

DID FRANCE
SEE HARDING?
ASKS WILSON

Letter to Senator Calls Attention
to Grave Inferences That May
Be Drawn From His Claim
About France and the League.

Washington, Oct. 18.—President Wilson today asked Senator Harding, Republican presidential nominee, if he said in his speech at Greencastle, Ind., Saturday, that he had been "informally approached" by a spokesman of France who asked that America lead the way in forming an association of nations.

The president's inquiry was contained in a letter given out today at the White House.

TEXT OF INQUIRY

The letter follows:
"My dear sir:
"In the New York Times of yesterday, Sunday, October 17, 1920, I find a dispatch dated St. Louis, October 16, which purports to report recent public utterances of yours. In it occurs the statement that you are replying to criticism of his proposal for an association of nations, he said in a rear platform speech at Greencastle, Ind., that he already had been approached informally by a representative of France, who asked that the United States lead the way to a world fraternity."

"I write to ask if this is a correct quotation and if you really said what is there attributed to you. I need not point out to you the grave and extraordinary inferences that might be drawn from such a statement, namely, that the government of France, which is a member of the League of Nations, approached a private citizen of a nation which is not a member of the league, with a request that the United States lead the way to a world fraternity."

FRANCE ALWAYS HONORABLE

"The department of state has always found the government of France most honorable and punctiliously careful to observe all the proprieties of international intercourse. I hesitate, therefore, to draw the inferences to which I have referred unless I am assured by you that you actually made the statement."

Very truly yours,
WOODROW WILSON
The White House, Oct. 18, 1920.

The letter to Senator Harding was given out without comment, but it was estimated that if Senator Harding replied that he was correctly quoted, there might be another letter or a statement based upon Harding's speech forthcoming from the White House.

LETTER CAUSES SENSATION
The president's letter created what was probably the biggest political sensation of the campaign in Washington. Democrats seemed willing to follow the lead of Secretary Tumulty, who refused to discuss the letter.

"The president has made all of the comment necessary: It is now up to Senator Harding to name the next step," Secretary Tumulty said.

Republican leaders here generally were intensely interested in the president's letter.

(Concluded on Page Three, Column Four)

FARMERS URGED
TO HOLD WHEAT

Ponca City, Okla., Oct. 18.—(U. P.)—All farm organizations in the United States and Canada have been asked to cooperate in the request by the National Wheat Growers' Association to suspend delivery of wheat from farms to market until Oct. 23, until such time as "the price of good wheat is stabilized at \$3 a bushel at the terminal market."

The request was made in a proclamation issued by the officers and directors of the Wheat Growers' Association. It was explained that \$3 is the cost of production on a 10-year average yield an acre.

Keep Port From Politics
Averill Sounds Warnings

The port would be thrown into politics if the Swan island or port consolidation bill should be adopted at the November election, in the belief of A. H. Averill, a member of the dock commission.

"I believe that the so-called Swan island measure as proposed should be defeated at the November election," is his advice to the voters of the state, made public today.

"I believe it to be a mistake to entrust to the state at large the appointment of a commission to administer affairs in which the city of Portland is so vitally interested."

Mayor Percival
Of Vancouver Is
Missing; River
Being Dragged

Vancouver, Wash., Oct. 18.—R. G. Percival, mayor of Vancouver, is missing and the Columbia river is being dragged in the belief that he might have lost his life by drowning. No reason is known, according to the police and relatives, for his disappearance and either illness or foul play is suspected.

Mayor Percival left home at 9:30 o'clock Sunday morning, saying he planned to take a long walk, as was his custom Sunday mornings. He was last seen by Dr. A. A. Pompe walking from Main to Washington streets, about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, apparently on the way home.

A second report that he had been seen was made by A. J. Soderland, who said he saw a man resembling Percival at Twenty-sixth and Daniels streets, leaving town, about 2:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

John Elwell, business partner of Mayor Percival, inclined to the theory that illness caused the disappearance as he said Percival had acted queerly for several days. He said that when spoken to Percival frequently failed to answer.

