

THE PRESIDENT STILL HOPES TO RESTORE PEACE IN SPITE OF DISCOURAGEMENTS AND OBSTACLES—ALLIES WANT GUAR'NTY

Present Plans Would Obviate Necessity of Dispatching Further Notes to Germany to Settle Submarine Matters, Which If Forced to a Head May Cause Break In Relations With This Country—Allies Scorn Conference Idea—Support Other Neutral Powers Helping President Wilson, and Affords Further Opportunities for Pushing Peace Question, Irrespective of Belligerents' Attitude

(By the United Press)

Washington, Dec. 27.—Despite a general hopelessness among government heads over peace prospects as a result of Germany's late communication, the men closest to the President believe he will strive to the utmost to prevent the situation going beyond control.

Two reasons actuate him, namely: A desire to end the war, and the desire, if possible, to avoid putting through the Sussex note which threatens to break the relations with Germany should she overstep her submarine pledges.

ALLIES EXPECT TO REJECT

Officials expect the Allies to reject the German proposal because it does not include a world peace guaranty. Those close to President Wilson say "the door is not closed." Although the Allies have thrown the German conference idea very hard, the President still can move again. Especially is this true with the backing of other neutrals.

While the idea of obtaining peace is uppermost in administration minds, there is among the inner circle a profound idea that a break with Germany is inevitable if the present peace proposals fail utterly.

One of the highest officials told the United Press that the present plan calls for no more note writing to Germany, and added if the Marina, Arabia or Sussex cases come to a hearing, or Germany starts a new submarine campaign and the present attempt for peace fails, then a break is the only answer.

NEW FORMS FOR FILING PAPERS UNDER COTTON FUTURES ACTS READY

(Special to The Free Press)

Washington, D. C., Dec. 26.—Because of modifications in the U. S. cotton futures Act which became effective September 1, last, the Office of Markets and Rural Organization of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, which administers the Act, has found it necessary to make changes in the forms previously suggested for papers to be filed in disputes under the Act. Suggestions for the new forms to be used for disputes arising under contracts made on or subsequent to September 1, 1916, are published in Service and Regulatory Announcements No. 16, just issued. Copies of the publication may be obtained by persons interested on application to the Office of Markets and Rural Organization, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

The change involves the furnishing of slightly different information in the complaint or stipulation and the answer. Emphasis is placed on the necessity for a statement in stipulations and complaints showing whether contracts were entered into prior to, or on or after, September 1, 1916. Attention is called to the fact that in disputes arising under contracts made prior to September 1, 1916, the old forms should be used. If such forms are not available, however, the new forms may be used if the necessary changes to comply with the old rules and regulations are made.

The publication also contains a report on the inspection by the office of the practical forms of the official cotton standards of the U. S. for white cotton in use by the cotton trade. This shows that after an average service of 1 year and 2 months, an average of 7.54 of the 108 samples contained in each set inspected had deteriorated. One hundred and fifty-eight boxes of the standards were returned to Washington for correction.

GREAT REJOICING BY RHEUMATIC CRIPPLES

If So Crippled You Can't Use Arms or Legs Rheuma Will Help You or Nothing to Pay. If you want relief in two days, swift, certain, gratifying relief, take one-half teaspoonful of Rheuma once a day. If you want to dissolve every particle...

CARRANZA'S DELAY WORRISOME TO THE WASHINGTON FOLKS

Bandits Reported On Rampage On Border—North Mexico Showing Signs of Unrest—Serious Developments May Be In Air

(By the United Press)

Washington, Dec. 27.—Two developments closely followed each other today to thrust the Mexican situation again to the forefront. First, the unsolicited statement from the State Department that the unrest in North Mexico was growing and as a result attention was once more being focused towards the border; and, second, the announcement of Secretary Lane that he had not called a conference of the American members of the Mexican-American Commission for an early date, caused renewed interest in border matters.

SBH No Word From Carranza

Early this afternoon no word had been received whether Carranza had issued the troop withdrawal protocol or not. The department declared it has information that large parties of bandits are on a rampage. The situation is such as to give the department fresh concern. The department suspects that Villa is getting all the arms he needs across the border. Those in touch with department maneuvers are inclined to believe that today's emphasis of Mexican affairs is intended as a preparation of the public for possible serious developments.

Guards' Departure Delayed

El Paso, Dec. 27.—After all preparations had been made today for the embarkment for home and orders given the Thirty-first Michigan guards, their departure was delayed. No reason has been assigned.

WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

The weather bureau's forecast for the present week predicts much colder weather for the latter part of the week. Generally fair weather is predicted except that rain or snow may be had Thursday or Friday.

