

News Without  
Bias  
Views Without  
Prejudice

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## Peace Note Discussed With Mixed Feeling

### Secretary Lansing Declares That We Must Have Showdown From Belligerents In Order To Regulate Our Future Conduct

(By United Press)

Washington, D. C. Dec. 21.—In making the first formal effort to evolve from the European war means of preventing a recurrence of a similar world tragedy, the President acted with the knowledge that he has back of him the neutral nations of all the world and with confidence of eventual success.

Official and diplomatic Washington, scarcely recovered from the startling developments of the last twenty-four hours, is awaiting with anxiety the first response from belligerent nations to the President's suggestions for peace definitions.

The President has made it clear many times that he would make no such move unless he felt assured of the definite accomplishment of its purpose.

In diplomatic circles the President's move is discussed with mixed feeling. At the German Embassy, optimism is outspoken; but but the British Embassy points out that President Wilson's request for specific terms of peace is a matter of very vital concern to France and Russia, whose territory has been invaded, than to Britain; and the Embassy also points out that the Czar has pledged himself to consider no peace not predicated on the evacuation of Russian provinces.

That the President might take some such action as he has done was hinted at by the United Press a week ago today.

A showdown by belligerent countries because American rights have been invaded and because this nation feels that this cannot go on much longer is the real purpose behind the President's so called peace note.

Secretary Lansing said frankly that matters could not go on much longer as they and this nation is "nearer to the verge of war." He authorized the following statement as the real purpose behind the movement.

"Our rights have been invaded and the situation is becoming so intolerable that it cannot go on long. More and more our rights are invaded by belligerents on both sides so that the situation is becoming increasingly critical. I mean by that, we are growing nearer on the verge of war and are, therefore, entitled to know what each belligerent seeks in order that we may regulate our conduct in the future. It is not our material interests that were considered when we said that the situation was growing intolerable we have prospered by the war but our rights have been invaded.

The Secretary emphasized very positively that the German peace proposals and Lloyd George's had nothing to do with the dispatch of the Wilson note except possibly to delay him sending it. On this point he authorized the following statement:

"No nation has been sounded on this matter. We did not know in advance what Lloyd George would

say. And there was no consideration of German overtures or the speech of Lloyd George in connection with the formulation of the note. The only thing the German note did was to delay the note for a few days. The difficulty faced the President that the note by be construed as a movement for peace and in the aid of the German overtures. He specifically denies that in the communication itself."

Previous to authorizing the above statement Secretary Lansing talked more freely than usual in the same tenor. It was suggested to him that the United States is really in no position to stop the war unless the belligerents themselves desire to end it.

To this he hinted that should the United States enter the war it would tip the scales very definitely and emphasized the feeling of danger that the country would be drawn in.

He also said that the administration had in mind no purpose of suggesting peace.

The Ambassadors of belligerent nations called on Secretary Lansing this afternoon and received copies of the peace note.

### Jack London Loved England

Jack London died during the war, but not at war. A false rumor was circulated that Jack London, at the beginning of the Great War, wrote an anti-militarist article, protesting against the enlistment of men as soldiers.

Edgar Sisson, editor of Cosmopolitan Magazine and a personal friend of Mr. London, in a letter of denial to a New York newspaper, states:

"What his feelings were in regard to the great war I know exactly, both by his word and deed. In the first year of the war he told me that except for his personal responsibilities for the welfare of the many persons dependent upon him, he would have been over the North ern border to enlist as a soldier in England's outgoing colonial army. He did not tell me what he did in place of going, but Mrs. London did last week. He has been supporting the mother of a soldier."

This is the way so many thousands of admirers want to think of Jack London. It would seem that only a brave strong and kind man could write "Jerry," his last story, and most fittingly his best loved type a dog hero tale. "Jerry" starts in the January Cosmopolitan that is now on the newsstands.

### Puts Blame on General Staff

Washington, Dec. 21.—The federalization is predestined to failure because of a premature condemnation by the general staff says Representative McKellar today.

### For National Prohibition

Washington, Dec. 21.—The National Prohibition Bill was reported favorably to the Senate.

### WHITE GIFT SERVICE SUNDAY

SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL OBSERVE THE "GIVING CHRISTMAS" EMPHASIZING UNSELFISHNESS

The Sunday School of Blackwell Memorial Baptist church, at the suggestion of Miss Beulah Bowden, has planned a White Christmas Service for Sunday.

The keynote of the White Christmas is the giving of self, service and substance.

The Sunday school room will be decorated in white, gifts will be wrapped in white paper and tied with white ribbon. The box in which the gifts for the Orphanage will be placed will be covered with white and the various classes of the Sunday school have selected useful articles to give for this box, as well as to the needy in the city.

The program will consist largely of Christmas music, the well known Christmas hymns being sung by the choir and school. The orchestra will render "Joy to the World" and the organ will peal forth Christmas chimes.

