

FARMERS ORGANIZE TO TAKE ACTIVE HAND IN 1920 CAMPAIGN

Washington, Feb. 21.—With the appointment of a committee of seven prominent farm organizations leaders to draw up a "platform," the American farmer as represented in the national board of farm organizations, served notice Friday on present and prospective presidential candidates that he is determined to participate actively in the coming campaign. The platform will comprise questions designed to bring out unmistakably the attitude of each candidate upon matters which agriculturists consider of paramount importance.

C. S. Barrett of Georgia, president of the national farmers' union, was named chairman of the committee, the other members being T. C. Atkeson of West Virginia, representing the National Grange; Gifford Pinchot, Pennsylvania, of the Pennsylvania Rural Progress association; J. B. House, Wisconsin, secretary Wisconsin Society of Equity; W. I. Drummond, Oklahoma, international farm congress; R. D. Cooper, New York, dairyman's league, and J. R. Howard, Washington, American Farm Bureau federation.

The committee, if it understood the temper of organized agriculture, Chairman Barrett said, "will demand a most comprehensive and unmistakable statement of the position of each candidate on questions especially relating to agriculture. The farmers will not submit camouflage. Moreover, the committee will try to determine before submitting its findings to the farmers, just what ability a candidate may have to carry out his pre-election promises. We must get behind a strong faithful long visioned man. None other will suit."

The conference adopted resolutions asking the early appointment of an American delegate to the institute of agriculture at Rome to succeed the late David Lubin; approved the Capper-Heraman bill restoring to farmers the right of collective buying and selling; expressed confidence in the federal trade commission in connection with the imminent investigation of that body and petitioned congress to amend the farm loan act to increase the maximum loan from \$10,000 to \$25,000. The invitation from Sir Horace Plunkett as representative of Irish farm organizations, that a delegation be appointed to attend an international congress of agriculture at Dublin during the present year, was accepted.

Senator Poindexter of Washington at the afternoon session, characterized farming as the greatest industry of the nation and congratulated the national board upon its decision to erect a permanent home in the capital where its members could keep in close touch with the government. An experienced farmer should be selected to head the department of agriculture, he said, and farmers "should be given that freedom of action necessary to obtain the greatest results."

President's Note Closes Argument In Adriatic Case

Washington, Feb. 21.—The position of the American government in Adriatic settlement has been made so plain in President Wilson's reply to the allied note that administration officials believe the way to further argument on the subject virtually has been closed.

It was said, however, that by this they did not mean that the door to further exchanges had been shut. On the contrary, a reply to the president's latest communication is anticipated and a final agreement between the great powers on the vexing question expected.

The president is understood to have made it perfectly clear that the United States cannot accept the settlement reached by the allied premiers and concurred in by Italy and which was made the subject matter of the ultimatum to Jugoslavia last month. He also is said to have made it equally clear that enforcement of the Adriatic terms of the secret treaty of London, negotiated before this country entered the war, would be wholly unacceptable to the United States.

KOLCHAK CAPTURED WHEN CZECH GUARD FORGOT PROMISES

Peking, Tuesday, Feb. 17.—Details of the capture of Admiral Alexander B. Kolchak, former head of the all-Russian government in Siberia who was executed by social revolutionists in Irkutsk February 7, have been learned through the receipt of a telegram by Rear Admiral Michael Smirnov, minister of marine in the Kolchak cabinet, who a short time ago reached this city. Czech forces guarding Kolchak evidently were induced to surrender him in order that their evacuation of Irkutsk might be facilitated.

General Janin, commander of Czech forces in Siberia, was under orders from the allies to protect Kolchak and convey him to a place of safety. Riding in a car attached to a Czech troop train Kolchak proceeded to Irkutsk but upon its arrival there pressure was brought to bear on the Czechs, who finally withdrew their guard and permitted social revolutionists to seize Kolchak. At this time it is said, there were five thousand Czechs and a battalion of Japanese soldiers in Irkutsk.

After Kolchak had been a prisoner at Irkutsk for a short time the social revolutionists believed an attempt would be made to liberate their captive. They thereupon decided upon his execution and he was put to death former Premier Poppelayoff facing the squad with him.

Airplanes to Be Used in Locating Fish Schools

Washington, Feb. 21.—Profiting by war experience in the use of seaplanes to locate submerged submarines, the bureau of fisheries plans to use aircraft in aiding the sardine fishermen in finding schools of fish.

The bureau announced today that recent experiments with naval seaplanes off the California coast, undertaken with the authority of the navy department, have shown the possibilities of "fishing with planes."