(Concluded on Page Two, Column Six)

JOHN REED IS
REPORTED DEAD

New York, Oct. 18.—(I. N. S.)—John Reed, famous American writer and social reformer, is dead of typhus in Moscow, according to a special dispatch from that city to the New York Call today.

Henry G. Reed, Portland bond man, received word Sunday of the death of his brother, who was born in Portland and lived here for many years. The report, he said, was sent by Louise Bryant, John's wife. Details other than the bare announcement that typhus was responsible, were not given.

Reed's father was the late Charles Jerome Reed, once United States senator from Oregon and a graduate of the University of Oregon.

After leaving Harvard in 1910 he joined the radical movement and wrote many articles on that subject. This marriage with Louise Bryant, a Portland girl, also well known in radical circles through participation in Russian politics, took place in 1917. Both wrote magazine and syndicate articles showing the Russian viewpoint, during the war. Reed was commissioned by the Soviet government of Russia as envoy to the United States, but the commission was revoked before he arrived here and the latest news from him was of his arrest in Finland last spring, where he was arrested on a ship bound for Sweden, in an apparently unsuccessful effort to get out of Russia.

Victoria Shattered
By Gale; Pleasure
Craft Are Beached

Victoria, B. C., Oct. 18.—(I. N. S.)—Victoria presented a disheveled appearance today as a result of having been battered by a violent gale which swept the North Pacific coast late yesterday and last night. The gale raged for 18 hours and averaged a speed of 50 miles an hour. The storm played havoc with pleasure craft. Two large pleasure cruisers were blown ashore. Ten launches were piled up on the beaches, freed throughout the city were uprooted and telephone poles about town were snapped off.

Negotiations With
Japanese Continue

Washington, Oct. 18.—(U. P.)—The state department today officially declared that negotiations between the United States and Japan over Japanese immigration and anti-Japanese legislation in California are continuing and have not been temporarily discontinued, as reported.

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OREGON IRON DEPOSITS
ARE ABUNDANT

Operations in Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook and Washington Counties May Rival Industry in Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Local and Eastern capitalists interested in the development of iron and coal deposits in Columbia, Clatsop, Tillamook and Washington counties, propose to begin operations on a scale that will rival the iron industry of Wisconsin and Minnesota. Two mines already are in operation and more than 500,000 tons of iron ore have been blocked out at Pisgah mountain and Bunker Hill, in Columbia county, announced W. K. Coffin, president of the Western Timber company, today.

The principal deposits of iron ore so far discovered in Oregon lie within 40 miles of Portland in a northeasterly direction. They are easily accessible to rail and water transportation and their operation presents no serious engineering difficulties, according to practical mining men who have inspected the district.

C. A. Finley, owner of Council Crest amusement park, is at the head of an association of local men operating the mine at Pisgah mountain. Surveys of the adjacent territory show that the grades of lenses of iron ore constituting Columbia county deposit run southwesterly from a point near St. Helens to the Washington county line.

DEPOSIT IS THICK

Associated with Finley are Herman Haggner, Henry Haggner and Homer Finley. Prospecting has been under way during the last three years and

(Concluded on Page Three, Column Three)

CITY'S BUSINESS
HANGS UPON LEVY

By Ward A. Irvine
If the voters of Portland authorize the special three mill tax levy for 1921, as they did for 1920, the city council will still be compelled to conduct all municipal services on what amounted to 5 1/2 mills in 1914.

If the voters defeat the special levy the city must operate on eight mills or what amounted to approximately four mills in 1914. The city's revenue in 1914 was \$1,000,000. The city's revenue in 1914 was \$1,000,000. The city's revenue in 1914 was \$1,000,000.

