

## HOLLAND-BELGIUM RELATIONS ACUTE

THE TWO NATIONS HAVE SEVERED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

### A ROW OVER PEACE AWARDS

Ambassadors at Brussels and The Hague Withdrawn—Commission of Paris Conference Has Been Considering the Tangle.

London.—An official wireless dispatch from Berlin, dated Saturday, says that the Belgian ambassador at The Hague, having been withdrawn, the Dutch ambassador at Brussels also has been withdrawn.

Several times recently there have been reports that diplomatic relations between Belgium and Holland were strained as a result of the demands of Belgium for a revision of the treaty of 1839 under which Holland annexed the southern bank of the Scheldt river and a strip of Dutch Limburg, lying between Belgium and Germany.

Belgium based her demands upon the necessity of securing a stronger military frontier and freeing the trade of Antwerp, her great port, from the restrictions now placed upon it by Dutch possession of the lower portion of the Scheldt and asked for political control of the southern bank of the river, and certain guarantees deemed necessary to safeguard Belgium's economic interests in South Limburg.

In return for these concessions, the Belgians suggested that Holland receive compensation in the form of certain bits of German territory inhabited by a Dutch speaking population.

Holland is understood to have been irrevocably opposed to any renunciation of sovereignty.

A commission of the peace conference, at last accords, was considering the situation.

### COMPETITION ALARMS BRITISH.

#### American Exporters Able to Under-sell South Wales Producers.

London.—British industrial interests view with alarm the gaining of a foothold by American exporters in the coal market of France and Denmark. Industrial disputes in Great Britain have given American dealers an opportunity to obtain huge orders in quarters formerly supplied exclusively by South Wales mines.

American dealers are said to have contracted for the delivery of over 100,000 tons of coal in France and negotiations are now under way for an additional 500,000 tons.

One or two cargoes of American coal already have been laid down in Denmark as sample shipments, orders for which were placed last March during the strike in England. It is stated, the price was said to be \$2.50 per ton lower than the English price at that time.

The iron and steel industries of England also are said to feel their outlook is not very hopeful because of opportunities afforded American competitors through the curtailed English coal production.

#### Germany's Trade Drive.

Washington, D. C.—The German commercial intelligence service, which was a vital factor in furthering Germany's economic interests before the war, is being reorganized on an entirely new basis, according to reports here. The reforms are being made by Count Brockdorff-Rantzau, who headed the peace delegation at Versailles. The inner structure of the foreign service, the manner of selecting and training officials and dividing control between the foreign office and commercial houses are among the changes to be made.

#### Fire in American Camp.

Paris.—A large fire started in the American military camp at Miramas and the nitrate depots and gunpowder factories at St. Chamas, nearby, have been reached by the flames. Later the fire was brought under control, having been confined to the American camp and industries connected with it. The loss will be considerable. The gunpowder factory at St. Chamas was saved.

#### Peace Negotiations Broken Off.

Copenhagen.—The peace negotiations which had been in progress between the bolsheviks and the Estonians and Poles have been broken off, according to a wireless dispatch to the Estonian press bureau here.

#### Offers Plant to Employees.

New York.—When the employees of Goldsmith, Stern & Co., one of the largest jewelry manufacturing concerns in the United States, threatened to strike unless they were granted a 25 per cent increase in wages, August Goldsmith, head of the company, offered them the entire plant at its appraised value of \$360,000 and his own services for six months without pay in helping them to run it. His offer was refused. This was learned from Mr. Goldsmith. He said he offered the plant on an easy payment basis.

## JOHNSON HITS WET WEATHER

Senator Encounters an All-Day's Drizzle in Nebraska City.

### GREETED BY NONPARTISANS

Democrats Represented on the Stage As Liberally As Were Republicans—Remains in Lincoln All Night—Duluth Is Next Stop.

Lincoln, Neb., Sept. 18.—Thirty-five hundred men and women sat in the Auditorium here, rubbed wet shoulders, clung to dripping umbrellas and cheered as Senator Hiram Johnson of California propounded his arguments against unreserved acceptance of the League of Nations and the peace treaty.

A drizzling rain had fallen during the entire day, but this did not prevent a general rush for places in the meeting hall. Neither did the rain dissuade many from taking a stand before the entrance and waiting for more than an hour for preferred seats when the doors were opened. The meeting is the first, since the senator left Chicago, when he has presented his side of the subject in a town not previously visited by President Wilson. The president planted his pro-league arguments in Omaha more than a week ago. Mr. Johnson paused there in the afternoon, made a brief address at a private luncheon and hurried here. He is the first orator to discuss the League of Nations in the Nebraska capital.

