

OFFICIALS DENY RESPONSIBILITY

LANSING AND TUMULTY HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF PEACE NOTE BEFOREHAND.

PREST WILSON ENDORSES

Maze of intimations and heated colloquies Mark Session of Committee of Inquiry.—Lawson Fails to Substantiate Stories.

Washington.—Through a bewildering maze of intimations and heated colloquies which turned the hearing into an uproar, the House Rules Committee wrestled for several hours with Thomas W. Lawson of Boston, without obtaining any definite information to substantiate the stories of a "leak" to Wall Street in advance of the President's peace note.

Earlier during the session Joseph P. Tumulty, Secretary to President Wilson, whose name was mentioned by Representative Wood in the rumors he laid before the committee last week, appeared to give an emphatic statement, endorsed by the President, that he had no knowledge of the peace note before it was given to the press. He also denied the report repeated by Representative Wood that Mr. Tumulty and Bernard Baruch, a New York broker, had conferred in a New York hotel a few days before the note was made public.

WEBB-KENYON PROHIBITION BILL HELD CONSTITUTIONAL.

Victory is Most Sweeping Ever Won in Fight Against Liquor.

Washington.—In the most sweeping of all decisions upholding prohibition laws, the Supreme Court upheld as constitutional and valid the Webb-Kenyon law prohibiting shipments of liquor from "wet" to "dry" states. It also sustained West Virginia's recent amendment to her law prohibiting importation in interstate commerce of liquor for personal use.

After having been vetoed by President Taft, who held it unconstitutional, and having been re-passed by Congress over his veto, the law was sustained by the Supreme Court by a vote of 7 to 2. Leaders of the prohibition movement declare it is to their fight second only in importance to the proposed constitutional amendment.

Lawyers for liquor interests who heard the decision admitted it upheld and applied the law "in its fullest sense."

"BUFFALO BILL" FACES DEATH AS CALMLY AS ON THE PLAINS.

Denver, Col. Col. William F. Cody (Buffalo Bill) dying in Denver, faced death in the same manner that he has faced it many times on the plains of the West in conflicts that made his name famous.

The Colonel was warned of the approach of the end of his life by Dr. J. H. East, his physician and friend. He had summoned the physician to the home of his sister, where he is spending his last hours. When Doctor East walked into his room, Colonel Cody said:

"Sit down, doctor, there is something I want to ask you. I want you to answer me honestly. What are my chances?"

Doctor East turned to the scout: "There is a time, Colonel," said he, "when every honest physician must commend his patient to a higher power."

Colonel Cody's head sank. "How long?" he asked simply.

"I can answer that," said the physician, "only by telling you your life is like the hour glass. The sand is slipping gradually, slowly but soon the sand will all be gone. The end is not far away."

Colonel Cody turned to his sister, Mrs. May Decker:

"May," said he, "let the Elks and Masons take charge of the funeral." Then the man who made history in the West when it was young began methodically to arrange his affairs.

Villa and Forces Flee.

El Paso, Texas.—Carranza forces now occupy Jimenez, Santa Rosalie and Pargal, while Villa and his staff have fled to the State of Durango, over the branch railroad from Pargal to El Aro.

TEUTONS GET POSSESSION OF ANOTHER RUMANIAN FORT.

Another of Rumania's fortresses has fallen into the hands of the Teutonic Allies. Keeping up their intensive forward movement into Moldavia, Field Marshal von Macgenzens troops have taken Fokshani and with it nearly 4,000 prisoners and some cannon and machine guns. At last reports, the invaders were pursuing the defeated Russians, the troops of Archduke Joseph of Austria were pressing back the Rumanians eastward.

AMBASSADOR GERARD



New photograph of Ambassador Gerard, who was entertained at a dinner by high officials in Germany a few days ago.

TO DETERMINE HIGH COST

ATTORNEY GENERAL GREGORY WILL BEGIN INQUIRY AS TO WHETHER THERE IS TRUST.

For Several Weeks Department of Justice Has Been in Frequent Consultation With the Trade Commission.—A Mass of Complaints.

Washington.—Attorney General Gregory took over the yield of the Federal Trade Commission's inquiry into the print paper market with a view to determining whether there is a paper trust, and to institute civil and criminal proceedings against manufacturers or others who may have violated the anti-trust laws.

