

Harding Has New Plan to Aid Europe

President Favors Settlement of Reparations Dispute by Commission of Disinterested Experts.

Opposed to Occupation

Washington, Dec. 29.—President Harding favors the settlement of the German reparations dispute through a commission of disinterested financiers, economists and other experts.

If the United States were invited by the European powers to appoint American members on such a commission to determine the amount of reparations Germany can pay and to recommend a plan of payment, the president would accept the invitation and name the delegates as representatives of the United States.

The administration is firmly convinced that the occupation of the Ruhr district of Germany by France or any other resort to force in preference to adoption of the plan favored by the administration would be a tragic mistake.

Amendment Withdrawn. These disclosures were made at the White House officially, following the action of Senator Borah, republican, Idaho, in withdrawing his proposed amendment to the navy appropriation bill requesting the president to call a world economic conference.

When President Harding was informed of Senator Borah's action he expressed satisfaction, pronouncing the step a wise one.

It was stated at the White House that the president has no intention of calling a world economic conference because he believes the question of reparations is essentially a European question, which should be decided in Europe.

The American government is not going to rush into Europe, and take upon its shoulders the burden of settling the numerous disputes now existing among the various powers. The United States has quite enough to bear, the administration believes, without inviting the ill-feeling which would inevitably result from any unwelcome activity in "so matters."

Sees Hope in Conference. The president does believe, however, that it has been shown to be possible to settle the question of reparations by the ordinary procedure of diplomacy, the whole question perhaps could be settled by a disinterested conference of economists and experts.

Not only would the United States have no objection to participation on such a commission but it would expect our experts to be invited to join in the work.

It was reiterated, however, that this government does not favor the assumption at any stage of the investigation, of the burden of deciding the question by itself.

As a comment upon the contention of Senator Lenoir that the president lacks authority to call a conference without the consent of congress, it was pointed out by the White House spokesman that the United States, during the past year, has participated in more than half a dozen important conferences without the express authorization of congress, and that it probably will participate in as many more during the coming year.

Movie Censorship Plant of Legislature

Lincoln, Dec. 29.—(Special.)—There will be another movie censorship bill thrown into the hopper at the coming session of the legislature.

This was the information which J. Fred Green, Lancaster member of the lower house, asserted he had received from his numerous women's club friends in the state.

"Of course, if such a bill is introduced, I will support it," Green said.

Green championed the movie bill two years ago, and it was passed the last night of the legislative session. The next morning Governor McKelvie vetoed the bill.

German Note Circulation Passes Trillion Mark

Berlin, Dec. 29.—(By A. P.)—German note circulation has now passed the trillion mark, it was announced by Rudolph Hagenstein, president of the Reichsbank, at a meeting of the Reichsbank committee today.

He added that during the past three months the bank had granted credits exceeding a trillion marks, which showed that the bank was doing its best to meet the necessities of German industry.

President Hagenstein urged the bankers to recognize the perils of the German economic situation and do their utmost to prevent the collapse of the German credit apparatus.

Drys Back Temple. Washington, Dec. 29.—(Special.)—A new speakership alignment for the next house was indicated yesterday with the backing of the dry element. It calls for the election of O. D. Temple of Pennsylvania for speaker and Graham of Illinois for floor leader.

It is opposed to Gillett for speaker and Longworth for floor leader, both of whom are listed as wet. While they are only reasonably moist, the dry leadership admits of no degree in the description of men leaning in any way toward modification of the Volstead law.

Bar Association Head Would Halt Perjury



Judge George F. Corcoran of York, president of the Nebraska State Bar association, advocated drastic steps to stop perjury, in his annual address to the association at Hotel Fontenelle Friday afternoon.

Bar of State May Take Step Toward Simpler Pleadings

Judge L. Albert of Columbus to Suggest Elimination of Red Tape at State Meeting Here.

Complicated legal phraseology may be eliminated from pleadings in Nebraska courts if the suggestion of Judge L. Albert, Columbus, meets with favor at the 23d annual meeting of the Nebraska State Bar association, which opened at Hotel Fontenelle yesterday afternoon.

