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PEACE LEAGUE IS PRIME NECESSITY

SOME TRIBUNAL MUST LIMIT SCALE OF INTERNATIONAL ARMAMENT.

MUST GIVE MEN AND MONEY

With Completion of New Three Year Building Program America Will Still Rank Second.

Washington.—Unless a league of nations or other tribunal that will make certain the limitation of international armament is established, the United States must build the greatest navy in the world, Secretary Daniels told the house naval committee.

"It is my firm conviction," declared the secretary, "that if the conference at Versailles does not result in a general agreement to put an end to naval building on the part of all the nations, then the United States must bend her will and bend her energies, must give her men and give her money to the task of the creation of incomparably the greatest navy in the world."

With the completion of the proposed new three-year building program, adding 10 dreadnaughts, 6 battle cruisers, 10 scout cruisers and 130 smaller craft to the fleet, America still will rank second in naval strength to Great Britain, said the secretary, who appeared before the committee to make his final recommendations for the 1920 naval bill.

THE MOST ACTIVE DAY IN PEACE CONFERENCE CIRCLES

Paris.—This has been the most active day's discussion in peace conference circles since the American delegation arrived, as the declarations of Premier Clemenceau and Foreign Minister Pichon in the chamber of deputies gave a rallying point in the form of the first official announcement on the plans of the French government.

The statements disclosed that France had determined upon its line of action on practically all the questions involved, including a society of nations. Premier Clemenceau's statement on the freedom of the seas was the first announcement from a high authoritative source. This was accepted as showing that the British and French viewpoints were in accord. M. Clemenceau's reference to his talks with President Wilson indicated that they had tended to bring out the significance of the French premier's previous conversation with the British prime minister regarding the action of the British fleet during the war, without which he admitted France could not have continued the war, as well as his favorable attitude toward the future British fleet.

The sentiment prevails in conference circles here that the American attitude will not become definite until further knowledge is obtained concerning the conversations between President Wilson, Premier Clemenceau and Premier Lloyd George. M. Clemenceau's overwhelming majority in the vote of confidence in the chamber of deputies makes him a commanding figure in France, similar to that of Lloyd George as a result of the British elections.

CAMPAIGN SOON OPENS TO SELL \$2,000,000,000 STAMPS

Washington.—The 1919 war savings campaign will be opened actively by a nation-wide celebration on January 17, the anniversary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin. District war savings directors in conference here were so informed by Harold Braddock, the new national director of the war savings movement.

The day will be devoted particularly to Mr. Braddock's sale of the original edition of thousands of war savings societies to systematize the preaching of thrift and promote the sale of \$2,000,000,000 worth of stamps during the year.

NORTH CAROLINA DOCTORS TO BE KEPT IN SERVICE

Washington.—The services of North Carolina doctors are so badly needed by the government that they will not now be released from the army for health work in the state. The surgeon general holds that because of the large number of returning soldiers who must be examined and treated, it is necessary to retain his experts for this work.

Many communities in North Carolina are asking for their doctors.

MAJ. GEN. I. T. DICKMAN



The American Third army, designated as the army of occupation, is under the command of Maj. Gen. Joseph T. Dickman, formerly commander of the third division.

FLEET REVIEWED BY DANIEL

MILLIONS WAIT HOURS IN DRIVING SNOW STORM TO VIEW THE SIGHT.

Rugged, Weather-Beaten Tars Headed by Daniels and Mayo, March Down Fifth Avenue.

New York.—Riding at anchor in the Hudson were 21 superdreadnaughts, dreadnaughts and ships of the line which, with cruisers, destroyers and a host of smaller craft, made the mightiest American armada ever assembled.

Ten of the floating fortresses steamed into the harbor after 18 months' service overseas with Beauty's grand fleet. The others are the flower of the North Atlantic fleet. Grim guardians of a great nation, they symbolized that the United States has become the second naval power of the world.

In the teeth of a northwester, in the chill of a driving snowstorm, millions waited hours until the 10 battleships of the homecoming armada appeared. This was New York's and the nation's tribute to the ships, far more eloquent than the greatest din of whistles, bells and human voices. The vocal welcome came later when the rugged weather-beaten tars who were debarked, with Secretary Daniels and Admiral Mayo at their head, marched down Fifth avenue.

Leading civilians in the cheering were wounded soldiers returned from France.

