it chiefly seeks in the Balkans," said Professor Andreade, "friendly entente zones intercepting the natural route of Germanic expansion toward the Orient, and this can be accomplished, not by force, but by the principle of nationality now accepted by the entente powers."

### SOLDIERS PRINT OWN NEWS

#### Pershing's Men Have Their Own Press Humming Away on the French Front.

Paris.—The rumble of the press is added to the various noises surrounding the American army headquarters in Paris. Soldiers' reading matter is printed on the premises. Soldiers, who in civil life used to know the printshop, are printing pamphlets and other army literature for the fighters. A fully equipped printing office with a flat bed press is doing the work. The first type "set up" told Pershing's men in training how to throw bombs and how to handle them without accident. Army orders and the "latest" front home will follow.

#### Feeds Robin From His Hand.

Milton, Ind.—Levi Crull, who lives near Rushville, placed a box near the cave trough of his house and a robin built its nest in the box. Mr. Crull climbs a stepladder and feeds the mother bird, now taking care of her brood of young birds. He gathers worms and the robin eats them from his hand. She does not appear to have any fear of him.

# Like A Boy at 50 Bubbling Over With Vitality--Taking Iron Did It

## Doctor says Nuxated Iron is greatest of all strength builders--Often increases the strength and endurance of delicate, nervous folks 100 per cent. in two weeks' time.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Not long ago a man came to me who was nearly half a century old and asked me to give him a preliminary examination for life insurance. I was astonished to find him with the blood pressure of a boy of 20 and as full of vigor, vim and vitality as a young man; in fact a young man he really was notwithstanding his age. The secret he said was taking iron—Nuxated Iron had filled him with renewed life. At 30 he was in bad health, at 45 he was careworn and nearly all in. Now at 50 after taking Nuxated Iron a miracle of vitality and his face beaming with the buoyancy of youth. As I have said a hundred times over, iron is the greatest of all strength builders. If people would only take Nuxated Iron when they feel weak or run-down, instead of dosing themselves with habit-forming drugs, stimulants and alcoholic beverages I am convinced that in this way they could ward off disease, preventing it becoming organic in thousands of cases and thereby the lives of thousands might be saved who now die every year from pneumonia, grippe, kidney, liver, heart trouble and other dangerous maladies. The real and true cause which started their diseases was nothing more nor less than a weakened condition brought on by lack of iron in the blood. Iron is absolutely necessary to enable your blood to change food into living tissue. Without it, no matter how much or what you eat, your food merely passes through you without doing you any good. You don't get the strength out of it and as a consequence you become weak, pale and sickly looking just like a plant trying to grow in a soil deficient in iron. If you are not strong or well you owe it to yourself to make the following test: See how long you can work or how far you can walk

without becoming tired. Next take two five-grain tablets of ordinary nuxated iron three times per day after meals for two weeks. Then test your strength again and see for yourself how much you have gained. I have seen dozens of nervous run-down people who were ailing all the while, double their strength and endurance, and entirely get rid of all symptoms of dyspepsia, liver and other troubles in from ten to fourteen days time simply by taking iron in the proper form. And this after they had in some cases been doctoring for months without obtaining any benefit. But don't take the old forms of reduced iron, iron acetate or tincture of iron simply to save a few cents. You must take iron in a form that can be easily absorbed and assimilated like nuxated iron. If you want it to do you any good, otherwise it may prove worse than useless. Many an athlete or prizefighter has won the secret of great strength and endurance and filled his blood with iron before he went into the arena, while many another has gone down to inglorious defeat simply for the lack of iron.—E. Sauer, M. D.

NOTE—Nuxated Iron, recommended above by Dr. E. Sauer is not a patent medicine nor secret remedy, but one which is well known to druggists and whose iron constituents are widely prescribed by eminent physicians everywhere. Unlike the other iron products it is easily assimilated, does not irritate the stomach, and does not cause constipation. It is the most potent remedy in nearly all forms of indigestion as well as for nervous, run-down conditions. The manufacturers have such great confidence in nuxated iron, that they offer to forfeit \$100.00 to any respectable institution if they cannot take any man or woman under 60 who lacks iron, and increase their strength 100 per cent. or over in four weeks' time, provided they have no serious organic trouble. They also offer to refund your money if it does not at least double your strength and endurance in the same time. It is dispensed in this city by all good druggists.



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