Readings about the origin and success of the White Christmas idea will be a part of the program, and the poem, "Others," which was suggested by the Christmas message sent out by General Booth a few years ago, will be recited.

Those in charge of the White Gift Service urge all members of the school to remember the service by their attendance and their gifts.

### Send Help to Suffering Jews

(By United Press)  
New York, Dec. 21.—How to get ten Million dollars to save five million Jews from perishing in German-occupied portions of Russia is the task of a conference of prominent Jews from all over the country at Carnegie Hall here today.

The decision to raise this amount in addition to the \$6,000,000 already sent to relieve the suffering Jews in Russia was made following the report of Dr. Judah L. Magnes, who went there from New York to investigate.

Theodore Marburg, Louis Marshall, Nathan and Oscar S. Straus, Jacob H. Schiff, Henry Marganathan and Dr. Cyrus Alder among others will be present today.

### Texas Works For Prohibition

(By United Press)  
Austin, Tex., Dec. 21.—Prohibitionists today were striving to give the next legislature a dry spot in which to cogitate on the state-wide anti-booze measure, which is scheduled to provide the fireworks in the coming session.

Travis county, in which the capital is located, is voting on local option. The dries are confident of victory, even though they have had to worry along in their campaign with out the aid of "Cyclone" Davis, who is detained at Washington by a fare well appearance.

Messrs. Edward Meekins and Randall Etheridge, of A. & M. college, passed thru the city going to their home at Manito Thursday.

### SEVEN WEDDINGS ON WEDNESDAY

BRIDES AND GROOMS FROM PASQUOTANK, CAMDEN AND VIRGINIA PLIGHT THEIR TROTH

Wednesday was indeed Wedding Day in and about Elizabeth City. Seven marriages having been reported to this newspaper thus far as having taken place on that day.

**BRIGHT-EYES**  
On Wednesday night Mr. Carl A. Bright and Miss Annie Mae Eves were married by Rev. Rufus Bradley at the home of the bride's father, Mr. W. W. Eves, at Weeksville. The groom is the son of Mr. Andrew Bright, a prominent farmer of Nixonton. The bride is one of Weeksville's most attractive young women.

**WHITEHURST-CARTER**  
At half past two o'clock Wednesday afternoon Mr. Claude Whitehurst and Miss Bessie Carter were married by Rev. D. P. Harris at the home of the bride's father, Mr. S. B. Carter, at Forks. Just before the ceremony Miss Margaret Harrell sang "The Rosary." The wedding march was played by Miss Harris. The only attendants were Miss Payne and Mr. Eugene Whitehurst. The bride wore a dark blue suit with trimmings of moleskin and a large black hat. Immediately after the wedding Mr. and Mrs. Whitehurst left on the afternoon train for Washington, D. C. Upon their return they will make their home at Mt. Hermon. Many attractive and useful gifts attested the popularity of the bride, and the marriage was attended by a large number of friends and relatives. The bride is one of Forks most popular young women and is the very efficient president of the Forks Canning Club. The groom is the son of Mr. W. E. Whitehurst, and is a successful young farmer of Mt. Hermon.

**HUGHES-FORBES**  
Mr. Charles Berry Hughes of Belcross and Miss Margaret Forbes of Barco were married by justice of the peace J. W. Munden Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 at his residence on Seiden street and left on the 3:30 train for New York City. They had expected to be married by Rev. I. N. Loftin, but he was unable to perform the ceremony on account of the funeral of Mrs. J. T. Spence.

**JONES-FORBES**  
Mr. Charlie M. Jones and Miss Inez Forbes, both of Newland, were married by Mr. Munden at three o'clock. The groom is the son of Mr. J. F. Jones of Newland, the bride is the daughter of Mr. B. H. Forbes of Newland, both prominent families in the county.

**JONES-WILLIAMS**  
Mr. J. Bruce Jones and Miss Ruby Williams, both of Newland, were married by Rev. D. P. Harris, at his residence on Cedar Street, Wednesday afternoon. The bride is the daughter of Mr. N. I. Williams and the groom is the son of Mrs. William Spence.

**MUNDEN-EDWARDS**  
Mr. Charles Edward Munden of Hickory, Va., and Miss Beulah Mae Edwards of Camden were married by Mr. Munden at his office Wednesday morning at eleven o'clock. The bride was just eighteen years of age and looked considerably younger.

**HALSTEAD-CHAPLIN**  
Mr. Fred Halstead and Miss Joanna Chaplin, both of St. Bride's, Va., were married shortly after the arrival of the ten o'clock train Wednesday, by Mr. Munden at his residence on Seiden street.

Mr. Aubrey McCabe, a student at A. & M. is home for the Christmas holidays.

### Peace Note Affects Market

New York Dec. 21.—The stock market broke from two to thirteen points today because of the peace note.

