

REPUBLICAN LIBERALS MAY FORM TO FIGHT BOURBON AUTOCRACY SAYS FRANCE

Maryland Senator Sounds Call to Individual Liberty - Says Repeal of National Prohibition and Espionage Act Will Be Chief Planks in Its Platform.

(By The Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, March 22—Warning that "republican liberals" might form a new political party to fight "bourbon autocracy" in an effort to restore individual liberty was sounded in the senate today by Senator France, republican, Maryland.

With repeal of national prohibition and the espionage act as the chief planks in its tentative platform, Senator France declared that liberals need not hesitate "to raise the battle cry against all the reactionary forces of autocracy and un-American bourbonism."

"The democratic party, under autocratic leadership," he said, ingloriously abandoned the sound doctrine of the sovereignty of the states, voted without scruple huge powers to the chief executive who, in violation of the constitution and of every cherished principle of liberty, created the most powerful despot in the world."

Charging that republicans joined with the bourbon reactionaries and connived in the setting up of this autocracy, Senator France said both parties "are as decadent as the issues that quickened them into being."

"If the republican party shall not now become the party of liberalism and of liberty," he declared, "then there must be a new and liberal party which shall express the aspirations of the millions of Americans who now demand restoration of their liberty and of their liberties."

Along with repeal of the prohibition amendment, Senator France urged "re-consideration" of the whole subject, with local option and use of "certain alcoholic beverages."

Some of the planks were: Operation of railroads by representatives of capital, labor and the public, under the interstate commerce commission supervision.

Rejection of the "iniquitous" treaty of Versailles and immediate establishment of peace with Germany.

Reduction of the high cost of living, with economy of federal expenditures and reduced taxes.

A navy second to none and a system of military training, but postponement of immediate universal training.

Other demands were: Woman suffrage, a budget system, agricultural development, federal employment agencies, abolition of child labor, "generous compensation" for service men permanently disabled, and development of the merchant marine.

Senator France charged that prohibition, "forced through during the war while four million American boys were in service" was unconstitutional and an infringement upon individual liberty and states' rights.

"If the supreme court upholds this decision," Senator France continued, "then all men, regardless of how they feel upon the question of national prohibition, should be willing to advocate the repeal of the eighteenth amendment, in order that in normal times the people and their legislators should have an opportunity of determining for themselves, freed from all coercion, compulsion and repression, his most important question."

"Many of us feel that while use of certain alcoholic liquors should be prohibited by local statutes, the recent measures adopted have gone so far that they may, with justification, be considered by some as undue infringement upon personal self-determination."

"But whether we believe in total prohibition or not, those of us who are republican liberals believe that any such drastic changes should be secured only in accordance with orderly processes and unhampered discussion of the issues involved."

CHERRYVILLE BANK HAS PHENOMENAL GROWTH

Special to The Gazette.

CHERRYVILLE, March 22. — The First National Bank of Cherryville has had a phenomenal growth during the last year. The president's report to the directors at their March meeting showed the resources of the bank on March 15th to be over one and a half million dollars, with deposits of one and a quarter million and loans almost one million two hundred thousand dollars. On February 2nd of this year the capital stock was increased to \$100,000 and the surplus to \$100,000. M. L. Manney, is president, S. S. Mauney and D. E. Rhyme, vice presidents, M. C. Mauney, cashier and A. J. Manney, assistant cashier.

WOULD SECURE STATE AID FOR COUNTY SCHOOLS

Domestic Science Teachers of County Meet Here to Discuss Ways and Means of Securing Parth of Smith-Hughes Fund.

A meeting of the Home Economic teachers of the county was held in the office of the county superintendent Mr. F. P. Hall at the court house Saturday to discuss the Smith-Hughes fund which provides aid for schools that will conform to its requirements and just what action can be taken whereby Gaston county may receive its benefits. No actual conclusions were gained at this time but each teacher was asked to work out and bring to the meeting next Saturday a prepared schedule of the work best suited to her township. These teachers will also meet, Miss Coith, State director of the Smith-Hughes fund, here April the 10th and it is hoped satisfactory adjustments may be made for Gaston county.

