

WEATHER:

Generally fair Wednesday and Thursday.

WATCH LABEL

on your watch, if you should be separated from your party, this label will be of great service in helping you find your way.

The News and Observer

QUICKLY MOVING TROOPS PURSUING MEXICANS WHO ENGAGE IN DEPREDATIONS

Border Guard Have Been Organized and Stationed at Strategic Points

GENERAL DICKMAN GIVEN FULL AUTHORITY TO ACT

Only Fear that American Aviators Would be Killed Prevented an Earlier Movement of United States Soldiers in Bandit Country; Every Effort is Being Made to Capture Desperadoes and Bring Them Back; Mexico Asked to Co-operate in Restoring Order at the Earliest Moment

Marfa, Texas, Aug. 19.—Spread out far-shaped over a wide stretch of Mexican country, south of the Rio Grande, United States cavalry troops, aided by airmen as scouts, tonight are combating the mountains for the bandits who held the two American aviators for \$15,000 ransom.

After the forward dash over the border today, the troops probably were being handicapped tonight by a storm which was reported in messages by field telephone to be raging in the mountains below the border.

It was feared the torrential rains would obliterate trails left by the bandits. The expeditionary force for a time moved forward in the face of high winds, according to the reports.

The two lieutenants, H. G. Peterson and Paul N. Davis, for whom ransom was demanded and who were released early today, guided the Americans in their quest of the Mexican outlaw.

Bandits Have Scattered.

Within nearly six hours start of the punitive expedition, the bandits are believed to have scattered in the mountain passes and canyons, and it probably will be necessary to search every square mile of the rough country below the border to find them, in the opinion of military men.

Despite the difficulty in locating the bandits from the air, American aviators who left the flying field here early today scouted almost the entire Ojinaga district.

It was not known tonight how many are in the bandit band. Lieut. Davis and Lieut. Peterson said they saw six men. There were twenty other bandits at the ranch where the outlaws stopped. American aviators were told the band numbered sixty.

Arrangements for nurses, ambulances and surgical dressings for the punitive expedition troops were being made tonight by Elmer Danneberg, of St. Louis, for use in case of emergency. A report from the expedition indicated that pursuit had continued throughout the day but that there had been no contact with the bandits.

Army Will Pay Ransom.

H. M. Fennell, a banker of this city, arrived here today and announced that the amount of ransom actually paid for release of the aviators was \$8,500. Fennell took the \$15,000 demanded to Candelaria yesterday. He declared a receipt of the money brought back by Captain Matlack after release of the aviators showed \$6,500 retained.

Fennell brought the \$6,500 back to Marfa this afternoon and deposited it in a bank. The money was in \$50 bills. Fennell said the army would reimburse the cattleman who subscribed the ransom money.

Fennell tonight told the first connected story of events preceding the crossing of the American aviators to the United States today. He outlined preliminary negotiations Monday between Captain Matlack and the Mexican brother-in-law of Benteria, who acted as a go-between.

He said the bandits insisted that the delivery of the aviators be made after dark so flames might be seen. The go-between crossed to San Antonio, Chihuahua, opposite Candelaria, and selected the spot where the aviators were to be delivered. It was at an old cotton wood tree, a mile and a half south of San Antonio. The go-between then returned to the American side and said arrangements had been completed.

Matlack Goes After Them.

When the flares agreed upon failed to show after midnight, Captain Matlack crossed. It was gone more than half an hour, returning with Lieutenant Peterson. As he rode into Candelaria Captain Matlack said:

"Here's one of them, thank God."

Returning to the old cotton wood, Captain Matlack told Lieutenant Davis to get on behind. Then the captain spurred his horse without delivering the balance of the money.

"You can go plumb to hell, I'm going back," the captain shouted as he galloped across the river. When Captain Matlack dismounted Fennell said he shook the money in their faces.

"Look at that; I'm going back tomorrow and get the rest of that money," the captain told him, Fennell said.

"The aviators were elated over their experience once across the river," said Fennell. "We asked them, 'Did you have a good time. Davis said, 'I'll say I did.'"

