

## NO JUSTIFICATION FOR OUR CONDUCT

SENATOR THOMAS USES SHARP LANGUAGE IN DISCUSSING PANAMA CANAL MATTER.

## OLD TALE OF WRONG RETOLD

Speaks to Question of Paying a Long Overdue Claim of \$25,000,000 Owning to the State of Colombia.

Washington.—American conduct in the negotiations for the construction of the Panama canal, begun first with the republic of Columbia and later carried on with the revolution built States of Panama, were "without justification and therefore indefensible," Senator Thomas, democrat, Colorado, declared in the senate, speaking for ratification of the treaty involving payment of a \$25,000,000 indemnity to Colombia, which has been pending several years.

He recounted the involved story of the diplomatic and commercial dealings of 1903 that finally resulted in the canal's construction and charged that President Theodore Roosevelt "acquired the right of way for the canal from a band of filibusters by bartering for it the honor of the nation."

"The only comfort one gathers from the shameful and sordid story is that it finds no precedent in our history," he said in stating his conclusion. "I trust that we may soon acknowledge the wrong and make some reparation lest it be invoked sometime to shelter or justify assault upon the integrity of some weak and helpless nation."

Decrees are Set Aside. Washington.—Federal court decrees holding that the Clayton act in effect legalized "secondary boycotts" by organized labor, were set aside by the supreme court.

The court held in the case of the Duplex Printing Press company of Battle Creek, Mich., against the International association of Machinists to restrain the latter from boycotting its product, that the "immunity clause" of the Clayton act could not be stretched to cover "illegal" acts of labor organizations.

Joins the Plain Smiths. New York.—Alfred E. Smith, retiring governor of New York, ended a twenty-two year career in public life when he shed his hat and coat in the offices of the United States Trucking corporation and went to work as chairman of its board of directors.

Anarchy in Armenia. Constantinople.—News from Armenia continues confused. The territory of the Armenian soviet republic is the scene of important military movements of Russian troops. The country appears to be in a state of complete anarchy; the bulk of the Armenian army has taken to the hills and many towns and villages are being looted.

Planning a Sick Spell. Washington.—A bill designed to prevent the doctoring or adulteration of the sick man's liquor was introduced by Representative Vare, republican, of Pennsylvania. Specifically it would stop the manufacture and sale for medicinal purposes of whiskey containing less than 45 per cent of alcohol.

Surrender Much Material. Paris.—Marshall Foch's report on Germany's disarmament, according to The Temps, says that the Germans have surrendered 41,000 cannon, 29,000 unmounted cannon barrels, 163,400 machine guns and barrels, 2,800,000 rifles, 16,000 airplanes and 25,000 airplane motors.

Cons Reduces Wages. Greensboro, N. C.—Cotton mills of the Cons interests, employing 3,000 workers, announced a wage reduction of 25 per cent. The company also announced a reduction of 25 per cent in the prices of merchandise handled in its stores, which supply the employees.

Hawaii's Great Sugar Crop. Honolulu, T. H.—There are prospects for an enormous sugar crop in Hawaii in 1921 with comparatively low prices prevailing, according to the Hawaiian Trust company.

Made Homeless by Earthquake. Paris.—Fourteen persons were killed, 300 injured and 10,000 rendered homeless by an earthquake which nearly obliterated the city of Elassah, Albania, according to an undated despatch, received here from the American Red Cross at Tirana.

Seek Ways of Raising Revenue. New York.—Tax reform and new means of raising revenue will take first place for discussion in at least 15 State legislatures now about to open judged by reports.

Tokio is Seventh City. Tokio.—The figures of the recent census show that Tokio is the seventh city of the world with a population of 2,147,190. The population of Osaka, the second city of Japan, is 1,248,056, but if the suburbs are included Osaka's population is 2,579,361.



COL. WILLIAM J. SIMMONS  
Col. William J. Simmons of Atlanta, Ga., founder and imperial wizard of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, who in a public statement asserts that the reorganized Klan is a law-abiding institution and has no connection with the "night riders" and "gin burners" of the South.

