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TWELVE PAGES TODAY.

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PRICE: FIVE CENTS

ROBERT LANSING STEPS OUT AS SECRETARY OF STATE AFTER WILSON ACCUSES HIM OF USURPING THE POWERS OF PRESIDENT

WAGE SETTLEMENT GOES OVER UNTIL OWNERS IN CHARGE

President Wilson Makes Statement To Union Leaders But Not Made Public

LONG CONFERENCE BUT SILENCE MAINTAINED

Director General Hines Sends Letter To Brotherhood of Way Employees Restating His Attitude; Understood To Have Told Them They Could Not Expect Wage Increase

Washington, Feb. 13.—Negotiations of the union railroad employees for an increase in pay practically were suspended tonight until the rail properties again are in the hands of their owners.

Union officials conferred for six hours with the President's statement but they steadfastly refused to divulge its contents on which White House officials maintained absolute silence.

Director General Hines conferred briefly today with W. G. Lee, President of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, and a committee from his organization.

Mr. Hines also late today sent a letter to the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way employees restating his attitude toward that group's strike.

THIRD TO QUIT CABINET BECAUSE OF DIFFERENCES

Mr. Lansing Was Named Secretary of State To Succeed William J. Bryan

Washington, Feb. 13.—Secretary Lansing is the third Cabinet officer appointed by President Wilson to quit after differences with the executive.

William Jennings Bryan was the first. He resigned on June 9, 1915, because of a disagreement with the President over the handling of diplomatic correspondence with Germany growing out of submarine warfare.

The second was Lindley M. Garrison, Secretary of War, who gave up his post on February 10, 1916, because of differences with Mr. Wilson over the question of independence for the Philippines.

Mr. Lansing was appointed Secretary of State after the resignation of Mr. Bryan and served until June 23 of the same year, when he was made Secretary. He has not announced his plans for the future, but it is expected he will return to the practice of international law as did his father-in-law, John W. Foster, when he completed his term as Secretary of State.

Mr. Lansing entered the State Department in 1914 as counselor, after having represented the government on a number of diplomatic missions and arbitration commissions.

Vessel Reported In Distress. New York, Feb. 13.—A wireless message from the United States Shipping Board steamer William Henry Webb, received here tonight stated that the steamer was on fire and in need of immediate assistance.

\$10 Fine for Manslaughter. Newport News, Va., Feb. 13.—A fine of ten dollars was imposed in Corporation Court here tonight on Morris Levy, 28 years of age, after he had been convicted of involuntary manslaughter.

FRANK L. POLK BECOMES SECRETARY AD INTERIM TO SUCCEED LANSING

Washington, Feb. 13.—Frank L. Polk, under secretary of state, will be made secretary ad interim tomorrow to act until President Wilson appoints a successor to Robert Lansing.

Several names were suggested in Administration circles, but officials frankly admitted that they had no definite information as to who the President had in mind for the place.

SIMMONS OPPOSES SALE OF VESSELS

Delivers Vigorous Speech On Senate Floor For Greater American Marine

FINE OPPORTUNITY FOR BUILDING MERCHANTMEN

Believes Costly Governmental Shipyards Should Be Kept Open To Build More Great Passenger and Cargo Ships; Feels Ships Should Be Kept Under American Flag

The News and Observer Bureau, 603 District National Bank Bldg., By R. E. POWELL.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 13.—Senator F. M. Simmons today registered his opposition to the sale of the German ships by the United States Shipping Board and delivered a vigorous speech on the Senate floor for a greater American merchant marine.

"I am convinced that if we are to have in our day a merchant marine we have got to use the instrumentalities of the government to establish that marine right now. We have a large number of ships compared with what we had before the war but we still have nothing like a merchant marine that can compete with the great merchant marine of other powers in the world.

"This government is in a capital position just at this time to complete this merchant marine. It is in a magnificent position to complete it and to create, build and put in commission a sufficient number of both cargo and passenger ships to make a well balanced, well rounded merchant marine worthy of the greatest nation on earth.

"It is my understanding that a corporation known as the International Mercantile Marine corporation wants to buy these ships of ours and it would operate them, I understand, under a foreign flag. Do they desire to buy any of our costly shipbuilding plants that we have constructed? No other gentleman offers to purchase these ships. Has any of them offered to buy these shipbuilding plants of ours costing millions and millions of dollars? No, not one.

