

NOT BOSSES BUT SERVANTS WILL AT VERSAILLES

“All Must Put Heads Together and Pool Everything.”

PRESIDENT WILSON TALKS

Confident That Big Council Will Reach Just and Reasonable Solution of Problems.

Paris, Dec. 20.—“I am confident that the big council of statesmen of the world will be able to reach a just and reasonable solution of the problems that will be presented to them, and thus earn the gratitude of the world for the most critical and necessary service which has ever been rendered it,” said President Wilson today in an interview, referring to the approaching peace conference.

The interview was given to the correspondent of The London Times. In it the President is reported to have stated his views on the discussion of the freedom of the seas and to have contrasted the evils of the Vienna congress with a hopeful outlook for the Versailles congress.

Lord Northcliffe, editor of The London Times, has given the Associated Press a copy of the interview, from which the following extracts have been made:

Bosses vs. Servants. “The congress of Vienna, the correspondent says, President Wilson told him was a congress of ‘bosses.’ The delegates were concerned more with their own interests and the classes they represented than the wishes of their people.

“Versailles, as President Wilson said, is a meeting place of the servants of the people represented by delegates, and he added, there is no amount of wrangling and meddling which he thinks he knows what is in the mind of all peoples, that man is a fool. We have all got to put our heads together and pool everything we have got for the benefit of the ideals which are common to all.”

Asked whether he would visit the grand fleet, President Wilson replied that he was afraid he would not have time, adding that he fully realized that behind the great armies there was the strong, silent and watchful support of the British navy in securing the communications of the allies.

He referred also to the very happy comradeship and cooperation between the British and American navies. The correspondent then adds:

“Freedom of the Seas.” “President Wilson, in discussing the role of the British fleet in the maintenance of what, at any rate during the war, had been the freedom of the seas for the free peoples of the world, spoke with a sincerity which no amount of wrangling and meddling could have convinced him that he is a booby in the decency and honesty of the Anglo-Saxon race. He said:

“It is essential for the future peace of the world that there should be the freest cooperation and most generous understanding between the two English-speaking democracies. We comprehend and appreciate, I believe, the grave problems which the war has brought to the English people, and fully understand the special international questions which arise from the fact of your peculiar position as an island empire.”

The correspondent declared that he left the President with the assurance that he desired to cooperate with the British, and with all the allies, in securing with their counsel a new state of affairs throughout the world.”

TO ENTERTAIN WILSON AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE

London, Dec. 20.—King George will give a banquet at Buckingham palace December 27, in honor of President Wilson.

The visit of President Wilson as an “overnight” guest at Buckingham will be the first time in history that any President has been thus entertained at the palace.

MUCH OF BRITISH FLEET MAY VISIT UNITED STATES

London, Dec. 20.—It is reported that the admiralty views favorably the suggestion that a large part of the British fleet, commanded by Admiral Sir David Beatty, should visit the United States. It is asserted however, that no date for the visit has been fixed, but it is understood that it will be made immediately after peace has been signed.

10,252,402 BALES COTTON GINNED TO DECEMBER 13TH

Washington, Dec. 20.—Cotton ginned prior to December 13 was 10,252,402 running bales, including 139,074 round bales; 12,793 bales of American Egyptian, and 31,068 bales of sea island, the census bureau today reported.

COAL SHORT IN VIENNA

Vienna, Dec. 20.—Secretary of State Hanush made the announcement today that because of the shortage of coal 45,000 persons were out of employment in Vienna.

NOTICE, BUSINESS HOUSES! Mr. Manager: You were sent a letter requesting you to check your place of business and see that it has answered the roll call 100 per cent. If you have done this and mailed your card to Mr. Steere, you have done your duty. If not, today is your last opportunity. Phone 2055, Mr. J. Steere, and report your result. Do this today. L. G. BERRY, Chairman Red Cross Christmas Roll Call.

FRENCH SOLDIERS KILLED IN WAR NUMBER 1,400,000

Paris, Dec. 20.—French soldiers to the number of 1,400,000 were killed during the war, according to a statement by the socialist deputy, Lucien Voilin, in the chamber of deputies this afternoon, during an interpellation of the government on demobilization.

