FORESEES GREAT AMERICAN MARINE

Foreign Trade Convention Speaker Says Year's Shipping Will Be 1,000,000 Tons

POTENTIAL POSSIBILITIES

Growth of Commercial Prestige of U. S. Dependent on National Policy

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 26.—Prediction that the United States will in 1917 for the first time show a total production of more than 1,000,000 gross tons of shipping was made today by J. W. Powell, president of the Fore River Shipbuilding Corporation of Quincy, Mass., speaking at the second day's session of the National Foreign Trade Convention.

"On January 4, 1917, there were 403 vessels of 1,495,000 gross tons under contract in American ship yards," he declared. "Of this total more than one-third is for foreign account. He estimated that the American merchant marine will see an increase of more than 750,000 gross tons during the year.

Virtually all of today's session was given over to a consideration of ways and means of bringing about a restoration of the American merchant marine to its once proud position. To do this, Mr. Powell said, some means must be found to equalize the cost of building and operating American vessels as compared with foreign competitors.

"If the American people decide that they need an American-built and American-owned and operated merchant marine, they must face this payment as the price exacted of them by the conditions under which we live," he asserted. He suggested direct subsidy, mail subvention or discriminating duties by taxes or tonnage as methods of paying the price.

A comprehensive report on conditions and possibilities in "world shipping and the American merchant marine" was presented by the merchant marine committee of the National Foreign Trade Council.

"Foreign trade of the United States is essentially a matter of national policy and may be properly developed only by the National Government," declared Robert Newton Lynch, vice president of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, speaking on "How Commercial Organizations Can Aid Foreign Trade Development."

This afternoon the 1500 conventioners are delving into the industrial wonders of the Pittsburgh district. Divided into four groups, they are seeing first hand the production of coal, steel, glass and electrical apparatus. Special trains carried the delegates interested in each of the groups to Cresson, where they viewed one of the largest coal mines in the world; to Braddock, where they inspected the Edgar Thomson plant of the Carnegie Steel Company; to Arnold, W. Va., where they watched the making of window glass, and to East Pittsburgh, where they visited the Westinghouse Electric plant.

Tonight the crowning event of the convention will be held, the annual banquet. President James A. Farrell, of the United States Steel Corporation; Edward N. Hurley, chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, and John D. Ryan, president of the Anaconda Copper Mining Company, will speak. The final sessions will be held tomorrow.

WHITE PLAGUE IN BELGIUM

U. S. Consul at Brussels, Now Here, Tells of Ravages of Disease

Widespread tuberculosis among the growing generation of Belgium as the final horror of war is the prediction of Ethelbert Watts, United States Consul General at Brussels, who is at his home, 1021 Clinton street, for a few days. He will return to Belgium after transacting business with the Government at Washington. He will also try to interest physicians and medical societies and charities in the danger of tuberculosis in Belgium.

"Children are dying by the hundreds because of the lack of proper nourishment," said Mr. Watts, "and those who do not die are at such a low ebb of vitality that they easily fall a prey to the white plague."

MEXICANS RESENT LANSING MESSAGE

Carranza Representatives at Washington Object to Interference

BRITAIN IN COMPLAINT

Joins Spain in Expressing Fear Subjects' Property Will Be Confiscated

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—Bitter resentment throughout all Mexico is certain to follow Secretary Lansing's objection to certain parts of the new Mexican Constitution. That resentment was very plain in Mexican circles here today. The action of the Secretary in forwarding his objections direct to First Chief Carranza was characterized as "unwarranted interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign State." It was accepted generally that the future relations between the two Governments are certain to be materially affected.

The American protest deals directly in opposition to the following provisions of the new Mexican Constitution adopted at the Queretaro convention just held:

The article vesting Mexico's executive with power to expropriate property without judicial recourse.

The article providing that civil commercial companies shall not own properties of a greater area than is necessary to accomplish the purposes for which they are formed and vesting in the executive power to designate such area.

The article providing there shall be no exemption from taxation.

The article stipulating that no special concessions shall be given exploiters of oil lands and allowing companies now operating only one year in which to secure new concessions to protect rights already acquired.

The article giving to the executive power to expel any one at will.

All of the articles excepting the last are held by the United States State Department to be confiscatory and tending toward nationalism of property at the expense of innocent foreign holders. The expulsion clause is said to be in direct opposition to the usual practices of nations.

The protests as made by Secretary Lansing followed numerous protests received from Americans that their rights would be infringed and their property confiscated under the new constitution. In addition, the Spanish and British Embassies had the department direct inquiries to Carranza regarding what was termed "confiscation" in enforcing loans from banks controlled by British and Spanish subjects in Mexico City.

Officials here declared they expected the communication of Secretary Lansing would arouse deep resentment in Mexico City, but they explained that it had been necessary inasmuch as this Government recognized Carranza only on a promise that he would respect the rights of foreigners. In any event, it was pointed out, the Carranza Government still has to demonstrate that it is able to dominate the situation now that Villa again is a very material factor in northern Mexico. If Carranza decides to defy this Government it is expected that measures will be taken to show him that he and the de facto Government will be held directly responsible for losses to foreigners should he finally manage to get military control of the country.

Abington High Athletes Punished

Because they played "hookey" to attend a Philadelphia theatre performance Wednesday afternoon, twelve students of the Abington High School have been suspended for five days. The suspension carries with it prohibition against playing in any of the school games, and as several of the suspended members are players on the basketball team, the season game with the Jenkintown High School, scheduled for tonight, has been canceled.

Penfield Sees Emperor Karl

VIENNA, Jan. 26.—Emperor Karl yesterday afternoon received Frederic C. Penfield, the American Ambassador, for the purpose of accepting Mr. Penfield's new credentials. The function was carried out with full state ceremony.

Injured Man Loses Memory

Loss of memory was suffered by Joseph Conway, 4208 North Fifteenth street, a team driver, who was knocked down by a street car at Ogontz avenue near City Line. The injured man is in St. Luke's Hospital. Physicians say his brain may have been injured. He cannot remember events previous to the accident, they said. His condition is serious.

Vatican Court Holds Wedding Valid

ROME, Jan. 26.—The Vatican court of cassation today decided that the marriage of Count Victor Moschini to Miss Olga Lulu Davis, of Fort Worth, Tex., was valid. The husband's petition for annulment was rejected. They were married in 1910 and reside in Rome.