

FRANCE CAN'T PAY NOW, SAYS PREMIER

America Does Not Understand Paralysis, View.

EXCHANGE DOUBLES DEBT

Country Only Asks for Time to Recover From Devastating Effects of War Which Crippled.

PARIS, March 15.—Premier Millerand today put before the German Reichstag a long and detailed memorandum...

"France and the United States must continue the close friendship which always has existed between them."

"It appears to me an opportune time to recall to our friend, the United States, that France is not asking for charity."

"We don't request cancellation of our debts. We only ask time to breathe and to recover our strength after four and a half years of exhausting war."

"Exchange Doubles Debt." The premier referred to the ruinous fluctuations in exchange, which he held would be aggravated rather than palliated through measures proposed to France by those not taking sufficient account of interior conditions.

"If France is obliged to meet her obligations abroad at the present rate of exchange she would be forced to pay two and a half times what she owes."

"We have given our blood, we have given our money. To ask us now to give more than double our debt is an anomaly that cannot fail to strike the most impartial judges."

After mentioning the suggestion made by the United States that France could raise the value of the franc by increasing exports, the premier said that the question appeared to be imperfectly understood by the American people.

Country Still Paralyzed. "We ask nothing but increased imports. We must first manufacture and we can't make the things for foreign trade until we have factories in which to manufacture them."

"The American friends lose sight of the extent of the devastation of the richest part of our territory. Do they forget that we are still partly paralyzed and that it will require years to recuperate our waste manpower and restore the former flourishing manufacturing centers?"

"The war cost us 600,000 industrial workers, 600,000 of our buildings were destroyed, railways were ruined which in 1913 gave us 95 per cent of our wool, 90 per cent of our linen thread, 90 per cent of our minerals, 85 per cent of our pig iron, 70 per cent of our sugar and 55 per cent of our coal."

"The war wasted our railroads to the extent of our merchant fleet was sunk and our wheat production was diminished two-thirds involving a deficit of 2,000,000,000 francs. These catastrophic changes were a blow to the very base of the economic and financial situation of France."

"The premier took the view of American financiers who have urged France to ship her gold against an unfavorable trade balance. He continued: 'If France were deprived of her gold it would bring on a financial crisis coinciding with the effects of war which would be unrepaired. It would constitute perils of another order quite as great as those we were under from 1914 to 1918.'"

U. S. Reproaches Dilked. "The reproaches of American financiers that France has been too slow in imposing taxes sufficient to balance the budget are made without due consideration to the extent to which the paying power of the country has been reduced as shown by figures I have given."

"Besides sapping our economic power, the German invasion reduced the treasury resources 10 per cent. Also, while the United States mobilized about 17 per cent of her men of an age to serve, we sent 89 per cent of all our mobilizable men for an indefinitely longer period."

"The paralysis of business as well as the prolonged absence of so many taxpayers resulted in a diminution of 23 per cent in the yield of taxes in 1915 as compared with 1913. In 1916, when it appeared no longer possible to wait for liberation of the invaded districts to increase the tax revenues, new taxes were imposed and old ones increased until during the present year the yield of these taxes barely will amount to 12,000,000,000 francs."

Further taxes under discussion in the chamber will increase our revenue to 2,000,000,000 francs, or four times greater than the pre-war total.

"Could France, impoverished in manpower, with her principal industries wiped out, be asked to make greater or speedier effort?"

France Said to Be Hopeful. "France and the United States cannot afford to misunderstand each other. Both countries must bear in mind that there are no dealings worth while in which each does not find an advantage."

"France is determined to rise from the ruins accumulated on her soil by the battle of nations. She will be able to make the necessary financial effort, taking all measures the situation requires."

DIVA'S BENEFACTOR DIES David Mayer, Who Paid for Mary Garden's Musical Education, Dead.

CHICAGO, March 15.—David Mayer, wealthy real estate man, who paid for Mary Garden's musical education, died today at St. Augustine, Fla., according to word received here.

Mr. Mayer, who was 69 years old, was born in Germany.

GRIEF BRINGS INSANITY Father, After Burial of All His Children, Succumbs.

