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GERMANY'S COUNTER PROPOSALS RECEIVED BY STATE DEPARTMENT

(By Associated Press)

Washington, April 26.—Germany's counter proposals were received today at the State Department and are understood to have been laid before the Cabinet at its regular meeting.

Just before the cabinet met, it was announced that a memorandum from Berlin had been received during the night, in fragments, and was then

Paris, April 26th.—Premier Briand told the Chamber of Deputies "if on May first satisfactory proposals, with acceptable guarantees, are not made by Germany government the Ruhr district will be occupied."

under consideration by Secretary Hughes.

Graves of American Dead In France To Be Decorated

(By Associated Press)

Paris, April 26.—No distinctions of rank will be made in marking the graves of American soldiers who died in France, says Charles S. Pierce, chairman of the American commission which has arrived here to prepare plans for beautifying the fou nent military cemeteries wh bodies of all the American fighters are to be gathered.

"We shall try to make these cemeteries memorials of which all Americans will be proud," said Colonel Pierce. "Early in the discussions we decided that regardless of rank and position each grave should be treated in the same manner and given equal attention. The only variation permitted will be on the uniform headstones. On the top of these relatives may inscribe any religious emblem they wish so long as it does not interfere with the uniformity of the stone.

"No special monuments will be permitted. All the Americans died in the performance of their duty and, no matter how heroic individuals may have been, the feeling of the nation seems to be that all should be accorded the same honor.

"It is impossible to say now just what form the beautification will take but money will not be spared in making the cemeteries the most imposing in the world. Congress has appropriated $1,000,000 as a preliminary sum for this work wth a promise of more. It is probable that $3,000,000 will be expended.

"The task of removing the dead will be completed by the end of October. The bodies of those soldiers who are to rest permanently in France will then be concentrated in the four cemeteries. This work together with the development work we intend to do, probably will take one year more."

The commission which is an advisory body to the Secretary of War and Quartermaster-General of the United States Army, is now making surveys of the American cemeteries. Later the commission will formulate plans for a permanent cemetery for American soldiers in London.

NEW MEMBER HIGHWAY COMMISSION

(By Maxwell Gorman)

Raleigh, April 26.—Since Word H. Wood, of Charlotte, notified Governor Morrison that he would not accept the position of highway commissioner for the sixth district, because of lack of time to devote to its duties, the Governor has been bombarded with letters and telegrams advocating the appointment of several other gentlemen to the post. Saturday a large delegation of Charlotte people came to Raleigh to urge the Governor to appoint Col. T. L. Kirkpatrik, who has a wide reputation in the State already as a good roads advocate and builder. Colonel Kirkpatrick is a resident of Charlotte, and it will not be surprising if the announcement of his appointment is made within the next few days, as there is no time to waste on this job.

POLISH FLYER FRIEND OF LOCAL CITIZEN ESCAPES RUSSIANS

Riga, Russia, April 26.—Captain Merion Cooper, of Jacksonville, Fla., Kosciusko Squadron flyer of the Polish Army, who was shot down on the Polish front and captured by the Russians last July, escaped from the prison camp near Moscow April 12th, and arrived here to-day.

Captain Cooper was a friend of Mr. Norfleet S. Smith of Scotland Neck while Mr. Smith was an officer in the army during the world war, and they occupied the same room in the hospital in Paris.

Captain Cooper was a member of the flying corps of the American Army in France, and while engaged in a battle with the Germans his plane was set on fire while at an eevation of five thousand feet, and his observer was wounded. When the plane caught on fire Capt. Cooper thought his observer had been killed, and he crawled out of his seat on to the wings to escape the flames, when he observed that his observer was still alive, though unconscious. Capt. Cooper then crawled back into his seat in the flames, regained control of his machine and brought it safely down, saving the life of his observer, although he was badly burned about the face and hands. A German [illegible], whom he was fighting in the air, landed near him, secured an automobile, placed Capt. Cooper and his observer in the machine and had them sent back immediately to a German Hospital. There Capt. Cooper received excellent medical attention, having new skin grafted on hands and face, and when the Armistice was signed he was sent to the American hospital for further treatment with a hope of regaining the use of his hands.

As soon as he was discharged from the American hospital he asked for discharge from the army and immediately joined the flying forces of the Polish Army, with the results as shown above.

For the act of bravery described Capt. Cooper was offered the Distinguished Service Cross, which he refused unless his observer was granted one also, claiming that he had done nothing but his duty. Capt. Cooper is truly a soldier of fortune of the highest type, and seems to possess a charmed life.

HIGHWAY COMMISSION AT WORK

Raleigh, April 26.—The State Highway Commission is at work here this week, the members having assembled here today for the purpose of mapping out the initial work in the $50,000,000 highway construction of hard-surface roads program.

It is now certain that the early summer will find road-building work under way in most of the countries of the State, the "money for State work being entirely available and ready at hand" in as large volume as will be needed for some time.

WEATHER REPORT

For North Carolina: Generally fair tonight, Wednesday unsettled probably showers in interior, not much change in temperature, moderate to fresh south and southwest winds.

