

FEARED FAILURE OF PEACE CONFERENCE

Speaker at Ledger Forum Says Wilson and Clemenceau Were Once Near Break

TELLS OF BALKAN TANGLES

How perilously close the peace conference at Paris was to breaking up in disagreement was revealed last night at the third session of the Public Ledger Forum being held in the foyer of the Academy of Music. The speaker was Dr. Isiah Bowman, a director of the American Geographical Society and the chief territorial director of the American delegation that accompanied President Wilson to Paris.

"There were a number of times," said Dr. Bowman, "when I looked at the map of the peace conference in a thought that there was one really critical situation that was saved by the skill of the President.

"The incident arose over the Saar basin. A message came to some of us that we were to call at the President's house and three of us went. Mr. Wilson received us cordially, and when we were seated, he said frankly: 'Gentlemen, I am in trouble. I want you to help me out. France demands the left bank of the Rhine, and I do not know whether she and I will meet again today. I do not know whether she will ever meet again. I do not know whether the peace conference will go on.'

"I want to say one thing of President Wilson," he said, "I ask you to remember that I am a Republican, that I owe him nothing, that I have never sought nor held a position with his administration. The thing I want to say is this: 'President Wilson stood head and shoulders above every other man in the council room.'

"On the way across, on the George Washington, he held a conference with some of us. I took very full notes of that conference, for many important things developed that you have not yet heard of. I have transcribed these notes and turned them over to Mr. Miller, who will tell you about them at a later session of this forum.

"But at this conference he said one thing that impressed me as being an index of his absolutely fair and unflinching attitude. There were fourteen of us there—seven Republicans, five Democrats and two Independents.

"Gentlemen," said the President, 'I am going to rely on you in the conference. Tell me what is right and I will fight for it. I want you to give me a guaranteed position.'

"Dr. Bowman spoke of the smoothness of the early days of the conference and the cordiality of everybody toward everybody else.

"But when it came time for accepting definite boundary lines," he said,

Limping Limericks Invade Peace Forum

The Rev. David M. Steele, in introducing the speaker at last night's meeting of the forum on the Peace Conference, said:

"The Balkans might be termed the 'limping limericks' of geography and the solution of their geographical policy might be described as the writing of the missing last lines."

The laughter and applause which greeted this definition showed that 50 per cent of the representative audience present were followers of the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER's popular content.

"A figure emerged which dominated from then on. This was Lloyd George.

"He was the 'bad boy' of the conference. He had plenty of time for fun, and looked terribly bored with all the preliminary details. But he sat up when the boundary questions came. He said in a manner that drove away all smiles: 'Gentlemen, if you present a treaty to Germany giving Danzig to Poland, she will not sign it. I cannot support such a proposition.'

This statement, Dr. Bowman said, changed the whole aspect of things. It was the first intimation that anybody had given that there was a possibility of Germany refusing to sign.

When asked about the relations which were maintained among the 'Big Three' and the other nations, the speaker said: "That is a tall order. There was a fine spirit of cordiality, but some of the allied leaders had less use for other people. But I will tell you one thing: That that you may regard as significant.

"It arose over the question of sending back an army to Poland. I was deputed to go to General Weygand and find out what transportation would be required. It was a British official who asked me to undertake this, 'because,' he explained, 'it is a matter of paying for the ships.'

"Turks Driven From Europe
The speaker outlined at considerable length the history of the Balkans and gave an idea of what a tangled mass of conflicting elements entered into any solution at Paris. He then presented the problem of the Turk in Europe and detailed the long conflict that has raged about Constantinople.

"When we consider the geographical distribution of the Turks," he said, "and the cost that they involve, and especially when we view the generally unsettled state of the world, shall we not agree that the policy of conciliation in dealing with the Turk is wholly justified? Is the social and political wreck of the whole border of the Mohammedan world not too great a price to pay for the driving of the Turk from Europe?"

"For his presence at Constantinople is a mere shadow. The armed forces about the sultan are limited to 700,000 guards. The total armed forces of Turkey shall not exceed 50,000 men, and these are to be distributed regionally by a military interallied commission of organization in collaboration with the Turkish Government.

"The fortifications of the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles, and on adjacent islands of the northeastern Aegean are to be demolished, together with purely military roads and other works.

"In practice, allied warships are anchored in strategic localities, and doubtless will always remain there if present agreements are continued. At a moment when the feeble military forces of the Turk in Europe could be extinguished. Because a patch of the map is colored in a way to correspond to the map of the world, a city in the thinking, but it has no significance whatever in reality.

