

INSURGENTS WILL CONTINUE FIGHT TO HELP FARMERS

Harding's Message Regarded As Declaration of War On "Bloc"

PARTY CONTROL IN CONGRESS IS MENACED

Secretary Weeks' Speech In New York Shows That Drive of Old Guard On Agricultural Bloc Has Been Launched; Test of Two Factions Coming

The News and Observer Bureau, 612 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 8.—(By Special Leased Wire.)

Washington, Dec. 8.—Though not speaking for publication it is understood that members of what has been termed the "agricultural bloc" have been talking among friends and expressing themselves rather freely about lambasting which President Harding gave the bloc in his annual message to Congress. And the reports are that they do not propose to lay down simply because President Harding has issued a partisan call for Republicans to get together and do as they are told to do by him for the agricultural bloc has the idea that what its members are doing for the Republican party is going to count more in its favor with the American people than the accomplishments of the reactionary Republicans in behalf of the millionaires, the multi-millionaires and the big corporations.

Along this line there is a short, but pertinent expression of opinion this afternoon in the Washington Daily News, the leading editorial in that newspaper under the caption of "A Matter of Politics" reading: "It is not exactly our job to save the Republican party, but we simply cannot refrain from offering this useful advice to President Harding: 'Instead of attempting to demolish the agricultural bloc in the Senate, he should encourage it.'"

"This group's work in the public's behalf is going to make much better campaign material next fall than the behavior of those Old Guard leaders who have now called the President to their aid. Better let the farmers keep up their good work."

A Declaration of War

The emphasis which President Harding in his message placed upon his call to unity among Republicans in Congress is regarded by the farmers bloc as a declaration of war served upon it in behalf of the "Old Guard" in Congress, and that President Harding is leading the attack in demanding that all "groups" in the Republican party as represented in Congress must be abolished. "Smash the agricultural bloc," is the slogan that the President has given the regulars in Congress and the members of the cabinet. The regulars in Congress are at work planning how best to do this and for the cabinet the speech of Secretary of War Weeks made yesterday in New York before the association of Life Insurance presidents, shows that the drive on the bloc "as been launched by him on behalf of the cabinet."

In his speech Secretary Weeks declared that the bloc works to control Congress was worse than Communism. He characterized its aims as "the selfishness which comes from the desire to control one's fellow-man." And continuing he said: "This is having a potent influence in preventing the restoration of the country." While admitting that some of the legislation forced through Congress by the bloc which was enabled to put into the law because the Democratic vote gave the power to do so, Mr. Weeks also said: "Much of it is unreasoned from an economic standpoint." In continuing his remarks Secretary Weeks said that the violent criticism of Congress throughout the country has resulted largely from the organization of special groups resulting in special legislation not to representing the action of the majority but forcibly enacted by the combination of divergent interests, meaning thereby the co-operation of the Democratic vote with the Republicans.

Party Control Menaced.
The fight on the bloc is being made because by its party control in Congress is menaced by the strength of the Western-Southern farm coalition, the leaders of the Republican party regularly saying today in explaining their opposition to the bloc, that this country expects the Republican party and not a farm bloc to administer the government. On the other hand the farm bloc was formed, so members of it assert, because the leaders of the regulars of the Republican party failed to appreciate the plight and needs of the farmers, the declaration being made that until the Republican party has the disposition and the ability to pass the necessary agricultural legislation, the bloc will continue to do business in spite of the efforts of President Harding, the Old Guard and the cabinet combined to smash it.

The test between the two factions will not be long in arriving in the present Congress. In fact it has already started, for the agricultural bloc in the Senate has begun anew its effort to pass the Capper-Volstead bill, the purpose of the bill being simply to free co-operative agencies from present restrictions which make it hard for them to do business on even terms with profit-taking concerns. The bloc proposes

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All Hopes of Short Session Vanish With Rush of Bills

Fireworks On School and Finance Legislation Are Held In Reserve

NINETY-FIVE NEW BILLS PRESENTED IN HOUSE

Would Give Governor Right To Dismiss Any of His Appointees

Fireworks scheduled to be set off yesterday morning when the Municipal Finance act and the School District resolution came up in the House on second reading were held in reserve, and both passed by substantial majorities, the former by a vote of 89 to 4, and the latter by 83 to 10.

