

## BRITISH DO NOT DENOUNCE PRESIDENT'S PEACE SUGGESTIONS SO BITTERLY, NOTE HAVING BEEN KEPT SECRET A WHOLE DAY

First Impression of Public Would Have Been Cause for Big Howl—King Dismisses Parliament With Declaration That Violated Right Must Be Vindicated and Peace Firmly Established—No Flat Rejection Expected; Fact That Allies Did Not Close Door to German Proposals Leads to Belief That Wilson's Views Will Get Consideration in Entente Capitals

Washington, D. C., Dec. 22.—Secretary of State Lansing's two statements of yesterday in interpretation of President Wilson's peace note were today forwarded to American diplomats abroad.

### Germany to Act Quickly.

The Hauge, Dec. 22.—Germany will disclose her chief peace terms immediately, if the forthcoming Allied reply leaves the door open, say German dispatches.

### Congress Keeps Hands Off.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Congress will give the President free and untrammelled rein in his attempt to find a common ground upon which the European belligerents may meet to formulate plans for a lasting peace. Both houses even refused today to endorse the President's action in dispatching his historic note to Europe's warriors, leaving everything up to him.

### British Note Was Held In "Soak."

(By Edward L. Keen)

London, Dec. 22.—The government's wisdom in allowing Wilson's note to "soak" for 24 hours is apparent. This action saved a torrent of violent denunciation of America today, although the British are practically unanimous in deploring the President's stand, there was not such sweepingly violent denunciation as there would have been if the first impression had been allowed full play.

### King Makes Strong Speech.

London, Dec. 22.—Dismissing Parliament today until February 7, King George added weight to his words to the Allies on stern reflection of German-made peace offers with the statement that "vigorous prosecution of the war must be our single endeavor until we have vindicated the right so ruthlessly violated by our enemies and established the security of Europe on a firm foundation."

### Entente Diplomats Talk.

Washington, Dec. 22.—For the reason that Great Britain and her Allies did not flatly reject the peace proposals from the Teutonic powers, they will not flatly turn down President Wilson's peace suggestions, in the opinion of some Entente diplomats here at two of the most important Allied embassies. Two reasons were today given the United Press representative for showing official "regret" at the President's peace suggestions. By flatly refusing his request for specific peace terms, it would make it appear that the Allies are responsible for continuing the war. Such a "turn-down" would weaken what sympathy now exists in the United States for the Entente cause. These Allied diplomats, however, admitted "chagrin" over the President's suggestion that specification of war objectives is necessary.

### Note Reaches Berlin.

Washington, Dec. 22.—American Charge Grew at Berlin today notified the State Department that he had received President Wilson's peace note for transmission to the German foreign office.

## TRAIN WRECKED AND SIXTEEN ARE INJURED

(By the United Press)

Pendleton, S. C., Dec. 22.—Sixteen were injured, some perhaps fatally, when a Blue Ridge train was wrecked near here today. One car was turned over. There were 37 passengers on board the train.

## FIREMEN FALL FROM LADDER; ONE KILLED

(By the United Press)

Richmond, Va., Dec. 22.—Fire Captain William C. Matt is dead and Firemen Abram Poda and J. L. Buck seriously injured as the result of falling from a ladder today at a hundred thousand dollar fire.

## HARIJUANA BEING USED BY TROOPS ON BORDER

(By the United Press)

El Paso, Dec. 19.—Following discovery today that Mexican laborers have introduced harruana into militia camps along the border, customs officials are on the alert to check smuggling in of the dangerous drug.

Only a few cases of its use have been found among the soldiers, mostly among soldiers addicted to other drugs.

Secret service men have members of a band believed to be engaged in smuggling and traffic in harruana and opium under surveillance, and arrests are expected.

The drug is peculiar to Mexico, and is taken in the form of a cigarette. It is composed of the crushed leaves of a weed. Hallucinations of great physical strength and valor are induced. At the same time the user imagines he is a giant while other persons and objects are dwarfed.

## CHRISTMAS APPEAL FOR THE SUFFERERS STRICKEN EUROPE

The following appeal is made in behalf of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America:

"To the Citizens of the United States:—While we are rejoicing at this Christmas season and making gifts, thousands of innocent sufferers from the great war, especially women and children, are without food or clothing. Reports come from all the nations of Europe of hundreds of thousands of children on the verge of starvation, but the stories from Belgium, East Prussia, Poland, Serbia, Armenia, Albania, and other nations are pitious beyond comprehension.