President Wilson is actively interested in recent disclosures of practices pursued in the production and distribution of print paper and is understood to be following the inquiry closely. A mass of complaints and testimony and a large number of secret reports from the commission's investigators have been placed in the Attorney General's hands.

For several weeks department of justice officials have been in frequent consultation with the trade commission and are understood to have under serious consideration the early institution of grand jury proceedings at which indictments charging violation of the criminal section of the law will be asked.

ELEVEN DEAD AS TORNADO WRECKS SCHOOL BUILDING

Muskogee, Okla.—Eleven school children were killed, four probably fatally injured and eight seriously injured when a tornado wrecked the Vireton rural school house, known as the Lee Baldwin school, near Blocker, Ala.

The school building, a Baptist Indian Mission a quarter of a mile away and four farm houses are in ruins and a half dozen other farm houses were lifted from their foundations by the storm, which swept a narrow path for a distance of six miles.

The storm struck first at Richville, seven miles southwest of Vireville, but did not further damage until within a quarter of a mile of the school building.

Tearing up the valley for nearly a mile the storm then ripped the school building from its foundation and hurled the children down the hillside and across the ravine, some of them being picked up, a hundred yards from the site of the building.

DOBUDJA TAKEN BY TEUTONS AFTER A BITTER STRUGGLE.

Except for a narrow strip of land projecting into the Danube marshes toward the Moldavian town of Galatz, all of Dobudja has been cleared by the Teutonic Allies of Russian and Rumanian troops. After the fall of Matchin and Jijila, the defenders began a retreat across the Danube toward Braila, and according to Berlin, a force of Russian rear guards on the peninsula projecting toward Galatz comprises the only Entente troops now in Rumania between the Danube River and the Black Sea. In Moldavia

VILLA IN BATTLE SOUTH OF CHIHUAHUA, SAYS REPORT

El Paso, Tex.—Fighting between Villa forces and Gen. Francisco Murguia's commands south of Chihuahua City was reported by government agents. No details were given, although the engagement was characterized as "severe." It was also reported from same source that two of Murguia's advance guard troop trains had been captured by Villa troops and two others attacked at some point south of Bachimba Pass.

GOOD RELATIONS EXISTS WITH U. S.

GERMANY IMPRESSES CORDIALITY OF RELATIONS BETWEEN U. S. AND GERMANY.

GERARD GUEST AT DINNER

American Ambassador is Entertained at Dinner in Berlin and Likened to the Dove of Peace That Was Sent Out From Noah's Ark.

Berlin, via Cayville.—A large number of the leading personages of Germany, says the Overseas News Agency, were present at the dinner given in honor of James W. Gerard, the American Ambassador to Germany, by the American Association of Trade and Commerce of Berlin. The dinner was addressed by Ambassador Gerard, by Vice Chancellor Seufferich, by Foreign Secretary Zimmerman and by Arthur von Gwinner, the director of the Deutsche Bank, and in all the speeches the cordial relationships existing between the governments of the United States and Germany were emphasized.

Ambassador Gerard, who was likened by Director van Gwinner to the "peace dove of Noah's Ark," is quoted by the Overseas News Agency as saying that "never since the beginning of the war have relations between Germany and the United States been so cordial" and that he had "brought back an olive branch from President Wilson."

Vice Chancellor Hefferich said he was pleased to know that Ambassador Gerard had visited the United States "where he had an opportunity of describing the real state of affairs in Germany," and Foreign Minister Zimmerman declared he "felt sure the friendly and truest future relations between both countries as enunciated by Mr. Gerard will continue."

A telegram expressing the "sincerest wishes" of the association "in this crucial time" was sent to President Wilson, and another message was forwarded to Emperor William.

Doctor Hefferich, in his speech as quoted by the Overseas News Agency, called attention to the increase in commerce between Germany and the United States.

CARRANZISTA SAYS EARLY ADJUSTMENT WILL BE MADE

Personal Representative of Mexico's First Chief is Confident of Early Settlement.

