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WILSON MAKES IDEAS CLEAR AT MANCHESTER

SAYS UNITED STATES NOT INTERESTED IN EUROPEAN POLITICS—HAS HIGHER AIM

WANTS PEACE FOR THE WORLD

Will Join No Combination of Power Which Is Not Combination of Us All—Will Visit Italy

Manchester, England, Dec. 30.—"America is not interested in European politics, but in a partnership of right between America and Europe," declared President Wilson in receiving the freedom of the city today. "America is not interested merely in the peace of Europe, but of the world."

"If the future," said the president, "had nothing for us but a new attempt to keep the world at the right pole by a balance of power, the United States would take no interest in it, because she will join no combination of power which is not a combination of us all."

Paris, Dec. 30.—President Wilson is expected to go to Italy Wednesday night. He will leave Europe February 10 for his return to the United States.

CHAMBERLAIN ASSAILS THE WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington, Dec. 30.—A general airing of the charges of negligence, inefficiency and incompetency on the part of the war department and the various branches of the army service was begun today by Senator Chamberlain of Oregon, in the United States senate.

Senator Chamberlain declared that the United States was as unprepared to care for the returning wounded soldiers as it was to enter the war. "God knows how many lives were sacrificed needlessly, due to unpreparedness, even up to the time the armistice was signed," he declared.

Senator Chamberlain is chairman of the military affairs committee.

THE BOLSHEVIKI HAVE TAKEN CITY OF VILNA

London, Dec. 30.—Vilna has been captured by the Bolsheviki forces, according to a Copenhagen dispatch to the Evening Mail, quoting Petrograd reports.

"TELL THE PAIR TO GO TO HELL" SAYS HOOVER

Washington, Dec. 30.—Food Administrator Hoover, in Europe, arranging relief for the people of the war-devastated territories, has refused in emphatic terms to discuss German food conditions with Baron von der Lancken and Dr. Reith, who sought a meeting with the food administrator.

In answer to a message for a conference, Mr. Hoover sent this message:

"You can describe two and a half years of arrogance toward ourselves and cruelty to the Belgians in any language you may select and tell the pair personally to go to hell with my compliments. If I do have to deal with Germans it will not be with that pair."

LANDOWNERS HEAR M'CRAY'S REPORT

Engineer Finishes Surveying North Side Ditch—His Work Accepted and Work Will Proceed

The Gravity District Improvement company's members met in the Chamber of Commerce rooms Saturday afternoon and considered the report of Engineer McCray, who has just completed the survey of the gravity ditch.

The engineer's report shows the gravity ditch with river branch lateral will be 21 miles in length and will cover 3,000 acres of fine river bottom lands. The carrying capacity of the main canal to the point where the river branch lateral branches off will be 54 second feet, or enough to irrigate 2,900 acres one foot in depth each 30 days, while the carrying capacity of the main canal from there on will be 37 second feet and the branch lateral 16 second feet, insuring plenty of water for all irrigation purposes for all the lands under the ditch.

The estimate cost of the ditch, according to figures out, is slightly under \$21,000, or less than \$7 an acre based on the 3,000 acres under the ditch.

The members, after going into the matter thoroughly, unanimously accepted the report and authorized the board of directors to proceed with the work.

The company is composed solely of landowners under the proposed ditch and the ditch will be owned and operated by them. The officers and directors are as follows: Dr. W. H. Flanagan, president; Karl Hammerbacher, secretary; H. Wood, treasurer; H. E. Gordon and W. H. Hull.

PORTLAND CONVENTION TO BE IMPORTANT ONE

Leaders in every branch of industry throughout the state, representatives of every organization interested in Oregon's industrial development, both organized and unorganized labor leaders and members of the Oregon legislature are expected to attend the reconstruction convention in Portland, January 9, 10 and 11.

The convention has been called by Governor Withycombe as the means of formulating a definite program of action in connection with Oregon's industrial readjustment from a war to a peace basis. By solving the problems now confronting the state, insurance will be made against unemployment, returning soldiers will be assured positions, war workers who have been forced to remain at home will be provided for and a definite and comprehensive plan will be decided upon for the general development of the entire state.

Several federal representatives from Washington, D. C., who are familiar with the subjects to be discussed at the convention will attend the sessions. Leaders in such activities as stock raising, agriculture, mining, fishing, shipping, shipbuilding, etc., will take part in the convention program and before the important session comes to a close, it is expected that definite lines of procedure will be outlined and adopted as a reconstruction program for the entire state.

