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PEACE CANNOT COME UNTIL SERBIA AND BELGIUM ARE FREE

American Officials Believe Allies Will Insist Upon Restoration

DISARMAMENT CROPS UP

All Belligerents Must Be Ready to Part With Large Portion of Their Guns, Is Thought in Washington

(By the United Press) London, Dec. 18.—American Ambassador Page today delivered the German peace note to the British foreign office.

Restoration Belgium Necessary.

Washington, Dec. 18.—United States officials are convinced there can be no formal discussion of peace until Germany and Austria avow willingness to restore Belgium and Serbia and all the nations involved are ready to disarm on a rather large scale. In his forthcoming speech Premier Lloyd-George is expected to insist on such action. This on his part would serve as a "pass-back" back to Germany. Moreover, officials believe he will outline fully what the Allies are fighting for, but in no circumstances will he voice scornful or flat rejection of German offers.

What America Expects.

The United Press is in position to give an outline of this government's convictions on several angles of the peace developments. It is believed Germany offered peace because her own people are becoming restive. They have demanded greater representation. They are becoming skeptical about military purposes and are feeling that the war, with the German victories, appears to be a war of conquest rather than of defense as claimed.

It is believed the people of all countries want peace, America included, so long as there is no sacrifice of the principles for which they are fighting.

No reason is seen why Lloyd-George should fail to outline general peace terms for the Allies. Unequivocal rejection of the Teuton proffer would immediately react to England's disadvantage in neutral countries, it is believed. It would also embitter the German people to unite more solidly behind the governmental form which England desires to destroy. The German people then would be convinced that their's is a war for existence, and would urge ruthless, unrestricted pursuit of it. It is pointed out that Germany would not fight to the end to resist a demand for restoration of Belgium and Serbia, but would fight to the last to oppose demands for the life of its own nation.

Expect Much From United States.

Rome, Dec. 18.—The Central Powers have urged the Pope and the United States to back up their peace proposals, according to reports had here.

All Depends On Lloyd-George.

London, Dec. 18.—Ambassador Page fulfilled his mission today without making any comment on the note. Lloyd-George, better, hopes to resume his duties today after a week's illness. The premier will find the nation squarely back of him if, as expected, he meets the German peace proposals with an unqualified refusal. It seemed certain today that the premier will be able to address the House of Commons tomorrow, outlining the policy of the new government and stating Britain's view on the Germans' peace proposals.

START RAISING THE STEAMER POWHATAN

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 18.—Tugs and barges connected with local wrecking operations this afternoon began the actual work of raising the Merchants

DON'T WORRY, THOSE WHO BOAST SALARIES ARE LOSING LITTLE

Western Union Can Afford Bonuses to Messenger Boys—New York Simply Revels in the Greatest Wealth in History

(By LOWEL MELLETT, United Press Staff Correspondent) New York, Dec. 18.—New York is rolling, reveling, rollicking in wealth. This is a "never before in history" story.

New York banks today held in reserve \$816,794,200, and from every quarter of the globe money is pouring in—actual yellow gold by the millions, to be changed from the coin of other nations into the coin of the U. S. A.

Wall Street has become a gambling table onto which is being thrown money from the earnings, winnings and savings of Americans and money from the coffers of kings.

While the large majority of New York's six millions are fighting the universal desperate battle with the out of living, on the surface it appears that everybody has money to spend. They are spending it for necessities and luxuries.

Forty or more blocks in Manhattan are given over entirely to the ancient trio, wine, women and song. War bride dividends have given night time Broadway a new life. Men whose business it is to take money from spenders say they never were able to take so much of it before.

Ancient Babylon could be set down inside New York's winter pleasure grounds without being noticed. Ne-nehadnezzar wouldn't have a reputation outside his own block.

Cabarets have sprung up like mushrooms and dance halls thrive in any new gold camp. "Business is three times as big as the biggest we ever saw before his season," said the manager of the largest cabaret in the city.

Hotels are crowded, theaters are sold out. Crowds that "shop early" do not account for, fill the department stores.

Warehouses are depleted of stocks and deliveries are far behind.

New York is spending its spending money and getting what it can for it.

But it keeps on. From farmers in the west to at least one monarch on a European throne, they are sending their money to New York. The greater part of it is emptied into that section of the city included by the name of Wall Street.

On the stock exchange million-huge days have come to be considered the regular thing, whereas, two years ago 400,000 shares was a good day's trading. When every now and then, the trading reaches two million shares scarcely is it noticed.