PENNSYLVANIA, Pa., March 15.—(Special.)—The loss of all his children through the ravages of black

MOVE OF AMERICANS IS NOT YET DECIDED

Part Troops Will Play in Keeping Order Uncertain.

CAPITAL'S REPORTS FEW

Washington Waits to Hear From Commander on Situation Before Taking Any Steps.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—(By the Associated Press.)—Because reports were lacking tonight from Major-General Henry T. Allen at Coblenz as to military aspects of the involved situation in Germany, government officials today threw little light on the political status there and none on possible allied military measures.

War department officials had hoped General Allen would report on the conference of allied commanders on the Rhine with Marshal Foch, but no message came.

The state department had an official report of a general strike in Hamburg, with the military in control and strikers reported on the Rhine. There was much speculative discussion again in war and state department circles as to the status of General Allen's troops on the Rhine in view of the fact that the American forces alone are under armistice conditions.

Disagreement was expressed as to whether they would be under orders of Marshal Foch. Some war department officials thought that technically the marshal's authority might still extend to General Allen's command. Other officers, however, held that the peace treaty had abrogated the French leader's authority at least so far as the Americans were concerned.

Action Awaits Washington. In any case, Secretary Baker's view appeared to render the question purely an academic one. He said General Allen had authority to preserve order in his area and that any other action contemplated involving his forces would have to await approval from Washington.

Military action by any occupying force, it was pointed out, would be contingent more on the character of the revolutionary change in Germany than on the revolution.

The change of government would be of only passing interest to the commanders, unless it portended a departure from German engagements under the treaty.

The present German political situation, it was said, was so obscure as to defy diagnosis in its true perspective until time disclosed the real purpose behind events reported from Washington.

It is well understood, therefore, that for the present at least General Allen will confine himself to a maintenance of the status quo in the Coblenz sector so far as this relates to the maintenance of order. This could be done, it is thought, without interference with any changes which the Germans may seek.

Industries Would Operate. Should a general strike extend to the American section, as threatened, General Allen's situation might become more involved. Inhabitants would not, it was thought, be permitted to suffer for necessities of life, and the line of communications of the American army must be kept open. While General Allen has large discretion as to measures necessary in such an emergency, it was believed beyond warning strike leaders against any acts having this effect, he would scarcely do more than operate public utilities with troops and such civilians as he might need to replace strikers.

In reviewing the German political situation as shown in press advices, officials noted the apparent split between northern and southern Germany over the new government. They also saw signs of a rekindling of the radical spartan movement as a force to oppose assumption of power by the reactionaries. A flare-up of the most radical elements in Germany was becoming increasingly imminent, it was said.

Boy Caught at Roseburg. CHICO, Cal., March 15.—(Special.)—William Bland, aged 14 years, who disappeared from his home here a few days ago, has been located at Roseburg, Or., according to a telegram from the authorities there, received by J. A. Peck, city marshal. Bland left home in company with William Lambert, aged 15 years. The mother of the Bland boy, Mrs. Edith Moore, and the county probation officers are arranging to have him brought home.

GRAIN MEN ASK CHANGES

Collective Bargaining and Better Transportation Are Aims.

"Your Lunch Is Served"

Come in any time—at either restaurant—between 11 and 2—and you will find a cozy table with plenty of room for a friend, if you like—and excellent service on double-quick time. It's Portland's Lunch de Luxe at a reasonable price.

CHICAGO, March 15.—Collective bargaining, better transportation facilities and legislation affecting grain interests were discussed today at a conference of the Farmers' Grain Dealers' National Association, purported to represent 4000 companies, with an investment of more than \$50,000,000 in grain elevators, coal houses, lumber yards and warehouses.

The grain interests of the country and allied interests are growing each year and our desire to obtain legislation that will protect the industry along with other industrial lines," said Herman W. Danforth, president of the association. "We intend to reorganize on broader lines that will give us a larger scope for field work."

BUDAPEST, March 15.—Alexander Simonyi Semeden, who last week was asked to form a cabinet, will submit tomorrow to Admiral Horty, the new regent, names of persons he has chosen.

He will be premier and minister of the interior. The rest of the cabinet follows: Foreign affairs, Count Paul Teleky; war, General Soos; finance and commerce, Baron Koranyi; justice, M. Ferdinandy; agriculture, M. Oubinek; public worship and education, Stefan Haller; public safety, Dr. Bernard; national minorities, Jacob Bleyer.

