

### WAIVES TROOP ISSUE

CARRANZA PUTS IT ASIDE; ASKS FURTHER PARLEYS ON OTHER QUESTIONS.

### MAY GRANT PLEA OF CHIEF

United States Commissioners See No Obstacle to Additional Conferences—Members Will Meet to Determine a Course.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Washington, D. C.—Continuation of the conference of the Mexican-American joint commission without regard to the question of withdrawing American troops from Mexico is urged by General Carranza in his message refusing to ratify the Atlantic City protocol. Coupled with this suggestion, however, is a new appeal for recall of the Pershing expedition and a declaration that such action by the United States would permit adjustment of all remaining questions "within a week."

There were indications that the American members of the commission might be disposed to comply with the request for further conferences on the ground that the United States had nothing to lose by doing so. It was officially stated that nothing had occurred to alter the policy of the administration toward Mexico and it is generally understood that so long as northern Mexico is in its present unsettled state Pershing's men will stay where they are.

A copy of the Carranza communication was sent to President Wilson. Secretary Lane communicated with Dr. J. R. Mott and Judge George Gray, the other members of the American commission, and then announced that they would meet to determine whether further conferences shall be held.

Carranza points out in his reply that there was nothing in the correspondence that led to the creation of the commission nor in the credentials and instructions delivered to its members that would preclude consideration of the many other subjects which the commission made incidental to those agreed upon in the protocol. In effect he suggested that the protocol be laid aside for the present and the work of the commission be directed along fresh channels.

Although the conditions imposed for withdrawal of the troops were not to his liking, he attempted to make it clear that his chief objection to ratifying the document was not based upon the conditions, but on the fact that he could not conscientiously sign anything which would place him in the position of having appeared to sanction even for a brief time the presence in Mexico of foreign troops.

### WILSON FOR A BOND ISSUE.

Millions are Needed to Meet the Big Deficit.

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson has tentatively agreed with administration leaders in congress on a bond issue to meet part of the treasury deficit which confronts the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, estimated at about \$180,000,000. With Secretary McAdoo the president is working on other plans for raising additional revenue.

The president has pointed out that he believes a bond issue should be used only to meet temporary and emergency expenditures. Many of these have been caused by the Mexican situation.

The treasury already has authority by previous acts of congress to issue Panama canal bonds and about \$240,000,000 of these are available. They would bear 3 per cent.

Plans for raising the other revenue are understood to concern the income tax, an inheritance tax and special taxes on internal revenue and imports.

The deficit figures differ, according to congressional and administrative viewpoints. Secretary McAdoo estimated in his annual report the actual deficit in the working balance of the treasury on June 30, 1918, at \$185,583,000, which accounts for appropriations unexpended, combined with the left over balance. The congressional appropriations committee, basing its estimates upon the actual appropriations without regard to whether the executive departments spend all or part of the appropriations, figure \$312,269,654 as the deficit.

The outstanding interest bearing debt of the United States June 30 last as reported to congress by Secretary McAdoo amounted to \$971,562,590. Exclusive of postal savings bonds, one year treasury notes and conversion bonds, this is made up of \$118,489,900, 4 per cent; \$63,945,460, 3 per cent (due in 1918); \$636,259,550, 2 per cent (due in 1930); \$84,331,950, Panama bonds, bearing 2 per cent, and \$50,000,000, Panama, 3 per cent, similar to those to be issued.

### Liquors Confiscated.

Phoenix, Ariz.—Five hundred gallons of fine whiskeys, wines and beers were poured into a city-water wagon here and the streets of the business section sprinkled with the liquor. Two hundred automobiles and several floats formed a parade that followed the water wagon. A brass band played a dirge.

The sprinkler with its cargo, valued at \$20,000, was driven by dry advocates. The liquor was confiscated in raids by the sheriff, under the new Arizona prohibition law.

### BIG YEAR FOR ROADS

GREATEST PROSPERITY EVER KNOWN FOR CARRIERS SETS STARTLING RECORDS.

### CARRIERS EARN OVER BILLION

Increase in Income Is Far More Than the Growing Cost of Labor and Materials—Eastern Roads Show the Largest Profits.