In his report, Judge E. E. Good of Wahoo, recently elected to the supreme court, and chairman of the Bar association's judiciary committee, recommends that eligibility rules restricting service as district or supreme judge to those who are more than 30 years old, a citizen, a resident of the state for three years, and who have been practicing for five years, be increased in the maximum penalty in the riot statute from three months to one year in the penitentiary in another charge advocated by Judge Good's committee.

Amending of a statute so that the person found guilty of aiding and abetting any crime will be punished the same as the principal offender also is advocated.

Two important questions are placed before the association, without any recommendations, as follows: "Shall the district judges be vested with power to comment to the jury upon evidence—a power with which federal judges are vested?" "Shall the association appoint a committee of three to devise reasons to prevent or minimize the all too prevalent practice of perjury in trials?"

The committee on legal education will recommend to the association that every candidate for admission to the bar shall give evidence: "Of graduation from an accredited high school in this state or from a high school of similar grade from another state; of one year's study in a college or university; of two years' study in a law college and of one year's study in the office of a practicing lawyer."

Attacks Perjury. "There should be a vigorous prosecution for perjury in every state at least once a year," said Judge George F. Corcoran of York, president of the association, in his annual address this afternoon. "This is so even though convictions cannot be secured. If the sacred and binding character of the oath will not impel witnesses to tell the truth, then the strong arm of the law should be invoked in every instance to compel at least a semblance of respect for the law. No crime is committed with such frequency and is so generally unknown to the great mass of people."

Make for Economy. Two resolutions which were unanimously adopted by the association carry with them an element of economy, both in time and money, if they are passed.

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Sunday "Want" Ads Taken Until 9 o'Clock Tonight

After the clock strikes nine tonight, it will be too late to have your "want" listed in the "Want" Ad section of tomorrow's Sunday Omaha Bee.

Telephone At-Lantic 1000 NOW and dictate your "Want" Ad to one of our experienced ad takers.

Tell her to insert your advertisement at least three days—for on Sunday and New Year's day are two days that the average busy person has more time to read the newspapers—and look over the "Want" Ads with greater care.

Read and Use Omaha Bee "Want" Ads—the bee-line to results.

Girls Held for Theft of Jewels

Pretty Young Maid Falls Into Hands of Detectives at Station on Way to Sioux City.

Alleged to Have Confessed

At noon yesterday pretty 19-year-old Clara Mackrasky, domestic, left the home of Harry Wilinsky, 1912 Wirt street. At 4 the same afternoon she was arrested at the Union station, where she was about to board a train for Sioux City, by Detectives Frank Killian and Arthur English on a charge of stealing jewelry valued at \$3,000.

According to police, the girl, who gave her address as 1564 Sprugarden, Cleveland, O., came to Omaha from Chicago about three weeks ago. She was employed at the McCrory 10-cent store for two weeks.

While behind one of the counters the girl is alleged to have been introduced to the Wilinskys and soon afterward entered their services.

Made Good Impression. Her appearance and speech, said Mr. Wilinsky, gave one the impression of good training and education. She easily gained the confidence and respect of the household.

"She had the run of the house," said Mr. Wilinsky, "we all trusted her, because she seemed so good and refined."

Yesterday morning Mrs. Wilinsky went down town and telephoned that she would not be home for luncheon. Her little daughter, 12, told her that the maid had gone to the cleaners.

Calls Her Husband. Suspicious, Mrs. Wilinsky called her husband and together they discovered that the girl had not gone to the cleaners and they also discovered that two diamond rings, two beaded bags and one platinum ring were missing from their accustomed place in a dresser drawer in a bedroom. Police were telephoned.

Detectives Killian and English were detailed on the case and found that Miss Mackrasky's trunk had been checked to the Union station yesterday morning. When the girl arrived they arrested her.

"Have you the valuables on your person?" Detective Killian said he asked her.