Over and round about the floor of (Continued on Page Three)

BRYANT TAYLOR, SUPT. OF ROADS, PASSES OUT

Bryant Taylor, 35, for about four years past superintendent of the Lenoir county road force, and an efficient employe of the Board of Commissioners, died at his home in the northern part of the city Sunday at 9:45 a. m., following an illness of several weeks. The funeral was held Monday afternoon, with interment at Maplewood cemetery. Pastors B. P. Smith of Gordon Street Christian church, and H. A. Humble of Queen Street Methodist church, conducted the service. Mr. Taylor was a member of a Christian church in the county. He was a native of the county.

Surviving him are his wife and two brothers.

and Miners liner, Powhatan, sunk on Wednesday off Wicahoy Beach, following a collision with the British tanker Telens. Divers have completed the task of stopping up the great rent in the ship's side.

PANI HAS NOT TOLD THREE MEN CONTROL BUTTER PRODUCT'N OF UNITED STATES

(By the United Press) Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 18.—What Carranza did with the border protocol is still an unknown quantity here this afternoon.

Alberto Pani, who presented the document to the first chief, occupied the entire morning session of the International Commission today in presenting a verbal report of an interview with Carranza.

Pani offered no written document to the commissioners.

WILSONS CELEBRATE WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

(By the United Press) Washington, Dec. 18.—The President and Mrs. Wilson celebrated their first wedding anniversary today with an early round of golf. There will be a family dinner tonight. The executive couple will then entertain friends at the theater.

CHARLOTTE OBSERVER OFFICE BE REBUILT

(Special to The Free Press) Charlotte, Dec. 18.—Complete restoration of the Charlotte Daily Observer plant, partly destroyed by fire late Saturday, is expected. The Observer is being printed in the News office. The loss was fully \$50,000.

MUST SING YOUR NEW GOWN FOR YOUR HUBBY

Chicago, Dec. 18.—Singing models, the first in the history of fashion, it is said, made their appearance at the convention of the Designers' Association of Women's Clothes here today. Special melodies are sung with different styles.

A lawn or black suit takes a somber tune, a green or pink suit a dashing strain, grey requiring something in a reverie. It's to illustrate the psychology of clothes and to impress women with the fact that their personality is shaped to a large extent by the taste with which they dress.

WOULD RAISE BIG SUM TO HELP END THE WAR

Washington, Dec. 17.—Frederick C. Walcott of New York, who recently investigated conditions in Poland and Belgium for the Rockefeller Foundation, told a number of senators and representatives who met tonight at the home of Miss Mabel T. Bradman of the Red Cross, that a fund of \$500,000,000, collected in this country and offered for relief of non-combatants in Europe would be a powerful peace influence at this time. He said such an act would tend to create popular demonstrations for peace among civilian populations of warring nations, because they would be anxious for the assistance in rehabilitating their homes and restoring normal living conditions.

ADAMSON SAYS NO CHANGE IN HIS LAW

Washington, Dec. 17.—Reports that railroad and brotherhood heads in peace conference have planned to propose the repeal of the Adamson Act and the substitution of a working agreement of their own making for it today, aroused Representative Adamson, author of the law, to declare that Congress would "spank both sides to the controversy if necessary."

Mr. Adamson, who is the House representative of President Wilson in railway legislation matters, is willing to co-operate in any plan employes and employers may evolve for the interpretation of his law as applied to working conditions, but will vigorously oppose repeal of it, as he thinks will the majorities of both houses.

THREE MEN CONTROL BUTTER PRODUCT'N OF UNITED STATES

Sit in Elgin, Ill., Each Saturday, and Name Price for Which Next Week's Output Shall Be Sold, Charges Newspaper

S. S. Fontaine, writing in the New York World, says three men every week set the price of butter for the United States. "On one sale of 25 tons of 60 pounds each weekly, they establish the average annual cost of 60,000,000 pounds of the product valued at \$18,000,000 approximately," says the World's headlines over a feature story date Chicago. "Premium paid by a few Chicago dealers, based on the Elgin standard, to a few creameries the bane of the trade," it is stated, quoting Frederick R. Males, a reform member of the Elgin Board, who in an interview declared the practice of the Chicago dealers "really fixes the basis for the general buying of cream and butter fat throughout the United States."

The Government has watched the butter manipulators carefully, but "so carefully have these men hedged themselves about with legal safeguards that investigators have been unable to find any evidence that there has been any violation of the Sherman law."

"Three men travel every Saturday morning from Chicago to Elgin, Ill., 29 miles. There at noon in the assembly room of the Elgin Board of Trade they fix the weekly quotation for Elgin creamery butter. The telegraph and cable carry their decree to every merchandising center in the country and to every market in the civilized world to which the export trade of the country extends, and it forms the basic prices for all grades of table butter until these food arbiters meet again."

"Preparatory to their deliberations the Secretary of the Elgin Board of Trade posts on the call board the amount of butter offered for sale at a minimum price, and the amount for which there is a bid at the maximum price. A transaction is invariably effected on a level between these prices satisfactory to the producer and the bidder, and this sale, apparently bona fide, so far as the observations of the Federal authorities go, constitutes the basis upon which every dealer in every city and hamlet fixes the price upon which butter goes into consumption."

ABANDON EFFORTS TO PULL SUMMER OFF

New York, Dec. 17.—Efforts to float the U. S. transport Summer, which went aground off Barnegat, N. J., last Monday night were temporarily abandoned tonight by order of the War Department. Col. John M. Carson, Jr., in charge of the army quartermaster depot in New York, said, however, that the work would be renewed as soon as the weather permits.

NO FIREWORKS WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE BUSINESS DISTRICT

City Council, following the lead taken by other East Carolina cities, Saturday night in special session took action prohibiting the use of fireworks in the fire district during the holidays. They will be tolerated in other parts of the city.

City officials declare the danger to property in the downtown section is too great to allow Young Kinston full away. Likewise there is the bother to pedestrians, especially women, and the frightening of horses and possible injury or loss of life of drivers to be taken into consideration.

KINSTONIANS WANT ANTI-LIQUOR BILLS NOW PENDING, LAWS

Strong Resolutions Adopted at Mass Meeting Sunday Night and Forwarded to Washington—Rev. Mr. Davis Spoke Twice

A stirring resolution endorsing the prohibition bills now pending in the National Congress and urging the representatives of this district to lend their support to the passage of the measures, was passed by the mass meeting held at the Gordon Street Christian church Sunday night. At the conclusion of the address of Rev. R. L. Davis, superintendent of the North Carolina Anti-Saloon League, Mr. Y. T. Ormond presented the resolution which favored the immediate passage of the Sheppard bill, now before the Senate, for the outlawing of saloons in the District of Columbia and disapproving the Underwood amendment which proposes to submit the question to a vote of the people of the District. The Webb bill to submit a National constitutional amendment to the States for ratification driving liquor out of the country, was endorsed, as well as the proposed bill to keep from the mails all advertising matter pertaining to the liquor business. The resolution was telegraphed to Washington Monday morning.

Mr. Davis spoke twice in Kinston Sunday. At the morning hour he occupied the pulpit of the Queen Street Methodist church. His subject was "Liberty." He discussed the subject from the standpoint of personal, civil and religious liberty.

Sunday night a mass meeting in which all the churches in town joined was held at the Gordon Street Christian church. Mr. Davis told of the plans of the Anti-Saloon League for legislation by the forthcoming assembly.

The contemplated laws will restrict the amount of liquor for any and all purposes to one-half gallon, and any citizen, regardless of reputation, who is detected with more than that amount will be amenable to the law. The manufacture of wines will be restricted to five gallons per year and this must be for personal use. Cider will also be given attention and the matter of public drinking will be prohibited. Nobody will be permitted under the proposed law to drink in any public place or off their own premises. The League is also considering the advisability of working for a commissioner whose duty it will be to enforce the laws. At the conclusion of the address an offering was taken for the work of the League for the coming year.

GARAGE DESTROYED BY FLAMES SATURDAY

Fire Saturday about 8 p. m. destroyed a garage at the home of W. G. Grady in North Kinston, together with a new Ford car. A Chevrolet in the garage was badly damaged. The cars were the property of Mr. Grady and a son-in-law, Will Costen. The cause of the blaze is a mystery, since no one had been around the place with fire. It had gained considerable headway before being discovered. The loss is estimated at around \$750.

RETREAT IN ROUMANIA CONTINUES, REPORTED

Berlin, Dec. 18.—Retreat of the Rumanians to Braila and an attack on these retreating columns by German aeroplanes is reported daily.

CONGRESSMEN WARN THAT NATION MUST BE PREPARED SOON

(By the United Press) Washington, Dec. 18.—America must push her preparedness plans now lest peace come and find her still with pending international difficulties, or with militarism and lavish still uncrushed abroad, many Congressmen warned today.

LEGISLATIVE FIGHT OVER DRY AMENDMENT

(By the United Press) Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 18.—With the convening of the Nebraska Legislature's thirty-fifth session here January 2, interest will center on the wet and dry line-up and the legislative battle for laws to make effective the dry amendment passed by almost 30,000 majority at the recent election.

The wets, realizing that prohibition would carry, centered their fight toward the last on winning enough members of the legislature to block, if possible, passage of laws aimed to make prohibition effective.

"The dries have a slight majority in the house. In the senate the majority of the members are personally wet but of the thirty-three members, six are known as "law enforcements." These are men who before election admitted that they were personally not in favor of prohibition but would be governed as legislators by the verdict of the people on the prohibition amendment. These "law enforcements" combined with the dry outambler the out-and-out wets in the Senate.

NOT MUCH TOBACCO LEFT AROUND CITY

Some tobaccoists say that not more than a quarter million pounds of tobacco remain to be sold on the local market. When the market suspends the middle of this week for the holidays, not to resume until well on in January, there will be less than one midseason day's breaks left in the contiguous territory. The chances are that the warehouses will be open a very few days in January.

MANY AMERICANS TO BE ARRESTED ALONG BORDER, IS REPORT

El Paso, Dec. 16.—Wholesale arrests of Americans here and at other border points accused of a breach of the neutrality laws in fomenting or aiding revolutionary actions of different Mexican factions, is planned by American secret service agents.

TWO DROWNED WHEN CAR PLUNGED THRO' BRIDGE

Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 17.—Mrs. Oscar E. Hartley of Jacksonville and her four-year-old son, were drowned and six other persons bruised late today when an automobile plunged through an open draw at Amelia river, between Jacksonville and Fernandina and tumbled twenty feet to the water.

RADIUM RECEIVES A SCIENTIFIC KNOCKOUT

New York, Dec. 17.—After exhaustive tests upon rats, mice and guinea pigs the use of radium as a cure for cancer and tumors has been found to be a failure, according to the annual report of Dr. Francis Carter Wood, of the University of Chicago.

GEN'L SCOTT TAKES ENGLAND, BY WAY OF ILLUSTRAT'G POINT

'Northern Neighbor' Could Walk All Over America, He Intimates

HALF MILLION NO START

For the Army This Country Would Have to Put in the Field in Event of Break With Any First-Class Military Power

(By the United Press) Washington, Dec. 18.—Major General Scott, before the Senate military committee, today pointed out the nation's unpreparedness. He called attention that where once the War College believed a half million men to be available at the outset of any hostility would be sufficient as a starter, lessons learned in the European war lead staff officers to decide that this initial force should be not less than a million and a half trained troops.

Gen. Scott explained that a northern neighbor has built up an army to a strength approximately that of other great European powers. He emphasized that England controls the seas, that its merchant marine is sufficient to transport without delay a million men, etc. He praised the spirit of the militiamen but condemned the system.

BLINDFOLDED ENEMIES IN ITALIAN TRENCHES

Rome, Dec. 18.—How hostilities between Italian and Austrian troops were temporarily suspended while blindfolded officers from both sides met to discuss the merits of a certain explosive in civilized warfare was told here today for the first time. The Austrians hoisted the white flag of a temporary truce and negotiated a discussion by wigwag. The Italians accepting, the Austrian representatives masked their eyes and crossed No Man's Land for the full-in trenches. The Italians gave them safe conduct to headquarters. Following the conference the blindfolded officers were led back to their own fortifications and hostilities were renewed.

VICTIM SATURDAY'S SHOOTING TO RECOVER

Unless Complications Set In—Dupree in Hospital—Ben. Faulkner to Be Given Hearing Friday—Warrants Against Other Members Dupree Family

Bill Dupree, the well known planter, shot by Ben. Faulkner following a fist affray in the vicinity of Heritage and North streets Saturday afternoon, is likely to recover unless complications set in, it was reported Monday afternoon. Mr. Dupree is 62 years of age. Faulkner, also well-known, is at liberty under \$500 bail. A preliminary hearing is set for next Friday. Mr. Dupree is in the hospital.

The official understanding of the affair is that Faulkner cursed Dupree and was badly manhandled by the latter. After intervention Faulkner drew a revolver, and, it is alleged, declared he would kill Dupree. The bullet fired entered the left shoulder.

After the shooting James Dupree, a brother to, and Horace Dupree, a nephew of the injured man, called at City Hall, where Faulkner was being detained. They were served with warrants charging dueling.