Washington, Dec. 27.—More than \$1,000,000,000 net income from operations was made by the railroads of the country during the year now closing. The huge total is the peak of prosperity in railroad operations, and stands more than one-third higher than the total of 1913, hitherto the banner year.

Statistics gathered by the Interstate commerce commission complete for the months and made the basis for calculation for the entire year, indicate that the total net income from operations will be approximately \$1,008,000,000. For the first nine months of the year complete returns show \$785,558,296. Even this does not represent the full amount, as roads whose income is less than \$1,000,000 are not included.

Wide divergence in receipts among the roads of various sections is disclosed. The overburdened railroads of the East have skimmed the cream of the traffic.

### COMPLETE OFFICIAL RETURNS

President Wilson Is Given 9,116,296 Votes in 1916 Election—568,822 Plurality.

New York, Dec. 27.—Complete official returns on the presidential election show that Mr. Wilson received 9,116,296 votes and Mr. Hughes 8,547,474, a plurality of 568,822 for Mr. Wilson. In 1912 Wilson (Dem.) received 6,297,669; Roosevelt (Prog.) 4,124,959; Taft (Rep.), 3,846,396.

The vote for Mr. Benson, Socialist candidate for president, was 750,000, with eight missing states estimated, against 901,873 for Debs (Soc.) in 1912, and for Mr. Hanly, Prohibitionist candidate, was 225,101, against 297,928 for Chafin (Pro.) in 1912.

The total popular vote for the four candidates was 18,638,871, as against 15,945,322 in 1912. This is an increase of 3,593,549, accounted for by the increased population and the woman vote in the new suffrage states.

The following is a table showing the vote by states for Wilson and Hughes:

State	Wilson	Hughes
Alabama	91,728	28,962
Arizona	33,170	20,624
Arkansas	112,196	49,287
California	486,239	462,516
Colorado	178,516	162,398
Connecticut	99,786	106,514
Delaware	24,521	25,794
Florida	56,108	14,611
Georgia	125,822	66,998
Idaho	79,921	66,998
Illinois	1,859,316	1,102,416
Indiana	234,653	341,946
Iowa	221,699	289,619
Kansas	214,588	277,936
Kentucky	299,900	211,884
Louisiana	78,732	6,648
Maine	68,128	9,222
Maryland	128,329	117,347
Massachusetts	247,838	268,812
Michigan	1,012,322	289,079
Minnesota	179,152	175,544
Mississippi	80,883	4,252
Missouri	398,652	390,239
Montana	191,922	66,766
Nebraska	158,827	117,771
Nevada	17,176	25,127
New Hampshire	48,729	11,225
New Jersey	211,018	268,982
New Mexico	35,553	21,161
New York	756,880	870,519
North Carolina	158,383	129,886
North Dakota	58,271	52,651
Ohio	694,946	614,836
Oklahoma	148,123	97,253
Oregon	129,087	126,819
Pennsylvania	621,784	763,784
Rhode Island	46,294	44,858
South Carolina	121,846	1,809
South Dakota	99,191	64,261
Tennessee	163,324	116,114
Texas	285,969	64,949
Utah	68,925	54,133
Vermont	22,708	40,559
Virginia	162,824	49,329
Washington	162,824	167,248
West Virginia	149,403	143,121
Wisconsin	156,042	221,323
Wyoming	28,316	21,698
Totals	9,116,296	8,547,474

### SWISS BACK U. S. MOVE

Switzerland Sends Note to the Belligerent Nations—Asks Lasting Peace.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Switzerland, in a note to all of the warring powers, has announced its support of President Wilson's appeal for a discussion of peace terms, saying it "would consider itself happy if it could act in any way, no matter how modest, for the rapprochement of the people now engaged in the struggle, and for a lasting peace."

The note was sent to the belligerents by the Swiss federal council, and Dr. Paul Ritter, minister of Switzerland here, presented a copy to the state department.

### Mrs. Barnes Freed by Jury.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—Mrs. Iva Barnes was found not guilty of the murder of her husband, James R. Barnes, by a jury.

### Five More Vessels Sunk.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Lloyd's reports, in dispatches received by the state department from London, tell of the sinking of the Norwegian bark Ansgar and the British steamers Istran, Lincoln, Langon and Murex.

