

MAY TAKE ISLANDS

DEAL BEING MADE BY UNITED STATES FOR DANISH WEST INDIES.

25 MILLION DOLLAR PROJECT

Treaty Said to Have Been Negotiated with Denmark for Their Full Possession—Uncle Sam to Relinquish His Rights in Greenland.

Washington, D. C.—Negotiations between the United States and Denmark for purchase of the Danish West Indies are understood to have reached a definite stage where some important development may come soon.

State department officials have maintained close secrecy regarding the subject. Acting Secretary Polk said no purchase had been made, but intimations came from other official sources that real progress had been made.

The negotiations, a continuation of conversations carried on successfully in 1901 and again in 1910, were resumed several months ago. It is understood that Denmark, feeling the pinch of war, desires to rid herself of the islands, not only as a financial proposition, but to eliminate one troublesome element in maintaining her neutrality. The United States in 1910 signified a willingness to buy, but the offer made by Denmark then was withdrawn before any conclusion was reached.

Lying north of Porto Rico, the islands are said by naval officials to possess excellent advantages as a naval base and coaling station.

A treaty may in the near future be submitted to the senate and to the Danish parliament for approval. If the treaty is ratified as it stands in project form, the United States will pay to Denmark \$25,000,000, and in addition will relinquish to Denmark the rights of the United States in Greenland.

The United States will obtain from Denmark full possession of the islands of St. Thomas, St. John and St. Croix, or Santa Cruz, as it is better known.

HOOSIER POET DEAD.

Death of James Whitcomb Riley Occurs July 22.

Indianapolis.—James Whitcomb Riley died at 10:50 o'clock p. m. July 22 while only Mr. Riley's nurse, Clementia Progh, was awake in the poet's home.

Mr. Riley's death was due to paralysis. He suffered a violent stroke about 7:30 o'clock and members of his household were greatly alarmed, but under Dr. Carleton H. McCulloch's ministrations the poet seemed to improve, and early in the morning was regarded as much better.

Mr. Riley never married. His nearest living relative is a sister, Mrs. Mary Payne, of New York.

The body lay in state at the Indiana state capitol from 3 p. m. until 9 p. m. Monday.

The funeral services were held at the home Tuesday morning. These were private and simple, in accordance with the wishes of the poet.

True poet of the provinces was James Whitcomb Riley; born of the middle west, he sang the joys, sorrows, fancies and humors of its folk, largely in its own dialect, and the world was so touched by his inspiration and the realism of his homely symbols that he was one of the few that, devoting their lives to poetry, have gained a fortune.

An Early Reply Demanded.

Washington, D. C.—Instructions to impress upon the British and French governments that the United States desires an early and complete reply to its last note regarding interference with neutral mails have been cables by the state department to Ambassador Page at London and Ambassador Sharp at Paris. The step was taken after President Wilson and other officials had studied the British memorandum dealing with specific complaints, and deferring until the future a reply to the American contentions regarding the principle involved.

Allen's Nomination Confirmed.

Washington, D. C.—After being held up since January 1 on objection of Senator Hitchcock, the nomination of Thomas H. Allen as United States attorney for Nebraska has been confirmed by the senate. Allen is a brother-in-law of William Jennings Bryan.

Monument to Ericsson.

Washington, D. C.—A favorable report on a bill to appropriate \$35,000 for a monument to John Ericsson, inventor and constructor of the civil war Monitor, has been filed by the house library committee.

Washington, D. C.—The senate has unanimously confirmed the nomination of John H. Clarke, of Cleveland, as associate justice of the supreme court to succeed former Justice Hughes. Justice Clarke will take his place on the bench when the court convenes next fall.

Washington, D. C.—The senate has passed the Phelan bill ceding to the Panama-Pacific International Exposition company, subject to revocation, a portion of the San Francisco Presidio for maintenance as a permanent palace of fine arts.