## POSSIBLY CALL OUT THE ARMY

If the Statute Does Not Express the Will of the People It Should Be Either Changed or Repealed.

Marion, Ohio.—The people of the United States are going to learn what prohibition means before the last day of 1921. President-elect Harding, it is learned, is determined to enforce the Volstead act strictly, smiting violators hip and thigh. If the law does not express the will of the people, Senator Harding believes it should be changed, but until it is changed it should be obeyed as honestly as other and older laws.

Enforcement will be accomplished, if necessary, by the use of the United States army, for the present situation is considered intolerable. Chronic violation of the law, in the mind of the President-elect, can only result in the development of a national hypocrisy that will degenerate into a general contempt for all law and all authority.

Senator Harding is understood to believe now that if the law is enforced the public will become aroused to such an extent that Congress will be forced to consider the eighteenth amendment anew. He gave a hint of his feeling in his speech accepting the republican presidential nomination.

Big Business Events of 1920. The big business events of 1920 were:

One: The greatest crash in wholesale commodity prices since 1873. Caused largely by a buyers' strike. Buying power of the dollar starts coming back as cost of living begins toppling.

Two: Shrinkage of excess of exports over imports with same speed as our trade balance increased during the war.

Three: Ending of government control of railroads and coal, with a general tendency back to private ownership and away from governmental interference with business.

Four: Intense credit inflation which led to frenzied speculation, was checked by banks calling loans and making money tight. War profits and war prices doomed as period of deflation begins.

Subject to Deportation. Washington.—So long as the Russian Soviet government seeks to stir up insurrection against the government of the United States its members resident here will be subject to deportation, Secretary Wilson said in a letter to Charles Recht, counsel for Ludwig C. A. K. Martens, soviet agent in the United States now under sentence of deportation.

Four Drown in Gulf. Philadelphia.—Clarence Gibbney, attorney for Grover C. Bergdoll, convicted draft dodger and fugitive from justice, and three other Philadelphians, were drowned in the Gulf of Mexico, near the port of Chankin, on the coast of Yucatan.

50,000 Matches Made. Berlin.—Reports received here from Moscow said communistic marriage bureaus have been established and that 50,000 "matches" have been made through them to date.

Senator Chamberlain Better. Washington.—Senator Chamberlain, of Oregon, who underwent a second operation, was reported to be resting well. His condition was said to be satisfactory.

Detective Gave Wrong Tip. Geneva.—M. Wader, a wealthy resident of Bienne, Switzerland, has just sued a detective agency for wrongly recommending an immoral man as husband for his daughter and has obtained a verdict of 140 pounds with costs against the agency.

## DUPLICITY CHARGED AGAINST BALFOUR

FIRST CHAIRMAN OF SHIPPING BOARD WRITES OPEN LETTER TO THE CONGRESS.

## INFORMATION IS SUPPRESSED

No Further Explanation is Required Than That British Envoy Sought Loan of Four Billion Dollars.

Washington.—William Denman, of San Francisco, first chairman of the shipping board, declared in an open letter to members of congress that the reason Arthur J. Balfour, former British secretary of state for foreign affairs, failed to disclose to American government officials the existence of the secret treaties between Great Britain and Japan required "no further explanation than his quest for the four billions of dollars" which the United States loaned Great Britain early in the war.

Mr. Denman said Mr. Balfour arranged "for these moneys" in May, 1917, when he was in this country as head of the British war mission.

"His protestations of deep friendship for the interest of the United States," wrote Mr. Denman, "filled our press and warmed his auditors in the halls of congress and at the tables where our hospitality was extended to him. While he was making them the ink was scarcely dry on the last of the three notes constituting treaties, which, from a naval standpoint, destroyed the island of Guam, probably our most valuable naval base in the Pacific."

Senator Penrose Comes Back. Washington.—Senator Penrose, of Pennsylvania, prominent republican leader, signaled his return to Washington and to public affairs, legislative and political by giving an interview, discussing tariff and other governmental affairs, receiving a few senators, posing for motion pictures and preparing for active work in congress, beginning this week.

