

MEXICAN AMERICAN COMMISSION ENDS

FORMALLY ADJOURNS ITS SESSIONS AFTER FOUR MONTH CONFERENCE.

PROBLEMS UP TO PRESIDENT

With Dissolution of Commission, Settlement of Mexican Problems Are in Hands of Wilson.—Recommend Withdrawal Pershing's Troops.

New York.—The Mexican-American Joint Commission, which failed to effect an adjustment of the questions at issue between Mexico and the United States after a series of conferences that began four months ago, was formally dissolved.

Secretary of Interior Lane and the other members of the American commission, Dr. J. R. Mott and Judge George Gray, told the Mexicans that they had recommended to President Wilson the dispatch to Mexico of Ambassador Fletcher and the withdrawal of the American troops.

The Americans impressed upon the Mexicans that with the dissolution of the commission, the Mexican problem reverted to President Wilson. They were careful not to leave in the minds of the Mexicans the conviction that President Wilson would accept the recommendation that an accredited diplomat be sent to Mexico and that General Pershing's force be withdrawn, but the intimation that he would do so was conveyed.

Luis Cabrera, chairman of the Mexican commission, and Ignacio Bonillas and Alberto J. Pani, the other members said they expected to leave within a week or ten days for Mexico.

The session continued through most of the day. The Americans explained that they regarded further discussion by them impracticable.

SENSATIONS RIFE WHEN LAWSON RESUMES STAND IN 'LEAK' PROBE

Tells Committee Its Chairman, Henry, Was Authority.—McAdoo's Name Brought In.

Washington.—Thomas W. Lawson, hailed before the House Rules Committee to tell what he knew or had heard about a stock market leak on President Wilson's peace note or be punished calmly declared that the mysterious Congressman who told him a Cabinet Officer, a Senator and a banker were engaged in a stock gambling pool was none other than Representative Henry, chairman of the committee.

Then, before his hearers had time to recover from the shock, Lawson sprung one sensation after the other by declaring that the Cabinet Officer referred to was Secretary McAdoo; that the banker was H. Pinney Fisk of New York, and that he knew the Senator only by the initial "O."

To complete the explosion, Lawson went on to charge that Paul M. Warburg, of the Federal Reserve Board, had knowledge of the leak machinery, repeated a rumor that Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, had made two millions in the stock market, and to mention a list of well-known men whom he thought should be questioned.

DECLINE NOTES IN PRICE OF COTTON.

New York.—A decline of \$3 a bale in cotton under last week's closing prices, was the outcome of heavy selling on this market due to weather conditions over the belt and small consumption figures from American mills for December, announced by the census bureau.

ENTENTE REPLY BARS FURTHER POSSIBILITY FOR PEACE

Berlin, Sunday, via Sayville.—Dr. Alfred Zimmermann, the German Foreign Minister, informed the Associated Press that in his opinion the Entente reply to President Wilson's peace note bars the possibility for the present of further German steps to bring about peace. In particular, he said, it precludes any direct announcement by Germany of her peace conditions, in answer to the terms set forth in the latest Entente note.

NITRATE PLANT CLAIMS TO BE PROBED BY SEC. BAKER.

Columbia, S. C.—Columbia's fight for the Government nitrate plant is being pushed energetically and plans are forming to send a committee to Washington to formally invite Newton D. Baker, Secretary of War, to visit Columbia and look over what she has to offer for obtaining the nitrate plant. Word has been received from Washington that Secretary Baker will visit Columbia to the advantages of the location here.

CONGRESS WORKS TO AVOID EXTRA MEET

MEMBERS ARE DOWN TO HARD WORK IN EFFORT TO FINISH LEGISLATION.

'LEAK' PROBE HAS INTEREST

Senate Is Considering Water Power Leasing Bill.—District of Columbia Prohibition Bill, Passed By Senate, May Strike a Snag in the House.

Washington.—While public interest in Congress is centered upon the so-called "leak" investigation, the legislative machinery of both houses is grinding away, and members have settled down to hard work in an earnest effort to clear the decks and avoid an extra session.

The senate still is considering the public lands waterpower land leasing bill, but it may be side-tracked any day for either the legislative or Indian appropriation bill.

Hearings on the nominees for the shipping board, continues before the commerce committee. When the nominations reach the floor, Senator LaFollette will protest against some of the shipping ideas of Bernard H. Baker, the Baltimore Linnec.

The Interstate Commerce Committee is preparing to report on the President's railway legislation program after holding extensive hearings. The so-called "compulsory arbitration" feature of the bills will be modified, if it is reported at all, it is understood.

The senate bill for prohibition in the District of Columbia, passed recently, is about to be considered by the District Committee of the house. Sentiment in the committee is said to be unfavorable to it unless there is a provision for a referendum vote in the District. House leaders say, however, there will be a vote on the bill regardless of what may be the action of the District Committee.

SAILORS ARE COMPELLED TO ABANDON U. S. CRUISER

Three Hundred Jack Tars Fought for Lives Against Heavy Sea on California Coast.

Eureka, Cal.—Shortly after 8 o'clock at night the last member of the crew of the cruiser Milwaukee, which went ashore near here early in the day, was landed on the beach. Not a life was lost, and but one man was hurt in the rescue of the hundreds aboard the stranded vessel.

In a fight for their lives against a heavy sea, more than three hundred United States sailors were brought ashore in breeches buoys from the Milwaukee, which rolled in the surf, with possibility of being a total loss, on the northern California coast where she struck shore in a fog.

Breakers were spraying over the warship's superstructure, and the incessant pounding of the waves was driving the vessel further ashore in the sand. The Milwaukee false bottom was flooded in an effort to anchor her against the wash of the sea. Naval officers ashore said it was hardly possible that the cruiser would ever float again.

The Milwaukee is stuck on the sand only a few hundred yards from the submarine H-3, which grounded a month ago, near the entrance to Humboldt bay. The cruiser was attempting to salvage the submarine at the time of the accident. Within forty or fifty miles on this part of the coast, six other vessels have struck shore during the last few years, and none of them have been saved.

CENTRAL POWERS HAVE WELL-DEFINED GOAL.

Berlin, via Calville.—Further comment on the note of the Entente Powers to President Wilson lays emphasis on the decisive character of the declarations which clear the air, the newspapers say, and give the Central Powers a well-defined goal—defense against the plan of their opponents for re-making the map of Europe.

VILLA CHIEFTAIN AND FORTY MEN KILLED.

Chihuahua City, Mex.—The Villa Chief Morena and sixty followers were killed in the fight January 10, 140 miles north of Parral, according to details of that action received from Gen. Pablo Gonzales, commanding the Government troops in the field. The Carranza troops lost Col. Lozano and three officers and eight men killed besides a number of wounded. They captured a small number of prisoners.

FORMER OFFICERS OF VILLA ARMY IS SHOT.

Mexico City.—Marcelo Caraveo, a former Villa general, who was imprisoned in Chihuahua City by General Trevino and liberated when Villa attacked the town last September, was shot at Teotitlan, del Gamaio, Oaxaca, General Caraveo, soon after being liberated by Villa, surrendered to the Carranza authorities and was brought to Mexico City and confined in the penitentiary. He had escaped from the penitentiary last week.

BLAME THE WAR



ALLIES SEND PEACE NOTE BILL IS FIXED BY HOUSE

PEACE SUCH AS WOULD BE SATISFACTORY IMPOSSIBLE AT PRESENT.

Separate Note From Belgium Gives Same Answer.—Germany Issues Statement Placing Further Responsibility of Bloodshed on Allies.

Washington.—The Entente Allies, replying to President Wilson's peace note in a joint communication, express the belief that it is impossible at the present moment to attain peace that will assure them reparation, restitution and such guarantees as they consider are essential.

In a separate note the Belgian Government expresses its desire for peace, but declares she could only accept a settlement which would assure her reparation and security for the future.

Both of the communications made public by the State Department are dated January 10, and were transmitted in translations from the French text through Ambassador Sharp at Paris.

The Entente reply to President Wilson's peace note is regarded in all quarters here as putting an early peace practically out of the question, but still leaving an open door for the President to make further efforts. The official view on first consideration is that it constitutes a complete answer to the President's note.

The German diplomats regard the reply as even more severe than they expected. They declared it evidenced that the enemies of Germany are waging a war of conquest to crush and dismember her. The Germanic Allies, they declared, never would agree to any such terms.

President Wilson's next move, which now becomes the center of attention, will not be decided upon until a careful and detailed study of the replies of both the Central Powers and the Entente has been made.

HARRY K. THAW ATTEMPTS TO END LIFE WITH RAZOR.

Attempt at Self-Destruction Comes as Sensational Climax to Hunt for Thaw by Detectives.

Philadelphia.—Harry Kendall Thaw, who with two so-called body guards, is under indictment in New York for an alleged attack on a 19-year-old high school youth last Christmas, attempted suicide in a house in West Philadelphia by slashing his throat and wrist with a razor.

Thaw's attempt at self-destruction was the climax to a hunt which began here Tuesday, following the announcement by District Attorney Swann of New York that he was wanted to answer a charge of attacking Frederick Gump, Jr., of Kansas City in a New York hotel, and as a sensation it rivaled the wealthy Pittsburgher's shooting of Stanford White on the Madison Square roof garden and his later escape from Matteawan Asylum.

SUBMARINE MENACE NEVER SO GREAT TO SHIPPING.

London.—The submarine menace to the merchant service is far greater now than at any period of the war, and it requires all of our energy to combat it," said Admiral John R. Jellicoe, first sea lord, in a speech at a luncheon given in his honor in London. Admiral Jellicoe said the menace must and would be dealt with. Of that he was confident, but the British would have to make good their inevitable losses.

JERSEY MUNITIONS PLANT IS WRECKED BY EXPLOSION.

New York.—The plant of the Canadian Car & Foundry Co., one-half mile east of Kingsland, N. J., in which were stored hundreds of thousands of three-inch shells destined for the Russian Government, was destroyed by fire and a series of explosions which continued for three hours. So far as could be learned, no one was killed or injured although it was said 17 workmen are missing. No estimate of the loss was obtainable.

EXPLOSION WRECKS MUNITIONS PLANT NEW GOVERNOR IS INAUGURATED

MILLIONS IN MUNITIONS AND POWDER ARE LOST IN BIG FIRE.

TWELVE INJURED, 2 MISSING

Plant of DuPont Company at Haskell, N. J., is Almost Totally Destroyed.—No Estimate of the Loss is Obtainable.

New York.—Four hundred thousand pounds of powder was destroyed by fire and explosion at the Haskell, N. J., plant of the du Pont Powder Company. Officials of the company declared, after checking up the members of the night shift at the works, that only two men were missing. Twelve others were cut by flying debris, but none of them was seriously hurt. No estimate of the loss was obtainable.

Until investigation is completed no further statement will be made as to what evidences of incendiarism have been found, an officer of the company said.

It was explained that the danger of fire or of explosions from purely accidental causes was reduced to a minimum by the fact that no completed ordinance was on hand at the plant. The officers said the propelling charges for the shells were not attached until they reached the battlefield, and that the same was true as to the detonating caps by which the trinitrotoluol in the shell bodies is exploded.

The statement said the Kingsland plant was used for the assembling, packing and preparing of these shells for shipment. Large quantities of these shells have been shipped to Russia.

"The buildings destroyed were valued at \$750,000. The value of the contents destroyed amounted approximately to \$16,000,000, of which \$6,000,000 belonged to the company. The company was protected to the amount of about \$3,000,000 in insurance on buildings and contents. The rest is a total loss.

"So far as we have been able to ascertain, no one was killed or seriously injured as a result of the fire and subsequent explosions.

"An examination into the circumstances attending the origin of the fire in building No. 30 has created the impression that it is possible, if not probable, that the fire was of incendiary origin."

SITUATION AS TO PEACE UP AT SESSION OF CABINET.

Entente Reply Gone Over in Detail.—In President is Only Hope of Peace.

Washington.—At the Cabinet meeting the peace negotiations were discussed only in general terms, but afterward Secretary Lansing remained for a conference with the President, and it was understood they went over the Entente reply in detail.

The attitude of President Wilson toward the replies of the warring nations to his suggestion that an opportunity be given for comparing peace terms remained undetermined. Preliminary discussion of the question was begun at the cabinet meeting and at conferences between the President and Secretary Lansing and between the President and Col. E. M. House, who spent the day at the White House.

Informally, officials expressed the opinion that the problem facing the President is how to reconcile the conflicting attitude of the Central Powers and the Entente Allies on the question of comparing terms. The Central Powers having offered to discuss peace at a conference of representatives of the belligerents and the Entente Powers, though virtually declining to agree to a conference, have given their broad terms publicity. It was suggested that the President might seek a new method of having terms compared.

SILENT SUFFRAGE 'SENTINELS' SALUTE PRESIDENT WILSON

Washington.—Although the temperature was 11 degrees below freezing and a cold wind was blowing, the 12 suffrage "silent sentinels" again took up their picketing of the White House to impress their cause upon President Wilson.

"When President Wilson returned from golf, the silent sentinels stood at salute with their right hands raised to their hats. The president smilingly returned the salute.

