

WORLD LEAGUE DIFFICULT, BUT NOT HOPELESS

Senator Thomas Thinks President Will Carry Through Peace Plans With Credit to the Nation.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Senator Thomas of Colorado, democratic member of the foreign relations committee, predicted today in the senate that "at this critical hour in our diplomatic history, President Wilson would acquit himself well and to the ultimate satisfaction of his countrymen."

Disclaiming any intent to criticize senators who have felt impelled to record their disagreement with the president's outline of peace conditions, Senator Thomas said he regarded it as incumbent upon those who felt otherwise to make public expression of their views lest it be gathered from their silence "that announcements hitherto recorded embody the common sentiment of the American senate."

He quoted at length from letters and opinions by Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson and others to show that the president's power in negotiating treaties is made supreme by the constitution.

The senator said he was reluctant to speak of economic barriers and trade relations, "for in the last analysis that is the real obstacle to an all embracing entente."

He added, however, that he cordially endorsed the president's demands for "the removal as far as possible of economic barriers."

"Freedom of the seas," Senator Thomas said, "is a vague and indefinable term. It is noticeable that the president declares for 'absolute freedom of navigation upon the seas outside of territorial water, alike in peace and war.'"

Establishment of a league of nations, Senator Thomas said, presents a difficult problem. Some of the difficulties already have been mentioned by other senators, and added that he need "only mention the financial burden and its method of distribution, its inclusion of the vanquished nations, of bolshevist Russia and the Vatican."

"I do not say these difficulties are insuperable," continued the speaker, "but I feel sure that only time and experience can surmount them. They will tax the patience and the wisdom of the entire world."

Senator Thomas said he was much impressed with the suggestion of Viscount Grey, former British foreign secretary, that the victorious league now in force be continued. It is amply competent, the speaker said, to keep the peace of the world and it may admit other nations to its association as time and experience shall determine.

Insurance Man Dies.
Milwaukee, Jan. 2.—John Barns, 59, general counsel of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance company, died today following a stroke of apoplexy.

British Army Kept School for 3,000,000, Says Director Goall

London, Jan. 3.—(Via Montreal.)—Educational work among British troops was the most astonishing thing in the war, said Lord Goall, deputy director of army staff duties, in an address here today. The army contained at least 3,000,000 students and constituted the largest school in the world before the armistice, he said.

This work was given in order to divert men's minds from the terrors of war. Since the armistice the work has increased, it being given with a definite view to post-war settlement. Recently 72,000 books have been dispatched to France for the British army, which is clamoring for more. In connection with this the authorities in France have ordered 2,000,000 pencils fortnightly, which are more than are in existence.

Over 60 subjects are being taught, most soldiers choosing technical subjects.

Two Conferences Are to Be Held Before Main Parleys Are Started

Paris, Jan. 3.—(Havas.)—After the preliminary conference between the four great allied powers, January 13, says the Journal, there will be a second conference, at which the other allied states will be consulted on questions interesting them. These two preparatory conferences will be held at the French foreign office.

The peace congress proper, the newspaper adds, will be held at Versailles. The debates will not be made public, but reports will be issued daily.

New York May Ask for Extradition of Harry Thaw

Philadelphia, Jan. 3.—District Attorney Swan of New York, yesterday requested an exemplified copy of the record in this city in the Thaw to the Pennsylvania hospital for the insane. This action, it was said, probably means that the New York authorities intend to file requisition for the surrender of Thaw, who is under indictment in that city on charges of assaulting Frederick Gump, a Kansas City high school boy.

Foch Will Permit Germans in Rhine Provinces to Vote
Paris, Jan. 3.—(Havas.)—Marshal Foch, according to the Matin, has given permission for the Germans in the occupied Rhine provinces to participate in the German elections. He also will allow freedom of the press and freedom of assemblage as far as is compatible with the maintenance of order.

Big Elevator in Ontario Burns, With Heavy Loss
Fort William, Ont., Jan. 3.—Fire last night destroyed the 100,000-bushel elevator of Parrish & Heintzbecker with a loss estimated at \$250,000. Eighty thousand bushels of wheat were burned.