"A centuries-old hope of the western powers has been realized. The Turk is really no longer in Europe."

Mayor Weighs Men for Cabinet Places

Continued from Page One

of public safety is the ranking member of the cabinet. In the absence or disability of the Mayor, the safety director is virtually the acting mayor.

May Visit Harding

If the shift were accomplished, Director Caven would be in charge of the battle lines here while the Mayor was resting at some winter resort. The possibility that Florida may be chosen by the Mayor is interesting, because President-elect Harding will go from Marion to Florida in the near future. Senator Harding and the Mayor are acquaintances.

The Mayor has lists of city employees and the names of their political backers. These will be studied with the view of making the city administration in all respects, as nearly 100 per cent loyal as possible. The Mayor's "weeding out" process, it was explained, is to be thorough—to go from top to bottom.

A significant indication of the trend of independent political thought was provided by the declaration of John Walton, who was chairman of the committee of one hundred, the group of independent leaders who brought Mr. Moore out in the majority fight, that he was absolutely with Mayor Moore. This was most pleasing to the Mayor, following his repudiation of George W. Coles, chairman of the Town Meeting party, who also had been active in the committee of one hundred.

Will Win in Long Run

Clarence D. Antrim: "The people, I believe, will stand back of you in your desire to clean out these places that are overrun with useless employees. I hear nothing but expressions of the most fondly feeling toward your stand for retrenchment, and expect to see you win out in the long run."

John F. Dolger: "I beg to offer the continued support of my family and myself to put an end to 'handicap' in Council, as well as upon the streets of Philadelphia. Please keep up your good work."

William Potter, former minister to Italy, wrote: "I feel certain from the expressions heard in every direction today that an overwhelming majority of the voters of Philadelphia approve your courageous act."

The Rev. Arthur C. Baldwin, pastor of the Chestnut Street Baptist Church, wrote: "I believe that the city needs a great

awakening of public sentiment. We cannot make the advance we ought until we are all aroused and in earnest. This is one advantage of the present situation. Where once these things were easily in the dark, now we see them go ahead. Make a noise. All things will work together for good. This may be a chance to make the people see who and what have been in control."

Sees Good Result

E. E. Montgomery, 1420 Spruce street, wrote: "I would be derelict in my feelings if I did not write in commendation of your action in vetoing the excessive expenses of the Municipal Court, and I am confident the resulting disloyalty of men of the Council will hasten the day when we choose men for their loyalty to the city and not to some boss."

Rev. Carter Helm Jones:

"I congratulate you on the intelligent, brave, patriotic stand you have taken in the interest of the citizens of Philadelphia. Strongly support your action."

Samuel M. Harrison, former councilman, Twenty-fourth ward: "You have my moral support, the same as that of all other good citizens, and I will be only too happy to be of service to you for the continuance of your 'good fight.'"

J. Myron Shimer, attorney: "Unless economy and efficiency are applied in the government of our large cities, unless crime and the sinister influences of invisible irresponsible government are banished from city politics, our American government will ultimately be a failure. That it will not be a failure will be due to men like you."

Mayor Tells of Obstacles
A literal interpretation of the civil service laws is apt to hinder the administration, Mayor Moore told Alba B. Trigg, of the Chamber of Commerce.

The Mayor talked of the difficulties raised by the insistence of the Civil Service Reform Association for a literal application of the law. He gave as an instance the hard task Director

MEANEST THIEF AT WORK

Massachusetts Scoundrel Robs Four Children's Trees

Braintree, Mass., Dec. 24.—(By A. P.)—The crime wave struck this town in its softest spot—the Christmas trees of its school children. Today the town-side spirit of good will to men was mixed with a wish that the town's meanest thief be brought to justice. Four big trees hung with toys, fruit

and the other good things intended to bring joy to the kiddies of the Hollis School were stripped by a thief who came in the night.

Atlanta, Dec. 24.—Atlanta's meanest thief broke into All Saints' Episcopal Church and denuded a big Christmas tree of all gifts, even carrying away ribbon and decorations. Most of his loot was boxes of candy or other goodies, ready for the children's Christmas celebration.