"Yes," she is said to have answered, "they're in the bosom of my dress."

Hands Over Loot. "Well, you'd better hand them over so they won't be lost between here and the station," the officer cautioned.

She complied. At central police headquarters she is alleged to have admitted the theft. She said, according to police, that she had planned the theft while on the street car on the way home from a movie, a few night ago. Then when the proper time came she left.

"Looked so easy," she is alleged to have said.

Another reason why the Wilinskys' suspicions were not aroused was that she told them, says Mr. Wilinsky, that she wished to go home for Christmas, and had been gone from the house over Sunday and Monday. Tuesday she returned and resumed her duties.

Miss Mackrasky is being held for further investigation.

Harding to Continue U. S. Coal Commission

Washington, Dec. 29.—President Harding has decided to continue the existing federal control of fuel distribution for at least another month, it was announced at the White House. Though Conrad E. Spens, the present head of the office, has resigned and presented a final report to the president upon the emergency measures taken since the end of the coal strike to assist the country in getting a coal supply, an organization will be maintained to continue and to act as an assurance against any stringency in the near future.

The bituminous coal supply of the country, Mr. Spens said in his report, can be considered good with no likelihood of shortage if weather conditions do not seriously hamper railroad operations.

Son of Wealthy Illinois Man Charged With Murder

Deer Trail, Colo., Dec. 29.—George Griffith, Carthage, Ill., was formally charged, today with murder in connection with the killing of Charles Manor of Denver and the shooting of C. Cour here last Sunday night following a dance.

Griffith is said to be the son of a wealthy farmer living near Carthage, and a friend of the family of Miss Cour, with whom he was visiting at the time of the shooting. The Cour family came to Denver from Carthage several years ago.

Barrows' Salary Must Come From Governor

Lincoln, Dec. 29.—(By A. P.)—Attorney General Davis has given a formal opinion holding that Lieutenant Governor P. A. Barrows cannot draw any salary directly from the state of Nebraska by virtue of a voucher drawn upon the salary fund of the governor's office and that he must look to Governor McKelvie for whatever compensation may be due him for services as acting governor.

On the authority of this ruling, Auditor Marsh will issue a warrant to Governor McKelvie for the full \$1875 claimed by him in a voucher filed several days ago, covering the last quarter of 1922. Marsh has been holding up this voucher, along with Barrows' claim for \$239.90 as 10 days' salary from December 13 to 23, while McKelvie was on an eastern trip.

Omaha Insurance Firm Under Fire by State Board

Mortgages Must Be Replaced by Satisfactory Securities and Officers Must Make Salary Refunds.

Lincoln, Dec. 29.—(Special.)—Mortgages amounting to \$172,300 held by the Commonwealth Life Insurance company of Omaha as assets must be replaced with securities satisfactory to the state department of insurance, under an order issued today by W. B. Young, chief of the Nebraska Insurance department.

The order was issued following examination of the company by the insurance departments of Iowa, Nebraska and Missouri.

In recent months, according to Young, a majority of stock of the Commonwealth has been obtained by W. K. Whitfield and J. R. Paisley, officers of the Standard Life Insurance company of Decatur, Ill., and this majority of stock is in the name of C. S. Whitfield, son of W. K. Whitfield.

Other Orders Issued. The mortgages complained of, according to Young, are securities originally held by the Standard Life and transferred into the assets of the Commonwealth.

Other orders issued by Young to the Commonwealth in part follow: A salary of \$10,000 a year paid to Frans Nelson, former president of the Commonwealth as chairman of the conservation committee of the Commonwealth must be returned by him to the company.

"Our investigation showed," declared Young, "that the salary was prearranged in reality a part payment for the stock which Mr. Nelson sold to Mr. Paisley individually."

Salaries to Be Cut. A salary of \$10,000 a year, paid to W. K. Whitfield as vice president of the Commonwealth, must be cut to \$2500 a year, according to Young, who alleges Whitfield lived in St. Louis and spent only an average of three days a month in Omaha. He also must return to the company the difference in the salaries already paid.