BRITISH LOSE 2,000

GERMANS CLAIM HEAVY LOSS TO ENEMY IN BATTLE NORTH OF LA BASSE.

ADMIT LOSS OF GROUND

Teutons Pushed Back Half Mile on Two-Mile Front by Haig's Forces—Huge Forces Contend in Great Battle.

Berlin, July 24.—An attack by British forces against the Germans at Fromelles, north of La Basse, resulted in the loss by the attackers of more than 2,000 men killed and nearly 500 men taken prisoners, according to a statement given out by the war office.

The statement admits that the German line along a front of about two miles east of Hardecourt was driven from its first trenches into its second trenches, half mile in the rear.

Some idea of the huge forces now engaged in the battle of the Somme is given in the statement. It is stated that more than 200,000 French and British troops attacked the German lines north and south of the Somme Thursday on a front of 27 miles.

Enemy forces, the statement says, penetrated into the German salient at the wood of Vermandoville.

London, July 24.—The British have again pressed forward to the German third line in the Fourcaux wood, northeast of Longueval, according to reports from the front. This wood is an important strategic point, the capture of which would bring the forces of General Haig to the highest point on the ridge, commanding the German positions in the less hilly country beyond, which is not so much broken up and not wooded, lending itself not so well to defense. This probably explains the desperate attempts of the Germans to hold the wood, where the heavy fighting continues.

The Associated Press correspondent states the Germans are bringing masses of troops from Verdun and guns from other points in an endeavor to stem the entente allied advance.

The Germans in an attack on the Leipsic salient succeeded in occupying British front trenches, but later were driven out, according to the British official communication.

Paris, July 24.—Positions captured by the French south of the Somme were subjected to a vigorous counter-attack during the night. The Germans charged the French lines south of Soyecourt, but suffered heavy losses and were driven back in disorder. The Russians are driving a wedge between Kovel and Lemberg. They have defeated the Teuton forces and gained Sty river crossings.

Lack of food in Belgium and northern France caused riots which were quelled by Germans. Berlin spurned British offer to help feed the civilians.

HALF MILLION MEN ARE LOST

Estimated by Military Experts That Germany and Austro-Hungary Suffer Loss of 450,000 Men.

Geneva, July 20.—Since the Russians began their offensive on the eastern front and the allies began their drive on the western front the Germans and Austro-Hungarians have lost approximately 450,000 men in killed, wounded and prisoners, it is estimated by military experts. These losses are divided as follows: 150,000 Germans on the western front; 300,000 Germans and Austro-Hungarians on the eastern front.

HOLDS ENO'S WILL INVALID

Millions to Go to Relatives of New York Millionaire Real Estate Operator.

New York, July 21.—The will of Amos E. Eno, multimillionaire real estate operator, was pronounced invalid by a jury in a verdict to Surrogate Cobalan. The estate of \$12,000,000 therefore goes to Eno's relatives. The Columbia university, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the American Museum of Natural History all were named as beneficiaries in large amounts in the will.

FEAR 200 FISHERMEN LOST

Large Fishing Fleet Reported Caught in Monsoon—More Than 100 Boats Fail to Return.

London, July 22.—Two hundred fishermen are believed to have lost their lives in a monsoon off the coast of Colombo, Ceylon, according to a dispatch received by the Exchange Telegraph company. A large fishing fleet was caught by the storm and more than 100 boats have failed to return.

