

# TREATY SIGNED WITH DENMARK

Purchase of Islands Believed Near Consummation

## DANISH RIGSDAG CONSIDERS

Document Expected to Be Submitted to Senate for Ratification Before End of Session—Price, \$25,000,000.

Acting Secretary of State Polk has announced that the treaty by which the United States is to purchase the Danish West Indies from Denmark for \$25,000,000 has been signed at New York by Secretary Lansing and Minister Constantin Brun.

The treaty provides for the transfer to the United States of three islands, St. Thomas, St. Croix and St. John, which have been the subject of negotiations between the United States and Denmark for many years.

It is understood that the administration will ask for ratification by the senate before the end of the present session, and, while there may be some objection to the price, no really serious opposition is expected.

Secretary Lansing, who has been spending his vacation at Watertown, N. Y., went to New York to meet Minister Brun.

### Details Not Made Public.

Mr. Polk announced that no details of the treaty would be made public at present. It is understood that the state department desires to withhold details until the senate and the Danish parliament have had an opportunity to consider it.

Secretary Lansing and the Danish minister affixed the signatures to the Danish-American treaty at a hotel where both are stopping. The treaty was signed in duplicate in Mr. Lansing's suite. The American secretary came from Watertown, N. Y., and Minister Brun from his summer home in Bar Harbor, Me., arrangements for their meeting having been made several days ago. Copies of the treaty were brought from Washington by L. H. Wolsey, of the state department, who was the only witness to the ceremony, which was conducted without formality.

Mr. Brun said that his copy of the treaty he would immediately forward to his government for ratification by the Danish rigsdag.

The Danish parliament has taken up the question of the sale by Denmark of the Danish West Indies to the United States.

After the minister of foreign affairs had given information concerning the sale to the rigsdag, the various parties held committee meetings.

The minister stated that the amount to be received for the islands was \$25,000,000; that all the Danish interests would be conserved, and that the United States would recognize Denmark's supremacy over the whole of Greenland. The rigsdag met soon afterward and there was a debate for half an hour. No real objection to the sale was made, and there was only slight criticism from a few conservative members.

## MARKET QUOTATIONS

**Pittsburgh, Aug. 8.**  
Butter—Prims, 32 1/2@33c; tubs, 31 1/2@32c.  
Eggs—Fresh, 27 1/2@28c.  
Cattle—Prime, \$9@9.35; good, \$8.50@8.75; tidy butchers, \$7.75@8.25; fair, \$7@7.50; common, \$6@7; common to good fat bulls, \$4.50@7.25; common to good fat cows, \$4.00@7.50; heifers, \$5@8; fresh cows and springers, \$4@8.  
Sheep and Lambs—Prime wethers, \$3.10@3.25; good mixed, \$7.50@8; fair mixed, \$6.50@7.25; culls and common, \$5.50@6.5; spring lambs, \$7.50@11.25; veal calves, \$12@12.50; heavy and thin calves, \$7@8.  
Hogs—Prime heavy, \$10.25; heavy mixed, \$10.30@10.40; mediums, heavy Yorkers and light Yorkers, \$10.40@10.50; pigs, \$10@10.25; roughs, \$8.75@9; stags, \$7@7.25.  
**Cleveland, Aug. 8.**  
Cattle—Choice fat steers, \$8.25@8.75; good to choice butcher steers, \$7.50@8.25; good to choice butcher bulls, \$6@8.75; belona, bulls, \$5@6; good to choice cows, \$6.75@8.25; fair to good cows, \$5@6.75; common cows, \$4.50@4.50.  
Sheep and Lambs—Good to choice springs, \$10@10.50; fair to good, \$7.50@8; good to choice wethers, \$7.50@7.75; good to choice ewes, \$7@7.50; mixed ewes and wethers, \$7.25@7.50; culls, \$4@5.  
Hogs—Mixed, \$10.10; Yorkers, \$10; mediums, \$10.10; pigs, \$9.75; stags, \$7.50; roughs, \$8.80.  
**Chicago, Aug. 8.**  
Hogs—Bulk, \$9.35@9.95; light, \$9.55@10.10; mixed, \$9.15@10.15; heavy, \$9@10.15; rough, \$9@9.15; pigs, \$7.90@8.50.  
Cattle—Native beef cattle, \$8.75@10.40; stockers and feeders, \$5@7.85; cows and heifers, \$3.50@9.15; calves, \$7.75@12.25.  
Sheep—Wethers, \$6.75@8.35; lambs, \$7.50@10.50.  
Wheat—Sept., \$1.33. Corn—Sept., \$2 1/2c. Oats—Sept., 44c.

## NEW YORK RAILWAY HEAD WHOSE MEN ARE ON STRIKE



Photo by American Press Association. FRANK HEDLEY.

