

ITALIAN PREMIER REBUKES WILSON FOR APPEAL TO ITALIAN PEOPLE OVER HEAD OF GOVERNMENT

REQUEST SHIPS TO CARRY FREIGHT TO SOUTHERN PORTS

Senator Simmons Makes Urgent Plea For Justice To Gateways of South

PRESENT METHOD UNJUST TO ATLANTIC SEABOARD

Large Delegation in Washington To Secure Allocation of 14 Ships To Ports of Wilmington, Charleston, Savannah and Jacksonville; Mission Apparently Successful

News and Observer Bureau, 602 District National Bank Bldg. By Special Licensed Wire. Washington, April 24.—"We are a part of this great country. We are going to demand our just rights," declared Senator Farnifold M. Simmons in a speech today in which he charged both by direct testimony and implication that the United States Shipping Board had discriminated against southern ports in favor of the North Atlantic commerce centers in the allocation of ships for trading between the U. S. and the West Indies, South and Central America. He was addressing a conference of representatives of the shipping board and shipping and commercial interests of the South, the latter championing the cause of the South Atlantic Maritime Corporation for the assignment of 14 freight steamers for plying commerce between five southern ports and the West Indies, South and Central America.

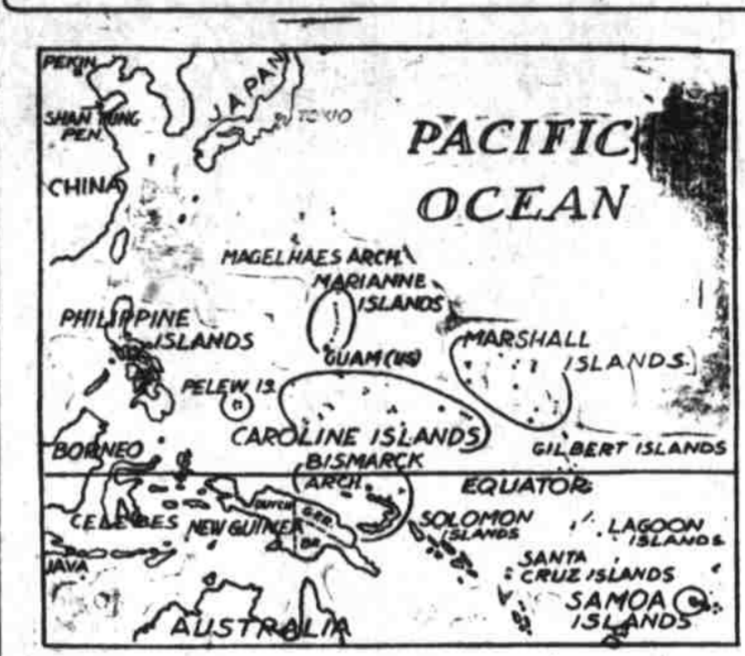
WILSON DENIES ENTERING INTO SECRET ALLIANCE

Washington, April 24.—Secretary Tumulty in a statement issued tonight at the White House said a cablegram had been received from President Wilson in Paris, "giving positive and unqualified denial" to reports that "the President had entered into a secret alliance or treaty with some of the foreign powers."

The statement given out at the White House at the direction of Mr. Tumulty said: "In view of the fact that certain newspapers of wide circulation throughout the country have intimated that the President had entered into a secret alliance or treaty with some of the great powers, I conveyed this information to the President and am today in receipt of a cablegram from him giving positive and unqualified denial to this story."

Press dispatches from Paris several days ago said it was understood that the President was considering an understanding with France providing for the assistance of the United States in event of any future aggression on the part of Germany. These dispatches asserted that the President upon his return might lay the details of such an understanding before the Senate.

HERE ARE HUN SOUTH SEA ISLANDS BRITISH AND JAPS WOULD DIVIDE



"All south of the equator is yours, all north of the equator, ours," said the Japs to the British, proposing a divvy of the German colonies in the Pacific in 1917. And the British agreed. Also the Japs were to have that portion of the Shantung peninsula taken from China by the Germans and from the Germans by Japan. The secret pact is just made public at the peace meet and it's one of the sticking points of the peace treaty. On the map the former German possessions in the Pacific are circled. The agreement would give the Japs four groups of islands north of the equator with a combined area of 1040 square miles and a population of 70,000. It would bring under British control, exercised through Australia, 25,000 square miles with a population of 100,000.