"Neither man was hurt by the fall of the airplane. The aviators believed the accident was caused by the fact that their oil supply had been exhausted. The men only had a quart gasoline full

of water, but drank from the Concho river.

"They said the bandit Benteria forced them to write messages asking for the ransom and read the messages to see if they were correct."

Continue Pushing Forward.

Saddle-wary and rain soaked the troops of the eighth cavalry continued pushing forward tonight, despite the storms that swept the mountainous region south of the Rio Grande Big Bend District. Torrential rains fell in the Ojinaga district and low visibility prevented good air plane scouts service.

It was believed the comparatively small number of bandits under Jesus Benteria were hidden in the mountains and that every pass would have to be searched.

The district within the angle formed by a junction of the Rio Grande and Concho rivers is the wildest section of northern Mexico, noted for rugged mountains, deep canyons and barren deserts. The Concho river flows into the Rio Grande near Ojinaga after tumbling through San Juan pass from Cuchillo Parado to San Juan del Rio. Both rivers are lined with cottonwood trees. Lowland farms in Delta Conchos are the only green spots to be seen in the entire district where palo verde, mesquite and cactus grow. Barren hills, rocky canyons and mountains are superimposed on mesas beyond the border over which winding trails are traced in white.

Advance is Difficult.

Along these trails the cavalrymen were making their way tonight. The columns often were forced to break into detachments and wind slowly up the sides of mountains, down box canyons, always alert for a bandit ambush. Soldiers and officers wore wet uniforms, caked with dust. Their horses were tired from the long forward march.

The troops are on field rations from mule pack trains as no field kitchens were taken.

The communication line is being maintained to the border, along which supply trains and couriers pass from the base on the American side to the columns in the field.

A field wireless pack and airplane are maintaining communication with headquarters here. The storm interfered with field telephone communication throughout the district.

The line to Presidio was out of order tonight and nothing was known of movements of Carranza troops from Ojinaga opposite that point. Orders were issued at headquarters here to all commanders in the expedition to use every care to protect peaceable Mexicans.

It was said here tonight that it virtually was impossible to carry out Major General Dickman's order instructing officers to pay the bandits the full ransom, unless the bandits are overtaken and captured by American troops.

NO OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT MADE AS TO FUTURE COURSE

Washington, Aug. 19.—No official announcement was made of how the United States government intends to handle the bandit nuisance in Northern Mexico, from this point on, but there is every evidence that all preparations have been made to meet future depredations with a swift movement of troops such as now is being conducted against the desperadoes who held the two army aviators for ransom.

Swift moving cavalry, fully equipped with machine guns and guided by airplanes, it is understood will be relied upon, and will be prepared to move quickly from strategic points along the border of the bandit country on the Rio Grande.

Border Guard Organized.

Organization of the border guard to insure the greatest speed in these movements has been completed, the cavalry regiments being so distributed as to place the nucleus of a flying column at carefully selected points along the Rio Grande.

Movement of troops of the Eighth cavalry into Mexico today inaugurated the new plan, according to officials and from this time incidents "will be handled without gloves."

In announcing that Major General Joseph T. Dickman commanding the Southern department, had acted on instructions from the War Department, Secretary Baker intimated that only the danger in which the two officers were placed, prevented an attempt to rescue them by force.

"When the reports came of the capture of these two officers and their being held for ransom," Secretary Baker said, "the hour of execution was fixed on the next day in default of the ransom being paid. There was, of course, no opportunity to make a military rescue within such time and I therefore directed that the ransom money be paid and that a force be arranged to take up the hot trail of the bandits and pursue them with the hope of being able to capture as many as possible."

Details of how the dash was to be conducted were left entirely to General Dickman, the only requirement being that it should be made with a "swiftly moving force."

Cavalry, with machine guns and guided by airplanes, would be used. If captives were taken, they will be brought to the United States.

The close proximity of the bandit rendezvous to the border led to the hope that the American troops might overtake them before they would have time to scatter.