## A GENERAL SURVEY OF THE WAR

Desperate fighting is in progress north of Verdun, where the French have taken the offensive and have scored notable gains in the effort to drive back the Germans, who had been hammering at the gates of the fortress more than five months.

After pushing to the outskirts of the village of Fleury, three miles north of Verdun, Wednesday night, the French brilliantly attacked the place later and carried it by storm. The crown prince's troops launched furious counter attacks and succeeded in re-taking the southern section of the village. The French now hold the greater part of the town.

Meanwhile, fighting on the Somme front has dwindled to minor operations. London reports the gain of some ground in such operations to the west of Pozieres.

The city of Brussels has refused to pay a fine of 5,000,000 marks imposed by the Germans in consequence of the demonstration which took place at the Belgian capital on July 23, the national fête day, says a dispatch from The Hague to the Exchange Telegraph company. A serious crisis is expected.

Ten steamers, a brigantine and two trawlers were reported as sunk by submarines or mines in one day. Seven vessels of this number belonged to neutral nations. The list of victims follows:  
Danish steamer Katholm, 1,021 tons, reported sunk in Mediterranean near German submarine. Crew saved.  
Four Swedish steamers—Erör Oscar, Vermland, Rodikswell, destroyed by fire of Germans, and the Ferbrabe, reported sunk in the gulf of Bothnia.  
The Norwegian steamer John Willson, crew saved, and the British steamers Britannic, of the Cocker line, and the Helgstrand.

General Brusiloff is pressing his offensive against the Teutonic allies in Northern Galicia, where the passage of the river Sereth was recently forced by the Russians along a wide front at Brody. Petrograd now reports further advances for the Russians, with the capture of strongly fortified positions along the Sereth and the Graberka.

Republics for the Russians in Armenia and for British forces on the Sinai Peninsula are chronicled in the official statement given out by the Turkish war office. The announcement says that in a five days' battle in the Agnott sector, Armenia, the Russians lost more than 3,000 men killed.

American consuls in Italy have been directed to report on the sinking of the Italian mail steamer Letimbro by a submarine in the Mediterranean. Dispatches from London said the submarine continued firing after the liner had stopped and that many members of the passengers and crew were believed to have lost their lives.

An attempt by Bulgarian soldiers to seize an island in the Rumanian waters of the Danube river, close to the town of Giurgevo, has caused a sensation there, according to reports received by Bucharest newspapers. Rumanian frontier guards discovered the Bulgarians and raised an alarm. After a lively exchange of fire the Bulgarians fled.

On the Lower Isonzo the Italians have gained possession of nearly the whole of Hill No. 85, and held it against violent counter attacks. Prisoners taken by the Italians in one day total 3,600. A large amount of ammunition and guns also was captured.

**Oil Prices Again Reduced.**  
The Ohio Oil company made another cost reduction in the price of oil, making North and South Lima \$1.48, Indiana \$1.33, Wooster \$1.30, Illinois and Princeton \$1.52, and Plymouth \$1.28. Oil producers say there ought to be a very material drop in the price of gasoline.

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION SUBMITTED TO THE CITIZENS OF THE COMMONWEALTH FOR THEIR APPROVAL OR REJECTION, BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AND PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH, IN PURSUANCE OF ARTICLE XVIII OF THE CONSTITUTION.

Number One.  
A JOINT RESOLUTION  
Proposing an amendment to Article IX of the Constitution of Pennsylvania.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly met, That the following amendment to the Constitution of Pennsylvania be, and the same is hereby, proposed, in accordance with the XVIII article thereof:—

Section 16. The State, or any municipality thereof, acquiring or appropriating property or rights over or in property for public use, may, in furtherance of its plans for the acquisition and public use of such property or rights, and subject to such restrictions as the Legislature may from time to time impose, appropriate an excess of property over that actually to be occupied or used for public use, and may thereafter sell or lease such excess, and impose on the property so sold or leased any restrictions appropriate to preserve or enhance the benefit to the public of the property actually occupied or used.

A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 1.

CYRUS E. WOODS,  
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Number Two.  
A JOINT RESOLUTION  
Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania so as to consolidate the courts of common pleas of Philadelphia county.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, That the following amendment to the Constitution of Pennsylvania be, and the same is hereby, proposed, in accordance with the eighteenth article thereof:—

That section six of article five be amended so as to read as follows:

Section 6. In the county of Philadelphia all the jurisdiction and powers now vested in the several numbered courts of common pleas of that county, shall be vested in one court of common pleas composed of all the judges in commission in said courts. Such jurisdiction and powers shall extend to all proceedings at law and in equity which shall have been instituted in the several numbered courts and shall be subject to such change as may be made by law and subject to change of venue as provided by law. The president judge of the said court shall be selected as provided by law. The number of judges in said court may be by law increased from time to time. This amendment shall take effect on the first day of January succeeding its adoption.