DOLLAR VALUE SHRINKS

Eleven mills in 1920 amounts to only about 5 1/2 mills in 1914 because of the dollar. For instance, the city paid \$2.30 for a barrel of cement in 1914. The city pays \$5.24 in 1920. Lumber cost \$10 a thousand in 1914. It costs \$31 a thousand now. Fuel oil cost \$1 a barrel six years ago. Today it costs \$2.50 a barrel. Gasoline sold to the city for 14 cents a gallon in 1914. It sells for 22 cents today. Cracked rock formerly cost \$1 a yard. Now it costs \$1.75. Galvanized pipe that the city purchased six years ago for \$10.85 per 100 feet now costs \$34.10. The cost of a barrel of cement has increased. In 1914 city laborers were paid \$3 a day. They now receive \$4.60. Clerks that were then paid \$70 to \$125 a month now draw \$100 to \$185.

SALARIES MOUNT HIGHER

Assistant engineers were paid \$160 a month six years ago. Today their checks are drawn for \$225. Instrument men could formerly be obtained for \$110 monthly. Now they draw \$175. Police and firemen that were paid \$30 to \$100 a month in 1914 now receive \$130 to \$155 a month. They are paid more in Seattle.

The situation then is this:

If the three mill levy is beaten, the city cannot purchase as much in 1921 with the funds at hand as could be purchased with the funds at hand in 1914. If the measure carries the money will go about as far as the money in 1914. The treasury in 1914 when 5.80 mills was levied. In the meantime every department of municipal government has expanded, city limits have been extended, and the population of Portland has increased very materially.

Government Outlay
Is Cut 100 Per Cent

Washington, Oct. 18.—(I. N. S.)—Government expenditures during the fiscal year ending July 1 and ending September 30 were about 100 per cent less than during the same quarter of 1919, according to a treasury statement issued this afternoon. Expenditures during the quarter were reported as \$1,350,000,000, as against expenditures of \$2,400,000,000 during the same quarter in 1919.

Deaf Man Is Killed
By Train at Camp

Hillsboro, Or., Oct. 18.—Henry Michael, aged 50, was killed by a Gales Creek & Wilson River railway train at the Agassaw sawmill Saturday night. Michael was deaf and blind and was working at the sawmill. He was on route to the camp for supper when he was run down by the train. He last worked at Everett, Wash. Coroner Timber is holding the body awaiting word from relatives.

DEATH AUTO
IS RECOVERED
FROM SANDY

Car Which Plunged Over Highway Embankment and Drowned 5 Men Found 300 Yards From Bridge; Search for Bodies Fails

From 12 feet of swift water 300 yards east of the Sandy river bridge at the Automobile club late this morning, workmen pulled the badly smashed wreck of the automobile in which five men are believed certainly to have lost their lives Sunday evening, when the machine crashed over a steep 40-foot bank into the river.

Search of the river for several hundred feet in either direction failed to find trace of the bodies of five of the seven men who were passengers in the machine when it went off the Columbia river highway. The car itself contained no indication of the fate of its passengers.

CROWD SEES RECOVERY

Before a great crowd that included members of the families of the missing men Chief Deputy Sheriff Christofferson directed the work of salvaging the car, which was accomplished when Clyde Leaser, Vancouver, Wash., diver, fastened lines to its axles in the icy stream.

Those believed dead are:

Richard McIntosh, 25, employee of Cornett & McIntosh, 980 Savier street, single. Edward A. Hearty Jr., 27, baker, 287 Twenty-second street north. M. D. McDonald, 23, musician, 215 Thurman street, married. Walter McDonald, 25, laborer, Uphur apartments, married. Alce McDonald, 30, musician, 215 Thurman street, single.

ONE SWIMS ASHORE

Two other passengers of the wrecked automobile, H. C. Couy, 698 Lovejoy street, and William Concanon, 31, 794 Savier street, escaped. Couy alone escaped dry and uninjured. Concanon went into the river with the car, but swam ashore, where he lay exhausted until rescued by Couy and George M. Chambers, secretary of the Oregon Motor association.