Deputy Voilin asked that the soldiers be returned to the soil and the factories without delay, and continued:

“I betray no secret when I say that the problem of demobilization presents itself thus: We have mobilized 6,900,000 men; we have had about 1,400,000 killed, while 800,000 recovered from wounds. We are going to demobilize 1,200,000 reserves, territorials and heads of families.”

FRIDAY BUSY DAY FOR PRESIDENT

Making Final Preparations to Proceed to American Front.

Mrs. Wilson Goes About Paris for First Time Unaccompanied by the President.

Paris, Dec. 20.—President Wilson's day, Friday, was crowded with official conferences and visitors and in making final preparations to proceed to American headquarters and thence to England immediately after Christmas.

Mrs. Wilson went about Paris for the first time today unaccompanied by the President. With Admiral Cary T. Grayson, the President's personal physician, Mrs. Wilson visited the hospital for blind soldiers organized by Winifred Holt, of New York.

Announcement of the details of the President's trip to England was not made during the day, as had been expected, because information awaited from London had not arrived. However, about all that remains to be disclosed is the route the President will take and the program of his movements during the three or four days of his stay in the English capital.

It has been settled that the President will hold conferences with Premier Lloyd George and Foreign Minister Balfour.

When he leaves Paris for Chaumont, President Wilson will probably not return until he comes back for the opening of the peace conference. His movements in France will be entirely in charge of the army, which will take him from American headquarters to one of the channel ports.

MISS MARGARET WILSON TO SING FOR SOLDIERS

Paris, Dec. 20.—Miss Margaret Wilson, daughter of the President, has left Paris for a concert tour of 30 days among the American troops in the vicinity of Chaumont, where American headquarters is located. She is planning to sing on Christmas day at Gondrecourt, in the Meuse department, in the same region where the President will dine with the American soldiers.

WILSON INVITED TO BE GUEST OF KING GEORGE

London, Dec. 20.—King George has invited President Wilson and Mrs. Wilson to be his guests at Buckingham palace during their stay in London, but no reply has yet been received. It is assumed that the President will accept, but the whole matter will be deferred to the President's personal wishes.

The Associated Press was informed by the British foreign office today that the report printed by The Manchester Guardian, that the President was coming especially to discuss the Russian situation, is inaccurate.

The visit of the President will be one of courtesy and not political, though naturally discussion of Russian affairs may arise in the course of his conversations here.

From well informed quarters, it is learned that there is no foundation for the reports that British reinforcements are being sent to Russia. It is understood that nothing of this nature will be done pending the allied conferences in Paris.

PAPER SAYS WILSON HAS CHANGED HIS STANDPOINT

Special Cable to The Observer From The London Times. (Copyright, 1918, by Public Ledger Co.)

London, Dec. 20.—President Wilson is expected in London Thursday next or Friday. Arrangements are being made for his reception which will be on a grand scale, including a government banquet. An official announcement may be expected this week. King George has announced he has cancelled his Christmas arrangements for Sandringham palace, deciding to remain in London to receive Mr. Wilson. The Evening Standard says tonight:

“From an American diplomatic source I learn there is no reason to fear there will be any serious difficulty between President Wilson and the allies on the application of his principles at the peace table. Mr. Wilson on the questions of reparation and the freedom of the seas, has changed his standpoint considerably since he laid down his original line policy, and the result of the congressional election and the subsequent republican statement of policy have not been without effect on his mind.”

“There is, in fact, in American diplomatic circles a growing conviction that the alleged differences regarding such vital questions as a league of nations and freedom of the seas are more imaginary than real and that before the President returns to Washington, a complete understanding will have been reached.”

BECKER DECKED ENGAGE IN TULTS MOST OF THE DAY

Gaston Means Asks to Be Heard by Overman Committee.

PROBING HUN PROPAGANDA

Missouri Senator, Cross-Examining New York Official, Clashes With Witness.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Most of today's session of the senate committee investigating German propaganda taken up with bills between Alfred L. Becker, assistant attorney general of New York, and Senator Reed of Missouri, who is not a member of the committee.

Gaston B. Means, who formerly was employed by Von Bernstorff as a secret agent and later acquitted of the murder of Mrs. Maude King, at Concord, N. C., appeared today and asked Chairman Overman to be permitted to tell what he knew of German propaganda. He was accompanied by William J. Burns.

