

FEELERS ON ATTITUDE OF U.S. SENT

Genoa Tried to Find Out in Advance How Country Stood.

RESULT WAS MUCH CONFUSION LATER

Russia Accepts Proposals of Powers for Conference at The Hague Soon.

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, May 17.—From sources at Genoa prior to issuance of the economic conference invitation to the United States to participate in The Hague meeting, was sent a "feeler" to develop American attitude toward participation. It was learned today. The American reply, it was explained, was sympathetic but not an acceptance, although apparently construed at Genoa as foreshadowing participation by the United States.

This, it was said, was the only explanation that could be assigned here to the confusion in European capitals which followed the American declaration of the formal invitation.

(By Associated Press)

GENOA, May 17.—Russia has accepted the proposals of the powers for a meeting at The Hague to discuss the Russian situation.

Methodists to Meet Tomorrow

What is termed by Rev. G. H. Quigley as a rally of Methodist ministers, will be held at La Grande Thursday afternoon and evening. Ministers from the La Grande division, which includes the towns of the branch line and those between La Grande and Baker, will come here to attend the meeting.

The meeting will begin at three o'clock Thursday afternoon and will continue until six o'clock. In the evening a mass meeting will be held in the Methodist church at eight o'clock. Bishop Charles Wesley Burns, of the Helena area, and Dr. George Mecklenburg, of Helena, Montana, will be the speakers for the evening. Bishop Burns has been in La Grande three times before and is credited as being one of the best orators in the northwest.

The public is invited to attend the mass meeting in the evening.

NO FAMINE IN BABIES YET

BUZULUK, Samara province, Russia, May 17.—There has been no baby famine in the Volga Valley. Even during the six months just passed, when hundreds of thousands of adults and children have died, the stork has made a valiant fight to keep alive with the Reaper. Accurate statistics are just as lacking on the birth rate as on the death rate, but an observer in the famine districts finds on every hand evidence that the peasant mothers have been fruitful even when the land was not.

The Samara district, despite the ravages of famine among children last autumn, literally swarms with infants.

Thousands of new-born babies, thrust upon famine-stricken communities by undernourished mothers probably have died within a few days or weeks after birth. Others are tiny living skeletons, with drawn faces like old men. But most of those whom the correspondent saw at railway stations, in box cars riding with their mothers to some more fruitful region and elsewhere, seemed plump and rosy and happy.

An American Relief Administration census of Samara province last September showed that 44 per cent of the inhabitants were children under 16 years of age. While the mortality among children was very high last September they have received food from America and elsewhere since then which the adults have not and the death rate recently has been higher among women than among either adult women or children.

Asked why the children lived and the adults died, a bearded old peasant, with clear honest eyes shining from his weathered face, said it was very simple.

"When the children cry for food we give it to them, even if it is the last we have," he said.

Girls, She Beat You to It!



This is Mrs. Rudolph Valentino, married in Mexico, Mexico, several days ago and a judge in California because the film star failed to await his final divorce decree, which was scheduled for next January declared their marriage void.

Chairman Nelson Comes Out For R.J. Kitchen

BOYD TELLS WHY SINNOTT SHOULD BE RE-ELECTED

Twelve Years of Good Service Should Be Considered, Says Mr. Boyd of Enterprise and Well Known Over State.

ENTERPRISE, Ore. May 17.—Editor Observer: Please allow me to give my views on this congressional fight which intended to retire from public life H. N. J. Sinnott, our present congressman.

If you had a man in your employment for twelve years and he had made good in the work he was doing, would you discharge him for an inexperienced man? If you had over four hundred employees and three of four of those four hundred were the ablest and most efficient by reason of ability, long service and natural fitness for the job, would you discharge one of those three or four able men for a man whom you knew nothing about? I don't think you would, no sensible man would, but that is exactly what any Republican voter will be voting to do who votes for Mr. Grinn in place of Mr. Sinnott for representative in Congress. Mr. Sinnott, by reason of long service, twelve years, in one of the three or four influential members in the House of Representatives; chairman of the most important committee in the House.

President Harding recognizes his leadership and ability. He is in a position to do things and does them in a big way for his country and for the state. He holds a position of power and influence above any other congressman west of the Mississippi.

A vote for Mr. Grinn is a vote for inexperience, experiment and for selfish motives. The Republican party is on trial. The people gave them an overwhelming vote of confidence in 1920. Why should any Republican make it impossible for the Republican party to make good its pledges of 1920 by taking out of the House one of the few men who, through experience and ability and his influence with the administration would be a power in bringing about a readjustment of our economic conditions that will bring great prosperity, and vote for a man who would have no influence, no ability and no power, by lack of experience, to accomplish the things that the Republican party pledged themselves in 1920?

To each Republican I say, lay aside petty prejudices, don't listen to the howl of the fanatic, look after your own welfare as well as your country's by re-nominating Mr. Sinnott. It has taken twelve years for him to reach the place of influence and power that he has in Congress. It would take Mr. Grinn just as long for no one will say that he has more ability than Mr. Sinnott.

