

ENGLAND READY FOR PRESIDENT WILSON'S VISIT

Will Spend Next Sunday at Mother's Birthplace.

GREAT RECEPTION AWAITS

Official Program Schedules Arrival in London for Thursday Afternoon.

Paris, Dec. 21.—The President's first work in France finds the preliminary situation surrounding the peace conference fairly well developed toward the point where, according to the President's expressed view, it will be worth while for the United States to participate.

The President now goes to England to continue the discussions there along the same lines as those he had with the representatives of France and Italy, which the President's advisers described as having been satisfactory.

London, Dec. 21.—(By the Associated Press.)—Following is the official program in connection with the visit of the President of the United States to England:

The presidential party will arrive at Dover at 12:10 p. m. Thursday and will be received by the Duke of Devonshire, representing the king; John W. Davis, American ambassador, Lord Reading, British ambassador to Washington, and Lord Herschell, lord in waiting to the king, who will be especially attached to the President during his visit.

Commander Sir Charles Cust, equerry to the king, will meet the President at Calais and will be especially attached to him.

The party will arrive at Charing Cross station in London at 2:30 p. m., and will be received by the king and queen and, with the sovereigns, will drive to Buckingham palace.

On Saturday the President will proceed to the city to receive an address at Guild hall. On that evening a dinner will be given by the government at Lancaster house at which the British ministers will be present. After the dinner the President will leave London for Carlisle, his mother's birthplace, where he will spend Sunday.

WILSON CONFERS WITH STATESMEN OF ITALY

Paris, Dec. 21.—President Wilson had another long conference today with Vittorio Orlando, the Italian premier, and Baron Sonnino, the foreign minister. The position of Italy was further discussed at this meeting.

The President is represented as engaging in these conferences in an effort to bring about harmony as to the matters which especially concern Italy and others of the allies in common.

The President's only other engagement was for this afternoon at the Sorbonne for the ceremony incident to the bestowal of an honorary degree upon him, later dining at the British embassy.

HOME MILITARY FORCES BEING DEMOBILIZED AT RATE OF 30,000 A DAY

Considerably More Than 200,000 Officers and Men Discharged Up to December 14, Says General March.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Demobilization of the home military forces at the rate of 30,000 a day, the goal set less than a month ago by the war department, has been reached, if not exceeded.

General March, chief of staff, announced today that demobilization at the home camps during the seven-day period ending December 14 was at an average of 27,000 a day, although no men were discharged from most of the camps on Sunday.

Total demobilization on December 14 had reached 229,993 officers and 138,562 men. The chief of staff said more than 900,000 men have been assigned for early demobilization, including 21,000 divisional troops, 43,000 engineers and 15,000 men of the military aeronautics division.

HONORARY DEGREE BESTOWED UPON WILSON BY UNIVERSITY OF PARIS

First Time in History the Institution Has Conferred Such Degree — Poincare and Other Notables Attend Ceremonies. President Declares Those to Participate in Peace Conference Are Servants of Mankind; Masters of No One.

Paris, Dec. 21.—In the great amphitheater of the University of Paris this afternoon received the degree of doctor honoris causa, conferred upon him in recognition of his work as a jurist and historian. This is the first time in the history of the university that an honorary degree has been bestowed, authorization for its granting having been given by a recent decree.

President Poincare, the presidents of the senate and chamber of deputies and diplomatic corps, government and civil and military authorities attended.

Great crowds cheered the President when he arrived, accompanied by Mrs. Wilson, American ambassador Sharp and Jules Jusserand, French ambassador to the United States.

Alfred Croiset, dean of the faculty of letters, welcomed President Wilson in a short address and presented to him the diploma of doctor as a testimonial to his work as an historian and his writings on historical subjects.

Lucien Poincare, vice rector of the university and brother of the president of the republic, paid an eloquent tribute to President Wilson's ability as a professor before he entered upon his political career.