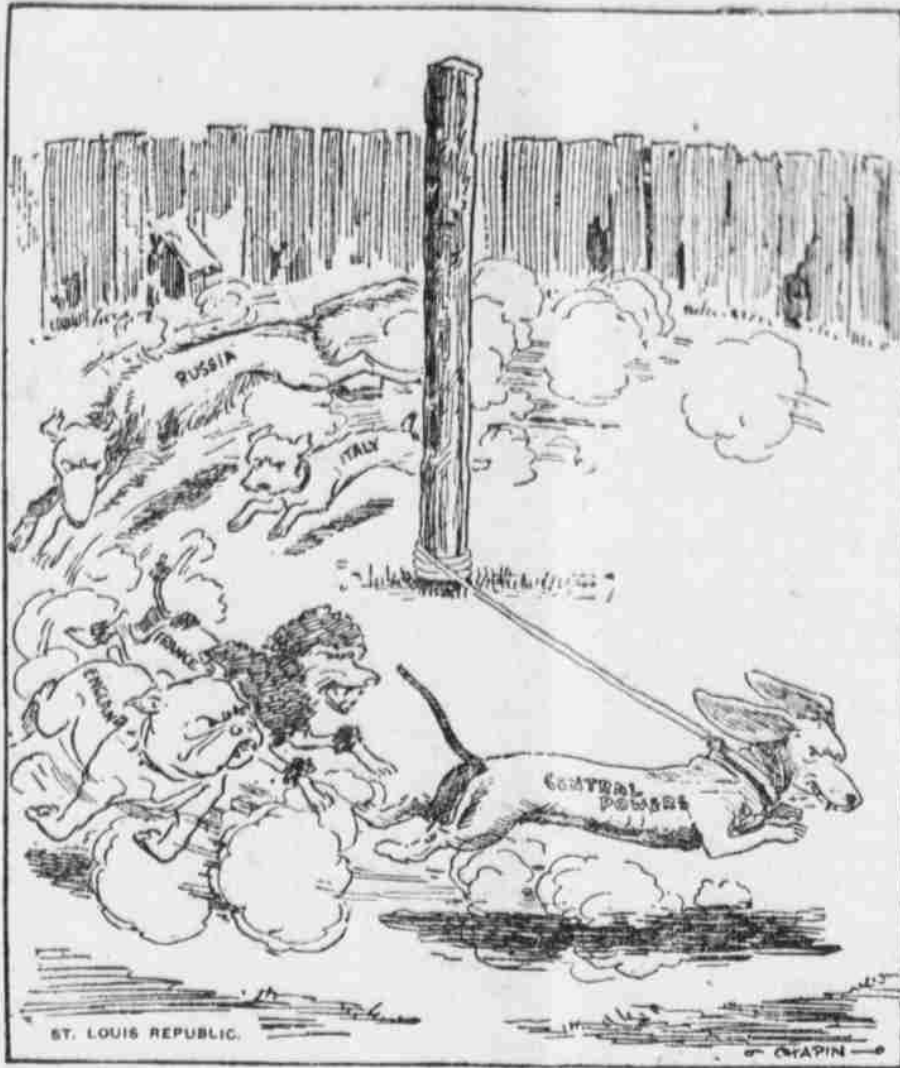
Suppress Belgian Food Rioters.

Rotterdam, Holland, July 22.—Food riots which broke out in Belgium and northern France have been suppressed by the German military authorities, according to reports received here from reliable sources.

Four Die in Wreck.

Bristol, Tenn., July 23.—A fall-out collision between a freight train and a train carrying workmen to damaged track districts on the Norfolk & Western railway resulted in the death of four men and injury to 15 more.

IS THIS THE "WIND-UP?"



RAISES BIG STORM

BRITISH BOYCOTT CAUSES FLOOD OF PROTEST.

Publication of London Blacklist Believed to Be Opening Gun in Relentless Trade War.

Washington, July 2.—A Flood of protest from all parts of the United States against the British boycott is pouring in upon the White House and the state department. The action of Great Britain in making public a general list of American firms who have been boycotted because they "trade with England's enemies" has aroused public sentiment, and demands for retaliatory legislation are reaching here from various commercial organizations and individuals affected.

The state department is planning action. It must wait, officials say, a "reasonable time" for official notification of Great Britain's action. If that is not forthcoming, a direct inquiry will be made at London.

