

HARDING SIFTING CANDIDATES FOR OFFICIAL CIRCLE

Some Cabinet Aspirants May Be Preferred for Diplomatic Positions in the Foreign Countries.

By Robert J. Bender
United News Staff Correspondent
New York, Jan. 1.—President-elect Harding is reported by those intimately in touch with his line of thought on appointment matters, to be seriously concerned with the problem of reconstruction and strengthening the American diplomatic service.

This accounts, they said, for the fact that while Harding measures the qualifications of those he has in mind for cabinet portfolios, he also is studying those qualifications with an eye to ambassadorial and ministerial posts abroad. He feels, they say, that numerous men he wishes in his official family would do equally well either in the cabinet or foreign service and in deciding between several of these he also is deciding between the service he wishes to draft them for.

DECISIONS HELD UP

From the same sources which led the writer several days ago to list as leading cabinet probabilities Charles Evans Hughes for secretary of state, Charles Daws for George Reynolds for secretary of the treasury, Herbert Hoover for secretary of the interior or public works, and elimination of Governor Lowden from cabinet consideration, there comes the word now that a number of final decisions are being held up by joint consideration of the future diplomatic service.

Lowden was eliminated from cabinet consideration, it is said, largely because of his supreme fitness for diplomatic service of high importance, the court of St. James being prominently associated now with discussion of his name. It has, however, been reliably said that Lowden wants nothing at all, and in this event Harding's final choice between Daws and Reynolds might result in drafting one of these for European service. Daws now leads for the treasury post.

WEEKS MENTIONED

Another case in point involves Senator Weeks, who has been considered for secretary of war or secretary of state. Weeks is in line for a reward for his campaign work and his long service in the party. He wanted the secretaryship of the treasury, but that appears unlikely of fulfillment now. There appears also objection within to naming him to the navy post. His services, however, will be asked for either in the domestic or foreign official family of Harding, although the exact place for him has not been decided upon.

Still another case is General Pershing.

Pershing has been suggested by Republican leaders both for secretary of war and for United States ambassador to France. My informants have repeatedly said that a military man will not be named to the war post and that Pershing's place, if one is tendered him, will be abroad.

EXAMPLES CITED

The cases of Harry Daugherty, personal friend and adviser of Harding, and Will Hays, chairman of the national committee, are further examples, but different in that either of these gentlemen might play a greater part in the decision as applied to themselves. Daugherty, as stated on numerous occasions, can have the post of attorney general in Harding's cabinet if he wishes it. He hasn't decided. Will Hays also is in line for ample reward for service and has generally been mentioned in connection with forecasts of the next postmaster general.

It may be stated, however, that some of Hays' most influential friends have advised him against accepting this cabinet portfolio. They advised him, if he accepted anything, it should be the attorney generalship. That post, however, is in the hands of Daugherty for acceptance or distribution, and there is not a great likelihood that Hays will get it.

George Sutherland of Utah would seem a more likely bet, although he, too, is considered a strong diplomatic possibility.

MANY IN FIELD

Numerous men—many of them prominent figures in Republican ranks—are rather openly seeking cabinet positions. What happens to these might be illustrated by what happened to a group of three men when Woodrow Wilson was first elected in 1912. It is well known that Henry Morgenthau and Abram Elkus, both of whom contributed substantial sums to the then anemic Wilson campaign fund, desired the job of secretary of the treasury in the Wilson cabinet. However, William F. McCombs, Wilson's campaign manager, wanted the same position, so he told Morgenthau and Elkus they would have to be contented with something else. Morgenthau was named ambassador to Turkey, Elkus got the same post later when Morgenthau came home. William Gibbs McAdoo was made secretary of the treasury and McCombs was offered the ambassadorship to France, which he turned down, inaugurating his break with Wilson.

So, in all likelihood, because politics is always politics, some cabinet aspirants will be found in the diplomatic service after Harding's final decisions are in for review. In addition to those mentioned above, among the names being considered for the more important posts abroad are Senator Moses of New Hampshire, William Boyce Thompson, Myron T. Herrick, George Harvey, Oscar Straus and Henry P. Davison.

American Nurses to Serve in Ireland

New York, Jan. 1.—A unit of American nurses for service in Ireland was organized at the McAlpin hotel here tonight under the auspices of the medical branch of the women's council. About 1500 nurses from New York and vicinity attended the meeting. The sister-in-law of the late Lord Mayor MacCurran of Cork, who came to America to testify before the American commission on Ireland, addressed the meeting.

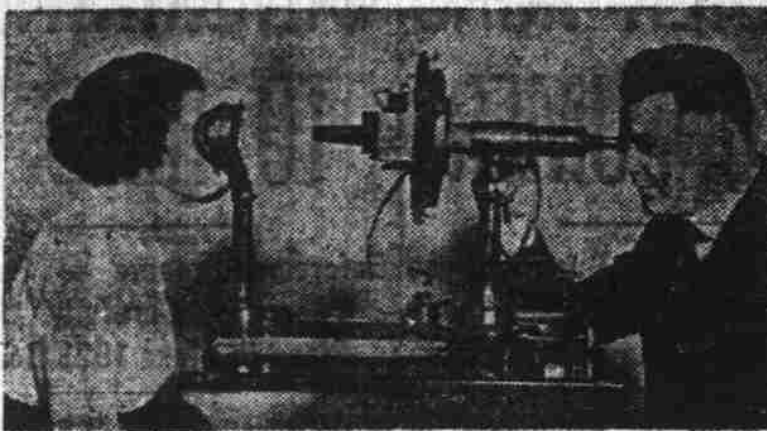
That good coal, \$14.25 to \$17.25. Edlefens guarantees it.—Adv.

