

GERMANY ANSWERS U. S. PEACE NOTE

GERMANY HAS SENT HER TERMS FOR PEACE

SEALED PACKETS ARE HANDED TO NEUTRAL NATIONS WHO ARE TO HELP BRING ABOUT PEACE.

NO OFFICIAL COMMENT MADE

(By United Press) **ROME**—Germany today handed the neutral nations, whose services she has asked in forwarding peace suggestions to her enemies, a sealed packet containing specific terms upon which she is willing to make peace. It is reported. The report also states that the packets were sent with instructions to be read only in forwarding to the allies. If the latter actually asked for terms. The same report stated that in a note sent to the Pope, permission was given him to read a secret list of the terms. No official comment on the news is obtainable, although the reports are generally credited here as being authentic.

LAST SAY FOR CARRANZA TO COME ACROSS

(By United Press) **WASHINGTON**—Settlement of the difficulties between Mexico and the United States through peaceful means depends upon what answer Carranza gives. Today is the last day set by the peace commission for him to sign the proposed withdrawal protocol. They expect to hear today whether he agrees to the protocol. If he does not sign, peace negotiations will be at an end and the troops will probably be kept on the border.

WERE MARRIED YESTERDAY

Miss Tingle becomes the bride of Hald Mitchell. Have left on bridal trip.

Miss Fannie Tingle and Mr. Hald Mitchell were married this morning at ten o'clock at the Methodist parsonage in the presence of a few intimate friends and relatives. Rev. E. M. Sipes officiated. The couple have left for New York and other points on their bridal tour. Upon their return they will make their home in Washington.

Miss Tingle is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Tingle of this city and is popular with all who know her. Mr. Mitchell is in the employ of Messrs. H. B. Berry and is well known throughout the city.

COMMUNITY TREE WAS A BIG SUCCESS

OVER TWO THOUSAND PERSONS PRESENT TO WITNESS THE EXERCISES LAST NIGHT.

STOCKINGS GIVEN AWAY

Over two thousand persons were present at the Court House Square last night and witnessed the program that was carried out at Washington's first Community Christmas tree.

The tree was greatly admired. Hundreds of various-colored electric lights were used in illuminating it. In addition, there were many other decorations, including large colored balls, silver streamers, chains, etc. It presented a most beautiful appearance.

Promptly at 8:30, Edmund Harding, who acted as master of ceremonies, called upon Mayor Stewart, who made a brief address of welcome. The Mayor then called upon Judge Stephens C. Bragaw to make the Christmas address.

With most respectful attention and quiet, the large crowd listened attentively to Judge Bragaw's speech, which told of the search of the wise men for the Christ and the true meaning of Christmas. Several songs were also sung by the assembled choir of the city.

An attractive feature of the program was the passage of a brightly illuminated star from one of the ten-by-ten-foot buildings to the tree. It glided slowly through the aisles and when directly over the tree, it stopped.

Six hundred stockings, filled with fruit, nuts and candy, were distributed to the children present. It was endeavored to give a stocking to every child although the crowd was so large that there were probably some who were forced to go home disappointed.

The Community Christmas tree proved a great success in every way. It is still standing and will probably be kept up for a few nights.

AUSTRIAN DESTROYERS IN SUCCESSFUL RAID

(By United Press) **BERLIN**—Four Austrian destroyers sank two patrol boats and routed six enemy destroyers of superior type and speed off Otranto, Vienna dispatches stated. "In the heavy duel, one of the hostile destroyers was set ashore. Three others were hit at short range. Our loss was one dead," stated official reports.

Mayor Waters in the City. Hon. L. H. Waters, mayor of Bridgeton, N. C., and a former resident of Washington, spent the holidays with friends and relatives here. Mr. Waters stated that Bridgeton is growing rapidly and that a number of public improvements are under way. He also said that Craven county is making preparations for considerable brick paving, having decided that this form of road was the best for all purposes.

Left for St. Louis. W. T. Bailey, Jr., left this morning for St. Louis and Canton, Ill., on business.

TO PROVIDE CHRISTMAS JOYS FOR THOSE WHO WERE DISAPPOINTED LAST NIGHT

OWING TO THE large crowd present last night, there were probably some of the children who were disappointed at the Community Christmas tree and who did not receive a stocking of good things.

The Daily News wants to see that all of the children in the city receive some Christmas gift. In order to do this, we want every child, who did not have any candy, or fruit, or nuts on Christmas, or who did not receive a stocking last night, to come to the Daily News office some time tomorrow and let us know about it. Each child, however, must have a note from his or her parents, saying that the child did not receive any presents.

If there were any children disappointed, the Daily News has arranged to give them some of the good things that were given away at the Christmas tree last night.

It is requested that all of the children come to this office tomorrow in order that it may be ascertained how much candy, fruit and nuts it will be necessary to provide.