WETS' SINCERITY DOUBTED

Real Probe of Anti-Saloon League Declared Not Wanted.

WESTERVILLE, O., March 15.—A statement issued today by the anti-saloon league of America on the proposed legislative investigations of the league in New York and that requested in Maryland by the anti-prohibition league, declares "there will be no investigations."

The wets who are behind the movement for an investigation don't want any. In fact, if they knew a honest, thorough investigation of the anti-saloon league were to be made, they would break their necks to stop it," the statement said.

WHISKY PROVES FATAL

Home-Made Liquor Kills Charles McAndrews of Medford.

RENO, Nev., March 15.—(Special.)—Home-made whisky, believed to have been of the moonshine variety, caused the death here of Charles McAndrews of Medford, Or. The liquor was consumed from a near-beer bottle, and McAndrews soon became ill and was taken to the county hospital, where he succumbed.

McAndrews leaves a widow and daughter in Medford. He came here in company with Charles Howell a few days ago, the two planning to file on government land.

Marines to Wear Collar Ornament.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—The emblem of the marine corps hereafter

Imperial Hotel

Phil Matshantz Manager

SIAMESE PRINCE LEAVES

Harvard Student Goes Home to Attend Queen's Funeral.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 15.—Prince Mahidol of Siam, brother of King Rama the Fifth of Siam, is here en route to his native country to attend the funeral service of the queen mother, who died last October. The services will take place May 10, at which time the body of the queen will be cremated with state ceremonies.

Prince Mahidol, who is 24 years old, is a medical student at Harvard university.

Board Calls for Bids.

HEPPNER, Or., March 15.—(Special.)—Hardman union high school board of directors have called for bids for the construction of a modern high school building at Hardman. The union district was formed last year.

Read The Oregonian Classified Ads.

Watch for Wednesday's Anniversary Special

Anniversary Week

Attractive, New Plaid Skirts \$14.75 \$18.75 Rich and Elaborate Color Combinations Pleats, Pockets, Belts, Button Trimmed

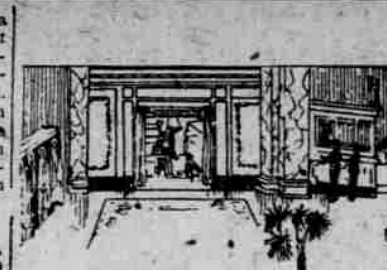
The quality of these skirts is far above the usually advertised skirt. They were secured especially for this selling under the market price and are most emphatic values.

Many Women Have Participated in the Jersey Coats \$19.50 \$22.50

For Sport, Vacation, Street and Business Wear All jersey at \$19.50. Three smart styles at \$22.50, all jersey and leather trimmed.

Have You? Woolen Materials and Silk Materials The most emphatic dress values offered yet this season. Every one a new fresh model, just unpacked for this event.

H. Liebes & Co. ESTABLISHED 55 YEARS FURS 149-151 BROADWAY



Imperial Hotel Phil Matshantz Manager

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Yes, Ma'am! There IS a Difference In that very "Difference" lies the Superiority and Popularity of the APEX ELECTRIC WASHER. The Apex will wash your clothes faster than any other washer made. It's shining copper tub oscillates to and fro, 80 times every minute, flushing out every particle of dirt in ten minutes—or less!

WHY DRUGGISTS RECOMMEND SWAMP-ROOT. For many years druggists have watched with much interest the remarkable record maintained by Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney, liver and bladder medicine. It is a physician's prescription. Swamp-Root is a strengthening medicine. It helps the kidneys, liver and bladder do the work nature intended they should do.

"Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets" G. W. Brown. Complete Lens Grinding Factory on the Premises. SAVE YOUR EYES. THOMPSON OPTICAL INSTITUTE EYE-SIGHT SPECIALISTS.

Idle COLLARS. STYLISH—but more—QUALITY built into them by craftsmen who know that style is rather useless unless it is coupled with DURABILITY. Kenwick 2 1/2% Lombard 2% Newest of the new

There's something about them you'll like. Twenty to the package. Herbert London Cigarettes. Trade Mark.

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