

THE COMMONWEALTH

ESTABLISHED SINCE 1882
AFTERNOON DAILY
"ALL THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL"

Volume XI. No. 4. Four O'Clock Edition Scotland Neck, N. C., Friday, August 20, 1920 Telegraph Service Price Five Cents

U.S. NOTE MAKES PLEA FOR RUSSIA BELIEVES IN A FREE POLAND

Will Not Recognize The Soviet Reign and Denounces The Whole Bolshevik Outfit

MUST THROW OFF BOLSHEVIK

One of the most momentous announcements made at any time during the period of the world war has just been made by our government. It is a note directed to the Italian government in answer to an inquiry, but it is meant for all the world to read; and is especially intended to assure the 80,000,000 people of Russia that their true friend and well-wisher. Affairs have been rapidly growing worse on the Polish front, as told in our news from other lands. A crisis is now presented here. The Poles are unable to block the westward march of the Russians. The entente allies have given them only half-hearted aid, as their people at home are no more in favor of sending their boys to fight all these far-off wars than our people are.

The allies hoped to see Poland made into a "buffer" state to keep Russia and Germany apart and protect western Europe. But Poland is now at the mercy of the bolsheviks and must make whatever terms she can with them. France has been in favor of an aggressive policy toward the Russian peril. England seems more anxious to make some sort of truce with the bolsheviks which will induce them to let up in their ravages of Mesopotamia and other British "spheres".

Now comes the United States, in this note signed by Secretary of State Colby, proclaiming the attitude of this country toward the Russian issue. This document is one of the most high-minded expressions of Americanism on record, and it ought to have a pronounced effect in calming the disturbed conditions of the Old World.

Evidently it was issued without any consultation with the British government and without the knowledge of Premier Lloyd George. It appears that President Wilson has now parted company with Lloyd George and is working with the Russians through other channels. The note ignores the League of nations and the allied council and sets forth the independent stand of the United States. The note says that this country believes in a "united, free and autonomous Poland" and will help it to bring that about. But the war weariness of the masses of the Russian people has been fully realized by us and our sympathies have gone out to them in their trials and distress. We were the first nation to extend recognition to the Russian revolution which started in March, 1917. At every stage it has been our aim to carry out the best interests of the peoples and nations as a people and we have refused to recognize new governments carved out of Russian territory. We expect to see Russia again take a leading place in the world, joining with other free nations in upholding peace and

orderly government." We regard the power of Russia as being merely "in abeyance" at present and we hold that she must have a part in the settlement of boundaries which effect her domain. But the note adds, we do not believe that the welfare of the Russian people can be fostered by any recognition of the present soviet regime. The whole bolshevik outfit is denounced in clean-cut terms. The bolsheviks are a small minority who contrive to gain control by force and trickery and who after being in power nearly two and a half years and after promising popular government, have refused to allow "anything in the nature of a popular election" and have ruled solely by violence.

While not intending to suggest to the Russian people how they should manage their internal affairs, the United States wants it understood that no recognition can be given or any dealings had with a gang of usurpers such as are now in the saddle there. These usurpers are condemned for carrying on, with public funds, propaganda in this and other countries for the purpose of destroying our present government and establishing bolshevist rule. Hence to recognize the Moscow outfit would be to sanction lawlessness and perfidy and to offer "a channel for intrigue and revolt."

The note assures the Russian people that when they throw off the bolshevik yoke and assert themselves as a free people, this country will extend recognition and liberal aid to them in re-establishing themselves as a nation. This program presumes that "all foreign troops shall be withdrawn from Russian territory." (This is aimed against the Japanese occupation of parts of Siberia, and it will of course arouse the hostility of Japan.) The Russians are also assured by our government that the territory taken from Russia and made up into the string of new border states reaching from the Baltic sea around to the Caspian sea shall be restored; the only exceptions are Poland, Finland and Armenia, which are entitled to be independent—but their boundaries must not be extended beyond a proper point.

The Russian note is a most timely and vital manifesto; it tells Russia that the United States is her friend—a friend in need and a friend indeed. It tells the Russians that we will not sanction their spoliation either by usurpers within or near-emies without. It upholds the American doctrine of non-interference with other peoples and carries out the Wilsonian idea that governments are nothing and peoples are everything. It will bring down on us the criticism of some of the other nations and factions and there is no telling how far-reaching the results may be.