### SCHOOL GIVES ENTERTAINMENT

SPLENDID CHRISTMAS PROGRAM WILL BE RENDERED FRIDAY MORNING. PUBLIC IS INVITED

The Elizabeth City Schools will give their Christmas entertainment Friday morning at half past ten o'clock.

The pupils will bring their gifts for the poor at this time, and these will be turned over to a committee of ladies from the various churches of the city for distribution.

Two prizes offered by the W. C. T. U. for the two best essays on "The Growth of the Temperance Movement in America" will be awarded at this time. Supt. Spragins making the presentation speech. Following is the program for the entertainment:

- Opening Prayer—Rev. C. A. Ashby.
- Christmas Fanfare—Glee Club Accompanied by Mrs. J. M. Meekins.
- The First Christmas, from Ben Hur—Miss Ruth Winslow.
- Hark the Herald Angels Sing—Entire School.
- Recitation, "Little Christopher"—Miss Dorothy Gregory.
- Silent Night—High School Chorus, violin and piano accompaniment, Miss Jones, Miss Covert and Mrs. Meekins.
- "O Little Town of Bethlehem"—Entire School.
- Christmas Address—Rev. J. L. Cunningham.
- "Awake and Tune Your Youthful Voices"—Glee Club.
- Christmas Cantata—Grammar and Primary Grades, Miss Hattie Harney, directress.

### Celebrates Her 85th Birthday

(By United Press)  
New York, Dec. 21.—Marjory Harland, (Mrs. Edward Payson Terhune), celebrated her 85th birthday anniversary at her home here today by working. She is the author of more than 40 books. "A sense of humor and plenty of work keep you young," said she today. "I would go to the graveyard or the insane asylum in three months if I quit working. Also learn your gastronomic limitations and stay within them that's my advice."

### Colorado Aids Her Lawmakers

(By United Press)  
Denver, Colo., Dec. 21.—Members of the legislature which convenes here in January will use its first state bill-drafting department in the United States. Attorney General-elect Leslie E. Hubbard has set aside part of his office staff for the use of legislators desiring to draft bills but unfamiliar with technical language. This service is free. Legislators today are taking advantage of the bureau. Among the bills being drafted are a stringent amendment to the prohibition law, a usury law and a tronomic, limitations and stay with them that's my advice."

### ENGINE CRASHES INTO CANAL

DENSE FOG OBSCURES LIGHTS AND DRAW. PASSENGERS AND CREW ESCAPE WITHOUT INJURY

Traffic between this city and Norfolk was temporarily stopped this morning when the early Norfolk Southern passenger train ran thru the draw of the Albemarle and Chesapeake canal bridge at about 7 o'clock. The engine and tender went thru the draw into the canal. No injury was sustained by any of the passengers or crew.

According to the best information to be had here the accident occurred because of the very dense fog which hid the signals as well as the open draw. In a short time an engine from here was sent and the train pulled back to this city, leaving here for Norfolk over the old Suffolk-Carolina road.

### BLOODHOUNDS GET THE DARKEY

Wm. Pledger was chased to the wall Wednesday night by the dogs of Mr. Shores and when caught plead guilty of having stolen 800 lbs. of cotton from the barn of Mr. Abner Ayldett Tuesday night. Trotum, the one armed negro, who has been caught before, was acting only as drayman for Pledger. He stated that Pledger had agreed to give him \$2 to carry the cotton to the gin. The case came up before Judge Sawyer this morning.

Trotum was acquitted. Pledger was given six months on the county roads.

### Booze Control Is Solution

(By United Press)  
Chicago, Dec. 21.—Booze control not birth control is the panacea for domestic ill, according to Judge W. N. Gemmill, formerly of the court of Domestic relations here today.

"Every man, and especially every judge, knows that the cause which overshadows all others and which more than all others combined brings separation and misery to the family is the open saloon," Judge Gemmill said. "At least 75 per cent of all family desertions are due to booze."

### AUTOMOBILES COLLIDE.

The automobiles of Mr. Roy Dewey and Mr. C. T. Scott collided at the corner of Main and Road streets yesterday afternoon, damaging the car of Mr. Scott rather badly and that of Mr. Dewey only slightly. Neither Mr. Dewey or Mr. Scott suffered an injury from the collision.

### STEAMER ALMA BRINGS CROWD

The steamer Alma, arriving here Tuesday night from Fairfield, East Lake and other points down the sound, brought a large number of passengers. Among the number were the following from East Lake: Miss Bertie Creef, Mrs. John Pinner, Mr. and Mrs. Fate Twiford, Mr. Murray Sawyer, Mr. J. H. Bratton, Mr. Tom Creef and Mr. Cloice Creef. They spent the day Wednesday shopping.

Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Lambert returned Thursday from their bridal tour, which included Baltimore, Washington, Jacksonville and St. Augustine, Fla.