"The convention has been called," said Mayor Baker, of Portland, who is handling the details for the big meeting, "to bring together the best thought and to outline the best action for the handling of the reconstruction and readjustment of industry in the state of Oregon. The problems to be discussed affect every part of the state alike and it rests with the state as a whole to solve them."

Washington, Dec. 28.—Pacific Coast States—Rain early in the week in the north portion and again after middle of the week except snow in the mountains; fair south portion, with nearly normal temperatures.

FRENCH TIGER GIVEN VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

CLEMENCEAU MAKES IT PLAIN HE WILL SUPPORT ENGLAND IN FREEDOM OF SEAS

ATTITUDE APPROVED BY WILSON

"Would Not Be Telling Truth if I Said I Agreed With President on All Points"

Paris, Dec. 30.—Addressing the chamber of deputies, Premier Clemenceau made it plain that it was his intention to support Great Britain in the peace negotiations on the question of freedom of the seas, and declared that his attitude was approved by President Wilson.

Premier Clemenceau was given a vote of confidence of 380 to 134, after a stormy debate.

London, Dec. 30.—The American transport which left New York for Brest, December 18, was stranded on the rocks near the Isle D'Yeu, in the Bay of Biscay, Saturday. Those on board are being rescued. Navy tugs were sent to assist the transport, which may be floated. No troops were aboard.

Premier Clemenceau indicated his preference for the old system of alliance, called the balance of power. Referring to his conference with President Wilson, he said:

"I should not be telling the truth if I said I had always been in agreement with him on all points."

AVIATION TRAINING STATION HAS GREAT SAFETY RECORD

San Diego, Cal., Dec. 30.—A total distance of 2,360,000 miles flown and not a single aviator injured or a single seaplane totally wrecked, is the record of the naval air station at North Island. This record represents 35,000 flying hours. There are two flying stations on North Island, the other being part of the army department.

AMERICA'S WAR SPEED ASTONISHES JAPS—THOUGHT YANKS MONEY-MAD

Tokio, Dec. 30.—The rapidity with which the United States prepared for war and the magnitude and success of her military operations continue to draw expressions of admiration from Japanese. Generally speaking, the public in Japan regarded the United States as a peace-loving nation, which, having no bent for war, could never do much in the building up of a great army.

The wonderful transformation of America in the war is the subject of many articles by prominent publicists. Thus, Dr. Shigeo Suyehiro, professor of Kyoto university, writes:

"There is no disguising the fact that prior to the war the Japanese did not believe in the military strength of America, but the present titanic struggle has demonstrated beyond all doubt the error of the Japanese estimate. The United States has become a great military power at a bound and her navy is only second to that of Great Britain. The financial resources of America are something tremendous. It is stated that America would be able to keep the war going for a quarter of a century at the rate of expenditure which she spent for the first year. Nor is this all.

"The Americans are as great spiritually as their country is almost limitless in her resources. Just imagine that the Americans whom

CHINA TO TELL HER TROUBLES AT BIG PARLEY

WILL ASK FOR RETURN OF KIAO CHAOW, CAPTURED BY JAPS EARLY IN WAR

HAVE CHOSEN THEIR DELEGATION

Want Readjustment of International Trade Relations to Give Them Equal Chance With Others

New York, Dec. 30.—China will ask the peace conference to return Kiao Chaow, the former German-controlled province captured by Japan early in the war, and the readjustment of international trade relations to place China on an equal plane with the other nations, according to Lu Cheng Chiang, Chinese minister of foreign affairs, en route to the peace conference, heading a delegation.

FINDING MANY JOBS FOR THE SOLDIERS

Nearly 1,000 applicants for work, many of them recently discharged soldiers, are being placed daily in Oregon by the United States Employment service, despite the surplus of unskilled labor and increasing scarcity of positions, according to statements given out yesterday by Wilfred S. Smith, state federal employment director.

Of this number, 500 are being placed by the Portland office exclusive of those placed by the short hour federal employment office operating in the old building at 247 Davis street. The eight branch offices throughout the state are placing 350 employes daily. Director Smith estimates that in the new Portland offices at Third and Oak streets an average of 1,500 men daily seek information leading to new positions, while on Mondays and Tuesdays as many as 2,000 men register at the offices.—Oregonian.

GERMANS DESTROY 26,000 FACTORIES

French Hard Hit, But Not "Bled White"—Must Have Aid From United States

Baltimore, Dec. 30.—With 2,500,000 of her youngest, ablest and most spirited men killed or maimed, and upward of half her industry and shipping destroyed by the war, France's appeal to her allies during the period of rehabilitation will be for help in rebuilding the factories and farms which the Germans wrecked, and for assistance in constructing or purchasing ships. Edouard De Billy, deputy high commissioner of the French republic, declared here today in an address before the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

He denied that France is "bled white," but said the handicap imposed as a result of her sacrifices in resisting the invader could not be overcome except with outside aid.

