

BELGIUM FRENZIED WITH HAPPINESS KING'S RETURN

Brussels Swept By Wave of Joy
Countless Thousands Literally
Danced Their Way Through
the Principal Streets.

An Associated Press dispatch of last Friday describes vividly the scenes in Brussels upon the return to that city of King Albert. It is given herewith in full:

It is midnight of the greatest day in the history of Brussels—the day of the triumphal return of the royal family to their capital after four years of gallant fighting against the German invader—and the city is still celebrating the home coming of its king and queen.

Brussels tonight was absolutely frenzied with happiness. All the pent up emotions of its people which had been held in leash through these weary years by the iron hand of bondage, broke loose in a mighty volume with the advent of their king and queen, and the city which in years gone by has been known as one of the gayest capitals in Europe, has been swept with such a wave of patriotic joyousness as it never experienced before.

Countless thousands of loyal subjects for hours have been literally dancing their way through the principal thoroughfares, singing, cheering and laughing as they dance. Gray haired men and women, youths and maidens, children and soldiers and civilians all have joined in the great throngs which have swirled hither and thither chanting their paean to the German downfall.

The overwhelming reception given to the royal family this morning upon their entry into the city from Ghent, was in itself unprecedented, but more remarkable scenes were to come.

As evening fell, the city for the first time in four years burst into brilliant lights. The street lamps which had remained dark under German rule, were lighted, and the night in Brussels was turned into day.

Even the changing electric signs on the big buildings began their endless play and sent their variegated rays twinkling down on the streets as in the happy days before the war. Many of the big restaurants are still closed but others in plenty threw wide their doors to the crowds clamoring for admission.

Hours passed and the Boulevard du Nord—incidentally this great thoroughfare today was renamed the Boulevard Adolphe Maxe, in honor of the famous burgomaster—and other neighboring streets became the playground of hundreds of thousands of people. The Boulevard Adolphe Maxe, itself, was filled for hours with a crowd of not less than 100,000 celebrators.

So rapidly did the merry-makers give way to others and move their activities to adjoining streets that probably no succeeding hour found the same crowd in the boulevard. There was plenty of music. It was mostly vocal, but here and there civilian bands blared their way at the head of joyous columns. There was little traffic in the streets, and endless lines of people marched and danced along arm in arm. Many streets were jammed from one side to the other with human streams passing in either direction.

It made no difference whether you knew your neighbor or not, you simply linked arms with him or her and hopped away to the swing of the Marseillaise or other marching songs. Innumerable huge rings were started and the happy citizens circled madly about until forced to pause for lack of breath.

Within the cafes there was no less enthusiasm. Every establishment was passed to the doors and the people alternated in cheering and singing. However, it was an entirely harmless celebration throughout.

Thousands of soldiers—American, Belgian, British and French—everywhere joined heartily with the people in the festivities.

The sound of singing and of tramping feet still continued and thousands still will be celebrating when the dawn of a new day arrives.

CENSORSHIP OF NEWS HAS BEEN ABOLISHED.

Newspapers Hereafter to Tell
What They Please Concerning
Military and Other Matters.

The voluntary censorship, self-imposed by the American newspapers since the war began, need no longer be maintained, according to an announcement by George Creel, chairman of the committee on public information. There will no longer be any necessity of newspapers refraining from telling what they please concerning military and other matters.

The censorship on mail matter from correspondents abroad has also been removed by the censorship board.

This announcement is understood to be preliminary to the abolition of the committee as a government institution. Mr. Creel's statement follows:

"It has been agreed that there is no further necessity for the operation of the voluntary censorship under which the press has guarded from the enemy the military policies, plans, and troop movements of the United States. The agreement may be considered as on longer binding, and the card carrying the requests of the government herewith cancelled.

"The secretary of war and the secretary of the navy, and all others concerned with the direction of America's war efforts, join in sincere acknowledgment of the debt of gratitude owing to the press of the United States for the honorable discharge of a high responsibility. Without force of law, and under no larger compulsion than their own patriotism, the overwhelming majority of newspapers have given unflinching obedience to every desire of military secrecy, carrying through successfully a tremendous experiment in honor and trust."

Creel Body to Quit Soon.