Senator Reed, in cross-examining the New York official, who had been on the stand two days, charged that Merton E. Lewis, attorney general of New York, and Becker, misled their official positions in making public information contained in affidavits secured by them under special war legislation. These affidavits referred to alleged meetings of William Randolph Hearst with Bollo, Pasha, ex-ambassador in France, and former ambassador Von Bernstorff.

Becker Denies Charge. Mr. Becker denied the charge, saying that the affidavits made public here were not secured under the special legislation. He said that in disclosures purporting to show association of Hearst and Bollo were made public for what he frankly admit were clerical purposes. He justified this course on the ground that their publications was in the public interest.

The information under discussion was given to New York newspapers mainly in August, September and October. Becker was a candidate for the republican nomination for attorney general of New York state and Attorney General Lewis was a candidate for the republican nomination for governor against Charles S. Whitman. It appeared from the examination that Hearst was considered a supporter of Whitman, and Senator Reed sought to show that Lewis and Becker intended to damage Whitman by Senator King's Hearst.

Senator King, who is on a New York newspaper of July 31, 1917, a story telling of Bollo Pasha's attention to a Metropolitan opera singer, whose relations with Bollo were deplorable. Becker was to be entirely blameless. In this story was a letter from Bollo to the singer mentioning “my friend, Mrs. Millicent Hearst.” Mr. Becker admitted having given to the papers the statement containing this letter.

Sharp Questions and Answers. “What was the purpose of giving it out at this particular time?” inquired Senator Reed.

“It was an interesting item of news which I thought the public would be glad to read,” Mr. Becker replied, smiling.

“Was there no purpose to connect Hearst with Bollo?” “I had regarded the purpose to show the connection of Hearst with Bollo as more important than disclosure of Bollo's attentions to the opera singer.”

Becker added, shouting to drown Senator Reed's voice: “I think it should have been done a long time before.”

Senator King, of Utah, then asked: “Did you attempt to prejudice the public against Whitman by showing his connection with Hearst?”

Mr. Becker replied: “It was Lewis' campaign committee which did this.”

When the cross-questioning was interrupted by adjournment, to be resumed tomorrow morning, Senator Reed asked Mr. Becker to produce vouchers showing expenses incurred by state service agents in obtaining depositions in the investigation of Bollo's activities in the United States. The witness stated with heat that he would “do no such thing,” as they were confidential.

3,000 SOLDIERS REACH PORT FROM THE FRONT

Newport News, Va., Dec. 20.—Among the more than 3,000 officers and men of the American expeditionary force to France who were landed here today from the army transport Mercury and Martha Washington were Maj. Gen. Henry C. Hodges, Brig. Gen. Julius A. Penn, commander of the 33rd division; Brigadier General Winters, medical corps, and Colonel G. Butler, commander 11th field artillery. The wounded men, numbering about 800, nearly all of whom were brought on the Mercury and many of whom wear decorations for valor on the field of battle, are tonight at the Camp Stuart debarkation hospital.

One passenger on the Mercury who did not appear on the official list, but who was one of the most popular of all, was a little French orphan boy. He stowed away on the ship just before she sailed from France, managed to remain hidden until the transport was two days at sea. “He will be adopted by one of the medical officers aboard.”

RAILROAD DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS RESIGNS

Washington, Dec. 20.—Carl R. Gray, of Baltimore, director of the division of operations of the railroad administration, has resigned and Director General McAdoo has accepted his resignation effective January 15. Mr. Gray, who formerly was president of the Western Maryland railroad, said he needed a complete rest.

In announcing the resignation tonight, Mr. McAdoo said no successor to Mr. Gray has been appointed. Mr. Gray resigned as president of the Maryland and took up his duties with the railroad administration last January.

JIM WILCOX IS PARDONED AFTER SERVING 15 YEARS

Raleigh, Dec. 20.—Having served half of his 30 years' sentence, Jim Wilcox, convicted as the slayer of Nellie Cropsey, his Elizabeth City sweetheart, in 1902, was pardoned by Governor Bickett today. The pardon, Governor Bickett explained in a statement of reasons, was influenced by opinion in Pasquotank that the prisoner has been sufficiently punished and by the first statement Wilcox has ever made on the case, contained in a personal letter to the governor.