A salary of \$600 a month, paid to C. S. Whitfield, as secretary, must be cut to \$250 a month and he must return to the company the difference in the salary paid.

A \$100 Liberty bond, alleged to be missing, must be returned immediately.

Other alleged acts of mismanagement and defiance of previous orders by the insurance commissioners must be remedied at once.

Young declared that he set Wednesday, December 27, at 2 p. m., as the time for the hearing on the report of the examiners and Iowa and Missouri insurance officers were present, but neither Whitfield nor Paisley appeared.

Young asserted he called F. J. Uehling, president of the Commonwealth company, at that time and asked him to come to Lincoln. Uehling replied, Young alleges, that he had been instructed by Whitfield and Paisley not to attend the hearing. A tentative application is on file to consolidate the Commonwealth with the Standard and Young will pass on this application tomorrow.

Day's Activities in Washington

Prince Gelsio Caetani, the new Italian ambassador, presented his credentials to President Harding.

The house completed consideration of the interior appropriation bill which carries \$294,000,000, most of it for pensions.

Balthasar H. Meyer became chairman of the Interstate Commerce commission, succeeding Charles C. McChord, who remains, however, as a member of the commission.

Surveying domestic business conditions, the Department of Commerce said satisfactory progress had been made during the past year with further advances in prospect.

Credit to a maximum of \$1,000,000,000 would be extended to Germany for use in purchasing foodstuffs in this country under a bill introduced by Senator Bursum, republican, New Mexico.

Conrad E. Spens, federal fuel distributor, preliminary to relinquishing his post, announced that the bituminous coal situation was "good" and that the anthracite production was exceeding expectations. The office, however, will be continued at least for another month.

Too Big for the Baby Walker



U. S. Grand Jury Indicts 13 Men After 'Wet' Party

Prominent New York Clubmen Charged With Violation of Volstead and Revenue Acts.

New York, Dec. 29.—Investigation by a federal grand jury into a bachelor's dinner at the fashionable Racquet and Tennis club on Park avenue, at which liquor was alleged to have flowed freely, today brought indictment of 13 men, including four members of the La Montagne family, prominent in society.

Two indictments were returned, charging a conspiracy to violate the Volstead and Internal Revenue acts, through which approximately 30,000 gallons of assorted liquors were alleged to have been illegally sold. Some of those indicted also were charged with having forged liquor permits and other papers.

In a statement in connection with the indictments United States Attorney Hayward asserted that his office had followed the trail of alleged bootlegging, even though it led to select circles and exclusive places, and charged that liquor had been sold on a wholesale scale to exclusive clubs and the homes of the wealthy.

Federal Judge Knox received the indictments on a day on which two other juries—one in the court of general sessions in New York and the others in Brooklyn—had handed up presentments urging repeal of the state prohibition enforcement act, on the ground that it was ineffective and wasteful of public funds.

The principal defendants, according to Mr. Hayward, were Montague La Montagne and his three younger brothers, Rene, William and Morgan. Rene has long been in the public eye as one of the foremost American polo players, having several times appeared in international competition.

The other defendants were described by Mr. Hayward as the agents of the brothers, listed by the United States attorney as owners of the Greener-Distillery company, Eminence Distillery Company, Inc., and E. La Montagne & Sons, Inc.

The others in the case was said by Hayward to include: An employe of the three companies, a bonded truckman, two salesmen, a cigar man at the Racquet and Tennis club, four "fixers" and a garage owner.

The indictments, citing overt acts, charged that illegal sales had been made to a number of drug stores in Newark, Long Branch and Asbury Park, N. J.

Farm Near Griswold, Ia., Sells for \$94,500 Cash

Griswold, Ia., Dec. 29.—(Special.)—A farm of 377 acres sold to settle the E. A. Mackull estate, was purchased by Roger Getting for \$84,500 cash. The farm is rich bottom land near this city. Getting got the farm after winning the toss of a coin with a man who had submitted a bid of the same amount.