Amendments prepared for both bills promise a rehearsal of the fight when they come up this morning on the third reading. Representative Bowie will undertake to strike out the clause in the School bill appropriating \$75,000 to the Indian Normal school, and opposition to the Finance act is expected around the contention that it was written in the interest of New York bonding houses.

No Time for Fireworks.
Little time was left for fireworks in the House after the members had finished introducing new bills. Ninety-five new pieces of legislation passed across the reading clerk's desk during the morning, nearly all of them local in character, and the majority of them providing for the issue of bonds for schools and roads and courthouses, or fixing the fees of some county officer.

Nearly 250 bills, including a small number that have come over from the Senate, now stand on the House calendar, and promise of a short

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GIVES RECORDS OF EXECUTIONS

Senate Committee Begins Investigation of Senator Watson's Charges

Washington, Dec. 8.—Detailed records of the War Department relating to the legal execution of eleven members of the American Expeditionary Forces were presented today to a Senate investigating committee by way of denial of charges that scores of soldiers had been hanged without trial. Out of consideration for the families of the dead, the names of the eleven were omitted from the record.

Read by Colonel Walter E. Bethel, General Pershing's Judge Advocate General in France, the records showed that those executed by the military authorities included eight negroes, two whites and one Indian.

Will Prove Charges.
Senator Watson, Democrat, Georgia, whose presentation of the charges on the floor of the Senate led to the investigation, appeared before the committee today and declared he was prepared to prove the charges and submitted affidavits, newspaper clippings and letters bearing on the subject.

Col. Bethel, who was called after Senator Watson had read several affidavits, declared with great emphasis that the charges were false.

Senator Watson is expected to present tomorrow as witnesses a list of former service men and others, including a prisoner at Fort Leavenworth, who have claimed to have direct knowledge in support of the general charge that there had been wholesale executions of soldiers who had not been given the right of trial by court-martial.

Watson Cross-Examined.
In naming the places in France at which the eleven men were hanged, Col. Bethel, under cross-examination by Senator Watson, mentioned the town of Givres, at which, according to information given the Senator by former soldiers, a number of men were executed. The photograph of the gallows at Givres, sent sometime ago to the Senator, was not shown to Col. Bethel, although he declared that a gallows had been erected there, for it was at Givres that one

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WANT DAMAGES FROM BIG TOBACCO FIRMS

Suit For \$400,000 Filed Against American Tobacco Company and Others

Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 8.—Suit for \$400,000 damages against four national tobacco manufacturers, thirteen Cleveland jobbers and one Akron dealer was filed in common pleas court here today by the Weideman Fries Company, of this city. Among the defendants are the American Tobacco Co., Lorillard and Co., Liggett and Myers Company and the John J. Bagley Company.

The petition alleges that at the instance of the manufacturers, local jobbers formed an association to keep up the price of tobacco and refused to dispose of their goods to the Weideman-Fries Company because it sold to retailers at prices lower than those charged by other jobbers. This the plaintiff alleges is forcing it out of business.

Prices of tobacco and cigarettes are said by the petitioner to be 94 per cent higher than in 1914, although the cost of raw tobacco is claimed to be nine per cent less than seven years ago.

Manufacturers assert they are using tobacco purchased during the peak of high prices in 1915.

CONDUCTOR RELEASED ON BOND AT SALISBURY

Salisbury, Dec. 9.—Conductor R. E. Crawford, of Asheville, was released on a bond of \$7,500 when arraigned in Rowan county court here today on a charge of killing Engineer Sam Hinton, also of Asheville. The killing occurred at Spencer Monday, when the two men met in a restaurant and when Hinton is alleged to have made remarks derogatory to the character of Mrs. Crawford. Several witnesses were introduced on evidence. The bond as required by Judge Furr was promptly given by brothers of the accused man and several conductors on the Southern. Crawford was released on once and left in company with Mrs. Crawford, who arrived here from Commerce, Ga.