ANGRY BECAUSE OF PUBLICITY GIVEN

Italian Enjoys Hold That World-Wide Publication Insult To Government

PEACE DELEGATION AT PARIS KNEW OF MESSAGE

"Fiume or Nothing" Has Been Italy's Formula For Weeks, Says Member of American Delegation; This Forced Wilson To Tell World Where he Stands

(By The Associated Press.) Paris, April 24.—Premier Orlando and the other members of the Italian delegation apparently are much angrier over President Wilson's world-wide publication of his position on the Adriatic question than over his opposition to their claims and the fact that diplomatic procedure has been violated and what is termed an insult offered to the Italian government because the President made his position known to the Italian people over the head of the peace delegation. Discussing this contention today a member of the American peace delegation said, "Fiume or nothing" has been the Italian delegation's unalterable formula for nearly eight weeks and their firm insistence upon the settlement of the Adriatic question before an agreement upon the peace terms forced President Wilson to tell the world where he stands. The atmosphere of the conference simply had to be cleared, and there was no other way for the President to clear it.

PREMIER LEFT PARIS FOR ROME AFTER CONFERENCE

Paris, April 24.—(By The Associated Press.)—Premier Orlando and Signor Barzilai will leave for Rome tonight. This decision was announced after Premier Orlando's return from his conference with the other members of the council of four, at which, according to the Italian premier, only questions of principles and not territorial questions, were discussed. This is explained as meaning that the discussions centered on the question of prestige, involved in the publication of President Wilson's statement and that no effort was made to reach a settlement on a territorial basis. The conference lasted two hours. Baron Sonnino, the foreign minister and the other Italian delegates and representatives will remain in Paris temporarily.

ORLANDO REPLIES TO WILSON'S NOTE

President Treating Italians As If They Were Barbarous Folk, He Says

ITALIAN DELEGATES NOT OPPOSED TO 14 POINTS

Head of Italy's Mission at Peace Conference Says Practice of Addressing Nations Directly Constitutes an Innovation, Which He May Later Follow

(By The Associated Press.) Paris, April 24.—The statement issued by Premier Orlando today says nothing of the intention of the Italians to quit the Peace Conference. It merely states Italy's case concerning Fiume and the Dalmatian coast and does not appear in the form of an ultimatum. "Premier Orlando declares that President Wilson's proclamation is an attempt to place the government in opposition to the people. "He is treating the Italians," adds the Premier, "as if they were a barbarous people, without a democratic government."

ORLANDO WAITS TO SIT IN CONFERENCE

Question of Prestige Involved in Publication of Statement Was Considered

(By The Associated Press.) Vittorio Orlando, Italian Premier, has delayed his intended departure for Rome long enough again to sit in conference with the other members of the Council of Four—Premier Lloyd George, Premier Clemenceau and President Wilson.

The knotty question regarding Fiume and the Dalmatian coast, over which the council is at odds, did not come up for discussion, only questions of principle being taken up. Two hours were taken up in the council, which was believed to have considered fully the question of prestige involved in the publication of President Wilson's statement on the Italian situation.

While Signor Orlando is returning immediately to Italy, there to lay the details of the peace conference before Parliament, Baron Sonnino, Italian Foreign Minister, and the other Italian representatives, will temporarily remain in Paris. The situation as regards Italy's claims is still acute. There apparently has been no recession by the Italians from their stated terms, nor is there any indication that the British and French premiers and President Wilson have receded from their stand.

MARYLAND NEGRO SENT TO GALLOW; SPEEDY TRIAL

(By The Associated Press.) Fenton, Md., April 24.—Isiah Fountain, the negro who originally assaulted 15-year-old Bertha Simpson and who escaped from the jail here Monday night, was recaptured yesterday and today convicted and sentenced to be hanged. The jury was out only nine minutes. There was no demonstration in the court room. Fountain, after sentence was pronounced, continued to protest his innocence. State troops and a special detail of 25 policemen from Baltimore city guarded the jail and surrounded the courthouse. Tonight the negro was taken, heavily guarded, in an automobile to the steamboat for Baltimore, where he will be kept in the city jail until executed. No announcement has yet been made concerning the distribution of \$500 reward for the capture of the negro. A movement is on foot to have the fund turned over to a guardian for the little girl whom the negro assaulted.

Havana Watches Law Violators

Havana, Cuba, April 24.—The captain of the Port of Havana has notified firms which furnish supplies for fishing vessels that watch will be kept over such shipping and that visits of inspection will be made to see that they carry no more food and liquor supplies when leaving port than is necessary for their own use.

Fireman Killed in Baltimore

(By The Associated Press.) Baltimore, Md., April 24.—One city fireman was killed and ten injured tonight when a wall fell on them at the ruins of St. Mary's Industrial School for Boys. The school was swept by flames earlier in the evening with a loss of \$500,000.