The Abandoned Room

By Wadsworth Camp

CHAPTER XLVI.
Explanations.
The Panamanian read the letter. "Her way of covering herself," he explained, "in case you suspected she had made you drink too much or had drugged you. She really wanted you to come to tea that afternoon. It was after writing that that she found out what had gone wrong. In other words, she read in the paper of Silas Blackburn's death, and in a panic she put on plain clothes and hurried out to see what had happened. The fact that she forgot her managers, her professional reputation, everything, testified to her anxiety, and I began to sense the truth. She had been born in Panama of a Spanish mother and an American father. She had some stealthy interest in the Cedars and Blackburns. She was about the right age. Ten to one she was Silas Blackburn's niece. So for me, many hours before Silas Blackburn walked in here, the presence of the other Blackburn about the Cedars became a tragic and threatening inevitability. Had Silas Blackburn been murdered or his brother? Where was the survivor who had committed that brutal murder? Maria had come here hysterically to answer those questions. She might know. The light in the deserted house! She might be hiding him and taking food to him there. But her crying suggested a signal which he never answered. At any rate, I had to find Maria. So I slipped out. I thought I heard her at the lake. She wasn't there. I was sure I would trap her at the deserted house, for the diffused glow of the light we had seen proved that it had come through the cobwebbed windows of the cellar, which are set in little wells below the level of the ground. The cellar explained also how she had turned her flashlight off and slipped through the hall and out while we searched the rooms. She hadn't gone back. I couldn't find her. So I went into Smithtown and sent a costly cable to my father. His answer came tonight just before Silas Blackburn walked in. He had talked with several of the survivors of those evil days. He gave me a confirmation of everything I had gathered from the papers. The Blackburns had quarrelled over a contract. Robert had been struck over the head. He wandered about the isthmus, half-witted, forgetting his name, nursing one idea. Someone had robbed him, and he wanted his money back or a different kind of payment, but he couldn't remember who, and he took it out in angry talk. Then he disappeared, and people said he had gone to Spain. Of course his wife suspected a good deal. In Blackburn's desk are pitiful and threatening letters from her which he ignored. Then she died, and Blackburn thought he was safe. But he took no chances. Some survivor of those days might turn up and try blackmail. It was safer to bury himself here."

"Then," Bobby said, "Maria must have brought her father with her when she came from Spain last summer."

"Brought him or sent for him," Paredes answered. "She's made most of her money on this side, you know. And she's as loyal and generous as she is impulsive. Undoubtedly she had the doctors do what they could for her father, and when she got track of Silas Blackburn through you, Bobby, she nursed in the warped brain that dominant idea with her own Latin desire for justice and payment."

"Then," Graham said, "that's what Silas Blackburn was afraid of instead of Bobby, as he tried to convince us tonight to cover himself."

"One minute, Mr. Paredes," Robinson broke in. "Why did you maintain this extraordinary secrecy? Nobody would have hurt you if you had put us on the right track and asked for a little help. Why did you throw sand in our eyes? Why did you talk all the time about ghosts?"

"I had to go on tiptoe," Paredes smiled. "I suspected there was at least one spy in the house. So I gave the doctor's ghost talk all the impetus I could. I was like Howells, as I've told you, in believing the case couldn't be completed without the discovery of the secret entrance of the room of death. My belief in the existence of such a thing made me believe from the first to Silas Blackburn rather than Robert. It's a tradition in many families to hand such things down to the head of each generation. Silas Blackburn was the one most likely to know. Such a secret door had never been mentioned to you, had it, Bobby?"

Bobby shook his head. Paredes turned and smiled at the haggard butler.

"I'm right so far, am I not, Jenkins?"

Jenkins bobbed his head jerkily.

"Then," Paredes went on, "you might answer one or two questions. When did the first letter that frightened your master come?"

"The day he went to Smithtown and talked to the detective," the butler quavered.

"You can understand his reflections," Paredes mused. "Money was his god. He distrusted and hated his own flesh and blood because he thought they coveted it. He was prepared to punish them by leaving it to a public charity. Now arises this apparition from the past with no claims in a court of law, with an intention simply to ask, and in case of a refusal, to punish. The conclusion reached by that selfish and merciless mind was inevitable. He probably knew nothing whatever about Maria. If all the world thought his brother dead, his brother's murder now wouldn't alter anything. I'll wager, Doctor, that at that time he talked over wounds at the base of the brain with you."

The doctor moved restlessly.

"Yes. But he was very superstitious. We talked about it in connection with his ancestors who had died of such wounds in that room."

