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Europe Has Turned to Wilson to Settle Eastern Question

President's Acceptance of Armenian-Turkish Appointment Expected by Assembly at Geneva Hourly—Not Concerned Over America's Probable Refusal to Furnish Soldiers and Money—American Executive Draws Boundaries for New Republic—Will See Dream for Armenian Independence Fully Realized, Appears

(By the United Press)

Geneva, Dec. 1.—President Wilson's personal offer of mediation between the Turks and Armenia is expected to reach the League of Nations Assembly today. Wilson's warning that American military aid could not be assured and that large expenditures would have to be approved by Congress caused no dismay.

Wilson's True Worth Appreciated Abroad

Washington, Dec. 1.—The fate of Armenia is in the hands of President Wilson, who has not only offered to mediate between Armenia and the Turk Nationalists, but also has outlined the proposed boundaries for the new Armenian nation.

The President's friends are gratified at the role he is playing, saying it shows the nations had to turn to him despite his illness and defeat in the elections.

The future of long-suffering Armenia since America's entry into the world war has been of deep interest to the American executive. He is believed to desire the establishment of the republic on a firm foundation under the protection of the Christian powers. He is familiar with the history and traditions of the struggling people and has looked with favor upon their efforts to improve their condition.

Europe, it is assumed, having desired the mediation of Wilson, will accept his recommendations without hesitation and proceed according to his suggestions in completely emancipating the new nation from Turkish administration and influence.

Christmas Trees

Takes Million and Half of 'Em for One Section.

(By the United Press)

Washington, Nov. 29.—The United States uses annually between four and five million Christmas trees, according to the estimate of the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture. This equals approximately the combined consumption of England, Scotland, and Wales and is about 25 per cent. greater than that of Germany. The fir is undoubtedly the Christmas tree par excellence, especially in the Northeastern and Lake States.

On the Great Lakes "the Christmas-tree ship" bringing greenery from the upper peninsula of Michigan to Chicago or Detroit is usually one of the latest events in navigation each winter. In the Northeastern and Lake States Balsam fir furnishes the bulk of the Christmas-tree trade. In the South the Fraser fir is the favorite. In Colorado and other Rocky Mountain States, fir, though abundant, is difficult of access and the Lodge pole pine and occasionally the Douglas fir and Englemann spruce are used. On the Pacific Coast the Christmas tree is often the white fir. Spruces vie with firs in popularity as Christmas trees, but as a rule in the South and West they occur at high altitudes which make them difficult to get.

New York and the New England States consume 1,500,000 trees.

Concrete Piping

Success When Properly Constructed, State.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 1.—Poor construction has brought concrete piping into disfavor, but when properly made such piping is undoubtedly a success, say irrigation engineers of the Bureau of Public Roads, United States Department of Agriculture. It was at first thought that concrete could be used for low head pressures only, but better methods of construction have convinced the engineers that its use is not limited in this regard. In this country, concrete piping is now used to withstand 100-foot head pressures, and in Europe, lines have been built which endure pressure heads of several hundred feet. Steel reinforcement is generally used when the heads exceed 15 or 20 feet.

CONGRESSMAN UPSHAW TO EASTERN CAROLINA.

Washington, Nov. 30.—Congressman Will Upshaw of Georgia will speak here tomorrow night in the interest of prohibition.

Eloquent Figures

Claxton Points Out Carolina's Weakest Point.

Chapel Hill, Dec. 1.—Last year North Carolina paid 162 millions of dollars in federal taxes. In all the years of its history North Carolina has paid out 130 millions for educational purposes. The figures are taken from a recent report by P. P. Claxton, United States commissioner of education, who has made an investigation of the educational situation in the State. Mr. Claxton studied at the University of North Carolina, was school superintendent at Kinston, Wilson, and Asheville, and taught at the North Carolina College for Women in Greensboro. In his report he shows a number of unusual facts about education in the State.

For instance, he shows that North Carolina has spent about 22 1/2 million dollars on all State colleges in 50 years and last year spent 45 millions on tobacco and snuff alone. The State university is 126 years old, but it has received in all its history only about 4 1/2 millions from the State. It did not receive any regular appropriation for maintenance until after 1875, although it was then 87 years old.