Gaston county is fortunate in being able to secure the very best prepared teachers, graduates from Greensboro and Winthrop doing the same work here as in these colleges. The following are Gaston county teachers: Miss Hodges, Dallas; Miss Hinshaw, Gastonia; Miss Walker, Belmont; Miss Caldwell, Mt. Holly; Miss Stribling, Cherryville; Miss Tatum, Bessemer City.

AFTER 1920 U. S. WILL BE ONLY 559,118 YEARS BEHIND IN WORK.

NEW YORK, March 22. — There are not enough figures on a typewriter to indicate what the United States pays for its annual array of holidays.

In both money and time, the high cost of losing amounts in a year to sums too great to conceive or to rows of figures too long to read.

Statistical sharks, however, have managed to gather data that may come within a few million dollars of the correct mark and may not miss the total time lost by much more than a couple of centuries.

Here are some of the facts well-informed mathematicians point to as proving their point that America would be richer by a few trillion dollars if the public took fewer "off days."

During 1920 the almanacs list 9 national holidays, generally observed throughout every state, and none of which falls on a Saturday. In addition, there are half-holidays observed on Saturdays in most states, they say to amount to 28 whole holidays. In all, then, there are 25 whole holidays on which office workers, store clerks, teachers and tollers in dozen of other lines cease work.

Take for example an office of 100 persons. Thirty-five holidays are granted each employee, making in all 3,500 days for the office force, not counting Saturdays. This sum amounts to a little more than 11 years, therefore, for each office of 100 persons.

Placing the average weekly salary of the employees at \$30, simple arithmetic will show the loss to the employer for the 11 years is \$1,716,000. To this sum must be added wages lost by union workers whose pay is recorded on a time basis; loss because of no production; loss in manufacturing plants where steam must be kept up and overhead expenses go on regardless of the holiday, and to railroads and transportation companies whose lines are over congested by freight and passengers the following day.

The money loss throughout the United States would be somewhere around \$5,530,000,000, counting only the items suggested above, while the time loss in the whole country would be about 350,000,000 working days, or 559,118 working years.

SILESIA TROOPS FIGHTING WITH SPARTACANS.

STUTTGART, March 22. — Troops from Silesia are officially reported to have arrived in the Ruhr district, and fighting with the Spartacus army there is expected tomorrow. Exaggerated rumors as to the size of the red forces there are current in this city. Some reports place the number at 70,000.

A ROMANCE OF REAL ESTATE IN GASTONIA

Sale of Property Reveals Interesting History in Connection With Gastonia Real Estate - Property First Sold For One Dollar Per Front Foot - Originally Belonged to C. W. Davis.

Since the sale of the Long corner at South and Main streets Saturday to the Third National Bank for the enormous price of \$150,000, or \$3,000 per front foot, much discussion has been going on among the old-timers in the city and country concerning the fancy prices that real estate is now bringing in Gastonia. Coupled with these are comparisons between present prices and the prices of twenty and thirty years ago.

The property which sold Saturday for \$150,000 was originally bought for \$50, sold within 7 years for \$600 and within another 5 years for \$735. For 28 years it remained in the hands of the \$735 buyers, the Messrs. Morris, when it was sold by them for \$40,000. The history of this piece of property is extremely interesting. It reads like a tale of Aladdin's lamp. A communication from Mr. E. Lee Wilson tells about it thus:

Gastonia, N. C., March 22, 1920. Editor Daily Gazette:

Dear Sir: Will you allow a little space for me to give you a history of the Morris corner lot, which was sold last Saturday for the sum of \$150,000.00?

When the Southern railroad was being built and the town of Gastonia was first laid out, Mr. O. W. Davis, who owned quite a lot of the surrounding lands, had a lot of it laid off into town lots and had an auction sale one Saturday evening the auctioneer at said sale being Capt. P. Dilling, now of Kings Mountain, N. C. This sale was in April, 1876.

At this sale, my father, the late Thomas Wilson, bought the corner lot in question for the price of \$50.00, or \$1 per front foot. The next week we went to work cutting sawlogs and built a store room on the lot, planked up and down, depot fashion and papered inside. At this time Mr. Eli Smyre had a small stock of goods in a little school house just about where Main Street Methodist church now stands. Mr. Smyre, by the way, was a nephew of our townsman, Mr. A. M. Smyre. When this store building was completed Mr. Smyre rented it from my father and moved his stock of goods into it. This was the beginning of the mercantile business in Gastonia.

