



PRESIDENT CALLS NIGHT CONFERENCE

Secret Meeting Is Held at White House.

PEACE ADDRESS LIKELY TOPIC

Gathering Follows Berlin News of Sending "Urgent" Note.

CLASH STAGED IN SENATE

Democrats Oppose Discussion of Mr. Wilson's Talk, While Republicans, Led by Cummins, Insist on Getting Views of Body.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—Five Democratic leaders of the Senate, three of them members of the foreign relations committee, had a long conference with President Wilson at the White House tonight. Afterward all of them refused flatly to talk.

In the conference were Chairman Stone and Senators Pomeroy and Eastburn, of the foreign relations committee, and Senators Walsh and Hoke Smith. The President is much interested in the efforts of Senator Cummins and other Republicans to force an open debate on his peace address, and in some quarters it was believed that it was in this connection that the Senators were called to the White House.

No Plan of Action Mapped.

It is understood the subject was discussed only generally and that no attempt was made to agree upon any plan of action.

The legislative programme was talked over and the President is said to have urged the importance of passing water-power legislation before the end of the session.

There have been suggestions that, in order to prevent interference with legislation by daily discussions of the Cummins resolution, which would get aside next week for the debate, an agreement to postpone it until the Senate holds its extra session after March 4.

LONDON, Jan. 24.—The American Ambassador at Berlin, James W. Gerard, was called to the Foreign Office today, whether he was summoned by the Imperial Chancery for a conversation respecting President Wilson's address to the Senate, says a Berlin dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company by way of Amsterdam.

Urgent Message Is Sent.

The conference lasted for more than an hour and later the Ambassador sent a long wireless message to Washington "at the urgent request of the German government."

In Parliamentary circles, says the correspondent, President Wilson's speech is generally considered a last move for peace and that, if it is unsuccessful, the President will be obliged to side finally with one of the belligerents.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—Determined opposition was referred to the Administration leaders in the Senate today to Senator Cummins' proposal to set aside next week for free discussion of President Wilson's world peace address. Led by Senator Stone, chairman of the foreign relations committee, the Democrats stood against the Cummins resolution, maintaining that with the press of legislative business such a discussion at this time would make necessary an extra session of Congress.

No Action Is Taken.

At the outset Senator Stone moved that the resolution be referred to the foreign relations committee; later Senator Norris moved to amend the motion by adding instructions that the committee make a report within 10 days. Finally the resolution went to the Senate calendar without action, and it will require affirmative action before it can be placed before the Senate for a vote.

Senator Cummins insisted tonight on pressing the matter at every opportunity, and as a motion to take it up is debatable, it can precipitate action during the first hour of the Senate's session every day unless parliamentary expedients are adopted to prevent.

Duty to Country Is Cited.

In urging his resolution, Senator Cummins declared the President's proposals, right or wrong, were the most important ever made by a chief executive of the United States and that the Senate owed a duty to the country to discuss them to advise the President in the matter.

"If there ever was a time," he said, "when duty commanded that we give to the world and the country the honest convictions of the Senate upon proposals that affect the integrity of the Nation, the peace of the world, and the happiness of mankind, it is now." Senator Stone insisted any discussion in the Senate was bound to be a two-sided and not of a character to enlighten the President or guide his footsteps. He also declared there was scarcely time left for disposing of pressing legislation before March 4 and suggested that discussion be left to another time.

"There is no desire on the part of the President's friends to prevent the

LINNTON SELECTED AS SITE FOR RANGE

SECRETARY OF WAR DECIDES TO BUY TRACT FOR ARMY.

Rifle Practice Grounds of 1000 Acres to Be Taken, Half on Option, for Vancouver Troops.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Jan. 24.—The Secretary of War has decided definitely to purchase a tract of land in the vicinity of Linnton, Or., for a rifle range for the use of troops stationed at Vancouver Barracks. Secretary Baker made this announcement today to Senator Jones and Representative Johnson, who called to urge him to purchase a tract adjoining the Vancouver military reservation.

The Secretary said General Bell had reported adversely on the sites near Vancouver and had recommended the purchase of the Oregon tract, which embraces about 1000 acres.

The price asked for the land is \$90,000, more than is available, so the Secretary said he had decided to buy 500 acres and set an option on the remaining 500 and ask Congress for a further appropriation.