In the county of Allegheny all the jurisdiction and powers now vested in the several numbered courts of common pleas, shall be vested in one court of common pleas, composed of all the judges in commission in said courts. Such jurisdiction and powers shall extend to all proceedings at law and in equity which shall have been instituted in the several numbered courts and shall be subject to such change as may be made by law and subject to change of venue as provided by law. The president judge of the said court shall be selected as provided by law. The number of judges in said court may be by law increased from time to time. This amendment shall take effect on the first day of January succeeding its adoption.

A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 2.

CYRUS E. WOODS,  
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Number Three.  
A JOINT RESOLUTION  
Proposing an amendment to article nine, section four of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; authorizing the State to issue bonds to the amount of fifty millions of dollars for the improvement of the highways of the Commonwealth.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, That the following amendment to the Constitution of Pennsylvania be, and the same is hereby, proposed, in accordance with the eighteenth article thereof:—

That section four of article nine, which reads as follows: "Section 4. No debt shall be created by or on behalf of the State, except to supply casual deficiencies of revenue, repel invasions, suppress in-

to pay existing debt; and the debt created to supply deficiency in revenue shall never exceed in the aggregate at any one time, one million dollars," be amended so as to read as follows:

Section 4. No debt shall be created by or on behalf of the State, except to supply casual deficiencies of revenue, repel invasion, suppress insurrection, defend the State in war, or to pay existing debt; and the debt created to supply deficiencies in revenue shall never exceed in the aggregate, at any one time, one million dollars; Provided, however, That the General Assembly, irrespective of any debt, may authorize the State to issue bonds to the amount of fifty millions of dollars for the purpose of improving and rebuilding the highways of the Commonwealth.

Section 2. Said proposed amendment shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the State, at the general election to be held on the Tuesday next following the first Monday of November in the year nineteen hundred and eighteen, for the purpose of deciding upon the approval and ratification or the rejection of said amendment. Said election shall be opened, held, and closed upon said election day, at the places and within the hours at and within which said election is directed to be opened, held and closed, and in accordance with the provisions of the laws of Pennsylvania governing elections, and amendments thereto. Such an amendment shall be printed upon the ballots in the form and manner prescribed by the election laws of Pennsylvania, and shall in all respects conform to the requirement of such laws.

A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 3.

CYRUS E. WOODS,  
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Number Four.  
A JOINT RESOLUTION.  
Proposing an amendment to section eight, article nine of the Constitution of Pennsylvania.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the provisions of the eighteenth article thereof:—

Amendment to Article Nine, Section Eight.  
That section eight of article nine of the Constitution be amended by striking out the said section and inserting in place thereof the following:—

Section 8. The debt of any county city, borough, township, school district or other municipality or incorporated district, except as provided here in and in section fifteen of this article shall never exceed seven (7) per centum upon the assessed value of the taxable property therein, but the debt of the city of Philadelphia may be increased in such amount that the total city debt of said city shall not exceed ten per centum (10) upon the assessed value of the taxable property therein, nor shall any such municipality or district incur any new debt, or increase its indebtedness to an amount exceeding two (2) per centum upon such assessed valuation of property, without the consent of the electors thereof at a public election in such manner as shall be provided by law. In ascertaining the borrowing capacity of the said city of Philadelphia, at any time, there shall be excluded from the calculation and deducted from such debt so much of the debt of said city as shall have been incurred, and the proceeds thereof invested, in any public improvements of any character which shall be yielding to the said city an annual current net revenue. The amount of such deduction shall be ascertained by capitalizing the annual net revenue from such improvement during the year immediately preceding the time of such ascertainment; and such capitalization shall be estimated by ascertaining the principal amount which would yield such annual, current net revenue, at the average rate of interest, and sinking-fund charges payable upon the indebtedness incurred by said city for such purposes, up to the time of such ascertainment. The method of determining such amount, so to be deducted, may be prescribed by the General Assembly. In incurring indebtedness for any purpose the city of Philadelphia may issue its obligations maturing not later than fifty (50) years from the date thereof, with provision for a sinking-fund sufficient to retire said obligations at maturity, the payment to such sinking-fund to be in equal or graded annual or other periodical instalments. Where any indebtedness shall be or shall have been incurred by said city of Philadelphia for the purpose of the construction or improvement of public works of any character from which income or revenue is to be derived by said city, or for the reclamation of land to be

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used in the construction of wharves or docks owned or to be owned by said city, such obligations may be in an amount sufficient to provide for, and may include the amount of the interest and sinking-fund charges accruing and which may accrue thereon throughout the period of construction, and until the expiration of one year after the completion of the work for which said indebtedness shall have been incurred; and said city shall not be required to levy a tax to pay said interest and sinking-fund charges as required by section ten, article nine of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, until the expiration of said period of one year after the completion of said work.

A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 4.  
CYRUS E. WOODS,  
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

### Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA