

WILSON TO REPLY TO BALFOUR TALK

President Expected to Comment on Peace Speech in Commons

ALLIES ARE IN ACCORD

Washington, May 17.—President Wilson in the near future may comment on and supplement either through a public address or a diplomatic note, the statement made by Foreign Minister Balfour in the British House of Commons in connection with the Austrian peace feelers through Prince Sixtus, of Bourbon.

It is authoritatively stated that the American Government fully reciprocates Mr. Balfour's expression of confidence and has no intention of permitting machinations of the enemy to mar the perfect understanding which governs the relations between the United States and the Entente. Moreover, there is no public sentiment in this country, such as that which appears to exist in a small but active English pacifist circle, holding that the necessity conditions consider any kind of a peace proposal that may be made, regardless of the source or the probable mischievous purposes.

There is no disposition in Administration circles here to complain because the Washington Government was not advised of the Sixtus letter, for it is realized that the peculiar conditions under which the correspondence with the Austrian Emperor's brother-in-law was conducted imposed obligations of confidence and secrecy that could not be disregarded by an honorable negotiator. It is pointed out also that the United States Government has not entered into any such formal understanding as bound the Entente Allies, not to consider peace proposals separately, though President Wilson has declared in his speeches that any peace that would be acceptable must be founded upon conditions upon which America and the Entente Allies are in complete accord.

Had the proposals of Prince Sixtus been found to demand serious consideration, no doubt it is felt here that the undertaking negotiations the French and British Governments would have insisted upon the removal of the seal of secrecy so as to consult not only the United States, but Italy, Belgium, Japan and, in fact, all of the countries fighting Germany.

Yesterday's parliamentary debate leads to a further expression of opinion by President Wilson on the subject of peace, it is probable that he will not find it necessary to do more than refer to the aims which he has set out in his address to Congress.

BAPTISTS HEAR PLEA FOR PROHIBITION

Philadelphia Clergymen Urge Active Political Campaign for "Dry" Amendment

Atlantic City, May 17.—Baptists must learn to forewar political partnership and vote for "dry" candidates if prohibition is to prevail in this country, the Rev. J. W. Graves, of Philadelphia, organization secretary of the temperance department of the American Baptist Publication Society, declared today in presenting his report to the Northern Baptist convention.

The Rev. Dr. Graves said that more than eighteen million votes were cast at the last presidential election, and that almost one-third of the voters remained away from the polls.

"The liquor forces usually pick their full vote, and the 7,000,000 who did not ballot may be regarded as prohibition's reserve force," he said. "Many of them doubtless are church members and some of them Baptists."

The least responsibility we as Baptists can assume, is that of informing every elector as to the attitude of legislative candidates, and of persuading them to vote, for more than fifty ratify the prohibition amendment."

There should be in every Baptist State convention a central temperance committee co-operating actively with similar committees in all Baptist churches. The State central committee should ascertain the position of candidates and inform constituents. Laymen should be particularly active in spreading anti-rum propaganda. Our anger is not so much at the malignant activity of the bad as at the benign inactivity of the good."

The Rev. J. F. Wilson, of Philadelphia, field secretary for the Publication Society, praised the Berkley bill, a war prohibition measure, which would prevent the importation, exportation and transportation of spirituous liquors, and extend the period of its operation beyond the duration of the war to the actual demobilization of troops.

CAMPAIGN TO SAVE GASOLINE PLANNED

Drastic Economies Necessary to Insure Sufficient Supply for War Needs

Washington, May 17.—A campaign for intensive saving of gasoline so the war needs of the United States and her allies may be met fully will be launched by the Government within the next few weeks, has become known through officials of the Department of the Interior.

War needs of the country, which as the outbreak of the conflict it was estimated would total 959,000 gallons a day, have been more than tripled.

The United States has taken over the greater part of the fueling of airplanes for the Allies as well, so that the needs for this one branch of the war alone will run into millions of gallons, and will, unless drastic economies are brought into play, curtail the amount left for other uses tremendously.

The second largest consumption of gasoline at the present time is credited to passenger automobiles, with a daily requirement of 2,000,000 gallons. Arrangements made so far do not indicate a rationing of gas for passenger cars, but some steps must be taken, officials say, to bring down this item through voluntary elimination of useless travel.