ARTHUR GRIFFITH TO STAND BY AGREEMENT

Dublin, Dec. 8.—(By the Associated Press.)—Arthur Griffith, head of the Irish Delegation which negotiated the settlement at London, issued the following statement tonight: "I have signed the treaty between Ireland and Great Britain. I believe this treaty will lay the foundations of peace and friendship between the two nations. What I have signed I shall stand by, in the belief that the end of the conflict of centuries is at hand."

DEFENDANTS TELL OF AUTO THEFTS IN THREE STATES

Frank Moran, A. W. Hoffman and Harry Craig Are Principal Witnesses

CRAIG ADMITS THEFT OF 35 AUTOMOBILES

Says He Sold Most of Them To C. J. Kelly, of Sanford, Who, He Claims, Knew They Were Stolen; Is Hammered Hard On Cross Examination

Introducing a dozen witnesses for the government, including two of the defendants, District Attorney W. F. Aydt yesterday went to the heart of the case against C. J. Kelly, of Sanford, A. W. Hoffman of New York, George Scott of New York, and Harry Craig, of Philadelphia, charged with illegal traffic in stolen automobiles under the Dyer motor vehicle theft act.

It was the second day of the trial and it found Armstrong Jones and Son, A. A. F. Sewell, and A. F. Gavin, attorneys for Kelly, and James W. Osborne, of New York, attorney for Scott, fighting every step of the way, objecting at every turn and asking for exceptions.

Hoffman and Craig, who with Frank Moran, defendant in one of the three cases resulting from the Department of Justice investigations appeared without counsel yesterday, were the government's principal witnesses. Hoffman, who is a Major in the New York National Guard, told of his operations as an agent for Kelly in the purchase of automobiles, but insisted that he did not know they were stolen. Craig, not only admitted the theft of thirty-five or forty cars in several States himself, but maintained that Kelly and Hoffman knew that cars he sold them were stolen, that Kelly warned him against stealing any cars in North Carolina, and that numbers on automobiles stolen were changed on Kelly's farm near Sanford with Kelly's full knowledge.

Gives Scott Hush Knowledge.
Hoffman, on the other hand, involved Scott, former member of the Automobile Squad of the New York police force, when he testified late yesterday afternoon that he had paid Scott at various times \$500 as hush money when Scott warned him that automobiles he handled were stolen.

Hoffman, answering all questions directly, conducted himself on the stand with great reserve. Craig, on the other hand, talked more freely, and was hammered mercilessly on cross examination.

Frank Moran, first witness for the Government, admitted that he stole in Newark, N. J., the Cadillac automobile which is the basis of the present case, detailed the various transactions with the car in payment for the Cadillac. The Cadillac, according to Craig, his sister and niece, was driven South by Craig, Kelly accompanying with a new Studebaker. In the meantime, the original

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OLD NORTH STATE TO WELCOME HIM

TO WELCOME FOCH AT MONROE TODAY

Distinguished Citizens To Greet Marshal When He Arrives

Monroe, Dec. 8.—The county that gave birth to Andrew Jackson will again today be honored with a visit by Marshal Foch, who as commander of the allied armies in the world new lustre to the flag of freedom.

The welcome for the French marshal to North Carolina will be one in keeping with his high station. Governor Morrison will be on hand with his staff to extend greetings in behalf of the people of Tar Heeldom.

Former Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels today accepted an invitation to attend the reception to be accorded the Marshal. Other distinguished citizens of North Carolina as well as thousands of less distinguished ones will be on hand when the Marshal's train pulls into the station 8:35 o'clock tonight.

Brigadier General A. J. Bowley, commander of Camp Bragg, himself a veteran of the World War, will be on hand with two regiments of artillery, both of which served valiantly in the great war. The two regiments will receive from the hands of the Marshal the decoration that the French government bestowed upon these men for their bravery on the field of battle.