REMOVAL OF THAW TO NEW YORK TO BE FOUGHT

Philadelphia.—Plans for the removal to New York of Harry K. Thaw, who recently attempted to commit suicide as he was about to be surrendered to the New York authorities on charges of kidnapping and assaulting Frederick Gump, Jr., of Kansas City, as soon as he is able to leave the hospital, were discussed at a conference here between counsel for Oliver A. Brower and representatives of the Thaw interests.

REMARKABLE HEALTH RECORD FOR GUARD.

San Antonio, Texas.—In an army of more than 150,000 National Guardsmen and regulars, only 274 deaths have occurred in the last seven months, according to the annual report of the chief surgeon of the Southern Department. Of the deaths 108 were classified as caused by violence while 166 were caused by disease. Those figures, it was declared, prove the generally healthy condition of the army as a whole while in service.

INAUGURATION OF GOVERNOR BICKETT ATTENDED BY BRILLIANT CEREMONY.

Oath of Office Administered by Chief Justice Clark.—Inaugural Address Followed by Luncheon, and Reception.—All State Officers Present.

Raleigh.—Thursday was truly an epochal day for Raleigh and North Carolina, marking as it did the passing of the Craig Administration and the induction into the high office of Governor Thomas W. Bickett and the adjustment of the state legislature to the new conditions as to legislation brought about by the immediate operation of the constitutional amendment ratified at the last election.

The Craig Administration passed out with its record of road building and general business progress, and Mr. Bickett, the new transition of tenants into landlords, making country life as comfortable as town life and an appeal to sustain interest in every worthy individual and collective enterprise.

The inaugural ceremonies were most successful in every detail, closing with a brilliant reception at the Mansion by Governor and Mrs. Bickett and the other state officers and their wives to members of the General Assembly and citizens in general, and the ball in the auditorium, the pleasures of which were shared by hundreds of society folk from every quarter of the state and from neighboring states.

Retiring Governor Departs.

Governor Craig went to the station Thursday afternoon, escorted by members of his personal military staff, and bidding them and hosts of other friends good-bye, boarded the westbound Southern Railway train for Asheville. The others returned to the Capitol and at 7:30 o'clock, reported at the Governor's Mansion as military aides for the reception gracing the advent of the Bickett administration.

After luncheon at the Mansion there was a rest period for Governor and Mrs. Bickett and party, and then from 8:30 to 11 o'clock there was a brilliant reception, which Governor and Mrs. Bickett, other state officers and their wives in the receiving line.

Taking the oath of office in the presence of nearly 10,000 people and delivering his inaugural address in most eloquent and forceful manner, the induction of Hon. Thomas Walter Bickett into the governorship of North Carolina was most successful in every detail.

The special train from Louisburg bearing the Governor-elect and his party and hundreds of citizens of Louisburg and section reached the city on schedule time, and was met by the local committee appointed for the purpose. A procession was quickly formed and proceeded to the Governor's Mansion, where Gov. Locke Craig and the state officers and others awaited them. From the Mansion the procession moved to the Yarrowburgh Hotel and thence to the city Auditorium.

At the Auditorium.

The party then proceeded to the Auditorium, which was filled to standing room capacity, except for the top-most galleries. The immense rostrum was occupied by the inaugural party and distinguished citizens. The A. & M. band was in the pit and rendered music, most notable of this being "Auld Lang Syne," played sweetly just after the oath of office had been administered to Lieut. Gov. Max Gardner, who is an alumnus of A. & M., of whom that institution is especially proud.

The oath of office was administered to the state officers, with the exception of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor, by Associate Justice W. A. Hoke, of the Supreme Court, starting with Commissioner of Insurance James R. Young and concluding with Secretary of State J. Bryan Grimes. Then Chief Justice Walter Clark relieved Judge Hoke. Announcements of the various officials and their election were made by Chairman J. E. Pegram, of the committee on inauguration.

When the announcement of Governor T. W. Bickett was reached, Chairman Pegram introduced Governor Craig and he declared the election of Mr. Bickett as Governor, and called on the Chief Justice to administer the oath of office. This was done most impressively. The new Governor advanced to the speaker's stand and began his inaugural address, speaking in distinct, measured and forceful tones, and eliciting outbursts of thunderous applause as he proclaimed one and another of the great developments that he proposes for the whole people of the state.

The big auditorium stood when Governor Craig was presented to introduce the new Governor and when Mr. Bickett came forward to take the oath of office and receive at the hands of Governor Craig the Great Seal of State.

Chairman J. R. Pegram and his committee scored a success in every detail of the ceremonies. On the committee were Senators Persons, Scales, Holderness and Representatives Besley, Holding, Newell, Roberts, of Buncombe and Winborne.