Officials very frankly say that the making public of this boycott list is, in their opinion, the opening gun in what will likely prove a relentless trade war against all neutrals who have refused to accept without protest the restrictions placed upon commerce by the entente allies. They point to the fact that the present boycott list was prepared by the British board of trade and that it has been operative for more than a year, although only just now made public, as indicating that the measure is one planned by British exporters and manufacturers to regain their trade lost by the war.

The making public of the list now, officials believe, was in anticipation that at the end of the present great drive on the eastern and western front peace negotiations will assume a definite form.

AGREES TO NAVAL PROGRAM

Senate, Without a Roll Call, Gives Approval to Building of Many Powerful Warships.

Washington, July 20.—Three-year naval building program of 16 capital ships was agreed to by the senate on Tuesday afternoon without roll call.

In addition to the 16 capital ships, the building program provides for ten scout cruisers, 50 torpedo boat destroyers, nine fleet submarines, 58 coast submarines, one Neff system submarine, two gunboats, and many auxiliary craft.

BELGANS DEFEAT GERMANS

Reach Shore of Lake Victoria Nyanza in Africa After Seven-Hour Battle.

Havre, July 20.—Belgian troops operating in German East Africa have reached the shore of Lake Victoria Nyanza and in a seven-hour engagement fought July 7 they dispersed the Germans opposing their advance, taking the German commandant prisoner and inflicting a number of losses on the Germans, according to an official statement issued by the Belgian war office.

Flood Death Toll Now 49.

Raleigh, N. C., July 22.—Additional bodies found during the last 24 hours in widely separated districts of North Carolina bring the total of deaths resulting from the recent floods up to 49. A score or more are missing.

Danger of Plague Passed.

Washington, July 22.—The United States public health service announced that danger of a further spread of infantile paralysis has passed. Health officials said the situation is now entirely under control.

CALL U-BOAT PERIL

ALLIES PROTEST AGAIN ON WASHINGTON'S RULING.

Claim Decision Holding Subsea Liner as Merchantman Places United States in a Grave Position.

Washington, July 21.—In accordance with instructions from their governments, Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador, and M. Jusserand, the French ambassador, set forth to the state department the reasons why the United States should not regard vessels of the Deutschland type as merchantmen.

The reasons are as follows: "That submarine merchantmen cannot be overhauled and visited and searched, as is possible in the case of surface craft, because of their ability to dive and escape.

"That such ships, because of their submersibility, are able to evade municipal law with specific reference to customs, quarantine, etc.

"That such ships can be transformed with ease from merchantmen into warships.

"That in case of war between a great maritime state and a smaller nation the latter would have the right to purchase submarine merchantmen, and when the ships arrived at the port of the purchaser they could be provided with guns and torpedoes and sally forth to attack the enemy ships.

"That a refusal on the part of a state to sell submarine merchantmen could be regarded as an unneutral act.

The allies are especially anxious for the United States to change its ruling in the case of the Deutschland because of their expectation that the central powers will launch a large number of these craft and utilize them for the purpose of obtaining supplies of raw materials which they need in order to continue the war. They point out, moreover, that it is of prime import for the United States not to set a precedent which may cause it serious concern in the future.

MANIAC NEGRO SLAYS FIVE

Madman Holds 150 Officers at Bay Several Hours—Attackers Use Dynamite to Dislodge Black.

Chicago, July 20.—Six persons are dead and three wounded as the result of a pitched battle between 150 policemen and a negro maniac and his wife, barricaded in a house on Irving avenue. The battle was ended only when the police dynamited the flat building in which the negroes were quartered, after hundreds of shots had been fired.

LARGE ARMY IS ON BORDER

Ninety-Eight Thousand United States Soldiers Have Been Massed, Is Official Report.

San Antonio, Tex., July 20.—Ninety-eight thousand state troops are on the border or on trains bound for there. These official figures were issued Tuesday. These militia forces come from 38 states, according to General Funston, only ten of the states not being thus far represented.

War Crosses to Americans.