GERMANY WILLING TO ASSUME ALLIES' DEBTS TO UNITED STATES

WELCOMES SUGGESTIONS FROM UNITED STATES FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS OR FOR CHAN GES IN PRESENT PROPOSALS

(By Associated Press)

Berlin, April 26.—Germany, in event United States and the allies desire, is willing, to the extent of her ability and capacity, to assume the allied obligations to the United States, according to a clause in the counter proposals, it was definitely learned here.

With this exception, the counter proposals forwarded to Washington included an offer of two hundred billion gold marks, and are virtually as forecast in yesterday's associated press dispatches.

An arbitration proposal clause, says Germany, suggests the appointment of an unbiased commission to fix the total sum of her war reparations, which she pledges to accept as binding and to carry out in good faith.

The note adds that the German government would welcome suggestions from the American government for further negotiations, or for changes in present proposals. With the acceptance of these proposals, the note adds, Germany's other reparations and obligations will be annulled and all German private property in foreign countries must be released.

As evidence of good faith, Germany prepared immediately to place at the disposal of the reparations commission one hundred and fifty million treasury notes redeemable within three months, in foreign exchange.

Berlin April 26.—Germany proposes the issue of an international loan, the proceeds of which will be placed at the disposal of the allies. On this loan Germany will pay interest of four per cent and provide for Americanization of some of the reparations, the total not being covered by this loan. The loan will be provided to the limit of Germany's capacity by payments in goods, material, etc.

New Fuel For Automobiles

(By Associated Press)

Rochester, N. Y., April 26.—H. N. Whitford, of the Yale School of Forestry, told the American Chemcal Society in its annual meeting here today that alcohol could be manufacttured from the moist vegetation of tropical forests and jungles could be utilized to avert a future scarcity of fuel for driving automobiles.

There is an abundance of alcohol in tropical vegetation, he said, but the difficulty lies in finding the means of manufacturing it profitably.

"The evidence is conclusive," said he, "that the tropical sun has the power to store up more energy in the form of cellulose in a given time than has the temperato sun. If this is in a utilizable form it remains for the ingenuity of man to overcome the difficulties of profitably applying it. With the increasing needs of the nation it is reasonable to expect that sooner or later it will be necessary to utilize more fully the plant resources of the tropics.

"The future scarcity of the country's liquid fuel supply," continued Mr. Whitford, "is now so apparent that the question of its early replacement has become a vital problem in natural economics. The problem, however, is of such magnitude that only from a consideration of new sources of energy and the discovery of new raw material would it seem that any solution could be effective. A question involving the synthesis of some 4,900,000,000 allons of feasible substitute annually calls for the development of new ideas and new sources of energy. Our one great osurce of energy is undoubtedly that of the sun. How can this source best be utilized. Obviously in the growth of plant life from which, in turn, alcohol and other fuels may be made."

Mr. Whitford said that the annuel production of alcohol from thte nipa plant in the Philippines is now nearly 3,000,000 gallons and that one distillery there had produced 93 percent alcohol at a cost of about 20 cents a gallon and, if operated to full capacity could make it at a cost of 15 cents a gallon.

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED TO CHINESE RELIEF FUNDS

Cash ---------- $3.00

MEETING PARTICIPANTS IN HISTORICAL PAGEANT TONIGHT AT EUREKA CLUB ROOMS

Those in charge of the Historical Pageant Committees for Scotland Neck request that all participants, except the school girls, meet tonight promptly at nine o'clock, at the Eureka Club Rooms. This is an important meeting and it is hoped that every one will be present promptly.

TURKISH WOMEN ON STAGE

(By Associated Press)

Constantinople, April 26.—The command of the Sheikul-Islam, Vicar of the Sultan, ordering Turkish women not to appear on the stage, is being ignored by them. The German-Austrian and Allied occupations of the city, together wth the loss of husbands, fathers, and brothers, and the press of poerty, has brought a new freedom to Turkish women. This is daily seen by their clothing.

They wear their eils still, instead of a haf, but turned back and tide into a pretty knot, after the manner of their Russian refugee sisters.

Because of the high price of cloth, Turkish women no longer wear a multitude of garments, designed in old time to hide the outlines of their figures. Both veil and dresses are a deep sea blue, instead of the dull conventional black once the cutsom. Some affect the homespun brown dress, the becoming garment designed by Halide Hanum, the Nationalist woman leader.

These changes have dissipated the mystery which once enveloped the Turkish woman and Americans here find that she does not differ in looks very much from others. On an average, they are not so good looking as the American woman. The difference may be said to lie in their timidity. Even this quality is dissipated quickly when they come in contact with foreigners. as is the case in the mixed receptions given at the Constantinople Colege for Girls, maintained here by Americans. At such receptions the Turkish girls and women talk brightly and cleverly with American naval officers and other guests, and sometimes take part in the dancing and flirtations.

Bridge Committee Calls on Highway Commissioner

Yesterday morning Messrs. A. Paul Kitchin, J. A. Kitchin, G. Hoffman and Herbert Johnson drove to Tarboro, N. C., to call on Mr. W. A. Hart, State Highway Commissioner from the Second District, in the inter est of the proposed bridge across Roanoke River at Edwards Ferry, returning yesterday afternoon.

