

The Polk County News

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WANT AMERICAS TO SHOW PATH OF PEACE

SPEAKERS ADDRESS FIRST SESSION PAN-AMERICAN FINANCIAL CONFERENCE.

BE OF USE TO ONE ANOTHER

President Wilson Says Meeting is Not For Exploitation on Part of Any Individual.

Washington.—President Wilson, speaking at the opening of the Pan-American financial conference here expressed hope that the Americas might show the world the path of peace. He was loudly applauded by the delegates who represent 18 South and Central American countries.

Some of the obstacles which war across the Atlantic has thrown into the paths of industrial and commercial prosperity and the march of trade in the Western Hemisphere were outlined at the session of the Pan-American Financial Conference.

The outstanding thought of the conference as expressed by many speakers was the need for improvement of transportation, for a readjustment of methods of financial exchange and for uniformity of laws north and south of the equator in relation to subjects which vitally affect international relations. Steps were taken at the close of the day to pave the way for uniform statutes through appointment of a committee with a representative from each invited nation and several representatives of the United States.

President Wilson, who welcomed the delegates to this country, dwelt on the need for development of transportation and Secretaries Bryan, Redfield and McAdoo and Postmaster General Burleson later added their recommendations for steamship lines independent of Europe to ply between all the principal ports of the two Americas. Expression of this idea culminated in the promise of Secretary McAdoo to select a committee of representatives of the United States and of South American countries including Argentina, Brazil, Chile and possibly others to take up the question of steamship lines, either co-operative under these Governments or under private control.

Besides delegations from 18 Latin-American Republics participating in the conference which is to continue throughout the week are members of President Wilson's Cabinet the Federal Reserve Board, the Federal Trade Commission, Treasury officials and more than 100 representatives of great American banks, industrial corporations and commercial houses. The American business men and financiers were named by Secretary McAdoo as official representatives of the United States at the conference.

ITALY WASTES NO TIME.

Advance Guards Clash With Austria.—Towns Bomarded.

London.—Little or no time has been allowed to elapse between the declaration of war and actual fighting between Austria and Italy. Austrian aeroplanes, destroyers and torpedo-boats descended on the Italian coast of the Adriatic and bombarded several towns, including Venice; while in the Tyrol and on the eastern frontier Italian and Austrian advance guards have fired the first shots.

The plan of campaign has not yet been disclosed, but it is generally believed attempts to inflict a quick and decisive defeat, or, at least, one that will discourage the Italians, will be undertaken, largely by the Germans under Field Marshal von Hindenburg.

Ask Commutation For Frank.

Atlanta, Ga.—Among more than 4,000 letters urging Executive clemency for Leo M. Frank, received by Governor Slaton and the State Prison Commission, were communications from United States Senator Lawrence Y. Sherman of Illinois; Governor Ferguson, Texas; Circuit Judge G. B. Arnold, St. Louis; Judge Ben B. Lindsey, Denver, and others.

More Work for State Department.

Washington.—Italy's entrance into the war set in motion various branches of official and diplomatic activity. Count Machi di Cellere, the Italian ambassador, formally notified the United States of Italy's declaration of war on Austria and explained informally to Secretary Bryan and Counselor Lansing the contents of a note, giving Italy's reasons for her action. Dr. Constantin Dumba, the Austrian ambassador, also conferred with Secretary Bryan, advising him of the existence of a state of war.

ITALY FINALLY TAKES PLUNGE INTO WAR

FORMAL DECLARATION IS MADE THAT A STATE OF WAR EXISTS.

SENT TO AUSTRIA - HUNGARY

Teutonic Ambassadors Have Waited in Rome Until Last Moment Hoping in Vain.

Rome, via Paris.—Italy is at war with Austria-Hungary.

With the issuance of the general mobilization order the Italian Government issued a proclamation declaring war on Austria.

Prior to this, and after a lengthy consultation, the Ministers of War and Marine proclaimed all the provinces bordering on Austria and the islands and coast towns of the Adriatic in a state of war which was equivalent to the establishment of martial law, the step usually preceding the formal declaration.

Although drastic action has been looked for momentarily, Italians of all classes have been electrified by the swiftly moving events. Great crowds gathered around the Quirinal to await the Ministers, who called on the King for the purpose of discussing the question and signing the decree. When Premier Salandra and Signor Sonnino, the Foreign Minister left the Palace the people cheered them enthusiastically. General Zupplii, Minister of War, and Vice Admiral Viale, Minister of Marine, remained with the king for a considerable time after the others left and later they had a conference with Lieutenant General Cadorna, Chief of Staff and Vice Admiral Phaon do Devel, Chief of the Naval Staff.

Austro-Italian front, on the Austrian side of which feverish preparations have been going on the last few days to make the fortifications as strong as possible, and to clear the way for effective artillery action.

The German Ambassador, Prince von Buelow, and the Austria Ambassador, Baron von Macchio, are still in Rome so far as is known. They have waited to the last moment in the hope that some way might be found to prevent a clash at arms. They will be given safe conduct when they do leave and so far as German and Austrian residents in Italy are concerned, every effort has been made to see them safely out of the country.

VILLA TROOPS VICTORIOUS.

Route Obregon and Win Victory Over Carranza Forces.

Washington.—Complete victory for the Villa forces over the Carranza army was claimed by the Villa agency here on the strength of a dispatch from Diaz Lombardo, minister of foreign affairs at Chihuahua.

The message, dated at Chihuahua follows.

"An engagement was fought at points between Leon and Sinaloa between the forces of General Villa and those of General Obregon, resulting in the complete rout of the latter. A part of our forces occupied Sinaloa while the remainder actively engaged in the pursuit of enemy, driving him beyond Celaya. This pursuit is being continued. Large quantities of war material were taken including small arms, ammunition and some field artillery. Nearly all of Obregon's trains fell into our hands. Details have not yet arrived, but reports indicate the action was very sanguinary, the enemy abandoning a large number of men on the field.

"General Villa will shortly issue a proclamation of amnesty in favor of those Carranzistas who wish to surrender and which will be applicable to all political offenders whose acts are not deemed to have been seriously prejudicial."

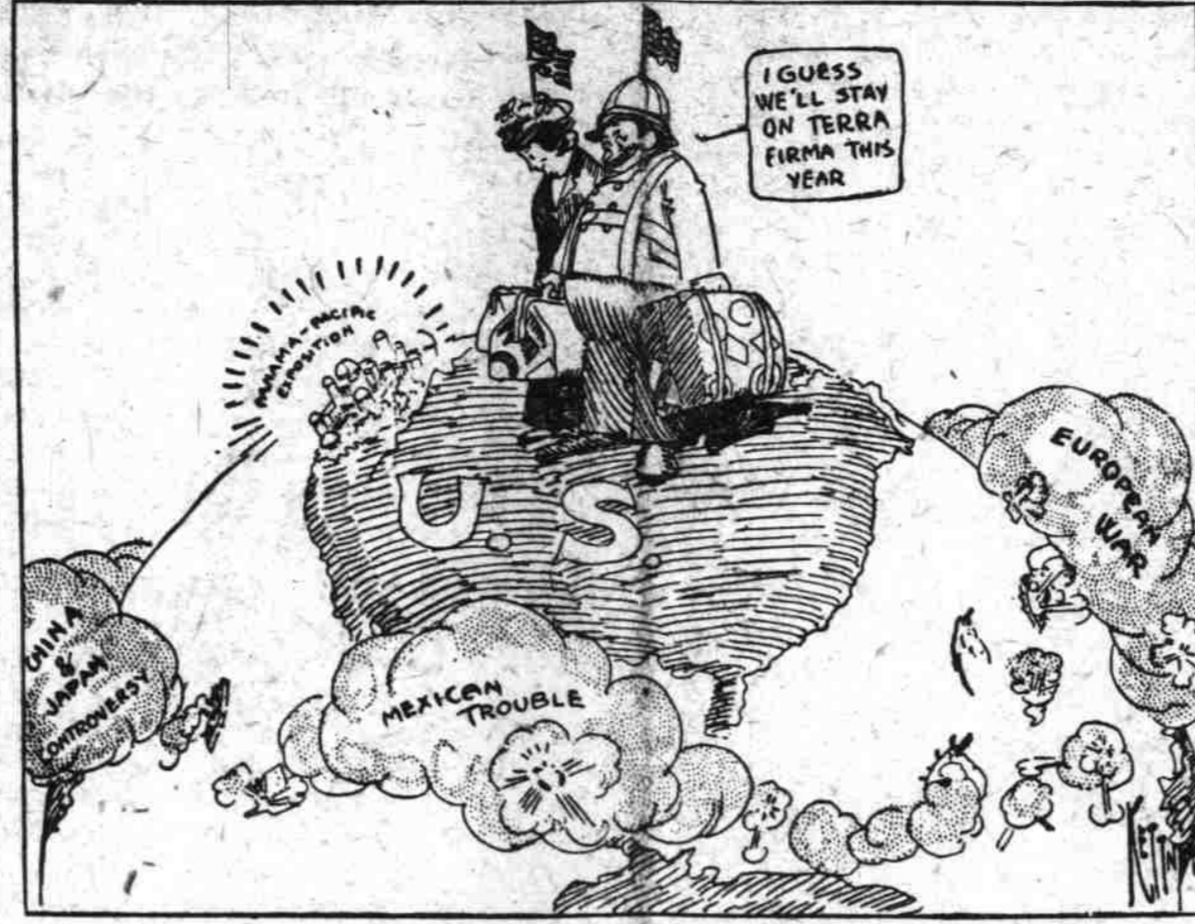
King Seriously Ill.

Athens, via London.—King Constantine of Greece who is ill with pleurisy, became more feverish after undergoing an operation. His temperature has increased to 103.2.

Roosevelt Wins Libel Suit.

Sracuse, N. Y.—Twelve men chosen as a jury to determine whether Theodore Roosevelt libelled William Barnes when he charged that he worked through a "corrupt alliance by crooked business and crooked politics," and that he was "corruptly allied with Charles F. Murphy of Tammany Hall," returned a verdict in favor of the former president. In the belief of the jury everything Colonel Roosevelt said about the former chairman of the Republican state committee was true, and Mr. Barnes was not libelled.

SEE AMERICA FIRST



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NEW MINISTRY TO GUIDE

NATIONAL GOVERNMENT FOR DIRECTING WAR IN PROCESS OF FORMATION.

There Will Be a Complete Change of the Whole Government.—Earl Kitchener Will Be Leader.

London.—The National Government which will guide the British Empire for the duration of the war is in process of formation.

No statement as to the personnel of the new Ministry has been made except that Premier Asquith and Foreign Secretary Grey will retain their posts. Thus far all statements as to the allotment of officers have been largely surmise. It appears certain however that there will be a new civil head of the Admiralty and War Office respectively and possibly changes in the professional heads as well, or at any rate, a readjustment of responsibility.

Earl Kitchener, Secretary for War, it is generally agreed, has too much to do, raising new armies and seeing after the output of munitions and some of these duties will be shifted to other shoulders. Chancellor Lloyd-George and Andrew Monar Law, opposition leader, are about equally favored for civil head of the War Office and A. J. Balfour is mentioned for a similar position in the Admiralty. There is some doubt as to whether Mr. Balfour would consent to accept this place.

GREAT BRITAIN EXPLAINS DELAY

Government Endeavors to Correct Misunderstanding of Attitude.

London.—In an effort to correct what the Government believes to be a misunderstanding of Great Britain's attitude toward American ships and American cargoes in other neutral bottoms detained under the order-in-council the Foreign Office has issued an explanatory memorandum.

This explanation is supplemented by a statement that cotton cargoes which the Government agreed to purchase under the cotton agreement have all been bought by the Government and that actual details concerning the payment only await proof of ownership and papers showing the actual contract price. It is explained that as most of these papers must come from the United States there will still be some unavoidable delays before the owners of the cotton get their money.

Shortage of Food in Mexico City.

Washington.—Mexico City again is facing a serious shortage of food, according to state department advices. Secretary Bryan said that representations had been made to Carranza looking to the shipment of supplies

Cuban Independence.

Washington.—President Wilson cabled to President Menocal of Cuba congratulating him on the thirteenth anniversary of Cuban independence.

No Hope For Italy.

London.—Any lingering hope that Italy would maintain her neutrality was abandoned when the Italian chamber conferred on the government extraordinary powers in the event of war's outbreak. This is considered a vote for war, for which the government has made all preparations and the prospects of which have aroused the greatest enthusiasm throughout Italy. The German and Austrian ministers were still in Rome but their one care now is to arrange for the safety of their

BIG EFFORT BY GERMANS

AUSTRIA IS DIRECTING ATTACK ON RUSSIA WITH FAVORABLE RESULTS.

Germans Hope to Be Ready to Meet Italy Who Has Troops in Favor of War.—Troops Move.

London.—While Italy is confidently believed to be making final preparations to enter the war on the side of the Allies, Austria, who would be the direct object of her attacks, is, with her German ally, attempting to inflict such a defeat on Russia that she will be able to divert troops, if necessary, to meet her new foe in the south.

Dispatches from Rome continue somewhat contradictory, but most of them agree that Italy has decided on the side of war, that the German and Austrian Ambassadors are preparing to leave Rome, and that the Consul Generals of those two countries either already have left their posts or will do so soon.

On the other hand, a message, coming through Paris says that Austria has submitted new proposals which she hopes will induce Italy to remain neutral. Meanwhile the Austrian and German armies continue massed attacks against the Russians who are attempting to form a new line behind the River San, both north and south of Przemyśl and west of the Vistula River, in Southern Poland.

These attacks, according to Austrian and German reports, have met with their greatest success north of Przemyśl, where the Germanic Allies have crossed the river and have occupied Sieniawa on the eastern bank. They also claim to have captured positions southeast of the former Austrian fortress, while their heavy guns are keeping up a bombardment from the west.

In Southern Poland their progress is not so marked, the Russians having had strong forces concentrated at Ivangorod, which they brought into the field and checked the advance.

UNTERMYER DEFENDS OFFICIALS

Says McAdoo and Williams Had Right to Know All.

Washington.—Denunciation of the financial practices of officers of the Riggs National Bank and praise for the "ardor and enthusiasm" of Secretary McAdoo and Comptroller of the Currency Williams characterized the argument of Samuel Untermyer, counsel for the Treasury officials, supporting the Government's motion to dismiss the temporary injunction obtained by the bank.

Difficulties between the bank and Treasury officials, Untermyer asserted, were due not to the arbitrary use of power by the Comptroller, but to reforms instituted by Secretary McAdoo and Comptroller Williams which abolish "illicit favors" the bank had enjoyed. Penalties imposed by the Comptroller, he said, were legal and fully justified.

Untermyer reviewed allegations of "dummy loans," of excessive loans to officers and of a stock brokerage business conducted by the bank's officers through the bank in violation of the law, and asserted that the Comptroller was but performing his duty in insisting that he be acquainted with details of these transactions.

Americans at Panuco.

Washington.—Reports of hardships sustained by Americans at Panuco, Mexico, were minimized in a dispatch to the State Department from the Vice Consul at Tampico. Several Americans had been arrested the Vice Consul stated but all had been released.

BRITISH CRITICISE KITCHENER'S WORK

NEWSPAPERS MAKE SOME SEVERE ATTACKS ON SECRETRY OF WAR.

HOWEVER HE PLEASES SOME

Arthur Henderson, a Labor Leader, Gets First Appointment in the New Cabinet.

London.—The first authoritative announcement as to an appointment in the new British Cabinet outside of Premier Asquith and Sir Edward Grey, the Foreign Secretary, is that of Arthur Henderson, a labor leader, who succeeds Herbert Louis Samuel as president of the local government board. The trade unionists are highly pleased at the appointment.

The Times and The Daily Mail attacked the competency of the War Minister, Lord Kitchener. The impeachment of The Daily Mail was particularly vicious. An upheaval of popular resentment against these newspapers and their dominating spirit, Lord Northcliffe, quickly followed. The stock exchange men held an excited meeting, formally burned copies of The Times and The Daily Mail and adopted resolutions supporting Lord Kitchener. Other meetings of protest are being planned and a large section of the press has come to his support. The Pall Mall Gazette says the attacks made on Lord Kitchener have made him more popular than ever.

The criticism of Lord Kitchener appears to have had its first inspiration in a message last week from The Times' military expert at British headquarters in France. The expert asserted that the British offensive had been crippled by a lack of high explosive shells and called for more shells.

When the proposed reorganization of the Government was announced several newspapers suggested that in attempting to raise and organize great volunteer armies and at the same time manage the equipment and supplies thereof the War Minister had taken upon his shoulders a heavier burden than any man could carry. They proposed that organization and supply should be made separate departments and opinion settled on David Lloyd-George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, for the latter work.

Some newspapers discussed the possibility of Lord Kitchener being made chief of the armies in the field. The Daily Mail, however, attacked Lord Kitchener's South African record as a fighting general and questioned his capacity to command an army in the European field. It also criticized adversely his methods of raising volunteers.

ITALY APPROVES BILL.

Senate Vote Giving Government Full Power Almost Unanimous.

Rome, via Paris.—The Italian Senate by a vote of 226 to 2 passed Premier Salandra's bill granting plenary powers to the Government in dealing with the situation that has arisen through the inability of Italy and Austria to reach an agreement concerning Italy's demands.

When the vote which virtually assures Italy's entry into the war was announced, there was a great demonstration of enthusiasm inside the Senate Chamber, shouts of "long live Italy!" intermingled with the cheering and handclapping of the Senators, the Ministers, Army and Navy officers and the people in the galleries. King Victor Emmanuel and members of the Royal Household witnessed the demonstrations.

Mud From Lassen Peaks Crater. Redding, Cal.—Lassen Peaks crater bubbled over and sent a river of mud cascading down the mountainside. Hat Creek Valley in the eastern part of Shasta county was partly inundated.

A number of farm houses in the path of the flood and considerable livestock were destroyed.

Residents of the valley fled in time, however, and no lives were lost.

Another Grandchild for President.

Washington.—A baby girl, the second grandchild of President Wilson, was born to Secretary and Mrs. William G. McAdoo. She will be christened Ellen Wilson for the late Mrs. Wilson.

The secretary and Mrs. McAdoo, who is the president's youngest daughter, were married at the White House just a year ago. Mr. McAdoo went to his office at the treasury department for the first time since he was operated on for appendicitis nearly two months ago.

SECRETARIES FORM STATE ASSOCIATION

SECRETARIES OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE HOLD MEETING AT RALEIGH.

G. R. HORNE IS PRESIDENT

Help Farmer is Keynote.—Cities Must Reach Out For Rural Prosperity.—Present System Valueless.

Raleigh.—With the formation of the North Carolina Association of Commercial Secretaries and the election of officers for this body, the seeds of a great uplifting movement were sown by the secretaries of the various chambers of commerce of the state.

There were the following charter members of the association in attendance: Messrs. M. R. Beaman, of the Goldsboro Chamber of Commerce; G. N. Horne, of the Rocky Mount Chamber; G. Warren Booker, of the Salisbury Chamber of Commerce; Clyde L. Davis, of the Sand Hills Board of Trade; R. S. Register, of the Norlina Chamber of Commerce; J. C. Forester of the Greensboro Chamber; Daasier of the Granville Commercial Club; and Miss Bessie Hackney, of the local chamber.

The following officers were elected: President, G. R. Horne, secretary of the Rocky Mount Chamber of Commerce.

Vice-President, G. Warren Booker, secretary of the Salisbury Chamber of Commerce.

Secretary and treasurer, Miss Bessie Hill Mackney, secretary of the local Chamber of Commerce.

The president and vice-president will elect a delegate from the east, central, and western sections of the state and two delegates at large, which will make five directors from the different parts of the state.

The keynote of the meeting was the urbanizing of the rural districts and ruralizing the cities, and in his response to the addresses of welcome, Mr. Clyde L. Davis, secretary of the Sand Hills board of trade, made a short talk, emphasizing this feature by declaring that it was the urgent need of every commercial body in the state. This hustling young man, who has done so much to popularize agriculture in this state, declared that the country does not take the city as seriously as the city takes itself, for the farmer knows the city is not the cause of anything but a result, and speaking from the standpoint of a farmer himself, he told them that it was useless to strive after prosperity by going after factories and stores, but the thing paramount in prosperous communities was the securing of more farmers and helping those already here, and then the factories will come unsaid. Immediately following Mr. Davis' talk he was asked to read a paper prepared by Mr. Julian S. Miller, of the Greater Charlotte Club, on the question, "How can we link rural sections with cities?"

Berry Growers Face Big Loss.

Mount Olive.—With practically all of the Northern markets flooded with berries from about all of the berry-producing sections of the country, the price per crate has taken such a sudden and sharp decline and further shipments, under present conditions are hardly advisable, and the berry growers of eas. Carolina face losses aggregating, perhaps, several hundred thousands of dollars.

Enlarging Hosiery Plant.

Newton.—The Ridgeview Hosiery Mill is installing new equipment for the manufacture of hosiery. A number of new machines have arrived and are being placed. The additional machinery will swell the output considerably. The other mill, the Fidelity, is also running full time. Both are hampered by the dyestuff situation.

Warrenton Votes Bonds.

Warrenton.—The election here resulted in favor of issuing \$50,000 worth of bonds for the purpose of installing water works and sewerage in this place. A hundred and twenty-three votes were cast 100 in favor of issuing bonds and 23 against.

Growing Sweet Potatoes.

Reidsville.—William Cummings, the well-known and progressive farmer near Monroeton, has placed an order for 20,000 Nancy Hall potato slips and expects to engage next year much more extensively in the cultivation of sweet potatoes, which demand high prices on the eastern markets during the winter and spring months. With fair success Mr. Cummings will gather a fair crop around 500 bushels, which will be sufficient to justify the construction of a small size dry-kiln.