COLLEGE MEN'S ANTI-LIQUOR LEAGUE MEETS

(By the United Press)

Lynchburg, Ky., Dec. 27.—Special trains from St. Louis and Chicago and special cars from all parts of the country will start for this place tonight with several thousand members of the Students' National Intercollegiate Prohibition Association's national convention here tomorrow. W. J. Bryan is to be the big feature of the meeting; and it is planned to give the Commoner the organization's assurance that has its complete support in his national prohibition fight. Mr. Bryan is expected to outline some of his plans for national prohibition. The convention will end December 31.

TOWER OF BABEL HAD NOTHING ON THIS HOUSE

(By the United Press)

Chicago, Dec. 27.—The lobby of the Dearborn Hotel here sounded like a reunion of the Amalgamated Workers of the Tower of Babel all talking at once today. It is headquarters for the delegates to the three-day meeting of the Modern Language Association of America opening here today. Teachers of English, German, French, Spanish, Danish, Norwegian and Swedish were present, greeting newcomers in

PRESIDENT WILSON SIXTY YEARS OF AGE

(By the United Press)

Washington, Dec. 27.—The President of the United States will be 60 years of age tomorrow.

At this, the beginning of his second term as President, the executive shows his years much more than he did at the beginning of his occupancy of the White House in 1912. He is a bit more stooped than then and his heavy lines in his face are much more sharply drawn than they were before he came through the international crises that have confronted him since the war began. He is, however, strong and well.

Letters, telegrams and remembrances from friends and relatives began pouring into the White House by scores today.

RODMAN WILL QUIT THE SERVICES OF UNCLE SAM

(By the United Press)

Colonel W. C. Rodman, commanding the Second Regiment North Carolina Infantry, now on guard duty on the Mexican border is to quit the service, according to reports coming from Camp Stewart and carried in the Raleigh News and Observer Wednesday morning.

Colonel Rodman has been connected with the State militia for a score of years and is popular with the men of the regiment. Business reasons are assigned for his resignation.

BULLETINS

(By the United Press)

Paris, Dec. 27.—General Joffre, France's idol, is to be made marshal of France.

THREE GREAT EVENTS IN AS MANY MONTHS PROVED THAT FRANCE HAS THE MEANS AND WILL TO KEEP END OF WAR ON TO FINISH; HER ARMIES SPLENDID

(By the United Press)

Paris, Dec. 27.—(By Mail)—During the closing three months of 1916 three events took place in France which demonstrated as never at any previous period of the war the apparently inexhaustible resources of France's military genius and strength, the equally inexhaustible resources of her financial economic energy, and the absolutely unshaken determination both of her army and her civil population to continue the war to a successful close.

Two epic events were the launching on October 24 of the French offensive at Verdun, in which practically all the ground and positions won by the Crown Prince's armies in six months of sanguinary fighting were reconquered within six hours with a minimum of losses for the French, and secondly, the subscribing by the weeks, from October 5 to October 29, of an unprecedented war loan of nearly \$2,300,000,000.

The third was the reorganization of France's cabinet along the lines of compactness and efficiency which David Lloyd-George introduced in England. Premier Briand remained at the head of the ministry, and Joffre, idol of France, and former generalissimo of her forces, while still retaining supreme command of French forces, became counselor to the war council. General Nivelle, defender of Verdun, and one of the popular heroes of the army, was made commander of French forces in the north and northeast.

While the French victory at Verdun, taken entirely by itself, stands out as an unparalleled achievement in the military history of the world, yet its real significance in the present war, is only apparent when it is viewed in connection with all that had preceded it.

When the Germans launched their great offensive at Verdun on February 21, no secret was made of at least two of the objects which the Germans had in view. One of these was to prevent the Allies from starting their combines unique offensive, and the other was to deliver an absolute death blow to France.

FARM LOAN BANK IS GIVEN TO COLUMBIA INSTEAD OF RALEIGH

North Carolina Northern State of Third District—Baltimore Gets Plum of Second District In Which Virginia Is Located

(By the United Press)

Washington, Dec. 27.—The Federal Farm Loan Board today announced the following locations for farm loan banks: Springfield, Mass.; Baltimore, Columbia, S. C.; Louisville, Ky.; New Orleans, St. Louis, Omaha, Wichita, Kan.; Houston, Texas; Berkeley, Calif., and Spokane, Washington.

The Third district is composed of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida; and the Second district of Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia.

Raleigh and the State have lost the Federal Farm Loan Bank. The plan goes to South Carolina and, as indicated in these columns a few days ago, the Third district begins with North Carolina and runs through Florida. This arrangement made it necessary for the bank to be located within one of the intermediate states of the district.

WOOD'S SEARCH FOR EVIDENCE WITHOUT RESPECT OF PERSONS

Diplomatic and Official Circles Being Looked Into in Attempt to Discover Leak In Which Wall Street Benefitted

(By the United Press)

Washington, Dec. 27.—Representative Wood's search for evidence in the rumored leak to Wall Street of advance information of the Wilson peace note, led into diplomatic circles, into homes of relatives and officials of very high administration circles, he told the United Press.