Passing in review before the secretary of the navy, off the Statue of Liberty, the homecoming ships loomed suddenly out of the mist and as rapidly disappeared. They seemed almost like phantom craft, grim, gray, majestic in their silent might. But as they dropped anchor the skies cleared and they stood revealed in holiday attire, ablaze from stern with multicolored pennants. To many of those who lined the shores this shaft of sunshine symbolized the light of peace which awaited the fleet after the gloom of a war from which it had emerged.

PEACE CONFERENCE CONTAINS DELEGATES FROM 27 NATIONS

Paris.—The personnel of the peace congress gradually is taking form, so that the American delegates express the hope that the various countries' delegates will be announced and the delegates' arrival for the actual commencement of the negotiations soon after the opening of the new year.

A number of main details of the composition of the congress are now fairly well settled as a result of recent conferences. These indicate that the total membership of the congress will be between 100 and 120. Twenty-seven countries will be represented by delegations, including those which declared war and a number which have come into existence as a result of the war.

PASSAGE ACROSS CHANNEL QUICKLY MADE BY WILSON

Dover.—The steamer Brighton, on which the President crossed the channel, had a quick and smooth passage and arrived at Dover just about midday. She was met at Calais by Sir Charles Oust, the king's equerry, and Vice Admiral Sir Roger Dover. Four French destroyers escorted the Brighton to mid-channel where British destroyers and a down airplane took over the duty. The President appeared in splendid health.

SERIOUS RIOT IS RESULT OF INSULT

AMERICAN FLAG FIRED UPON CAUSES BLOODY FIGHTING ON STREETS OF POSEN.

CAUSED BY GERMAN OFFICER

Delegation from British Mission Protested to German Commander Who Declared He Had No Control.

London.—Firing by German officers on an allied automobile carrying an American flag was the cause of street fighting in Posen late Friday, says a dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Copenhagen. The Germans were defeated in the fighting. About 135 persons, including a number of women and children, were killed during the rioting.

The dispatch says: "There was severe fighting between the poles and Germans in Posen Friday, which resulted in 38 women and children and about one hundred Germans and Poles being killed. The affair originated as a result of a German officer firing on an allied automobile which was proceeding to Warsaw, carrying the American flag. "The Germans insulted the flag and the Polish guard was called out. The fighting lasted several hours and the Germans were defeated.

"A delegation from the British mission to Posen protested to the German commander in the town, General Schimmelfeng, but the German officer declared that he had no control over the soldiers."

EFFORTS MADE TO PROVE INNOCENCE OF EX-KAISER

Berlin.—A "league for the protection of the kaiser" has been formed and will issue an appeal to the former advisers of the ex-emperor, as well as diplomats with whom he was associated, to submit all possible documents to prove the kaiser's innocence of bringing about the war. Prince Henry, of Prussia, who was proposed for president of the league, suggested Von Hindenberg for the post.

HORSE MEAT EXPERIENCES ANOTHER ADVANCE IN PRICE

With the American Army of Occupation.—Horse meat again has experienced another advance in Germany. Meatless days are being generally observed throughout Germany.

In Coblenz, the week beginning December 16, was a meatless one. The ruling prices of horse meat in the area occupied by the American army is at present as follows per pound: Horse sausage, one mark, 80 pfennigs; horse meat, one mark, 60 pfennigs; horse liver, one mark, 40 pfennigs.

GREAT FIRE CAUSES LOSS OF \$1,000,000 IN PROPERTY

Bristol, Tenn.—Va.—Fire which originated in the five-story building occupied by Mitchell-Powers Hardware company in State street, on the Virginia side, completely destroyed that structure and four other buildings in the heart of the business district, at an estimated loss of \$1,000,000 partially covered by insurance. The other buildings destroyed were occupied by the Bristol Gas & Electric company offices, the Lynn-Kaylor company, and the other two by clothing stores.

The fire, which was the most disastrous in the history of the city, was gotten under control shortly after midnight when it reached the Dominion National bank building on the north and the Strause department store on the south, damaging these buildings.

Lack of water and the explosions of powder and shell in the Mitchell-Powers building greatly handicapped the firemen and when the blaze began to spread on each side of this building an appeal was made for assistance from Kingsport and Johnson City.

24 WARSHIPS WILL BRING OUR TROOPS FROM OVERSEAS

Washington.—Fourteen battleships and 10 cruisers have been assigned by the navy department to help bring American troops home from France. The work of altering the battleships to fit them for transport work is being rapidly completed and several of them already are in service. All of the 10 cruisers have been fitted up and the navy department announced that one had sailed from Boston with its first load of troops.

WALTER HINES PAGE



This brilliant North Carolinian, Ambassador to the Court of St. James, recently died, at his home at Pinehurst, N. C.