WOULD SELL HIS DAUGHTER FOR \$1,000

Artist, Broke and Jobless Offers Little Girl For Sale

A SHOCKING AFFAIR

Chicago, Aug. 18.—Oak Park received a shock today when the local paper printed an advertisement offering:

"For Sale—A beautiful four-year-old girl for \$1000. She has auburn hair blue eyes, good health, legitimate parents." The "ad" was inserted by Charles Stoddard, artist, of New York. His friend, M. J. Mintz, explained:

"Stoddard came to Chicago only a few weeks ago. Before that he lived in New York. He was married and the father of two children, a boy, six, and a girl, Sylvia, four. A few months ago his wife died after a long illness, which took all Stoddard's money. He could find no work, and was forced to beg his way to Chicago, bringing his little girl with him. "He thought he could find work when he got here, but has been unable to do so, and is now in destitute circumstances, and heavily in debt.

"For the sake of the little girl he wishes to place her in the home of a good family. In order to do this he is advertising the little girl 'for sale', which means that in consideration of \$1000, which is the amount he needs to pay his debts, he will allow a good family to adopt the child. He has received more than 200 replies.

BIG MEETING AT PALMYRA YESTERDAY

There was a tremendous gathering of the members of the Roanoke-Tar River Live Stock Association held at Woodstock Farm near Palmyra today to discuss different subjects which were of vital interest to them. The subject of raising stock was gone into in every detail, some of our most prominent business men and farmers taking part, and the meeting was a success in every particular.

After the main business was transacted there was a sumptuous feast served, the bill of fare being as follows:

- Old Fashioned Barbecue
- Tempting Brunswick Stew
- Bread, Cakes, etc.
- With Large Watermelons AS A Desert

And it was reported by several who were in attendance that a plenty of barbecue and Brunswick Stew was left when the big crowd had finished eating to have fed that many more; and there were watermelons galore.

But anyway everybody who partook of this grand feast seemed to be more than satisfied, and are hoping that there will be another such fete in the near future.

Washington Knew Value of Oil. There has been recently discovered a letter of George Washington in which he shows great interest in the possibility of an "oil spring" in Virginia. He called the especial attention of his trustees to the importance of the matter.

THE LATEST TELEGRAPH DESPATCHES

GATHERED FROM ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD

UP UNTIL FOUR O'CLOCK P. M.

London, Aug. 20.—The consistory at Rome has directed a strong exhortation to Archbishop Mannix urging modification of his treatment of British political questions according to British official message from Rome.

Waukesha, Wis., Aug. 20.—Mrs. Clara Jorgenson has regained consciousness after sleeping more than two years in a county asylum. Her six-year-old boy visited her and is believed to have awakened her memories.

Paris, Aug. 20.—Military successes for the Poles continued, according to reports to the French foreign office. The Poles are fighting under plans elaborated by the French and General Weygand and staff of six hundred French officers.

Baltimore, Aug. 20.—Streams from fire hose quited a riot in the dormitory of a Maryland penitentiary today. Hunger strikers who refused to work unless given greater variety of food tore out electric lights and started a demonstration lasting two hours. Nobody was hurt.

Paris, Aug. 20.—The Temps says Polish troops occupied Biela 25 miles west of Brest-Litovsk.

Cleveland, Aug. 20.—Thousands of persons unable to obtain admission to church today to the funeral of Raymond Chapman, the Cleveland ball player killed by pitched ball. Pedestrians stood at attention during passage of cortege and industrial plants closed for ten minutes as tribute.

Washington, Aug. 20.—Interstate Commerce Commission set Aug. 27 for hearing of the American Railway Express Co. for further increased rates.

Nashville, Aug. 20.—Galleries were packed an hour before the House convened today executing a move by Speaker Walker, who announced he had enough votes pledged to obtain the reconsideration of Tennessee action in ratifying suffrage.

Lynchburg, Aug. 20.—Continuous rainfall caused three wash-outs on the main line of the Southern railway between Lynchburg and Charlottesville today and according to Danville reports the tobacco crop is seriously damaged.

Warsaw, Aug. 20.—Extreme right wing of the Polish army is marching on Brest-Litovsk, 120 miles east of Warsaw says Polish official. The right wing has captured Siedlce and Bielsk the statement says.