Trade With Huns Increases. Washington.—American trade with Germany continues to improve, the monthly statement of the Department of commerce showing exports last month of \$35,051,000, as compared with \$23,044,142 in the same month a year ago and imports from Germany of \$7,577,688, as compared with \$3,212,831 in November, 1919.

New Birmingham Daily. Birmingham, Ala.—The Advance Co. have announced the publication of the Birmingham Advance as an afternoon daily newspaper beginning January 24. The plant is now being installed.

Foundry Officers Murdered. Cleveland, O.—W. W. Sly, president, and George J. Fanner, vice president, of the W. W. Sly Foundry Co., were murdered by five pay-roll handits who escaped with \$4,200 in cash after holding up the two men at the company's plant.

1,470 Automobile Victims. New York.—Automobiles killed 1,470 persons in New York state last year, and of these fatalities 748 were in New York city, the National Highway Protective Association announced here.

Huns Expect Early Peace. Berlin.—The feature of Germany's international relations which is arousing keen interest on the opening of the new year is the prospective early peace with the United States.

Mining Claims Bill Signed. Washington.—The bill extending for six months the time in which 1920 assessment work on mining claims can be done was signed by President Wilson.

Caruso Resting Comfortably. New York.—The condition of Enrico Caruso, opera singer, confined to his hotel here with pleurisy and emphysema, was reported comfortable.

More Killing in Ireland. Belfast.—Twenty-five persons were killed or died from wounds in Ireland between December 22 and December 29, covering the Christmas holidays.

Attack on Italian Army. Rome.—The discovery of a plot in Milan in which the fascist (extreme nationalist party) and anarchists are alleged to have been preparing a joint attack on the Italian army operating against Fiume is reported by the newspapers here.

General Harris Sentenced. Washington.—General Peter C. Harris, adjutant general of the army, was sentenced to ten days in jail by Justice Siddons of the District of Columbia supreme court for contempt of his court.

D'Annunzio to Leave Fiume. Trieste.—The protocol effecting settlement of the Fiume question has been signed. Gabriele D'Annunzio and his legionaries will leave Fiume within five days, it was announced here.



DR. B. J. GRATANA  
Dr. B. J. Gratana is the commercial attaché of the Netherlands legation and recently arrived in Washington.

## PEANUTS AS AGAINST LEMONS

Wilson's Dictatorship not Dangerous Because of Power Exercised but Because of Lack of Tact.

Washington.—Congress must put its own house in order if it expects to get back the power and prestige which has passed gradually into the hands of the executive departments of the government, Professor Lindsay Rogers of the University of Virginia, declared in an address before the American Political Science Association.

Professor Rogers said that, instead of being representatives of the whole people, members of congress too often were but diplomats who came to Washington to represent their fellow partisans in their own districts.

"Peanuts against lemons are too often the great issues in legislation," he said, "or else it is the merits of a small river in Ohio as opposed to one in Florida."

Declaring that legislative inefficiency was the prime cause of present conditions leading to charges of presidential autocracy, Professor Rogers said President Wilson's dictatorship was not dangerous because of the power exercised, but that it had sometimes been obnoxious because of the lack of tact used.

Camp to be Picture Arena. Jacksonville, Fla.—Camp Joseph E. Johnston at Black Point, near here, will be converted into a motion picture producing center, according to an announcement made here by Murray W. Garson, of New York, president of the Fine Arts Pictures, Inc., following the purchase of seven hundred acres of camp land by his company.

Harvard Students Return. Fabyan, N. H.—Three Harvard students who have been missing since they started to climb Mount Washington, returned to the base station of Mount Washington Railway. They were suffering from exposure and lack of food.

859 Pounds Per Acre. Lexington, Ky.—The 1920 crop of burley tobacco in Kentucky was 236,500,000 pounds, an average of 859 pounds per acre, according to figures issued here by Burley Tobacco Growers' association.

100 Per Cent Dividend. Lewiston, Me.—A stock dividend of 100 per cent was authorized by the stockholders of the Androscoggin Cotton mills at a meeting here. The action increases the capitalization to \$2,000,000.