The retirement of Mr. Creel from the chairmanship of the committee on public information may be expected soon. It may be coincident with an order from President Wilson revoking the appointment of the committee and directing that it close up business. The new activity in which Mr. Creel will engage has not been disclosed, but it is believed that he will attend the peace conference in an official capacity, perhaps as publicity director for the American delegation.

The announcement that President Wilson would go to Europe to attend the opening sessions of the peace conference caused a flurry among newspaper men generally. A number of American correspondents will undoubtedly want to accompany him but so far the state department has given no indication as to possible restrictions on the number of newspaper men who would be given passports.

The question of handling such large volumes of dispatches over the cables must be considered, officials point out, and it is certain that with the excessive demands of the press associations all of the papers which would like special stories could be accommodated.

News Items From Worry.

Mrs. Ada Harris and small son, Kelly, spent Saturday night with her sister, Mrs. John Rhodes.

Mrs. W. H. McDowell and Miss Cornelia McDowell spent Friday with Mrs. Paul Holler.

Mrs. W. P. Crouch spent Saturday night with Mrs. W. M. Michaux.

Mrs. John Rhodes and children spent the week-end with her brother, Mr. W. E. Harris.

Miss Z. B. Henderson and Miss M. B. Nichols attended the sale of Mrs. Paul Holler Saturday.

Dr. Phifer was called last Tuesday to see Mr. M. S. Arney, who is suffering from an attack of influenza. We hope for his speedy recovery.

Mrs. R. V. Michaux and children, of Obbs, spent Sunday night with Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Michaux.

Mr. Eb Whisenant returned home Sunday from Phillips, Va.

Mr. John Arney and family were guests Sunday of Mr. Edgar Harris and family.

Mr. J. S. Teague is moving his family to the farm he recently purchased from Mr. Manly McDowell on the Upper Bridge road.

McADOO HAS RESIGNED FROM WILSON'S CABINET

Secretary of Treasury Will Return
to Private Life For Rest
and Recuperation of Fortune.

William G. McAdoo has resigned as Secretary of the Treasury and director general of railroads. President Wilson has accepted his resignation and Mr. McAdoo will return to private business about January 1, or on the appointment of his successor.

Mr. McAdoo's letter of resignation, addressed to President Wilson, follows:

"That now an armistice has been signed and peace is assured, I feel at liberty to advise you of my desire to return, as soon as possible, to private life.

"I have been conscious for some time of the necessity for this step, but, of course, I could not consider it while the country was at war.

"For almost six years I have worked incessantly under the pressure of great responsibilities. Their actions have drawn heavily on my strength. The inadequate compensation allowed to law or cabinet officers (as you know I receive no compensation as director general of railroads), and the very burdensome cost of living in Washington, have so depleted my personal resources that I am obliged to reckon with the facts of the situation.

"I do not wish to convey the impression that there is any actual impairment of my health, because such is not the fact. As a result of long overwork, I need a reasonable period of genuine rest to replenish my energy. But more than this, I must, for the sake of my family, get back to private life, to retrieve my personal fortune.

"I cannot secure the required rest nor the opportunity to look after my long-neglected private affairs unless I am relieved of my present responsibilities.

"I am anxious to have my retirement effected with the least possible inconvenience to yourself and to the public service, but it would, I think, be wise to accept the resignation now, as Secretary of the Treasury, to become effective upon the appointment and qualification of my successor, so that he may have the opportunity and advantage of participating promptly in the formulation of the policies that should govern the future work of the Treasury. I would suggest that my resignation as director general of railroads become effective January 1, 1919, or upon the appointment of my successor.

"I hope you will understand, my dear Mr. President, that I will permit nothing but the most imperious demands to force my withdrawal from public life. Always I shall cherish the greatest honor of my career the opportunity you have so generously given me to serve the country under your leadership in these epochal times."