NEW PLAN IS DEVISED FOR MILITARY TRAINING

(By United Press) **WASHINGTON**—Plans for a universal military service, designed to offset the objections to existing plans, were submitted to the Senate Military Committee today by Colonel Webb C. Hayes, of Ohio. All the plans were designed by him although Colonel Foot, in charge of the artillery school at Fort Monmouth, is involved.

The plans call for such youth of seventeen years of age to be military training during three summer months for four years. The Congressional districts would be the units.

DEMOCRATS PLAN TO MEET DIFFICULT IN THE REVENUES

WASHINGTON—Plans for taxing everything from motion picture films and phonograph records to low incomes are being considered by Democrats of the house ways and means committee, as the prospects of a huge treasury deficit grows.

Indications are the Democrats of the house committee, who have been harassed by revenue problems since the outbreak of the European war, must turn soon after the holidays to a tariff revision. Congressman John Garner, of Texas, a Democratic member of the committee, announces that he will sponsor a plan for a horizontal increase of 10 per cent in existing tariff duties.

Mr. Garner conferred with Secretary McAdoo, Chairman Kitchin, of the ways and means committee, and a number of his colleagues regarding the practicability of tariff legislation of this sort. He asserted today that his plan had been taken under advisement by Secretary McAdoo and others. He declined to say whether Mr. McAdoo approved of the suggestion.

Mr. Garner estimates that a 10 per cent increase in import duties will raise at least \$225,000,000. This amount, added to the sum realized through the possible sale of \$150,000,000 in Panama canal bonds, will meet the approaching deficit.

NEGRO PROBLEM IS ACUTE IN CHICAGO

(By United Press) **CHICAGO**—Rapid influx of negroes here has created a problem of importance to Chicago today. The colored population is estimated at between 40,000 and 75,000. The "black belt" is rapidly widening. Negroes have a "city within a city."

Considered of most importance in connection with the situation is the housing problem. The negro district has become a haven of ten, driven from other parts of the city by "clean-up" orders. Negro boys and girls are brought up in the midst of immorality. Night houses, gambling dens, saloons and other agents of destruction have become established in the negro district.

Of strange connection is the fact that 127 years ago Jean Baptiste Pointe de LaSalle, a Santo Domingo tree negro, built the first house on the shores of Lake Michigan where Chicago now spreads out over a territory of 128 square miles.

Other neutrals to join U. S. in peace note. **WASHINGTON**—Switzerland has joined the United States in the effort to bring about peace in Europe. Other neutral nations are expected to take similar action. It was indicated in official quarters last night that Spain would also soon be heard from, and that no surprise would be occasioned if Holland and the Scandinavian countries should follow suit.

The Swiss note was sent to the belligerents by the Swiss Federal Council of seven members, which in Switzerland exercises approximately the same powers as the President and his Cabinet in the United States. A copy of the note was sent to the United States and ultimately, it is understood, will be communicated to other neutral governments.

The note makes public the fact, now stated officially, for the first time, that President Wilson in making his peace move has been acting in co-operation with other neutrals. Among these neutrals, it was said last night, are several South American nations. The note also refers to the effort to organize a

BIG FIRE ON WATER STREET LAST NIGHT

JOSE, MILLS IS HEAVY LOSER BECAUSE OF BLAZE. HORSES AND MULES BURNED TO DEATH.

LAUNDRY ALSO DAMAGED

Fire broke out at midnight last night in the stables owned by Josh Mills on Water street, completely gutted the place and also did considerable damage in the laundry of Mr. Capehart, next door. Six horses and two mules were burned to death in the fire and considerable hay and equipment was also destroyed. It is reported that there was no insurance carried by Mr. Mills. None of the machinery in Mr. Capehart's establishment was hurt to any great extent, but his loss will probably amount to four or five hundred dollars. Mr. Capehart was out of town at the time the fire occurred, but it is understood that he is fairly well covered by insurance.

No one apparently knows how the blaze started. The fire department responded in a hurry, but by the time the alarm was sent in, the entire building was in flames. A general alarm was turned in and then a call was sent in for direct pressure. The department never worked to better advantage. In spite of the headway of the blaze and in spite of the fact that only a wooden partition kept the fire from spreading to the rear building, they held the flames in check by skilled and efficient work. The pressure was never better and each hose did effective work. The different companies deserve the highest praise for their excellent work.

The building was owned by Mrs. W. L. Laughinghouse and Mr. H. D. Stulley.

GERARD MEETS WITH KAISER

Is Called for a Special Interview, Presumably to Discuss Peace Measures.

(By United Press) **AMSTERDAM**—American Ambassador Gerard is scheduled for a special audience with the Kaiser today, according to Berlin dispatches. It is stated that the Emperor also asked the Swiss minister to go to the palace for an audience. It is presumed that peace measures will be discussed.