Reports to the State Department today from the American consul at El Paso said that late last week General Diequez, Mexican commandant at Chihuahua, had ordered the various depots,

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UNCONVERTED AND IN FIGHTING MOOD

Johnson and Borah Find Moral Obligation Repulsive to Their Sensibilities

WILSON'S STATEMENT FAILS TO SHOW THEM

Republicans Find Their Position 'Is Justified and Confirmed' by Conference at White House; Secret Treaties Bothers Them Still and So Does Shantung

Washington, Aug. 19.—Senators Johnson, of California, and Borah, of Idaho, Republicans, declared in a statement tonight that upon the facts developed at the White House conference today as stated by them the position they had maintained "in respect to this government of the League of Nations is justified and confirmed."

"The League of Nations as construed by the President," they said, "leaves us clear and unmistakable that when we enter it we are under a 'compelling' moral obligation, to say nothing of the legal obligation which other supporters contend we are under, to take part in the disturbances, the conflicts, settlements and the wars of Europe and Asia, if any should arise, and it is equally true that under his construction, Europe would necessarily be under the same compelling force to take part in the settlement of American affairs."

The Senators said that in their opinion, "the significant facts developed by the interview with the President," were:

Treaties Yet To Be Made.

"There yet remain treaties of peace to be made with Austria, Hungary, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire. These treaties deal with subjects as important, territory as extensive, and matters as intimately affecting the United States as the treaty with Germany. The obligations of the United States, therefore, what our country assumes in the future, cannot be determined until these treaties are completed and presented to the United States Senate.

"That the President regards the obligations which will be assumed under the League of Nations, and particularly under articles ten and twenty as moral obligations. These, however, are of 'compelling' force and would require action upon our part. For instance, the President intimated that in the event of aggression from the Balkans upon the newly acquired territory of Italy, it would be our duty to come to the assistance of Italy and prevent such aggression. The President's construction of article ten is in variance with the construction of the Democratic attorneys of the Senate.

"Moral obligation, the President insists, rests upon us to carry out the terms of the various treaties of peace. This moral obligation, the President states, requires us under the German treaty for fifteen years to maintain American troops in Europe.

"The President did not know, nor had he heard of the secret treaties for territorial acquisition and partitioning various territories until he reached

(Continued on Page Two.)

TO INVESTIGATE PRICES OF SHOES

Congress Takes First Legislative Action Toward Reduction of H. C. L.

Washington, Aug. 19.—With adoption of the Igoe resolution directing the Federal Trade commission to investigate increased shoe prices, the House today took first legislative action toward reduction of the high cost of living.

Before adoption of the resolution which was without a dissenting vote, the House voted down an amendment which would have extended the inquiry to other articles of clothing and food.

The House agriculture committee considering legislation to extend the food control act to other necessities of life, to extend the powers of the act beyond the war time period, to give the President authority to fix fair prices for necessities and to provide penalties for hoarding today continued its hearings with F. W. Waddell, of Armour and Company, and Dr. Mary Pennington, of the Department of Agriculture, as witnesses. Tomorrow Attorney General Palmer will appear before the committee with suggestions for slight changes in the amendments drafted by Chairman Haugen.

The Senate Agriculture Committee, after some members had held that the legislation as proposed by the Attorney General did not clearly define what constitutes profiteering and hoarding, postponed final action today. A sub-committee was appointed by Chairman Gronna to confer with the Attorney General on the subject.

Reports to the Postoffice Department today indicated that the War Department's food surplus which was offered to consumers yesterday through the parcel post was meeting with a ready sale. Assistant Postmaster General Dockery today instructed postmasters that no war stamp tax was applicable to parcel post shipments of army food-stuffs. The War Department announced that due to the recent railroad strikes brief delays might be experienced in the filling of some parcel post orders through inability to distribute the supplies to the various depots,

MAJOR GENERAL DICKMAN PERSONALLY DIRECTS THE CAMPAIGN INTO MEXICO

San Antonio, Tex., Aug. 19.—Major Gen. Joseph T. Dickman, commander of the Southern Department, will personally direct pursuit of the Mexican bandits who captured Lieutenants Davis and Peterson, and on whose trail troops of the Eighth cavalry crossed the border early today.