The accident is believed to have been the result of a party which is alleged to have started in a soft drink parlor near Twenty-third and Savier streets early in the afternoon. The car was driven by McIntosh. It was owned by his father. The men were returning

(Continued on Page Two, Column One)

SEATTLE SEEKS TO
BEAT CHAMBERLAIN

By Ralph Wastan
Business men of Portland and all those people throughout the state generally who are deeply interested in getting things done for Oregon by the authorities at Washington, both in congress and in the departments—those who know how governmental business is conducted at Washington and can gauge the relative power and efficiency of the state's representatives there—are rallying to the support of Senator Chamberlain against the efforts being made to defeat him.

They know that Senator Chamberlain ranks 16th in point of seniority in the United States senate; that in its total membership but 20 senators have been longer continuous service than Senator Chamberlain. They know that he has, in support of his power and influence as a representative of Oregon and Oregon interests in the senate, 13 years of continuous service in that body, during which long period he has built about himself strong personal friendships and the compelling ties of continual daily association, which no newly elected senator could possibly have.

STATE WELL PLACED

Then, too, those who are interested in Oregon's advancement at Washington know that this state is particularly well placed in committee appointments in the senate now. The senate committee on commerce, and the committee on public lands, and the most vital important committees in the whole senate so far as Oregon is concerned. Both Senator Chamberlain and Senator McNary are members of these two committees.

There is an unwritten law in the United States senate that when two senators from a state are of the same political party, but one may find assignment upon the same major committee. This rule, however, does not govern where the senators are of different party affiliation, and for this reason

(Continued on Page Two, Column One)

NEW CHARTER FOR
BASEBALL DESIRED

Chicago, Oct. 18.—(U. P.)—Adoption of a new "charter" for organizing baseball was decided upon here today at a meeting of representatives of 11 major league clubs and John Heydler, president of the National League.

FOREIGN BORN
N. Y. STATE
FOR HARDING

Alien Population, Particularly German and Hungarians, Distinctly Against Cox Because of His Loyalty to United States.

By David Lawrence

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Buffalo, N. Y., Oct. 18.—Western New York has much to do always with the cutting down of the Democratic majorities gained in the Tammany districts. One need not search further than Erie county for the reasons why New York state will go heavily Republican this year.

Germans, Italians, Poles, Slovaks, Hungarians and Russians make up a foreign born population that exceeds the native born. It is easier to assume that some of these groups will be affected by foreign issues in which the Wilson administration has become involved for or against the home countries, but investigation among the leaders of thought in these foreign born units brings the conclusion that domestic questions, especially the high cost of living, have had and will have as much to do with the exercise of the ballot on election day as the grievances growing out of the European war.

POLES LIKE WILSON

The campaign among the foreign born has not been as intense as it was in 1916. The Democrats have had much more trouble than the Republicans, and it is hardly an exaggeration to say that the bulk of the German vote, the Italian vote and even the Polish vote will go to Harding. If Wilson were a candidate, a leader of the Poles told the writer, he believed the Polish vote would be Democratic this year as there is a feeling of appreciation for the part the president played in establishing the Polish republic, but the high cost of sugar and the well cultivated belief that the Republican administration will somehow bring relief from economic ills of today will turn the Polish vote to the Republicans.

Somewhat the same idea was expressed to me by the German-American spokesman here, who predicted confidentially that the Republican would swing two years and four years hence the Democrats if the Republican party failed to bring relief from economic ills of today.

CHARGES CONSPIRACY

On the other hand, the feeling against the Wilson administration and Governor Cox himself on purely German issues has deprived the Democrats of any

(Concluded on Page Two, Column Seven)

MILITARY HOSPITAL
APPEARS CERTAIN

Establishment of a great military hospital in Portland seemed assured today when it was reported in public health circles that the government had decided to lease a site here.