10,000 SCIENTISTS TO HOLD CONVENTION

(By United Press) **NEW YORK**—The science of everything from sawing wood to stellar relationships, will be rounded up and gone over in detail by ten thousand of the world's leading scientists who will arrive here Monday for the 65th meeting of The American Association for the Advancement of Science which convenes Tuesday. President Charles R. Van Hise, president of the University of Wisconsin, will preside. Twenty seven different societies will participate.

TENDERED BANQUET TO HIS EMPLOYEES

After closing his store Saturday night, L. H. Morris tendered a banquet in the establishment to his employees and several invited guests. The affair was thoroughly enjoyed by all present. Plates were laid for fourteen. The menu was as follows: Oysters on half shell, Pickles, Celery.

IT'S PROBABLY THE TRUTH

(By United Press) **CHICAGO**—Do you know "Brachyblast"? It is an embryo of a fossiliferous skeleton of the paleozoic age, the professor of geology at the University told his open-mouth students. No one questioned his statement.

CITIZENS GIVE \$287.50 FOR CHARITY WORK

Fund Is Continuing to Grow Rapidly. More Money Needed to Carry on the Work.

The fund for the Associated Charities took a big jump today. Citizens who have not yet contributed are urged to do so as soon as possible. It is desired to close the fund by the last of this week. The following contributions have been received to date:

Previously reported \$192.20
Mrs. K. L. Blount 10.00
Dr. J. G. Blount 10.00
Rev. H. B. Spearight 3.00
W. T. Hudnell 2.50
Mrs. Pauline G. Berry 3.00
J. L. Warren 1.00
F. C. Saunders 3.00
Washington Horse Ex. 6.00
J. H. Ecklin 3.00
F. E. Mayo 1.00
Mrs. J. C. Rodman 3.00
Mr. M. Werthington 5.00
Frank H. Bryan 6.00
S. H. Williams 2.00
F. W. Cox 2.50
Suskin & Berry 10.00
Lee Davenport 5.00
Pamlico Chemical Co. 10.00
Charles Cowell 2.00
Total \$287.50

TO CONTEST ELECTION

(By United Press) **PITTSBURGH**—Representative W. M. H. Coleman, Republican, today served notice in the courts that he will contest the election of M. Clyde Kelly, who succeeded him in the thirteenth district, on account of alleged fraud.

STEAMSHIP IS SINKING

Steamer Maryland Is Off Sandy Hook in Precarious Condition. Messages State.

NEW YORK—The steamship Maryland is reported to be sinking one hundred and fifty miles off Sandy Hook, wireless messages stated today. Revenue cutters, Achahnet, Mohawk and Savannah have gone to her assistance. The messages stated that the engine rooms of the Maryland are being flooded. She has a large crew and some passengers aboard.

KAISER TO SUMMON GERARD AND DISCUSS MEDIATION

LONDON—In Berlin diplomatic circles, says an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Amsterdam, it is understood that the German emperor will at an early date summon to headquarters the American ambassador, James W. Gerard, with the view to discussing with him possible American mediation and action.

ADMIRAL DEWEY IS 79 YEARS OLD TODAY

(By United Press) **WASHINGTON**—Admiral George Dewey, victor over the Spanish fleet at the battle of Manila Bay, who so long as he lives will be on the active list as ranking officer of the American navy, celebrated his 79th birthday today.

The Admiral is still hale and hearty. His favorite exercise is horserack riding, which he indulges in almost every day. Admiral Dewey was 60 years of age when on May 1, 1898, he commanded the victorious Asiatic squadron in Manila Bay. He then held the rank of Commodore, but was promoted to Admiral and thanked by Congress immediately upon receipt of word of the victory. Ordinarily the Admiral would have been retired in 1898, but by special act of Congress he was made "Admiral of the Navy" for life.

TODAY'S PROGRAM AT NEW THEATRE

"THE FALL OF A NATION"
By Thomas Dixon
Music by Victor Herbert
Seen in seven reels

Fried chicken on toast
Potatoes
Coffee
Apples, Grapes, Oranges, Nuts
The party was a jolly one and Mr. Morris' hospitality was thoroughly appreciated.

PRICES: Children 25c
Adults 50c
Show starts promptly at 7:30

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By Taking Stock in the
Home Building & Loan Association
Office in Savings & Trust Building
A NEW SERIES OPENS JANUARY 6, 1917.
It is independent of every other institution; it is owned and operated by its stockholders.
W. E. SWINDELL, Pres.
JNO. B. SPARROW, Sec. & Treas.
MEMBERS:—B. G. Moss, E. B. Nims, W. E. Swindell, F. J. Henry, C. A. Flynn, F. C. Kaylor, Jas. G. Bragaw, Jr., W. H. Ross, F. H. Bryan, G. A. Torrance, Jas. B. Sparrow.