President Wilson's acceptance of resignation follows:

"I was not unprepared for your letter of the 14th because you had more than once, of course, discussed with me the circumstances which have long made it a serious personal sacrifice for you to remain in office. I knew that only your high and exacting sense of duty had kept you here until the immediate tasks of the war should be over. But I am none the less distressed. I shall not allow our intimate personal relations to deprive me of the pleasure of saying that in my judgment the country has never had an abler, a more resourceful and yet prudent, a more uniformly efficient secretary of the treasury; and I say this remembering all the able, devoted and distinguished men who preceded you. I have kept your letter a number of days, in order to suggest, if I could, some other solution of your difficulty than the one you have now felt obliged to resort to. But I have not been able to think of any. I cannot ask you to make further sacrifices serious as the loss of the government will be in your retirement. I accept your resignation, therefore, to take effect upon the appointment of a successor, because in justice to you I must.

"I also for the same reason accept your resignation as director general of railroads to take effect, as you suggest, on the first of January, next. The whole world admires, I am sure, as I do, the skill and executive capacity with which you handled the great and complex problem of the unified

GERMAN FLEET SURRENDERS TO BRITISH FLEET.

Nineteen Additional U-Boats
Also Turned Over to the
British.

The German fleet as specified in the terms of the armistice with Germany was surrendered to the allies last Thursday.

This announcement was made official by the admiralty Thursday afternoon. The statement reads:

"The commander-in-chief of the grand fleet has reported that at 9:30 o'clock this morning he met the first and main instalment of the German high seas fleet which is surrendering for internment."

It is understood that the German warships surrendered to Admiral Beatty were eight battleships, six battle cruisers and eight cruisers.

There remain to be surrendered two battleships which are under repair, and 50 modern torpedo boat destroyers.

The British grand fleet, accompanied by an American battle squadron and French cruisers, steamed out at 3 o'clock Thursday morning from its Scottish base to accept the surrender of the German battleships, battle cruisers and destroyers. A wireless dispatch Thursday noon reported that it got into touch with the German ships that morning.

The point of the rendezvous for the allied and German sea forces was between 30 and 40 miles east of May island, opposite the Firth of Forth.

The fog which had enveloped the grand fleet for three days cleared and that morning the weather was dull with a slight haze hanging over the Firth of Forth.

The fleet which witnessed the surrender consisted of some 400 ships, including 60 dreadnaughts, 59 light cruisers and nearly 200 destroyers. Admiral Sir David Beatty, commander of the fleet, was on the Queen Elizabeth.

Statesville Loses Hotel Iredell By Fire.

Fire of an unknown origin which originated in the basement of Hamoy's candy kitchen, entirely destroyed the Hotel Iredell building in Statesville at an early hour Sunday morning, the structure burned being one of the largest in that city. In addition to the loss of the hotel building which was complete, the stock of merchandise of the McLelland stores, the Iredell barber shop, Hamoy's candy kitchen and the Iredell Produce Company, were completely burned up. The property loss based on a conservative estimate is above \$100,000.

Speaking of the fact that the firemen were able to confine the flames to the buildings mentioned and that the entire block was not destroyed the correspondent to the Greensboro News speaks highly of the work of a native son of Morganton, saying: "To the magnificent leadership of Col. L. B. Bristol, mayor of Statesville, is attributed the fact that considerable more damage was not done from the conflagration. The mayor was on the spot from the first and directed the work of the fire fighting in such a way as to cause the least damage possible, and to him is accredited the fact that the fire did not spread."

Going Up.

Recently I read of a Missouri farmer who asked the price of a buggy he wished to purchase, and was much angered when informed that the price was \$90.00, whereas twenty years ago the same style could have been bought for \$60.00. The merchant looked over his books and discovered that he had held the buggy mentioned in 1897 for the price of 300 bushels of corn. In turn he offered to give the farmer the following articles in his stock for 300 bushels of corn:

- A buggy at \$80.00;
- A farm wagon at \$75.00
- A suit of clothes at \$20.00;
- A dress at \$20.00;
- A baby dress at \$5.00;
- A baby crib at \$5.00;
- A box of cigars at \$3.00;
- Sugar at \$10.00;
- Tea at \$10.00;
- Gasoline at \$100.00;
- Lubricating oil at \$15.00;
- Total \$353.00.

England tries to overcome the fruit shortage by using vegetable marrow for jam. This suggestion might be taken up by housewives of the United States now that sugar is more abundant. Carrots, pumpkins and ash can be used for jam making.

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