MRS. SMALL ATE BEEF DAY OF MURDER, SAID

(By the United Press)

Ossipee, N. H., Dec. 27.—Chemical Florence Small for whose murder on September 28, Frederick Small, her husband, is on trial, shows she ate roast beef on the day of her death, according to information received here. This fact, the defense claims, will prove the innocence of the accused man. Defense says this shows she ate a meal after he left home on the day she was murdered.

MILWAUKEE PRISONERS IN A NEW WORKHOUSE

(By the United Press)

Granville, Dec. 27.—Milwaukee county criminals Monday will occupy new quarters in the luxurious establishment built here at a cost of \$700,000 and said by officials to be one of the largest, finest, most comfortable county workhouses in the country.

The buildings, of which there are twelve, have been under course of construction for the last two years. They have a capacity for 650 prisoners. Each inmate has a separate cell while those who sleep in the dormitories will have plenty of room and a number of cubic feet of air to breathe. The inmates will have luxuries denied many persons even in moderate circumstances. Each cell will contain a toilet and wash basin, while shower baths will be installed along the cell corridors.

So as not to fatigue prisoners, the chair factory has been located in such a manner that they will not have to walk a great distance. The factory will turn out thousands of chairs of all kinds each year. It was built at a cost of \$100,000.

LONDONERS THOUGHT DR. BROUGHTON WAS COMING TO VILLAGE

(By the United Press)

Dr. Len G. Broughton, who is to speak here on Thursday evening under the auspices of the Mothers' Club, has not only achieved distinction in this country, but has been before many audiences in other lands. For some years after leaving Atlanta he was pastor of Christ church, London. This is one of the truly great great churches of London, and one which has had some of the very best preachers known to the religious world of today. He was over in Europe when the war started, and naturally he has a very thrilling message concerning the slaughter now taking place on many battlefields of Europe. On leaving that country to return to his own land to assume the pastorate of a strong church in Knoxville, Tenn., which pays him \$5,000 a year, one of the London papers stated that Dr. Broughton was returning to America on account of ill health and had accepted a call to a village church in the mountains of Tennessee. This will give some idea of the wonderful church he had in London.

Dr. Broughton speaks to packed houses everywhere he goes, and no doubt, a large crowd will be present on Thursday evening to hear the address of this one who knows how to

ALLIES SEE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY REPLY GERMANY, REPORTED

Will Not Accept Suggestion for Immediate Conference—Think Chance Now to Present Its Side to the World to Advantage

(By the United Press)

London, Dec. 27.—The Allies certainly will not accept Germany's proposal in her note to America for an immediate peace conference. That is entirely clear today, but the Teutonic reply to Wilson's note was hailed here as affording a splendid opportunity for England and her Allies to set forth before the world a statement, which would concretely epitomize the ideals and aims of the Entente powers in the war. By her lack of sincere responsiveness and inclusiveness of reply, England holds that Germany is self convicted of a lack of sincerity in her peace profers.

SEEK RATIFICATION OF A-B-C TREATY

(By the United Press)

Buenos Aires, Dec. 1.—(By Mail)—Although Foreign Minister Becu of Argentina has spoken somewhat slightly of the "A-B-C" treaty, the Irigoyen administration is trying today to get Congress to ratify the compact.

The fact that the agreement had been ratified in this country came as a big surprise to the overwhelming majority of Argentines recently. A few men in important positions knew it had never received congressional approval but the popular idea was that it was an accomplished fact.

The public was undeceived early in November while negotiations were pending for a meeting of the "A-B-C" diplomatic representatives at Rio de Janeiro to discuss matters of Argentine-Brazilian-Chilean mutual-interest. Arrangements for the gathering had practically been completed. Foreign Minister Becu called attention to the fact that it would have to be postponed until the treaty had been ratified.

Although there will be a strong effort to secure ratification, the step is also sure to be vigorously fought by an Argentine element, at least, which contends that Brazil and Chile really are unfriendly to their country, and are only trying to get her into a combination which will discourage the preparedness program they maintain she ought to pursue.

SANTFORD MARTIN QUITS JOURNALISM FOR OFFICE

(By the United Press)

Able Young Editor of Winston-Salem Journal to Become Private Secretary to Governor Bickett—Appointment Announced in Raleigh Tuesday

Governor-elect Bickett has selected Santford Martin, editor of the Winston-Salem Journal, to be his private secretary, according to a story carried in Wednesday's issue of the Raleigh News and Observer. Mr. Bickett announced the appointment in Raleigh Tuesday. Mr. Martin is one of the younger school of editors in the State, who has attained splendid reputation for his forceful advocacy of those things which make for the uplift of his community, State and fellow-men. The Journal, under his able editorial management has prospered and become one of the best papers in the South Atlantic States. The North Carolina Press Association and has for the past few years taken quite an active part in the deliberations and conventions of the association.

During the gubernatorial campaign the Winston-Salem Journal was one of Mr. Bickett's staunchest supporters.