W. O. Heath, chairman of the committee on arrangements today received from Senator Simmons the following message:

"Am glad to advise that the Secretary of War has issued the following order:

"The Secretary directs that the commanding general of Camp Bragg with his personal staff and the commanding officers of the Fifth and Seventeenth Regiments Field Artillery with a color guard of each regiment to be at Monroe, N. C., Friday night, December 9, between 8 and 8:45 o'clock in order that Marshal Foch may personally decorate the colors with the fourragere."

Complimentary to the distinguished visitors here to welcome the Marshal, the citizens of Monroe and Union county will have a banquet this evening at 6 o'clock.

The Seaboard Air Line has announced special rates on account of the occasion and a large number of visitors from other sections will be here for the occasion.

APPOINT RECEIVERS FOR "TEX" RICKARD

New York, Dec. 8.—Allen Loxow and John Ringling were named by Supreme Court Justice Guy Tule today as receivers for "Tex" Rickard, the Madison Square Garden Corporation and the Madison Square Sporting Club, Inc. They deposited bond of \$100,000.

Frank Armstrong, broker, who requested the receivership, declared he had used Rickard for money loaned him in various sporting enterprises dating from the Johnson-Jeffries championship bout at Reno, Nevada, July 4, 1916, to the proving in 1920 of the Madison Square Garden lease.

The corporations named were losing money, he said, and the receivership was necessary for the protection of his interests, pending action on the suit.

Rickard announced he would fight the receivership, declaring that at no time since he assumed management of Madison Square Garden had Armstrong been a partner or interested in any way in "The Garden."

"If the decision stands any legitimate paying business can be placed in the hands of a receiver," he declared. "It is ridiculous to think of such an action regarding the Garden, for I have made it pay from the start. It is solvent in every respect and I will post a bond of \$100,000 to prove that the finances of the institution are in a healthy condition."

He added that the appointment of receivers was a surprise to him, "because there is not an outstanding debt of any kind."

Dr. J. M. Long Resigns.
Savannah, Ga., Dec. 8.—Dr. J. M. Long, superintendent of the Georgia Aliphth Hospital at Atlanta, tonight announced his resignation to accept the superintendency of the Baptist Hospital at Birmingham, Ala. Dr. Long was attending the State Baptist convention here to which he made report tonight.

MORE DELAYS AT ARMS CONGRESS MAY BE EXPECTED

Some Form of Arbitration Treaty By Four Powers Under Consideration

CHINESE SITUATION STILL MUCH IN DARK

United States Will Not Advocate Alliance But Something Must Be Done To Displace Present Anglo-Japanese Alliance, American Position

By FRANK H. SIMMONS.
Washington, Dec. 9.—Twenty four hours have added little of definite and much of vague statement to the situation. From American official sources, nothing has been added to the direct request made yesterday on behalf of the American delegation that confidence should not be withdrawn, a request which was accompanied by the further statement that explicit and complete explanation would be furnished at the earliest possible moment and that the delay would not be long.

Thrown back upon British and Japanese sources for information, the American press correspondents have been able to accumulate certain impressions. It is agreed that in some form or another there is now being considered an agreement which may include Britain, Japan, France and the United States, or may not include France, which will impress upon all concerned some form of arbitration treaty, some form of delay before any hostilities are entered into, with the possible additional circumstance that in case of trouble between two, the good offices of the other or others shall be sought. This would clearly be a treaty calling for Senate ratification.

Propose To Neutralize Islands.
Secondly, there is the suggestion that some form of agreement in amount to neutralizing the island possessions of the various Pacific powers, not of course, including the Japanese home land or the American, including Hawaii, but roughly speaking the islands included in Japanese mandate, and the American overseas groups, which would be comprehended mainly in the Philippines and Guam. An agreement not to fortify in peace and not to attack in war seems to be the underlying idea.

Coupled with this is the familiar question of the naval ratio. It is implied in Japanese quarters that the arbitration proposal came from Tokyo and that already there has been some hint from Tokyo that the second proposal, including the naval ratio would be approved, but that there still remain details, which require consideration and elucidation.

Mr. Flood's message which was received yesterday and figured in today's news as an acceptance by Japan of the 5-5-3 ratio.