Nebraska, it appears, has been studying the league question in newspapers and public documents. And, according to positive assertions made by several men in touch with general state conditions—men who say they are unbiased—a poll of the state would show two to one for covenant amendments or else for absolutely discarding the document in its entirety.

#### Sees Change in State.

"Ninety days ago this state was absolutely in favor of the league," was the comment of William E. Clinton of Carrington, who came on with a delegation from his town to hear the senator.

Whatever the Nebraska league attitude is, partisan politics seems to have little to do with it, as was evident at this meeting. Democrats were represented on the stage as liberally as were Republicans. The chairman who introduced Mr. Johnson has for a long time been prominent in Democratic politics. He is Lieut. Col. John G. Maher, state president of the American Legion.

Gov. S. R. McKelvie and R. B. Howell, Republican national committee men, also occupied prominent places on the rostrum.

In substance, the Johnson address was similar to ones he has given elsewhere on this speaking tour. But he presented his arguments in phrases freshly made. One of these he created in Omaha by way of responding to an editorial published on the subject of himself and Senator Borah in the newspaper of one of his senate antagonists, Gilbert M. Hitchcock. The editorial, the Californian decided, was attacking him because he was interested in preserving America against European and Asiatic entanglements.

"For the first time in history," he said, "it has become a reproach to be an American. When I recall the early war record of the proprietor of this paper, I am reminded that many of these who are most bitter in attacking us for our American stand are those who have licked the hand that beat them."

"The president has made, and asked the senate to approve, a league covenant that is to be higher than our Constitution. Except the sovereign people, no power on earth can legally change our Constitution or make another to override it. None but the people should be permitted to throw this independent republic into an international confederation, where it must necessarily lose its independence of action. The people can do that, but no public servant or servants of those people should be permitted to do it. It is admitted by the president that we lose our independence in the league. Misty internationalism has been substituted for Americanism.

"It was in the name of Americanism that our boys went across the sea, but you are now told that this Americanism is narrow, selfish, lacking in altruism, devoid of vision, and we are asked to blot it out, to substitute for patriotism, internationalism. We at Washington say it shall not be done."

#### May Return to Washington.

Senator Johnson remained at Lincoln last night. This morning he embarked for Duluth, Minn., where he will speak Friday evening. Saturday

#### Human Nature.

Modern thinking, proposing to found morality solely upon the principles of human nature, will have to take account of all there is in human nature. And one of the first things we meet there is the necessity, in order that man may come to his true self, that he is possessed by something, some one beyond himself.—Jonathan Brierley.

#### Free Lunch.

"A reasonable dish," says House- hold Hints, "is crab and gratin."—Boston Transcript.

## SAYS LEAGUE IS IRELAND'S HOPE

President Sets Forth Publicly His Interpretation of the Covenant.

### CONTRACTS A SLIGHT COLD

Trip Down the Peninsula at San Francisco Is Abandoned Under Orders From Doctor Grayson—Given Another Ovation.

San Francisco, Sept. 18.—President Wilson contracted a slight cold, Admiral Grayson announced. His trip down the peninsula was abandoned under orders from Grayson, his physician. He was given an ovation on his arrival here.

Setting forth publicly for the first time his interpretation of the League of Nations covenant as it affects Ireland, President Wilson said in a statement that the league would constitute a forum before which could be brought all claims for self-determination which are likely to affect the peace of the world.

"The covenant would not bind the United States to assist in putting down rebellion in any foreign country," he asserted, "nor would it limit the power of this country to recognize the independence of any people who seek to secure freedom."

He said Ireland's case was not heard at Versailles because it did not come within the jurisdiction of the peace conference.

#### Reply to Labor Council.

The president's statement was in reply to a series of questions sent to him by the San Francisco labor council. It is understood that within a few days he will reply similarly to questions put by other labor bodies regarding Shantung and the representation of the British dominions in the league assembly. The president's statement detailing the labor council's questions and his answers follows:

1. Under the covenant does the nation obligate itself to assist any member of the league in putting down a rebellion of its subjects or conquered peoples?

Answer—It does not. 2. Under the covenant, can this nation independently recognize a government whose people seek to achieve or have achieved their independence from a member of the league?

Answer—The independent action of the government of the United States in a matter of this kind is in no way limited or affected by the covenant of the League of Nations.