"The President of the United States, in his Thanksgiving proclamation, strongly expressed the hope that we, the citizens of the United States, would generously remember these suffering ones. Will you not, as you are buying Christmas gifts for your own children, contribute something toward the starving children of other lands?"

"The contributions may be made to any of the accredited relief organizations.

(Signed)

- "WILLIAM H. TAFT.
- "ALTON B. PARKER.
- "DAVID H. GREER.
- "FREDERICK LYNCH.
- "SAMUEL T. DUTTON.
- "IRVING FISHER.
- "LUTHER B. WILSON.
- "CORNELIUS WOELFKIN.
- "HAMILTON HOLT."

## DANGEROUS TO SNEEZE IN PRESENCE OF OTHER PERSONS, NOW A FACT

A sneeze is defined as a sudden and violent ejection of air through the nose and mouth by some convulsive force with an audible sound. A sneeze is now known to be all this and more. It is frequently a rain shower of tiny drops of mucus and nose secretions. It is a spray that forces these secretions for a distance of several feet in a closed room with the result that the particles float around for hours without becoming diluted or losing their vitality.

Sneezes used to be considered unavoidable and perfectly excusable. In fact, they were rather enjoyed by the one who sneezed. Now they are considered indecent, dangerous and very inexcusable, particularly if not sneezed into a handkerchief. They used to be considered signs of taking cold; now they are signs of giving colds to others. As a matter of fact, the sneeze has been tabooed by all forms of common decency and is no longer allowed in healthful society.

To sneeze in a person's face or even within his presence without covering it with a handkerchief is now considered more of a crime than an accident. The reason is this: grippe, pneumonia, colds, tuberculosis, and many other diseases are known to be transmitted by nose and mouth secretions and the sneeze is one of their best means of spread. When sprayed out into the air, especially if in a closed unventilated room or hall, they float around for hours and are breathed in by some innocent visitor or intimate person, later perhaps to be sneezed out again.

## TEN THOUSAND U. S. SCIENTISTS MEET NEW YORK MONDAY

(By the United Press)

New York, Dec. 22.—The science of everything, from sawing wood to stellar statesmanship, 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 60th 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.

## REAL CHRISTMAS DINNERS SENT TO U. S. EMBASSIES

By WILBUR S. FORREST, (United Press Staff Correspondent)

London, Dec. 21. (By Mail)—Notwithstanding war food scarcity, food tickets, meatless days and fatless weeks, there will be real American Christmas dinners in Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey this year. Thanks to Uncle Sam, his diplomats and employes generally in the warring "foodless" nations will enjoy real turkey, cranberry sauce, oysters, pumpkin pie, etc., on December 25, all direct from America. Some, where on the Atlantic today, or perhaps on the North Sea by now, are in steel boxes closed with the formidable seal of the American eagle, en route to Uncle Sam's diplomatic and consular folks in the Central Empire and smaller Allied states.

A Christmas dinner for these "others" in one small job. Ambassador Gerard and his staff, in Berlin, together with the various consular representatives scattered throughout Germany number more than 150 months. American official dependents in Austria and Hungary are equal in number to those in Germany and in Bulgaria and Turkey they amount to 75, making 375 in all. This means that some of the 375 have families and the American State Department must provide Christmas eats for all.

American embassies in London and Petrograd, where food is not so very scarce, will have to provide their own Christmas feasts.

Before the high price of food became a factor in England, Ambassador Page used to act as wholesale grocer for his compatriots in the Central Empires. The food was purchased in England and shipped via Holland. Finally British prices became too much for Jeffersonian simplicity and Ambassador Page suggested to Washington that the "carting" could better be done from America direct. A month ago orders from Berlin, Vienna, Budapest, Sofia and other points began to sound like Christmas. There were appealing references to real turkey, sage and oyster dressing, candles and other requisites which a Christmas dinner cannot be without. These orders reached America in plenty of time. The ship captain who has them in charge on the way to Europe has been requested to ask any submarine commander he happens to meet to "have a heart."