### Bandits Kill Four of Family.

Minden, La., Dec. 28.—Five negro suspects were under arrest in connection with the killing of four members of the family of John Nelson Reeves. There seems to be no doubt that robbery inspired the crimes.

### SOME PLACE TO GO



### WAR WILL CONTINUE SEES U. S. WAR PERIL

KING GEORGE DECLARES FOR PROSECUTION OF CONFLICT.

Bonar Law Says Statement Cannot Be Given to Commons at Present.

London, Dec. 26.—Parliament was prorogued by King George until February 7. In the address from the throne proroguing parliament King George declared that "the vigorous prosecution of the war" would be the single aim of England until the security of Europe had been established. He indicated that peace is not yet in sight. The king's address follows:

"The vigorous prosecution of the war must be our single endeavor until we have vindicated the right so ruthlessly violated by our enemies and have established the security of Europe on a sure foundation. I am confident that we shall finally achieve the victorious confirmation of the aims for which we entered the war."

An Exchange Telegraph dispatch from The Hague says it is announced semi-officially that should the entente allies in their reply to the peace proposals of the central powers leave the door open for negotiations Germany will make known her chief peace terms immediately.

The British government will make no statement at the present in regard to President Wilson's peace note, considering it a question that can be dealt with only in communication with the other members of the entente.

Mr. Law was asked whether a statement would be made regarding the American note. He replied:

"It must be obvious to the house that this is a question that only can be dealt with in communication with our allies and that it is absolutely impossible to make a statement now."

### ARKANSAS STORM KILLS 21

Four-Mile Path Cut by Tornado That Sweeps Southern State—Several Dead at Convict Farm.

Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 28.—Twenty-one persons were killed in a tornado that struck south central Arkansas at three o'clock Tuesday afternoon, according to reports received here. Four are known to be dead at England, 17 are reported killed at Keo and several lives are declared lost at the state convict farm at Tucker.

The storm is said to have swept a path about four miles wide, and it is reported that several fires broke out in the wreckage.

### RAIL MEN GET 8-HOUR LAW

Increase in Wages Also Granted Switchmen's Union—Ruling Affects 13 Roads.

New York, Dec. 27.—An eight-hour day, an increase in wages of five cents an hour and straight pro-rata overtime was granted to the members of the switchmen's union employed by 13 eastern and middle western railroads in an award filed here by the federal board of arbitration, which heard their differences.

### Bandits Get \$1,500.

Chicago, Dec. 25.—Two young bandits held up the office of Bambino Bros. & Co., manufacturing tailors, and robbed Joseph Bambino, the cashier, of \$1,500, which he had withdrawn from a bank a few minutes before to pay the employees.

### More Bakers Join Strike.

Buenos Aires, Dec. 28.—Fear of a bread famine increased here when there were additions to the ranks of striking bakers. The situation, as to settlement of the strike, remained unchanged.

### Scores Die on Swedish Ship.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The crew and 30 passengers of the Swedish steamer Skiffet drowned when that passenger-ship was mined off Finland, according to a Lloyd report to the state department.

LANSING HINTS AT DANGER, THEN QUALIFIES STATEMENT.

No Change of Policy, but "Feeler" to Find Out Where America Stands.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Secretary Lansing issued a statement on Thursday amplifying and qualifying the one he made earlier in the day regarding the president's notes to the belligerents, because, he said, he feared some incorrect inferences were being drawn from his first utterance.

Secretary Lansing said his purpose in making the second statement was to make it clear beyond question that there was no change in the policy of neutrality of the United States.

Mr. Lansing also said his purpose in amplifying his statement was to make it plain that the notes to the belligerents should in no sense be construed as a threat to any of the governments. His second statement follows:

"I have learned from several quarters that a wrong impression was made by the statement which I made in the morning, and I wish to correct that impression.

"My intention was to suggest the very direct and necessary interest which this country as one of the neutral nations has in the possible terms which the belligerents may have in mind, and I did not intend to intimate that the government was considering any change in its policy of neutrality which it has consistently pursued in the face of constantly increasing difficulties.