Chinese Situation In Dark.
There remains obviously a third, very important group of questions centering about Chinese problems. Here the whole situation is still very much in the dark. This morning Mr. Wellington Koo in the Chinese committee made a rather impassioned statement of Chinese dissatisfaction both as to what had been done or set done so far in Chinese affairs directly and what seemed to be implied by the rumors of a three or four power alliance in the Far East.

One must note the growing impression that in the end there will be a refusal of the Chinese to accept the decision of the conference in their problems. Certainly the present and dissatisfaction within the Chinese delegation remains unmistakably and the resignation of Mr. Wang has been transmitted to Peking, whether it has been accepted there or not. But coincident with this impression of Chinese dissatisfaction there is also developing a sentiment that Chinese demands are, on the whole, extravagant and Chinese ability to perform wholly doubtful, even were the requests granted.

American Position Undisclosed.
In sum, while the American position remains for the present undisclosed and the statements coming from other directions subject to the qualifications to be made in all such cases, it would appear that the moment is at hand when it will be possible to announce some form of arbitration treaty, which will remove all danger of sudden and perhaps of eventual war in the Far East, together with an agreement upon a naval holiday and a satisfactory naval ratio, probably the 5-5-3 with some amendment due to the saving of the Mutus.

Despite all the hints and suggestions no one believes that anything like an alliance can be really advocated by the American delegation or that the delegation has any notion of suggesting such a thing. On the other hand there is an appreciation of the fact that something must be found which the Japanese can and will accept as a substitute for the Anglo-Japanese alliance, given the consent of Japan and of Britain that this will disappear and the similar assertion by the United States that an actual alliance is out of the question, it will be seen that there is a certain room for manoeuvre between these two fixed points and that the United States will have every reason for allowing her companions full time and opportunity to make necessary arrangements at home and in this city.

Critical Period of Conference.
We are manifestly passing through

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PACIFIC AGREEMENT TO SUPPLANT ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE

Proposed Four-Power Pact Also Includes Harding's Idea of Series of World Conferences

CONFERENCE AWAITS REPLIES ON TREATY AND NAVAL PROPOSAL

Question of Limitation of Fortifications and Naval Bases in The Pacific Brought Sharply Before Conference; Nine Nations Pledge Themselves Not To Make Treaties or Agreements Infringing On Territorial and Administrative Integrity of China; Japanese and Chinese Still Confident of Agreement On Shantung Matter; Four-Power Plan Making Encouraging Progress

Washington, Dec. 8.—(By the Associated Press.)—The preliminary draft of the proposed four-power Pacific agreement is understood to include four clauses, the first of which declares that the agreement shall serve as a substitute for the Anglo-Japanese Alliance.

The draft further provides, it is understood, for discussions or conferences in case any matter of a disputatious nature arises in incorporating President Harding's idea for a later series of international conferences.

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CHAIRMAN FLOOD DIES AT CAPITAL

Virginia Representative Was Prominent In Congressional Affairs

Washington, Dec. 8.—Congressional business was suspended today out of respect to Representative Henry D. Flood, of Virginia, chairman of the Democratic Congressional committee, whose death, caused by heart trouble, occurred shortly before noon.

The House, immediately after going into session, adjourned until tomorrow after adopting resolutions of regret. Later the Senate adjourned until Monday out of respect to the dead Representative, who as chairman of the House Foreign Affairs committee in 1917 introduced the resolutions declaring that a state of war existed between the United States and the Imperial Governments of Germany and Austria-Hungary.

Mr. Flood had been in ill health for several weeks. As chairman of the State Democratic committee took an active part in the recent gubernatorial campaign in Virginia, but since the election had been unable to attend sessions of Congress. He died at his Washington home.

Serving his eleventh term in Congress, Mr. Flood represented the Tenth Virginia district. His home was in Appomattox, where the burial will be after funeral services here Monday. Speaker Gillett is expected to announce tomorrow the selection of a committee of eighteen Representatives to represent the House at the funeral. On the Senate committee will be Senators Swanson, Glass, Harrison, Caraway, Heflin, Curtis, McKinley, and Willis.

As chairman of the Committee on Territories, Mr. Flood was author of the resolution admitting New Mexico and Arizona to Statehood. He was recognized as one of the Democratic leaders in the House, and had an important part in framing legislation during the past two decades.