Sailor Gives Life for Comrades  
Washington, May 17.—Felix Laskowski, quartermaster of the N. R. T. Davas, Texas, was killed April 11, in an attempt to save the lives of two navy yard employees.

City-Owned Property for War Use  
All city-owned property which is available is being placed by Mayor Smith for use in the interest of the war. In this city Mayor is acting through Director Datsman and Chief Clerk of the Bureau of City Property.

U. S. Soldiers Join British Battle Line

Continued from Page One  
now are setting traps outside their trenches consisting of wires connected with the bombs of a new type which explode when soldiers on patrol duty stumble into the wires.

Several of the American patrols during the early morning hours entered enemy positions, but no Boches were encountered.

Continuation of the sunny weather is resulting in a more active fighting activity. More balloons and airplanes are scouting around than ever, but the Boches are refusing to offer an opportunity to fight. They are making no attempts to cross the American lines, but their patrol work slightly behind the American front.

American artillery is keeping up a constant and harassing fire in the Toul sector.

In the Lunéville sector, American Artillerymen fired 3650 shells in the four hours to 9:37 fired by the Germans.

BIG OFFENSIVE SOON. WASHINGTON VIEW

Washington, May 17.—The moment of a major offensive on the western front draws very near, according to the interpretation placed here upon the fact that American troops have taken their place in a British sector in northern France.

The dispatch revealing this new projection of Americans into a zone where they are to be placed here, is expected by the Allied commanders to be a signal of preparation for a decided offensive.

Officials would not supplement the statement the London censor permitted to be cabled, declaring General Pershing would doubtless make whatever comment he thinks suitable in one of his daily communiques, possibly in one expected this evening.

The move is doubtless a further carrying out of the plan to brigade American soldiers with British and French units, officers pointed out. It is quite possible, they said, that these soldiers will not be used as American units, but will fill depleted British units in the sector. It may also portend that the British will not be brought inactive until the German drive is renewed, but may be permitted to take the offensive from the Germans.

While no official confirmation could be obtained, it was understood here that the forces that have been sent into the sector are not only the American units originally with General Pershing, but comparatively recent arrivals in France.

Movement of the American troops to northern France is in line with the general plan of the Allies, which is to bring up forces where he believes they will be the most effective.

No announcement was forthcoming immediately here today as to the move, but it was assumed further identification would await some battle.

The United States is taking a larger part in the western struggle, and this aid will grow steadily from now on.

HAYWOOD LETTERS READ IN I. W. W. TRIAL

Connect Him With Plots for Strikes in Various Cities  
Chicago, May 17.—Letters showing that from early in January until late in the summer of 1917, Albert Praesher, an organizer for the Industrial Workers of the World at a salary of \$18 a week, laid plans for strikes in various industries from Rome, N. Y., to Detroit, were read by the prosecution in the trial of 112 members of the organization for violation of the espionage act.

Most of the correspondence, which the Government charges formed a part of a nation-wide conspiracy to hamper America's war plans, was between Praesher and William D. Haywood, general secretary of the I. W. W.

Praesher, working as an organizer under the personal supervision of Haywood, kept his chief adviser of progress being made in the anthracite coal regions of Pennsylvania in New York State, wrote that the situation was so well organized at some points, including Rome, that workers would not be needed, and later wrote Michigan that strikes in automobile and other factories in Detroit, Flint and Grand Rapids could easily be agitated.

His suggestions of strikes and anti-war stickers, printed in three languages, were ordered.

Peter Dalley, an organizer arrested in Minneapolis, who was found in a state of coma under one of the defendant benches yesterday, was examined by Government physicians and pronounced physically able to stand trial.

U. S. NOT TO REPLACE ALLIED MAN-POWER

American Soldiers Will Not Substitute for French Sent Into Fields

Washington, May 17.—The War Department has declined to accede to French proposals whereby some of the French army would be released for agriculture or industry.

This was learned today to be the outcome of recent discussions of man power.

On the other hand, the Government feels that both France and England should increase rather than diminish their military forces, and that they should not expect the United States to furnish soldiers to release Allied soldiers for industry.