New York Has Noisy New Year's Eve, but Old-Time Pep Gone

New York, Jan. 1.—(I. N. S.)—Not like the olden days, but still—this Gotham town had its customary New Year's eve celebration. It was a noisy celebration, a gay celebration, but without "quite dry celebration."

The crowd seemingly was as big as ever. The great white way was packed with merry-makers jostling along with horns, bells and other noise-making devices. All of the theatres played to the customary holiday crowds, and the restaurants and cabarets were thronged with revelers gathered to see the old year out and the new year in. The hilarity, however, was of a different sort. The boisterous old-time New Year's eve "riot" was conspicuous for its absence.

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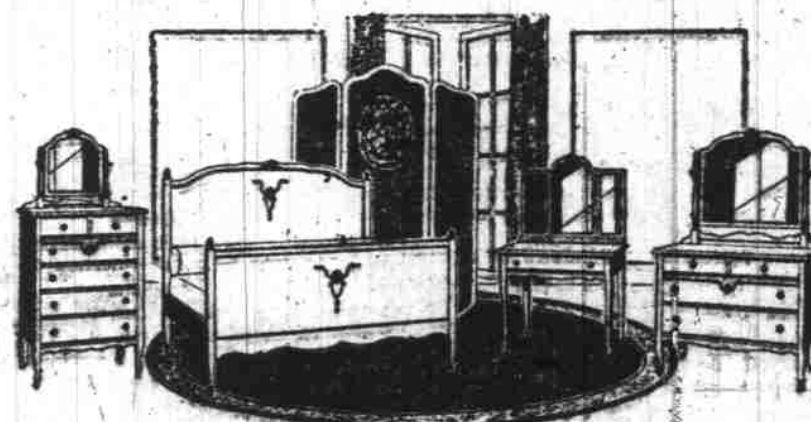
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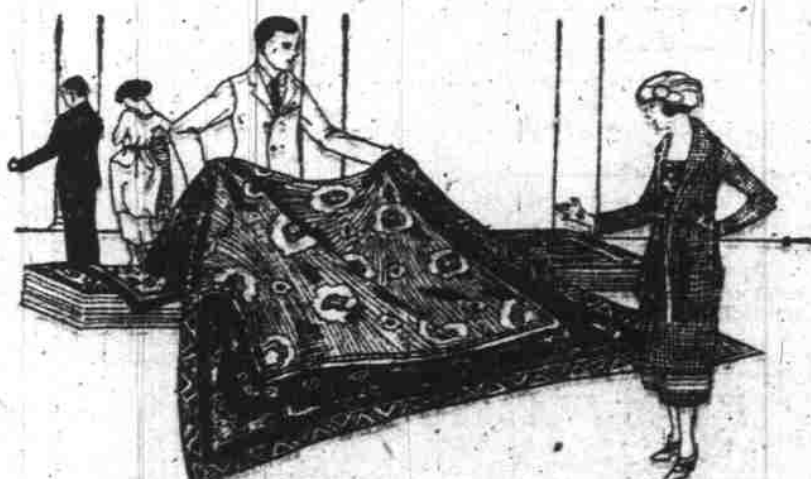
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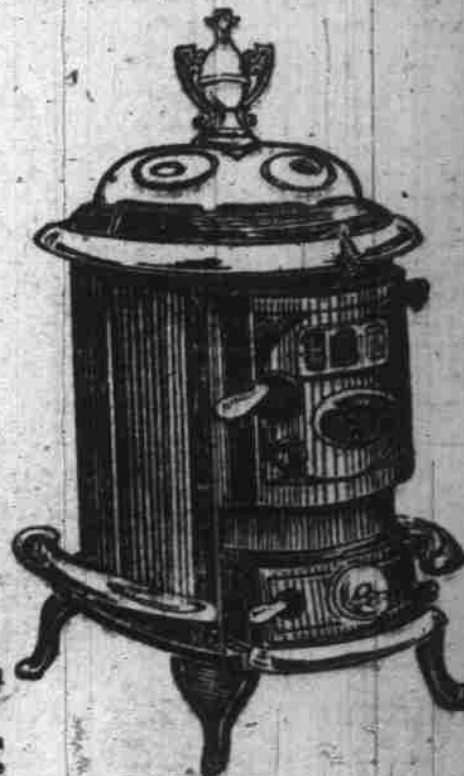
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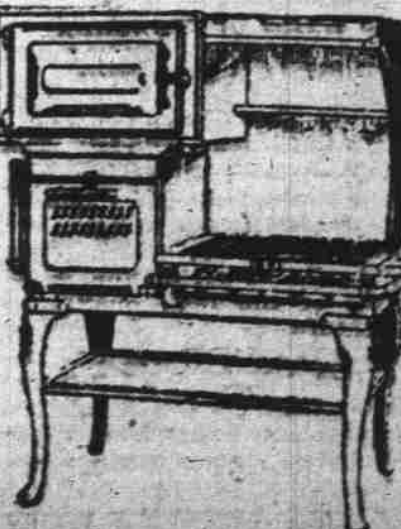
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