The total value of all the college plants and equipment in the State is now valued at \$14,008,771. These figures are taken from statements of proper authorities in the 31 white colleges, junior colleges, technical training schools, and the university. Compared with all the North Carolina colleges stands the University of California with a plant and equipment valued at more than 16 millions, which is 2 million more than the value of all the institutions in the Old North State.

The total annual working income of the 31 North Carolina colleges is \$2,424,646. The people of the State spend 20 million a year to keep their motor cars running.

Take Men's Jobs

Japanese Women Entering Government Departments.

(By HENRY W. KINNEY
United Press Staff Correspondent)

Tokyo, Dec. 1.—The inroads which Japanese women are beginning to make into various fields of activities heretofore monopolized by men, are increasing day by day, and even in government offices are representatives of the sterner sex being forced to yield to their weaker sisters.

Although it is generally said that women have no head for figures, the statistical section of the Department of Agriculture was one of the first government branches to employ women in clerical capacities. The experiment has been declared such a success that hereafter the forestry offices will follow the example, and girls will be allowed to enter the service as clerks or stenographers. Their pay as such will run from 35 cents to 65 cents a day, which is not so bad for Japan.

BULLETINS

DAVIS SUICIDES.

Raleigh, Dec. 1.—Charles Davis, wealthy Wake County planter charged with killing his wife Monday, committed suicide in jail here this morning. His body was found dangling from a rope made of clothing. Davis is believed by many to have been demented.

NEW CHAIRMAN.

Washington, Dec. 1.—Houston Thompson of Colorado today became chairman of the Federal Trade Commission for a term of one year. Under the rules of the commission the chairmanship rotates annually.

BACK TO KHAKI FOR COUNTY DOCT'R WHO GETS FINE BILLETT

Absher Offered Majority in Army With Big Remuneration—There Before—Called to Report at Camp Bragg 14th

Dr. Darius G. Absher, head of the Health Bureau here, has tentatively accepted the permanent appointment to the army medical service offered him by the Adjutant-General Wednesday and will probably leave here December 14 for temporary station at Camp Bragg. Dr. Absher will enter the military service with an unusual rank for a reserve officer of comparatively limited experience. He will be commissioned a major, a rank which before the war many medical officers spent lifetimes attaining.

Dr. Absher is well-known in public health work in North Carolina. He has been located at a number of points in the State. He was the first medical officer to join the reserve corps. He saw service during the war at four posts in this country, at Vladivostok and at a remote post on Lake Baikal, in the interior of Siberia, where he was the ranking medical officer of a mixed expeditionary force embracing troops of many nations. He is a young man.

Dr. Absher became familiar with typhus and several months ago was called upon to diagnose several cases of that disease which appeared at a Western Carolina point. He has recently been offered two or more important positions in large cities.

SAY MURDERERS OF SHEPARD LOOKED ON CALMLY AS HE DIED

Plot Appears More Cold-Blooded Than Ever—Poison Given Wealthy Georgian in Evening Today, State Alleges

Macon, Ga., Dec. 1.—Secrecy today shrouded the State's investigation of the alleged murder cabal "which resulted in the death by poisoning" early in June of Fred N. Shepard," the peach king.

Solicitor-General Garrett worked quietly. Authorities today believed that a veritable Borgias plot existed to poison Shepard and seize his estate.

The poison is believed to have been slipped into whiskey he was accustomed to take evenings. Detectives will attempt to prove that the alleged conspirators gave the poison and then watched Shepard sicken and die.

Small Purses

Of Former Days Looked Like Widow's Mite.

(By HENRY L. FARRELL
United Press Staff Correspondent)

New York, Nov. 30.—"Talk about being hit a wallop, I'm just about groggy from reading a paper. I see where Willie Jackson wants \$50,000 for a chance to win the lightweight championship."

Jack McAuliffe, retired and undefeated lightweight champion, was unburdening himself on the difference between the old and the new fighters. "Jackson wants a young gold mine for a chance at a title that would bring him a fortune. He wants close to a \$1,000 a minute for meeting Leonard in a 15-round bout. Back in November, 1887, I fought 74 rounds with Jim Carney in Revere, Mass., and didn't get a red cent. Early in the same year I went 28 rounds with Harry Gilmore in Lawrence, Mass., and got \$500. And we were fighting with kid gloves.

BICKETT WILL MAKE RESPONSE FOR THE GOVS. AT MEETING

State Executives of Nation Guests of Sproul of Pennsylvania at Harrisburg—Number of Big Problems Up

(By MAX ABERNETHY)

Raleigh, Dec. 1.—Governor Bickett will make the response to the address of welcome at the 12th annual governors' conference to be held in the Pennsylvania State capitol building at Harrisburg.

Housing problems, the South Dakota rural credits act, the responsibility of the state for industrial justice, national importance of agriculture, the work of the national commissioners on uniform state laws and decentralization of governmental functions will be some of the subjects under consideration at the conference.

Elaborate entertainment is being planned. Gov. and Mrs. Bickett left last night. The conference will be in session Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week.

Soldier Farmers

Getting Help From the State of South Dakota.

(By the United Press)

Pierre, S. D., Dec. 1.—Although a number of South Dakota ex-service men have "seen Pares" they are staying "down on the farm" in opposition to the thought in the popular song. This result has been achieved partly by the successful workings of the South Dakota land settlement plan, which provides for the loan of any sum between \$500 and \$10,000 to former service men for use in paying 90 per cent. of the appraised value of land and 80 per cent. of the cost of equipping it with machinery and live stock, a system similar to that which the American Legion has embodied in its four-fold national compensation law.

Colonel Boyd Wales, who led the 147th Field Artillery of the 32nd Division, and who is land settlement commissioner, is enthusiastic over the results in the short time the plan has been in operation. Up to October 1, 140 former soldiers had received loans and been located on lands.

See With Skins

Entirely Possible for Blind Have Vision, Says.

(By HENRY WOOD
United Press Staff Correspondent)

Paris, Dec. 1.—"And the blind shall see"—not with their sightless eyes, but with their skin.

This is the serious declaration of Professor Louis Farigoule, noted as a scientist, and noted almost equally as well as a poet, under the name of Jules Romains.

As the result of a long series of experiments made upon hypnotized subjects, Professor Farigoule is convinced that the skin through certain nerve ends has the faculty of vision. He believes that this faculty of the skin to see existed in the human body before vision was developed by means of the eyes. Since then, naturally, the faculty of the skin to see has been all but lost through lack of use.

By a proper system of education, however, Professor Farigoule is convinced that these nerve centers and ends in the skin can be re-educated to exercise their original functions. What this would mean for the blind and especially for those who lost their vision by means of the eyes during the war, is the great underlying inspiration that is pushing Professor Farigoule on to further experiments.

All that is necessary to see by means of the skin is that several square inches of it, on any part of the body, be exposed face to face with the object to be perceived together with a minimum amount of light, he says.

Professor Farigoule in one of his experiments chose five subjects and all with the same results. By means of their skin, they were able to read newspapers, decipher numbers, and recognize pieces of furniture—and all equally as well with the skin on their backs as on their chests or faces.

Steamer Afire

Vessel Bound for Liverpool Ablaze in Gulf.

(By the United Press)

New Orleans, Dec. 1.—The steamer Calno, bound for Port Arthur, Tex., to Liverpool with a cargo of cotton, is afire in the Gulf of Mexico, a wireless dispatch to the naval station here today said.

Tags are reported en route to the ship, which is headed at full speed for the mouth of the Mississippi River.

GROWTH INDEPENDENT VOTE IN STATE IS SEEN BY OBSERVERS

More of the Folks Who Vote Straight Democratic Ticket Except for Presidential Electors, is Calculated

(By MAX ABERNETHY)

Raleigh, Dec. 1.—Political observers see in the returns of the late election an increase in the independent vote in North Carolina.

This is based on the difference in the majority given Gov. James M. Cox, Democrat, for president, and United States Senator Lee S. Overman, also Democrat. The official figures announced by the State Board of Canvassers give Senator Overman 81,161 and Governor Cox 73,600, a difference in Senator Overman's favor of 7,561.

Just how it is figured that this more than 7,000 difference is taken to mean that there is an increase in the number of voters who ballot independently may or may not be easily seen, but keen observers think they can substantiate their contentions in time. There have always been a dozen or more Democrats in every town of size in the State who voted the State ticket straight but switched to the Republican candidates nationally. This has long been done and known, but it is claimed now that there are more North Carolinians who vote for the man rather than for the party's nominees.

Analyzing the vote in the counties on the constitutional amendments is interesting. Only four counties are recorded as giving a majority against the income tax amendment, these being Gaston, Halifax, Pitt and Scotland, while nine counties gave majorities against the poll tax change, as follows: Cabarrus, Durham, Gaston, Halifax, Warren, Stanly, Pitt and Orange.

Opposition in these counties is believed by advocates of the amendments to have been due to lack of information of what the amendments were.

FARMERS' PROBLEMS ARE PERPLEXING TO MEMBERS CONGRESS

Enough Cures Suggested for Bad Situation, But How to Apply Them and Do it Quickly the Puzzle—Committees Meet

Washington, Dec. 1.—Members of the House and Senate who have been studying the agricultural situation are puzzled as to whether Congress can do anything to relieve immediately present marketing and financial conditions.

Several remedies for the present low prices and stagnant market for agricultural products have been suggested, but it will take time to work them out and the proponents are uncertain if they will be successful.

The House and Senate agricultural committees meet Thursday.

BIG ROADS CONFERENCE

AT RALEIGH JANUARY 5.
Chapel Hill, Dec. 1.—The North Carolina Good Roads Association today announced plans for holding a good roads conference in Raleigh Wednesday, January 5, the opening day of the new legislature. The conference will be invited all members of the association, of which there are now over 5,000 representing every county in the State; members of the legislature; all county and road commissioners; representatives of boards of trade, chambers of commerce, Rotary and Kiwanis clubs, women's clubs, motor clubs, the Automotive Trade Association, farmers' unions, etc. Indications are that this will be one of the greatest meetings ever staged in North Carolina.

Big Problems

For Governors Meeting at Pennsylvania Capital.

Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 1.—Important problems confronting the states at the present time are scheduled to be taken up at the governors' conference here, December 1, 2, and 3. About 35 governors and from 10 to 15 governors-elect are expected to be present.

Federal encroachment on state authority and functions are to be discussed by Governors Robert A. Cooper of South Carolina and Robert D. Carey of Wyoming in papers on "The Decentralization of Governmental Functions and Activities."

BLACK AND TAN MEN TAKE TO LYNCHING AS REGULAR THING

Drag Men From Homes and Riddle Bodies With Bullets, Leave Them

CONTINUED DISORDERS

Reported From Cork and Ardee—Fires as Usual—Four Hundred Prisoners Range From Lowest to Highest Scale

London, Dec. 1.—London walked warily today. On all sides there were rumors of disaster. Convinced that the Sinn Feiners' plots are about to burst into a series of massacres and fires, officials constructed barricades outrivalling those of war times. Heavy guards surrounded public buildings. Reports indicated that other cities were taking similar precautions.

Dublin, Dec. 1.—Guerrilla warfare with the Sinn Fein continued in the South of Ireland today, with reports of conflicts at Cork and Ardee reaching officials.

Black and Tan police are reported to have raided several houses and killed two men. The victims are said to have been dragged from their homes in the darkness and their riddled bodies left nearby.

Cork had continued disturbances last night, with fires breaking forth. Days of searching for Sinn Fein leaders have netted 400 prisoners, varying from well-clad men to uncouth youths.

Travel Difficult

Russians Find It Impossible to Get Back Home.

New York, Dec. 1.—A group of Russians, who recently left the United States for Soviet Russia, describe their experiences as follows in a letter to the "Rusky Golos," a Russian-American daily:

"Dear comrades: We are alive, but where we live we do not know. We left Boston, and on the 14th day arrived at Antwerpen, Belgium. We boarded the train at 6 p. m. and at midnight reached the German border.

"When we bought tickets, they did not give us change. That happened at a station called Colony. We sent our baggage to Berlin, and then to the Polish border at Bongen. Before arriving at Bongen, they looked over our passports, found them wrong, and sent us back to Berlin. The Polish consul there refused to give the passports.

"We then appealed to the Ukrainian, Latvian, and Lithuanian consuls, but met refusal everywhere. We went to the American consul and asked him to send us back to America but he refused. We did not know what to do.

"It was impossible to live in Germany. A loaf of bread, for which we paid in New York 10 cents, costs here 10 marks, and one gets only one loaf of bread a week. Meat is unobtainable. The main foods are berries and beer—black and bitter. Upon advice we went to the barracks of the war prisoners, and here we get beans and rotten potatoes.

"Comrades, don't refuse to send us steamship tickets. Tell the contents of this letter to all those who intend to return at once to Russia."

For Premiership

Admitted on 46th Birthday Big Honor Due Churchill.

London, Dec. 1.—Winston Spencer Churchill, minister for war and air, celebrated his 46th birthday yesterday. He was the son of the late Lord Randolph Churchill and Jennie, daughter of Leonard Jerome of New York, and has all the vitality and energy of the Anglo-Saxon races. While he apparently has more political foes than friends, no party dare ignore him, and he is slated for the premiership at some future date by all the wisecracks.

Job for Kellum

Wilmington Attorney Named 8th District Solicitor.

(By MAX ABERNETHY)

Raleigh, Dec. 1.—Woodus Kellum, Wilmington attorney, has been appointed by Governor Bickett to succeed Congressman-Elect Homer L. Lyndon as solicitor in the Eighth Judicial District.

Mr. Kellum is prominently known in the district and has represented New Hanover County in the General Assembly several times.

ATTEMPTS TO START NEW UPRISING MADE ALONG THE BORDER

State Department Hears Blanco at Head of Revolutionary Movement

MEXICANS FROM SPAIN

Hope to Unseat Obregon as Hour for Inauguration Approaches—Galveston Hotbed of Conspiracies, is Reported

(By the United Press)
Washington, Dec. 1.—Coincident with the inauguration of President Obregon of Mexico, the State Department today said reports had been received of a conspiracy against the new government.

The plotting is said to have had its inception on the border. The reports were incomplete. Therefore the department is withholding some of the details.

General Lucio Blanco, ex-Carrancista, is reported to be at the head of the new movement, and to have recently distributed manifestoes all along the border calling for uprisings.

Several prominent Mexicans, including Barragan and Pablo Gonzales, are reported to have arrived at Galveston from Spain.

Galveston is said to be a hotbed of anti-Obregon plots.

Governors Meet

Tarheel Executive Leaves Wilson Birds En Route.

(By the United Press)

Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 1.—Governor Bickett and 30 state met here today to discuss matters of common interest. Bickett of North Carolina will be a leading figure on the program.

Bickett at White House With Gift.
Washington, Dec. 1.—Six party-juggles, plump and neatly dressed, were left at the White House today by Governor Bickett of North Carolina. The birds are said to be the first of their kind received here this season. They were killed by the Governor's son. They will be cooked in the White House kitchen and served the President.

Continued Growth

In World Debt in Spite of Peace to Peace.

(By the United Press)

New York, Dec. 1.—The growth in world debts and paper currency has not been checked by the return to peace. The additions to world national debts, which averaged \$40,000,000,000 per annum during the war, were \$44,000,000,000 in the first year following the armistice and \$42,000,000,000 in the year just ended—the second peace year. The additions to world paper currency, which averaged \$9,000,000,000 per annum during the war, were \$12,000,000,000 in the first peace year and \$25,000,000,000 in the year just ended, says the National City Bank of New York.

Struggling to Feet

Belgian Government Helping People Come Back Strong.

(By P. H. SHEFFIELD)

(Written for the United Press)
Brussels, Belgium, Nov. 30.—In virtue of number of decrees issued since the armistice, the Belgian government has steadily continued the undertaking to make good war damage suffered by its people. One of the most interesting categories in this connection are the "little men," those whose loss is covered by a payment of some 10,000 francs (at par \$2,000). Ten thousand of these have received sums totalling 36,000,000 francs. The compensation is mainly used for repairs to houses and contents.

Throughout the country there are societies of war claimants for compensation and these, operating in conjunction with the government delegates, carry out the formalities of filing claims. On satisfactory evidence, the government makes an advance of 70 per cent. of the 1914 value of the destroyed property, plus a sum for reinvestment which is calculated on a basis of 2 1/2 per cent. in the whole of the country except West Flanders (the most devastated province), where the advance is 3 per cent. Advances under these heads total 81 million francs and 3,300 houses are thus being either rebuilt or repaired.

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