

FORECAST  
Maximum Yesterday 42;  
Min. Today 37; Pre. .01.

# MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

WEATHER  
Maximum Yesterday 48;  
Minimum Today 36; Pre. Tr.

Forty-sixth Year.  
Daily—Eleventh Year.

MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1916

NO. 233

## PRESIDENT ASKS PEACE TO AVOID WAR

### LANSING SAYS NATION DRIFTS TOWARDS WAR

Position of United States as Neutral Becoming Increasingly Difficult as Its Rights Are Being Disregarded by Belligerents—Our Own Rights Prompted President's Action.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The danger of the United States itself being drawn into the war by reason of its increasingly critical position as a neutral, was one of the moving considerations in President Wilson's dispatch of notes to all the belligerents, urging them to discuss peace terms.

Secretary Lansing today authorized the statement that the material rights of the United States had not been the paramount consideration. America's rights, he said, were being more and more involved by the belligerents, and as the United States was "drawing nearer the verge of war," it was entitled to know exactly what each belligerent seeks, "in order that we may regulate our conduct in the future."

Secretary Lansing's statement, upon which the white house refused to comment, was as follows:

**Lansing's Statement.**

"The reasons for the sending of the note were as follows:  
"It isn't our material interest we had in mind when the note was sent, but more and more our own rights are becoming involved by the belligerents on both sides, so that the situation is becoming increasingly critical.

"I mean by that, that we are drawing nearer the verge of war ourselves, and therefore we are entitled to know exactly what each belligerent seeks in order that we may regulate our conduct in the future.

"No nation has been sounded. No consideration of the German overtures or of the speech of Lloyd George was taken into account in the formulation of the document. The only thing the overtures did was to delay it a few days. It was not decided to send it until Monday. Of course, the difficulties that face the president was that it might be construed as a movement toward peace and in aid of the German overtures. He specifically denies that that was the fact in the document itself."

**Possibility of War.**

Secretary Lansing further said:  
"The sending of this note will indicate the possibility of our being forced into the war. That possibility ought to serve as a restraining and sobering force safeguarding American rights. It may also serve to force an earlier conclusion of the war. Neither the president nor myself regard this note as a peace note; it is merely an effort to get the belligerents to define the end for which they are fighting."

At the white house no effort was made to lessen the importance of Secretary Lansing's statement. President Wilson would make no comment.

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### MISSOURI PACIFIC IS ORDERED SOLD

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 21.—The sale at foreclosure of the Missouri Pacific and of the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern railroads was ordered by Judge Hook in the United States district court here today.

The minimum price for the Missouri Pacific was fixed at \$16,150,000 and for the Iron Mountain \$23,000,000.

The sale of the roads at foreclosure will clear the way for the reorganization of the Missouri Pacific-Iron Mountain system under plans already approved by the Missouri public service commission.

The two roads have been in receivership since August, 1915.

### FORMAL NOTES FOR CONFERENCE SENT NATIONS

Without Proposing Peace or Offering Mediation, President Asks Belligerents to Discuss Terms on Which They May End War—Action a Surprise to Diplomats.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—In formal notes to all the belligerents, President Wilson, without proposing peace or offering mediation, has appealed to them to discuss terms which may end the war.

The president's notes had been practically forty-eight hours on their way today and officials believed they had reached all the foreign capitals. All official Washington is listening with the keenest expectations for any indications of how the notes were received.

Diplomatists think it is incredible that President Wilson should have taken his action without some belief that it would not be flatly rejected without consideration by the entente allies. The wish and hope of the German allies that he take some step had long been well known, and there is no doubt of the manner of its reception among them.

**Nation's Peace Involved.**

Officials and diplomatists here analyzing the president's note find something deeper than an appeal for consideration of peace terms. They see that the president in acting was also considering what would have to be the course of the United States to conserve its interests as a neutral if the war is to continue.

Coupled with the president's recent declaration that the position of the neutrals was becoming intolerable, they attach much significance to his statement in the note that his suggestion comes from a neutral whose interests have been most seriously affected by the war, "and whose concern for its early conclusion arises out of a manifest necessity to determine how best to safeguard those interests if the war is to continue."

**Pleas Germans.**

In German quarters the conviction that the president's action would surely lead to some sort of a consideration of peace terms was expressed in the following authorized statement

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### PRESIDENT'S PEACE PLEA SURPRISES ALL BELLIGERENTS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Surprise was apparent among diplomatic officials in Washington today over President Wilson's plea to European belligerents to discuss peace terms.

Publication today of the note finished on Monday and dispatched on Tuesday to diplomatic representatives abroad gave most officials the first notice that such a step was even contemplated at this time. Opinion here inclined toward the view that the action would give strong encouragement to some sort of exchanges which might result in discussion of definite peace terms between the belligerents.

It was believed further that since the president seeks only a clarification of peace views and does not offer mediation, the United States will not be placed in an embarrassing position if the European nations should be unable finally to develop a basis on which to approach each other.

Officials of the British embassy declared they were wholly unable to explain the action.

Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, said:

"Now I am perfectly convinced that there will be a conference. He may confer with Secretary Lansing today.

## American Dolls Invade the World Even to Germany's Doll Centers!

### TEN MILLIONS OF DOLLS MADE IN UNITED STATES IN YEAR JUST CLOSED

Unbreakable, Lifelike Heads on New Product—Imported Bisque Affairs Have Seen Their Day, Say Leaders of New United States Yuletide Industry.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—For the first time in history America has become the doll center of the world.

Close to 10,000,000 dollies have been made in this country this year.

So extraordinary has been the success of American doll manufacturers in taking over the doll trade lost by Germany and France on account of the war, that we are actually going to sell dolls in Nuremberg itself, the heart of Santa's German toyland, as soon as peace has come to Europe.

The new unbreakable, really-truly lifelike American dolly has won the hearts of all America.

**It Takes Six Days to Make a Doll**

Every doll in the Christmas windows today has gone through a marvelous process of manufacture, passing through fifty to one hundred hands.

The dolls actually have to go to the oculists, the hair dressers, the manicure shop and the chlorodontists, before they are put on the market.

The new dolls are made of a secret "wood-flour" composition that looks like brown sugar. This is put into molds, which form the legs and bodies of the dolls. After being baked for six minutes, the embryo dollies are glued together, shaped up, polished and painted. Delicate hands and feet are made in separate molds and the specially difficult process of attaching them is next on the program.

The head, after being molded and polished, is turned over to the "beauty doctors," real artists, who paint in the features. The eyes are then put in and the wig glued on.

The whole process takes about six days.

**Bisque Dolls Doomed.**

This year marks a revolutionary epoch in the annals of dollhood. Not since Papa Caveman first fashioned a wooden dolly for his little cave daughter to play with has there been so sudden a change in the doll-making industry.

The days of imported bisque dolls are past. The war has cut them off. The day of the American-made doll is here. And these new American dollies, whose heads you can hammer on the floor without breaking, look like real life babies instead of like the golden-haired, pink-checked, empty-headed images that used to come to us from France and Germany.

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### LOYD GEORGE CLOSED DOORS TO PEACE

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The Daily Mail, which is close to Premier Lloyd George, this morning gave prominence to the following:

"The German and neutral press views on Mr. Lloyd George's refusal of the German peace offer largely take the standpoint that he did not close the door to peace. The actual fact, however, is that he entirely declined peace on anything except the allies' terms, and the door obviously remains open only if Germany is willing to accept these terms, which are complete restitution, full reparation and effectual guarantees."



Scene in the "Beauty Room" of a doll factory, showing heads, whose shoulders are trimmed to fit bodies.

### VILLA ABOUT TO ATTACK TORREON WITH LARGE ARMY

EL PASO, Tex., Dec. 21.—Five Americans and one other foreigner who arrived here early today from Parral by way of Torreon reported that Torreon was about to be attacked by Villa forces.

The refugees said Villa was at Jimenez when they left Torreon three days ago. A large force of Villa forces was expected to approach Torreon from the south at the same time Villa moved on Torreon from the north.

Carranza troops were preparing to evacuate Parral when the refugees left there for the border on December 13, one of the Americans in the party said. The Villa forces under Juvenio Hernandez had left the town about December 3, he said, but was expected to re-enter the town soon after the refugees left for the border.

At Jimenez the Carranza troops were at the railroad station preparing to leave for the south and evacuate the town to the Villa forces, which were near, the refugees said.

Government agents received a report today that Villa was at Jimenez yesterday in person and was preparing to move on Torreon at once with his northern command, co-operating with rebels operating in the Laguna district near Torreon.

The Carranza garrison in Torreon was said by these government agents to number less than 1000, while Villa had several times that number of men, it was said. This information was forwarded to Washington today.

### GERMANS REPEL RUSSIAN ATTACKS

BERLIN, Dec. 21.—On the Golden Bystritsa river yesterday the Russians made a determined effort to advance, attacking four times, it is announced officially. Their efforts broke down under the fire of Austro-Hungarian troops. In Romania the Teutonic forces gained further ground.

British troops penetrated advanced German positions north of Arras yesterday, the war office announced. Subsequently they were ejected by a German counter-attack.

### DRY AMENDMENT NOW READY FOR ACTION IN SENATE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The national prohibition constitutional amendment, materially altered from the form in which it was reported to the house, was ordered favorably reported by the senate judiciary committee today by a vote of 13 to 3. Senators Calhoun, Reed and Brandegee voted against it.

As reported by the senate committee, the resolution would read:  
"The sale, manufacture or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into and exportation thereof from the United States and all territories subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes, are hereby prohibited."

"The congress shall have power to enforce this article by all appropriate legislation. This article shall not be construed to abridge the power of the several states to enforce state prohibitory laws."

The amendments are changes in phraseology which some senators declare strengthen the resolution.

When it will be called up for action is not indicated. Some senators doubt that it can get the necessary two-thirds vote at this session.

### PONTE CHIEF OF STAFF FOR GENERAL NIVELLE

PARIS, Dec. 21.—The official letter summoning General Nivelle to the command of the armies of the north and northeast was signed by General Joffre as chief of all the French armies. General Castelnau, General Joffre's chief of staff, having reached the age limit, has been retained on the active list by a special decree signed by President Poincare, which is preliminary to his appointment to command of an army group.

Brigadier General Ferdinand Auguste Ponte, whom General Nivelle has chosen as his chief of staff, has been promoted to general of division for the duration of the war. General Ponte, like his chief, is an artillery officer, and was a junior lieutenant colonel on the staff of one of the armies at the beginning of the war. His brilliant military talents soon brought him to the notice of General Joffre, who singled him out for rapid promotion.

### WHEAT SLUMPS ON PEACE TALK THEN RECOVERS

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—A maximum decline of 7 cents was registered in the wheat market at the opening today on President Wilson's peace note. Wheat for May delivery closed yesterday at \$1.61 1/2 to \$1.62. It opened today with sales ranging from \$1.55 to \$1.58. July at \$1.30 to \$1.31, opened 1/4 to 3/4 lower. Pit brokers were loaded with selling orders and a huge business was done.

Renewed weakness in wheat prices was a speedy consequence of a statement by Secretary Lansing that the situation for neutrals was becoming increasingly critical and that the United States itself was being drawn near the verge of war. Selling broadened out anew on account of the statement, and there was a setback of 1/2 or more from the crest of the bulge, May wheat falling to \$1.57 1/2.

Swift advances took place later and the market jumped to well above yesterday's finish for December and May, besides virtually offsetting in full the early declines in the July option. The cause of the burst of strength at the last was news that the export sales during the day had attained great proportions, two million bushels or more, at the highest prices obtained from Europe in weeks.

The close was strong at the top-most level of the day, 1/4 off to 2 1/4 advance as compared with yesterday's latest figures. May finished at \$1.61 1/2 to \$1.62 1/2, and July at \$1.33 1/2 to \$1.35 1/2.

### OFFER RESOLUTION ENDORSING PEACE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—A resolution "strongly endorsing" President Wilson's peace note introduced in the senate today by Senator Hitchcock was sent to the foreign relations committee on objection by Senator Borah that the senate had not had sufficient opportunity to consider the note.

The text of the resolution says, it is the sense of the senate that this action of the president represents the overwhelming public sentiment and earnest desires of the people of the United States.

On motion of Chairman Stone of the senate foreign relations committee, the note was ordered printed in the Congressional Record.

### STOCKS TUMBLE EXCITING DAY IN WALL STREET

Liquidation on Large Scale Follows President's Peace Note, Which Is Accentuated by Lansing's Explanation—Steel Drops to 100—Railroads Affected.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—President Wilson's communication to the warring powers and the subsequent comment upon it by Secretary Lansing were made the occasion of another tremendous liquidating movement in the stock market today which far exceeded in scope and activity any session of the past ten days.

**War Issues Break.**

Special stocks, notably those regarded as war issues, broke 4 to 13 points during a wild opening, with declines of 1 to 3 points between sales. There was a quick rally, but this gave way to alternate declines and advances during the forenoon culminating after the noon hour in another sweeping downward movement which followed soon upon the publication of Secretary Lansing's statement.

The latter break was marked for the first time since the recent period of liquidation began by heavy weakness in rails. Despite the declaration of an extra 2 per cent dividend by Union Pacific, that stock showed an extreme loss of 5 1/2 points, and Reading and other leaders in the railway division also fell abruptly.

**Steel Takes a Drop.**

United States Steel was the center during the trading of the forenoon of convulsive movements. In one lot at the opening 50,000 shares were quoted at 104 1/4 to 105 1/4, an extreme loss of 3 1/2 points. This was the largest single transaction in the history of the exchange. During the day Steel dropped to 102 1/2. Total sales of all stocks during the first two hours reached the almost unprecedented total of 1,300,000 shares.

Trading, with its quiet, nervous rallies and declines, caused many brokers to discourage the buying of the more volatile specialties except for cash, and others refused to accept less than 50 per cent margins, even for standard shares.

Another wave of selling swept the market during the last hour, prices tumbling to the lowest level of the day. Actual stocks sold 5, 10 and 15 points under yesterday's final quotations. Total transactions just before the close were estimated at about 2,700,000 shares, the largest, with one or two exceptions, in the history of the New York exchange.

### HUGHES WINS OREGON BY 7314 PLURALITY

SALEM, Or., Dec. 21.—Charles E. Hughes carried Oregon by a plurality of 7314 over President Wilson, according to the official returns announced here today by Secretary of State Ben W. Oglethorpe. The final count stood: Hughes 126,749, Wilson 119,435. Allan Benson, socialist candidate, received 9700 votes and J. Frank Hanly, prohibition candidate, 4729. The total prohibition amendment carried by 5261.

### LOW TEMPERATURE RECORDS FOR SEASON

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 21.—Low temperature records for the season were again broken in this vicinity early today. In Omaha the mercury stood at 14 degrees below; at Sioux City, 15 below; at Sioux Falls, S. D., 20 below, while at Norfolk and Long Pine, Neb., reported 23 and 25 below, respectively. There was no wind and the weather was clear.