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Harding Rejects League of Nations

President in Address Before Congress Says Acceptance of League Would be Betrayal of Mandate of Election—Urges Declaration of Peace and Approves Parts of Treaty That Protects American Rights—Urges Emergency Tariff.

Final rejection of the Versailles League of Nations by America was proclaimed to the world Tuesday by President Harding in a solemn pronouncement of the foreign policies of his administration, states a Washington dispatch of Apr. 12, which continues:

Speaking before the new Congress assembled to write a program of economic and political reconstruction, the President declared acceptance of the league would be nothing short of a betrayal of the mandate of the November elections. Instead, he asked for a congressional declaration of peace and for ratification of those sections of the Versailles treaty which protect specifically American rights and interests in the war settlement.

"In the existing League of Nations, world-governing with its super-powers, this republic will have no part," he said. "It is only fair to say to the world in general, and to our associates in the war in particular, that the league is not a mere sanction by us."

The declaration was answered by a tremendous demonstration in which Republican Senators and Representatives led, while most of their Democratic colleagues sat silent and unsmiling. After weighing the words of the chief executive, the senatorial group of treaty irrecconcilables tonight was claiming a complete victory predicting that even the parts of the treaty endorsed by Mr. Harding never would receive Senate approval.

In his recommendations for domestic legislation, the President gave greatest attention to tariff and tax revision and to the railway situation, though he endorsed a list of lesser measures which congressional leaders declared might prolong the special session until the snow flies.

He also took occasion in his address of nearly an hour to declare his faith in a maintained merchant marine and in the principle of armament reduction without asking for legislation on either subject.

An emergency tariff to correct serious disorders in American industry was placed at the head of the President's request, and within an hour after he finished speaking, the House ways and means agreed to report tomorrow, the emergency measure, passed at the last session and vetoed by President Wilson. For the permanent tariff bill that is to be framed later, Mr. Harding made no specific suggestions except that it follow the principle of protection.

Similarly the President refrained from detailed recommendation on taxation, contenting himself with a general discussion of the situation with an added reminder that his party pledged itself in the last campaign to repeal the excess profits tax. He also recalled the campaign promise to organize a separate government department of public welfare, but made no recommendations whether a cabinet official should be placed at its head.

Declaring rates and operating expenses of the railroads must be lowered, Mr. Harding asked that Congress investigate the whole transportation problem. He recommended coordination of all governmental agencies dealing with former service men, strengthening to the Federal laws affecting highway construction and maintenance, enactment of budget legislation and a congressional inquiry into lynching and race relations in general.

Mr. Harding's definite stand against the league covenant was not a surprise to Republican leaders of the Senate, although the exact wording of the declaration was an unsettled question until shortly before the executive left for the capitol to deliver his address. The first draft of the manuscript was completed soon after midnight, and when the proof sheets came from the public printer this morning, the President cancelled the regular Tuesday cabinet meeting and summoned Republican members of the foreign relations committee to the White House.

In conference with the committee members, the President considered the foreign relations section of the address for more than an hour, hearing the advice of mild reservations as well as irrecconcilables before finally putting his manuscript into his pocket for the ride to the capitol. With out exception the Senators present expressed afterward their satisfaction with the President's views, though there was a wide divergence of views among them regarding the likelihood of an early ratification of the Versailles treaty with the league and other portions omitted.

It was pointed out that the treaty was not now before the Senate, having been returned to the White House after the second failure to ratify it, and that Mr. Harding had shown no indication that he meant to resubmit it in the near future. In his address today he did not specifically declare his intention to do so, merely saying that in preference to separate treaties with Germany and Austria, "the wiser course would seem to be the acceptance of the confirmation of our rights and interests

Distiller And Stills Captured

Daniel Lowry and John Wynn and 2 Stills Taken by Federal Agents and Rural Policeman Smith in Raid Near Buie—Lowry Charged With Having Too Much Liquor and Wynn Charged With Making. Federal Prohibition Agents H. M. Lewis and I. O. Brady and Rural Policeman W. A. Smith captured two distillers and arrested Daniel Lowry and John Wynn, Indians, near Buie, Tuesday. Lowry was bound, over to the Federal court under a \$300 bond by U. S. Commissioner E. M. Johnson yesterday on the charge of having too much whiskey in his possession, while Wynn was bound over to the same court by Commissioner Johnson under a \$500 bond on the charge of manufacturing whiskey. Both made bond.