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 1.—University of Idaho basketball five won from the University of Washington team, 18 to 11, here last night in the first game of a two-game series. Idaho led throughout most of the game, although Washington made a brief spurt early in the second half and took the lead for a few moments. Accurate shooting on the part of Idaho's forwards was responsible for the difference in the scores.

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ALLIED COUNCIL IS GOING TOO FAR AND TOO FAST-DAVIS

Paris, Feb. 21.—John W. Davis, American ambassador to Great Britain, spoke in London last night of "certain instructions" he had received from President Wilson although the president's note to the supreme allied council has not as yet arrived at the British capital, says "Perrinax," political editor of the *Revo De Paris*.

"In order to properly follow the course of events," he writes, "it should be said that the note received by the council from President Wilson February 13 was in answer to a statement sent to the state department in Washington January 24 by Earl Curzon, British secretary of state for foreign affairs. Hugh C. Wallace, American ambassador to France, attended meetings of the supreme council in this city last month and in the name of his government expressed formal reservations in regard to the demand sent to Belgrade January 20. On that occasion, speaking as much in regard to Turkey as the Adriatic, he said:

"You are going much too far and much too fast. President Wilson cannot follow you."

"Earl Curzon then drafted his note which was intended to calm Mr. Wilson's anxiety, assure him that great respect and deference would be shown his views and that Ambassador Wallace would be kept fully informed. Apparently after three weeks of patient waiting President Wilson felt these soft words would not be enough. It can thus be seen the note of February 13 was not a 'bolt from the blue.'"

"Knowledge of certain facts may also throw light on Mr. Wilson's probable policy relative to Turkish affairs. In October the American president formally asked the peace conference to postpone drafting the Turkish treaty until spring. In one of the last meetings of the supreme council it was decided that before the treaty was communicated to the Turks it would be approved to 'our great associate.'"

"What will he do? In whatever way one looks at it the work done in Downing street seems more or less threatened, as a word from across the Atlantic may reduce to nothing the important conversations that have been going on."

Bandits Who Kidnaped American Are Located

Washington, Feb. 21.—Mexican federal authorities have located the bandits who kidnaped Joseph E. Askew, an American citizen, near Lerdo, state of Durango February 2, and troops are in pursuit in the hope of arresting Askew's release, the American embassy at Mexico City has been informed by the Mexican foreign office. No further details were given in the embassy's report received today at the state department.

French Rush to Subscribe to New Government Loan

Paris, Friday, Feb. 20.—A great rush of selling orders from clients anxious to have money available for subscription to the new loan is reported by brokers here. From the moment the banks opened their doors Thursday morning, they were filled with eager subscribers to the loan and a great rush of business has continued. One marked effect of the new loan was a sharp rise in the exchange rate for the franc in London.

Smith Planning Return Flight Down Coast Soon

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 21.—Major A. D. Smith, army aviator, who is in Seattle investigating airplane equipment and facilities for aerial patrol work over Washington forests, plans to leave here Tuesday on his return flight to San Diego. He arrived yesterday from the south in his small scout plane.

The 184 mile air line between Portland and Seattle was covered by Major Smith yesterday in one hour and twenty minutes. Officials of the aero club of the northwest said was a record.

Forest patrol service will be established in Washington in April or May, Major Smith announced. Four patrols of three two-seated machines will operate out of Camp Lewis, Tacoma.

GOLD IS SHIPPED

New York, Feb. 21.—Gold valued at \$14,200,000 has been withdrawn from the sub-treasury here this week for shipment to Argentina, it was announced today.

Minotto Declines to Discuss Spy Charge

Chicago, Feb. 21.—James Minotto, son-in-law of Louis F. Swift, today declined to discuss statements of ex-Premier Joseph Caillaux on trial in Paris, that Minotto was a German spy who duped him when Caillaux visited South America in 1914-1915.

"That is an old story. There is nothing to it," Minotto said. "I am interested in it—as you would be interested in the picture of your grandmother—but it is all dead to me," he added.


Since his release from Fort Ogishthorpe, where he was interned as an alien enemy during the war, after deportation proceedings had failed, Minotto has dropped his title of count. He is now employed in the office of a Chicago exporting firm.

Geddes Unaware of Being Discussed as Minister

London, Feb. 21.—Sir Auckland Geddes, minister of national service and reconstruction, who is reported to have been offered the ambassadorship to the United States in succession to Viscount Grey, informed the Associated Press today he was "unaware of any decision regarding the naming of an ambassador to Washington."

MEXICAN CONSUL DEAD

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 1.—Jamael G. Guzman, of Mexico City, Mexican consul here, died last night of pneumonia following influenza.