Revelations in the Maurice-Lloyd George controversy spell to Government authorities the significant fact that England had not radically increased her army in the last year. They believe she should be ready to think she and France should prepare to make further increases, while the United States proceeds with increase in overseas troops to exceed replacement needs.

Hence, when the United States army reaches 2,000,000, it is likely not to go beyond that figure for some time, unless shipping facilities are much extended. In view of this situation, army men say that England and France ought to appreciate the task in a united problem, wherein everybody must go forward, not content with merely sending off Teuton hordes.

As new schemes for the flow of American forces is being fed into a reservoir with other reserves, from which General Foch can draw and dispose as he sees fit.

AT THE "EAGLE HUT" IN LONDON

An artist of "The Bystander" sketched her impressions of the American soldiers and sailors in the "Eagle Hut" in Trafalgar Square on their way "over there"



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500-ACRE "WAR GARDEN" STARTED AT CAMP DIX

First National Army Cantonment in Which the Plan to Grow Its Own Vegetables Is Undertaken

A 500-ACRE "war garden" has been started at Camp Dix, Wrightstown, N. J., under the direction of the National War Garden Commission.

Five large motortruck loads of seed, together with a varied assortment of farm implements, have arrived at the camp, and men and horses are busy plowing and planting the ground.

The National Army war garden at Camp Dix will be used as a model for other war gardens in other cantonments throughout the country. Before another month passes virtually every cantonment in the United States will have its own "war garden."

Norman MacLeod, of the National War Garden Commission, and several experts from seed dealers in this city are at the camp assisting the army men to plant the new garden, which, it is hoped, will produce enough vegetables to supply the camp city, in which there are more than 48,000 men.

"Food for the Soldier" is the slogan adopted by members of the Reclamation Division of the camp. Colonel Edmond Tompkins is in charge of the work of planting and attending to the new garden, which is just "another instance of American efficiency."

Interested German prisoners will be brought to the camp at Wrightstown to till the soil and harvest the crops.

MEN OF NEW DRAFT TO BE CLASSIFIED IN LANCASTER COUNTY

"Depot Brigade" System Organized, With View to Obtaining Best Service

Washington, May 17.—Profiting by England's mistakes the War Department has organized a depot brigade system which shall be the core of the national army and wherein a classification of men will prevent useless sacrifice of those available for industrial service.

The plan is the most comprehensive thus far developed for intelligent use of the nation's manpower.

Details of the plan showed that there will be a depot brigade consisting of twelve battalions of 1000 men each at each cantonment.

Every man called in the draft beginning May 25 will pass through the depot brigades. He will be examined immediately to ascertain his experience as a worker, business or professional man.

They will be classified under three groups—skilled, partly skilled and unskilled. It will be possible under this system to find any number of men of a certain occupation who may be called for by one branch of the service or another.

Already this plan has been a help. A call was received from a Seattle shipyard for fifty skilled shipwrights. They were located in a southern training camp and transferred to the reserve within forty-eight hours so that they could take up their work in the Seattle plant.

KILLED BY BACKING TRUCK

Man Passing Behind Motor Crushed to Death  
Harry B. Fryne, 44 West Penn street, Germantown, was crushed to death today by a truck driven by John E. Byrne, 3248 North Twenty-sixth street. The accident occurred at Eleventh and Kimball streets.

Fryne was backing into the garage and a truck, which he did not see, was backing up to him. He was struck in the back of the head and killed.

PROTEST SILK EMBARGO

Action of Railroads in Refusing Shipments Affects Many Mills  
Scranton, Pa., May 17.—Resolutions condemning the action of the railroads in declaring an embargo on silk shipments and pointing out the fact that sixty mills in Lackawanna county will be seriously affected through such a ruling were adopted when silk manufacturers met in this city.

These resolutions also demand that the embargo orders be withdrawn and that Congressman John B. Parr be asked to co-operate in having canceled an order which threatens the employment of 20,000 operatives in Scranton and surrounding towns.

GOVERNMENT TO ACT ON MEAT PRICES SOON

U. S. Not to Operate Packing Houses, but Will Enforce Price Restrictions

Washington, May 17.—Government action to restrict meat prices will be taken shortly. Announcement of a definite government meat policy for the period of the war, affecting both the packing and livestock industries, is expected as soon as President Wilson finishes his personal study of the recommendations of the meat commission appointed six weeks ago at the request of Food Administrator Hoover.