New York.—Niciforo Zambrano, treasurer of the de facto government of Mexico recently sent to Washington by General Carranza as his personal representative, and who came here issued a statement in which he predicted an early settlement of the border difficulties. He based his belief, he declared, on the fact that the American government is considering seriously lifting at an early date, for the benefit of the Carranza government, the embargo on the shipment of arms into Mexico, the recall of Gen. Pershing's expedition and the sending to Mexico of Ambassador Fletcher.

Mr. Zambrano said he had called on Secretary Lane and Judge George Gray of the American commission, with whom he discussed the American situation. He let it be understood also that he was received by President Wilson and Secretary of State Lansing. As the result of his visit to Washington, Mr. Zambrano said he had reported to General Carranza that prospects for an early adjustment of the existing difficulties are very bright.

TAUSSIG ACCEPTS PLACE ON TARIFF COMMISSION

Washington.—Prof. Frank W. Taussig of Harvard accepted a place on the tariff commission and probably will be made chairman. The other four members will be announced later.

Professor Taussig is a teacher of political economy and has written extensively on the tariff. It is understood the administration had difficulty in persuading him to accept.

HONOLULU EXEMPTED FROM COAL EMBARGO

Honolulu.—That the British admiralty has exempted Honolulu from the recent coal shipment embargo was indicated when notification was given that the motorship City of Portland was on its way here from Australia with 2000 tons of coal. Representations to the British government that British trans-Pacific shipping would suffer if the supply of bunker coal here failed, were believed to be responsible for its modification.

WANTS TO ENLARGE PROJECTILE PLANTS

Washington.—Because of high prices quoted by American shell makers, Secretary Daniels intends to ask Congress to increase the capacity of projectile plants for which it already had appropriated. Hadfields, Ltd., an English concern, has underbid American manufacturers whose prices the government considers exorbitant. The navy projectile plant will be placed with the armor plant will be placed appointed some time ago will locate.

MISS FLORENCE ETHERIDGE



Miss Florence Etheridge, a graduate of the Washington Law college, a member of the bar of the District of Columbia, as well as of that of the Supreme court of the United States, is employed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs to see that the wills of Indians are carried out with justice to their heirs.

HELD FOR SHIPPING ARMS

TO CARRANZA IN VIOLATION OF PRESIDENT'S EMBARGO PROCLAMATION.

U. S. Sleuths Allege Conspiracy Headed by Juan T. Burns, Consul General at New York, Forwarded Arms into Mexico.

New York.—The arrest here by Federal officers of Juan T. Burns, consul-general at New York for the de facto government of Mexico, disclosed an alleged conspiracy in which five Mexicans, including Burns, are charged in three indictments with shipping arms into Mexico in violation of President Wilson's embargo proclamation of October, 1915, and with evasion of customs regulations.

According to Assistant United States Attorney John C. Knox, Federal agents first became acquainted with the alleged plot last November when a packing case shipped from New York, and manifested as containing "building material" fell on the dock at Vera Cruz and broke open revealing cartridges as its contents. Investigation by Federal agents disclosed that the box had been forwarded from this port by a firm known as the Adic Company, composed of Louis Gotting and Westeslaw Mont. The manifest was signed by John Gepf, who proved to be Jose de la Paz, an employe of the firm.

Further investigation revealed according to Mr. Knox, that other shipments of cartridges had been made from New York under the guise of various kinds of merchandise.

Three weeks ago Gotting, Mont and de la Paz were placed under arrest here by Federal agents and Mier, identified as Reuben Mier was arrested at Houston, Texas.

The implication of Consul General Burns came, Mr. Knox said, when investigations revealed that the money to pay for ammunition had come from him. One of the counts in the indictments in this connection is the advancing by Burns of \$5,200. A considerable quantity of the ammunition found here and at Galveston is held as evidence.

Burns was arrested as he was leaving his apartment to go to his office. He protested his innocence and when arraigned before Federal Judge Hand entered a plea of not guilty. He was placed under a bond of \$10,000, which he furnished and was released.

ENTENTE REPLY TO WILSON UNDERGOING CHANGES

London.—Reuter's Telegram Company publishes the following concerning the reply of the Entente Allies to President Wilson's recent note suggesting that the belligerents state their terms of peace. "The document is still undergoing slight modification of the draft and will not be published until a day or two after it is in the hands of the president. The note will be more positive than the reply to Germany and is expected to indicate in more precise fashion the only preliminaries upon which the Allies are prepared to negotiate. On again going over the ground of the responsibility for the war it is likely that the Allies will emphasize the only possible terms for peace, thus contrasting sharply the German note, which purposely was of a negative character."