There is now available for this rifle range \$70,000, but part of this must be expended in erecting targets, furnishing water supply and otherwise improving the land after it has been acquired.

CITY APPEAL IS SHUT OFF

Premature Building of Sidewalk of Advantage to Charles Schmid.

The City Council yesterday approved payment of \$5778.22 to Charles Schmid as settlement in full of a judgment against the city for property taken for the widening of Washington street at Sixteenth street. The figure is \$1000 less than the judgment, the amount being held out as the assessment due the city from Mr. Schmid for the widening.

The city had intended appealing to the Supreme Court in the case, considering the judgment too high, but had been prevented from so doing because the Public Works Department had built a walk over the disputed property, thereby accepting the judgment legally.

SEVERAL VESSELS SUNK

Two Dutch and Two British Steamers Are Destroyed.

LONDON, Jan. 24.—Lloyd's Shipping Agency announces the sinking of the Dutch steamer Salland, of 2332 tons gross, and the British steamer Treasmadow, of 2325 tons gross. The crews were landed.

The sinking of the Dutch steamer Zeta, of 3053 tons gross, and the British steamer Neuguen, of 3523 tons gross, is also announced by Lloyd's. The crew of the sunken fishing boat Ethel, says another Lloyd's announcement, landed after 17 hours at sea in open boats during zero weather, the whole crew suffering from exposure and exhaustion.

WOMAN ON HUNGER STRIKE

Birth-Control Propagandist Refuses to Eat While Held in Cell.

NEW YORK, Jan. 24.—Mrs. Ethel Byrne, sentenced to 30 days in the penitentiary at Blackwell's Island for spreading birth-control propaganda, continued her hunger strike when she was returned to her cell today after failure to obtain her freedom on a writ of habeas corpus. She announced she had tasted neither food nor water since she was sent to the island Monday.

Mrs. Byrne, who is a sister of Mrs. Margaret Sanger, is being watched by the prison physicians. They said tonight her condition was "good."

\$1.50 WHEAT CONTRACTED

Enterprise Deal for 275-Acre Ranch Is at Record Price.

ENTERPRISE, Or., Jan. 24.—(Special.)—An agreement establishing the record price for contract wheat was entered into a few days ago between H. A. Quisenberry, W. R. Holmes, president of the Wallowa National Bank of this city, and owner of the property farmed by Mr. Quisenberry, and C. R. Elliott, a retired stockgrower and wheat raiser.

C. R. Elliott agreed to pay Mr. Quisenberry and Mr. Holmes \$1.50 a bushel for all merchantable wheat to be raised upon 275 acres during 1917.

SCHOOLBOY, 9, IS MISSING

Marcel Bishop Is Sought by Police When Parents Grow Anxious.

J. B. Bishop, 4235 Fifty-second avenue, Southeast, reported to the police early this morning that his son, Marcel, aged 9, had not returned home after school.

The boy had gone to school that morning as usual. When he did not return the parents became anxious and, after several hours, asked the police to join in the search for the lad.

BRITAIN OMITTS CEREMONY

King and Queen to Reopen Parliament Without Usual Events.

LONDON, Jan. 24.—The King and Queen will reopen Parliament on February 7, but without the customary state ceremony.

A procession of a naval and military character will be substituted.

MERGER FRAMERS WORK IN HARMONY

Senate and House Are Again in Accord.

JOINT COMMITTEE CRUCIBLE

Final Measure to Be Best Thought of Legislature.

TRADITIONS ARE SET ASIDE

House Chairman Presides at First of Many Conferences on Plans for Consolidation—Author Is Willing to Yield.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 24.—(Special.)—The Senate committee on consolidation and the House committee on consolidation got together tonight and their first joint meeting was as friendly as a family fireside gathering.

Ten minutes after the session began the members of the two committees were deep in earnest discussion on how to work out a consolidation programme between them that will best make for efficiency and economy.

When they adjourned, an hour later, it was to meet again tomorrow night to continue their work. And they agreed to hold joint sessions every day, if it becomes necessary, from now to the end of the session, to prepare the best consolidation measure possible.

Clackamas Chairmen in Harmony.

There was not a bicker or a quibble or a question of one committee or one house over the other in the whole session.

Senator Walter A. Dimick and Representative George C. Brownell, both of Clackamas County and respectively the chairman of the Senate and House committees, set an example of cordiality and displayed a desire to co-operate that made the situation easy for all concerned.