London, Aug. 20.—Second sitting of the Russo-Polish peace conference held at Minsk Thursday, and Russian terms substantially same as those published in London and communicated to Poles, says Moscow official statement.

London, Aug. 17.—Warsaw is still held by the Poles as far as dispatches here disclose. The Russian communists does not claim the city captured while Monday's Polish official statement repre-

MYSTERY SHROUDS PHIALS ARE CAST UPON JERSEY COAST

Thousands of Little Bottles That Hold Purifying Powder Used by American Troops

A STRANGE SECRET OF THE SEA

LIGHTNING STRIKES FARM RESIDENCE AND ALSO KILLS A MULE

During an electrical storm yesterday afternoon out on the old State Farm at camp number one about 14 miles from here, lightning struck the house that was used by the overseer, and completely demolished the kitchen, and a mule that was standing nearby was struck and killed instantly. It was reported that there was a regular cloud burst out in that section.

CITIZENSHIP DENIED WAR STRIKERS

Now that the war is over and there is no danger that anybody will be drafted into the army, aliens who denied all relationship with the United States when asked to fight are seeking to enter the fold of citizenship. They are not finding it so easy as they expected, however, and many applications are being held up. J. L. Hurwitz, a business high school graduate of Washington, was recently refused citizenship because he claimed exemption from war service by reason of his foreign birth. Andrew Lawrence, also of Washington, is another of the same stripe. Department of labor officials have been instrumental, it is said, in the rejection of a large number of applications of this sort.

DR. A. S. HARRISON DIES IN ENFIELD

We regret to chronical the death of Dr. A. S. Harrison, which occurred last night at 12:30 o'clock in Enfield.

The funeral will be held tomorrow morning at 11:00 o'clock at the Episcopal Church in Enfield. He leaves a number of relatives and many friends to mourn his loss.

sented the defenders making a successful resistance. Meanwhile the Russians are rapidly progressing through the Polish corridor and are reported within fifty miles of Danzig.

Tokio, Aug. 18.—Advices from Reoul bring the rumor that the Koreans are planning insurrectionary demonstrations upon the occasion visit of the American congressional party.

Immunity From Second Attack. The United States public health service says that it is well known that an attack of measles or scarlet fever or smallpox usually protects a person against another attack of the same disease. To some extent this appears to be true also of influenza. Just how long such protective lasts is not known.

New York, Aug. 17.—For the last two weeks there have been cast up, along the Jersey and Long Island shores, thousands of mysterious phials, filled with white powder and hermetically sealed—phials which little children have found exploded like miniature bombs when hurled against a rock.

From Sea Grit, N. J., as far north as Coney Island and Long Beach, these phials have been washed ashore and picked up by beach habitues, who wove "spy" theories about these little glass tubes, until finally the matter reached the attention of the port authorities and men of science.

Then the chemist spoke. The phials contained neither explosive nor poison, neither habit-forming drugs nor one of those rare curative powers. They contained calcium hydrochlorite, a preparation used during the war to purify water, to protect men and not to kill them.

But tonight only half the mystery was solved. Having identified the phials as part of those made in the United States and encased in vacuum tubes for shipment overseas for use by individual soldiers, the authorities were still unable to answer the question of how, about two years after fighting had ended: the phials came to be washed ashore at summer resorts.

The most logical conclusion, that cases containing the water purifier had been hurled overboard, or that a ship bearing them overseas had been sunk off this coast, met no support from army transportation officers here. The only theory substituted was that mysterious ocean currents had brought back to these shores, after two years, phials lost in torpedoing of some transport on the other side of the Atlantic—for proof has been obtained that sealed bottles cast overboard from ships have traveled the world around.

NEGRO IS BROUGHT TO FINISH SENTENCE

Our efficient night chief, Mr. Eugene Bishop accompanied by Mr. Ben McRegan, went to Kelford yesterday and brought back William Johnson, who was wanted here for jumping a road sentence.

It seems that Johnson was convicted of some offense and was sentenced to the county roads, but upon conditions that he could be hired out. Messrs. McRegan & Campus, the genial proprietors of the Dixie Cafe, took pity on Johnson and hired him to help them in their kitchen. But Johnson got tired of washing dishes and doing odd jobs, so he "flew the coop". He will be given his choice of either finishing his sentence on the roads or going back to the dish pan.