Arrested as Fugitive. J. C. Blackburn, salesman, Kansas City, was arrested by Detectives Trapp and Munch yesterday as a fugitive from justice. He is said to be wanted in Creston, Ia., on check charges.

Borah Withdraws Proposal to Call Economic Parley

Senator Watson Declares Administration Has Sent "Feelers" to Europe With View to Action.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Advised by administration leaders that his naval bill amendment for an economic conference would be "harmful" to the administration's negotiations to aid in the European economic conditions, Senator Borah, republican, Idaho, late today said in the senate that he would withdraw it.

After Senator Watson, republican, Indiana, had stated that the administration has sent out "feelers" with a view to action in European economic affairs, Chairman Lodge of the foreign relations committee added that for several months American ambassadors and ministers in Europe had been seeking information as to what the United States could do to aid Europe in an economic way.

Senator Borah asked Senator Lodge if he believed that the Borah proposal would be embarrassing to the administration's negotiations. Senator Lodge replied that it would be "harmful," and Senator Borah said:

"Well, then on the statement of the chairman of the foreign relations committee, I am willing to withdraw my resolution."

Senator Borah later announced privately that he would hold his amendment in abeyance, possibly to be proposed by a later bill if such action should become necessary.

House Completes Consideration of Interior Budget

House to Vote on Appropriation Bill on January 3—Funds for Geological Survey Increased.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Continuing its rapid work on the annual supply measures, the house completed consideration of the interior appropriation bill, carrying \$294,000,000, of which \$253,000,000 will be for pensions. The vote was delayed until January 3, at which time Republican Leader Mondell announced the hope that the agricultural bill, already waiting final vote, the postoffice bill and the interior bill will be passed.

The only major upset met by the committee in charge of the bill today was an increase of the geological survey appropriation for the making of topographical maps in various sections of the country from \$324,000 to \$500,000.

Over protests of Mr. Mondell and Chairman Madden of the appropriations committee, the house, by a vote of 45 to 28, decided in favor of the increase after an extended debate in which the larger amount, lead by Representative Temple, republican, Pennsylvania, cited the great interest being taken in the work by the states, which are required to meet the government's outlay on a half-and-half basis. They contended the state appropriations could be met with the money proposed by the bill.

Representatives Mondell and Madden charged propaganda, spread, they said, by various state geologists, was responsible for the pressure for the added appropriation.

Many Friends Pay Tribute at Funeral of H. K. Burket

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A host of friends paid last tribute to Henry K. Burket, 72, yesterday at the undertaking parlors of H. K. Burket & Son, 2405 Exchange street. Mr. Burket was stricken with apoplexy last Wednesday and died at 11:30 a. m.

Amidst banks of floral pieces was a beautiful bronze copper casket which held the body.

Rev. A. A. DeLarue preached the funeral sermon and spoke highly of Mr. Burket's devotion to his church, his family and his friends.

The pallbearers were Orson Patman, George Elmore, W. E. Palmater, Fred Pinney, F. J. Haskell and Homer K. Burket of Lincoln. Interment was in Forest Lawn.

Surviving are his wife, a son, Earl H. Burket, and a sister.

Jap Council Scores Kato.

Tokio, Dec. 29.—(By A. P.)—The privy council today passed a resolution condemning the policy of the Kato cabinet. Such action is unprecedented in the history of Japanese politics.

The Weather

Forecast. Saturday probably rain and colder. Hourly Temperatures.

Shipping Paralyzed by Storms

Grave Fears Felt for Two Vessels—Scores of Smaller Craft Wrecked by Heavy Gale on Atlantic.

Many New Yorkers Hurried

New York, Dec. 29.—(By A. P.)—Gales today continued to whip the north Atlantic into mountains and canyons, arousing fears for at least two vessels, delaying scores and sending a few smaller craft crashing into the shore.