Chamber Starts To Work

(Special to The News and Observer.) Rocky Mount, April 24.—Nashville's newly organized Chamber of Commerce, with L. T. Vaughn as its president, has already started to work in earnest. M. W. Luncke, former mayor of Nashville, is secretary.

FIVE COUNTIES JOIN IN GREAT WELCOME

New Bern Stages Big Home-Coming Event For Craven and Surrounding Section

BRINSON DELIVERS ADDRESS OF WELCOME

Response By Col. Albert Cox, and Others; Giant Planes Fly Over City and Drop Victory Loan Literature; Barbecue Dinner Served With Accosories; Baseball Games

New Bern, April 24.—New Bern and Craven county and the four adjoining counties of Onslow, Carteret, Jones and Pamlico, united today in giving the returned soldiers and sailors a "welcome home" celebration, and it was a great success from every standpoint. A tremendous crowd variously estimated at from fifteen to twenty thousand people of both races came to do honor to the men of the service. The early morning electrical storm and rain served only to lay the dust and by daybreak the streets were filling up. Notable visitors were here including Col. Albert Cox, commander of the 115th Field Artillery.

Parade Principal Streets

At 10:30 o'clock the men in uniform assembled for the parade, which passed through the principal streets of the city headed by the St. Paul's School band of Beaufort. Veterans of the civil war occupied automobiles. Injured men also rode in special automobiles. The Elks drum corps followed next, leading the service men, headed by Col. Cox, Capt. Pollock, Major Haynes and Capt. Royster. Then came the sailor boys led by Lieut. Wm. Ward. Next the colored soldiers led by their own band.

GERMAN FISHERMEN CAN PLY TRADE IN PASSAGES

Paris, April 24.—The request of the German government that German fishermen be permitted in the Skagerrak and Cattegat passages was granted by the supreme economic council at its meeting Tuesday. The council also approved the proposal for a more extensive use of the water route through Germany by way of Hamburg and the River Elbe. It abolished the existing limiting of 8,000 tons of food and material in order to supply the present needs of the Czecho-Slovaks. It is estimated that the traffic through the Elbe probably will amount to from 25,000 to 35,000 tons at a time. The council also considered the question of meeting the deficiency of the coal supply in Europe, particularly with reference to Italy.

WOMAN SHOT BY UNIDENTIFIED MAN

Mrs. C. W. Pratt, of High Point, Wounded in Thigh; Mystery Surrounds Affair

(Special to The News and Observer.) High Point, April 24.—Mrs. Charles W. Pratt, of 518 English street, was shot in the thigh yesterday by an unidentified man who fired into the piazza of the Pratt home as he rode rapidly by on a bicycle. The wound is painful but not serious.

Since April 1 Mrs. Pratt has been the object of much annoyance from a band of three or four men. On that date she received a typical black-hand letter instructing her to proceed to a point in the eastern part of the city where she would find a pile of stones to be removed. Failure to follow out the instructions to the most minute detail would mean death.

Mrs. Pratt and her husband took the letter as an April fool joke. The husband, however, decided to go and see if the pile of stones could be located. It was where the letter designated.

The next day a letter was received by Mrs. Pratt stating that her husband would not do, that she must obey instructions if she wished to live. This letter was cancelled in the High Point office at 9:30 p. m.

From April 1 until April 20 letters and telephone calls were numerous. In addition the men made frequent trips in an auto past the Pratt home. According to Mrs. Pratt they very frequently changed a tire. Some time they wore the uniform of the United States army, but she never failed to recognize them.

After the first few letters had been received Deputy Sheriff J. E. Wagner was informed of the happenings by Mrs. Pratt and he was summoned to the Pratt home several times after one of the men had telephoned to ascertain if Mrs. Pratt were at home alone. On one of the visits of Mr. Wagner he stopped at an adjacent store and in a few minutes was informed by Mrs. Pratt that a man, the same one who had previously called, had again telephoned and stated that he would have no trifling, that Sheriff Wagner was near at hand and he didn't contemplate being caught. Mrs. Pratt was warned to proceed to Mechanicsville alone, but she carried her husband with her. The resultant letter the following day was sufficient to bring a charge of misuse of mails against the writer.

A few days ago she was ordered to place her picture beneath a bridge a short distance from the city. Investigators going there at 2 o'clock the following morning saw foot prints made by some man going to ascertain if orders had been obeyed.