RAIL LEGISLATION SOUGHT BY WILSON TO BE RUSHED.

Washington.—Railroad legislation desired by President Wilson to supplement the Adamson law is to be pressed in the House. After a conference Representative Adamson announced that he would introduce the bills designed to prevent railroad employes from striking without giving 60 days notice, and to empower the President to place tied-up roads in the hands of military authorities in case of necessity.

SENATE APPROVES REQUEST FOR PEACE

INDORSE PRESIDENT WILSON'S REQUEST FOR A STATEMENT OF PEACE TERMS.

THREE DAYS' DEBATE ENDS

Senator Jones Resolution Indorses Only a Portion of the President's Peace Note Sent Recently to the Foreign Warring Powers.

Washington.—Approval of President Wilson's request for a statement of peace terms from the European belligerents was voted by the senate at the conclusion of three days' of stirring debate. Action came with dramatic suddenness when Democratic leaders decided to accept a form of resolution that would not commit the senate to endorsement of the whole of the President's note, and 10 Republicans of the Progressive group joined the majority in making the vote 48 to 17.

Senator Martine of New York was the only Democrat to vote in the negative.

Discussion of the subject had reached a climax during the day with a sensational declaration by Senator Lewis, chief spokesman for the Democrats replying to Republican criticism of the President's course. Without referring directly to the submarine controversy the Senator said the United States could not keep out of the war if it continued and that America would not again accept misconception of orders or zeal of an officer as an excuse for an injury to a citizen or property.

The chief objection urged against the original resolution offered by Senator Hitchcock was that it would endorse the President's offer to join in a movement to guarantee world peace and his declaration of the interest of the United States in small Nations. The resolution adopted was proposed by Senator Jones, Republican of Washington, and was accepted by Senator Hitchcock as a substitute for his own. It resolves:

"That the senate approves and strongly endorses the request by the President in the diplomatic notes of December 18 to the nations now engaged in war, that these nations state the terms upon which peace might be discussed."

OFFICIALS OF PROMINENCE MENTIONED IN LEAK PROBE.

Wood Tells Information Implicating Secretary Tumulty as Benefactor in Stock Mart.

Washington.—Sensational rumors of a "leak" to Wall Street in advance of President Wilson's peace note were related to the House Rules Committee by Representative Wood of Indiana in support of his resolution for an inquiry. He prefaced his testimony with the statement that he had nothing but hearsay evidence to offer and vainly protested against an open session of the committee.

Names and rumored details of the alleged "leak" came thick and fast when Mr. Wood began his story. He mentioned Joseph P. Tumulty, Secretary to President Wilson; R. W. Bolling, a brother-in-law of the President; Bernard Baruch of New York, various brokerage houses, crediting most of his information to a letter received from "A. Curtis" of New York. This letter, produced later, was written on plain paper, without the writer's address. Kenneth Romney, deputy sergeant-at-arms of the house, is in New York searching for A. Curtis, but has been unable to find any trace of him.

Statements were issued after the committee meeting by Secretary Tumulty and Mr. Bolling flatly denying the reports regarding them, and Mr. Tumulty demanded that Representative Wood publicly apologize for mentioning his name. Mr. Wood followed with a statement pointing out that he had desired to testify in private, but that those whose names were the subject of rumor should court the fullest investigation. The committee probably will hear Representative Gardner, who declared on the floor of the house recently there was a "leak."

BANDIT CHIEF LOSES 1,500 IN BATTLE WITH FEDERALISTS.

Chihuahua City, Mexico.—Villa was defeated at Jimenez by Gen. Francisco Murguia with a loss of 1,500 rebel dead, wounded and captured. Martin Lopez, a rebel leader, and another Villa general were among the slain according to an official report from the Carranza commander. Villa is said to be fleeing toward El Valle. General Murguia stated that his command pushed back Villa's troops five miles after coming into contact.