AIRPLANE BACK FROM CHASE.

Marfa, Tex., Aug. 19.—An American airplane returned tonight from a scouting trip into Mexico with two bullet holes through a wing of the machine. The aviator observer said he was fired on by three Mexicans. He returned the fire with a machine gun, and believed he killed one of the aviators is pursuing the bandits, he said.

WILMINGTON OFFICER SERVED WITH THIRTIETH

Shipping Board Refuses to Name Vessel in Honor of Late Pembroke Jones, of Wilmington, Because of Policy Not to Use Names of Persons for Ships

The News and Observer Bureau, 603 District National Bank Building, By S. R. WINTERS. (By Special Leased Wire.)

Washington, D. C., Aug. 19.—Tar Heel visitors to Washington give credence to the report that the name of Col. J. Van B. Metts, of Wilmington, is being coupled with the candidacy for Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina. He is known to have substantial support and is being urged to enter the race. His attitude towards these solicitations are not known in Wilmington.

Colonel Metts figured prominently in the Thirtieth Division, which is credited as having brought about the collapse of the Hindenburg line. The efforts of friends of Colonel Metts to make his potential candidacy a fact may be a move to satisfy the demands of the soldier voters that they should have representation on the State ticket.

Conforming to an adopted policy of the United States Shipping Board that no vessels bear the name of an individual, living or dead, John Barton Payne today positively declined the request of citizens of Wilmington to name one of the steel vessels "The Pembroke." Adhering to the ruling of the chairman of the Shipping Board, the ship being constructed at the North Carolina arsenal town will be designated as "The City of Joliet."

Writing to the North Carolina Senators and Representative H. L. Godwin, Mr. Payne says, "One of the rules laid down before any of our vessels were launched was that none should be named after individuals, either living or dead, or after organizations. I believe a moment's reflection will show you the wisdom of such a rule, for if we were to select the names of individuals there would be no limit to the requests which might be made by the friends of prominent people and the discrimination which the corporation would be obliged to use would be most embarrassing."

Strong Representation Made.

H. C. McQueen, president of the Merchants National Bank, of Wilmington, had particularly made impressive presentation in favor of changing the name of the vessel so as to bear testimony to the fine citizenship of one of Wilmington's deceased citizens, the late Pembroke Jones.

The Chicago district ordnance salvage board of the War Department, according to information supplied Senator Lee S. Overman, is offering for sale a number of unused tractors. The machines are adaptable to general farm work and will be sold at a considerable

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United States Attorney Phillips also stated that M. J. Slight, a produce dealer in Jacksonville, has been arrested there on a charge of profiteering growing out of the sale of potatoes at \$5.50 per bag while other dealers are charging only \$6.50 to \$7. He was due to have a preliminary hearing in Jacksonville this afternoon, but the Attorney has not been advised of its outcome. The prosecution is under criminal procedure.

JUDGE MANNING SECURED AS SPEAKER AT BAILEY

Bailey, Aug. 19.—Judge Jas. S. Manning, Attorney-General of the State, will deliver an address in Bailey on Sunday afternoon, August 31, previous to the opening of the Bailey graded and high school on the following day. Judge Manning will doubtless speak along educational lines and his address is being looked forward to with much interest. It has been the custom of the school authorities for the past few years to secure some prominent speaker to address the people of this town just prior to the opening of the school.

STUDENT RELEASED BECAUSE OF LACK OF EVIDENCE.

Casnovia, N. Y., Aug. 19.—Donald W. Fether, of Los Angeles, Cal., student at Cornell University, charged with murder in connection with the death of Miss Hazel Crane, of Ithaca, in Cayuga Lake, July 19, was ordered released on the ground of insufficient evidence by Supreme Court Justice Michael H. Kiley here tonight.

WOULD HAVE METTS BECOME CANDIDATE

Washington Rumor Puts Another Man in Race for Lieutenant Governor

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STATE BANKERS TO HOLD CONVENTION

Secretary of Treasury Carter Glass and General Faison on Program

Winston-Salem, Aug. 19.—Preparations for the annual convention of the North Carolina Bankers Association, which is to open here tomorrow evening, are being put in shape and indications point to the most successful meeting in the history of the organization. Secretary William A. Hunt, of Henderson, who is in the city conferring with President James Gray about details of the final agreements, is enthusiastic over the outlook.

