BALFOUR STATESMAN

Is the Man Selected to Do Heavy Story for Britain in Peace Parley.

(By Floyd MacGriff International News Service Staff Correspondent.)

LONDON, Jan. 22.—(by mail)—Arthur James Balfour will do the heavy work for Great Britain at the Peace Conference. There is no man in Great Britain better fitted for the task. While upon the shoulders of Lloyd George will rest the responsibility for British moves at the Peace Conference, the Premier, because of many pressing tasks connected with reconstruction and domestic affairs, necessarily will have to shift much of the peace work burden upon Balfour.

This is of especial significance to America, for the United States has no better friend in England than Balfour. The Foreign Secretary and Peace Plenipotentiary is imbued with deep admiration for things American, and since America got into the war he has been foremost of British statesmen to recognize the aid, both moral and material, which America contributed, turning the tide. Balfour has been so outspoken in his appreciation of what the United States has done and was preparing to do that not a little comment was occasioned in political circles.

In the more than one sense Balfour may be termed the dean of British statesmen and diplomats. He was Prime Minister from 1902 to 1905, after Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, Unionist leader, died. For ten years Balfour was Unionist leader of the House of Commons. He has been Chancellor of the Exchequer, President of the Local Government Board and First Lord of the Admiralty. He has served on many important diplomatic missions.

Prior to America's entrance into the world war Balfour ranked as the greatest, perhaps, of advocates of the Allies' cause, and before the United States came in, Balfour, in the space of 2,000 words, compiled a masterly exposition of the Allies' position for American consumption. No more apt document as to the cause of the war and the Allies' aims ever appeared. Many believe this document did more to influence responsible American opinion to the right way of thinking than even Germany's most horrible crimes.

In a way, Balfour combines the qualities of Root and Taft, with a dash of Roosevelt, while he has Bryan's gift of oratory. To English politicians he has been the surprise of the war, for in 1914 he retired from politics because of advancing years, bequeathing the leadership of the Unionist party to Bonar Law. But the war stirred him deeply, and he gladly accepted Asquith's offer to take charge of the Admiralty in 1915, when the first coalition government was formed, and he remained in the coalition as Foreign Secretary when Lloyd George came into power as leader of a "knockout victory." That phrase met with vehement support from Balfour, who, perhaps, would have used more diplomatic language.

Balfour essentially is a diplomat of the old school who has absorbed much of the modern environment and modern diplomatic subtlety. He was helped into the ways of modern trend—the Wilsonian trend—by the cunning, yet cumbersome prostitution of Victorian diplomacy by the German Foreign office. He saw beneath the mask of German perfidy early in the war, retaining a clear vision thereon throughout the conflict. After the torpedoing of the Lusitania, ranking next to the Lusitania in number of lives lost, Balfour exclaimed: "Beasts they were when they began the war, beasts they remain."

Thus it will be seen that the British will have a man at the peace table who, while scholarly as any statesman, yet is cognizant of the fundamental issues and facts of the war, and while standing for a league of nations and other Wilsonian ideals, still has a firm grasp of realities, the German character and the war's horrors. He can be counted upon to act on the side of right and security by a very, very wide margin.

Personally, Balfour is a most pleasant man to meet. Almost six feet tall, gray curly hair, slightly bald and a most pleasant and healthful countenance, he greets one with a smile, a bow that would do honor to Queen Victoria herself and a hand-clasp that is sincere and friendly, not official.

Five Start in Speakership Race

Speculation is rife as to who will be the next speaker in the house of representatives of congress. It is a certainty that he will be a Republican as that party now rules the lower house. President Wilson is expected home from Europe the third week in February. He will call a special session of congress early in March in the attempt to get important war legislation through. Champ Clark, of Missouri, the present speaker, will be the Democratic candidate. Mann of Illinois, Longworth and Fess, of Ohio, and Gillett, of Massachusetts, are Republican candidates. Mann and Longworth are conceded little chance. Fess and Gillett are leading but a possible "dark horse" may show up at the last moment to grab off the plum.

A NOVEL WAR HISTORY.

Otto Kahn's suggestion that a competent committee select 500 letters written home by our soldiers abroad promises a novel history of the war from a new angle. A modest amount of comment and illumination might connect these letters so as to make a complete narrative which would not supplant scientific history but would give the personal equation of war, which would not only be interesting but would afford a psychological study of the young American mind under abnormal conditions.

Many years ago a great man said that the only history of any value was that which consisted of incident and anecdote. The proposed volume would pretty well fit this condition. In the years to come we shall have an unending series of war volumes doing with men in masses. Mr. Kahn's book would be a revelation of the heart, mind and sould of the individual soldier and would be all the more valuable and vivid because the letters were not written with a thought of publication.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

DESIRES CAROLINE ISLES.