Glory to the American students, glory to the eminent professors and their universities, glory to you, Mr. President, who are the first amongst them. In the name of the University of Paris I have the honor to award the insignia and diploma of doctor to one whom posterity will salute with

WILSON DELIVERS ADDRESS IN ACKNOWLEDGING HONOR

Paris, Dec. 21.—President Wilson, in acknowledging the honor bestowed upon him today by the University of Paris in the form of a doctor's degree, said:

"I feel very keenly the distinguished honor which has been conferred upon me by the great University of Paris, and it is very delightful to me also to have the honor of being inducted into the great company of scholars whose life and fame have made the history of the University of Paris a thing admirable among men of cultivation in all parts of the world."

"By what you have said, sir, of the theory of education which has been followed in France and which I have tried to promote in the United States, I am tempted to venture upon a favorable opinion."

"I have always believed that the chief object of education was to awaken the spirit, and that inasmuch as literature whenever it has touched its great and higher notes was an expression of the spirit of mankind, the best induction into education was to feel the pulses of humanity which had penetrated from age to age through the universities of men who had penetrated to the secrets of the human spirit."

"War Between Systems. "And I agree with the intimation which has been conveyed today that the terrible war through which we have just passed has not been only a war between nations, but that it has

(Continued on Page Two.)

HEARDY FEEL OF SHARP CLASHES AND ACCUSATIONS

Becker Declares Reed Represents William R. Hearst.

SENATOR "HOT IN COLLAR" Seeks to Show That N. Y. Official Draws Unwarranted Conclusions.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Alfred L. Becker, deputy attorney general of New York, on continued cross-examination today by Senator Reed, of Missouri, at the senate committee's German propaganda inquiry, declared that Senator Reed represented William Randolph Hearst, about whom most of the testimony revolved. Senator Reed indignantly denied that he represented anybody or anything except an effort to reach the truth in a maze of "distorted testimony."

The hearing was full of sharp exchanges of accusations between Mr. Becker and Senator Reed, who sought to show that Becker "drew unwarranted conclusions from 'scraps of evidence' of acquaintance between Hearst and Bolo Pasha, von Bernstorff and other German agents. Mr. Becker declared he was "suspicious of almost anything that Mr. Hearst did."

The cross-examination will be continued when the hearings are resumed after the holiday recess.

Before the committee adjourned, Senator Reed referred to the financial transactions mentioned by Mr. Becker in the beginning of his testimony on Thursday dealing with \$1,000,000 deposited with J. P. Morgan & Co. to the credit of Bolo Pasha, the amount to be available to Bolo in October, 1918, six months after its deposit, with interest at 2 1/2 per cent. In June, 1916, after Bolo had returned to France, it was testified, the Morgan firm cabled in Paris branch that, although the original agreement was not kept, it would be glad if some interest would be allowed Bolo, "in view of the connection of this client, which is of great importance to us."

"Now, if you had a letter like that written by Mr. Hearst, in which he said that the original agreement was not kept and asking him to pay interest regardless of that, you would regard it as very conclusive against Mr. Hearst, would you not?" asked Senator Reed.

"I should be suspicious of almost anything that Mr. Hearst did, and that does not apply to Mr. Morgan," Mr. Becker replied.

"That is what I thought," Senator Reed retorted. "You would be suspicious of almost anything he did, and so comes your testimony to be read in that light."

"Yes," the witness said, "but I am very suspicious of Mr. Hearst. I admit it. I think his record justifies it."

"Then he probably entertains an equally exalted opinion of you," Senator Reed replied.

"Well, God bless him," Becker replied. "He is welcome to have that probably will express it in his papers, and this is my only chance."

The senate committee has placed in the records a letter from Dr. Lauritz Larsen, secretary of the National League of the Rhine, in which he had awarded the distinguished service medal to the general commanding the various French, British, Belgian and Italian armies.

In all, decorations were awarded to 18 French generals, seven British, two Belgian and three Italian generals. Granting of the awards was announced in a communique from the American expeditionary forces dated yesterday. The statement says:

"Pursuant to authority granted me by the president, I have awarded in the name of the President the distinguished service medal to the allied officers, for exceptionally meritorious and distinguished services rendered to the American expeditionary forces, and to this cause in which we have been engaged."