Little more than a month ago Surgeon General Hugh S. Cummings, accompanied by his aide, Colonel William Stimpson, surveyed the Hahnemann hospital, at East Second and Multnomah streets. At that time the building was declared acceptable as a 200-bed institution, provided the builders would settle differences among themselves and complete the structure as outlined in their original plans.

LEASE FOR FIVE YEARS

Construction had been halted for some time because of these differences. The government, under the terms of the lease, it was understood today, would take the building over for an initial period of five years. It would be operated under the supervision of the United States public health service and would care for sick soldiers, sailors, marines and all marine cases from ocean-going vessels that touched at Portland.

The structure was started in 1908, but with financial differences arising was not completed. The builder is the Homeopathic association.

The hospital would serve the Northwest territory, including the states of Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana.

OBSTACLE OVERCOME

The last remaining stumbling block in the way of establishment of the hospital here was the ruling of the controller of the currency at Washington, who was to decide, after a survey of the budget, whether or not the public health service had sufficient funds at hand to enter into the lease with the owners.

They would also require a sum sufficient to operate for their first fiscal year, it was reported.

The information received at Portland today was to the effect that a favorable ruling had been rendered by the controller of the currency.

Veteran and Former
Police Chief Taken
By Cop, but Released

A. E. Davidson, 52, Civil war veteran, former police chief in Spokane, and marine engineer, was arrested Sunday night for "running after a streetcar."

Patrolman Chamberlain of the second night relief saw Davidson running at night after a streetcar and stopped him. Searching Davidson, Chamberlain says he found a revolver. Lieutenant Wade released Davidson after he had provided he was yielding William Effert, 34 Prescott street.

BRITISH LABOR LEADERS

TWO of the heads of British labor who are playing a prominent part in the great industrial upheaval in the British isles. At the right is Robert Smilie, president of the coal miners federation which is now out on strike and who is referred to as "more powerful than Premier Lloyd George." At the left is J. H. Thomas, secretary of the British Railway Men's union, which may become involved.

SPECIAL RUNS INTO
SNOWFALL AT UNION
IS TRACED HERE

By Fred Lockley
Union, Or., Oct. 18.—The business men of Union met the delegation of Portland business men at the Union Junction with automobiles and took them to Union, where a reception was held at Masonic hall. Marion Davis made the address of welcome and Nathan Straus responded in behalf of Portland. The reception committee consisted of L. A. Wright, Marion F. Davis, M. S. Levy, Tony D. Smith, Walter Cook and Robert Withycombe.

The glee club, under Walter Jenkins, practiced last evening, singing: "We'll sing our way to Union today. Oh, let us live and love for you in Union, far away."

They decided to omit the song, as Union was enjoying its first snow storm and the sunny skies were conspicuous by absence.

But Portland brought its sunshine along, and songs and laughter were the order of the day. Robert Withycombe, superintendent of the experiment farm here, said fruit, cattle, hogs, sheep, hay and grain are bringing prosperity to this section. "Ours was the first station to recommend feeding silage to cattle," he said. "We are raising lots of sunflowers for silage."

Among the big cattle-raisers here who are raising pure-bred Shorthorns are W. J. Towndry, W. W. Green, Guy W. Delay, Hutchinson & Sherman, Lester Hempe and Ed Fickie.

Quake 5500 Miles
Away Is Recorded

Chicago, Oct. 18.—(U. P.)—An earthquake, originating 5500 miles from Chicago, was recorded early today at the University of Chicago. The seismograph record showed the first tremor at 3:45 a. m., and continuing intermittently until nearly 8 a. m. Observers were unable to give the exact location.

Father Abducts Two
Children, Says Wife

Police are searching today for E. Strayer, who is charged by Elly Strayer, his wife, with abducting two children, Alton and Merwin, from Rickelast last week. The Strayers have been separated for more than a year, the children being in the care of the mother.

Sawmill Worker May
Have Fractured Skull

J. J. Cunningham of Linton was taken to the Good Samaritan hospital this morning suffering from a crushed shoulder and possible fracture of the skull as a result of a heavy timber falling on him. Cunningham was employed by the Linton Sawmill company as a sawyer.