The Caroline Islands, which, with the Marshall group, are affording one point of contention at the peace conference in Paris, have caused two international incidents and might conceivably cause another and more serious one. They have belonged in turn to Portugal, Spain and Germany. Now Japan claims them under a secret agreement made with Great Britain early in the great war. The Japanese navy seized and occupied the islands immediately after Japan's entry into the conflict.

Japan's claim to the islands is being opposed by the American commissioners, headed by President Wilson. English press reports state that if Japan succeeds in making good its claim to the islands President Wilson will have suffered a severe loss of prestige in the eyes of his countrymen, because the two island groups are strategically placed and could be made into naval bases threatening not only the Philippines, but to Hawaii and Samoa as well.

As winter begins to be a little restive on the lap of spring, some people are getting more interested in the National league than in the League of Nations.—Columbia State.

Indigestion.

Take a few doses of Chamberlain's Tablets as directed for indigestion, and you will soon forget about your stomach troubles. Try it.—Adv.

TOUGH EXPERIENCE

After Many Narrow Escapes A Y. M. C. A. Secretary Reaches Home.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Thanks to a German aviator's bad aim, and a U-boat captain's good one, F. M. Van Epps, of Chicago, divisional secretary of the Y. M. C. A., outfit which worked with the Fifth division until the armistice was signed, has arrived here all dressed up in a doughboy's uniform. A limp and a kit bag slung over his shoulder containing what is left of his equipment complete the "Y" man's souvenirs of a six months' service overseas.

Van Epps saw the war on four fronts in France and Alsace, serving in the first line trenches on two of them. He is one of the survivors of the Oronzo which was torpedoed on April 29, sixty miles off the coast of Wales, when U-boats got two out of a convoy of seven steamships. The Oronzo went down in twelve minutes after she was struck, and Van Epps, and fifty-six other "Y" men lost all their baggage. They were picked up by a torpedo boat destroyer and landed at Hollyhead, Wales.

In Southern and Middle Alsace, Van Epps was in the first line trenches and at St. Mihiel, when the drive opened, he became a stretcher bearer after his supplies ran out. Getting word to shift to the Argonne, he travelled all night by train, on trucks and afoot and spent the next three weeks sleeping in shell holes and trenches when he was not at work.

At Madeleine Farm, an October 18, Van Epps and Thomas F. Hadley, another Y. M. C. A. man, set up shops in an old barn. All but three of the twenty-five "Y" workers went back to rear supplies. The barn was under shell fire for several days, but Van Epps and Hadley decided it was good enough to sleep in. They built a bed of boxes of jam, with a tub of chewing tobacco for a pillow, and laid down.

Half a mile back, an American battery was hammering the Germans, and two German airplanes came over looking for the position. They let go two bombs which landed on each side of the barn. Soon came a third which struck the roof, bringing down a mass of rafters and beams and scattering shrapnel. A splinter was driven through the calf of one of Hadley's legs and a piece of shell tore through both Van Epps' thighs.

After dressing stations and field hospitals had finished with them they spent half a day in an ambulance and then were put abroad a French hospital train, where they remained another two days. One of these days was Sunday, so Van Epps, at the suggestion of some of the doughboys, "put on" a service, conducting it propped up in his stretcher.

At the field hospital, Van Epps' "Y" uniform had to be cut off him, so he got an army uniform to come home in.

A large stock of abdominal belts and supporters for stout or weak people. You will see them at Silverthorn's. 2-14-3t

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Every year more people drink Postum. *Why?* Try it yourself; *you'll find "There's a Reason"*

In 1898 Sir Archibald Garrod proved that in gout (also true in rheumatism) there is deficient elimination on the part of the kidneys and the poisons within are thrown off.

Prof. H. Strauss attributes a gouty attack to the heaping up of poisons where there is an abnormal excess of uric acid which is precipitated in the joints and sheaths, setting up inflammation. Before the attack of gout or rheumatism there is sometimes headache, or what is thought to be neuralgia, or rheumatic conditions, such as lumbago, pain in the back of the neck, or sciatica. As Prof. Strauss says, "The excretion of uric acid we are able to effect by exciting diuresis." Drink copiously of water, six or eight glasses per day, hot water before breakfast and obtain Anuric tablets, double strength, for 60 cts., at the nearest drug store and take them three times a day. If you want a trial package send 6 cents to Dr. Pierce's Invalids' Hotel, Buffalo, N. Y.

"Anuric" (Anhydromethylene-citric acid) is a recent discovery of Dr. Pierce and much more potent than lithia, for it will dissolve uric acid as hot tea dissolves sugar.

The Observer's Classified Ads.

