

### BALFOUR CANDOR SHOWN IN SPEECH PLEASES AUDIENCE

By William Allen White  
(Copyright, 1921, by United News)  
Washington, Nov. 15.—The contents of the Hughes proposal was an absolute surprise even to Arthur Balfour.

This is official and final and while the American secretary of state may not be quoted, the denial comes from a man high in the state department with handsome, frank features, strong, valiant shoulders and a graying auburn beard, who was at one time governor of New York and has since occupied positions of honor and trust, and whose intimate knowledge thereof he speaks in indelible but it proves among other things that Arthur Balfour has a wonderful countenance for a speaker.

Others around the conference table Saturday blinked and wet their lips as the astounding proposal of the American government came from our secretary of state. But while the secretary was challenging the world to meet America's program, Arthur Balfour alone of all the foreign visitors, sat blandly smiling, complacently shaking his head in approval from time to time and giving the strong impression that he was listening to something as familiar to him as Mother Goose or the principles of synthetic chemistry.

Tuesday Mr. Balfour rose in the conference to answer the American challenge—the word challenge to Balfour is a tall, but not gaunt figure, with youth still in his vigorous frame—youth which belied the gray of his hair and the few deeply drawn lines on his handsome face. He wore black—the frock coat of a statesman-like cut. He had on a lay down collar that were the ends of a black bow tie. His watch chain crossed his vest at a low latitude, giving the effect of a long body under the high shoulders that stood almost at right angles to the sturdy neck.

HAS THINKER'S FACE  
The head of the great Britisher is large, set a bit further forward than is common in a stiff-necked generation. Clearly, here is a thinker, a curious man, an anxious inquirer, his almost smooth, ruddy face is bland but vital. A thinker's face he has. In him are blended wisdom, courtesy and a ruthless keenness which in some way reminds of the plainman's myth that the owl, the prairie dog and the rattlesnake all live in the same hole. They all smile out of the Balfour eyes. His oratorical manner is conversational. He uses no claptrap, either of rhetoric or of vocal "tricks or manners."

His voice carries without effort, and Tuesday it filled the room of the conference, going to 1200 people without strain or changing timber from the talking voice.

Bryan, in America, has such a natural voice. But Bryan knows and uses the more anxious to have the right word in the right intonation. He hesitates, stammers, halts, backs up half a sentence and goes on to the end of a sentence, hurrying forward to the next sentence without dropping his voice.

And all his verbal fumbling and stuttering does not in the least embarrass him. The average man, limping through a recalcitrant vocabulary would blush to a crisp and lose the thread of his discourse. But not so with Mr. Balfour. He runs on an oratorical flat wheel with joy and gusto. He is never so happy as when he is talking about the word that will convey the nice shade of his meaning.

HAS GUARDED CANDOR  
He talks slowly without drawing and, although his speech admitted his country rather definitely to a policy that turns the corner away from 200 years of consistent naval endeavor, he spoke almost extemporaneously. He seemed to have a few notes on the table, and at times he talked with eyes dropped as if looking at them. He prepares a speech in advance.

His speech was most impressive. His actual words did not commit Great Britain to the American proposals so completely as the unctuous and friendly quality of his voice seemed to be taking England to our proposals. He was the diplomat's reserve, the statesman's guarded candor. His words upon the printed page read well and yet there was something fine and simple and dignified which gave a guarantee of sincerity even to the nicely chosen language. The liar even in diplomacy cannot counterfeit the lucid forthrightness of a speech like Balfour's. It was a great speech, as great as the occasion called for. It will not be one of the world's notable orations. Yet its delivery clearly marked the beginning of a world epoch. It was great enough to suffice.

1925 Exposition to Be Real All-Oregon Fair, Says A. G. Clark  
A. G. Clark, former manager of Associated Industries of Oregon, former president of the Portland Ad club, former head of the Credit Men's association and former Portlander, but now partner in the Central Oregon Motor company at Bend, is in Portland today.

Crisis Delays Peace Deal With Hungary  
Washington, Nov. 16.—(I. N. S.)—Delay in the exchange of ratifications of the peace treaty between the United States and Hungary has been due to the Hungarian cabinet crisis, the state department was advised today by American Commissioner Grant Smith at Budapest. The delay will not be long, Smith stated.

### Narcotic Vendors Need Not Expect Court Leniency

Narcotic vendors need not expect leniency from Federal Judge R. S. Bean. The judge denounced the traffic Tuesday and said he knew of no reason for being lenient in such cases.