When I drove the first load of lumber on the lot for the store building, my father cut the little oak saplings between this lot and the present post office building to make room to turn our team. My father held this property until September 8th, 1883, when he sold it to Mr. A. M. Smyre for the sum of \$600. On the 4th of May, 1888, it passed into the hands of Morris Brothers for the sum of \$735. They sold it a few years ago to the Long Brothers for \$40,000. The Long Bros. as you know, sold it on last Saturday to the Third National Bank of this city for the price of \$150,000.00.

I give you this bit of history of this piece of property simply to show the enormous enhancement in value of Real Estate here since the town was laid out in 1876.

Yours, E. LEE WILSON

COLUMBIA, S. C., SHOWS POPULATION OF 37,524.

WASHINGTON, March 22. — Population statistics for 1920 announced today by the census bureau included: Columbia, S. C., 37,524, an increase of 11,205, or 42.6 per cent over 1910.

Alton, Ill., 24,714, an increase of 7,186 or 41 per cent over 1910.

Keokuk, Iowa, 14,423, increase 415, or 3 per cent.

Columbia, Missouri, 10,681, increase 1,019, or 10.5 per cent.

Columbia ranked as second city in South Carolina, thirty second city of the south and 209th city of the country in point of population in 1910 with 26,319 people. In the decade from 1900 to 1910 it showed an increase of 5,211 or 24.7 per cent, while in the previous two decades, 1890 to 1900, and 1880 to 1890, its increase was 37.5 per cent and 53 per cent.

Cities of the country ranking near Columbia in 1910 which have reported their 1920 population are: Bloomington, Ill., 216th rank, 26,635, an 11.1 per cent increase; Lewiston, Me., 211th rank, 31,707 and 20.8 per cent increase; Danville, Ill., 201st rank, 33,730, and 21.1 per cent increase; Sareport, La., 43,874 and 56.6 per cent increase.

Increase in southern cities whose populations have been reported are: Knoxville, 114.1 per cent; Beaumont, Tex., Charlotte 36.3; Chattanooga 29.8 and Macon 29.2.

Mr. and Mrs. Plato Durham have returned from a two weeks bridal trip spent in New Orleans and Jackson, Miss, and are at home with Mrs. Durham's parents, Col. and Mrs. C. B. Armstrong, on South York street.

MASS MEETING TUESDAY TO DISCUSS LIBRARY

The mass meeting which was scheduled for Friday night, March 12, postponed on account of the downpour of rain that night, will be held tomorrow night at the county courthouse, beginning at 8 o'clock. At this meeting several committees recently appointed will make reports, and there will be several short speeches by certain men and women of Gastonia. There will be an exhibition plan and specifications of the proposed library building for Gastonia. It is earnestly desired that the Gastonia public attend this meeting. Some interesting developments are anticipated. The meeting will be short, snappy and interesting.

MR. ROBERT W. GRAY DIED SATURDAY NIGHT

Prominent Citizen of Gastonia Passes After Long Illness - Was Associated With Late Geo. A. Gray in Cotton Mill Industry in Gastonia - Leaves Large Family of Children.

After a lingering illness of several months duration, Mr. Robert William Gray, one of Gaston county's oldest and most highly respected citizens, died at his home on North Highland street Saturday night at 12:30 o'clock. Mr. Gray had been in failing health from a complication of heart and kidney trouble for the past 18 months, but it was not until last January that he was forced to take his bed. For the past several weeks his condition has been rather critical and death was not entirely unexpected.

In the passing of Mr. Gray, there is removed another one of the cotton mill pioneers of Gaston county. In connection with his brother, the late Geo. A. Gray, who died in 1912, Mr. Gray helped organize and build the Gastonia Manufacturing Company, one of the first cotton mills in Gaston county. For a number of years he was superintendent of this mill. Upon the organization of the Gray Manufacturing Company, Mr. Gray went to this mill and was actively associated there until forced by failing health to relinquish his duties. Mr. Gray was a native of Mecklenburg county, having been born and reared in the Paw Creek section. His first cotton mill experience was obtained in Charlotte as superintendent of the old Victor Mills, near the present site of the Southern station. In 1889 he came to Gastonia where the family has resided ever since.

During the Civil War Mr. Gray served with Company "B", 71st North Carolina Regiment, under the late Capt. J. Q. Holland, of Gastonia.

Surviving Mr. Gray are his wife, two sisters, Mrs. J. Laban Smith, and Miss Narcissus Gray and the following children: Mrs. C. Judson Huss, Mrs. A. K. Winget, Mrs. Chas. C. Coble, Mrs. Dean Hawkins, Miss Annie Gray and Messrs. Frank and Robert Gray.

Mr. Gray was a life-long member of the Presbyterian church and ever held dear the tenets and doctrines of his church. He was a faithful attendant upon the services of the sanctuary.

Funeral services were conducted from the residence this morning at 11 o'clock by Dr. J. H. Henderlite, pastor of the First Presbyterian church. Interment was in Oakwood cemetery. The pall bearers were the following six nephews of the deceased: Messrs. J. Lander and Geo. A. Gray and George, Pat, Stamer and Giles Smith.

J. A. HILL.

Mr. J. A. Hill, for many years a resident of West Gastonia and an employee of the Loray Mills, died Sunday morning at six o'clock following only a brief illness, aged nearly 67 years. Mr. Hill had been unwell since Thursday, but became suddenly worse on Saturday, death following at 6 o'clock Sunday morning. Deceased is survived by his wife and the following children: Messrs. Alex E. Hill, William Hill, Pink Hill, John Hill and Mrs. Latta Wadrop. Funeral services were conducted at two o'clock this afternoon at the Loray Wesleyan church by the pastor, Rev. J. V. Frederick, assisted by Rev. J. A. Clement, pastor of the First Wesleyan Methodist church, and interment took place at Hollywood cemetery.

CARPENTIER GETS BIG WELCOME IN NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, March 22. — Boxing promoters and enthusiasts assembled in New York today to welcome George Carpentier, the French pugilist, who with his bride, was a passenger on the steamship La Savoie, which arrived off this port early today. Carpentier will remain here five days and then will depart for the Pacific coast. During his stay in the United States it is expected he will sign a contract to meet Jack Dempsey.

BENSON WAS THE MAN WHO SAID "DON'T LET THE BRITISH PULL THE WOOL OVER YOUR EYES"

Admiral Sims Says That the Remark Was Made Just After He Had Received His Final Instructions From Secretary Daniels Preparatory to Leaving For England - Was Purely Informal Conversation.

MURDER OF LORD MAYOR PRODUCES SENSATION

LONDON, March 22 — Despatches from Ireland show the murder of Thomas MacCurran, lord mayor of Cork, to have produced an intense, if subdued sensation, throughout Ireland. This tragedy, says the London Times correspondent in Dublin, closed one of the blackest weeks since the rebellion of 1916. He gives a long list of outrages in various parts of the island, including five murders of policemen and others and an attempt to kill Professor Stockley, of Cork.

The motive of the murder of the lord mayor continues as mysterious as ever. No arrests have been reported, nor, so far as known, have any clues to the perpetrators been obtained. Among the theories advanced is one that MacCurran was murdered as a warning to others because he recently had the courage to publicly deprecate an attempt to murder a policeman in Cork.

London newspapers, while unreservedly condemning the crime, maintain its does not differ from those which have long terrorized the island. It is declared that Ireland, for the moment, is largely under the domination of secret murder societies, the members of which are sworn to kill those whom they believe to stand in their way, but who the conspirators are is puzzling the police as much as the public.

It is remarked as a phenomenon that where murder societies exist, members after a while begin to be suspected of murdering each other. Existence of these supposed societies is declared possible owing to the "moral cowardice of the Irish public." The crimes the societies commit are repugnant to the better sort of Sinn Feiners, who, however, keep silent, fearing the consequence if they condemn assassinations, the papers say.

Even newspapers which support home rule, while condemning what they regard as the present evil system of Irish government, also condemn Irishmen themselves for condoning methods, which, they say, are fast establishing a condition of anarchy and terrorism, under which their own leaders may soon be powerless to deliver them. The anti-home rule Morning Post again attacks the government today and denounces Field Marshal French and James Ian MacPherson, saying: "They are bringing about the hideous necessity of reconquering Ireland by force of arms," and "civil war is within sight."

GERMANS BACK AT THE PROPAGANDA GAME

PARIS, March 22 — Germans are preparing a formidable world propaganda in favor of a revision of the Versailles treaty and the holding of a new international conference at which vanquished nations might be represented for the object of changing or eliminating many clauses of the present treaty between the allied nations and Germany, according to a Geneva despatch. A book entitled "Greatest Crime of Humanity" has been prepared and 10,000,000 copies printed for free distribution, especially in America, England and France, and it is said that millions of other pamphlets along the same line will follow.

The reactionary revolt in Berlin on March 13 put a temporary stop to the movement, it is said. Captain Andre Tardieu, one of the French delegates to the peace conference, has written an article, which appeared in last week's edition of L'Illustration, in which he declared himself as being opposed to any revision of the treaty.

"Let us first help our allies," he wrote "and we will find this to be better than to dream of a movement in favor of benevolence to our vanquished enemies, which instead of inspiring gratitude, fosters arrogance."

8000 HAVE BEEN KILLED.

PARIS, March 22. — Eight thousand persons have been killed since the German revolt broke out on March 13, according to advices received here. Of this number, 850 were killed in Berlin alone.

(By The Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, March 22—Rear Admiral S. Benson, the chief of naval operations, was the official who told Rear Admiral Sims "not to let the British pull the wool over your eyes; we would as soon fight them as the Germans," Admiral Sims testified today before the senate committee investigating the navy's conduct of the war.

Admiral Sims said the remark was made just after he received his final instructions from Secretary Daniels preparatory to his departure for England on the eve of the entry of the United States into the war. He added, however, that it was not made in the course of formal instructions, but during a conversation in the office of Rear Admiral Palmer, chief of the bureau of navigation.

The witness told the committee that Admiral Benson repeated his admonition during a conversation the following day and that he made the same remark six months later in London.

Admiral Sims said he did not pay particular attention to the statement at that time, because he believed Admiral Benson was intensely anti-British. He added that this belief was entered generally throughout the service.

An aide recently called his attention called his attention to the remark, the admiral said, and Admiral Palmer also told him that he remembered hearing Admiral Benson make the statement.

The witness was reluctant to give the name of the officer, but Chairman Hale insisted.

"Then I will tell you the whole story," said Admiral Sims. "Early in April, 1917, I was ordered from my post at Newport to Washington. When I arrived I reported to the navy department by telephone and was told not to come to the department, but to get in touch with the chief of the bureau of navigation, Rear Admiral Leigh C. Palmer. Everything was very secret, the way they liked it. I could not get in touch with the chief of navigation then and so I reported to him later at the department and then I had an interview with the secretary of the navy in his office. No one else was present, as I remember it. The interview was very brief. I was told that I was going abroad to confer with the allied admirals and that Ambassador Page had requested that an officer of high rank be sent there for that purpose. After leaving Secretary Daniels' office, or just before going there, I don't remember which, I went to the bureau of navigation. The admiral was there and it was at that time that the remark that the chairman has asked me about was made."

"Whom do you refer as 'the admiral'?" asked Chairman Hale.

Admiral Sims said he did not wish to indulge in personalities, but when pressed by Chairman Hale, he said he referred to Admiral Benson.

WASHINGTON, March 22—Senator Pittman, democrat, Nevada, was prepared to defend the navy department's conduct of the war when the senate subcommittee investigating that subject resumed its sessions today. He had prepared a long list of questions to ask Rear Admiral William S. Sims, based on the admiral's direct testimony before the committee last week.

Senator Pittman declined to say whether he would ask Admiral Sims what official in the navy department told him the course of his final secret instructions before leaving for London "Not to let the British pull the wool over your eyes; we would as soon fight them as the Germans."

It was said, however, that either Senator Pittman or Senator Trammell, democrat of Florida, would attempt to obtain from the officer the name of the official the name of the official alleged to have made the statement.

Cross examination of Admiral Sims was expected to take two days. The committee had a long list of naval officers, headed by Captain Horace Lanning, to be called to testify afterward. Secretary Daniels and officers who were responsible for the administration of the navy department during the war, will appear last. Admiral William S. Benson, head of naval operations during the war and recently nominated to be a member of the shipping board, was expected to testify at length in justification of the policies adopted by his bureau, some of which most of Admiral Sims' questions were directed.