#### Forum for All Claims.

3. Under the covenant are those subject nations or peoples only that are mentioned in the peace treaty entitled to the right of self-determination, or does the league possess the right to accord a similar privilege to other subject nations or peoples?

Answer—It is not possible for the peace conference to act with regard to the self-determination of any territories except those which had belonged to the defeated empires, but in the covenant of the League of Nations it has set up for the first time, in article 11, a forum to which all claims of self-determination which are likely to disturb the peace of the world or the good understanding between nations upon which the peace of the world depends can be brought.

4. Why was the case of Ireland not heard at the peace conference? And what is your position on the subject of self-determination of Ireland?

Answer—The case of Ireland was not heard at the peace conference because the peace conference had no jurisdiction over any question of that sort which did not affect territories which belonged to the defeated empires. My position on the subject of self-determination for Ireland is expressed in article 11 of the covenant, in which I may say I was particularly interested, because it seemed to me necessary for the peace and freedom of the world that a forum should be created, to which all peoples could bring any matter which was likely to affect the peace and freedom of the world.

#### Shantung Sure for China.

Discussing at length the Shantung provision of the peace treaty, President Wilson said in an address here at a woman's luncheon that he had been assured by the great powers that under the League of Nations there would be a new international policy for the protection of Chinese integrity.

These powers, Mr. Wilson said, had Japan's promise to return Shantung to China and intended to see that it was fulfilled under the league. He said he had asked his colleagues at Versailles specifically whether they meant under the league to inaugurate a new policy toward China, and they told him they did.

#### Satisfaction in Doing Right.

Imagination is the father and mother of trouble when we let it run loose in a time of stress. But in the end the will and the heart are what determine our fate. After all, when we do right we have some satisfaction even if we suffer. But if we do nothing but drift along we have not even the satisfaction of knowing we deserve to come out right.

#### Daily Thought.

Better not see at all than not be noble.—Tennyson.

### SERG. WILLIAM SANDLIN



Sergeant York's nearest rival as the greatest individual hero of the war lives in Lexington, Ky. He is Sergt. William Sandlin, twenty-eight years old, and his record is 24 dead Germans for one day's work. Last September 26, near Bois de Ferger, France, Sandlin, unaided and alone, killed the 24 Germans and captured six machine guns, escaping without a scratch. For this remarkable feat he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, the Medaille Militaire of France and the French Croix de Guerre with palm.

### TEXAS DEAD NOW 500

AID IS RUSHED TO CORPUS CHRISTI AREA.

Train of Thirty-Five Cars of Food and Other Supplies Dispatched by Army Commander.

San Antonio, Tex., Sept. 18.—When a long distance telephone message estimating the dead in the Corpus Christi district at 500 was received, Maj. Gen. Joseph T. Dickman, commander of the Southern department, ordered a special train of 35 cars loaded immediately with supplies and sent to the stricken area.

The train was filled mostly with big army motortrucks, such as was used for transporting supplies in Europe and with these the soldiers, aiding Col. J. A. Porter, in charge of relief work in the bay district, will be able to reach the sufferers in the marooned district. The train will go as far as the line can be trestled and if wash-outs block the way the trip will be finished by trucks.

Besides the trucks there were several carloads of food, including bread and canned goods, which can be consumed immediately after they are received by the hungry people.

There were also large quantities of coats, blankets and tents and army officers at military headquarters announced that nothing would be left undone to see that no one suffers for want of food and shelter.

General Dickman has announced that if necessary Col. M. R. Hilgard, the department quartermaster, who was in charge of the distribution of supplies at the army's headquarters at Is-Sur-Tille, France, would go to Corpus Christi and take charge of the situation. Colonel Porter was also in charge of a vast supply depot in France and had a competent force to assist him. He said in a message to headquarters here that with the arrival of the motortrucks the situation in the bay section would be very much improved.

### TWO MORE U. S. FLYERS LOST

Aviators Fail to Return From Patrol Duty Along Mexican Border—Wrecked in Storm?

San Antonio, Tex., Sept. 17.—Two more American army aviators are missing as a result of a patrol along the Mexican border. Considerable anxiety for their safety is felt at army headquarters. The missing men are Lieutenant L. S. Andrews and S. M. Perkins. It is feared that they became wrecked in the severe storm or else were blown across the border and fell into the hands of bandits.

### GERMAN ARMY PERILS POLES

Report 200,000 Troops Are Concentrated on the Frontier of Silesia.

