

PRESIDENT APPEALS FOR REPEAL CANAL TOLL EXEMPTION REGULATIONS

REQUEST IS BASED ON MORAL GROUNDS

SUPPORT ASKED ADMINISTRATION'S FOREIGN POLICY

Message Is Shortest But One on Record—Galleries Jammed and President Followed With Closest Attention and Given Applause.

Underwood Declines to Comment, and Thinks Party Caucus Unlikely—Adamson Enthusiastic.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—His plan to congress for repeal of the Panama canal regulation freeing American shipping from the tolls the vessels of other nations will have to pay for passage through the big ditch was read by President Wilson in person today at a joint session of both houses.

It was the shortest message the president has yet addressed to the lawmakers. It consisted of just 417 words. It was the shortest in the history of presidential messages, with the single exception of the tariff message sent to the lawmakers by ex-President Taft.

Galleries Jammed

The galleries were jammed. Among the diplomats was Secretary of State Bryan. He sat next to German Ambassador Count von Bernstorff. Occasionally he leaned forward to whisper smilingly to French Ambassador Jusserand. English Ambassador Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, however, was absent.

In the president's gallery were Miss Margaret Wilson, Mrs. Hall, a white house guest, and Corporation Commissioner Davies and his wife. The senators arrived late. It was 12:30 before they were announced. Meanwhile President Wilson had been waiting in the speaker's room.

His audience listened with the closest attention while he was reading. As he finished, just at 12:39, there was an outburst of applause and then a hubbub of discussion. Speaker Clark referred the message to the commerce commission.

Underwood Opposes

Congressman Underwood, the democratic floor leader, declined to comment on the address. He said he thought a party caucus concerning the president's request unlikely, and plainly indicated that he disagreed with the chief executive. Chairman Adamson, chosen as the president's spokesman in the house to debate on the canal toll proposition, was emphatic in his approval of the administration's attitude.

"I was pleased with the message," he said, "because it's the square thing at home and abroad. The charge that we're surrendering to England is a damned lie. We'll now repeal that piece of rascality."

The address' last sentence was generally considered significant. It was taken as a veiled reference to the president's acknowledged desire to accede to England's wishes relative to canal tolls as a means of increasing the revenue.

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AGAIN ASK ASQUITH FOR FAIR DISPLAY

LONDON, March 5.—Their request that the British government reconsider its decision not to be officially represented at the San Francisco exposition was handed to Premier Asquith today by a committee chosen from among the 350-odd members of the house of commons who signed the petition last evening. Nearly all the Irish and labor members, half of the conservatives and more than one-third of the liberals subscribed to the request.

"LANGUAGE OF TREATY CAPABLE OF BUT ONE INTERPRETATION, AND THAT INCLUDES EXEMPTION OF CANAL TOLLS"

Gentlemen of Congress: I have come to you on an errand which can be very briefly performed, but I beg you will not measure its importance by the number of sentences in which I state it. No communication that I have addressed to congress has carried with it a more grave or far-reaching implication to the interests of the country, and I come now to speak upon a matter with regard to which I am charged to a peculiar degree, to the constitution itself, with personal responsibility.

I come to ask the repeal of that provision of the Panama canal act of August 24, 1912, which exempts vessels engaged in coastwise trade of America from the payment of tolls and to urge upon you the justice and wisdom and large policy of such a repeal with the utmost earnestness of which I am capable. In my own judgment, maturely formed after careful consideration, I believe that exemption constitutes a mistaken economic policy from every point of view and is, moreover, in plain contravention of the treaty with Great Britain concerning the canal, concluded November 18, 1901.

But I have not come before you to urge my personal views. I come to state to you a fact and a situation. Whatever may be our own differences of opinion concerning this much-debated measure, its meaning is not debated outside of the United States. Everywhere else the language of the treaty is given but one interpretation, and that interpretation includes the exemption I am asking you to repeal. We consented to the treaty; its language we accepted, if we did not originate it, and we are too big, too powerful and too self-respecting a nation to interpret with too strained or refined reading the words of our own promises just because we have power enough to give us leave to read them as we please. The large thing to do is the only thing we can afford to do, and that is a voluntary withdrawal from a position everywhere questioned and misunderstood. We ought to reverse our action without raising the question of whether we are right or wrong, and so once more deserve our reputation for generosity and redemption of every obligation without quibble or hesitation.

I ask this of you in support of the foreign policy of my administration. I shall not know how to deal with other matters of even greater delicacy, and nearer consequence if you don't grant it to me in an ungrudging measure.

REVOLTING TALE TOLD RESCUERS BY WHITE SLAVE

PORTLAND, Ore., Mar. 5.—Telling a story of the most revolting and hideous character ever listened to by the federal authorities, Beryl Patience Pratt, who told Deputy United States Attorney Beckman her grandfather was a high official of the Mormon church, was cared for here today while Nick Ploumas, a Greek, was locked up on white slavery charges.

The girl said her home is in Provo, Utah, and because of her mother's poverty she had gone to work in a restaurant at Salt Lake City. Chancing to meet Ploumas there, she says she was led to marry him, the ceremony being performed at Ogden. Immediately, she said, her life of shame began. She declared that Ploumas started with her for Portland, stopping at every station where there were Greek laborers and compelling her to submit to loathsome atrocities. At La Grande, Oregon, she was rescued by the local authorities from a group of railroad track laborers. Beckman declares he has never heard of such depravity as the girl's story, told almost hysterically, indicated.

SENATE TO DEFEAT WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

WASHINGTON, Mar. 5.—That the woman's suffrage resolution probably would be defeated in the senate was admitted by Senator Thomas, one of its supporters, this afternoon.

POST'S TRAIN FIVE HOURS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE TIME

KINGSLEY, Kan., March 5.—Five hours ahead of its scheduled time, the special train carrying Charles W. Post to Rochester, Minn., arrived here at 2 o'clock this afternoon. The crew was ordered here to make every effort to get the special into Kansas City by 8 o'clock this evening.

ARMY OF HOBOES FORCED TO MOVE BY ARMED POLICE

OAKLAND, Cal., Mar. 5.—The unemployed "army," numbering 500 men, which started from San Francisco Tuesday afternoon on a march to Washington and camped at Emeryville, an Oakland suburb, was started on the move to Richmond in cars of the street railway company this morning at 9 o'clock. When the men awoke today they found themselves surrounded by a cordon of police, deputy sheriffs, and riflemen numbering more than 200, and had no choice but to obey the order to leave.

"General" Kelley, demanding that he be arrested, was left behind with his camp material and the baggage of the army, the police not giving the unemployed men time to pack up. Latham, a lieutenant of Kelley, went in search of an attorney to start legal proceedings to reinstate the army in Oakland.

Chief of Police Petersen in an interview with Kelley, told the latter that he must get out or he would be "thrown out."

It is said that about 250 of the army jumped from the moving cars after they left Emeryville and escaped.

The armies are camped at East Richmond Heights, about four miles from the center of the city, this afternoon. They are surrounded by armed policemen and deputies. The armies probably will be ordered to continue on their way tomorrow.

MEMPHIS BANKER UNDER INDICTMENT

MEMPHIS, Tenn., March 5.—Claude Anderson, cashier of the Mercantile bank, was arrested today on five grand jury indictments, charging embezzlement, grand larceny, fraudulent breach of trust, making false reports and receiving deposits when he knew the bank was insolvent. He will be admitted to bail.

ADMIRAL DEWEY IS CALLED "BRAGGART"



Count Ernst von Reventlow, the German naval writer, recently made a personal attack on Admiral Dewey, calling him a braggart and a teller of half truths, and saying he is far from generally esteemed in his own country. The attack on Admiral Dewey was in regard to the statements made by him in his autobiography concerning the German fleet at Manila in the Spanish-American War, in 1898.

WOMAN CUT INTO THIRTEEN PIECES SUNK IN SLOUGH

STOCKTON, Cal., March 5.—Cut into thirteen pieces and sewed in gunnybags, the body of Esther Crozier, a white woman of the demimonde, who went to Holt station six weeks ago and was last seen mingling with the Chinese of the delta section, was found last evening sunken in Trappers' slough, about a mile and a half from the house of Wah Pong, where she is believed to have been murdered.

Yen Zee, a Chinese barber, whose shop was located in front of Pong's house, is in jail on suspicion. Wah Pong, the aged Celestial who induced the Crozier woman to come to Holt, has been mysteriously missing since the day she was last seen alive. Bloodstains were found on the wall and floor in one corner of Zee's shop. The Crozier woman had a mother, brother and sister living in Grass Valley.

SEATTLE WILL TRY COMMISSION FORM

SEATTLE, Wash., March 5.—Seattle appears likely within a year to be the next city, and the largest, to adopt the city manager form of government. Expressions obtained today from the fifteen frecholders elected Tuesday to frame a new charter for the city indicates a decided majority in favor of the city manager plan. William Hickman Moore, former mayor, who received the largest vote among the fifteen, and who is likely to be chairman of the board, is an advocate of this system of municipal government.

GRAIN BUSINESS UNDER CONTROL OF ELEVATOR TRUST

WASHINGTON, March 5.—The existence of a big interlocking organization of Minnesota grain elevator owners, commission merchants and millers was charged today by Attorney Benjamin Drake of the Equity Co-operative exchange, Minneapolis, a witness before the house rules committee.

The elevator proprietors, he asserted, own more than half the commission houses which supposedly represent the farmers. He told the committee that the organization controls the situation so effectively that there is no competition in the grain-buying business in the territory tributary to Minneapolis.

MISS WILSON FALLS AND INJURES SELF

WASHINGTON, March 5.—Owing to the effects of the slight injury she suffered from a fall on one of the white house polished floors, Mrs. Wilson is unable to be in the presidential gallery in the house of representatives today when her husband read his message to congress. The ligaments of one foot were strained. It was stated, however, that the patient would be out in a few days.

ALL ALASKA SHAKEN BUT DAMAGE SLIGHT

FAIRBANKS, Alaska, March 5.—Reports from interior points today indicated that Tuesday night's earthquake was felt throughout nearly the whole of Alaska. So far as could be learned there was no damage.

HUERTA WANTS TO SUBMIT CASE TO THE HAGUE

Mexican Government Hastens to Accept Invitation Sent Out by Queen Wilhelmina for Conference Next Year.

United States Merely Initiated Movement and Mexico Happened to Be Included in Invitations.

MEXICO CITY, March 5.—Without an accompanying word of comment or explanation the foreign office today issued the following statement:

"The Mexican government has accepted the invitation of the president of the United States to reach an agreement in regard to the preliminaries for a peace conference next year at The Hague."

Both United States Charge d'Affaires O'Shaughnessy and Mexican officials refused to discuss the announcement.

Sent by Wilhelmina

WASHINGTON, March 5.—President Huerta's invitation to participate in a peace conference came from the Queen of Holland, it was discovered this afternoon. All the United States had to do with it was to initiate the movement for another conference. In giving out her invitations Wilhelmina included Mexico.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—Presidential Private Secretary Tumulty said frankly today that he had no idea what the Mexican government meant by its announcement that it had accepted an invitation from Washington to take part in a peace conference. It was the first he had heard of, he declared.

Soft Pedal Still On

The administration was still firmly soft-pedaling Mexican debate in congress, but how long it could continue to do so was doubtful. Senator Fall of New Mexico and other lawmakers who favor intervention were known to be preparing for an attack on the president's policy and it was not easy to see how they could be kept much longer in check.

In fact, Senator Fall announced that he would speak Saturday on a resolution demanding information from the president concerning the steps taken to protect Americans in Mexico.

At the state department it was intimated that the administration intended to ignore the fiery utterances of Governor Colquitt of Texas.

TOPOLOBAMPO BATTLE PROVES TO BE FIASCO

MEXICO CITY, Mar. 5.—Yesterday's naval battle at Topolobampo between the gunboats Tampico, with a rebel crew and Morelos and Guerrero, manned by Federals, proved a fiasco. The shooting was done at tremendously long range, with Tampico inside and the Morelos and Guerrero outside the harbor, not a bullet's eye was scored and after 20 minutes firing the two Federal craft steered off into the Gulf of California.

COMPLETE PROBE OF COLORADO STRIKE

DENVER, Colo., March 5.—Their investigation in the strike in the Colorado coal fields, completed, the members of the congressional committee of inquiry arrived here today from Walsenburg. They would not give out any conclusions pending the preparation of their formal report. The party expected to leave for the east Sunday night or Monday morning.

NEW PORTRAIT OF MRS. JOHN WARD



This striking portrait of the Hon. Mrs. John Ward is one of the drypoint etchings of the well known French artist, Mr. Adrien Etienne. Mrs. Ward, formerly Miss Jean T. Reid, is the only daughter of the late Ambassador to Great Britain and Mrs. Whitelaw Reid. Her husband is a brother of the Earl of Dudley. She was married in London on June 23, 1908.

CARRANZA TO PROBE BENTON CASE AT ONCE

EL PASO, Tex., March 5.—General Carranza's Benton case investigation committee was arranging the preliminaries of its work at Juarez today. There seemed likely to be considerable time lost, however, most of the members of the court martial which tried the Englishman, as well as most of the other witnesses being scattered at various army outposts, so that it will be difficult to get them together.

The same commission was scheduled to look into the case of Gustav Bauch, the German-American, who, following his arrest at Juarez, charged with being a federal spy, disappeared and has since been repeatedly rumored to have died facing a rebel firing squad, despite General Villa's assertions that he had been released. It was not known whether the Benton or the Bauch case would be taken up first.

Seventy minor officers of the civil branch of Carranza's government arrived at Juarez last night with a cartload of records and established headquarters at the custom house. The cabinet, accompanied by an escort of 2000 soldiers, was due to leave Nogales for Juarez today.

HUNDRED MILLIONS FROM INCOME TAXES

WASHINGTON, Mar. 5.—Internal revenue collectors reported by telegraph today to the treasury department. Their reports indicated that the revenue derived from income taxes for ten months in 1913, together with the corporation tax, would total a little less than \$100,000,000.