"Everything was ready when he made the rendezvous here," Paredes went on. "He expected to have Bobby at hand in case his plan failed and he had to defend himself. But Maria had made sure that there should be no help for him. When the man came did you take him upstairs, Jenkins?"

"No, sir. I watched that Miss Katherine didn't leave the library, but I think she must have caught Mr. Silas in the upper hall after he had pretended to give up and had persuaded his brother to spend the night."

Paredes smiled whimsically. He took two faded photographs from his pocket. They were of young men, after the fashion of Blackburns, remarkably alike even without the gray, obliterating marks of old age.

"I found these in the family album," he said.

"We should have known the difference just the same," the doctor grumbled. "Why didn't we know the difference?"

"I've complained often enough," Paredes smiled, "of the necessity of using candles in this house. There was never more than one candle in the old bedroom. There were only two when we looked at the murdered man in his coffin. And in death there are no familiar facial expressions, no eccentricities of speech. So you can imagine my feelings when I tried to picture the drama that had gone on in that room. You can imagine poor Maria's. Which one? And Maria didn't know about the panel, or the use of Miss Katherine's hat pin, or the handkerchief. All of those details indicated Silas Blackburn."

"How could my handkerchief indicate anything of the kind?" Bobby asked. "How did it come there?"

"What," Paredes said, "is the commonest form of borrowing in the world, particularly in a climate where people have frequent colds? I found a number of your handkerchiefs in your grandfather's bureau. The handkerchief furnished me with an important clue. It explains, I think, Jenkins will tell you, the moving of the body. It was obviously the cause of Howells' death."

"Yes, sir," Jenkins quavered. "Mr. Silas thought he had dropped his own handkerchief in the room with the body. I don't know how you've found these things out."

"By adding two and two," Paredes laughed.

(To Be Continued.)

Want Divorce Suit Against Insane Woman Dismissed

Dismissal of Victor C. Frederickson's divorce suit against her, asked by attorneys of Elizabeth O. Frederickson, who was adjudged insane February 15, 1918 and is now in the state hospital at Norfolk.

BRANDEIS STORES FOR MEN

A Sale of Men's Suits and Overcoats

A wonderful Clothing opportunity Sat.—close out of all small lots and single garments—Suits and Overcoats—many from our best selling lines, the choicest Garments in our stocks.

At Remarkable Price Reductions

So comprehensive are the collections that men with the most diverse needs and tastes will find in this Saturday Sale the most profitable choosing. Three important groups:

Group A—At 14⁷⁵	Group B—At 19²⁵	Group C—At 23⁷⁵
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This season's newest models, in clothing tailored from reliable woolsens. Coats in Chesterfield and English box styles; ulsters, semi form fitting or loose; suits both "ultra" and conservative.

Preferred styles and materials in both Suits and Overcoats. The values in this group will surprise most any man. All sizes in the assortment.

Finest domestic fabrics in business Suits, semi-dress Suits, Overcoats for both dress and business, and Storm Coats, Ulsters and Ulsterettes.

Hart Schaffner & Marx's Finest Overcoats

Broken Lines at Reduced Prices for Saturday Selling

Broken lines Hart Schaffner & Marx \$75 Overcoats, Saturday, \$60	Broken lines Hart Schaffner & Marx \$65 Overcoats, Saturday, \$50	Broken lines Hart Schaffner & Marx \$55 Overcoats, Saturday, \$45	Broken lines Hart Schaffner & Marx \$45 Overcoats, Saturday, 37.50	Broken lines Hart Schaffner & Marx \$40 Overcoats, Saturday, 32.50
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High Grade Suits for Stout Men at \$25

We have too many high priced suits to fit men of extraordinary proportions. Stouts, Long Stouts, and Extra Sizes. Strictly hand-tailored, in fancy mixed worsteds, cassimeres and blue serges. Fine makes, sizes 42 to 52.

Hirsch Wickwire Schloss Bros., Baltimore Sterns Bros. Michael Sterns L. Abt and Sons.

A Saving of \$5 to \$15 at This Price

Second Floor, Men's Building.

Men's - Young Men's Mackinaws

Sport Coats, double breasted style, shawl collar and all-around belts for the motorist and out-door men. Gem City Woolen Mills and other makes. A big saving at each price, **\$6, \$8, \$10**

Men's Trousers

Also for Young Men, 500 to 600 Pairs on Sale Saturday. Trousers of all styles and sizes, in three big lots—**3.50, \$5, 7.50**

"When mothers economize on milk the children become pale and sickly."