### LORD ROBERT CECIL IN HEARTY ACCORD WITH CONFERENCE

By Ralph H. Turner  
(United News Staff Correspondent)  
(Copyright, 1921, by United News)  
London, Nov. 15.—Lord Robert Cecil, one of the outstanding figures in the League of Nations and generally regarded as the leader of the more liberal elements in that association of nations, has given whole-hearted approval and endorsement of the American disarmament proposals in an exclusive interview with the United News.

Lord Robert's statement, coming from a diplomat of his standing, may be regarded as the first "semi-official" expression of the league's attitude towards the Washington conference and its accomplishments.

"I endorse the Hughes proposals wholeheartedly," he declared. "They offer nothing in conflict with the league's program for disarmament, and the program will be supported by every one who is anxious for the success of the objective for which the league itself is striving."

LAND FEATURE PEARLED  
Cecil pointed out that the Hughes formula does not include the military or land features of national armament, an evil which he described as "one of the gravest in Europe."

"It would be a misfortune to the cause of peace," he said, "if the armament of the maritime powers were reduced and no limitation were effected of the present strength of European armies."

"The program of the League of Nations, which was drawn up at Geneva, has been held up pending the progress of the Washington conference, but I hope now that the league will go ahead on its work as soon as possible."

Questioned regarding the possibilities of an agreement concerning land disarmament being reached at Washington, Cecil declared it would be "very difficult" to arrive at an understanding regarding land armaments unless all powers were represented at the American meeting.

"Take Serbia's case, for example," he continued. "Although she is one of the smallest powers in Europe, she is today maintaining one of the largest armies on the continent, possibly the fourth in size. While the Serbo-Albanian situation remains unsettled, it is one of the gravest menaces to the peace of Europe."

Lord Robert hoped, he said, that the Washington conference would discuss methods for the best "approach" to the question of land disarmament and control of the manufacture of war materials, admitting that a solution of this problem would be extremely difficult for any body of diplomats, whether the League of Nations or the Washington negotiators. He believes that Washington may possibly work out a basis for this action to which European nations might agree.

WOULD LIMIT OUTPUT  
"I also trust that the Washington conference will take up the question of the limitation of output of arms and their control," he said. "The prevention of international traffic in arms, as well as their manufacture, cannot be attained without the cooperation of the United States."

### THEFT ADMITTED BY 'BLUEBEARD' TO SAVE HIS WIFE

Versailles, Nov. 15.—Admitting for the first time that he had "victimized" one of the 10 women whom he is accused of murdering, Henri Desire Landru, the alleged bluebeard, today confessed to the court he had robbed Mrs. Eulson, a widow, of \$3000. Landru denied, however, that he had killed the woman.

Mme. Eulson is Landru's eighth alleged victim and it was under severe cross-examination regarding her disappearance that he admitted the fraud perpetrated on the woman.

"I induced my real wife to pose as Mme. Eulson after her disappearance," said the prisoner, "in order to cash the bonds I took from her."

"But," said Landru, raising his hands dramatically toward heaven, "my wife is innocent of any wrong-doing. Whatever she did was done only as my tool and for love of me."

The prosecution declared Landru made this admission in order to save his wife, who is under indictment charged with the disappearance of Mrs. Eulson, that finally brought Landru's arrest.

The affairs of "Bluebeard" Landru have taken a sudden and serious turn for the worse. After proceeding somewhat happily through more than a week of his trial, in which much of the evidence as to the alleged murders of several of his fiancées was offset, Landru stalled Tuesday when the prosecution set out to prove that he killed Mlle. Babalay, a beautiful girl of 19, one of the few unmarried women with whom he concerned himself during his love-making career.

Despite the artful cross-examination of his counsel, Merro Giffre, Landru's case suffered severely near the end of the session through his own admissions concerning Mlle. Babalay's visit to the villa at Gambais, where she is alleged to have been murdered.

As the succeeding wives of old Bluebeard himself looked in the forbidden closet and found there the evidence of his murders, so did Mlle. Babalay open a forbidden strong box at Gambais, Landru admitted, and found therein the identity cards and various other effects of his previous wives. The prosecution was quick to seize upon this admission and drive home the suggestion that Landru thereupon murdered the girl to silence her.

Landru retorted that she discovered the papers on February 12, 1917, and did not "disappear" until March 11.

Merro Giffre called the court's attention to the fact that 37 young girls have destroyed themselves in the Seine in Paris since 1914, suggesting that this may have been the end of Mlle. Babalay.

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