Paris, July 23.—Two Americans, members of the American sanitary unit, were decorated with the war cross. They are Joseph Wendell and Henry Hollingshead of New Jersey.

Britain Stands Pat.

London, July 23.—Great Britain does not propose to add to the blacklist of American firms and has no intention of withdrawing or modifying its policy. Lord Robert Cecil made this announcement here.

HANLY IS CHOICE

NAMED BY PROHIBITIONISTS AS THEIR CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT.

LANDRITH FOR SECOND PLACE

Former Indiana Governor Is Named on First Ballot, and His Running Mate Is Chosen by Acclamation—Summary of the Platform.

St. Paul, Minn., July 24.—J. Frank Hanly, former governor of Indiana, was nominated for president of the United States on the Prohibition ticket, and Dr. Ira D. Landrith of Nashville, Tenn., was named for the vice presidency, at the concluding session of the party's national convention.

Mr. Hanly's nomination came on the first ballot.

Doctor Landrith was unanimously nominated by a rising vote after all other candidates for the vice-presidency, among them Mr. Hendrickson had withdrawn.

Approximately 2,500 words are contained in the platform, which, summarized, makes the following declarations:

Expresses opposition to the "wasteful military programs of the Democratic and Republican parties," but favors "preparedness for peace." Support would be given a "compact among nations to dismantle navies and disband armies," but until "such court and compact are established we pledge ourselves to maintain an effective army and navy and to provide constant defenses entirely adequate for national protection."

Favors reciprocal trade treaties to be negotiated with all nations and commissions appointed to gather facts.

Favors national legislation to encourage establishment of an adequate fleet of American merchant ships.

Opposes war with Mexico, pledges aid to the protection of American lives and favors use of force when necessary.

Approves strict interpretation of Monroe doctrine.

Opposes abandonment of the Philippine islands at this time, but favors ultimate independence.

Favors nonpolitical promotion, to be governed by civil service regulation, applicable to all federal executive officials.

Favors equitable retirement law for maintenance of superannuated federal employees.

Declares for Americanism.

Favors uniform marriage and divorce laws and complete suppression of white slavery.

Declares for prohibition of child labor, approves an eight-hour day with one hour rest each day and extension of compensation and liability to federal acts.

Opposes "pork barrel" legislation and useless federal expenditures.

Favors public ownership of utilities to be operated in the interest of all people.

Believes in equality of all persons.

Favors separation of church and state, with guaranty of full religious and civil rights to all.

Favors public grain elevators, owned and operated by the federal government, and abolition of speculation on markets.

SENATE PASSES NAVY BILL

Measure Calls for Ten Battleships, Six Battle Cruisers and Many Smaller Craft.

Washington, July 23.—The senate passed the naval bill by a vote of 71 to 8, calling for ten battleships and six battle cruisers in the three-year building program. The bill was passed after a bitter all-day battle, in which the small navy advocates were beaten back point by point. Every effort to diminish the number of ships provided by the bill was promptly voted down.

Republicans voting against the bill were Senators Clapp, Curtis, Cummins, La Follette, Norris and Works. Democrats opposing it were Senators Thomas and Vardaman.

ONE-CENT LETTER POSTAGE

Postmaster General Burleson Talks to National Association of Postmasters at Washington.

Washington, July 21.—Postmaster General Burleson told the convention of the National Association of Postmasters that if revenues from second-class mail should be increased, "extravagance for useless political service" in the rural mail system curtailed and payments to railroads for mail transportation under the new space basis reduced, he could recommend to congress next year that letter postage be reduced to one cent.

Baby Plague Is Waning.

New York, July 23.—A decrease in the number of new cases and an increase of one in the number of deaths from infantile paralysis were reported here. There were only 80 new cases reported.

War Tires Bulgaria.

London, July 23.—A wireless dispatch from Rome transmits Sofia advices stating that Bulgaria is seriously considering making peace, and that Premier Radoslavoff has summoned the sobranje to discuss the situation.

