

HARDING TO SOLVE FOREIGN TANGLES

Administration Programme Makes Good Progress.

HOOVER'S AID VALUABLE

Hughes, Under Stress of Important World Problems, Showing Strain and Friends Worry.

BY MARK SULLIVAN.
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WASHINGTON, D. C., May 21.—Both for those who try to understand a complex thing, and those who try to make it clear, there are various devices for simplicity of these. One of the most frequently useful is to picture a situation in terms of the men who figure in it. It is a part of that philosophy which says that what will come out of any situation will always be whatever is the net resultant of the pulling and hauling of the strong men in it, and that the whole tangle of the world altogether comes down to strong men seeking their own ends in their own ways, sometimes at cross purposes, sometimes in co-operation.

Harding Firm in Oppose.
Such a picture of Washington begins of course with Harding. His dominant trait and purpose continue to be, as in the beginning, harmony, good feeling and "back to normalcy." But everybody has learned by this time that while to Harding harmony means extreme consideration for the rights and feelings of others, it is as far as possible from meaning a willingness to abandon his own purposes, nor easy-going compromise. Harding will squirm and shrink from doing or saying a disagreeable thing. He will show obvious discomfort in his resistance to those who want him to do what his own judgment does not endorse.

He will go to any length to leave a good taste in the mouth of one who is necessarily disappointed at the end of a transaction with him—but in the end Harding follows his own ends as steadily and surely as any public man in Washington. It is a striking fact that this president who was to be the "creature of a senatorial oligarchy," has given the senate, in his soft-spoken way, more rebukes than it has ever had from any president in the same length of time. Harding has his own programme about our foreign relations and his own determinations to support the secretary of state, who is his own choice. That programme goes forward slowly and steadily and, in the judgment of all except a very few, satisfactorily.

Irreconcilables Are Strong.
The strongest group of men in Washington, the narrow sense of resolute men determined upon their own purposes, is the irreconcilable of the senate. Whether you like the fight they have made or not, the fact is they won it by sheer determination and the willingness to stake their own political existences on the outcome. For the present, the irreconcilables are not as dissatisfied as many reports imply. In the rejection of the league of nations they won a 100 per cent victory and the gradual building of our new bridge to Europe is not likely to revive the organized opposition of the past two years.

By most ways of judging, Hoover is the biggest man in Washington. His engineering training, his business experience, and the quality of his mind give him the kind of grasp on the universe that a small town grocer has on his own business.

Hoover and Hughes Guider.
If the country ever determines to hire a general manager and leave everything to him, there would be no other candidate in Hoover's class. Of politics Hoover knows nothing whatever. He works out a plan, then finds that for political or for personal reasons it can't be made to work and abandons it. He is the man in which he would yield to an insuperable obstacle in an engineering problem. The picture that most of us in Washington have of Hoover is that of Hoover and Hughes united in furnishing Harding with guidance on our foreign affairs. For the purposes of those European problems which are most immediate these two are the big men of the cabinet. Some of the irreconcilable senators are suspicious of Hoover and Hughes as not having the spirit of gallantry into his new duties. He still works hard, but there is enough diminution of his exuberant vitality to be noticeable and to give concern to those who realize how much rests on him.

Harding also is a little tired. When you watch him at one of those big receptions, shaking hands with long lines of visitors, you can notice his tired personality, grasping at even that few seconds of rest which his tired features can get between shaking hands with one man and beaming on the next.

If the writer seems to lay unusual emphasis on the mere element of fatigue in public men, it is because anyone who reported the peace conference knows better than the public commonly does.

Between the Woodrow Wilson who was a world hero in the summer of 1918 and the Woodrow Wilson who was such a tragic figure in the summer of 1920 there is no difference whatever except nervous exhaustion. This is not the place and there is not room to go into the pathological phases of the history of Wilson's last three years, but it can be taken fully for granted that what happened to him, and all that happened to the world because of what happened to him, rests on the single fact that he became excessively tired, that he refused to rest or to unshoulder some of his duties on others, and that his refusal to renew his nervous reservoirs led to conditions progressively worse.

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MILITARY PATENTS ASKED
GERMANS APPLY FOR NUMEROUS WAR DEVICES.
Tentons, Under Disarmament Guise, Assign Materials to Various Munitions Makers.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 21.—Investigation of patents and applications for patents recently filed in this country by German citizens and assigned to Frederick Krupp, German munitions maker, reveals "the rather striking circumstance" that of 228 such patents and applications so far investigated, the majority have to do with military appliances, the war department announced tonight.

"The investigation disclosed," the statement said, authorized by Secretary Weeks, "rather striking circumstances in view of the conditions which Germany is supposed to observe as to disarmament and the manufacture of war materials under her treaty obligations. Of the 228 patents and applications for patents assigned to Krupp, 25 were found to relate to artillery fire control devices, 18 to electric control apparatus, nine to fuses and projectiles, six to gas engines, 17 to guns, three to processes for the production of metals, ten to naval fire control devices, three to projectiles and devices for handling them, 14 to railroad artillery and the balance to varied uses, most of which might well relate to military use."

In the course of the investigation, the statement said, it was found that a large number of patents relating, among other subjects, to airplanes and their accessories, chemicals, dyes,

radio apparatus and naval equipment had been assigned to other German companies besides Krupp.

Careful investigation is being made into all these assignments, Secretary Weeks announced, adding that "considerable progress has been made looking toward the introduction of corrective measures in congress for the protection of those American industries in which the war department is especially interested against the recurrence of this insidious patent activity by Germany."

LIGHT PLANT PROFITABLE
Tacoma Municipal System Clears \$250,000 in Four Months.

TACOMA, Wash., May 21.—(Special.)—The Tacoma municipal light department cleared more than \$250,000 during the first four months of 1921. This sum remained after paying operating expenses and making allowance for interest and earnings tax charges, but both bond redemption and depreciation were further charges from the net return.

During the period the operating receipts were \$420,156.19 and the operating expenses \$155,235.31, leaving \$264,920.88, further reduced to \$251,374.45 by interest and tax charges. April contributed operating revenues of \$83,316.25 and had expenses of \$30,228.78, the net return being \$53,087.47 after interest and tax charges were deducted.

School Graduates Three.
CHEHALIS, Wash., May 21.—(Special.)—Napavine high school held its commencement exercises last night, the address being delivered by Dr. J. J. Staub of Portland. J. R. Morton, chairman of the school board, presented the diplomas. There were

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DREDGE WORKER DROWNS
E. S. Wilson of John Day Goes Down When Boat Upsets.

BAKER, Or., May 21.—(Special.)—E. S. Wilson, an employe of the Empire Dredging & Mining company of John Day, was drowned in the dredge pond Monday. He, with three other men, had gone out in a boat to repair a cable to the dredge.

The John Day river flows through the pond, and as the water now is high, caused a strong current. The boat capsized, throwing the occupants into the water. Wilson was unable to swim and was carried out of reach of his companions by the current.

He was a former service man and a member of Grant county post of the American Legion. He is survived by his widow and baby.

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Fuel question solved, page 2.—Adv.

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