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## FRENCH ARE FIRM ON RUHR SITUATION

### Premier Poincare Says France Has Finished Making Concession

Senlis, France, July 15.—Premier Poincare today proclaimed the French government's unalterable decision resolutely to stand for the complete execution of the Versailles peace treaty with German debt at 132 billion gold marks, as agreed upon by the Allies at the London conference, against any international financial committee to replace the reparation commission.

M. Poincare said France has finished the making of concessions to Germany. She was tired of temporizing with that country. The premier's strongly worded address, while refraining from mentioning the speech of Stanley Baldwin, the British Prime Minister, in House of Commons last week, is considered as the French government's preliminary answer to the British position with regard to the occupation of the Ruhr.

### Selects Strategic Point

M. Poincare chose for his pronouncement this town, which marks the farthest advance of the Germans, and where the Germans are alleged to have executed hostages, placed civilians in the line of the French fire and burned part of the town in reprisal against civil resistance. The Premier based his conclusions on France's legal rights under the treaty "signed by 28 nations and which cannot be considered after four years as an antediluvian fossil."

M. Poincare professed to have no hatred and no spirit for revenge for the war devastation, traces of which were visible from where he spoke. "We should like no longer to talk of devastation or to think of it," he declared. "We should like to forget—even to forgive."

"France, said M. Poincare, has been no better treated in reparations than in the concessions wrong from her and the security denied her."

### France in Minority

"In the reparation commission, established under the treaty," he said, "we are in the minority although ours is the major interest. Nevertheless it has been sought for four years to relieve this commission of its powers, to replace it with international financial committees so as to attempt to coalesce against us interests opposed to ours."

The peace treaty, the Premier continued, established conditions under which the commission should fix the German debt. "There was a pretense of respecting those conditions," he added, "but the debt hardly had been fixed when there was imposed upon us in one of those supreme councils, where we always left behind us some of our rights, a schedule of payments that the commission accepted reluctantly and which reduced our claim in undetermined proportions. We then accepted this schedule of payments as an engagement of honor pledged to us."

A few months later, Premier Poincare asserted, this schedule again was questioned, "as certain of our friends seemed no longer to have any thought than to lighten the German debt, and as they themselves were our creditors, we told them 'there are three kinds of bonds provided for. Let us keep our part of the first two. As for the third, we will use them against Germany only in proportion as our creditors ask us to pay our debts,' still we were found too exacting."

The Premier said France was reproached for not having sufficient regard for Germany, and for exposing her disaster that would affect all other nations.

### Germany We Looked After

"And yet," he declared, "has not Germany been so well looked after during three whole years that she has been allowed to default on all her obligations, so that we had to pay with our own money one hundred billion francs she owed us and has not paid? Has she not been allowed to rebuild her commercial enterprises and develop her canals and railroads and enrich her great industrialists at the expense of her creditors?"

M. Poincare asked "if any one imagined that Germany would stabilize the mark and put her house in

## SEES NO REASON WHY MR. FORD SHOULD NOT RUN

Chicago, July 14.—There is no reason why Henry Ford, Detroit manufacturer, should not enter the 1924 Presidential race if he desires to be a candidate, according to William G. McAduo, former Secretary of the Treasury, who arrived in Chicago today on his way to New York.

"The Presidential race is the great American-free-for-all," McAduo said regarding Ford's chances. "I see no reason why he should not enter it if he desires to be a candidate."

The former Treasury secretary said he had made no statement in Kansas City last night as reported that he had not decided if he would seek the nomination for the Presidency. He said he had not discussed politics while in Kansas City.

"My trip is a business one, and it is important enough to bring me across the continent in midsummer," he said. "I am not discussing at all on this trip."

## HAIL DOES DAMAGE IN WILSON COUNTY

The severe rain, wind and hail storm of Thursday afternoon did little harm in this section so far as we have been able to learn. The hail was confined almost entirely to the town. On the South it extended hardly further than the cotton mill, and across the river no further than W. Stephenson's farm.

According to the Wilson Times, the storm was quite severe in Wilson County, one person, Sidney G. Turnage, being killed. Mr. Turnage, who lived at Black Creek, was caught under a tobacco barn which was blown down. A heavy damage was reported from hail which fell in the section between Black Creek and the Wayne County line. On many farms the fields of tobacco ready for the harvest were said to have been completely riddled by the hail. Cotton was also torn to shreds.

## HOME MADE INVENTION FOR POISONING WEEVILS

Monroe, July 14.—While the farm demonstration agents from all over piedmont and central North Carolina were gathered on the court house lawn Wednesday, Randolph Redfern, a Monroe citizen, created quite a bit of interest by exhibiting a boll weevil destroyer of his own invention.