## HERE, HERE, WE DON'T PAY YOU FOR THIS

(By the United Press)

El Paso, Dec. 22.—During a session of the school for officers in the Thirty-second Michigan regiment the officer in charge asked for suggestions for the improvement of the Intelligence department.

"Why couldn't we cross-breed carrier pigeons with parrots and tell them the message instead of tying it to them," asked one of the pupils.

Another suggested the government might train wild fishes to torpedo enemy submarines and woodpeckers to puncture enemy aeroplanes.

## GOING ON IN OTHER TOWNS AND COUNTIES OF EAST'N CAROLINA

Louis Arthur of Greenville will receive a commission in the Army. He is expected to go to the cavalry branch. He is one of many young men going from civil life into the military service to help officer the new regiments formed during the year.

Rev. B. F. Huske, rector of an Episcopal church in New Bern, has been commissioned a chaplain in the Navy.

A six-year-old son of John James of Staton's Mill was burned to death when he threw gasoline into a stove to see it blaze up.

Many wild geese are being marketed at Washington.

Large catches of mullet are being made along the Carolina coast.

The New Bern Chamber of Commerce will have its annual banquet in January.

## MILITARY TRAINING FOR ALL NOW RESTS ON 2 CONGRESSMEN

(By the United Press)

Washington, Dec. 22.—Whether the House military committee will recommend universal military training depends upon two men, according to a poll by the United Press. Nichols of South Carolina and Hull of Tennessee, both believed to be dissatisfied with the national guard system, hold the balance of power.

## CURRIED NUTTORIA ONE OF NEW DISHES OF BRITISH COMMONS

(By the United Press)

London, Dec. 21.—Filet of mock sole, curried nuttoria, nut cutlets, fine chicken and mock steamed steak are some of the meatless delicacies of the new vegetarian war menus in the House of Commons today.

The Commons, where the country has been informed of the serious character of the food situation, is setting the country a fine example. For the first time in British history, members of Commons are eating all the things that look like meat, but "nut" and none, so far, has complained that he is being badly nourished. From forty to sixty cents is the price of an official meatless meal.

## THEY OUGHT TO SERVE MICROSCOPES WITH THE ICE IN JAPAN HOTELS

By CLARENCE AGMAN, (Editor of the Eastern Underwriter)

(Written for the United Press)  
New York, Dec. 21.—"Kori-Kori" means ice, and that's all the Japanese and American traveling in the Orient need know. The rest will take care of itself because English is the commercial language there, and any Oriental business man or hotel clerk who has not a smattering of our own tongue can have no dealings with the American tourist.

On a hot day, which is every day, we looked for the Japanese shorthand sign, translated: "Drinks sold here." Appearing over the door of nearly one-third of the stores in any little town this sign can be seen two blocks away. Drinks on sale include mineral water, "Tan-San"; beer, a poor variety, and what would correspond to American pop, all lake-warm.

At our cry of "Kori-Kori," the lady in the kimono dived into a strong box and emerged with a piece of ice, slightly larger than the loaf of sanitary sugar found here on restaurant tables, carefully unwrapped and washed it, and then put the ice under a shaving machine. It was quite a ceremony, and curious children gathered to witness the performance.

All railroad tickets are printed one half Japanese and the other in English. Signs in Japanese and English announce the name of the station, and there is even a sign board reading: "The principal points of interest here are—"

It is said that the lack of linguistic facility of the average Englishman is the reason he refuses to learn the tongues of other people, and hence all nations have to learn his. On our way to Yokohama there were twenty-six nationalities on the ship, each person practicing English on the other. It was the only way they could converse in common. At Kobe a fat, uncomfortable Russian, was trying his best to explain to a Japanese secret service man just why he left the army. The conversation had our own language sounding like Sam Bernard and Weber and Fields discussing the high cost of living.

There is quite a bit of faking about Japanese proficiency in English. Everybody in hotels and shops says he understands, but frequently his sole acquaintance with the language is "Yes" and "No." We did run across a waiter who knew two more words: "Never mind." Given quite an explanation from six persons at our table as to how they wanted their eggs he listened gravely to each;

## FOREIGN TRADE TO TOTAL NEAR EIGHT BILLIONS, THOUGHT

(By the United Press)

Washington, Dec. 22.—Prospects are that the United States' foreign trade for the year will total \$7,800,000,000, it is announced by the Department of Commerce. Foreign trade in the past eleven months was \$7,118,000,000.