What assurance have we that after he is nominated and elected, that he

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SINNOTT BILL HAS RELIEVED MANY VETERANS

Oregon Congressman Sponsored Legislation that Saved Many Homesteads for War Heroes.

(Special to The Observer)

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 17.—Representative Sinnott has been informed by First Assistant Secretary of the Interior Finney that the Sinnott bill approved by the President April 6, 1922, has already afforded relief to veterans of the late war who, but for this legislation, would have suffered cancellation of their homestead entries. Secretary Finney says that the department would have been compelled to take this action although the cases involved very substantial equities if it had not been for the enactment of the Sinnott bill.

In one of these cases Clare R. Bradley of New Mexico was about to lose his homestead because the department said that it had not been proved that he was discharged from the army by reason of disability incurred in the service. The fact, however, that Bradley had been paid compensation by the Bureau of War Risk Insurance on account of tuberculosis and heart disease contracted in line of duty brought him within the provisions of the Sinnott bill and the former decision of the department was vacated and the local land office directed to issue him a certificate and patent.

Another recent case was that of Lawrence N. McKay of Florida in which the department said that in view of one year's compliance with the homestead law, "which added to two years military service which entitles him to claim under the act of April 6, 1922," the Sinnott bill, is sufficient to sustain a claim to a patent. The department dismissed the proceedings against the entry and ordered acceptance of final proof thereon.

Both of these boys would have lost their homes, although they have been so ill since the war as to receive compensation and therefore unable to live on their homesteads, if it had not been for the Sinnott bill.

QUEEN OF DRUG GANG

PARIS.—The police have learned that Mlle. Feodora Alexieff, member of a formerly wealthy Russian family, is directing the operations of the gang which is smuggling drugs into France.

MASKED MEN BARRIED

MEDFORD, May 17.—An orange dance copied after one recently passed at Sacramento, California, having all masks and disguises on the streets was passed unannounced last night.

WHOA!



American Legion Stands Firmly by Ralph Williams

NAMPA MAN BUYS OUT DRUG STORE

Incorporates Company With Local People Interested—Will Remove to La Grande and Make His Home Here.

The day of the Silverthorne drug store on the corner of Adams and Depot street, is over for today the old name went into oblivion and the new name of "Glass Drugs" took its place, when George H. Glass, late of Nampa, Idaho, finished a deal with G. M. Richey for the purchase of the drug line, fixtures and business.

Mr. Glass immediately formed a corporation with himself, "Snap" McMaas and Dr. J. H. Murray of Nampa as principal incorporators. The policy of the store will remain the same. Mr. McMaas will continue to have direct control of the prescription department and the floor work, while Mr. Glass will be active in the management of the business. Mrs. Glass and their two children will remove to La Grande within a few weeks. There will be no change in the clerks forces, for according to announcement made today Mr. Tuttle and Mr. Wright will remain with the new company.

Mr. Glass is a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and has been in business in Nampa for the past three years.

"I am very much pleased with La Grande," he said today. "In fact the fondness for the city grows on me each day I am here. It is an excellent business point and from the excellent way the city is kept with its beautiful homes, I am certain it is a fine home city."

G. M. Richey, who has owned the drug business for several months past, is planning on an extended trip just as soon as he gets his business affairs in shape. Mr. and Mrs. Richey have not decided yet whether the trip will be east or west, but they intend to be absent from La Grande for some time when their final arrangements are made.

Motor Schooner Goes on Rocks

(By Associated Press)

MARSHFIELD, May 17.—The motor schooner Osmo struck a rock off Cape Blanco on the southern Oregon coast at 3:30 this morning and became water-logged and was abandoned by the crew of 17 when the engines stopped and the hand pumps failed to check the rising water. The tug Fearless of the port of Coos Bay has been to the scene of the wreck in an attempt to tow the Osmo to this port.

Great Patriotic Organization Denounces Manner in Which Republican Leader Has Been Attacked—Williams a Friend of the Soldier.

(Special to The Observer)

PORTLAND, Ore., May 17.—An official telegram from the American Legion of Oregon has been sent to every Legion Post in the state calling attention to the fight being made on Ralph E. Williams, Republican national committeeman, and denouncing the parties who are assuming that the Legion is behind this attack.