A notable feature of the convention will be the addresses by men of national prominence in banking and along kindred lines. These will include Secretary of the Treasury Carter Glass, Gen. S. L. Faison, commander of the famous 30th division; Vice-President S. H. Voorhees, of the National City Bank, New York; Senator Lee S. Overman and others.

Charged with the larceny of cattle and hogs from a large ranch in South Dakota to the value of \$5,000 to \$5,000, George Howard, a young white man, about 28 years old, is in Forayth jail awaiting the arrival of Sheriff V. V. Trebb, of Madison North Dakota, with requisition papers from the Governor of his State. He is charged with having stolen the cattle and hogs from a ranch in Howard, S. D., belonging to Fred Smith, and having sold them to a cattle dealer. He then departed from the country and was not heard of again until found here by Sheriff Flint, who was told of the larceny. Fred Smith, son of the owner of the ranch from which the cattle and hogs were stolen.

The persons who, about two weeks ago, robbed three haberdashery stores here of approximately \$650 worth of merchandise, were found today when T. D. Cooper, of Charlotte, son of the woman in whose house the boys who are charged with committing the robbery roamed, returned home and noticed that the two roomers had a suspiciously large amount of new clothing in their rooms. The goods were later identified by the owners of the stores from which they were stolen. Troy Haas and Richard Kendall, the two boys charged with the robbery, are at present in jail on a charge of larceny of an automobile.

Capt. and Mrs. S. Patterson, of the Salvation Army, will go to Raleigh next week where they will take charge of the army barracks there. They will be succeeded by Commandant and Mrs. Baker, who have been stationed in Raleigh.

State Council Convenes in Gastonia for Annual Session; Large Crowd

Gastonia, Aug. 19.—Gastonia is host this week to the State Council Junior Order, United American Mechanics, delegates to which have been arriving all day. More than 500 delegates have already registered. Local hotels have been crowded to overflowing. Citizens of Gastonia are taking care of the overflow in private homes.

The opening session was a public meeting held in the central graded school auditorium and was featured by an address by Lieut. Gov. O. Max Gardner in response to the address of welcome by the mayor of Gastonia, Robert G. Cherry. Mr. Gardner's subject was "Our Fallen Heroes." In a masterly way he extolled the virtues of the Civil War veterans.

Mayor F. R. McNinch of Charlotte, responded to the address of welcome in a few well chosen words. Following these there was a series of five to ten minute speeches as follows: "How We Keep an Interest in Our Council Meetings," A. H. Mooneyham, of Raleigh; "How We Reached a Membership of One Thousand," C. W. Snyder, Fairview Council, No. 19; "How I Organize New Councils," A. A. Davis, Hope Mills Council, No. 11; "A Visit to Our Orphan's Home," Judge P. S. Carlton, Salisbury Council, No. 26; "A Review and Look Forward," Woodrow Kellum, State councillor, Benediction by Rev. John A. Koons, State chaplain.

The growth of this order throughout the State for the past year has been marked by a steady and substantial increase as is shown from report of State Secretary S. F. Vance of Winston-Salem: It shows that the number of local councils in the State increased from 300 to 400 during the year, with a gain in membership of 11,750.

The financial report for the subordinate councils shows the following receipts and disbursements for the year: Receipts, \$716,980.89; cash in hand of treasurer and trustees, \$226,981.70; value of council property, \$141,504.65. Total worth of council, \$985,467.24.

The report of the State council shows the following financial statistics: Receipts, \$601,291.23; total disbursements, \$601,291.13; assets total, \$38,762.32.

JUNIOR ORDER IS HOLDING MEETING

(Continued on Page Two.)