JO-JO SAYS

Rain. You can always punish a man by letting him have his own way.

RESULT OF ELECTIONS IN GERMANY TO BE HELD JANUARY IS UNCERTAIN

Socialists Can Hope at Best for Small Majority—Many Hope for Revolution in Entente Countries.

BY CHARLEMAGNE TOWER.

Special Cable to The Observer From The London Times. (Copyright, 1918, by Public Ledger Co.) The Hague, Dec. 21.—The result of the elections to the national assembly, which are expected about January 18, is regarded as uncertain by all classes in Germany. From opinions of western Germany, it would appear the socialists can hope at best for a very small majority and even that they may be defeated. It is even confirmed that the socialists do not believe in the possibility of a genuinely socialist government and the probable course of events is the extension of authority to Herr Ebert until the national assembly establishes a new constitution and arranges for the election of a first president of a republic. This may take weeks or months.

Opinion in western Germany seems to favor the assembly meeting in Berlin because a temporary government would have to be transferred to Frankfurt if the assembly is held there. In the meantime, Dr. Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg would be left to wreak havoc in Berlin. Dr. Liebknecht's insane schemes for all-around pillage is shared by very few of his supporters.

German behavior is very mixed. The principal strongholds are Dusseldorf, Hanover, Brunswick and the coast towns.

Numerous persons still hope for a revolutionary movement in the entente countries. They appear to consider a proletarian revolution certain in France and a republican revolution is fairly hoped for in England. This applies even to non-socialists and business men. The general idea being that a revolutionary Germany will be able to deal on more equal footing with the entente countries if the existing constitution systems are upset. German behavior is very mixed. The principal strongholds are Dusseldorf, Hanover, Brunswick and the coast towns.

GERMAN FORTRESS KNOWN AS GIBRALTAR OF RHINE OCCUPIED BY AMERICANS

Stars and Stripes Flown From Staff on Central Hospital. Fortress Big Enough for Thousands.

Coblenz, Friday, Dec. 20.—The German fortress of Ehrenbreitstein, sometimes called the Gibraltar of the Rhine, on the opposite bank of the river from Coblenz, was occupied by American troops today. The commander of the American forces is Robert Boyers, a West Point graduate.

The fortress, which is situated on a rocky promontory 400 feet above the river and occupies more than 100 acres, will accommodate thousands of men. It will be used as a headquarters of the regimental headquarters of the first pioneer infantry and two battalions of pioneers.

The American flag was flown from the staff on the central hospital here today. The surgeons claim this is the first time that the American banner has been raised over a building in Coblenz since the town was occupied.

Along the river Rhine from Coblenz to the northwest, where the American bridgehead joins the British forces, the Stars and Stripes fluttered over 11 river patrol boats today. The river boats which had been requisitioned from the Germans, began operating this morning. Nine other boats, arriving during the day, were pressed into service immediately.

All the boats are under the command of marine lieutenants and a detachment of marines. The operating crew is composed of Germans.

American marines who began patrolling the Rhine today control river traffic from Coblenz beyond Remagen. All traffic on the Rhine is under the regulation of an inter-allied commission.

All boats entering either end of the American sector must present papers showing the destination of the cargo and other details.

A policing system for the Rhine in the vicinity of Coblenz and Newulied has also been inaugurated, the military police using motor boats requisitioned from the Germans.

COUNTY DRAFT BOARDS MAY BE RECOGNIZED

BY H. E. C. BRYANT. Washington, Dec. 21.—Senator Simmons took up today with the secretary of war, and also with the chairman of the house and senate committees on military affairs the proposition to give military recognition to the local boards who administered the selective-service act, commonly termed "the draft act." The suggestion has been made that a brevet commission and a gold medal be awarded to those who have been directly charged with the work of creating the great American army that finally struck the decisive blow in the world war.

DR. JOYNER RESIGNS AS STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS AFTER SERVICE OF 17 YEARS

RETIRE JANUARY 1; IN PUBLIC SERVICE 37 YEARS



DR. JAMES YARKIN JOYNER.

Dr. E. C. Brooks, of Trinity College, Named as Successor.

GOVERNOR NOTIFIED LAST SUMMER; OTHERS SURPRISED

Gossip Names Joyner as Possible Candidate for Governor.

HE SAYS HE NEEDS REST

Name Also Mentioned in Connection With Presidency of University.

Special to The Observer.

Raleigh, Dec. 21.—Dr. J. Y. Joyner has resigned as state superintendent of public instruction and Governor Bickett appoints E. C. Brooks, Trinity college, as his successor, the resignation and the appointment to be effective January 1. The resignation came as a complete surprise here, although it seems that Dr. Joyner had notified the governor last summer that he contemplated resigning. Dr. Joyner has been state superintendent of public instruction for 17 years.

Dr. Brooks, the new state superintendent, was for a number of years connected with the state department of education before he joined the faculty of Trinity college. He is a graduate of recognized ability, and is familiar with the work of the state superintendent.

Dr. Joyner's resignation is declared to be purely for the purpose of taking a much-needed rest. However, in spite of this, gossip is getting him very much entangled as a strong possibility in the next race for governor and also as president of the University of North Carolina during the year to the lamented Dr. E. K. Graham. Dr. Joyner wrote this letter to the governor:

Dr. Joyner's Letter. "My dear Governor: "I have resigned as superintendent of my native county before I was 21 years of age, as chairman of the county board of education, as teacher and superintendent of the city public schools, as teacher and dean in the State Normal and Industrial college, as state superintendent of public instruction for the past 17 years. I have been in public service and have felt the weight of public responsibility continuously for 37 years. I have had joy in the service. I am more grateful and appreciative than I can ever express in word or act for the measure of confidence, support, cooperation and appreciation far beyond my deserts, that I have received from the people of North Carolina during all these years. I need a rest now. I hope to have earned it. I have had 17 busy years, to give to my private business, effective January 1. I desire to resign, as superintendent of education, at the end of the year to last summer, I beg, therefore, to tender my resignation as state superintendent of public instruction, to take effect January 1, 1919."

In accepting the resignation Governor Bickett wrote Dr. Joyner as follows:

Governor Bickett's Reply. "My dear Doctor Joyner: "I am just in receipt of your letter of this date tendering your resignation, effective January 1. I desire to regret that the state is to lose the benefit of your services, but concur in the opinion that you have rightly earned a period of rest."

"I know that any words of fulsome praise would be distasteful to you, but, writing with rigid conservatism, I am constrained to say that during the 17 years you have been state superintendent of public instruction you have made a noble and imperishable contribution to the intellectual and moral life of the state."

"I deem it not improper to add that when you notified me last summer of your intention to resign the 1st of January I at once offered to consult with you about your resignation. You stated that you would prefer that I should not do so, as you did not desire to have anything whatever to do with naming your successor. Immediately after this conversation I made up my mind to appoint Dr. E. C. Brooks of the chair of education in Trinity college, and at once went to Dr. Brooks to ascertain whether or not he would be willing to accept the appointment. He advised me that he would, and I am today naming him as your successor."

"With sentiments of affectionate esteem, I beg to remain, "T. W. BICKETT."

BIG DIVIDEND DECLARED BY CHEMICAL COMPANY

Richmond, Va., Dec. 21.—Directors of the Virginia-Carolina Chemical company today declared a dividend of \$1 a share on common stock and \$2 a share on the preferred. The first will be payable February 1, to shareholders of record January 15, and the second will be due January 15, to stockholders of record December 31. The former will require \$79,844 and the latter \$499,245.

Good Fellows

See Page 4

WELL KNOWN BALLPLAYER KILLED IN GOLDSBORO

Goldsboro, Dec. 21.—Millard L. Parker, a well known professional baseball player, was shot and killed here this morning. Ashby Southerland, an automobile driver, is being held, charged with the killing, pending a coroner's inquest, which will be held at 10 o'clock tomorrow. He was at different times a member of the Warrenton and Brunswick teams of the Georgia State League.