The official message received by the American Legion Post of La Grande follows: "Commander American Legion Post, La Grande, Oregon: In answer to a scurrilous attack on our friend, Ralph E. Williams, in a local newspaper a number of veterans whose names you may recognize have written for publication in the local papers a letter denouncing the pernicious propaganda used against Mr. Williams. Here is the letter with the names of Legion men signing same:

"We, the undersigned veterans of the World War, take this means of expressing our disapproval of the campaign now being conducted against Ralph E. Williams in his campaign for re-election as Republican national committeeman. We as citizens are deeply interested in clean politics in Oregon and are opposed to the tactics used against Mr. Williams who now holds the important post of vice-chairman of the Republican national committee. The campaign against him is one of vilification and misrepresentation. Efforts are being made through slander and innuendo to convince war veterans that Williams does not stand for their best interests. We believe in fair fighting. We have naught to say against Williams' opponent other than that he is untrue and that his political qualifications are unproved. But we do condemn the manner of campaign that is waged in his behalf. Our names and our records are known to the majority of ex-service men of Oregon. We ask these men not to be misled by political propaganda, emanating from questionable sources, but to stand for the man who by his acts on numerous occasions has proven his loyalty to the war veterans and vote for Ralph E. Williams at the primaries."

Signed by: Fred Kiddle, La Grande; F. J. Crossley, Thos. E. Mulvey, Sidney E. Payne, Barze E. Leonard, John A. Beckwith, Andrew Koerner, William R. Bald, Frank H. Moore, Wilbur Penderson, Douglas McKay, James W. Morris, Glenn H. Tiger, E. C. Mears, all of Portland; Joe Helgeson, Conrad Staffin, Dallas; Ben Dorris, Eugene; Walter Toose, Jr., McMinnville."

Opium Outfit Is Confiscated

(By Associated Press)

LONDON, May 17.—Longer hours Saturday opening and dealings on the pre-war account system instead of all transactions being for cash, are foreshadowed in new Stock Exchange rules published. These rules have been passed by the Committee for General Purposes and are subject to confirmation.

One of the proposed new rules provides for "markings" up to 3:30 p. m. on ordinary days and up to 1 o'clock on Saturdays, which would indicate that the House will close at 3:30 instead of 3 o'clock and that the present Saturday holiday will be abolished.

Forward bargains for settlement on fortnightly account days are prohibited in all British funds and colonial and provincial government securities, which means that dealing for these will continue to be only for cash.

BULLETINS

(By Associated Press)

DUBLIN, May 17.—The peace committee of the Dail Eireann which has been trying to find a basis for unity of Irish factions formally reported to the Dail today the breakdown of negotiations.

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, May 17.—Invitations have been issued for a large number of prominent steel manufacturers to meet the president tomorrow night at a dinner conference, the White House announced.

(By Associated Press)

PARIS, May 17.—The French government has informed the American war debt refunding commission that it is ready to send a special mission to the United States to confer regarding the payment of the French debt.

(By Associated Press)

PORTLAND, May 17.—A fire broke out here today at 10 o'clock, but was quickly extinguished by the fire department. The fire was in a building on the corner of Adams and Depot street, and the building was a warehouse for the storage of goods.

VICTORY IS PREDICTED FOR PINCHOT

Secretary of Pennsylvania Republicans Says it Seems Assured.

FIGHT IS CLOSE FOR NOMINATION

Prediction Made on Unofficial Advice in Face of Official Reports of Alter Leading.

(By Associated Press)

PHILADELPHIA, May 17.—Gifford Pinchot apparently won the republican nomination for governor on face of unofficial returns, said W. Harry Baker, secretary of the state republican committee, today. "Unless Allegheny county gives a larger majority than my advice indicate there is no doubt that Pinchot carried the state," he declared. Returns from 6178 of the 7534 districts in the state, received shortly after Baker made this announcement, reduced the Alter majority to 11,698. The vote was: Alter, 443,380; Pinchot, 431,694.

ALL IS WELL SAYS WALTER PIERCE

Returning from Portland this morning where he has been campaigning like "a house afire" in order to outdistance his opposition in the Democratic primary for governor, Walter M. Pierce jumped from the O.W. train this morning with the agility of a cowboy on the range, exclaiming "all is well." By this he meant, let them fight, for his time he feels is coming in the fall when he will be pitted against the Republican nominee with the best chance a Democrat has had for some time, so he believes.

Mrs. Pierce, who was operated upon a few days ago at Good Samaritan Hospital in Portland, is getting along fine and Mr. Pierce felt that she would improve rapidly now.

PRE-WAR TIMES ARE RETURNING

(By Associated Press)

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Forward bargains for settlement on fortnightly account days are prohibited in all British funds and colonial and provincial government securities, which means that dealing for these will continue to be only for cash.

In other stocks and shares there are to be fortnightly settlements. Dealings for foreign clients resident abroad are only to be allowed for cash "in view of the state of the foreign exchange." Options will not be allowed for longer than three months.

A DRESS OF GOLD

(By Associated Press)

BELGRADE, May 17.—A dress of pure gold is one of the most conspicuous of the wedding gifts received by Princess Marie of Romania, who will be married here June 1 to King Alexander of Yugoslavia. The dress was presented to her by the peasants of the country.

King Alexander has received from the Serbians in Macedonia a shirt of pure silk, woven on a hand loom from a medieval design that now is rarely forgotten.

Weather

Tonight and Thursday calm, probably rain in the western portion of the state.