Reduction in Wages. Troy, N. Y.—Seven textile firms in Cohoes and one in Colonie, announced a 22-1-2 per cent reduction in wages effective January 1.

Chief of Military Bureau. Washington.—Colonel George C. Riskards of Oil City, Pa., was appointed by President Wilson as chief of the militia bureau of the War Department.

Harding Selects Escort. Washington.—Troop A, first Ohio Cavalry, Captain Ralph Perkins, of Cleveland, commanding, has been designated to act as President-elect Harding's personal cavalry escort in the inaugural parade.

18,340 Entered Church. Nashville, Tenn.—According to reports of the evangelists of the Southern Methodist church in annual session here with four bishops in attendance, 18,340 persons were received in the church during the past year.

Wilson Refuses Offer. Washington.—President Wilson has refused an offer of \$150,000 from a syndicate to write an article of his own selection on the ground that no article was worth such an amount, it was learned at the White House.

## HOUSE OVERRIDES PRESIDENT'S VETO

WAR FINANCE CORPORATION A LAW AGAIN, AND WILL BE REVIVED IMMEDIATELY.

## RAISE FUNDS BY BOND ISSUE

Some Time Must Elope Before Actual Making of New Loans Begin, Maybe Two Months or Longer.

Washington.—The resolution reviving the War Finance Corporation became a law with its re-approval by the house over President Wilson's veto. The senate over-rode veto the previous day.

The vote in the house was 250 to 56, with three voting present, or 37 more than the required two-thirds majority.

The vote was taken without debate, after Representative Mandell, the republican leader, had stated that since all members realized that the president had raised no new question it seemed wise to proceed to vote without discussion.

Officials of the War Finance Corporation said the corporation would be revived immediately, but that necessarily some time must elapse before the actual making of new loans would begin. Some of them thought that time might be two months.

Funds for making the loans must be raised by a bond issue, it was stated, and other preliminary matters must be cleaned up. While the corporation has a book balance with the treasury of about \$375,000,000, officials said the use of this money for loan purposes would necessitate the issuance of treasury certificates of indebtedness and that an issue of corporation bonds probably would be decided upon instead.

Debt Decrease in December. Washington.—A decrease of \$192,932,075 in the public debt during the last month of 1920 was announced by the Treasury Department.

On December 31, the total gross debt was \$23,982,224,168, as compared with \$25,174,156,244 on November 30. The decrease during the last quarter of the year amounted to \$105,131,196 from the September 30 total.

Unions Held Accountable. Washington.—Labor unions or their members are accountable under the anti-trust laws where they depart from their "normal and legitimate objects and engage in an actual combination of conspiracy and restraint of trade," the supreme court held.

West Virginia Capitol is Burned. Charleston, W. Va.—The capitol building of West Virginia was destroyed by fire. One laborer was killed, a fireman seriously injured and several fire-fighters hurt when a section of roof caved in.

Costly Inaugural Event. Washington.—Fifty thousand dollars was the figure set by the senate rules committee as necessary for congressional expenses in connection with the inauguration of President-elect Harding.

Police and Communists Clash. Belgrade.—In a clash between communists and the police nearly 200 communists and a dozen of the police were wounded. Many Russians were among the demonstrators. The mob stoned the police force.

Obregon Ordered to Rest. Mexico City.—Physicians attending President Obregon are concerned over his health and have ordered him to take a complete rest.

Daniels is Not Advised. Washington.—Secretary Daniels said that so far as he had been advised President Wilson was not considering the calling of a world disarmament conference.

Exciting Scenes Enacted. Louisville, Ky.—Exciting scenes were enacted at several Blue Grass towns when tobacco farmers, disappointed with the low bids for their leaf tobacco, stopped sales, held mass meetings and put plans on foot to market the crop themselves this year.

Urges Referendum Vote. Providence, R. I.—A referendum vote on repeal of the property qualification for voting was recommended by Governor Emery J. Sansouci in his inaugural address. Rhode Island is the only state that retains this in the constitution, the survival of colonial charters. Governor Sansouci succeeded R. Livingston Beekman.