Free Lecture Christian Science

William W. Porter, C. S. B., of New York City

Member of the Board of Lectureship of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON
DEC. 26, AT 3:30 O'CLOCK
THE ORPHEUM THEATRE
CHELSEA AVE. GERMANTOWN

MONDAY EVENING
DEC. 27, AT 8 O'CLOCK
THE CHURCH EDIFICE
WALNUT WEST OF 40TH ST.

The Public Is Cordially Invited



Merry Christmas!

Santa Claus and Strawbridge & Clothier have had the busiest Christmas season in their whole lifetime's experience! It will be a Merry Day, indeed; and we sincerely trust that we have done our part in this most important service to the satisfaction of every customer. The Store will be—

Closed All Day To-morrow
—But if any necessary information is desired by any customer, the Store may be reached by telephone from 9 to 12 o'clock on Christmas Day.

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THE UNITED STATES SHIPPING BOARD
EMERGENCY FLEET CORPORATION
OFFERS FOR SALE

Store Group at corner of Shipping Place and Market Place, Dundalk, Maryland

Sealed bids on the above building will be received in the office of the Chairman, United States Shipping Board, Washington, D. C., on or before 10:30 A. M. January 20, 1921.

All bids will be opened at 10:30 A. M. the same day, in the offices of the Board.

This building is "L" shape with a frontage of 167 feet on Shipping Place, and 107.83 feet on side street by average depth of 42 feet. It is new and modern throughout, of hollow tile construction with stucco finish, and has eight stores on the first floor and one in the basement, offices, lodge room, and large hall with stage on second floor. Rentals from the entire building will exceed \$12,000 per annum.

The lot is 180 feet by 200 feet, with three street fronts. Purchaser will be given fee simple title to the ground.

Dundalk is located southeast of Baltimore on the Sparrows Point car line about thirty minutes ride from center of the city.

Proposal forms and other information may be obtained from the Manager, Division of Transportation and Housing Operations, 140 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Sealed bids should be addressed to the Secretary of the United States Shipping Board, 1319 F Street N. W., Washington, D. C., and endorsed "Sealed bid for Store Group at Dundalk, Maryland. Do not open."

Every Heating System needs a MODERN HEATER

We are thoroughly convinced that the old-fashioned methods of heating homes will soon be as extinct as the "One-Hoss Shay."

The enthusiasm with which Philadelphians have received the "HOT WAVE" method within the last week and the numbers who have placed orders is positive proof that the antiquated coal furnace inconveniences are to be replaced as often as we make demonstrations.

The modern and most efficient source of heat supply for hot water, steam or vapor heating systems is the "HOT WAVE" GAS FIRED BOILER. It may be installed without disturbing your present system and radiation.

By this method you turn on the pilot light October 1st and there is no attention necessary until you turn it off again in April. No work—clean cellars and an even temperature is maintained all the time by a perfectly working thermostat. The thermostat may be set so that any temperature desired is accomplished, such as from 7 A. M. to 11 P. M. get say a temperature of 70° or more, and from 11 P. M. until 7 A. M. a temperature of 50° or less.

We extend a cordial invitation to call at our display offices at the northeast corner of Ninth and Spruce streets and we shall be glad to demonstrate the advantages of the "HOT WAVE" GAS FIRED BOILER.

Fully Guaranteed

Write for Booklet Choice Territory Open for Live Dealers

Note the small size and compactness of the "HOT WAVE" heater—you can almost get the whole apparatus in a steamer trunk. Makes for a clean cellar, without coal bins, wood piles, dangerous oil tanks or other mess and fuss.

GAS UTILITIES SALES CO.

SPRUCE AT NINTH STREET
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"One of the best stunts we ever used"

That's what the Barton Company, of Manchester, N. H., says about a Christmas sales idea which appeared in a recent issue of the Retail Public Ledger.

The Barton Company felt that the same plan could be used to good advantage in Manchester. They knew that it had been successful elsewhere, otherwise it would not have appeared in the Retail Public Ledger. So they lifted it in its entirety and—

"It proved to be one of the best stunts for the increasing of our toy business that we have ever arranged for. We are writing to thank you for the idea, which is only one of the many profitable ones we have obtained from your paper," writes Mr. W. E. Quirin, president of the Barton Company, on December 20.

The plan in question was only one of the hundred or more which appeared in a recent issue of the Retail Public Ledger. Every copy is filled with profitable, business-building ideas, collected from all parts of the country. A yearly subscription—24 semi-monthly issues—costs only one dollar. Send it to the

RETAIL PUBLIC LEDGER

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