The chief anxiety was felt for the freighter Siretonia, which sailed for this port from St. Pierre on December 12, and the German freighter Heinrich Kayser, which last reported when it sent out an SOS 500 miles off Cape May on December 6.

In addition, a flutter ran through marine circles when the shipping board motorship Munmorot, bound for Norfolk from Boston, radioed for help off Five Fathom bank light. The Munmorot, with a crew of 42, reported a bad list to starboard, but a later message stated it had righted a little. Meanwhile the coast guard cutter Kickapoo put out to its assistance from Cape May.

Schooner Wrecked. The most important wreck reported was that of the schooner Harold L. Spindler, out of Yarmouth, N. S., which struck near Provincetown, Mass., sending its crew of six ashore in a breeches buoy. An unconfirmed report had it that the boat was carrying a cargo of liquor.

Shipping offices in New York, Halifax and other ports were bombarded with wireless messages from liners reporting delays caused by midwinter storms.

The Berengaria, bearing Ambassador Harvey back to Washington from London, was one of the vessels held up. Due here today, it reported that it still was 317 miles off this port and did not expect to reach quarantine until Sunday morning.

Waves also were lashing the sides of the giant Majestic, carrying the British finance mission to the United States, and Emile Coue, proponent of auto suggestion bough here for a lecture tour.

Nearly 25 steamers which crept into port today showed the effects of the battering they had received.

The Manchuria reported three of its crew in the sick bay with injuries received when smitten by a gigantic wave. Battered below decks for most of the voyage were 246 seafaring passengers.

The President Monroe, snow and ice covered from stem to stern, arrived looking like an iceberg, after fighting the worst gales the skipper could remember. Once, he said, when a hundred-mile-an-hour wind was blowing, the vessel could make but four knots an hour.

Storm Took Toll. The storm took its toll of hundreds of injured. From early last night until daybreak hospital ambulances were bringing in pedestrians with broken arms, fractured legs or cracked skulls, who had fallen on the ice covered streets. Most hospitals were crowded to capacity. Two persons are reported to have been killed in falls.

The wind reached high velocities. Combined with the unaccustomed burden of snow, it worked havoc with above-ground power and telephone lines, strung car transmission cables, roofs of buildings and large trees.

Lives of pedestrians in some sections were endangered by falling signs, tumbling chimneys and smoke stacks. Thousands of dollars of damaged property were believed to have been sustained here. At Staten Island, where numerous small craft were washed ashore, along the waterfront the toll of damaged buildings was reported heavy.

Railroads were asked to concentrate on maintaining unimpaired freight service in order that the city, with barely 48 hours' reserve supplies of coal on hand at harbor terminals, might not be confronted by an actual fuel famine.

Bishop Stuntz Defended by Methodist Leaders

Des Moines, Ia., Dec. 29.—Methodist leaders of Iowa and Nebraska stoutly defended the administration of Bishop Homer C. Stuntz and protested against attacks directed against him.

A new hospital is to be built at Sioux City this spring, according to plans announced at a meeting of a missionary report was read showing that Iowa and Nebraska were second among 21 areas in the country in the amount of money raised last year.

The "certain periodicals" which criticized Bishop Stuntz, mentioned in the resolution endorsing the bishop passed by a conference of Methodist executives here yesterday included the New Republic, the Christian Advocate of New York, the Northwestern Christian Advocate of Chicago and the Zion Herald, according to Rev. Herbert Scott of the First Methodist church here.

The criticism followed the bishop's acceptance in the retirement of Rev. J. D. M. Buckner of Aurora, Neb., at the general Methodist conference last September, of which Bishop Stuntz acted as chairman.

Professor Sees Brighter Outlook for Farmers of U. S.

Chicago, Dec. 29.—Factors are at work which will raise the economic condition of farmers within the next year to a level as prosperous as that in the 14 years of agricultural prosperity which culminated in 1913.

Prof. Davis Friday, president of the Michigan Agricultural college, declared in a paper read before a joint meeting of the American Economic association and the American Farm Economic association.