Blaine Takes Office. Madison, Wis., Jan. 4.—John J. Blaine, republican took the oath of office as governor of Wisconsin.

## CONDENSED NEWS FROM THE OLD NORTH STATE

SHORT NOTES OF INTEREST TO CAROLINIANS.

Pittsboro.—The home of Dennis Cross, a negro, two miles east of town was destroyed by fire and one of his sons, Lester, 23 years old, was burned to death.

Gastonia.—Reuben Jay, the fifteen year old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Jay, who lives near Stanley, accidentally shot and killed himself while out hunting.

Winston-Salem.—The Masons of Winston-Salem sent a purse of \$1,400 to Oxford orphanage, this being their annual Christmas donation to the children of that institution.

Raleigh.—C. P. Spruill, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Spruill, sailed from New York on the Olympic, White Star Line, for England to begin his studies at Oxford university as one of the American Rhodes scholars.

Winston-Salem.—Oscar Weaver, of Davidson county, is being held under three bonds two for \$1,000 each, and the third for \$1,500 on three separate counts for blockading.

Lenoir.—Marcus Aver Deal dropped dead while out hunting. The deceased seemed to be in good health until he fell dead. The Oak Hill community has lost one of its best citizens and neighbors.

Kinston.—James Braxton 13, was instantly killed in the outskirts of this city by the accidental discharge of a gun in the hands of James Dail, Jr., 15. The boys, with others, had been shooting at a target.

Charlotte.—County demonstration headquarters at Raleigh has not yet agreed on a successor to Miss Martha Creighton, home demonstration agent for Mecklenburg, who leaves to assume charge of the work in the Greensboro district.

Kinston.—The Carteret county commissioners have authorized the issuance of \$150,000 of bonds for the improvement of roads and bridges in the county, one of the most substantial sums ever granted for the work in that county.

Gastonia.—Funeral services for Col C. B. Armstrong were held at the First Presbyterian church conducted by the pastor, Rev. J. H. Henderlite. The church was filed by friends of the deceased, from all walks of life and from every section of the county, together with many from distant places.

Washington.—Every Tar Heel member of the congress present voted against the Fordney-Green tariff proposal voted on in the House.

Wilson.—Concerted action was taken in Wilson to impress upon the farmers the importance of reducing the tobacco acreage 50 per cent for the year 1921. There was present at this meeting bankers, merchants, fertilizer dealers and warehousemen.

Charlotte.—The largest business in the history of the Charlotte postoffice during the Christmas season was reported by Postmaster J. H. Weddington, who gave instances to show an increase in business amounting to something like 30 to 35 per cent over any previous year.

Asheville.—Charged with the murder of Berry Hensley Vernan B. Bailey of Rankin avenue, seriously wounded is guarded by a policeman in the Mission hospital.

Hensley was instantly killed Charles F. Hare, of 20 Clyde street, fatally wounded, dying and Bailey suffering from a pistol shot through the lung and liver.

Kinston.—The milk of human kindness, the joy of little children and the abiding faith of baby intellects in misshapen bodies mixed together gloriously with rod tin and sparking tinsel in one little community near here where Stinta Claus did not overlook a single kiddie. The Caswell Training school had a Christmas tree.

Hickory.—John Hefner, father of Cecil and Dock Hefner, was caught with eight gallons of liquor by Hickory officers as he drove into his stable. The liquor was in a keg, buried under fodder. Hefner gave bond for his appearance at court.

Hickory.—Hickory's first commercial failure of the year has been reported and it was a popular retail men's furnishing store owned by B. M. Williams and doing business under the name of the Williams Clothing company.

Lexington.—Rev. W. R. Jenkins of this city, Methodist minister and pastor of Linwood circuit of this county, received probably serious injury when his automobile was struck by Southbound railway train No. 62 near Southmont.

Winston-Salem.—John Rankin Herndon, widely known minister of the Southern Presbyterian church, was instantly killed here when struck by an automobile near his home in Wauhtown suburb.

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