Paris, France, Sept. 16.—A dispatch received here from Sosnowic, in the government of Piotrkow, Poland, asserts that a German army, comprising a minimum of 200,000 men, is concentrated on the frontier of Silesia, ready to be thrown against Poland.

#### Another Victory for Russ.

London, Sept. 19.—Another important victory by Admiral Kolchak's forces is reported by Reuter's correspondent, who says eight regiments of reds were destroyed, Kolchak taking much booty and many prisoners.

#### Sees Jail for "Big Five."

Albany, N. Y., Sept. 19.—Evidence that will "warrant and sustain the indictment of the combination of packers known as the big five," will be presented to a grand jury, said Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer.

## NEBRASKA IN BRIEF

Timely News Culled From All Parts of the State, Reduced for the Busy.

### SCORES OF EVENTS COVERED

Walter Briggs, Norval Clark and Peter Pratt, three Seward county boys who led all boys as judges at the state fair, will make up the judging team to represent Nebraska at the Sioux City Interstate fair and three Omaha girls who won highest honors as a canning demonstration team at the state fair will constitute the canning team. The stock judging and canning teams will compete for honors with eleven other states.

The State Department of Agriculture, in a warning to Nebraska farmers, says alfalfa seed, the production of which in Nebraska and the west central states is only one-fourth of normal, is being imported from Italy in quantities containing noxious weed seeds.

The first annual state convention of the Nebraska branch of the American Legion is to assemble at Omaha on October 10 and 11. The convention will elect delegates and alternates to the national convention to be held at Minneapolis November 10 to 12.

A number of Nebraska cities had terrific rains during the past week. They were caused, it is said, by storms in Texas. In less than twenty-four hours Red Cloud had 6.93 inches, Auburn 4.30 and Fairbury 3.27. Many other points had excessive downpours.

A report submitted at the annual conference of the Methodist church of Nebraska at Lincoln shows that the church's membership in this state decreased 1,932 in the past year. Of these 832 succumbed to the "flu" last winter.

Governor McKelvie tooted his automobile horn in front of a Lincoln drug store to attract the attention of a clerk therein in violation of the city ordinance and was promptly assessed \$5.80 in police court for the offense.

The state supreme court on October 6 will hear an appeal involving the validity of the constitutional convention law. The case is from Douglas county, where the lower court held the act valid.

The 800-acre Gardner House farm, near Ansley, which changed hands this spring for a consideration of \$50,000, was sold a few days ago to Peter Hookstra of David City for \$68,000.

The plant of the Nebraska Post, a German newspaper published at Beatrice, which was suppressed by the Gage County Defense Council, has been sold to an Omaha firm for junk.

A total of 28,000 head of sheep and 74,000 head of cattle were received at the South Omaha stock yards last Monday, breaking all previous records for a single day.

Commission men are said to be offering farmers in the northwestern part of the state having average yields \$100 an acre in the field for their potato crop.

It is estimated that no less than 80,000 head of cattle from drought-stricken states have already arrived in Cherry, Grant, Thomas and Hooker counties.

The state banking bureau has received application for charter from the Bank of Dix, Kimball county. The bank is incorporated for \$15,000.

A convention of the Nebraska Farmers' Co-operative Grain and Live Stock association will be held at Omaha from November 18 to 20.

Filley, Rockford and Virginia in Gage county plan to build a transmission electric line from the Holmesville plant for lighting the towns.

Business men of Nebraska City have organized a company having for its purpose the building of an up-to-date hotel in the city.

Sugar factories of western Nebraska are to begin the 1919 campaign in a few days. The operation is expected to last about 120 days.

Railroad crop reports place Nebraska's potato crop at 6,500,000 bushels, about half a normal yield.

The congregation of the Methodist Episcopal church at Chappell has become so large that an addition to the edifice is to be built at once.

The Farmers State bank of Gurley has moved into its new home which cost approximately \$15,000.

Work has begun on the paving of a number of the streets of Mullen.

With the opening of the school term last Wednesday the Nebraska University began the 51st year of its existence.

Nebraska's football team started training for the 1919 season last week with about 100 candidates for places on the first squad. The opening game will take place at Iowa City, Oct. 4.

Women were entertained at the Ak-Sar-Ben den at Omaha during Merchants market week for the first time outside of a coronation ball, since the organization was founded twenty five years ago.

A year ago the State College of Agriculture, near Lincoln, purchased a Hampshire boar for \$90. Just the other day the same hog was sold for \$1,000, it being the third animal the college has sold in the last two years for \$1,000 or more.

