

NO LEGAL EXCUSE FOR KAISER'S TRIAL

Speaker at Ledger Forum Tells Why Americans Opposed Arraigning Ex-Monarch

POSTERITY WILL BE GLAD

"I am bold enough to say that the American Commission rendered a service to the world at large in standing as a rock against the trial and holding for a legal offense the Kaiser for refusing to surrender the Kaiser for the commission of an offense admittedly political."

It was undoubtedly a surprise to the audience at the Ledger Forum on the peace conference in the Academy of Music last night to hear this country's legal expert, William of Williams, of Philadelphia, say that he was equally surprised to them to realize that they agreed with him.

Yet he had developed his arguments so long that when he reached his startling conclusion it appeared to be the only conclusion that could have been reached.

The speaker was James Brown Scott, famous international lawyer, and President Wilson's legal adviser at the peace conference. Alva B. Johnson, in introducing him, said he should say about him to me, 'Simply say that I am a graduate of the Central High School of this city, and that I am still loyal to my alma mater.'

Mr. Scott told of the early passionate demands on the part of some of the Allies for the trial and punishment of the Kaiser and how the American Commission consistently opposed them on the grounds that there was no legal warrant for such proceedings, and how Japan joined the other American nations in opposing a nation can be tried under international law.

"At present," said Mr. Scott, "such a person is exempt under international law, and he is immune from suit in any court, national or international."

"It was a crime to declare war at the time the German Government declared it and was a crime for which the law of nations imposed a penalty to break the treaty of 1814 and 1815."

"It was not, in point of law, although in the forum of morals it as surely was."

Schwab's Work Praised by Piez

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Mr. Piez said Mr. Gillen's report did not square with the facts in a single vital case in which he indulged the criticism concerning the division of construction; that his charge that there was interference between management and trustees in placing contracts was wholly untrue; that he was guilty of gross misstatements of facts regarding the fleet corporation's \$250,000,000 mortgages and securities, and that his statement of lack of an accounting system was wholly wrong.

Mr. Piez also declares that Gillen's report regarding the fleet corporation's check against the building of ships is absolutely wrong, and that the destructive effect of his testimony was seriously impaired public interest in the establishment of an American merchant marine, and practically destroyed the market for shipping securities.

Ships were built to meet the necessities of war, Mr. Piez says, not to establish a merchant marine; that the fleet corporation delivered 479 vessels, of which 470 were built; that the task was to build ships faster than submarines could sink them, and that the building of ships was conducted in a systematic and businesslike manner.

General George W. Goethals inaugurated the accounting system. "This influence on the part of the public," Mr. Piez continued, "is in large measure the result of the wild statements made by Mr. Gillen concerning the methods of the fleet corporation and the general statements of graft and corruption reported by the Fisher-Richardson report."

"The public does not differentiate the division of the armistice with operations, and concludes that because there was petty graft among minor officials in the victualling and repairing of ships, the entire structure of the corporation, from top to bottom, was honeycombed by it."

"Graft in ship operations has from time immemorial been considered one of the prerequisites of petty officers, and it is a difficult disease to eradicate. It has no place in the operations of an American fleet, and should be treated with an iron hand."

But it is to be regretted that the Fisher-Richardson charges are couched in such general terms that they have besmeared the whole structure of the shipping board and fleet corporation with the slings of suspicion. Many of the charges should have been made in the police courts rather than in a report of such importance.

Mr. Piez's statement says: "The charge of the testimony thus far presented before your committee has been seriously to impair public interest in the establishment of an American merchant marine, and to destroy the market for shipping securities, and to make the already difficult task of the United States shipping board impossible."

"This effect has been produced in part by sensational headlines, in part by a lack of appreciation of the conditions attending the construction of ships, but more by the general condemnation of methods on the part of some important witnesses who indulged in sweeping criticism without ascertaining the facts."

284, Regulation 45, revised April 17, 1919, as amended by treasury decision 2850, June 10, 1919, provides, among other things for a preliminary reduction on construction during war of not more than 25 per cent of the cost of the property as amortization allowance for the year 1919, and provides further that the amount of amortization allowance will be ascertained upon the basis of stable post-war conditions under regulations to be promulgated when these conditions become apparent.

"Why not accept that as a precedent? Ships cannot be sold and the government cannot get out of the shipyard unless reasonable deductions from the war prices of vessels be made."

After quoting from Mr. Gillen's prepared statement on the subject of cost-plus contracts, the statement says: "Mr. Gillen is plainly referring to cost-plus-a-fixed percentage contract, which will see fees go up as the cost goes up. Out of all the ship contracts placed by the Emergency Fleet Corporation, just four are of the cost-plus-a-fixed percentage type."

"Diesel Engines Discussed" "Mr. Denman," said Mr. Piez, "in some recent utterances has dwelt on the advantages of the Diesel engine. I need only say that Mr. Hurley, Mr. Schwab, Mr. Rosster and all of the men in our technical department were as conscious of that as Mr. Denman."

"Mr. Schwab's plants were completing a very large two-cycle engine about the time of the armistice, and expected to try it out in one of the Bethlehem ore ships."

"It is well to be in mind that only a very few engines of a size large enough for even a 3000-ton cargo ship had up to that time been built, and that we could neither wait nor take the chances involved, Mr. Hurley bought two Burmeister and Wain engines immediately after the armistice, for installation in a fleet corporation ship."

"Criticism Unfounded" "Mr. Denman's criticism, as reported in the press of the operations of the ship control committee, is unfounded. England had made enormous purchases on this side of war materials. Her ships at that time carried the major part of the tonnage, and she was highly interested in expediting the turn around of vessels and relieving congestion at our ports. Merchandise for export was piled up for many miles behind our chief ports and Mr. Hurley's appointment of Messrs. Galtier and Chase on order of cargo and reduced the turn around of both cargo and troop ships by 40 per cent in a very few months."

"The ship control committee achieved wonders during the blackest hours of the war in getting our boys and their supplies to the front and in bringing essential raw materials to our shores."

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TUTTO UN ALGUNE CITTA' DELL'ITALIA

Morti e Feriti in un Grave Conflitto a Castellammare di Stabia

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Milano, 21 gennaio.—Gravi conflitti anti-religiosi a Castellammare di Stabia contro l'ammiraglio avvenuti in alcune parti dell'Italia. Un'orda di contadini disoccupati hanno preso d'assalto una chiesa nella provincia romana devastando altari, quadri, ed abbattendo statue e crocifissi. I danni sarebbero ingenti. I signorini religiosi avventurosi a Castellammare di Stabia contro l'ammiraglio, l'opera della quale è disapprovata, specialmente dall'elemento operaio, compressa in locale camera del lavoro.

Durante i diecimila che avvennero in questa città, nella piazza del municipio, rimasero uccisi un centinaio di carabinieri, il commissario capo di polizia, due marinai, una giovane donna, e tre cittadini. Sono quindi persone rimaste gravemente ferite. Un centinaio tra consiglieri ed impiegati municipali furono fucilati sulla folla. Quando essi furono in fuga, si barricarono nella sala del consiglio, ma furono poco dopo sgozzati e tratti in arresto alle truppe ed in un proclamato lo sciopero generale che si è esteso a Torre Annunziata.

Gravi conflitti religiosi e clericali, in alcune parti dell'Italia centrale hanno dato per risultato l'arresto di tre preti sotto l'accusa di omicidio. Don Luigi Lippi, parroco di Tagliacozzo, nel Lazio, fu arrestato, e il parroco di Poggiodaio, nella provincia di Caserta, mentre faceva ritorno al paese, a cavallo, s'imbarcò nel sindaco del luogo, Achille Laurenti, con il quale era atteso per un convegno. L'ammirazione comunale. Tra i due si accese un battioco e dopo uno scambio di insulti, il sacerdote si gettò contro il sindaco e lo colpì con una rivoltella facendo fuoco ferendo il sindaco. Il parroco fu arrestato e messo a vivere. Il parroco di Lucca e di cui è stato spiccato mandato di cattura.

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Blames Brooks Law For Liquor Selling

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Don't Believe Ships Affected

"Philadelphia is a great seaport. The sale of liquor is prohibited upon ships and there is a suspicion that a drinker has taken to 'dope' since he can't get liquor. We are going through a dope epidemic. Habit-forming drugs are being forced upon thousands here. There is no law in it. What about the increase in the use of drugs that has followed prohibition?" I asked.

"It is not true. There may be, here and there, a suspicious case, but it has taken to 'dope' since he can't get liquor. We are going through a dope epidemic. Habit-forming drugs are being forced upon thousands here. There is no law in it. What about the increase in the use of drugs that has followed prohibition?" I asked.

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MONDAY'S ATTRACTIONS AT STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER'S

Depend Upon This—Our Prices are Right After our searching analysis of market prices, and our inventory at the lowest market cost on January 1st, a general review of prices was made, regardless of losses involved, and thousands of things reduced, in addition to the sweeping reductions that had previously been made in several Departments.

Women's Finer Winter Suits Join the Lower-Price Groups IN THE Sale Now \$150 to \$275

Religious Notices

The New Season Brings New Low Prices on Women's Fine Afternoon Dresses

Hundreds of Axminster Rugs at Clearance Prices

Wilton Rugs

Two Remarkable Golden Specials Monday!

Lower Prices Make the New Fur Coats Doubly Attractive

CHILD DIES OF BURNS

William Beck, three years old, whose parents live at 215 "Mechanic" street, Camden, died early this morning of a fever after suffering from burns. While the mother was in the kitchen on Sunday last, a hot iron from the stove had been thrown on the floor and was taken to the hospital.

RAIDING PARSON IMPROVES

Rev. R. E. Johnson May Return Home on Sunday

What's the Use

Accounting—Beginners' Class commences January 24. Junior accountants commences January 24. Advanced Business Principles—A general business course commences January 24. Foreign Exchange—For those in Export and Import commences January 24.

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Two Remarkable Golden Specials Monday! 5000 Yards of Fine Imported and American Cretonnes Average Half Price At 45c a Yd. Men's Suits and Overcoats About One-half the Early-Season Price At \$24.50