"I regret that my words were open to any other construction, as I now realize that they were. I think that the whole tone and language of the note to the belligerents shows the purposes without further comment on my part. It is needless to say that I am unreservedly in support of that purpose and hope to see it accepted."

Secretary Lansing's statement was as follows:

"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 were 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."

### DESTROYERS SUNK IN STORM

British Admiralty Announces Six Officers and Forty-Nine Men Perished in North Sea Accident.

London, Dec. 27.—The admiralty announced on Monday that two destroyers were sunk in a collision in the North sea on December 21, during bad weather. Six officers and 49 men were lost.

### Expect Drive Against Italy.

Rome, Dec. 28.—A great Austro-German offensive against Italy is to be undertaken. The Italian general staff has taken official recognition of the report and is preparing to meet the expected attacks.

### Would Call Canadians of Eighteen.

Lindsay, Ont., Dec. 28.—As a recruiting policy for Canada, Sir Sam Hughes, former minister of militia, in an address advocated the calling out of all single men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five.

### BERLIN ASKS PARLEY

GERMANY SENDS FRIENDLY REPLY TO PRESIDENT WILSON'S NOTE.

### URGES CONFERENCE AT ONCE

Note Praises U. S. Suggestion and Reiterates Request for Meeting of Belligerents as First Step Toward Ending War—Fails to Give Terms.

Berlin, via Sayville wireless, Dec. 28.—The reply of the German allies to the peace note of President Wilson was given to Ambassador Gerard. It failed to name any peace terms.

The reply was in the form of a joint note, handed to the diplomatic representatives of the United States in Vienna, Sofia and Constantinople, as well as in Berlin. Announcement that the German allies had answered the American note was made through the Overseas News agency.

The reply states that the imperial government considered President Wilson's note in a friendly manner, but that "in the opinion of the German government that great work—the prevention of future wars—can be begun only after the end of the present struggle."

When the time comes, says the answer, the German government will be ready with pleasure to collaborate with the United States.

The reply renounces the offer made by Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg on December 21, to enter immediately into a peace conference.

The statement given out through the Central News agency says:

"The text of the answer to President Wilson's note was transmitted in Berlin to James W. Gerard, the United States ambassador, and also in Vienna, Sofia and Constantinople to the American representatives.

"To the imperial government an immediate exchange of views seems the most appropriate road in order to reach the desired result." The reply says:

"The high-minded suggestion made by the president of the United States of America to create a basis for the establishment of a lasting peace has been received and considered by the imperial government in the friendly spirit expressed in the president's communication.

"The president points out that which he has at heart and leaves open the choice of the road.

"It therefore begs, in the sense of the declaration made on December 12, which offered the hand of peace negotiations, to propose immediately a meeting of the belligerent states at some neutral place.

"Also, the imperial government is of the opinion that the great work of prevention of future wars can be begun only after the present struggle of nations. It will, when this moment shall have come, be ready with pleasure to collaborate entirely with the United States at this exalted task."

The answer finishes with the usual terms of diplomatic etiquette.

### ALLIES PUT FLEET NEAR U. S.

Warships Heavily Armed and Disguised to Be Commerce Guards—Location a Secret.

Boston, Dec. 28.—The presence on this side of the Atlantic of a formidable fleet of allied warships was indicated definitely. The vessels are known officially as commerce protectors. They are heavily armed and disguised. For obvious reasons their exact disposition is not revealed, but the arrival recently in American waters of this newest unit of the British and French admiralities was made known from a source that hardly can be mistaken.

### WANTS NOTE LEAK INQUIRY

Secretary Lansing Anxious to Learn Who Violated Confidence of State Department.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Administration men said Secretary Lansing will welcome the investigation by which Representative Wood proposes to ascertain whether any high government officials or their relatives profited by the Wall street upset attendant upon Lansing's two interpretive statements Thursday and the Wilson peace note.

Government men indicated they were admittedly concerned over the apparent fact that a tip as to the peace note reached the street ahead of publication.

### Bishop Richter Is Dead.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Dec. 28.—Rev. Henry J. Richter, bishop of the Roman Catholic diocese of Grand Rapids, died here on Tuesday of pneumonia. Bishop Richter was taken to the hospital early Sunday night and his condition grew steadily worse.