The final letter came Saturday. Mrs. Pratt was told to be in the parlor of a Greenboro hotel between 9:30 and 11:30 on Easter Monday morning else life would be short and death would be sure. She didn't go. That was the last she heard of or from the men until Wednesday. Fifteen or twenty minutes before the shooting, several men arrived in a large touring car. She was on the front porch of the home and one of the men, the largest one, called and asked her if she was alone. She answered affirmatively. About this time, according to a street car motor-car which passed the house, a motor cycle dashed by, its rider flying into the Pratt home. The shooting and the incidents leading up to it are the talk of the town and are enveloped in mystery.

WILL ENFORCE BAN ON BEERS, HE SAYS

Question of Intoxication Will Not Be Considered By The Government

(By The Associated Press.) New York, April 24.—The government now proposes a literal enforcement of the war-time prohibition act, including a ban on production and sale of all beers and wines, whether or not they are intoxicating, the Department of Justice announces through a special representative in the Federal Court here today.

While no steps will be taken to prevent brewing, pending a court determination of the law's constitutionality raised by brewers of the New York district, manufacturers will operate in peril of future prosecution, according to the statement of William C. Fitts, special counsel, appearing for Attorney General Palmer in the beer litigation.

The attorney advised Judge A. N. Hand, who heard arguments on the government's motion to dismiss the suit brought on behalf of the national brewing interests by the Jacob Hoffman Brewing Company to restrain the Federal authorities from interfering with its production of 2 1/2 per cent beer, that the Department of Justice did not know and did not care whether beer of the strength indicated was intoxicating.

The law prohibited sale after June 30 of distilled beverages as well as manufacture after April 20 and sale after June 30 of "beer, wine and other intoxicating malt or vinous liquors for beverage purposes," pending the demobilization of the military forces, he said. The words "beer" and "wine" were not defined in the opinion of the government, he added, and the apparent congressional intention to stop the "haute" of grains and fruits in their production in any strength would be enforced.

Necessity As Great As Ever. With "half the world" looking to America for food, Mr. Fitts contended, the necessity of its conservation was greater "even than on the day of Chateau Thierry," and it was equally essential that liquors be withheld from public sale while the army and navy were undergoing demobilization.

To this statement, Judge Hand added his opinion that the war was "still in progress," which upset one of the complainants' contentions.

None but court had authority to pronounce a beverage intoxicating, or the opposite, Mr. Fitts said; and cited the commissioner's recent order permitting brewing of the 2-4 per cent beverage as a confession of his mistake. Until last month, when New York brewers questioned the validity of the ruling,

British and French forced to withdraw from their positions between Brailleur and Wytschate, after an all-day struggle in which the battlefields were strewn with dead and wounded.

Australian troops regain lines for allies in Sea attack upon enemy at Villers-Bretonneux, capturing a village and 600 prisoners. Tanks were used in this attack.

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Victory Bonds Pay

ONE YEAR AGO TODAY

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City Relieves Influenza Distress

Sydney, Australia, April 24.—The city of Sydney has spent nearly \$100,000 since the beginning of the Spanish influenza epidemic in dealing with distress due to unemployment because of the disease.

Over Government to People

"Above all," he continues, "I should have the right to complain if the declarations of the presidential message have the purpose to oppose the Italian people to the Italian government, because the high degree of civilization which the Italian people has attained and its democratic and liberal regime. To oppose Italian people and government would be to admit that this great free nation would submit to the yoke of a will other than its own, and I should be forced to protest strenuously against such unjustly offensive to my country."

Referring to President Wilson's statement

Premier Orlando says it entirely purports to demonstrate that the Italian claims beyond certain limits laid down in his message violate the principles upon which must be founded the new regime of right, justice and liberty among peoples. The Premier adds that he never denied these principles and that even President Wilson would do him the justice to say that in the long conversation they had had together he (Orlando) had never relied upon the formal authority of a treaty by which he knew President Wilson was not bound, but merely relied on reason and justice, upon which Italy's claims were based.

Could Not Convince President

Signor Orlando deprecates that he could not convince President Wilson, although the President admitted that justice and truth are the monopoly of no man and that all men err. The conference he points out, has had to change his mind many times and he does not think himself.

High Point, April 24.—The war tank here today drew a large crowd. Hon. Robert N. Page was the speaker. The afternoon was a holiday in the city.

NEW YORK MILL OPENS

Troy, N. Y., April 24.—The Mohawk River Mill at Cohoes, owned by the Wright Company which also operates factories in this city, has reopened after being closed since February 1. The concern will operate on a 48-hour week basis with pay for the same number of hours. There is no other development in the textile situation brought about by the eight-hour dispute.

R. N. Page Speaks at High Point. High Point, April 24.—The war tank here today drew a large crowd. Hon. Robert N. Page was the speaker. The afternoon was a holiday in the city.