The outfit consists of a barrel with pump attachment placed on a cart from which calcium arsenate-molasses mixture is sprayed over three rows of cotton at a time, making it easy to cover a large field within a short time. The invention appears to work perfectly and may come into general use in spraying with the molasses-arsenic mixture.

## TO USE SIX BILLION GALLONS OF GASOLINE

New York, July 12.—A survey just completed showing 13,048,128 motor vehicles registered in the United States on July 1 of this year indicates that over six billion gallons of gasoline must be supplied for automobiles alone this year, according to the weekly summary of the American Petroleum Institute. The gain in the number of cars is 2,440,000 over July 1, 1922, and 688,751 over the high mark of December 1922. The estimated gasoline consumption by motor vehicles last year was over five billion gallons.

### Mr. Anrew House Dead

Mr. Andrew House of Pine Level passed away at his home Friday morning, his death being due to heart-trouble. Mr. House was 62 years of age. He leaves a wife and six children. He was buried Saturday afternoon at four o'clock at the Pearce graveyard. The funeral was conducted by Rev. Mr. Collier.

order, "if France watched with arms folded."

For three years," he said, "the Allies have followed this mirage, and for three years things have been going from bad to worse. If we were not in the Ruhr Germany would have continued to slip into the abyss she dug, but we would have been empty handed, while now we hold security, and we are powerful enough not to have to let go."—Associated Press.

## PRESIDENT RUNS A TRAIN 26 MILES

### Nation's Chief Executive and Wife Enjoying Their Trip To Alaska.

Talkemtefa, Alaska, July 15.—President Harding as head of the government drove one of his own locomotives today over his own railroad. He and Mrs. Harding had as much fun as two youngsters on their first train trip.

When the train arrived at Wasilla on the Alaskan railway, Mr. and Mrs. Harding went up to the engine and climbed into the cab. The chief executive, after brief instructions, took the throttle and drove to Willow. He was in charge of the engine for 26 miles, which was traveled in 51 minutes. Mrs. Harding occupied the fireman's side of the cab.

The engineer said that Mr. Harding was a good engineer. But the dining car steward disagreed. This functionary pointed out that in stopping the train the pilot had jerked so heavily that 11 cups were broken in the diner.

While the engine took water the President visited within some section men at work nearby. He helped them paint a new-bunk-house, wielding the brush vigorously. He discovered that Leroy Harden, son of the section boss, was born on the day the people elected Mr. Harding President. The eminent traveler gave the lad a dollar bill.

The Hardings while going to Fairbanks, the northern terminus of the railway, from Seward, the southern end, have been spending much of their time in a speeder. This is an automobile with flanged steel wheels fitting the rails. Traveling in this behind the train is much better than staying in the presidential private car. Mrs. Harding assured members of the party.—Associated Press.

## FAIRBANKS, ALASKA, JULY 15.—PRESIDENT HARDING HAS REACHED A POINT FURTHER NORTH THAN ANY OTHER AMERICAN PRESIDENT, AND WITH HIS ARRIVAL IN FAIRBANKS TONIGHT HE WAS WITHIN 150 MILES OF THE ARCTIC CIRCLE.

His arrival here marked the end of a two and one-half's ride over the government railroad from Seward and tomorrow he begins the trip south over Richardson trail.

The President told members of his party before his arrival here that the rail trip had given him a new vision of Alaska and that he had been impressed not only by the matchless scenery, but by the wonderful possibilities of the great valley region, luxuriantly forested and covered with luxuriant vegetation, wild grasses and brilliant flowers.

### Weather Is Ideal

The weather was ideal on the last day of the 450 mile rail trip, the warm July sun bringing the temperature above 80. The sun was still shining brightly when the party arrived here at 9 o'clock tonight and the members of the party came to a full realization that they were in the land of midnight sun, as daylight is continuous at this time of the year.—Associated Press.

## APPEAL TO AMERICAN WOMEN TO HELP CRUSH WAR MENACE

Washington, July 15.—An appeal to the women of America to actively assist in removing the menace of war was issued today by Mrs. Maud Wood Park, president of the National League of Women Voters.

Mrs. Park, who recently returned from Europe, declared that unless there was "co-operation" between this country and the nations of Europe "real danger" of further wars existed. The executive committee of the league after receiving Mrs. Park's report, adopted a resolution reiterating its indorsement of the proposed participation of the United States in the international court.

### No Pecans This Year

Owners of pecan trees around Raleigh are finding out that the pecan crop this year will be nil. The cold weather at Easter froze the ends of the limbs of the trees, destroying the buds. Old residents say this is the first time the pecan crop has been destroyed here in their recollection.—News and Observer.