He declared that 26,000 factories in the French districts occupied by the Germans were destroyed or stripped of their machinery; that almost 12,000,000 head of cattle were seized; that thousands of miles of farm lands, devastated by shells, was made unfit for cultivation; that the net loss in ship tonnage, through sinkings and enforced curtailment in production was 670,000 tons and that the money cost of the conflict in appropriations and public debt, aggregated 188,000,000,000 francs.

SALEM REPLACES BAN

Salem, Ore., Dec. 30.—The influenza ban was placed upon all public gatherings here today, for the second time this winter.

CALIFORNIANS FIND NEW USE FOR THEIR GRAPES

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 30.—Blockades of foreign nations, caused by the war, have served to stimulate the establishment of industries in America to supply the demand for many commodities. The latest industry to find root in southern California is the growing of the currant grape, much used in preparing the succulent Christmas plum pudding and other delicacies.

For centuries regarded as native only to Greece, the Liberty Fair recently held here has demonstrated that this commodity can be grown successfully in California. When the blockade of Greece early in the war shut down on the importation of the currant grapes, the department of agriculture sought to stimulate their culture here.

Most Americans probably have thought that the dried grapes used in puddings and cakes are the dried fruit of the currant bush. In reality, however, the currants of commerce are made from these currant grapes.

One of the outstanding features of the currant grapes' culture is the method adopted to force the setting on of fruit from the blossoms. While the vines are in bloom they are "girdled," two parallel incisions being made through the bark around either the trunks, arms or canes of the vines. The bark between these incisions then is removed.

How this particular variety of grapes came to be called currant is explained by the government experts. During the eleventh century, it appears, in the old herbals and in the literature of the fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth centuries, references to them occur as "reysins de corauntz," "corauntz," "corant," "rey sons of Corawnce" and "currauns."

Previous to the war the United States annually imported over 30,000,000 pounds of dried currants from Greece, the equivalent of 50,000 tons of fresh grapes. The prospective importance of the new industry can be realized from these figures.

GERMAN MOBS GIVEN A FREE REIN TO STEAL

AUTHORITIES ARE POWERLESS, AS TROOPS REFUSE TO FIRE UPON THE RIOTERS

INDEPENDENT SOCIALISTS QUIT

Soldiers' and Workmen's Council Appoints New Leaders—Foreign Minister Haase Is Out

London, Dec. 30.—Pillaging is being carried on by mobs in Frankfurt, Germany, and the authorities are powerless, says an Amsterdam dispatch. Troops in the city refused to fire on the rioters.

Amsterdam, Dec. 30.—The independent socialists in the Prussian ministry and the officials of the Prussian government who belong to that party, have resigned, it is reported here.

Copenhagen, Dec. 30.—The central council of soldiers and workmen of Germany has appointed Herr Noske governor of Kiel; Herr Loebe, editor of the Breslau Volks Wacht, and Herr Wischel, members of the reichstag, as cabinet members to replace Foreign Minister Haase, Minister of Society Party Barth and Demobilization Minister Dittman, who retired Saturday, say Berlin advices.

SAYS NAVAL EXPANSION SHOULD BE CONTINUED

Washington, Dec. 30.—Secretary Daniels, appearing before the house naval committee, said the naval expansion should be continued indefinitely, with the provision for suspension of construction at the order of the president whenever international agreement was made for armament reduction.

DEPT. OF JUSTICE IS AFTER PRICE-FIXERS

Washington, Dec. 30.—The department of justice will regard concentrated price-fixing by any industry after the government ceases to exercise price-control after January 1, as in restraint of free competition. It has been announced here.

BIG ROAD BUILDING PROGRAM IS OUTLINED

Portland, Dec. 30.—Good roads for Oregon received a \$3,500,000 impetus at the recent meeting of the State Highway commission in Portland, when practically every county in the state was given recognition in the largest annual program of road construction within the history of the state.

The proposed expenditures will call for \$2,790,200 from the \$6,000,000 bonding fund, and for \$735,000 from the auto license fund and the one-quarter mill fund. Bids have been asked for and many are expected to be in readiness for the next meeting of the commission, which is set for January 7, 1919.

The proposed road improvement includes paving of six miles from Grants Pass to the Jackson county line, and the graveling of about six miles of road between Wolf Creek and Grave Creek.