

# HOOVER REFUSES TO PLEDGE VOTE TO EITHER PARTY

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—Herbert Hoover Sunday night issued a statement defining his attitude toward the presidency. His statement follows: "In order to answer a large number of questions all at once, let me emphasize that I have taken a day off from the industrial conference in Washington to come to New York solely to attend to pressing matters in connection with the children's relief.

**Presidency Not Sought**  
"I want to say again: I have not sought and am not seeking the presidency. I am not a candidate; I have no organization." No one is authorized to speak for me politically. "As an American citizen by birth and of long ancestry, I am naturally deeply interested in the present critical situation. My sincere and only political desire is that one or both of the great political parties will approach the vital issues which have grown out of the war and are new with a clear purpose looking to the welfare of our people, and that candidates capable of carrying out this work should be nominated.

**Hoover Is for League**  
"If the treaty goes over to the presidential election (with any reservations necessary to clarify the world's mind that there can be no infringement of the safeguards provided by our constitution and our nation-old traditions) then I must vote for the party that stands for the league. With it there is hope, not only of the prevention of war but also that we can safely economize in military policies. There is hope of a return of confidence and the economic reconstruction of the world.

"I could not vote with a party if it were dominated by groups who seek to set aside our constitutional guarantees of free speech or free representation, who hope to re-establish control of the government for profit and privilege. I could not vote with a party if it were dominated by groups who hope for any form of socialism, whether it be nationalization of industry or other destruction of individual initiative.

**Extremes to Be Fought**  
"Both these extremes, camouflaged or open, are active enough in the country today. Neither of the dominations would promote those constructive economic policies that will get us down from the unsound economic practices which of necessity grew out of the war, nor would they secure the food-will to production of our farmers and workers or maintain the initiative of our business men.

"The issues look forward, not backward. I do not believe in more than two great parties. Otherwise, combinations of groups could, as in Europe, create danger of minority rule. I believe in party organization to support great issues and consistent policies. Nor can any one man dictate the issues of great parties. It appears to me that the hope of a great majority of our citizens in confronting this new period in American life is that the great parties will take positive stands on the many issues that confront us, and will select men whose character and associations will guarantee their pledges.

**Question Up to Party**  
"I am being urged by people in both parties to declare my allegiance to either one of the other. Those who know me, know I am able to make up my mind when a subject is clearly defined. Consequently, until it more definitely appears what the party managers stand for, I must exercise a prerogative of American citizenship and decline to pledge my vote blindly.

"I am not unappreciative of the many kind things that my friends have advanced in my behalf. Yet, I hope they will realize my sincerity in not tying myself to undefined partisanship."

# MEDFORD COMICE BEST PEAR SAYS KING OF BELGIUM

"Due de Comice," king of the pear family, and favorite fruit of Napoleon the Great, is still the "class" of all table pears in the opinion of not less a judge than Albert, king of the Belgians, and Queen Elizabeth, his consort. Nowhere, aver these two royal authorities, does the Comice pear grow to greater perfection than in the Roze river valley.

During their recent tour of the United States the Belgian royal party spent several days in Santa Barbara, Cal., and while there, called on J. A. Doremus, brother of F. C. Doremus, Medford pear grower. At dinner both Bose and Comice pears from the Doremus ranch here were served. Attracted by the delicate flavor, large size, uniformity, and perfect shape of the fruit, King Albert inquired as to where it was grown. Unlike most Californians, the host once gave Oregon, or that part of it lying immediately adjacent to this city, credit for the product. So interested were the king and queen that they questioned Doremus at great length on the Roze river valley and the pears produced here.

"Those pears," said the king, "particularly the Comice, surpass anything I have ever found in France, where they originated. Your Bose is wonderful—exquisite! Your Comice superb! When I return again to your wonderful country, I should like nothing more than to visit the valley which produces such unexcelled fruit."

When the royal party left Santa Barbara, they carried with them several boxes of Comice and Bose from the Doremus storehouse. After a packed in cotton, will follow after each harvest, so long as he is a grower, Doremus says.

# SOVIET RUSSIA NOT AS BAD AS ALLIES REPORTED

LONDON, Feb. 10.—George Lansbury, former socialist member of the house of commons, news of whose projected trip to soviet Russia caused considerable surprise in official circles here, arrived in Moscow on Sunday.

In a telegram to the Herald, organ of the labor party, he gives his first impressions of the situation at the soviet capital. He declares scenes outside of the railroad station were similar to those at any terminus in England. People were looking remarkably well considering the privations suffered from hunger, cold and sickness.

"The outstanding fact," Mr. Lansbury says, "is that the blockade and civil war have let loose disease and want of every description."

"Churches are all open," Mr. Lansbury continues, "and the people are going in and out of the magnificent shrine of the Kremlin, which is being visited as formerly. Churches are being restored at the public expense, true religion has not been interfered with and marriage is as sacred as ever. There is nothing worse here than in other capitals and there is very much that is better. I am safer and freer alone in the Moscow streets than in London. Atrocities mongering has played out here and in Petrograd. The whole nation needs peace, and organized labor in Great Britain and America must secure for Russian workers a chance to reorganize their society.