## M. E. PASTOR WARNS AGAINST GOSSIP

### Large Crowd Hears Minister As He Talks on "The Serpent in the Mouth."

A bulletin board at the Post Office carried information last Saturday that Rev. D. H. Tuttle, pastor of the Methodist church here, would use as his subject on Sunday morning, "The Serpent in the Mouth," and despite the warm July day, the church was full to hear this message.

Special music characterized the service, a quartette composed of Messrs. Paul Eason, Theron Johnson, Solon Cotton and William Puckett, rendering a special number. During the collection Mr. William Puckett sang a solo.

Rev. Mr. Tuttle used as his text Proverbs 14:3: "They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent. Adder's poison is under their lips." After reading his text the minister stated that his subject had to do with a disease that was widely prevalent—an awful heart disease, heart poison that breaks out at the mouth, from tongue and lips; then to ears, lips and tongues of others. A deadly epidemic, worse than measles, mumps, whooping cough, or small pox. First one or two have it, then ten, twenty or a hundred, in homes, offices, stores, mills, churches and even at funerals. This disease is evil speaking. The Bible tells us that a wicked tongue is like a serpent, and there are many reasons why we ought to get this snake of an evil speaking tongue out of our mouths. By using our tongues to speak evil we prostitute a noble faculty. Jesus used words to calm winds and seas; by a word He raised the dead; and by words we may comfort, advise, strengthen and encourage rather than poison the minds with who mwe come in contact.

Mr. Tuttle discussed "Evil Speaking" under the following headings: (1) General rules concerning evil speaking; (2) results of evil speaking; (3) cure for evil speaking. He defined evil speaking as back-biting (Psa. 15: 3) stating that back-biting is but talk about one who is absent. (Lev. 19: 16) "Thou shalt not go up and down as a tale bearer among thy people." In the next place, God forbids it. "Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone; and then come and offer thy gift to the Lord." Matt. 18:15. See also Prov. 25:9. "Speak not evil one of another brethren." Jas. 4:11. "Wherefore laying aside all evil speaking." 1 Pet. 2:1. "Put them in mind to speak evil of no man." Titus 3:1-4; Eph. 4:29. "Then are in thee men men that carry tales to shed blood." Ezek. 22:9. "O the blood that has been shed on account of giving the lie or by lying one on another. If guilty, the way was pointed out to remove it. "Confess your faults" James 5:16. "Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee, leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother." Matt. 5:23-24.

Speaking of the results of evil speaking the minister said that it reveals a heart condition. Matt. 12: 34 "O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. 35—A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things; and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things." It also separates friends. "He that covereth a transgression seeketh love; but he that repeateth a matter separateth friends." Prov. 17:9. It also shortens life. Provs. 18:21 "Death and life are in the power of the tongue; and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof. "For he that will love life and good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil and his lips that they speak not guile." 1 Peter 1:10. See also Psa. 34:12 to 14. It makes vanity of religion. James 1:16 "If any man among you seem to be religious, and brideth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain." It defies the whole body and connects life with hell. James 3:5—"Even so the tongue is a little member and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter

## DUTIES OF COUNTY WELFARE SUPERINTENDENT

As set forth in the consolidated statutes, the duties of a county superintendent of public welfare are as follows:

(a) He shall be chief school attendance officer of the county.

(b) He shall be chief probation officer, and with the county juvenile court, have oversight of dependent, neglected and delinquent children under 16 years of age.

(c) He shall enforce the child labor laws.

(d) He shall have oversight, under the direction of the State board, of persons discharged from hospitals for the insane and from other State institutions, and of all persons on probation or parole.

(e) He shall have, under control of the county commissioners the care and supervision of the poor, and administer the poor funds.

(f) He shall act as agent of the State board in relation to any work to be done by the State board within the county.

(g) He shall promote wholesale recreation in the county and enforce such laws as regulate commercial amusement.

(h) He shall have, under direction of the State board, oversight of dependent children placed in the county by the State.

(i) He shall assist the State board in finding employment for the unemployed.

(j) He shall investigate into the cause of distress, under the direction of the State board and make such other investigations in the interest of social welfare as the State board may direct.—From Welfare Bulletin.

## FOREST FIRE SWEEPS OVER TWO TOWNS

Spokane, Wash., July 13.—The mining towns of Mace and Burke, east of Kellogg, Idaho, are reported destroyed by forest fires sweeping up the western slope of the Bitter Root mountains. Wire communication with the fire-swept district is down. Fear is felt for the lives of tourists on the Yellowstone trail highway, which is understood from meagre reports to be surrounded by flames.