HE PLAYED A GLORIOUS PART

EXPEDITION BEING PLANNED ON EXTENSIVE SCALE TO START NEXT JUNE.

Purpose of Enterprise to Explore, Survey and Photograph Unexplored Parts of Arctic Regions.

New York.—An expedition, to be led by Capt. Robert A. Bartlett, noted explorer, will be sent to the polar regions next June to survey the North Pole by airplane, according to an announcement here by the Aero Club of America.

The plan, it was said, was conceived by Rear Admiral Robert E. Peary, discoverer of the pole. The purpose of this expedition, will be to "explore, survey and photograph the unexplored parts of the Arctic regions and establish the existence or non-existence of land or lands in that region. It is also intended to explore the upper air and the bottom of the polar basin."

14,000 MEMBERS ENROLLED BY AMERICAN RED CROSS

Washington.—Approximately 14,000 members had been enrolled by 60 per cent of the chapters of the country when the American Red Cross annual Christmas roll call ended, according to reports received at national headquarters here. If the same ratio should be maintained the total enrollment would exceed 20,000,000.

OVER THREE BILLIONS IN WAR CONTRACTS CANCELLED

Washington.—War contracts totaling more than \$2,000,000,000 have been cancelled by the war department. Secretary Baker said that while many protests against cancellations based on fears that unemployment would result had been received, the number of communities where labor is greatly needed exceeded by far those where there is or may be a surplus.

AMERICAN PRISONERS' GRAVES IN GERMANY TO BE MARKED

New York.—Arrangements for marking graves of all American soldiers who died while held prisoner by the Germans have been made by A. C. Harve, Y. M. C. A. representative at Bern, and Conrad Hoffman, the American Y. M. C. A. secretary who was allowed to remain in Germany during the war to aid American prisoners. The plan provides for a central American memorial as well as small memorials for each American grave.

WILSON AND WIFE TO OCCUPY "BELGIAN SUITE" IN LONDON

London.—The "Belgian suite," reserved exclusively for royal guests until now, will be occupied by President and Mrs. Wilson during their stay here. In the years of its interesting history it has had within its walls many crowned heads, one of the latest, but the least mentioned at Buckingham palace, being the former German emperor. It was given its name during Queen Victoria's reign.

STATE BANQUET IN PRESIDENT'S HONOR

A REPRESENTATIVE GATHERING MEETS HEAD OF GREATEST REPUBLIC ON EARTH.

WAS CHIEFLY A WORKING DAY

After Luncheon, Mr. Wilson Unveils Portrait of Washington Presented by Lord Albenmarie.

London.—The environment of President Wilson's second day in England was quieter than that of the first day. The only ceremonial even was a state banquet in Buckingham palace which was notable not only as a spectacle such as probably no other court in Europe can provide the setting for, now that the thrones of Russia, Germany and Austria have disappeared, but from the representative character of the men summoned to meet the head of the American government.

Besides the members of the royal family, the official world was represented by the foreign ambassadors to the court of St. James, the heads of the government, present and past chiefs of the army and navy, colonial officials and members of the royal household. There was also present dignitaries of the church of England, representatives of universities and men high in the world of literature, art and journalism.

President Wilson escorted Queen Mary into the banquet hall, while King George gave his arm to Mrs. Wilson.

The day, however, was chiefly a working day with the President. Five hours were taken up by two conferences with Prime Minister Lloyd George and Foreign Secretary Balfour, on peace problems.

For three hours in the morning President Wilson sat with Lloyd George and the foreign secretary before the open fireplace in the President's apartment in Buckingham palace. The second meeting was in the cabinet room of the premier's residence in Downing street. The two sessions were broken by a luncheon at which Mr. Lloyd George gathered a dozen leading British statesmen of the conservative, liberal and labor parties.

There was a picturesque incident after the luncheon when President Wilson unveiled a portrait of George Washington, presented to the premier's residence by Lord Albenmarie.

TART INVITATION GIVEN BY HOOVER TO PAIR GERMAN

Washington.—Food Administrator Hoover, in Europe, arranging relief for the peoples of the war-devastated territories, has refused in emphatic terms to discuss German food conditions with Baron von der Lancken and Dr. Rieth, who sought a meeting with the food administrator.

A message from Paris said these two German officials, who were prominent in the German administration of Belgium, wired from Berlin to Walter Lyman Brown, director of commission for relief in Belgium, that they had been appointed by the German government to negotiate with Mr. Hoover for food supplies. In answer to the request for a conference, Mr. Hoover sent this message:

"You can describe two and a half years of arrogance toward ourselves and cruelty to the Belgians in any language you may select, and tell the pair personally to go to hell with my compliments. If I do have to deal with Germans, it will not be with that pair."