11 NAVAL CAPTAINS PROMOTED TO RANK OF REAR ADMIRALS.

Washington.—The first Navy promotions under the new selecting system of advancement were announced when President Wilson approved recommendations of the selection board that 11 captains be made rear admirals as follows: Captains Henry S. Knapp, William L. Rogers, Harry McL. P. Huse, George W. McElroy, Robert S. Griffin, George E. Burd, James H. Oliver, John Hood, William J. Sims, Hugh Rodman and Henry B. Wilson.

PLAINTIFF REVOKES CUBAN BOND SUIT

WILL NOT ATTEMPT TO SUE NORTH CAROLINA IN SUPREME COURT.

MESSAGE COMES FROM CUBA

Senator Overman's Resolution Asking Information as to Where Nation Purchased Bonds Caused Action.

Washington, D. C.—The Cuban Minister here received a copy of a decree made by the President of Cuba revoking the action of Cuba in attempting to sue North Carolina in the Supreme Court. The message came by cable and was the result of representations made to his government by the minister after reading the congressional record of the debate on Senator Overman's resolution asking the Secretary of State to inquire of Cuba where she got the bonds. The decree stops the endeavor to sue the state.

The results were contemplated by Senator Overman when he introduced the resolution and his action was a subject of much comment for its shrewdness. The morning after the debate the Cuban minister read the record and at once cabled to his country the feeling in the senate. Later Senator Overman called on him and learned that what he had most desired had already been accomplished.

The senator had been planning his move before the senate for several weeks and the debate that occurred was exactly what he had wished for, he knew the diplomat would read it.

It is understood that the bonds had been given to a charitable institution in Cuba.

"My purpose in introducing this resolution," said Senator Overman, "was to inform not only Cuba, but all South American countries the character of these bonds through the public record, believing that Cuba would then withdraw her case. I also know the character of the bonds so that bond-holders could not repeat their action and so other countries would not receive the bonds as Cuba has. Not only North Carolina, but ever Southern state in which these carpetbag bonds were issued, is interested in their true character becoming known."

"The debate in the senate resulted in this action by Cuba."

"What I have been fearing is that these bonds may be given to Mexico or some other warring nation, which might endeavor to use them in any settlement of any matter with the United States."

Senator Overman will present a statement from the Cuban minister in a day or two. It is said that much indignation was expressed when the character of the bonds was learned.

It was understood from a reliable authority that the North Carolina legislature will be asked to pass a resolution setting forth the fraudulent character of the Reconstruction bonds, and the state's repudiation of these, to be transmitted to the Secretary of State to communicate to foreign governments to put them on guard against accepting the bonds.

Mill Men Meet Soon.

Charlotte.—Much interest centers in the winter meeting of the Cotton Manufacturers' Association of North Carolina that is to be held in Raleigh, January 18, according to an announcement issued from the office of the Association in this city. W. G. Ruffin of Mayodan is president of the organization; John L. Patterson, of Roanoke Rapids, first vice-president; Arthur J. Draper of Charlotte, second vice-president; T. C. Leak of Rockingham, third vice president, and Hudson C. Millar of Charlotte, secretary and treasurer.

Reidsville Factory Busy.

Reidsville.—J. P. Connell, manager of the new cigarette factory, sent his first requisition for revenue stamps to the local stamp office, amounting to \$1,250. These are the first cigarette stamps ever issued from the Reidsville stamp office.

Fayetteville Sends Box.

Fayetteville.—A big box of good things to eat was sent to Company F, Second Infantry, North Carolina National Guard, the Fayetteville company at El Paso, by the local Daughters of the Confederacy. The box contained such things as cakes, candy, nuts, raisins, cigars, tobacco, cigarettes, oranges, grape fruit and other things which can stand the long trip to the border. The people of the town generally were given an opportunity to co-operate and contributions were plentiful.

Was Plowing on Sunday.

Statesville.—John Hartness, a white man of North Iredell, was arrested on his farm in Bethany township, where it is asserted he was breaking the Sabbath day by plowing in his field. Mr. Hartness, who declares he is a believer in the faith of the Seventh Day Adventists, it is alleged, desired that his sons work on Sunday, and his boys going about their farm work on the Sabbath day as others do on week days. Mr. Hartness was given a hearing before Justice W. C. Moore and fined \$1 and the costs in the case.