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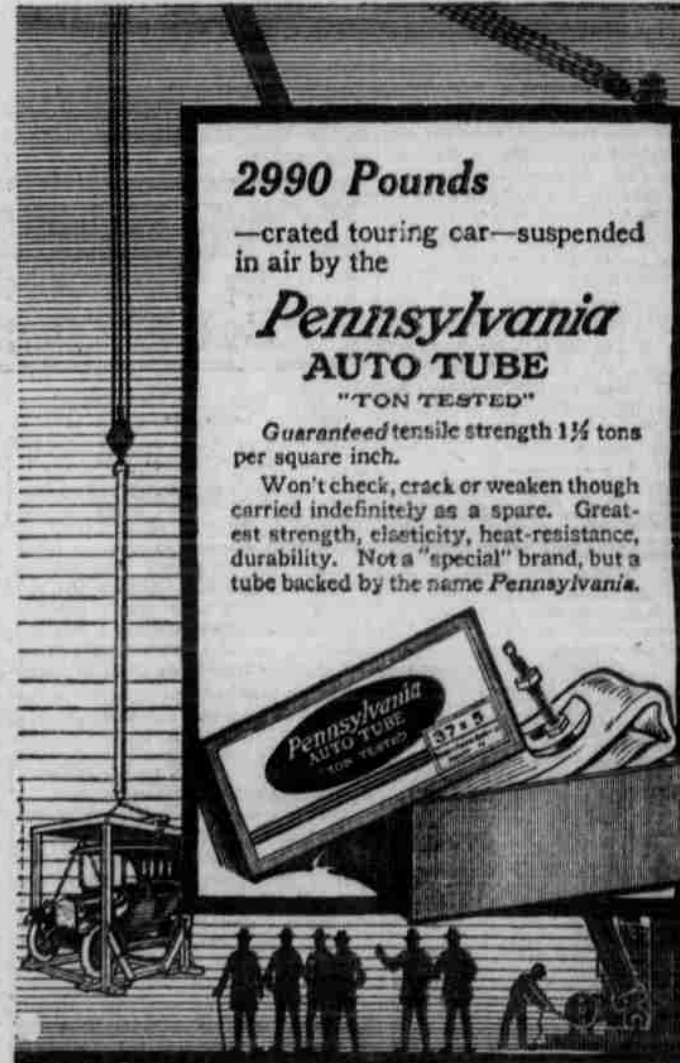
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CAILLAUX DENIES HE URGED CLOSER ENEMY RELATION

Paris, Feb. 21.—That he had never championed a policy of closer relations with Germany, but one of "European conciliation," and might have been guilty of imprudence and impulsiveness, but never of intelligence with the enemy, proved to be the open denials of Joseph Caillaux, former premier, charged with treasonable dealings with the enemy, on the resumption of his trial yesterday before the senate, sitting as a high court.

The examination of M. Caillaux covered his trip to South America late in 1914 and early in 1915. The name of James Minotto, son-in-law of Louis F. Swift of Chicago, who was interned in the United States as an alien enemy in 1915, was frequently mentioned throughout the interrogations by Leon Bourgeois, president of the senate. M. Caillaux in reply, claimed to have been fooled by Minotto, as numerous others had been fooled, he said. He had every reason to believe Minotto was respectable, he said, he had been touched for by many prominent Frenchmen. He declared he was introduced to Minotto by Edwin V. Moran, the American ambassador at Rio Janeiro.

M. Caillaux disposed of Minotto by saying that he was one of the numerous spies who infested his trail while in South America, the German minister at Rio Janeiro, fearing the result of M. Caillaux's efforts, having requested Berlin to place 100,000 marks at his disposal to have M. Caillaux shadowed continually.

"Experts will tell you I have not profited by this war; I am a poorer man now than I was in 1914," declared M. Caillaux after reading a letter from Edmondo de Oliveira, who was detained by the Brazilian ministry of foreign affairs to accompany M. Caillaux throughout his visit to Brazil. In the letter de Oliveira stated that Mr. Caillaux had always been a great patriot and hoped for the final victory of France.

Motor Fuel Oil Tax For January \$12,655

State tax on motor fuel oils sold by the Standard Oil company in Oregon during January totalled \$12,655.28, according to a check received by the secretary of state's office today. Accompanying the check was a statement showing that sales of the company during the month amounted to 1,264,119 gallons of gasoline and 117,198.5 gallons of distillate.

SPANISH MINISTRY RESIGNS

Madrid, Feb. 21.—The Spanish ministry resigned today.



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