The officers found a half gallon of whiskey and some 15 or more jugs that had the smell of whiskey and wine about the home of Daniel Lowry. They also found some sprouted corn in a barrel behind his barn. John advised the officers that he was going to borrow a still to make the corn into whiskey, according to the evidence brought out at the trial.

When the officers went to search the home and premises of John Wynn, John left the house and went into the woods. Officer Lewis decided to follow John and went in pursuit. When he caught sight of John, he testified that John had a copper still, complete, in his hands and was moving at fast speed. He kept after John until he overtook him. John told the officer that he found the still and was only going to make something to drink for his own use and not for sale. Later the officers found the site where the still had been operated, apparently for a year or more, near John's house. It was a dandy outfit, according to the officers. The still was destroyed.

The second still was found near the home of Neill Oxendine, Indian. A gallon and a half of whiskey was also found in Oxendine's home. This still was made of two galvanized tubs and accessories to match. Oxendine was not at home and has not yet been arrested. This was the first visit the Federal agents have paid recently to Robeson, but will not be the last. John Wynn appeared to be "mighty poorly" during the trial yesterday. He was suffering terribly with rheumatism and could not get about with the swiftness and ease of the day before when he was carrying the whiskey still, according to the officers.

Daniel and John will be tried during the May term of Federal court in Wilmington.

MILITARY FUNERAL

Remain of Watus Prevatt, World War Hero, En Route Here—Funeral Will Probably Take Place Sunday Afternoon—Will be Conducted by Lumberton Post A. L.

The remains of Watus Prevatt, who was killed in France during the World War, arrived at Hoboken, N. J., yesterday and will be sent here for interment. The funeral will be conducted Sunday afternoon if the remains arrive here in time. The Lumberton post of the American Legion will have charge of the funeral and the remains will be interred with full military honors. Interment will be made in Meadowbrook cemetery. The deceased soldier was a son of Mrs. Adie Bullard of East Lumberton.

William D. Haywood and 79 other industrial Workers of the World, who were convicted before Federal Judge Landis at Chicago in 1918 of attempting to obstruct the government's prosecution of the war, must return to Federal prison as a result of the refusal Monday of the Supreme Court to review their conviction.

As already provided, and to engage under the existing treaty, assuming, of course, that this can be satisfactorily accomplished by explicit reservations.

By some Senators, the words of the President were taken to mean that his mind still was open on the question of reserved ratification, and that he merely suggested that course as preferable to a separate peace. The point stressed by him in that connection and emphasized recently in other administration quarters was that the United States most find some way to reach a diplomatic agreement with both Germany and the allies which would fully protect such advantages as this government gained under the unratified pact of Versailles.

In his endorsement of the peace declaration, the President expressed disapproval of the proposal of some Senators to attach to the declaratory resolution, a general expression of the American government's policy toward future European wars. This proposal has taken various form, but the amendment most favored in recent discussion declared that if European peace and civilization again were threatened, the United States would regard it a menace to its own safety and would take steps to prevent a world catastrophe.

Mr. Harding gave no light on his views on the formation of association of nations, merely giving his pledge to advocate such an association.

Fewer Cases In Recorder's Court

There Has Been a Dropping Off in Cases Recently—Dennis Spivey Will Assist Officers in Rounding Up Men Who Sold Him Monkey Rum.