MORE THAN HALF MILLION SOLDIERS MUSTERED OUT

Washington.—Sixty-eight thousand American soldiers had been returned from overseas December 31, and slightly more than 500,000 in this country had been mustered out of service, members of the house military committee were told at their weekly conference at the war department.

HIGH PRAISE GIVEN GENERAL McARTHUR BY FORMER CHIEF

Washington.—A striking tribute to the courage and skill of Brigadier General Douglas MacArthur, commanding the 34th brigade of the 32nd (Rainbow) division, was given by Maj. General Charles T. Mearns, formerly in command of the division, in a letter to General Pershing, urging for the second time the promotion of General MacArthur to the rank of major general. A copy of the communication has just reached Washington.

OVER THE LAND OF THE LONG LEAF PINE

SHORT NOTES OF INTEREST TO CAROLINIANS.

GREENSBORO.—It is generally understood that the chamber of commerce committee favoring a manager plan of government for the city will start the machinery early in 1919 necessary to have a vote on the question. A petition signed by 20 per cent of the voters is necessary.

Goldsboro.—Millard L. Parker, of Raleigh, a well-known professional baseball player, was shot and killed here. Ashby Southerland, an automobile driver, is being held, charged with the killing, pending a coroner's inquest.

Washington.—A list of soldiers who have been reported prisoners of war in Germany, issued by the war department, include the following: Reported to be at a hospital, Lieut. Alfred H. Walker, Durham; at an unknown camp, Corp. Kluz, Lippard, Maiden; Purley J. Taylor, Stecoah; Robin Walker, Weathers Ford; Samuel Winstead, Spring Hope.

Wilmington.—R. H. Dorsett, one of the best known of the city's business men and a Mason of state-wide acquaintance, died at his home here. He was a past grand master of the grand council of North Carolina, being a Scottish Rite Mason.

Charlotte.—The health department gave out Christmas greetings in the announcement that only seven cases of influenza were reported during the day, this being the smallest number reported in many days.

Greensboro.—A Curtis airplane was wrecked here when it struck a tree at the fair grounds. Lieut. J. W. Cantwell and Sergeant E. Van Aker, in the machine, escaped injury.

Kinston.—Astounding news was exhibited by moonshiners who located a still on the farm of Dr. J. M. Hodges, a prominent physician of the La Grange section, and within 400 yards of his residence at that place.

Raleigh.—Deputy Sheriff Ernest Raines, Deputy Sheriff Stone and Chief of Police Smith, of Apex, captured an illicit distilling plant near town. No one was found at the plant.

Wilmington.—Eugene Harry Shaw was buried here with men and officers of the naval reserve stationed here acting as pallbearers. He died in New York, during the week of pneumonia.

Raleigh.—Mr. J. F. Stanback has received a letter from his son, Lieut. Jeffrey F. Stanback, stating that he is at La Mota, France. Lieutenant Stanback is a bacteriologist with the American forces.

Kinston.—Mrs. Mary Moody and John K. Moody were married recently in Trent township, Lenoir county. Each is 72 years of age. Magistrate J. G. Whitfield performed the ceremony. The bride was the widow of a nephew of the bridegroom.

Bowden.—Ed Cooke, the 23-year-old white man who eloped with 13-year-old Gladys Baars, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Baars, has been arrested and placed in jail at Goldsboro to await trial on the charge of seduction.

Wilson.—The town of Stantonburg, nine miles east of Wilson on the Norfolk Southern railroad, is forging to the front. Besides several large enterprises an oil mill to cost between \$75,000 and \$100,000 is contemplated.

Washington, N. C.—A letter received from Reg. Fulford by his parents intimates that Battery B may soon be on the way home.

Wilmington.—Wilmington achieved her goal of 5,000 members for the Red Cross and will be able to add more when all reports are in. The message sent to Atlanta headquarters announced 5,000 memberships and the winning of the goal fixed.

Hickory.—Mrs. Matt W. Ransom, widow of the late Senator Ransom, died at her apartments in Hotel Huffy following an attack of bronchial pneumonia at the age of 83 years.

Charlotte.—The committee of the western North Carolina Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, in charge of preparations for the celebration of the third centennial of the arrival of the first of the negro race in America has decided to erect a memorial tablet at Kittrell college, at Kittrell, to commemorate this event.