LEAGUE COVENANT IMPOSES NO LEGAL OBLIGATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCES

President Wilson Tells Senate Foreign Relations Committee That It Might, However, Involve in Certain Circumstances "An Absolutely Compelling Moral Obligation"; Sees in It An Opportunity To Put Nation in Attitude of Comradeship

ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION BREAKS PRECEDENT OF MORE THAN CENTURY

Through Large Force of Stenographers Whole Nation Listened While President Went into Details of How Treaty Was Negotiated; Defends Article Ten, Which He Considers Backbone of Peace Agreement; Republican Senators Quiz Chief Executive at Length on Meaning of Certain Phrases and Clauses

Washington, Aug. 19.—President Wilson, interpreting the League of Nations covenant today for the Senate Foreign Relations committee, declared it imposed no legal obligation for the use of American military forces in protecting the territory or independence of any other nation.

But he added that the covenant might involve, in certain circumstances, "an absolutely compelling moral obligation," which might be even stronger than a legal promise.

Pressed for a more exact definition by committee members who insisted that the whole arrangement was "a rope of sand," he asserted that on the contrary he considered it as placing the nations in "an attitude of comradeship and protection" which would compel respect for the principles of justice and liberty.

Meeting the committee in a round-table discussion in the East room of the White House in contradiction to the precedents of more than a century and with the whole nation listening through the medium of a relay of public stenographers, the President went into many of the details of the negotiations and touched on all the hotly debated questions which have divided the Senate in its consideration of the peace treaty.

Article Ten of the covenant guaranteeing the integrity of league members against aggression, he declared would leave to each nation "complete freedom of choice as to the application of force." Even if the American representative on the council joined in a unanimous recommendation for military action the final decision for peace or war must rest, so far as concerned the United States, with Congress, he said.

JAPAN'S PROMISE TO RETURN SHANTUNG PROVINCE TO CHINA WAS IN WRITING

Whatever advice the council gave under its authority to take such action as it "deemed appropriate" must also be deemed appropriate by the United States to be binding on this government, he argued, though in the background would be such a potential moral force that he doubted if the nation would often decline to act.

The Japanese Agreement.

The President revealed that Japan's promise to return Shantung province to China was reduced to written form in the minutes of the peace conference. He asserted he had "every confidence" that the promise would be carried out, and told the Senators it was "the best that could be got" out of the negotiations, Japan having given notice she would withdraw from the conference if her demands were refused. The American delegates, he said, had tried to keep the nation free from obligations in European affairs "so far as it was honorably possible to do so," but he asserted that it might be necessary to keep some American troops in the Rhine district under the treaty for the next fifteen years.

He declared the nation would be its own sole judge whether its obligations had been fulfilled under the disputed withdrawal clause of the league covenant that purely domestic questions were safe from the league's interference, and that the Monroe doctrine was clearly preserved.

The league, the President explained, was built on the plan of General Smuts of South Africa. Mr. Wilson revealed that he had suggested the United States take no part of the German reparations, but had asked that the conference reserve disposition of the German Pacific Island of Yap on a suggestion that it was needed for an American naval station.

Early Action Is Urged.

Some of the Senators' questions the President declined to answer, on the ground of international policy. How the American delegates voted on Japan's proposal for a racial equality clause in the league covenant he said he could not disclose "in the interest of international good understanding," and for the same reason he said he could not go into negotiation over the French frontier or give the committee a copy of the record of Japan's Shantung promise.

Early action on the treaty was urged in a statement by the President at the outset of the conference. This was necessary, he held, so that a peace basis might be reached and because he declared the other treaties under negotiation now at Versailles were being delayed until the world learned what would happen to the treaty with Germany. He said he saw no reasonable objection to Senate reservations, but thought it unwise to incorporate them in the ratification itself.

In replying to a long series of questions by Senator Brandegee, Republican, of Connecticut, the President was led into an exhaustive discussion of the unsumming of moral and legal obligations in treaties.

"A moral obligation," said Mr. Wilson, "is of course superior to a legal obligation, and if I may say so, has a greater binding force. In every moral obligation there is an element of judgment; in a legal obligation there is no element of judgment."

Senator Brandegee suggested there was no important distinction, "because we are obligated in any event."