POLICE FIGHT
LONDON MOB;
100 INJURED

First Coal Strike Outbreak Is
Marked With Bloody Clash
When 12,000 Rush Government
Office, Strike Premier's House

London, Oct. 18.—(U. P.)—Rioting following the calling of the nation-wide coal strike broke out today in White Hall and Downing streets, on which the government offices, and the premier's residence are located.

At 4:40 p. m. it was unofficially estimated from 50 to 100 persons were injured either by flying stones or by being crushed and trampled upon.

Fifty police remained on guard at the premier's residence.

The fighting was still continuing. The rioters met repeated charges of the police with a shower of missiles, turning up the pavements and ripping down balustrades. Many police were knocked from their horses and the animals ran wildly through the crowd.

POLICE ROUT MOB

At 4:50 p. m. the police got the crowd on the run. The police came on again and again, hitting out right and left with their truncheons at the heads of the rioters.

Many injured were carried into Downing street, which looked like a hospital, with many laid out on the sidewalk and others being carried into the houses.

Shops in the Strand district, on the edge of rioting, were closed when the fighting began. Metal shutters, designed for just such occasions, were pulled down over the windows of jewelry stores.

Trafalgar Square was a dense mass of humanity after the police had cleared White Hall and Strand. A revolutionary song entitled "The Red Flag," The fighting extended from Downing

(Concluded on Page Two, Column Four)

GREEK CABINET TO
NOMINATE REGENT

London, Oct. 18.—(U. P.)—The Greek cabinet decided Saturday to convene parliament to nominate a regent, according to a news agency dispatch today.

Athens, Oct. 18.—(U. P.)—King Alexander had a fair night and was making satisfactory progress today, a bulletin from his physicians said. The king is suffering from infection, the result of the bite of a pet monkey.

Student Is Slain;
Mystery Surrounds
Motive of Murder

Philadelphia, Oct. 18.—(U. P.)—Mystery surrounded the slaying today of a murder student, who was found sitting against a lamp post in a lonely suburb, his knees drawn up to his chin and a bullet wound in his forehead.

Jewelry and \$300 in Liberty bonds, cash and checks were found in his pockets. Marks of auto tires indicated the body had been brought to the spot and pushed against the lamp post.

Christian F. Drews, father of the murdered man, declared his son came home over the week end. He left Saturday to go to Reading, Pa., to purchase an automobile. The father, who is making the search.

Elmer R. Lundberg, Portland attorney, had business dealings last week with C. P. Flynn, father of the missing girl, in regard to the settlement of the Flynn estate. The parents of the child were divorced some months ago in Seattle and after a contested suit the court awarded the custody of the daughter to the father, who placed her in a Seattle boarding school. The court's decision included the privilege of visits by the mother to the child at stated times during the year. The disappearance of the child is supposed to have followed the mother's last visit to the child, and no one has yet been able to find her. Lundberg said he knows nothing of the child's whereabouts and is only vaguely acquainted with the case through remarks dropped by the father, who is making the search.

Luck, Money With Harding
G.O.P. Admits His Weakness

As against 15 for the Republicans. Supremely confident that their presidential ticket is not in danger, the Republican managers are therefore turning their attention to the congressional battles. They are seeking determined efforts and undoubtedly spending a great deal of money to save their candidates for the senate in California, South Dakota, Utah, Missouri, Oregon, Idaho and Iowa who are admittedly in need of help.

Because of local complications that do not directly affect the presidential contest in most of these contests, elements, normally Democratic, which have lined up against the Democratic presidential ticket on the League of Nations issue are taking their grievances into the congressional and state fights.

This paradox is presented in almost every state where, under normal conditions, the Democrats would have a chance to win the electoral vote. Republican leaders with whom I have talked fully confirm the impression

(Concluded on Page Two, Column Three)