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FOR SALE—Auto. Used but not abused. 5-passenger Mitchell. $350. Hamilton Garage. 2-15-tf

FOR SALE—New five-room house to be removed by purchaser. Also rubber tired buggy for sale, set of hack harness, set single harness. Call Farm 36. 2-15-3tp

FOR SALE—New Singer sewing machine, 66 model, with attachments complete. $35.00. Phone Black 1041 or call at 1002 Washington avenue. 2-14-3tp

FOR SALE—Cheap, one corner good for hotel or apartment house. See Mrs. Zuber. 2-13-4tp

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FOR SALE—Rhode Island Red eggs. 75c a setting. Phone Black 1642. 2-11-tf

FOR SALE—Setting hens, day old chicks and hatching eggs from select matings of Blue Rock Hybrids. My egg record open for inspection. C. S. Shultz, 1904 East N ave. Phone Black 3961.

FOR SALE—That monument you want for Decoration day is ready for immediate delivery. B. M. M. & G. Co., 1502 S avenue. 1-17-tf

FOR SALE—New Paige car. Run less than 1000 miles and is in fine shape. A bargain if taken at once. Call Red 3861 or inquire Hilton's garage. 2-7-tf

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FOR RENT—One furnished room, $7.00 per month. Phone B 1642. 2-6-tf

FOR RENT—Furnished housekeeping rooms. Phone Black 831. 2-4tf

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SALESMEN—Extraordinary opportunity for big money with snappy line of advertising signs, calendars and novelties. Absolutely new, different. Splendid opening. Big business. Act quick. The Sciopo Sign Co., Kenton, Ohio. 2-15-1t

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MONEY TO LOAN, at 6 per cent, on Union county farms. Apply H. E. Dixon, Foley bldg., La Grande, Ore. Adv. 2-13-tf

WANTED—Lady for housework. Call Red 382. 2-12-6tp

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J. A. MARS

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that our boys—the ones who have returned and those still overseas—will be watching our response—

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Let us prepare—NOW—for the next Liberty Loan.

Summon your dollars together awaiting your country's call in a savings account in this institution.

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Thousands Have Discovered Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets are a Harmless Substitute.

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Most headaches, "dullness" and that lazy feeling come from constipation and a disordered liver. Take Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets when you feel "loggy" and "heavy." Note how they "clear" clouded brain and how they "perk up" the spirits. 10c and 25c a box. All druggists.

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R. J. GREEN, Attorney at Law—Practice in all state and federal courts. Office La Grande National Bank Building.

CRAWFORD & EAKIN—T. H. Crawford and Robert S. Eakin, Attorneys a law. Practice in all the courts of the state and the United States. Office, West-Jacobson Bldg., rooms 9-10-17, La Grande, Oregon.

ARCHITECTS

C. E. MILLER—Architect, room 27, New Foley Bldg. Phone Red 1871.

PIANO TUNER.

JAS. M. DALY—Piano Tuner. References, Mrs. G. S. Birule, Mrs. R. J. Green, Miss Miller. Phone Mrs. R. J. Kitchen for appointment. Will be in La Grande in May. 2-4-1m.p

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J. J. MURCHISON, C. C.
R. J. KITCHEN, Clerk

MODERN WOODMEN OF AMERICA—La Grande Camp No. 7703 meets on the first and third Thursday evenings of each month in the K. of P. Hall. Visiting neighbors welcome.
L. J. MUNHALL, V. C.
W. F. ASHMAN, Clerk

O. E. S.—Hope Chapter No. 13, O. E. S. holds stated communications the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Visiting members cordially welcomed.
SADIE E. GIVEN, W. M.
MARY A. WARNICK, Sec.

K. of L. of Security—Mt. Emily Council, No. 246, meets the second and fourth Monday evening at 8 o'clock at Eagle hall. Visiting members are welcome.
ABE HARRIS, Fin'l. Sec.
J. K. FITZGERALD, Pres.

A. F. & A. M.—La Grande Lodge No. 41, A. F. & A. M. holds regular meetings first and third Saturday at 7:30 p. m. Cord'al welcome to all Masons.
C. M. HUMPHREYS, W. M.
A. C. WILLIAMS, Sec.

F. O. EAGLES, AERIE NO. 259.—Meet every Friday night, at Eagles Hall. Visiting members welcome.
Z. LILLY, W. P.
A. J. LARM, Sec.

REBEKAHS—Crystal Lodge No. 50 meets every Tuesday evening in the I. O. O. F. Hall. All visiting members are invited to attend.
LETTIE McGOLDRICK, N. G.
LUCIA HALEY, Rec. Sec.

L. O. O. M.—La Grande Lodge No. 850, Loyal Order of Moose holds regular meetings every Wednesday night at 8 p. m. in Eagle hall next to Elks' Bldg. on Washington Ave. Visitors always welcome. Dues payable at Young's Sweets.
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B. P. O. ELKS, La Grande Lodge No. 433. Lodge meets each Thursday evening at 8 o'clock. Home and club privileges cheerfully extended to all Brother Elks.
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