There has been a "dropping off" in the number of cases in recorder's court here of late. Very few cases have been aired this week. Dennis Spivey, young white man, was up yesterday on two charges—disturbing a religious meeting and carrying concealed weapons. Prayer for judgment was continued in each case upon payment of cost, defendant to appear in court the first Monday in each month for 12 months and show good behavior. This judgment was recommended by the pastor and member, of the East Lumberton Baptist church, it being understood that Spivey was to assist the officers in rounding up the men who sold him the monkey rum he was drinking at the time he raised the disturbance.

W. A. Graham was found not guilty of giving a worthless check. C. S. Stephens, was found guilty of being drunk in the town of Lumberton. Judgment was suspended upon payment of the cost.

LOAN OF 2 MILLIONS FOR FINANCING COTTON EXPORTS

Export of 30,000 Bales of Cotton is Involved in the Transaction.

Approval of an application for a loan of \$2,000,000 for financing cotton exports was announced yesterday by the War Finance corporation, states a Washington dispatch.

Export of 30,000 bales of cotton to England, France, Italy, Portugal, Japan and Germany is involved in the transaction, according to Eugene Meyer, director of the corporation. The application, Mr. Meyer added, was a direct result of a recent conference in New Orleans with Southern bankers.

Application for the loan, he said, was made by an expert financing corporation. Discussing the recent conferences in Washington, Atlanta and New Orleans with exporters, manufacturers and bankers, Mr. Meyer declared the results "were considered satisfactory by all concerned." The most important result, he said, was that the bankers are going to approach the problems of exporting cotton and other Southern products from a new point of view and in a more energetic manner.

MESSAGE FAILS TO IMPRESS.

President is Not Clear on Important Questions—Follows Wilson's Lead in Addressing Congress—Plan for Peace Considered Weak and Absurd. President Harding's message did not make much of an impression here today, states a Washington dispatch of April 12, for it is not clear on important questions. Democrats were interested in the fact that Mr. Harding followed the lead of Wilson and read what he had to say, appearing in person. Wilson was called "king" by G. O. P. leaders.

Democrats are preparing to give the Harding recommendations fair consideration, but they see no good in the emergency tariff, and will fight it to a finish. Representative Kitchen, if he is able, will lead the assault in the House and Senator Simmons in the Senate. The plan for peace is considered weak and absurd. Senator Simmons, discussing the message said:

"I was very much pleased with much of the President's address, but the Democrats will dissent from his views on the tariff, and taxation. Especially do I disagree with his views on internal taxes. His foreign policy must be very startling to the allies and confusing to his party. I had expected that he would scrap the League of Nations, but thought he would offer in its stead something more than mere platitudes."

Superior Court

It is Expected That Court Will Adjourn This Afternoon or Tomorrow—Only One Jury Trial This Week.

It is expected that Superior court for the trial of civil cases will adjourn this afternoon or tomorrow. Only one jury trial has been heard this week. This was J. H. McArn vs. P. P. Purvis, in which judgment was rendered in favor of the plaintiff.

Several judgments have been signed. Court did not meet at all yesterday, there being nothing on the calendar ready for trial.

E. L. R. Prevatt Makes Voluntary Assignment.

Mr. E. L. R. Prevatt, local merchant, yesterday made a voluntary assignment, in which Mr. C. E. Chery was named as trustee for the creditors. The business had been operated at a loss and being unable to meet his bills is the reason given for the assignment. It is said that the assets are almost equal to the liabilities. Mr. Prevatt carried a large stock of general merchandise. He opened business here at the peak of high prices.

The regular meeting of the O. E. S. will be held tonight in the Masonic hall, beginning at 8 o'clock.

Much Damage From Frost And Cold

Gardens and Truck Suffered Most—Some Tobacco Plants Killed—Much Damage to Fruit.

Considerable damage was wrought by the heavy frost which was general throughout this section Tuesday morning. The greatest damage was to gardens and truck, it is learned. Tobacco plant beds that were not covered were also damaged and some plants that had been transplanted were killed, according to the farmers. Considerable ice was in evidence Tuesday morning. The fruit crop was damaged considerably, it is said.

Mr. W. D. Barfield, who lives on R. 1, 9 miles from Lumberton, says pretty much all fruit was killed out his way. He says his grape vines all were killed and that some of his neighbors report that some corn was killed.

HOUSE DEMOCRATS WILL FIGHT EMERGENCY TARIFF

Claim Cost of Living Would Be Increased by Proposed Law Two Billion Dollars a Year.

House of Congress Democrats bound themselves through caucus action yesterday to stand against the emergency tariff and anti-dumping bill, and E. P. ... minority leader, made public simultaneously a statement of views of minority members of the ways and means committee by the early assailing of the Republican temporary tariff program.

In the minority report the Republicans are accused of tossing into the lap of "three great trusts," the packers, the sugar trust and the woolen trust, "\$275,000,000 a year," and of seeking to disbar any future trade with the central powers and smaller states in Europe through "a subtle and dangerous joker," in directing the secretary of the treasury to fix the value of foreign money as a basis for levying duties on imports.

Figures are presented purporting to show that the actual increase in living costs resulting from enactment of such a law would be about \$2,000,000,000 a year. The statement says that the bill would hand a "gratuity" of \$125,000,000 annually to the sugar trust, \$55,000,000 annually to the "meat and beef trust, the packers," and more than \$100,000,000 a year to the income of the "woolen trust."

Congress Prepares to Put Through Administration Program.

Congress squared away yesterday on the administration program outlined in President Harding's address Tuesday, states a Washington dispatch.

In harmony with the President's recommendations, the House arranged to expedite the emergency tariff bill, passage of which is expected Friday, while in the Senate the resolution to end the state of war with Germany and Austria was introduced by Senator Knox, Republican, Pennsylvania. The latter is to be brought up for debate late next week.

Many bills in both Senate and House, designed to meet legislative proposals of Mr. Harding, also were introduced. In the Senate, Senator Borah, Republican, Idaho, re-introduced his naval disarmament resolution, proposing to that end a three-power conference of the United States, Great Britain and Japan.

Meeting of Robeson Union Post at Pembroke April 16.

Correspondence of The Robesonian. There will be a meeting of the Robeson union post Saturday night, April 16th, at Pembroke Normal school. Every ex-soldier is invited to be present. The purpose of the meeting will be to enroll new members. We urge every one who has not enrolled to enroll in this meeting. It means much to every ex-service man and we want to send our report in and get our chart. Mr. A. Y. Paul will be in charge of the meeting. J. R. Lowry, Post Commander, L. W. Jacobs, Adj.

J. R. Hughes, a prominent citizen and real estate man of Greensboro, died Sunday following a month's illness.

Colonel James H. Young, one of the foremost negroes of the State, died at his home in Raleigh Monday. During the Spanish-American war he was commander of a regiment of negro troops and under a Republican administration he held office as collector of internal revenue.

Clyburn School Will Close April 22.

The Clyburn public school will close Friday, April 22. There will be exercises on Friday night and an address by Mr. L. J. Britt of the Lumberton bar. Mr. Fred Brown is teacher.

Play at Ten Mile April 19.

St. Pauls, April 13.—The Saint Pauls high school will give a play, "Home Ties," in the school building at Ten Mile Tuesday night, April 19. Admission, 35 and 20 cents. Proceeds will go to the athletic association.

Dr. Floyd Johnson of Whiteville and Dr. L. D. Floyd of Cerro Gordo are Lumberton visitors today.

St. Pauls News

St. Pauls Defeats Lumber Bridge and Red Springs in Baseball—Successful Debaters Go to Chapel Hill for Finals—Mr. Duncan Smith Injured in Fall—Much Interest in Town Politics—Personal Mention.

Correspondence of The Robesonian. St. Pauls, April 13.—Mrs. Roxena McCormac and son, James, spent Saturday and Sunday with Mrs. McCormac's sister Mrs. McGougan, at Philadelphia.

Rev. Frank Hare, who recently had an operation at a sanatorium in Charlotte returned Tuesday.

Miss Katie Groves Northrop spent Saturday in Fayetteville, shopping.

Miss Ethel Lindsey returned to Fayetteville Monday after spending the week-end with her parents here on Armstrong street.

Miss Cornelia Steele spent Saturday in Fayetteville.

Miss Ruby Williams, who was called suddenly to her home at Barnesville Wednesday on account of her brother's death, returned Monday.

Miss Pearl Humphrey and sister, Mrs. N. E. Drum, spent Thursday in Lumberton with Miss Claudia Davis.

Miss Pearl Harris from Norfolk, Va., is spending some time with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Harris, on Main street.

Miss Blanch Harris, who spent the week in Wagram, returned Sunday.

Miss Katie Groves Northrop left Sunday for Laurinburg, where she will spend some time with her grandmother, Mrs. Rich.

Miss Cleve Martin, who has been teaching at Oakton, has returned home, her school having closed.

The Lumber Bridge baseball team came over to play our boys Monday. The game was very close, but St. Pauls won two points. There was a game Tuesday between Red Springs and St. Pauls in which St. Pauls won out, the score being 12 to 5.

Miss Groves Lackey spent the week-end with her parents here on Main street.

Miss Lena Dinnie from Lumberton spent the week-end with Mrs. A. J. Sugar on Blue street. Miss Dunie and Mrs. Sugar attended the Fleishman wedding in Fayetteville Tuesday.

Mr. Sugar from Bennettsville, S. C., is visiting his brother Mr. A. J. Sugar, on Blue street.

Mr. and Mrs. Balance from Dunn spent Tuesday with Mrs. Balance's mother, Mrs. R. B. Humphrey. Miss Pearl Humphrey and Mrs. N. E. Drum returned with Mr. and Mrs. Balance and will be their guests for a week.

Miss Elton Byrd spent the week-end with her parents, Rev. and Mrs. Byrd, at Tolarville.

Misses Louise Bennett, Florabel McGougan and Mable Howard, and Mr. Bernard Dunn, left Thursday morning for Chapel Hill, where they will enter the finals in the debate. They made the trip thru the country and were accompanied by Mr. T. S. Teague, superintendent of the schools here.

Mr. Duncan Smith fell Tuesday from the top of a house where he was working and was pretty badly bruised up. One arm was broken and a few scratches were the result.

While in some places, especially in the country, "farming is the order of the day," "Mayor" is our subject. Quite a lot of interest is shown in this matter, and it promises to be a tight run. Mrs. Bowman from Liberty is visiting her daughter Mrs. A. S. McGougan on Armstrong street.

FRUIT CROP IS KILLED IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA.

Loss Estimated to be in the Millions Wrought by Frost and Low Temperatures.

Asheville, April 12.—Destruction of the fruit crop in western North Carolina at a loss estimated to be in the millions, was wrought overnight by damaging frosts and low temperatures that set in Monday night, according to all reports reaching agriculturists in this city.

"All dead, every single one," was the terse report brought back by C. C. Proffitt, county farm demonstrator, after an inspection this morning of orchards in the Fairview section. Apples and peaches, in so far as he was able to ascertain, were entirely killed, such as had escaped the earlier frosts and cold experienced two weeks ago when one-tenth of the crop only was destroyed, it was estimated.

Upon all sides farmers were uttering the three short words that spells an enormous loss throughout Buncombe and adjoining mountain counties: "Fruit is killed."

Inquiries from several adjacent sections, the farm demonstrator reported, brought forth similar response, all indicating that practically no fruit survived. There may be a few late apples of course, he admitted, for some have not yet put out. But taking the peaches, hope for any appreciable showing is looked upon as out of the question.

Coming as it does upon the heels, almost, of the great western North Carolina apple show in which a great wave of enthusiasm for increased fruit production was started, the stroke of misfortune falls with almost double force in the land of the sky.—Special to Greensboro Daily News.

COTTON MARKET.

Middling cotton is quoted on the local market today at 10 1/4 cents the pound; strict middling 10 1/2 cents.

BRIEF ITEMS LOCAL NEWS

Judging from the number of perch one sees on the streets, the fish must be biting in a satisfactory manner.

Tomorrow (Friday, April 15) will be the last chance for paying light and water bills before the lines are disconnected.

Chief of Police D. M. Baker, who underwent an operation at a local hospital two weeks ago, was able to be out yesterday.

Mr. Haynes Barnes of Proctorville passed through town last evening en route to Drexel to visit his brother, Mr. Troy F. Barnes, who is seriously ill.

Mr. Wilbur M. Leggett yesterday opened an auto repair shop in the McLean building, South Elm street. Mr. Leggett was formerly employed by Mr. H. A. Page, Jr.

The regular monthly meeting of the Robeson Medical society was held in the municipal building here yesterday afternoon. Quite a number of the physicians of the county attended the meeting.

Rev. Dr. ... pastor of Chestnut Street Methodist church, and Mr. J. A. Sharpe are attending today in Laurinburg a district conference in regard to the Methodist educational movement.

Twenty-two teachers—7 whites, 4 Indians and 11 colored—took the examination here Tuesday and yesterday. The examination was conducted by Prof. J. R. Poole, county superintendent of public instruction.

Dr. and Mrs. R. S. Beam arrived last night from New York, where they went soon after their marriage in Richmond, Va., on April 2. Dr. and Mrs. Beam will live at the home of Mrs. N. A. McLean, North Elm street.

Mr. W. L. Thompson of R. 4, Lumberton, was in town yesterday. Mr. Thompson thinks the cold spell damaged tobacco that had been transplanted considerably. The plants on Mr. Thompson's plant bed were also badly damaged by the frost.

It happened yesterday that a judge of the Superior court, a justice of the peace and a United States commissioner and a justice of the peace were all in the court room at the same time. One could have been tried for almost any violation of the laws of the land.

THE RECORD OF DEATHS.

Troy F. Barnes of Burke County.

News was received last evening of the death of Mr. Troy F. Barnes at his home at Drexel, Burke county, at 5:20 yesterday afternoon. Deceased had been ill for several days. He was a native Robesonian and formerly lived in Lumberton. His widow and several children survive. It has not been learned whether or not the remains will be brought to this county for interment. Deceased was a son of the late Rev. and Mrs. Kinchen Barnes, of the Proctorville section.

Mr. Monroe Hester of Bladen County

Mr. Monroe Hester, a well-known Bladen county citizen, died at the Thompson hospital here early yesterday morning, death resulting from appendicitis and complications. Deceased suffered with heart trouble and could not undergo an operation. He is survived by his widow and several children.

Miss Jackie Leggett, Fairmont, R. 2.

Miss Jackie Leggett, aged about 22 years, died early yesterday morning at the home of her father, Mr. Wright Leggett, on R. 2, from Fairmont, death resulted from pneumonia. The funeral was conducted at 10 o'clock this morning and interment made near the Leggett home.

Acquittal of Negro Causes Outbreak in Court.

Frederick, Md., April 12.—An outbreak occurred in the Frederick county courtroom late today when Charles Henry Dorsey, negro, was acquitted of the charge of attack on a young white woman of Baltimore county. Spectators pounced upon the negro, beating him with their fists; water glasses and ink wells were thrown across the room and the uproar did not subside until one of the judges rescued the negro and carried him into an ante-room.

The scream of Miss Tweedale, "he is guilty," was the signal for the rush on the negro. Marcus Tweedale, her brother, struck Dorsey several times, cutting his cheek. Mrs. R. W. Rogers, a sister of Miss Tweedale, witnesses say, shouted:

"It is a shame! he is guilty, and they are letting him go." The room was in an uproar. Judge Urner stepped down beside Dorsey and announced that the "law will protect the negro at all hazards." He ordered the court cleared. Dorsey was hurried out into an automobile and was taken to the jail.

Late tonight it was reported that the negro had been removed from Frederick to another part of the state. The negro previously had been convicted and sentenced to hang but a new trial was ordered and he was acquitted.