It had been reputed that personal rivalry between these leaders has been a factor in holding the two houses apart up to this time on the consolidation question. No one ever would have guessed it by their attitude tonight.

"Let George Do It," Says Walter.

When Senator Dimick spoke to Representative Brownell he called him "George."

When Representative Brownell spoke to Senator Dimick he went still further and called him "brother" and "Walter."

Senator Dimick suggested that the honor of presiding at the joint meetings of the committee go to Mr. Brownell.

"It's customary at joint meetings for the Senate chairman to preside," courteously insisted Mr. Brownell.

"No, you take it, George," said Dimick.

"I couldn't think of it, brother; you take it," returned Brownell.

Somebody moved that the Senate and House chairmen alternate in presiding (Concluded on Page 4, Column 2.)

ALIENS AT LUNCH ON FIFTH AVENUE

MRS. VINCENT ASTOR HOSTESS TO EAST SIDE DWELLERS.

Wealthy Society Women Rub Elbows With Poor, Whom They Meet as "Neighbors and Friends."

NEW YORK, Jan. 24.—Mrs. Vincent Astor's plan to Americanize New York City's alien population took concrete form today at a luncheon given in her Fifth-avenue home, once the scene of this city's most brilliant social functions under the leadership of Mrs. John Jacob Astor, to three score residents of the East Side, at which wealthy society women touched elbows with those dwelling in less pretentious quarters.

"We need here in this great city a neighborhood spirit," Mrs. Astor said in telling her plans. "A spirit which will bring Fifth avenue and First avenue together and which will make us acquainted with the homes and needs of each other as neighbors and friends, not as charity workers."

"We are striving for two things—to make service, not charity, our watchword and to have on call at all times residents who will render personal service to others in the neighborhood as it is needed."

WIDOW GOES ON APPROVAL

If Hood River Woman Pleases Colorado Man They Will Wed.

HOOD RIVER, Or., January 24.—(Special.)—Mrs. Emma Hammond, an elderly widow of the Heights section, left here yesterday for Denver, where she may wed J. A. Chapman, of Sterling, Col. Mrs. Hammond told her friends that she had been corresponding with Mr. Chapman for several months and following his proposal of marriage, the two agreed to meet in Denver.

If the disposition of Mrs. Hammond proves compatible with that of the Coloradoan, a wedding will follow, Mrs. Hammond told her friends, and she will go as a bride to a new home at Sterling.

The Baptist Mission Circle gave Mrs. Hammond a linen shower a few days ago.

REPORTER TAGS PROPOSED

Connecticut Has Bill Requiring Licenses for Newspapermen.

