

News Without
Bias
Views Without
Prejudice

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Publicity Will Be Fatal Belligerents Vastly Apart

Ultra Secret Diplomacy Expected In Next Big Peace Move. Meanwhile America Will Keep Hands Off

Washington, Dec. 20.—Ultra secret diplomacy will be employed in the next big peace move, and officials here believe that England will probably be willing. Her official answer to Germany is expected soon to be made public, but, if Germany is to accept the implied invitation to state her peace terms, publicity along that line will have ruinous effect, and it is held that these facts coupled with belief that the belligerents are still vastly apart make it advisable for the United States to keep hands off at this crisis.

The United States, in common with other neutral nations, will be interested in any World Peace guarantee or disarmament discussions which might follow the present peace proposal situation.

Informally United States officials have stated that a world guarantee is essential to any final peace, but whether the interest of the State Department would be other than passive has not been stated. It is assumed, however, that this government would take an active hand in furthering such ideas, if it were found that such action would be welcomed by the belligerents.

President Wilson feels that when the time comes to make any move in the peace situation it will be made clear that the United States is not interested in the causes of the outbreak of the European War but only in the assurance of permanent peace. The means of establishing this permanent peace the President feels will be vital to the nation because, whether she willed or not, she has been vitally affected by the war.

DOG FIND THE COTTON

Mr. Shores and his dogs had a warm chase this cold morning in search of 800 pounds of cotton which had spirited away from the barn of Mr. Abner Aydtlett in the middle of the night.

The barn from which the cotton was taken is on the Rum Road just out on the edge of town, and the cotton was found out in the woods about a half a mile from the barn. After finding the cotton the dogs kept on until they met three negroes. Then they stopped and tried to explain to the men with them that the "game was up". But a dog's nose is not always taken at par value and no arrest could be made without further evidence that these negroes were the "cotton taters", although suspicion pointed to their guilt.

ATTENDING MEDICAL SOCIETY

Dr. H. D. Walker left today for Washington, N. C. to attend the meeting of the Seaboard Medical Society, an organization composed of the leading physicians of Tidewater Virginia and Eastern North Carolina.

Leave us your order today for flowers for the Christmas Dance in order to be sure of getting just what you want. The Apothecary Shop. adv.

DID NOT SLAM DOOR ON PEACE

BUT GAVE GERMANY TO UNDERSTAND TERMS OF PEACE AND SAID "IT IS YOUR MOVE"

London, Dec. 20.—The Allies have not slammed the door on peace. They have simply said to Germany "Here are our terms. Take it or leave it. But don't come again in the role of victor". This is the view throughout the Allied Entente today. It is incidentally remarked "How adroitly Lloyd George destroyed Germany's allusion to England's dominating the policies of the Entente nations. It is recalled that the Premier stated at the outset that Russia and France, acting independently, had reached the same to which England now acceded.

LIVE HOG QUOTATIONS RICHMOND VIRGINIA MARKET December 18, 1916.

205 to 225 lbs. average....	\$10.50
175 to 200 lbs. average....	\$10.50
155 to 170 lbs. average....	\$10.00
100 to 120 lbs. average....	\$ 9.75
Pigs average.....	\$ 9.00
Sows, average.....	\$ 9.00
Soft or oily hogs, lcts. to 1 1/2 cts less than above prices.	

Hogs priced at market value the day they are received.

UNION STOCK YARDS Richmond Virginia.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

The choir of the First Methodist Church will give a Christmas cantata next Sunday evening at 7:30. The title of the cantata is "Savior and King". Those who attend Sunday night service at this church will be well repaid.

WILL CONDUCT SERVICE

Rev. G. T. Adams, presiding elder of the Elizabeth City district will conduct the services Wednesday evening at the First Methodist church.

INFANT SON DIES

Harry Paulos, Jr., the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Paulos, died at three o'clock Monday. He was two weeks old and had been sick almost since birth. The funeral took place yesterday afternoon.

The only way to save money is to save it systematically. An easy way to get the right start is to join the Christmas Club at The First National Bank. adv.

We are taking orders for flowers for the Christmas Dance—The Apothecary Shop. adv.

Here's a Real Santa Claus



Nature has a law of compensation by which she gives to each one of us some particular talents or aptitudes. John Doe, who was born 57 years ago, was favored by nature with an extra robust face and a luxuriant growth of hair, so much so that, about Christmas time of each year, his services as a model for Santa Claus posters, or as a pseudo Santa Claus, in the department stores, are very much at a premium. He need not look for a job, the jobs are looking for him.

GERMAN TROOPS ARE IN IGNORANCE

FROM GERMAN PRISONERS IT IS LEARNED THAT THERE IS ALSO DISSATISFACTION AMONG TROOPS

By WILLIAM PHILIP CIMMS

(Copyright 1916 by United Press) With the British Army in The Field Somewhere, in France, Dec. 20—So far as one can see, Germany's peace proposals have had little effect here.

When the German wireless gave the British army its first intimation of the nature of the Kaiser's much-heralded Christmas news to his subjects, everybody was mildly curious. "What's his game?" was the query frequently on the lips of officers and men. Nowhere was there any other emotion than curiosity expressed in the United Press correspondent's hearing.

This is the feeling of the whole army. Nobody takes the proposition seriously nor even the privates who read bulletins posted for their benefit at various encampments, and then turned and walked away unconcerned. It was plain they classed it with the previous "stunts of a man who believed himself in league with the Almighty, starting and stopping wars at will."

Others considered it another German bluff—taking the position that if Germany is able to march from victory to victory as stated by Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, why all this sudden magnanimity?

The British believe that the bulk of the German troops are still ignorant of their Emperor's peace proposals. Several prisoners captured by the British have professed absolute ignorance on the subject, only one non-commissioned officer admitting that he knew of the proposals.

In a similar manner it has been ascertained that Von Hindenburg is dissatisfied with the way things are going on the western front. The increased German artillery fire and aerial activity during the past week are apparently the result of an order to prevent if possible the continual fire of British guns. This continuous bombardment is telling on the spirits of the German troops.

The Christmas Spirit.

For the spirit of Christmas...

time, "Peace on earth, good will to men," come into your heart and be merry and glad. But in the midst of your merry-making and charitable thought, do not forget that there are many to whom Christmas will bring no cheer. These are the hopelessly ill in hospitals, the human driftwood in the reformatories, the tiny inmates of the orphanages. If you are able to, bring a bit of cheer—practical cheer—into the dead life of someone confined in one of these institutions. Do not think such an effort is a waste of time or out of date. Indeed, it will be the kindest act you can do at Christmas time—to think of someone who has lost his place, or is not yet able to take his place in the great world.

WHAT POTATOES DID FOR WAINE

NORTHERNMOST COUNTY OF NORTHERNMOST EAST COAST STATE RICHEST IN AMERICA NOW

Houlton, Me., Dec. 20.—Aroostock county today is the richest in the United States. The northernmost county of Maine snatched the crown from Los Angeles county California.

The humble potato did it. Potatoes that sold for 75 cents a barrel a few years ago now bring \$4.75 and farmers here are holding much of their crop for \$5 a barrel.

As a result of this unprecedented prosperity, Houlton is now the second richest town in the country, ranking next to "Brookline, the richest in the world."

Fifty carloads of automobiles, not fivers, are on their way here. It is estimated that \$100,000 is coming into this country daily from the potato crop alone.

This is no real estate boom, for you can't buy enough land to bury a potato to its eye.

FUNERAL MRS SPENCE

The funeral of Mrs. Josephine Spence was conducted this afternoon at half past two o'clock from Blackwell Memorial Baptist church.

The pastor, Rev. I. N. Loftin, was assisted by Rev. C. B. Culbreth pastor of City Road Methodist church. Interment followed in Hollowood Cemetery. Prominent among the many floral offerings was that of Miss Sarah Spence's Sunday School class of Blackwell Memorial Sunday school.

Mrs. Spence was born in Camden County on January 20th, 1837. Before her marriage, which occurred a little more than fifty years ago, she was Miss Josephine Caroline Bonaparte Jones. She is survived by her husband by four sons, Rev. J. Paul Spence of Norfolk, Mr. J. A. Spence of Norfolk, Mr. Joe Spence and Mr. George Spence of this city; by two daughters, Miss Sarah Spence, and Mrs. Emily Raper of South Norfolk; by three brothers, Mr. N. A. Jones of this city, Mr. George W. Jones of Richmond, and Mr. Samuel Jones of South Norfolk.

Attending the funeral from out of the city were Mr. and Mrs. J. Paul Spence of Norfolk, Mrs. Emily J. Raper, Misses Nina and Emily Raper, Messrs Paul and Julian Raper of South Norfolk.

The store of Spence and Hollowell and the law office of Mr. George J. Spence have been closed throughout the day in respect to the memory of Mrs. Spence, whose life was a shining example of the best type of womanhood.

One Killed Two Injured

Birmingham, Dec. 20.—One man was killed and two injured in an explosion of the Edgewater Mine on the Tennessee Coal and Iron Railroad today.

TO ATTEND MEETING STATE MISSION BOARD

Rev. I. N. Loftin was called by telegram today to Raleigh to attend a meeting of the Baptist State Mission Board of which he is a member. Mr. Loftin was unable to leave until after the funeral of Mrs. Joseph Spence this afternoon, but will leave tonight and return Friday morning.

BRUIN TEACHES TRENCH DIGGING

THEN WITH A SNIFF DESERTS HIS COMPANY FOR PEACE AND SLEEP AT ANY PRICE

London, Dec. 1.—(By Mail)—When it comes to living in dugouts on the Western battle front "Kitchen," bruin mascot of a certain Western Canadian battalion, is right at home today.

Recently crumby weather began to announce the approach of Winter. "Kitchen," as per instinct, began to show the toys something about the real art of digging. Before many days he had dug himself in beyond the range of the heaviest shell. The work seemed to create a voracious appetite and "Kitchen," with heavy eyes, finally came to the surface for a final look around. Then with a sniff he disappeared. Now while his battalion shivers, he is sleeping peacefully the long Winter months away.

When "Kitchen" awakes in the early spring, his friends may have gone far away. But someone will be sure to return and dig him out.

A sure and easy way to have money for Christmas is to join our Christmas Club. Do not delay. Join to-day First National Bank adv.

GERMANY SAYS IT'S ALL BLUFF

DO NOT CONSIDER ALLIED SPEECHES SERIOUSLY WHEN WEIGH ED AGAINST GERMAN VICTORIES

By CARL ACKERMAN

Berlin, Dec. 20.—Germany regards the speeches of the statesmen of England, France and Russia as a bluff to impress Berlin with the Entente's determination. The Entente governments cannot well do otherwise in view of their past statements, but they are really anxious for peace. This view is reflected in all the walks of life, following Premier Lloyd George's answer to the German Chancellor.

Berlin is not pessimistic despite the Allied pronouncements from London, Petrograd and Paris to the effect that the Allies are determined to continue the war until their high objects are attained. These speeches are not taken very seriously here when weighed against Germany's progress in Rumania.

Gonzales Dies At El Paso

El Paso, Dec. 20.—Robert E. Gonzales, Sergeant of the South Carolina Guard, and editorial writer for the Columbian State, died at the base hospital last night of pneumonia. He is the son of the America minister to Cuba.

Cotton Report Prior Dec. 13

Washington, Dec. 20.—The cotton ginned of the 1916 crop prior to December 13th amounted to 10,845,989 bales as against 10,306,309 bales of the 1915 census report. Of this total 153,403 round bales were included as against 100,925 last year. The Sea Island bales included amounted to 110,444 as against 84,110 last year.

Live Little Locals Many Minor Matters Merely Mentioned

Mr. and Mrs. Luther Gray and little child, of Salvo spent Tuesday in the city.

Messrs Elwyn Trueblood and Ambrose Ward, of Wake Forest College are at home for the holidays.

Mr. J. C. Morris of Columbia was in the city on business Wednesday.

Mrs. B. G. Crisp and daughter, Miss Nina, of Manteo, were in the city shopping Wednesday.

Miss Mollie Wainwright of Rocky Mt., is visiting her daughter, Mrs. W. I. Peal on Road street.

Christmas flowers may be had at The Apothecary Shop. Order yours now. adv.

HOUSE FOR RENT—On Ehringhaus street in good condition, apply to M. M. Sawyer. wed and fri to jan 5

The National Christmas Club now open at The First National Bank. Insure yourself a merry Christmas for 1917 by joining today. adv.