PASSAGE OF TAX BILL IS DELAYED

Progress Halted Yesterday by General Debate.

Simmons Says Efforts Will Be Made to Vote Today; Republicans Say Monday.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Although renewal of general senate debate halted progress on the war revenue bill, Senator Simmons, chairman of the finance committee, announced that an effort would be made to pass the measure before adjournment tomorrow. Republican leaders, however, expressed the belief that the measure would go over until Monday.

Practically all of today's session was devoted to discussion, the principal speakers being Senator Jones of New Mexico, and Senator Thomas of Colorado, both democrats. The former declared the bill contained many inequities and injustices which handicap the conduct of business.

Speaking in support of a substitute measure, of which he is author, Senator Thomas declared the watchword for this Congress should be “retrenchment, frugality and economy.” Adoption of a federal budget system was urged by the senator, who said national bankruptcy would result unless such a system is put into effect.

Senator Thomas opposed granting the recommendations made by Secretary Daniels for increased naval appropriations, declaring “every dollar placed in a battleship is a dollar wasted.”

Senator LaFollette, republican of Wisconsin, plans to discuss his substitute bill tomorrow, after which Senator Simmons hopes to obtain a vote on the committee amendment providing for a \$4,000,000 tax in 1920, the section which republicans are opposing.

ARE PREPARING TO HOLD ELECTIONS IN GERMANY

Idea of Summoning the Reichstag Is Abandoned by Its President, Fahrenbach.

Special Cable to The Observer From The London Times. (Copyright, 1918, by Public Ledger Co.)

Stockholm, Dec. 20.—Berlin telegrams say Konstantin Fahrenbach, president of the reichstag, has abandoned the idea of summoning the reichstag, because the food administration is not likely to occur for some time and also because the constituent assembly is likely to meet earlier than had been expected. Another doubtful reason is that the summoning of the reichstag found little support through the country. The work of preparing the electoral lists for a general election to the constituent assembly is actually progressing rapidly. This list will be available by a drop in flour prices.

General regulations of the food administration prohibiting profiteering, hoarding and unfair practices, would be strictly enforced, officials said.

The prediction of cheaper flour to the consumer, it was stated at the food administration, is based on the immediate rise today in the price of mill feeds, amounting to several dollars a ton.

BIG GERMAN CAPITALISTS APPEALING TO AMERICA

Special Cable to The Observer From The London Times. (Copyright, 1918, by Public Ledger Co.)

London, Dec. 20.—The Times prints certain German wireless messages with the following introduction: “Leaders of German industry have sent to an American newspaper appeals praying that the influence of President Wilson be used to save Germany from punishment. It has been shown repeatedly that Berlin hopes its diplomacy may retrieve the situation at the peace conference, and the German industrialists in their messages seek to represent President Wilson and the American people as mediators between the allies and Germany. These messages from great German capitalists are transmitted through the wireless stations of the revolutionary government in Berlin.”

MAY SEND WIRELESS TO SOLDIERS ABOARD SHIP

New York, Dec. 20.—Relatives and friends of soldiers returning on transports from overseas may communicate with them by wireless and receive answers to their messages, under a navy department agreement announced here tonight.

The announcement said messages may be filed at any telegraph office and will be relayed to New York, Boston or some other naval radio base, where they will be flashed to the incoming ships. Answers will come over the same route.

CHAS. HALWARD JOHNSON ACCQUITTED OF MURDER

Elkton, Md., Dec. 20.—Charles Halward Johnson was acquitted by a jury tonight of the charge of murdering Major William R. King, of Brooklyn, N. Y., supervising engineer of the Aberdeen proving grounds.

CORDIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE ALLIES AND AMERICAN CAPITALISTS WITHOUT TRADE AGREEMENTS

Cannot Continue Five Years, Says Vice President Marshall.

GIVES HIS VIEWS AS TO SOME PEACE QUESTIONS

Disclaims Any Intention to Affect Wilson's Negotiations.

SPEAKS TO BUSINESS MEN

Until All Men Are of Good Will Wars Will Not Cease, Unless Peace at Any Price Is Wanted.

Carlshe, Pa., Dec. 20.—Vice President Marshall, in an address here tonight before the Carlshe chamber of commerce, gave his views on some questions now under discussion in connection with the peace conference, prefacing his remarks with the explanation that he had no thought of endeavoring to affect President Wilson's negotiations.

On the question of a world league or understanding to prevent war, which he said all right-thinking men agree is desirable, Mr. Marshall declared that until all men are of good will wars will not cease unless nations desire peace at any price. He said the allies and the United States could go very far toward promoting peace, but prediction that unless trade agreements are made between these associated nations existing cordial relations cannot last.

“It is farther from my thought upon this occasion to utter a single word which might in any manner be construed as endeavoring to affect the negotiations of the President in Europe,” said the Vice President, in opening his address. “Too many half-backed opinions coming from myself and others in public life may cause mental and moral indigestion, if I speak, therefore, only in general terms and go only to the length that all may agree.”

“Dream Thus Far a Nightmare.” “That some league or understanding among civilized peoples for the prevention of certain future wars (as I prefer to put it rather than for the enforcement of peace) is desirable, all right-thinking men agree.” “It has been the dream of all ages. Thus far, this universal peace has each succeeding time turned into a nightmare.

“This appears to me to be the real situation if mankind the world over is the madding of a hundred years ago, or if there is the possibility that either England, France, Italy or the United States contains the growing germ of military or commercial supremacy, then, though attempt may be made to preserve the peace of the world, the attempt will be another failure. If, however, the masses of mankind in these four great nations and in the lesser nations, for whom jointly a fight has been made, have seen a new light and are convinced of the uselessness and folly of war, and if more and more education and enlightenment, as the days go by and the generations come and go, shall lead to the number of those who thus think, then the experiment will succeed.

“Until all men are men of good will, wars will not cease entirely unless made at any price.” “Do Not Waver.” “At any price, I desire, as far as possible, I do not. However, if mankind, as a whole, desire at any price, they can get it by the adoption of written constitutions specifying, first, that the size of the army and navy shall be fixed by a referendum to all the men and women of mature age; and, second, that no war of defense shall be undertaken beyond the territorial limits of the state shall ever be waged until affirmatively decided by a like referendum.”

Stating that commercial disputes break wars, Mr. Marshall concluded: “I have, of course, no means of knowing what the representatives of the allied governments may be willing to take up with the American people at the peace table, but I venture the assertion that the good which now exists between the allied governments and our own will not last five years unless reciprocal trade relations, fixed in justice, are arranged between us. Peoples learn slowly and soon forget.”

CHEAPER FLOUR MAY BE RESULT, OFFICIALS SAY

Regulations Announced by Food Administration.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Cancellation of all flour milling regulations, including fair price schedules and the price and quantity restrictions on the sale of wheat flour by millers, which officials expect will result in cheaper flour, was formally announced late today by the food administration.

Notification of the action was telegraphed last night to zone agents of the food administration throughout the nation, and today there was a sharp rise in the price of wheat, bran and other mill feeds on the Minneapolis market, which officials expect to be followed by a drop in flour prices.

General regulations of the food administration prohibiting profiteering, hoarding and unfair practices, would be strictly enforced, officials said.

The prediction of cheaper flour to the consumer, it was stated at the food administration, is based on the immediate rise today in the price of mill feeds, amounting to several dollars a ton.

NOTABLES RETURN HOME ABOARD THE MANCHURIA

New York, Dec. 20.—Brig. Gen. John L. Hayden, of the 5th brigade, and Brig. Gen. Robert E. Steiner, of the 42d brigade, were among the officers who returned home today on the Manchuria.

Among the other notables aboard were Sergeant Amedeo Tomassetti, of Rochester, N. Y., a member of the 6th machine gun battalion, who wore the croix de guerre with two citations for smoking out a German dugout after going “over the top” and capturing three German captains and a colonel.

Colonel Bibb Graves, of Montgomery, Ala., was another passenger of the Manchuria. He was in command of the 17th field artillery of the 31st or “Dixie” division, who were in camp near Brest when the armistice was signed.

GOOD FELLOWS

How happy all of you will be Christmas morning if you may truthfully say: “All deserving unfortunate families in Charlotte have been visited and cheered.” “The Good Fellows.” Total. 298 Members—780 Doll. See page 4.