"There is great faith and great hope in idealism, but everybody wants to know if the allies will now leave Russia free to work out her own salvation. I have never met people so determined to win their fight for economic freedom. Everyone with whom I have spoken would welcome honest cooperation, but there are at present obstacles to peace. All Russia demands of her neighbors is friendship. The Poles, Ukrainians and all peoples can have peace if they will treat us as a free nation."

# ANDREWS SCUTTI CONCERT TONIGHT

The Andrews-Scutti concert commences tonight at 8:15 sharp at the Presbyterian church. It promises to be a rare musical treat as Mrs. Scutti has made a special song selection of her repertoire. The ladies chorus of 25 voices will please the ear of all music lovers. The chorus will sing some of their numbers with the pipe organ accompaniment. Mrs. Scutti will also have some violin obligatos with her solos. Tickets will be on sale at the door of the Presbyterian church.

# SEEK SUFFRAGE FUNDS



WASHINGTON—Funds to further their campaign for ratification of the suffrage amendment are sought by these officers of the National Woman's party. They are left to right (top), Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, Mrs. Abby Scott Baker, Washington; Mrs. Genevieve Allen, San Francisco (bottom); Mrs. Clara Snell Wolfe, Tex.; Mrs. Lawrence Lewis, Philadelphia; Mrs. Nelson Whittemore, Detroit; and Agnes Morey, Brookline, Mass.

# ALASKA WANTS TO RELIEVE THE PAPER SHORTAGE

SEATTLE, Feb. 10.—Alaska wants to throw open her millions of acres of national forests so that the billions of feet of paper wood of the northland can help relieve the pulp and newspaper famine. Governor Thomas Riggs, Jr., of Alaska, declared here recently.

Governor Riggs was here on his way from Juneau, capital of Alaska, to Washington, D. C., where he expected to help press pending legislation intended to remove restrictions and allow pulp manufacturers to go into the Tongas and Chugach reservations, the northern territory's two great reserves.

Pulp and paper men are anxious to go to Alaska and establish mills as great as those operated in British Columbia not far south of the Alaska boundary line, the governor asserted. Under the present laws the pulp makers cannot enter the reservations with any certainty that they will be allowed to stay.

Alaska's great forests stretch over approximately 34,000 square miles, an area nearly equal in size to the state of Indiana, according to estimates made by government officials. Several hundred million feet of good pulp wood, including western pine, hemlock, Sitka spruce, white fir and lodgepole pine, are on the forest reserves alone.

The Tongas reserve, in southeastern Alaska, is especially adapted to the manufacture of pulp and paper. Forestry officials have reported. There is plenty of water power, ocean harbors open the year round, timber skirting the water and weather similar to that of the Puget sound.

The governor intends to ask Washington to restore the reserves to the national domain or to open them to the pulp industry.

**Funeral Notice**  
Funeral services over the late F. Y. Allen will be held at the Weeks & McGowan Co. chapel, Wednesday, Feb. 11th, at 2 p. m. Rev. Wm. B. Hamilton will officiate and the interment will be in the I. O. O. F. cemetery.

# MEXICO FOR THE MEXICANS IS THE CARRANZA IDEA

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 10.—President Carranza's administration intends to recover the nation's great tracts of lands ceded by previous administrations to foreign interests, according to statements of Mexican officials. It intends also to enforce the constitutional prohibition barring foreigners from holding land within 62 miles of the Mexican frontier and 31 miles from the coastline.

The general trend of their statements is to the effect that it is the purpose of the administration to avoid colonization projects that might eventually endanger the nation and to recover dominion over oil lands without violating the legal rights of the present producers.

These statements were made in explanation of the government's request that the 1919 congress float a loan of 50,000,000 pesos to enable the nation to recover land held under concessions by foreign interests.

The officials stated that the greater part of several states, such as Lower California and Chihuahua is held by foreigners under concessions given by previous administrations.

# GERMAN PAPERS DECIDE WIRELESS UNSATISFACTORY

BERLIN.—All the press organizations of Germany, the representatives of all publishers' organizations, the official Wolff Bureau, the Dutch news agency "Trans-ocean," and the German wireless propaganda service, gathered in Berlin recently for a discussion of the wireless possibilities in Germany for transmitting news.

Dr. Bredow, who conducted the conference, stated that there have been distributed daily a report of the assembly at Weimar, and news summaries by the Wolff Bureau and Dutch agency. The news messages have been received by the government wireless stations at various points in the country and turned over to the papers. The conferees concluded that the wireless is not yet able to supply the full needs of the press nor anywhere near it, for the wireless stations are overloaded with personal messages. However, they decided that the wireless is capable of handling brief flashes on important stories which are paralleled by telephone or telegraphed by the news agencies, so that the news is available for a larger circle of people.

The conference was convinced, however, that the spreading of such messages can be done in large numbers only when the wireless telephone has been installed, as only in this way the hiring of special wireless operators can be avoided. They decided that for the present the sending of news will have to continue by telegraph for it was too expensive to fit up each telegraph office with wireless equipment.

In a few weeks the group will meet again to discuss any further technical experiments with wireless telephony.

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PAGE Monday, Feb. 16

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