Four practical short courses will be given by the university college of agriculture at Lincoln this winter for the express benefit of Nebraska farmers. Any one may enter any of the courses in tractors, trucks, automobiles, and farm shop, any Monday, beginning September 29.

The primaries of September 13 to nominate candidates for delegates to the constitutional convention, held in twenty-five legislative districts, was Nebraska's tamest election. Less than 10 per cent of a normal vote was cast in most of the districts. Election of delegates will be held November 4 and the convention will assemble December 2.

Allen V. Grammer and Alson B. Cole, who are under sentence of death at the state penitentiary for the murder of Mrs. Lulu Vogt of Elba in 1917, have been granted another reprieve by Governor McKelvie. Lack of preparation to carry through the double execution at the prison was responsible for the governor's action.

One hundred well known Nebraska men, including Edgar Howard of Columbus and Frank Harrison of Lincoln, met at the capital city the other day and organized a Nebraska branch of the League for the Preservation of American Independence.

Governor McKelvie received an appeal for Nebraska to aid the destitute people of Corpus Christi, Tex., where a hurricane and tidal wave devastated a large part of the city and caused the death of more than 400 persons in the district.

The first shipment of supplies to leave Nebraska for the hungry children of Germany was transported on the steamship Jason, which left New York September 20. The shipment consisted of 48,000 cans of condensed milk.

Workmen in the act of rebuilding a bridge on the Rock Island, near Deshler, which had been destroyed by fire, were forced to suspend operations when a five-inch rain fell in the district.

Reports from Washington to the effect that General Pershing will not make his western trip as planned caused the Lincoln Commercial club to temporarily halt its plans for a big reception.

Ten inches of rain fell in Superior and vicinity in less than twelve hours last Thursday, resulting in the washing out of several miles of railroad track and the destruction of many bridges.

The Nebraska School of Agriculture opens at Lincoln October 10. The college offers a training in agriculture and home economics to all persons with a common school education.

An army motor transport unit, bringing \$12,000 worth of equipment, will be established in the military training department of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

Warren Pershing, 10-year-old son of General Pershing, is back at home in Lincoln, after having spent two months overseas with his illustrious father.

Lincoln has been receiving but one fourth its normal supply of sugar during the past few weeks. A good many other towns in the state are in the same boat.

A new school building, an addition to the electric plant and a new municipal ice plant are improvements contemplated for Plainview in the immediate future.

The annual convention of the State Association of County Commissioners, Supervisors and County Clerks will be held at Omaha December 2 to 4.

The congregation of the Baptist church at Pawnee City recently celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the church in the city. The postoffice at Tate, Pawnee county, has been ordered discontinued because no one can be found who wishes to serve as postmaster.

Contracts have been let for state aid bridges across the Platte, near Central City and Grand Island, the two to cost approximately \$170,000.

Buffalo county's farm bureau is to be a permanent institution. A suitable building for housing the enterprise is to be erected at Kearney.

More than \$6,000 has been raised for a soldiers' and sailors' home-coming celebration at Beatrice. The event will take place October 8.

Ten thousand dollars have been raised by business men of Grant for the completion of the new high school building.

P. H. Stewart, Buffalo county agricultural agent, has accepted a position with the extension bureau of the state university.

At a special election at Guide Rock a proposition to issue bonds for electric lights carried by a vote of 149 to 9. Work of paving more than 100 miles of public roads in Douglas county will begin early next spring.

Beatrice is to have a new hotel, which will cost, when furnished, more than a half million dollars.

Ogallala citizens are agitating the question of establishing a hospital in the city.

The Beatrice volunteer fire department recently celebrated the burning of the mortgage on its building.

The plant of the American Potash company at Antioch, one of the largest in western Nebraska, resumed operations after having been closed nearly a year.

Fire of unknown origin destroyed the lumber-yard of Nye-Schneider-Fowler company, and completely gutted the Northwestern railroad station at Hastings. The loss at the lumber yard is estimated at \$60,000 and the railroad station at \$10,000.

Blue Springs' new school building, a contract for which has just been let, will cost \$51,151.

Victor E. Wilson, who resigned from the Nebraska railway commission, will enter the practice of commercial laws in Lincoln after October 1, when his resignation becomes effective.

Rumors in the northwestern part of the state are to the effect that the Hord potash plant which was destroyed by fire at Lakeside will not be rebuilt, due to the uncertain condition of the markets.