U. S. Food Administration.

"One-third of the school children in our large cities are in need of nutritional attention."

"They need for proper nourishment — one pint of milk daily, for every child and a quart if possible; one egg or two ounces of meat or fish or beans. They need cereals and bread, fruit and vegetables and a little fat and sugar."

"If all mothers followed the advice to buy a quart of milk a day for every child, and refused to give it tea or coffee, there would be few undernourished children."

At the Alamito Dairy no expense is spared in producing milk that not only is fresh and clean—but by scientific pasteurization the danger from bacteria is eliminated—and the consumer's health is safeguarded.

Delivered daily by courteous route salesmen.
Phone Douglas 409, or Council Bluffs 205.

Alamito Dairy Co.

The Diet During and After INFLUENZA

The Old Reliable Round Package
Horlick's Malted Milk
Very Nutritious, Digestible

The Ideal Food Drink, instantly prepared. Made by the ORIGINAL Horlick process and from carefully selected materials. Used successfully over 1/4 century. Endorsed by physicians everywhere.

Specify **Horlick's** The Original Others Are Imitations

Men's Sweater Coats

Webber's Hand Made Sweater Coats, of wool and worsted, in rope stitch, with shawl collar; in plain colors and fancy combinations; some have knit caps to match; admirable for skating costumes. **7.50 to 12.00**

Men's Wool Mixed Sweater Coats, broken lots, in plain colors with "V" neck, shawl collar, and military collars, in rope stitch and plain weaves. Regular values that have been selling up to 8.50, at special **4.95**

Men's Work Gloves
200 dozen Men's Wool Knit and heavy Leather-lined Work Gloves, suitable for cold weather wear, on sale at pair, **75c to 2.50**

Main Floor, Men's Building.

Men's Up to \$8 Shoes at 4.95 In a Special Saturday Sale

Close to one thousand pairs of men's fine Shoes, in brown calf, gun metal and vicci kid, in lace, blucher cuts and English lasts in single and double welted soles, built for style and wear. Former prices were up to \$8. Choice Saturday

at Pair **4⁹⁵**
Former Price to \$8.
Main Floor—Men's Store.

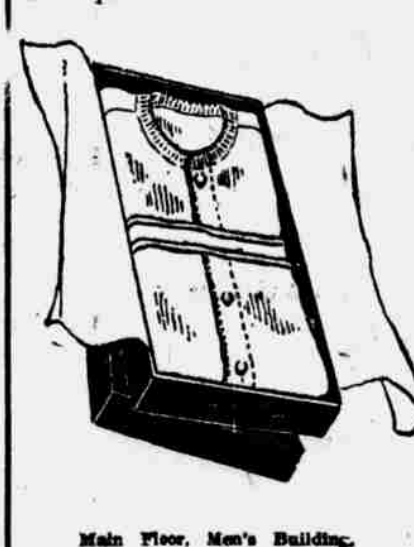


Men's Winter Underwear

Broken lots of Winter stocks in two large assortments, all repriced for immediate selling.

Union Suits
Wool mixed and fine combed cotton weaves, broken sizes, but all sizes represented in the lot of such well known brands as Munsing, Chalmers, Manhattan, and many other makes. Union Suits in this assortment sold up to as high as 4.00. All go in one big lot, at **1.95 & 2.50** per suit

Shirts and Drawers.
Wool and wool mixed, in tan, gray and random mixtures. Broken sizes, but all sizes represented in the lot. Values in this lot sold up to 3.50. All go in one big lot, at per garment, **1.95**



A Sale of Men's Fine Hats at a Big Saving

We have gathered together all the odd lots of Men's high-grade Hats, including such makes as Berg & Co., New York; the Crofut & Knapp Co., Chase and Co., Von Gal & Co., Hawes Hats and Gilleau-dean Co.; all high-grade manufacturers. These fine makes in two big lots Saturday.

Lot 1—
All the Men's fine soft and stiff Hats, many silk lined, 4.00 and 5.00 values, **2.50** choice, at

LOT 2—
All the odd lots, fine soft Hats, 2.50, 3.00 and 3.50 Values; your choice, **1.50** at
The Arcade.

