

Forty-fifth Year.  
Daily—Tenth Year.

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NO. 54

WILSON TELLS  
IDEALS OF TRUE  
NEUTRAL NATIONNeutrality of United States Not a  
Petty Desire to Keep Out of Trou-  
ble Because There Was Something  
Greater to Do Than Fight—Distinc-  
tion of a Nation of Self-Control.

NEW YORK, April 20.—President Wilson in an address at the annual luncheon of the Associated Press here this afternoon, gave a definite statement of his idea of true neutrality and of the duties that devolved upon America's connection with the European war. The president declared that the neutrality of the United States was not a petty desire to keep out of trouble because there was something so much greater to do than fight. A great distinction, he said, was coming to the United States—the distinction of a nation of self-control and self-mastery. He said such a nation was bound to play an important part in adjusting the affairs of the world once the fighting is ended. "We have no hampering ambitions," he declared; "we don't want a foot of anybody's territory. Isn't such a nation bound to be free to serve the other nations?"

## Look Towards America

"Is it not likely that the nations of the world will some day turn to us for the cooler assessment of the elements engaged? I am not thinking so preposterous a thought as that we should sit in judgment upon any other nation, but that we shall some day have to assist in reconstructing the processes of peace."

"Our resources are untouched; we are more and more becoming by the force of circumstances the mediating nation of the world in respect of its finance. We must make up our minds what are the best things to do and what are the best ways to do them. We must put our money, our energy, our enthusiasm, our sympathy into these things, and we must have our judgments prepared and our spirits chastened against the coming of that day. So that I am not speaking in a selfish spirit when I say that our whole duty for the present at any rate is summed up in this motto, 'America first.' Let us think of America before we think of Europe, in order that America may be fit to be Europe's friend when the day of tested friendship comes. The test of friendship is not now sympathy with the one side or the other, but getting ready to help both sides when the struggle is over."

## Basis of Neutrality

"The basis of neutrality, gentlemen, is not indifference; it is not self-interest. The basis of neutrality is sympathy for mankind; it is fairness; it is good will at bottom. It is impartiality of spirit and of judgment. I wish that all of our fellow-citizens could realize that."

"There is in some quarters a disposition to create distempers in this body politic. Men are even uttering slanders against the United States, as if to excite her. Men are saying that if we should go to war upon either side there will be a divided America—an abominable 'bet of ignorance. America is not all of it vocal just now. It is vocal in spots. But I am one who have a complete and abiding faith in that great silent body of Americans who are not standing up and shouting and expressing their opinions just now, but are waiting to find out and support the duty of America. I am just as sure of their solidity and of their loyalty and of their unanimity, if we act justly, as I am that the history of this country has at every crisis and turning point illustrated this great lesson."

(Continued on Page 2.)

VILLA FORTIFYING  
AGUAS CALIENTES

EL PASO, Tex., April 20.—General Villa reported today to be fortifying Aguas Calientes to make a stand there against Obregon's advance north along the Mexican Central railroad after the Carranza victories about Celaya. It was indicated that Villa had abandoned his base at Irapuato.

PEACE RUMORS  
EMANATE FROM  
ITALIAN CAPITALPersistent Reports in Rome That the  
Questions Confronting Italy May  
Be Solved by Conclusion of Gen-  
eral Peace—Logical Place for Con-  
ference—Relations Friendly to All.

ROME, April 20.—Within the last twenty-four hours there have arisen in Rome persistent reports that the grave international questions confronting Italy may be solved in the near future by what at first sight seems almost incredible, the conclusion of a general peace in Europe at a not distant date.

While these reports are intangible and cannot at present be ascribed to a definite source, they nevertheless are reflected in high quarters and they are given heed by careful observers of international politics.

Among other reasons in support of this argument is offered that Rome is an excellent field for the conduct of negotiations of this nature. Prince von Ruelow, one of the ablest of German diplomats, is in Rome as ambassador to Italy, and the official relations between Italy and Germany as well as between Italy and the powers of the triple entente are cordial.

In certain quarters in Rome the idea prevails that the advent of spring has not seen such resumption of aggressive hostilities as had been promised, a fact regarded as significant.

Sofia is being regarded with much interest. Efforts are being made by representatives of the belligerents to induce King Ferdinand to announce his decision.

The importance of the attitude of Bulgaria is recognized fully in Rome. Should she side with the Teutonic allies it would be difficult for Rumania to make war upon Austria Hungary, for she would then be subject to attack by Bulgaria, as well as by Turkish troops coming through Bulgarian territory.

HOME RULE UNDER  
CRIMINAL LAWS

SALEM, Or., April 20.—Holding that the home rule amendment to the Oregon constitution is subject to the criminal laws of the state, the supreme court today affirmed Circuit Judge Campbell of Clackamas county in the case of the state against Fritz Boysen, appellant.

Boysen, who held a license for the sale of liquor in Milwaukie, was forced to forfeit it and was fined \$150 for selling liquor to a minor. His attorneys contended that the home rule amendment nullified the section of code authorizing forfeiture of licenses in such cases, and that under it the town of Milwaukie was given exclusive power to license him to sell liquor. The court, however, ruled that this amendment was subject to the criminal laws of the state, and as the section of the code under which Boysen was convicted was a criminal statute, the amendment did not invalidate it.

AWAIT CANTINE  
TO SETTLE ALL  
ROAD PROBLEMSNew State Highway Engineer Expect-  
ed Shortly—Plan to Include Ash-  
land Hill in Siskiyou Section and  
Expend State's \$50,000 in Both  
Approaches to City.

County Commissioners Leever and Madden and Representative W. I. Vawter returned from Salem Tuesday where they appeared before the state highway commission in an endeavor to reach an understanding regarding the expenditure of the \$50,000 appropriated for use on the Siskiyou section and a basis for road work during the coming year. The State Highway Engineer will be down within the next few days and the program will be finally agreed upon.

Commissioner Madden thus summarizes the result of the conference: "The state money will be expended on the Siskiyou section, but the Siskiyou section will comprise, subject to approval by Engineer Cantline, all that portion of the highway from the southern line of the present completed paved road at the base of the Ashland hill to the California line. This will enable the expenditure of the state money on the Billings grade and the paving this year of probably five miles from Ashland south under state control."

The office of the state highway engineer at Medford will be abolished. Engineer Kittredge will be retained until Mr. Cantline makes his visit, and his future employment will then be determined upon.

Whether the state will turn over the money to the county to be expended under Mr. Cantline's supervision, or whether the state itself will take complete charge of the work, will also be determined.

The balance of the county bond issue, left after the Sweeney settlement, approximately \$80,000 will be expended by the county. The road will first be graded through to Rogue River and then as much of it paved as there are funds left for. Bids will be asked on the grading and local contractors will be given a chance to bid on sections as well as on the entire work.

The Sweeney settlement also depends upon Engineer Cantline's visit. Both the state commission and the county court are likely to abide by Engineer Bowly's settlement, allowing approximately \$17,000 for extras on the Siskiyou contract. Mr. Bowly considers this settlement a liberal one. Mr. Sweeney demands an additional \$35,000 for extras. There is at present due Mr. Sweeney \$35,575 under the Bowly settlement. Until Mr. Sweeney signs this settlement, this money will be withheld.

Former Governor West is in the city representing the Portland banks to whom Mr. Sweeney has assigned his claims. Mr. Sweeney is expected from Klamath Falls tonight and it will then be determined whether a lawsuit will result or a settlement signed.

The state commission acknowledge that \$8000 is due Jackson county from last year's highway fund, as well as \$13,000 for paving equipment purchased for the state, and this \$21,000 will be forthcoming in the future, though pressure from northern counties has exhausted the fund for this year.

BIG WASHINGTON BANK SETS OUT "TO  
GET" UNITED STATES TREASURY HEADS

Officials of the Riggs National bank of Washington have just obtained a court order restraining United States treasury officials from alleged attacks on the bank, and this may result in an investigation which will mean trouble for Washington financial interests, which have been charged with corrupt practices for years. Left to right the picture shows the principals in the fight: Charles C. Glover, president of the bank; Secretary of the Treasury William G. McAdoo and Comptroller of the Currency John Skelton Williams. The Riggs National bank is in the background.

RUSSIANS REPEL  
VIGOROUS ATTACK  
EAST OF POLEN

PETROGRAD, April 20.—The Russian war office today gave out the following account of operations at the front:

"A vigorous attack by Germans on our positions east of Telepotch and Polen was repulsed by rifle fire and hand grenades. In the direction of Stry a hostile attack on the heights near Oravil was successful at the start but toward evening our troops made a counter attack and re-occupied the heights after fierce fighting. They captured prisoners, the number of which is now being ascertained."

"On the eastern Roszanka chain, during the evening of April 18, we exploded a mine above a German trench. Immediately following this, our infantry attacked with bayonet and captured the position, taking in the neighborhood of 100 prisoners, as well as four machine guns and one bomb thrower."

CANTON CASE  
AFFIRMED; CARKIN  
LAW IS INVALID

SALEM, Or., April 20.—Pronouncing the Carkin act, passed by the 1913 legislature providing for regulation of commission merchants by the state railroad commission as unconstitutional, the Oregon supreme court today affirmed Circuit Judge Davis of Multnomah county, in the case of the State, appellant, vs. H. Levy and J. J. Cole.

Ground upon which the act was declared unconstitutional was that it violated the constitutional provision providing that "every act shall embrace but one subject and matters properly connected therewith, which subject shall be expressed in the title."

The supreme court also affirmed Circuit Judge Calkins of Jackson county in the case of the State vs. W. J. Canton, an attorney of Medford, and formerly major in the regular army, who was convicted of a crime against nature.

FARM EARNINGS  
SHOW SMALL  
PROFIT ON LABORNet Return on Corn Only Two Mills  
Per Bushel and Loss on Oats  
Twelve Cents Per Bushel—Tenant  
Farmers Average \$870 a Year,  
Owners' Net Return 3.5 Per Cent.

CHICAGO, April 20.—Discussion of farm earnings was a new angle which entered the western freight rate hearing today with the testimony of E. J. Thompson, of the United States department of agriculture. Mr. Thompson, who has charge of the section of farm economies, told of data gathered by federal officials in Indiana, Illinois and Iowa. He testified that in that district one farmer out of twenty two made over \$2000 a year after deducting all expenses and five per cent on the actual investment.

"One farmer out of every three on 272 farms considered in the three states," said Mr. Thompson, "paid for the privilege of working his farm."

## Returns Three Percent

His statistics on rented farms gave the average yearly earnings of a tenant farmer as \$870 a year. The figures applied to 247 tenant farms and he testified that the owners of the 247 farms received an average net return of 3.50 percent on their property investment after allowing for taxes and insurance.

The cost of growing an acre of corn was placed by the witness at \$2.30 for an average yield of 45 bushels to the acre.

"Based on the actual selling price offered to the farmer after harvest," said Mr. Thompson, "the farmer received only two mills profit on a bushel of corn. The cost of raising a bushel of oats, figured on actual data from 577 acres, was 49.9 cents and the average price received for oats was 38 cents a bushel, a loss of 11.9 cents a bushel."

## No Profit in Oats

"There is no profit in raising oats," said the witness, "that crop has to be grown by the farmer to preserve the rotation of crops."

Counsel for the railroads objected to the introduction of the testimony on the ground that it was irrelevant to the question of the proposed advance in freight rates.

VON DER GOLTZ TAKES  
VON SANDERS PLACE

BERLIN, April 20.—"Field Marshal Baron von der Goltz, who recently was appointed commander of the first Turkish army, takes the place of the German general Liman von Sanders, who is now commanding the Dardanelles army."

"It is officially reported that already two thousand German soldiers born in Alsace Lorraine have been decorated with iron crosses."

"The Berlin municipal eating house which is able to feed 20,000 unemployed during the war, will be closed tomorrow, because there are now only 1500 unemployed who are in need of food. This means splendid economical improvement."

COLONEL ONCE  
QUITE INTIMATE  
WITH EX-BOSSRoosevelt on Witness Stand in Own  
Behalf Relates Story of Many Con-  
ferences Held With Barnes While  
Governor—Discussed Legislative  
Actions and Protests.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., April 20.—Theodore Roosevelt went upon the witness stand today to defend himself in the suit for alleged libel brought against him by William Barnes.

When the colonel's name was called he arose from his seat at the table occupied by his counsel, smilingly walked around to the witness chair.

## Conferred With Barnes

In Albany I saw Mr. Barnes many times. In 1899 I had a number of conferences with him. I had more with him than with any other of the leaders except Mr. Platt and Mr. Odell. We had many political discussions. For the most part they were in regard to the relations between myself and the leaders of the republican organization, particularly Mr. Platt. There were certain issues between us two. Platt was known as the boss of the organization which controlled the majority of the republican members of the legislature who sometimes co-operated with the democrats. We were at odds principally over legislative matters."

The witness added that he also discussed legislative action with Mr. Barnes.

## Canal Ruled Out

"Did you talk to Barnes about canal matters at any time?"

Mr. Irvin objected to the question on the ground that it was incompetent and irrelevant. He was upheld.

"Did you discuss the proposed franchise tax?" asked Mr. Bowers.

Mr. Irvin was on his feet in an instant with an objection. Justice Andrews said it appeared to him that the defense had a right to prove if possible that there existed between business and politics a corrupt alliance or that there was one between Mr. Barnes and Mr. Murphy. If these things can be proved, said the court, "they may establish justification of this alleged libel."

The court then overruled the objection.

## Tells of Campaign Gifts

The court added that the defendant had a right to testify as to campaign contributions and he assumed that this was what Mr. Bowers was getting at. Mr. Bowers said it was. The witness then replied that he did have conversation with Mr. Barnes about the franchise tax act. Said Colonel Roosevelt:

"I cannot give the exact dates. They began in the spring of 1899, however, and continued until the fall. I don't remember that any other person was ever present."

The colonel continued to say that Mr. Barnes endorsed the protest of Mr. Platt against the franchise tax bill.

Mr. Irvin objected to nearly every question and he was overruled on each objection.

TO OUST DEMOCRATS  
FROM PUBLIC SERVICE

ALBANY, N. Y., April 20.—Republican members of the Thompson legislative investigating committee reported their belief that all of the nine democratic members of the New York public service commissions should be ousted.

Nevertheless the report said the committee would make no positive recommendations for the removal of Commissioners McCall, Wood, Williams and Crum of the New York City board. It is the committee's desire, the report continued, to permit the governor to exercise his own judgment in these cases. These are the four commissioners against whom charges were brought a month ago. Prior to today the governor had received no official criticism of the up-state commission.

## From Fields of Wheat to Fields of Blood--the Traction Engine in War



The remarkable type of traction engines used by the British forces for haulage over rough ground. It's the same kind of tractor that does agricultural work of peace, with the exception that it is equipped with caterpillar wheels, or wheels of the treadmill type. Here the tractor is seen drawing a heavy gun over the uneven fields of France.