This committee reports that Mr. Hart is much interested in this bridge project and promised that he would approve the building o fthe bridge before the State Highway Commission, and that he would urge an early commencement of the work of construction.

When asked about the prospects of a State highway through Scotland Neck he stated that he was highly in favor of that and would use his influence to that end. As soon as work is commenced on the bridge it is proposed by the County Highway Commission to commence construction of a gravel clay road to the river, and then by the construction of about three miles extra this road can be connectedup with the new road to be built from Halifax to Tillery, which will give Scotland Neck a gravel road from Scotland Neck to Tarboro, one way, and from Scotland Neck to Weldon, the other, as well as the same class of road to Northampton County, and on North. It now looks as if these various projects were on the verge of realization, after several years of agitation.

Vessel Sunk In War To Be Salvaged

(By Associated Press)

London, April 26.—Another attempt is to be made this summer by the Admiralty to recover the remainder of the bullion lost when the armed liner Laurentic was mined and sunk off the north coast of Ireland in 1917.

The salvage vessel, Racer, together with the Canadian drifter No. 1, will undertake the salvage work for the fourth summer.

The Laurentic went down in 20 fathoms (120 feet) of water four miles off the coast of Donegal carrying gold bars to the value of between $10,000,000 and $15,000,000.

Four years of pounding by Atlantic gales have reduced the wreck to a shapeless mass and each year the work has been more difficult. Last summer the divers found that about 250 tons of hull and deckplates had settled on the strong room, where the gold was stored, breaking it in. The result was that only about $25,000 was recovered, compared with $1,250,000 the previous year.

After the winter storms the divers expect to find the wreckage covered with gravel and silt which has to be cleared away with pumps. Then the steel plates and girders must be cut away.

The Racer is now equipped, in addition to every possible contrivance for abiding divers, with a "recompression chamber". A diver can reach the bottom in half a minute but after prolonged immersion at 20 fathoms below the surface, half an hour has to be allowed for raising him because if brought up too quickly he is likely to collapse. The great pressure at 20 fathoms saturates the system with nitrogen gas but in the recompression chamber the nitrogen can be eliminated gradually.

COTTON MARKET

May	12.13
July	12.74
October	13.37
December	13.82
January	13.96

Harding To Help Farmers

Raleigh, April 26.—North Carolina farmers will be interested to learn that Senators interested in the financial attitude of the administration respecting agricultural interests called in a delegation on President Harding and requested lower re-discount rates on farm paper and asked the President about the attitude of the Federal Reserve Board and the Farm Loan Board on loans to farmers.

President Harding assured them, members of the delegation said after the interview, that the policy of the Government would be "very liberal". The President will ask D. R. Crissinger, comptroller of the currency, to be liberal with banks holding such paper. The delegation intends to call on Mr. Crissinger later. It is the intention of the administration to assist agriculture in every way possible. The senatorial delegation was nonpartisan and non-sectional. It was organized by Senator Ellison D. Smith of South Carolina. The other members were Senators S[illegible] N. C.); [illegible] (Dem., La.); Norbeck (Rep. S. D.) Stansfield Rep., Ore.); and Gooding (Rep., Ida.)

State Library

After the session was over Senator Simmons said he though good results would come of the appeal to President Harding.

Golden Jubilee Woman's Baptist Mission Society

(By Associated Press)

New York, April 26.—Golden jubilee celebrations will be held in ten American cities between Aprill 26 and June 22 to mark completion of 50 years service by the Woman's American Baptist Foreign Mission Society. Delegates to the celebrations will include Northern Baptist women from 35 estates and foreign representatives from China, Japan, Burma, India and other parts of the Far East.

The places and dates for the celebrations follows: Boston, April 26,29; Rochester. May 3,4; Cleveland, May 5 and 6; Washington, D. C., May 10, 13; Chicago, May 17-20; Minneapolis, May 24, 27; Seattle, May 31, June 3; Oakland, Cal., June 7-10; Denver, Colorado, June 14-17; Des Moines, Iowa, June 20-22.

Among those in charge of the celebrations are Mrs. Helen Harrett Montgomery, of Rochester, N. Y., president of the Woman's American Baptist Foreign Mission Society; Mrs. Henry W. Peabody of Boston, Mrs. Andrew MacLeish of Glencoe, Ill., Miss Nellie G. Prescott of New York, Mrs. Herbert E. Goodman of Chicago, Mrs T. E. Adams of Cleveland, Mrs. William F. Gurley of Troy, N. Y., and Mrs. James Madison Pratt of New York.

Roanoke Island Profits By Aeroplane Tourists

(Slizabeth City Independent)

Roanoke Island gets its share of visitors now that many aeroplane pleasure hunters find it a convenient place to rest en route to and from Florida and New York. The island lies directly in the air course and makes a practicable oiling station for the planes. The Texas company sensing the early need of larger storage capacity, has erected an 18,000 gallon tank at Manteo, giving that town more storage for oil than any point south of Elizabeth City.

Along with the gas and supply dealers, the hotel does its share of business. Aeroplane visitors stop over for several days at the time, to visit historic spots on the island.