A blow at increasing meat prices, speeding up of production and cutting of domestic consumption of meat will result.

Government operation of packing plants has been definitely decided against in favor of restrictive measures only. Regulation of profits, margins, grading of cattle and other steps are expected.

Increased prices in the last year ranging from 15 to 20 per cent in beef and 21 to 47 per cent in pork make positive action necessary, officials believe. In the last five years, pork has increased in price as much as 112 per cent and beef as much as 49 per cent, depending on the cuts.

Meat shipments to the Allies are five times the pre-war average. During March and April new shipments were 14 per cent of the total for 1917. The steady gigantic drain threatens to upset the whole meat industry of the country.

Hoover became United States food administrator and was inaugurated. The beginning of his second year was marked by his flat declaration that he is strongly opposed to a rationing system and more than ever in favor of voluntary saving to prevent food shortages.

Wilson Opposes All War Probes

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In New York, said that the investigations had delayed the work of making ready for war, making up the balance of War Department executives by calling them to the witness stand. The exact language he used was this:

"Investigations which draw indispensable officials constantly away from their work and officers from other war gardens in other cantonments throughout the country, before another month passes virtually every cantonment in the United States will have its own 'war garden.'"

That letter represents the real attitude of the President. His recent investigations and his determination that investigations are not to be extended in the way the Chamberlain resolution is amended provides that they shall be limited to the war effort.

If the Chamberlain resolution is passed before making an inquiry, but will inform itself constantly how the bill is appropriated for war are being spent.

Mr. Wilson means that Congress shall not do this. The amendment of the resolution has been merely a shift of his ground and disclose more nearly what his real attitude is. It is not unlikely that a further letter from him today will make plain that complete oversight of expenditures for supplies will be intolerable to him and will declare it to be an interference with the conduct of the war and a reflection on the part of confidence in his administration.

The meaning of the Hughes appointment of the Marshall committee is that the President intends to take the function of investigating away from Congress. He wants everything, even the inquiry into the acts of the subcommittee, in his own hands, and by opposing even the amended Chamberlain resolution he is boldly challenging the right of the Senate to inquire about the expenditure of public money.

Investigation is the one real function that Congress has been exercising. For the rest, it has been merely doing what the President tells it to do—passing the laws he asks for and appropriating the money he demands.

Investigation in obedience to the President means to take that away and exercise it himself.

If the Chamberlain resolution fails of passage the Military Affairs investigations will run on for a little while, but will stop soon for lack of power.

If the Senate refuses to appropriate \$100,000 now for carrying them on it very soon will decline to furnish money on the basis on which it has furnished money in the past.

If the resolution is beaten there can be no mistake about the meaning of its defeat. It will be a vote against investigation in obedience to the President's wishes, and inevitably investigations will stop, unless some scandal arises which cries out for a more independent inquiry than one conducted by the Executive Department.

Senator McKellar made his report for the majority of the Audio Committee yesterday in favor of the amended resolution. Senator Thompson will make his minority report today. The members of the Military Affairs subcommittee, who have been visiting gun plants, will be back in their seats today, and a vote may be had. The issue is close. But the general expectation is that the President will win and investigations by the Senate will soon stop.

HOME RULE BILL MISSING

Commons Adjourns, With No Sign of Measure  
London, May 17.—The House of Commons took a recess last night, until May 23, when the bill of the long-delayed Home Rule Bill. The members are uninformed, apparently, when the bill will be introduced.

Former Senator Holbein Dead

Allentown, Pa., May 17.—Former Senator Evan Holbein, the oldest member of the Lehigh County Bar Association, is dead of general debility. He was 87 years old. Senator Holbein at one time was a power in the politics of Pennsylvania and was widely known.

Plans for Parochial School

Plans are being prepared by Edward F. Durand & Son for a three-story school building to be erected at Twenty-ninth and Dickinson streets for St. Gabriel's Roman Catholic Church. The plans will be ready for bids in one week.

Coming to U. S.