AWAITING REPLIES ON TWO MAJOR SUBJECTS
Washington, Dec. 8.—(By the Associated Press.)—While they wait for definite replies on the naval ratio plan and the proposal for a four-power agreement in the Pacific, the arms delegates are pushing ahead with other features of their negotiations.

Today's developments brought into prominence for the first time the question of a limitation of fortifications and naval bases in the Pacific islands, and although the subject was not advanced to the stage of formal exchanges, an agreement was forecast preserving in general the existing status.

Again applying the American "four points" to the Chinese problem, the nine nations represented in the Far Eastern committee pledged themselves to make no treaty or agreement in future infringing on China's territorial or administrative integrity or interfering with her right to economic and national development.

In the Shantung negotiations the progress was less pronounced, but the Japanese and Chinese delegations held another consultation on the subject of public properties and afterward both sides renewed their prediction of a satisfactory settlement.

The four-power plan to preserve peace in the Pacific was discussed at a two-hour conference between the heads of the American, British, Japanese and French delegations, but it was said afterward that no definite word had yet been received either from Tokyo or Paris. The British government is understood to have already accepted the proposal in principle, and the American delegates have indicated a willingness to proceed to a discussion of details.

A message from the Japanese capital was received during the day by the Japanese delegation, but imperfect cable transmission was said to have rendered it impossible of definite interpretation. Acceptance by Tokyo is expected in all quarters, however, and press dispatches tonight saying that a conditional acceptance had been decided on caused no surprise here.

The press advised indicated that the Japanese wanted an agreement on the naval ratio and further application of the American "four points" to China before they brought the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, which the four-power arrangement is designed to replace. This development was not regarded as a serious barrier to an agreement, since Japan has indicated consistently that she desired to have all of these problems cleared up together.

Bene Viviani, whose conference with Secretary Hughes, Arthur J. Balfour and Admiral Baron Kato transformed the "Big Three" of the conference into a "Big Four" for consideration of the four-power agreement, has recommended to his government that it accept a place in the new arrangement. A favorable response is expected soon.

Meantime some of the Italian delegates have suggested in an entirely unofficial way that the Pacific agreement might be strengthened by the addition of Italy, but the position of the delegation as a whole is said to be one of satisfaction with the four-power arrangement. Italy has not the extensive interests of the others in the Pacific and her official spokesmen say they have no intention of formally presenting a suggestion for her inclusion.

BAND OF ARMED MEN GET MUCH WHISKEY

Tyone, Ky., Dec. 8.—Whiskey valued at more than \$50,000 was removed from the T. R. Riply Distillery, near here, tonight by a band of twenty armed men, who held up the superintendent and three guards.

Ten barrels and 194 cases of bottled in bond whiskey were removed by the bandits, who used three touring cars and three trucks to haul the liquor away. Police of all central Kentucky towns have been notified to be on the lookout for the party.

REPORT ON COTTON CONSUMPTION ISSUED

Cotton Ginned To December First Aggregated 7,640,879 Bales

Washington, Dec. 8.—Cotton ginned prior to December 1 amounted to 7,640,879 running bales, including 121,830 round bales, counted as half bales; 22,058 bales of American Egyptian, and 2,935 bales of Sen Island, the Census Bureau announced today.

Ginnings by states to December 1 this year were:

Alabama	575,310	Arizona	25,715
Arkansas	796,908	California	16,030
Florida	11,724	Georgia	803,815
Louisiana	275,197	Mississippi	790,336
Missouri	66,130	North Carolina	739,035
Oklahoma	470,352	South Carolina	734,665
Tennessee	281,251	Texas	2,072,572
Virginia	14,932	Other states	6,808

Revised total of the ginnings prior to November 14 was announced as 7,276,264 bales.

JAPANESE APPROVE NEW AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE

Tokio, Dec. 8.—(By the Associated Press.)—The semi-official Tokoku News Agency reports that the Japanese government has notified its delegates at the Washington conference of its approval of the proposed quadruple entente in principle.

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