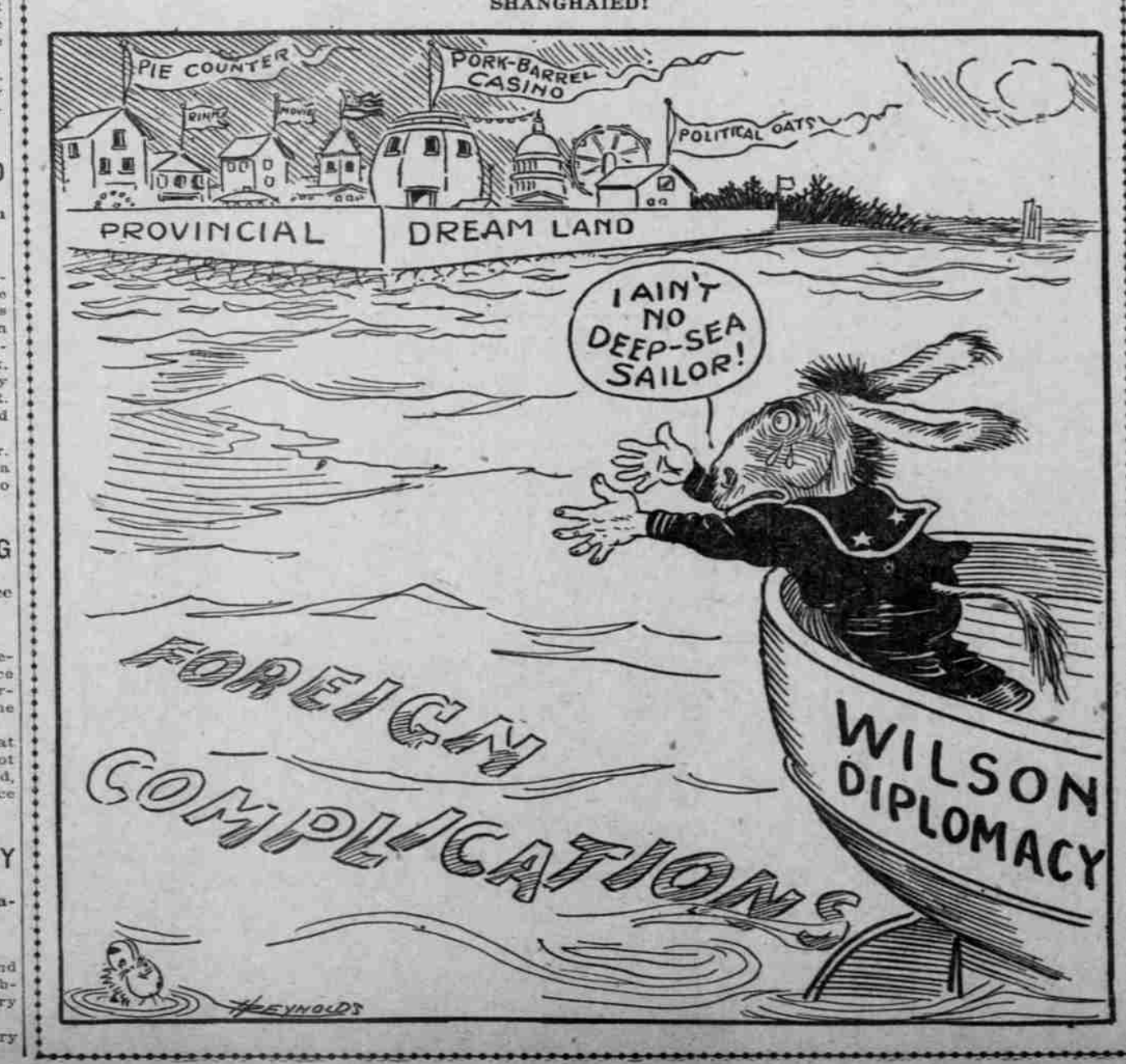
HARTFORD, Conn., Jan. 24.—A bill providing for the examination and licensing of journalists by a commission of five, to be appointed by the Governor, under the proposed measure, a licensed news writer on daily and weekly papers in the state would have to have at least six months' experience. A license would cost \$10 and would be subject to suspension.

PAPAL NUNCIO SEES KING

Rulers of Bavaria Give Audience to Monsignor Giuseppe Aversa.

BERLIN, Jan. 24.—(By wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—King Ludwig of Bavaria has received in audience the new papal nuncio, Monsignor Giuseppe Aversa, and exchanged with him mutual greetings, says a dispatch from Munich.

Later the nuncio was received by the Queen.



SON AIDS EX-BANDIT TO QUIT POOR FARM

CHRIS EVANS IS REMOVED TO ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL.

Joseph Evans, Rancher, Living Near Vancouver, Wash., Helps Parent When Plight Is Learned.

Chris Evans, famed bandit, made an extremely limited stay at the Multnomah County Farm, where provisions were made for him Monday by Dr. E. P. Geary, County Physician.

Joseph Evans, a rancher living near Vancouver, Wash., the eldest of Mr. Evans' four sons, received his first notification that his father had become a county charge through reading a newspaper report. He hurried to Portland, and yesterday saw Mr. Evans taken from the county farm to St. Vincent's Hospital.

The man who once diverted all his energies to relentless war against the Southern Pacific Railroad in California is now facing a losing battle with age and its infirmities. He is under the care of Dr. O. J. Goffin at the hospital.

An operation may be attempted if Mr. Evans' condition will allow it. Three of Mr. Evans' sons live in Portland, but did not know their father was going to the County Farm until they learned of his commitment through the newspapers.

HOUSE CLERK HIRE LOWER

Smaller Force Maintained and Saving Over Last Session Made.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 24.—(Special.)—If the House continues through the session with its present average force of clerks and stenographers it will be able to save from \$3000 to \$5000 compared to the expenses of the last session.

Speaker Stanfield has just completed a survey of the House payroll and finds that with the same number of bills on hand and the same amount of work accomplished, the House has 24 fewer clerks than two years ago. He expects this ratio to be maintained. His investigations revealed that a few clerks were employed on several committees who had not been authorized by the customary resolution. They were dismissed.