ALEXANDER F. KERENSKY



ALEXANDER F. KERENSKY

Kerensky to Ask Help of America

Continued from Page One  
These two possibilities. A mistake with regard to Russia is the gravest mistake that can be made. Yet all evidence is that the situation, so far as this country and the Allies are concerned, is simply drifting. There is no accepted policy, as the difference of opinion over Japan showed.

And the machinery is lacking for developing an intelligent policy with regard to Russia, where the war still may be won or lost. There is no diplomatic unity among the Allies and this country. And none of the Allies has such a contact with Russia as will further their understanding and sympathy with the existing government.

New York, May 17.—A. J. Salkin, director of the Russian Information Bureau here, said today it is "entirely possible that Kerensky will be here within two weeks." He added, however, that he did not expect him to arrive next Monday, as one report stated.

DRAFT NOW INCLUDES YOUTHS BECOMING 21

House Exempts Students in Medical and Theological Schools After Fight

Washington, May 17.—The conference report on the bill requiring registration in the draft of youths who have become twenty-one years of age since June 5 last has been passed by the House.

The Senate previously had agreed to the report and after its passage by the House it was sent to the President.

As finally agreed to the bill provides that youths registered under it shall be placed at the bottom of the lists of those classes to which they will be assigned and that students now in medical and theological schools shall be exempt.

The only opposition to the bill in the House was on the student-exemption feature. Representative McKelvie, of Illinois, Republican, denounced the provision as "class legislation, un-American and violative of the principles that all Americans are equal."

Prohibition for Hawaii

Washington, May 17.—The Senate has passed a bill providing prohibition for Hawaii. It now goes to the House. Senator Shepard, of Texas, in charge of the bill said districts in the islands not "dry" now by military regulation were "being flooded."

PARCEL POST

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NEW JERSEY BANKERS IN "WAR" CONVENTION

Governor Edge Commends Patriotic Spirit of Country's Financiers

Atlantic City, May 17.—"You are the successful generals in the field of New Jersey's army behind the lines. You have successfully led this army in three great financial drives, and as a result of your patriotic leadership and energy, coupled with that of your professional brothers in other States, the money gun of America is spouting a continual and deadly fire of greenbacks against the embattlements of tyranny abroad."

Governor Edge told three hundred Jersey bankers at the opening session of their second war convention here this afternoon.

William Chambers, president of the Vineland Trust Company, presided. The Rev. Francis Van R. Moore, rector of Trinity Church, Vineland, opened the meeting and prayed for victory.

The Governor said: "If Liberty bonds were subscribed as a matter of patriotic enthusiasm they ought to be held out as a matter of self interest. Already bonds of the third Liberty loan are selling below par in Wall Street and it has been reported in the newspapers that some of these sales were authorized by banks. I cannot believe that the banks are responsible for the fact that bankers are placing on the market bonds subscribed for but not taken, inasmuch as the period allowed for installment payments has only just begun."

No matter what the cause may be, it is most apparent that the Government's credit is not impaired and that the chief sufferers are the sellers. It seems most important to me that investors in these bonds should be encouraged, as a

Civil War Veteran Dead

Bridgeton, N. J., May 17.—Charles F. Dare, seventy-five years old, a druggist of this city, formerly president of the New Jersey Pharmaceutical Society, is dead at the home of his son in Newark. He was a veteran of the Civil War, serving in the famous Corn Exchange Regiment of Philadelphia. A son and daughter survive him.

Drop German Language

Bethlehem, Pa., May 17.—Both East Penn Reformed churches, at its thirty-ninth session, and Toluckon Reformed churches, at its forty-fifth annual session, before adjourning today decided unanimously to drop German at all church services.

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So Here's New York

Now the Pennsylvania Railroad is building a hotel in New York—to be opened in the fall. It will be the largest hotel in the world, as befits a hotel erected by America's greatest railway system in America's first city.

And, because the Statler Hotels are good hotels, this new Hotel Pennsylvania, in New York, will be Statler-operated. It is being equipped with the typical Statler comfort-features and conveniences which travelers like so well; it will be operated under the Statler policies of a full and liberal money's worth, and guaranteed satisfaction, to every patron. It will provide in New York the kind of good hotel which is so successful in these other American cities—taking advantage of all the opportunities for betterment which are possible only in this biggest American city, and in a location opposite America's most important railway terminal.

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