### Hide British Ship Sailings.

London, Dec. 27.—The admiralty announces that hereafter the departure of vessels from English ports will not be published. The action is due to the fear of renewed activity on the part of German submarines.

### Senate Doorkeeper Dead.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The passing of the old regime at the capitol was marked by the death of Frank Jones, for 43 years doorkeeper of the United States senate. Jones had seen 21 congresses pass.

### GOSSIP FROM STATE HOUSE

The 1915 session left \$2,550 of its appropriation of which will revert to the state treasury. The total amount of money used by that session was \$124,663.

For the next three Thanksgivings, and possibly for the next five, Syracuse university of New York will play football with Nebraska university at Lincoln.

Fifteen state institutions under charge of the board of control should have \$2,810,570 for their operation during the coming biennium, according to the board's budget.

The exchange of 10,000 acres of school lands in small tracts over the state to the national government for compact bodies in the forest reserve, is recommended by the state forestry commission.

Nebraska state banks had a total of \$165,327,529 on deposit November 17, according to the quarterly report of Secretary Royce of the state banking board. This is an increase of \$14,406,458 since August 10 and an increase of \$64,651,845 since December 9, 1915.

The report of State Auditor W. H. Smith for the biennium ending December 1, 1916, show that out of a total of \$9,849,719 appropriated by the legislature of 1915 a balance of \$2,739,217 remains unexpended. On this balance the state government must run until April 1, when new appropriations will be available.

Christmas was observed as an all-day event at the state penitentiary. The 398 inmates were given the privilege of the yard in the forenoon. The midday meal was a real Christmas dinner from start to finish, including chicken, dressing, vegetables, pie, fruit and nuts. A movie show was also a holiday attraction.

Three hundred and eighty-five insurance companies, associations and societies were licensed to transact business in Nebraska during the year 1914; and 392 were licensed for 1915. Detailed statement of the business done during these years may be found in the summaries for 1914 and 1915, respectively, published in 1915 and 1916.

Of total appropriations amounting to nearly \$10,000,000, made by the 1915 legislature for all state departments and institutions during the biennium from April 1, 1915, to the same date in 1917, there remained on hand in December, a little over one-fourth the gross sum. Most of this will be expended during the remainder of the biennium.

One and a half million dollars increase over the appropriations of two years ago is being asked for by heads of state departments and institutions from the coming legislature to run them for the next biennium. This is the showing set forth in the budget statement prepared by Governor Morehead for presentation to the legislature.

County Clerk Hedgcock of Nuckolls county believes that perusal of election ballots by school children of 12 years and upward will make them better citizens and better prepared for their franchise duties. He will be one of several who will urge the legislature to pass a law providing for the printing of sample ballots. The 1915 session did away with 'em.

The state university's Christmas gift to the prisoners in the war camps was \$1,413.96, this amount having been paid into the European relief fund before the students left for their homes. The money will be sent to Denmark, where it will be used to purchase warm clothing, food, musical instruments and other things for the prisoners of war, most of the funds going to Russia and Austria.

State Land Commissioner Fred Beckmann, after serving in his present office for four years, is of the opinion that the state should not sell any more state lands than the present law requires. State Superintendent A. O. Thomas is in favor of changing the law so as to permit the sale of all school lands or of changes in the law that will result in an increased appraisal price and consequent increase in revenue to the state from its lands.

Farmers who think they have better corn than their neighbors will have an opportunity to test their judgment this winter by sending samples to the Nebraska state corn show to be held at Lincoln, January 15 to 18. This show is an annual affair conducted by the Nebraska Corn Improvers association. Indications point to a much larger entry list this year than ever before. Three hundred dollars are offered in cash prizes as well as a large amount of machinery and several trophies.

State Treasurer George E. Hall, in his biennial report to Governor Morehead, dwells at much length on the result of his order requiring county treasurers to make monthly remittances to the state. He recommends a change in the law that will permit state funds to be given to banks making the highest bid instead of the present regulation which allows the treasurer to place the money in such banks as he may select, the banks to pay 3 per cent interest.