GOSSIP FROM STATE HOUSE

Company D, Fourth Nebraska, will hereafter be known as the Sears rifles, in honor of Judge Sears of Omaha.

The state penitentiary is again threatened with a water shortage as the result of the excessive hot weather of the last week.

C. H. Stingley, a private in company K, Fourth Nebraska, was drowned while bathing at the big lake near Camp Llano Grande.

Officers and men of the Fourth and Fifth Nebraska, now fully settled at Camp Llano Grande, are delighted with their surroundings.

Regular army men highly commend the work of the Nebraska boys in making ready and getting used to conditions at the Texas camp.

Fire insurance companies doing business in Nebraska in 1915 wrote \$283,000,000 of risks during that year, for which they received nearly \$5,000,000 in net premiums.

The mobilization of the state troops at Lincoln cost the United States in the neighborhood of \$70,000, that sum including railroad fares, food, and pay of the guards and officers.

Rain has fallen almost continually since the guards arrived at Camp Llano, but the soil takes up the moisture rapidly, and after a few minutes of sunshine no evidence of the downpour remains.

The sale of bad eggs has aroused the ire of Food Commissioner Harman, and he has started a war on the dealers who fail to comply with the law regarding such sales.

According to observations of Labor Commissioner Coffey, who has just returned from a trip through the north central part of the state, a number of women are working in the harvest fields of that section, in order to help the family save the immense crops of grain.

Father Grupa, of Omaha, has been selected to succeed John M. Leidy as Fourth regiment chaplain. Father Grupa, who has been engaged in post graduate work at the Catholic university at Washington, D. C., is not more than thirty-two years old, clean-cut and an all-around athlete.

During the month of June losses from fires in the state amounted to \$53,428.04, according to a bulletin issued by the office of the state fire commissioner. Department inspectors made 4,135 examinations during the month in ninety-six different towns, and issued 652 condemnations and clean-up orders.

Nebraska has reason to be proud of the Fourth regiment; Colonel Morton, U. S. camp, reported that Nebraska's boys, detained in the most orderly manner of any state troops he has yet witnessed, and that the work of the supply company of Wisner, under Captain Kelso, was so far above the average as to be worthy of special note.

Word has been received by Attorney General Reed that a motion to dismiss the suit in federal court at Denver, brought by the Western Irrigation district against the Riverside Irrigation district and other defendants has been filed by the latter. This suit involves the conflicting claims of South Platte water users in Nebraska and Colorado.

The funeral of Charles H. Stingley, of Silver Creek, a private of Company K, Fourth Nebraska regiment, was held with military ceremonies. The body was buried in Mercedes. Stingley is the first Nebraska to lose his life since the mobilization of the two regiments. He was drowned Sunday afternoon while in bathing in the lake near Camp Llano, with 900 members of his regiment.

State game and fish commissioners will not interfere with people along the Platte river who capture and use fish stranded there by the unusual drying up of the river in many places, according to the statement of Commissioner Gust Rutenbeck. Where fishing is persisted in in the main channels of the stream, however, prosecutions will be carried on as in the past.

More than 100,000 letters have been sent out of the Camp Llano office within the past couple weeks and an equal number of post cards have gone forth. Of this number the Nebraska guardsmen have sent about 20,000 cards and letters to friends and relatives in the north.

Major John M. Birkner, of Lincoln, head of the medical department, Fourth regiment, has arrived at Camp Llano. Officers of the Fourth and Fifth regiment tendered him an informal reception.

The Fifth Nebraska regiment enjoys the distinction of having the most attractive quarters at Camp Llano, the waste of desert being transformed into a veritable garden of beauty, and palms, flowers and semi-tropical plants are in evidence on every side.

The national educational association in session last week at New York city had the following representatives from the University of Nebraska: Chancellor and Mrs. Avery, Dean and Mrs. Fordyce, Dr. and Mrs. Carter and Professor and Mrs. Pughley.