"In my opinion our costly government plants will be junked if this program goes through. Under such conditions it does seem that the Senator from Florida, Mr. Fletcher, has made a wise suggestion to go on with the construction of ships. We have the plants and equipment, we are able to build cheaply and in a short time we will have an adequate merchant marine for this country. If we decide now to turn these ships over to other interests, we will soon have no merchant marine at all. We will be right back where we were before the war and afterwards these people will come along and say that they cannot operate the ships under the American flag and will propose to go to other flags.

"I believe this matter should be handled just like the railroad question has been handled. Let us decide whether these ships shall be operated by the government or under other certain conditions. Keep these ships under the American flag and operate them or put them to such subsidiary uses as the government may from time to time decide upon and require.

"It is certain that the shipping policy now being pursued by the Shipping Board, first a little sale here and another little sale yonder, then a holder and a bigger sale will, if we remain silent here, mean that before long we will have no merchant marine at all and will have no voice in this matter. There should not be a sale unless the consent of Congress has been obtained. We have a better merchant marine today than I think we had a few years ago. It was possible for us to have, our

MAXWELL SLATED FOR PLACE WITH I. C. COMMISSION

Boom For Him Was Ready To Launch When Pell Campaign Started

UNANIMOUS ENDORSEMENT OF STATE'S DELEGATION

Judge Pell Didn't Know That Maxwell's Friends Had Lined Things Up For Him and Maxwell Didn't Know Pell Wanted The Place; Pell Will Probably Leave Field To Maxwell

The name of A. J. Maxwell, youngest member of the North Carolina Corporation Commission, backed by the unanimous endorsement of the State delegation in both houses of Congress, by numerous commercial organizations in the State, by numerous citizens of influence and power and by a not inconsiderable number of individuals and organizations from other Southern States, will be presented to President Wilson for appointment on the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Although rather startling to the lay citizen, in view of the fact that Judge George F. Pell, another member of the State Corporation Commission, has been enjoying a boom for the past week and a first time, including many cases that have already recovered. The exact figures of new cases for the day are estimated at about half of other days this week.

Clearing weather will do more than all other agencies to combat the epidemic, health officers believe, and a few days like yesterday would be the wisest and most desirable. Some persons enter the State for some time to come, but there were probably fewer cases yesterday than for Thursday, a total of 74. Winston-Salem continues to report the heaviest outbreak of pneumonia, with nearly 150 cases for the week. Yesterday's report was 24, with eight deaths.

Appeals to Nurses. Eight hundred registered nurses in the State will register a letter from Governor F. W. Bickett today, wherein he appeals to enlist their services with the State for the duration of the emergency, leaving it to the health authorities to determine whether their services on private cases is more important than serving in community nursing. The letter follows:

"Influenza and its attendant, pneumonia, which last fall and winter killed nearly fifteen thousand North Carolinians, is again abroad in the State. Many communities, medical and nursing service is inadequate to meet the needs of the emergency; thus produce in some communities medical and nursing service is wholly lacking. There are sections where entire families in a neighborhood are stricken down and lie sick unto death without even those ordinary attentions for their comfort and welfare that kindly neighbors might administer.

"Along with these perilous community needs must be hundreds of trainees in the late now engaged in attending private cases. Between the convenience and safety of individual families and the peril of stricken communities the sense of duty of private nurses must be very uncertain and most disturbing to their peace of mind. Many nurses with private cases, under existing circumstances perhaps would gladly leave to their State the responsibility of determining their place of duty.

"I am, therefore, in the public interest and with the difficult position of the private nurse in mind, writing to make this request of you: that if you are now engaged in private nursing, you fill out and mail to me the enclosed form, which, as you will observe, leaves the determination of your place of service to the present emergency not to yourself, but to the State, and relieves you of all responsibility. The probabilities are that not more than fifty nurses in the State will be called—a relatively small percentage of the total nurses at work.

"In this emergency, when our people cry out for help, no private duty should stand in the way. This is no time for any individual or family to retain a nurse for private duty when her services can be so much more valuable; nor is it the time for any nurse to remain on such private duty when she can possibly be spared. If there is any question in the mind of a nurse as to which is the more important, her duty to her private patient or her duty to the whole people, I urge her to present the case to me and absolve herself of the responsibility of deciding."

INFLUENZA WANES IN ALL SECTIONS OF STATE FRIDAY

Nearly 2,000 Fewer Cases Reported To State Board Yesterday

CLEARING WEATHER WILL BRING IT TO AN END

Governor Bickett Sends Out Appeal To 800 Registered Nurses In State To Assist In Community Emergencies; Only Davidson County Maintained High Daily Average

The belief expressed Wednesday by Dr. F. M. Register, State epidemiologist, that the epidemic of influenza had reached its peak seems to be borne out in the greatly reduced total in yesterday's report, nearly 2,000 under that of the previous day.

Only Davidson county maintained its high daily average with a total of 339 new cases of influenza, six cases of pneumonia and one death. Other counties reported a considerably smaller number of cases reported for the first time, including many cases that have already recovered.

The undersigned Democratic Senators, as a means of securing ratification of the treaty, will support as a reservation on article X, other of the following reservations, the first one being the reservation as framed in the bi-partisan conference recently held and the second one being the last proposed reservation by President Taft.

"The United States assumes no obligation to employ its military or naval forces for the territorial integrity or political independence of any other country or to employ the military or naval forces of the United States under any other article of the treaty for any purpose, unless in any particular case the congress, which, under the constitution, has the sole power to declare war, shall, by act or joint resolution so provide. Nothing herein shall be deemed to impair the obligation in article 10 concerning the economic boycott."

"The United States declines to assume any legal or binding obligation to preserve the territorial integrity or political independence of any other country under the provisions of article 10, or to employ the military or naval forces of the United States under any article of the treaty for any purpose; but the Congress, which under the constitution has the sole power in the premises will consider and decide what moral obligation, if any, under the circumstances of any particular case, when it arises, should move the United States in the interest of world peace and justice to take action therein, and will provide accordingly."

"Whichever of the above reservations is preferred by Republican supporters of the treaty will as a compromise be acceptable to us."

Pal For Hoover. Dr. Clarence Poe, editor of the Progressive Farmer, has written members of the North Carolina delegation that Herbert Hoover is the logical man for the Democrats to nominate for President.

Referring to a recent interview authorized by Representative Doughton, Dr. Poe says that the Doughton estimate of Hoover's strength in North Carolina is the correct one in his opinion. Mr. Doughton, while not declaring himself an ardent supporter of Mr. Hoover at this stage of the game, declared that there is an overwhelming wave of sentiment in Western North Carolina for Hoover.

Care For Fertilizer. The railroad administration today advised Senator Simmons that it would issue directions as to how cars to be equipped to phosphate mines in Florida in order that fertilizer dealers in North Carolina may be supplied from the Florida mines.

DEMOCRATS START RENEWED EFFORTS FOR COMPROMISE

North Carolina Senators Join In Movement To Settle Article 10 Fight

TWENTY-EIGHT MEMBERS PUT NAMES TO AGREEMENT

Will Support Either Simmons-McKellar Reservation Or Substitute Offered By Ex-President Taft; Clarence Poe Writes Representatives That Hoover Is Logical Man

The News and Observer Bureau, 603 District National Bank Bldg., By R. E. POWELL.

Washington, Feb. 13.—Twenty-eight Democratic Senators this afternoon signed an agreement to support either the Simmons-McKellar reservation to article ten of the treaty with Germany or the substitute for it offered by ex-President Taft. Both Senator Simmons and Overman joined in the following agreement:

"The undersigned Democratic Senators, as a means of securing ratification of the treaty, will support as a reservation on article X, other of the following reservations, the first one being the reservation as framed in the bi-partisan conference recently held and the second one being the last proposed reservation by President Taft."

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CABINET MEETINGS DURING WILSON'S ILLNESS CAUSES REQUEST FOR EXPLANATION

President's Acceptance of Resignation Came In Letter To Lansing

STATE DEPARTMENT IN ENTIRE CORRESPONDENCE

State Department Makes Public Announcement of Secretary Lansing's Resignation and At Same Time Gives Out Correspondence Between Him and The President; Wilson First Sends Request For Information About Holding of Cabinet Meetings, Which Brings Offer To Resign From Post

Washington, Feb. 13.—The State Department issued the following statement: Secretary Lansing has resigned and his resignation has been accepted, taking effect today. Following is the correspondence between the President and Secretary Lansing:

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My Dear Mr. Secretary: It is true, as I have been told, that during my illness you have frequently called the heads of the executive departments of the government into conference. If it is I feel it my duty to call your attention to considerations which I do not care to dwell upon until I learn from you yourself that this is the fact. Under our Constitutional law and practice, as developed hitherto, no one but the President has the right to summon the heads of the executive departments into conference."

"I thank this matter up with you because in the development of every Constitutional system, custom and precedent are of the most serious consequence, and I think we will all agree in desiring not to lead in any wrong direction. I have, therefore, taken the liberty of writing you to ask you this question, and I am sure you will be glad to answer. I am happy to learn from your recent note to Mr. Wilson that your strength is returning.

Cordially and sincerely yours, WOODROW WILSON.

Reply to President. Honorable Robert Lansing, Secretary of State, Washington, Feb. 9, 1920.

My Dear Mr. President: It is true that frequently during your illness I requested the heads of the executive departments of the government to meet for informal conference. Shortly after you were taken ill in October certain members of the Cabinet, of which I was one, felt that in view of the fact that we were denied communication with you it was wise for us to confer informally together on inter-departmental matters and matters as to which action could not be postponed until your medical advisers permitted you to pass upon them.

Before this letter was written, the day for the regular cabinet meeting—last Tuesday—had passed and the correspondence disclosed why the cabinet did not meet. On the same day that he received this letter from the President Mr. Lansing announced that he had written other cabinet officers that he would not call any more cabinet conferences for the present, but no explanation was offered. Inquiry at the White House brought only the statement that Mr. Wilson himself probably would call and preside at the next session of his official advisers.

Began at Peace Conference. But the differences between the President long pre-dated the first cabinet call by Mr. Lansing, which was issued last October 30th, seven days after Mr. Wilson returned from his western speaking tour and took to his bed. They began at the peace conference in Paris, as Mr. Lansing disclosed in his final letter to the President, under date of yesterday, and had continued since that time—one of the chief differences being over the government's attitude toward Mexico.

Letters Disclose Lack of Harmony Started at Peace Conference In Paris

SECRETARY LANSING IN REPLY DISDAINS ANY THOUGHT OF USURPATION

Retiring Head of State Department Declares That Meetings or Conferences of Cabinet Were Proper and Necessary; President Expresses 'Much Disappointment' Over Tenor of Secretary's Answer To His Request; Differences Between President and Secretary of Long Standing

Washington, Feb. 13.—Robert Lansing ended his career as Secretary of State today, after President Wilson had accused him of usurping the powers of President by calling meetings of the cabinet during Mr. Wilson's illness.

Mr. Lansing denied that he had sought or intended to usurp the Presidential authority. He added, however, that he believed then, and still believes, that the cabinet conferences were "for the best interests of the republic," that they were "proper and necessary" because of the President's condition and that he would have been derelict in his duty if he had failed to act as he did.

As the record stands, Mr. Lansing tendered his resignation and Mr. Wilson accepted it. The resignation was offered, however, only after the President, under date of February 7, had written, asking if it were true that Mr. Lansing had called cabinet meetings and stating that if such were the case he felt it necessary to say that "under our constitutional law and practice, as developed hitherto, no one but the president has the right to summon the heads of the executive departments into conference."

"Mr. Lansing answered two days later, last Monday, saying he had called the cabinet conferences because he and others of the President's official family felt that, in view of the fact that we were denied communication with you, it was wise for us to confer informally together on matters as to which action could not be postponed until your medical advisers permitted you to pass upon them."

The President replied last Wednesday that he was "much disappointed by Mr. Lansing's letter regarding the so-called cabinet meetings." He said he found nothing in the Secretary's letter which justified your assumption of Presidential authority in such a matter, and added that he "must frankly take advantage of your kind suggestion" to resign.

"I must say," continued the President, "that it would relieve me of embarrassment, Mr. Secretary, the embarrassment of feeling your reluctance and divergence of judgment, if you would give up your present office and afford me an opportunity to select some one else whose mind would more willingly go along with mine."

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(Continued on Page Two.)

(Continued on Page Three.)

(Continued on Page Three.)

(Continued on Page Two.)

(Continued on Page Two.)

(Continued on Page Two.)