ARKANSAS NOW BONE DRY

Express Companies Do Rushing Liquor Business on Final Day.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Jan. 24.—While 600 men sang "How Dry I Am," Governor Brough signed the Arkansas "bone-dry" bill at the annual dinner of the Little Rock Board of Commerce tonight. All state officials and members of the Legislature were guests at the dinner.

Express companies were rushed today delivering orders for liquor. One local telegraph company reported it handled 800 telegrams from Little Rock residents ordering liquor yesterday.

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The Weather.

YESTERDAY: Maximum temperature, 48 degrees; minimum, 41 degrees. TODAY'S—Partly cloudy and occasionally threatening weather; southerly winds.

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CONVICT AFTER 41 YEARS GETS MERCY

Jesse Pomeroy to Be Treated as Others.

SOLITARY CELL TO BE LEFT

Man Now 57 No Longer to Be Shut Off From Humanity.

LIGHT TASKS PERMITTED

Noted Prisoner Who Can Read Seven Languages and Whose Efforts to Escape Are as in Fiction, at Last to Be Treated as Human.

BOSTON, Jan. 24.—To Jesse Pomeroy, who has been for 41 years in solitary confinement in the state prison at Charlestown, were granted equal privileges with other prisoners by the State Executive Council today. Convicted of murder at 15, Pomeroy two years later was locked up in a cell lighted from a window in the ceiling, so that he might not gaze on his fellow-convicts. He was exercised apart from the other prisoners and barred, as far as possible, from human companionship.

Two years ago the sentence was enforced less rigorously, to accord with modern ideas of prison reform. He received more opportunities for exercise in the prison yard and was allowed to attend church services twice on Sundays, sitting apart from the other men.

Light Work to Be Permitted.

Now, at the age of 57, Pomeroy will move into a cell where he can passersby, will be allowed to exercise with other prisoners, sit with them at the church services and at the prison entertainments, and will have such light work in the prison shops as his somewhat feeble health will permit. Governor McCall announced tonight that he approved the commutation.

Pomeroy was convicted of the brutal murder of two children, following a series of degenerate acts, which had terrorized the South Boston and Dorchester districts of this city. He was sentenced to be hanged, but because of his youth the sentence was commuted to solitary imprisonment for life. On September 7, 1876, he was placed in his solitary cell as the Charles-street jail.

Attempts to Escape Continued.

But he did not drop out of the public eye. Reports of sensational attempts to escape, carried through with patient ingenuity rarely found outside of fiction, became public at frequent intervals. His mother, until her death two years ago, never relaxed her efforts to secure his pardon, and was allowed to visit her son regularly.

When Pomeroy began his sentence he was poorly educated. Now he can read in seven languages, and at the age of 57 is studying Arabic.

His last known attempt to escape was in 1904, when he was allowed to visit his mother in the city. He was then diligently studying law as it bears on his case. Beyond his attempts to break through steel and brick to freedom, he has been, on the whole, his keepers say, a quiet and model prisoner.

"MRS. SPEAKER" RULES

Woman Legislator Presides Over House First Time in History.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Jan. 24.—For the first time in the history of the Oregon Legislature a woman presided over one of its branches today. Soon after the House session opened Speaker Stanfield called Mrs. Thompson, the only woman member, to the chair.

Mrs. Thompson has a voice that fills the entire capitol dome and she is well acquainted with parliamentary procedure. Four bills were passed while she was in the chair.

The men addressed her as "Mrs. Speaker," but at her own suggestion did not cease smoking.

BEER OUTPUT IS CURTAILED

British Food Controller Limits 1917 Production to 70 Per Cent of 1916.

LONDON, Jan. 24.—To reduce the consumption of foodstuffs by brewers, Baron Devonport, the food controller, has decided that the quantity of beer to be brewed for the year beginning April 1 shall be restricted to 70 per cent of the output of the previous year.

This means that only 18,000,000 barrels of beer will be produced, about half the output of the year preceding the war.

HOGS BRING RECORD PRICE

Market Reaches \$11.40 a Hundred, Highest in Its History.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Jan. 24.—A high record in hog prices was established here today, when the market reached a top of \$11.40 a hundred pounds. The next highest price since the market was established was yesterday, with the price \$11.25.