A thousand persons are reported homeless in the two towns. Mace is destroyed. The business section of Burke is in flames, and little hope is held of saving what remains of the town. Loss up to 4 p. m. was estimated at between \$300,000 and \$400,000 and the progress of the fire is said to be unchecked. Attempts to block the fire by dynamiting business houses proved futile because of the high wind.

With the business section of Burke completely gone and a large portion of the residence section, fire-fighting efforts at 4:30 centered a short distance up the canyon from Burke, where the large hotel of the Hercules Mining company together with the miners' recreation center, was threatened. All miners of the rich silver-lead mines of the district estimated at several thousand, have turned to fighting the fire.—Associated Press.

a little fire kindleth! 6—And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity; so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell." Then the tongue may become the connecting link between the soul and hell. Rev. Mr. Tuttle placed tale-bearers and hearers in the same class. One has Satan in the tongue, the other Satan in the ear. He called attention to the fact that the unpardonable sin, the sin against the Holy Ghost, was a sin of the tongue. He pointed out that the use, or control of the tongue, is a test of character. If that is controlled, the whole body may be.

In conclusion he presented the cure for evil speaking. (1) In the blood of Jesus Christ when all other blood is swept away. 1 Jno. 1:7-9. (2) In prayer and watchfulness. Psa. 19:14 and Psa. 141:3. (3) The fear of God's judgment on the sin. Jesus said that of every idle word that we speak, an account shall be given in the Day of Judgment. "For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned." Many people, stated the preacher, will wish in the Day of Judgment that they had been born dumb.

## PRES. STATE FAIR COMPLETES TOUR

### Mrs. Vanderbilt Speaks In a Number of Eastern Towns About Fair.

Raleigh, July 16.—Mrs. Edith Vanderbilt, President of the North Carolina Agricultural Society, has just completed a tour of Eastern North Carolina in the interest of the State Fair. She went on the warpath for the purpose of urging closer cooperation between the county and community fairs and the State Fair. She met with a gratifying response from the large crowds that heard her the past week.

She spoke at Monroe, Wilmington, New Bern, Kinston, Goldsboro and Wilson, and visited several other points in the state. She made the trip in approved stump speaking style traveling by automobile so that she could make better time.

Her poke bonnet hat caught the fancy of her audience and many a Tar Heel farmer is ready to wager that she is going to make the Fair this year the big success that she has in mind. Certainly she will if those who heard her speak can aid her in realizing her ambition, it is declared, for these farmers found that she is a real womanly woman without frills or furbelows.

Mrs. Vanderbilt in her address explained that the proper function of a State Fair or any fair for that matter is not the amusement of pleasure seekers but the development along proper lines of education in agriculture, industry and general knowledge.

She ventured to say that there is no other State on the Atlantic seaboard that can present so much in the way of natural resources as North Carolina and she ventured further to predict that a State Fair on a State-wide basis and financially organized would do more for North Carolina in five years than a million dollars spent in any other way. Even as it is last year's fair brought favorable comments from as far north as New Hampshire and as far west as Wisconsin.

The logical conclusion of the program of the Agricultural Society, she said, is to build up an institution that will belong to the state and that will adequately represent the State.

## FIRST BEDBUG IS MAILED TO INSECTICIDE EXPERIMENTERS

Washington, July 15.—The department of agriculture's offer to buy 1,200 bedbugs for its insecticide experiment station at Vienna, Va., has not been without result.

Yesterday a single bug, shipped from Philadelphia in a tiny pasteboard box, reached the station alive and well ready to make the supreme sacrifice in the name of science. Officials would not disclose the exact address of the martyr's former domicile.

## AIR MAIL SERVICE NOW AS REGULAR AS TRAINS

Washington, July 14.—Airplanes can now be operated with the certainty of railroad trains, the Post Office Department declared today, backing this assertion with a statement that during the fiscal year ending June 30 its air mail service was 96.73 per cent. perfect, even better than the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922, when the success attained was 95.52 per cent. During the fiscal year just closed the mail service flew 1,589,380 miles, back and forth between New York and San Francisco.

## MR. SANDERS HEARS MRS. EDITH VANDERBILT

Mr. W. M. Sanders went to New Bern Friday to hear Mrs. Edith Vanderbilt, president of the North Carolina Agricultural Society speak on the State Fair. Mrs. Vanderbilt has been touring Eastern North Carolina promoting the interests of the State Fair. She has spoken in Monroe, Wilmington, New Bern, Kinston, Goldsboro and Wilson. She returned to her home at Biltmore Saturday night. Mr. Sanders, who is a director of the State Fair Association, met Mrs. Vanderbilt in New Bern for a consultation relative to plans for the coming State Fair.