"I think it is of the greatest importance," replied the President, "because the element of judgment enters into it."

"But I am assuming," returned Mr. Brandegee, "if the council should advise us to do a certain thing, and Congress refused to do it, and if every other nation's representative assembly can do the same thing, it seems to me like a rope of sand and not an effective tribunal which would result in promoting peace."

"The reason I do not agree with you," Mr. Wilson replied, "is that I do not think such a refusal would likely occur, I believe it would be only upon the gravest grounds—and in case Congress is right, I am indifferent to foreign criticism."

Senator Harding, Republican, Ohio, suggested there was no necessity for a "written compact for this republic to fulfill its moral obligations to civilization," to which the President rejoined, "but it steadies the whole world by its promise beforehand that it will stand with other nations of similar judgment to maintain right in the world."

Opposed to Reservations.

When Senator Brandegee asked the President's opinion on the concrete case of the present trouble between Rumania and Hungary, the President said he could not answer because that would involve passing judgment on a foreign political question in a way he considered inadvisable.

Senator Brandegee also called attention that such authorities on international law had differed as to the meaning of various provisions of the treaty and that Charles E. Hughes, William Howard Taft, and Elihu Root had suggested reservations, but the President insisted that he thought it perfectly safe to leave the present language to the interpretation of future statesmen without fear that the United States would suffer by their construction.

When Senator Fall, Republican, New Mexico, suggested that any amendments to the league covenant would not require Germany's assent as she was not a member of the league, the President replied he never had thought of that feature. He disagreed with Senators Brandegee and Knox, Republicans, Pennsylvania, who asserted that the treaty would come into force among all the signatories as soon as three had ratified it.

For more than three hours the committee members questioned the President, and afterward they stayed for lunch at the White House. When the recess was taken there had been no discussion whether the meeting was to be resumed during the afternoon but later it was decided not to do so. There was no intimation tonight whether the committee would seek a further conference. Tomorrow it will resume its open hearings at the capitol.

Senator Fall left with Mr. Wilson a list of questions which the latter said

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President Wilson Tells Senate Foreign Relations Committee That It Might, However, Involve in Certain Circumstances "An Absolutely Compelling Moral Obligation"; Sees in It An Opportunity To Put Nation in Attitude of Comradeship

ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION BREAKS PRECEDENT OF MORE THAN CENTURY

Through Large Force of Stenographers Whole Nation Listened While President Went into Details of How Treaty Was Negotiated; Defends Article Ten, Which He Considers Backbone of Peace Agreement; Republican Senators Quiz Chief Executive at Length on Meaning of Certain Phrases and Clauses

Washington, Aug. 19.—President Wilson, interpreting the League of Nations covenant today for the Senate Foreign Relations committee, declared it imposed no legal obligation for the use of American military forces in protecting the territory or independence of any other nation.

But he added that the covenant might involve, in certain circumstances, "an absolutely compelling moral obligation," which might be even stronger than a legal promise.

Pressed for a more exact definition by committee members who insisted that the whole arrangement was "a rope of sand," he asserted that on the contrary he considered it as placing the nations in "an attitude of comradeship and protection" which would compel respect for the principles of justice and liberty.

Meeting the committee in a round-table discussion in the East room of the White House in contradiction to the precedents of more than a century and with the whole nation listening through the medium of a relay of public stenographers, the President went into many of the details of the negotiations and touched on all the hotly debated questions which have divided the Senate in its consideration of the peace treaty.

Article Ten of the covenant guaranteeing the integrity of league members against aggression, he declared would leave to each nation "complete freedom of choice as to the application of force." Even if the American representative on the council joined in a unanimous recommendation for military action the final decision for peace or war must rest, so far as concerned the United States, with Congress, he said.