## FARMERS CONTROLLING DAKOTA LEGISLATURE

(By the United Press)

St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 22.—Legislatures of Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota will convene January 2.

Woman suffrage, statutory prohibition and regulation of mining companies will be before the Minnesota Legislature. It is believed that state-wide prohibition and suffrage will be placed on the ballots of the next state election, as a result of legislative action this session. About two-thirds of Minnesota was made dry by local option laws enacted at the last legislative session.

In North Dakota, sweeping reforms are looked for from the "farmers" legislature convening January 2. Four years ago, a farmer's co-operative marketing organization, for non-speculative selling of their grain, was organized. As an outgrowth of this organization the Farmers' Non-Partisan League, object strictly political, was organized.

Twice in general elections the Non-Partisan League candidates. These men are instructed to fight for state-owned elevators, and are understood to advocate public ownership of public utilities. Adversaries of the Non-Partisan League have referred to its aims as socialistic.

In South Dakota, enactment of laws to enforce state-wide prohibition, passed by the voters at the last general election, is slated.

## CONGRESS QUITS WORK FOR OVER CHRISTMAS

(By the United Press)

Washington, Dec. 22.—Congress will quit work today and go home for Christmas.

In anticipation of the adjournment many solons departed several days ago. But the big crowd leaves today. The President was not much in favor of the idea, nor was Speaker Clark, because there is so much legislation for the thoroughly democratic present congress to finish before it dies March 4 and is replaced by one not quite so democratic.

However, President Wilson did not "disapprove" of this adjournment according to Democratic Leader Kitchin. To make up the time thus lost both houses will convene between ten and eleven o'clock for the remainder of the session. Kitchin said all appropriation bills would be passed, and there will be no special sessions.

## BULLETINS

(By the United Press)

BRITISH RETAKE TOWN.  
London, Dec. 22.—After two years' occupation by the enemy, the British have retaken El Arish, says the War Office.

## BRAZIL LEGISLATORS MAY BUY GERMAN SHIPS

(By Mail)

Rio de Janeiro, Nov. 28.—A bill proposing the purchase of the German ships interned in Brazilian harbors was presented in the lower house of congress and will come up for discussion within a few weeks. This bill is said to follow in general outline similar bills introduced in the legislative bodies of both Argentina and Chile with the exception of that part referring to stocks of Brazilian coffee held by Germany, being used to pay for the ships.

## VILLA IS ATTACKING TORREON, REPORTED ON AMERICAN SIDE

(By the United Press)

Dallas, Dec. 22.—None of sixteen thousand national guardsmen ordered home will be able to leave the border before the middle of next week, according to railroad officials. Fighting at Torreon.

El Paso, Dec. 22.—Villa attacked at Torreon at 4 o'clock this morning. The battle for possession of the city was raging at daybreak, Mexican government officials were informed by telegraph.

## NATION WOULD HAVE BIGGER PLANT THAN KRUPPS' IN STRESS

(By the United Press)

New York, Dec. 22.—In the event the United States is ever involved in war, the Bethlehem Steel plant, bigger than Germany's Krupp works, will be turned over to the government, Charles M. Schwab, president of the company, today declared. With a capacity of a million pounds of heavy ammunition a month, Schwab said the plant is 50 per cent more efficient than the Krupps'.

## THIS NEW YEAR'S DAY FOR TEWA INDIANS

(By the United Press)

Santa Fe, N. M., Dec. 21.—This may be just December 21 to some folks, but it's New Year's day to the Tewa Indians. There are only about 1200 of the Tewas in five villages: San Juan, Santa Clara, San Ildefonso, Nambe and Tesuque. They hold ancient beliefs deduced by themselves from things as they are.

The Tewas believe the Sky is the Husband of the Earth. They believe the Sun is a man who walks across the sky behind a yellow shield in summer, clad in white doeskins ornamented with beads. In the winter he is green. Their year begins today and their New Year's Day is founded upon the belief that the sun stands still in the sky to mark a new twelve month.