WOULD HAVE METTS BECOME CANDIDATE

Washington Rumor Puts Another Man in Race for Lieutenant Governor

WILMINGTON OFFICER SERVED WITH THIRTIETH

Shipping Board Refuses to Name Vessel in Honor of Late Pembroke Jones, of Wilmington, Because of Policy Not to Use Names of Persons for Ships

STATE BANKERS TO HOLD CONVENTION

Secretary of Treasury Carter Glass and General Faison on Program

Winston-Salem, Aug. 19.—Preparations for the annual convention of the North Carolina Bankers Association, which is to open here tomorrow evening, are being put in shape and indications point to the most successful meeting in the history of the organization. Secretary William A. Hunt, of Henderson, who is in the city conferring with President James Gray about details of the final agreements, is enthusiastic over the outlook.

A notable feature of the convention will be the addresses by men of national prominence in banking and along kindred lines. These will include Secretary of the Treasury Carter Glass, Gen. S. L. Faison, commander of the famous 30th division; Vice-President S. H. Voorhees, of the National City Bank, New York; Senator Lee S. Overman and others.

Charged with the larceny of cattle and hogs from a large ranch in South Dakota to the value of \$5,000 to \$5,000, George Howard, a young white man, about 28 years old, is in Forayth jail awaiting the arrival of Sheriff V. V. Trebb, of Madison North Dakota, with requisition papers from the Governor of his State. He is charged with having stolen the cattle and hogs from a ranch in Howard, S. D., belonging to Fred Smith, and having sold them to a cattle dealer. He then departed from the country and was not heard of again until found here by Sheriff Flint, who was told of the larceny. Fred Smith, son of the owner of the ranch from which the cattle and hogs were stolen.

The persons who, about two weeks ago, robbed three haberdashery stores here of approximately \$650 worth of merchandise, were found today when T. D. Cooper, of Charlotte, son of the woman in whose house the boys who are charged with committing the robbery roamed, returned home and noticed that the two roomers had a suspiciously large amount of new clothing in their rooms. The goods were later identified by the owners of the stores from which they were stolen. Troy Haas and Richard Kendall, the two boys charged with the robbery, are at present in jail on a charge of larceny of an automobile.

Capt. and Mrs. S. Patterson, of the Salvation Army, will go to Raleigh next week where they will take charge of the army barracks there. They will be succeeded by Commandant and Mrs. Baker, who have been stationed in Raleigh.

State Council Convenes in Gastonia for Annual Session; Large Crowd

Gastonia, Aug. 19.—Gastonia is host this week to the State Council Junior Order, United American Mechanics, delegates to which have been arriving all day. More than 500 delegates have already registered. Local hotels have been crowded to overflowing. Citizens of Gastonia are taking care of the overflow in private homes.

The opening session was a public meeting held in the central graded school auditorium and was featured by an address by Lieut. Gov. O. Max Gardner in response to the address of welcome by the mayor of Gastonia, Robert G. Cherry. Mr. Gardner's subject was "Our Fallen Heroes." In a masterly way he extolled the virtues of the Civil War veterans.

Mayor F. R. McNinch of Charlotte, responded to the address of welcome in a few well chosen words. Following these there was a series of five to ten minute speeches as follows: "How We Keep an Interest in Our Council Meetings," A. H. Mooneyham, of Raleigh; "How We Reached a Membership of One Thousand," C. W. Snyder, Fairview Council, No. 19; "How I Organize New Councils," A. A. Davis, Hope Mills Council, No. 11; "A Visit to Our Orphan's Home," Judge P. S. Carlton, Salisbury Council, No. 26; "A Review and Look Forward," Woodrow Kellum, State councillor, Benediction by Rev. John A. Koons, State chaplain.

The growth of this order throughout the State for the past year has been marked by a steady and substantial increase as is shown from report of State Secretary S. F. Vance of Winston-Salem: It shows that the number of local councils in the State increased from 300 to 400 during the year, with a gain in membership of 11,750.

The financial report for the subordinate councils shows the following receipts and disbursements for the year: Receipts, \$716,980.89; cash in hand of treasurer and trustees, \$226,981.70; value of council property, \$141,504.65. Total worth of council, \$985,467.24.

The report of the State council shows the following financial statistics: Receipts, \$601,291.23; total disbursements, \$601,291.13; assets total, \$38,762.32.

JUNIOR ORDER IS HOLDING MEETING

(Continued on Page Two.)