

Harding Has Begun Action On Plan for Disarming

Tentative Proposals Made to Allies Before Campaign Was Launched by Senate Advocates

Premiers Already Sounded by Harvey

Conversations Held More Effective Than Public Conferences; Political Angle Being Eliminated

By Carter Field WASHINGTON, May 31.—Tentative negotiations on disarmament already have begun by this government, it was said at the White House to-day. These feelers were put out, it was said, prior to the discussion of disarmament in the Senate.

The very definite hint that Colonel George Harvey, Ambassador to Great Britain, had been conferring with members of the Supreme Council on this question was given by the highest authority.

Instructions on this point, it was learned, were given Colonel Harvey by President Harding at the time the Ambassador was notified that he should attend the meetings of the Supreme Council. The President thought then, and thinks now, that more can be accomplished by conversations from time to time between men who are meeting formally on other questions than if a conference should be called for the sole purpose of discussing disarmament.

Political Angles Avoided In the latter event there would be the embarrassing public expectancy every day that something would be accomplished. The jingoes of each country involved would be screaming to public opinion in their countries that their "safety" and "national existence" must not be imperiled by concessions reducing the size of their army and navy. The temptation for the Administration of each country to play politics with the issue would be enormous, it is feared, and the possibility of getting anywhere would be remote.

But the President and his advisers, fully acquainted as they are with the pressing necessity on the part of both England and France to cut down their heavy appropriations for preparedness, are very hopeful that the occasional suggestion on the part of the American representative that something should be done by way of disarmament finally will result in action.

There is an earnest desire on the part of the administration to avoid any step which would rouse the national pride of any country involved against the idea of mutual disarmament, and to avoid any step which would seem to head on either side of the ocean to an attempt on the part of the government to force any power to agree to partial disarmament.

No Treaty Is Needed as Basis for Recognition, Obregon Tells Tribune

In response to an inquiry from The Tribune, President Obregon of Mexico has sent the following statement to the American people of his attitude toward recognition of his country by the United States:

By Alvaro Obregon President of Mexico Special Cable to The Tribune Copyright, 1921, New York Tribune Inc. MEXICO CITY, May 31.—It is my opinion that no treaty should exist previous to recognition, since the rights and obligations of Mexico, as those of other countries, are established with complete precision in international law, and no treaty establishing them anew is necessary in order that Mexico will recognize these obligations when it is necessary.

Mexico believes that she has the right to be considered as any other of the countries that are subject to the rules of international law. The United States of the north, as any other nation, can seek for its citizens all the guarantees and prerogatives that international law designates, without it being necessary that these be ratified in a protocol.

Mexico does not evade and will not evade any of the obligations that she holds as an independent nation. Furthermore, Mexico does not demand the renewal of relations with any countries that still doubt the stability of her government and its firm intentions to fulfill all its obligations, and these countries can take all the time that their foresight and their interests demand for renewing relations whenever they believe it convenient.

I am sure that the men now in power in the United States, interpreting the noble efforts toward harmony that are being realized each day more and more between the Mexican and American peoples, will avoid seeking to renew relations between both countries on any basis which will affect the rights and sovereignty of the Mexican people.

Germans Rout Poles; Pitched Battle Fought

Insurgents Raid Annaberg and Are Driven Back in Counter Attack; 65 Are Killed and 175 Wounded

Knives and Bombs Used Hand-to-Hand Encounter Results in Complete Victory for Teuton Troops

ANNABERG, Silesia, May 31 (By The Associated Press).—Fifty Poles and fifteen Germans were killed and a total of about 175 were wounded when Polish insurgents attempted to-day to take Annaberg after a brief shelling by small field pieces.

The Poles were repulsed and fled to Kallnow, whither the Germans pursued and drove them out.

Chew Faces 51 Charges in Army Trial

Score of Witnesses Before Court Martial at Governor's Island Tell of Many Forged Checks

Big Thefts Laid to Captain and Wife

Hotels and Stores Said to Be Chief Victims of Two Under Indictment

Charged in fifty-one specifications with forgery, conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and desertion from the army, Captain Beverly Grayson Chew, twenty-seven years old and a veteran of the 1st Division, is on trial at Governor's Island for what the military authorities characterize as one of the most amazing series of crimes that has ever come to their attention.

The evidence against Chew involves his wife, Marjorie Blanche Chew, formerly of Richmond, Va., who, with her husband, was indicted by a grand jury in Washington, D. C., December 14, 1920, for grand larceny. Both pleaded not guilty and, after release on bail, Captain Chew was turned over to the army authorities.

He has pleaded not guilty before the general court martial now trying him. The defense rests largely on the question of the young officer's sanity. An army medical board which recently examined him declared him sane. His wife, however, who denies she is the woman who was with Chew in his alleged illicit operations, says in an affidavit that upon his return from overseas he was a changed man mentally.

Chew wears two wound chevrons, and claims to have been gassed in addition. Eight witnesses for the prosecution have identified a photograph of Mrs. Chew as that of the woman who, the charges set forth, registered with Captain Chew at leading hotels in this city, Washington, Baltimore and Atlantic City as his wife, although the name she registered under was in each instance in the operations charged, but a fellow officer of Chew's.

Not only is Chew charged, with his wife, with having registered falsely at expensive hotels, but also with having cashed worthless checks for \$500 and giving similar checks in exchange for purchases made at leading department stores and military establishments.

Before discovery of fraud in any one instance was made the perpetrator and his accomplice had departed. The acts complained of had their inception, it is alleged, in the charges against Chew, October 1, 1920, when the couple defrauded Lansburgh & Bro., and the Hotel Baltimore, Washington, D. C., of \$25 each, obtained through worthless checks.

Chew and his wife are said to have registered at the Hotel Emory, Baltimore, as "Captain and Mrs. F. R. Laferty, New York." As at the Hotel Baltimore, in Washington, the name of Captain Laferty also was used, it is said, in the signing of a check for payment of the hotel bill. This bill was for \$34.35.

Rail Board Cuts Pay on 104 Roads 12%, Saving \$400,000,000 a Year

Lockwood Committee Is Told Mutual Fire Companies Become Stock Firms as Profits Grow

State's Laws On Insurance Aid Frauds

Missile, Like Those To Be Used in Trials Against Ships, Slips, Explodes at Aberdeen Army Field

Propeller Blows Safety Device Loose and Tail of Craft Sets Off TNT

Special Dispatch to The Tribune ABERDEEN, Md., May 31.—Five persons were killed, three so seriously injured that they may die and eight less seriously injured when a fifty-pound bomb, which was about to be used in a test, accidentally exploded on the Aberdeen Proving Grounds at 10:30 this morning.

The tests were being made in preparation for the experiments which will be made off the Capes when the effectiveness in bombing battleships and other navy craft will be tried out.

It was disclosed that when mutual fire insurance companies—those returning their profits to their policyholders in the form of dividends—become successful and prosperous through the immense reserves and surplus piled up by the policyholders, many of them are converted into stock companies, to the great profit of those on the inside.

There is a possibility that the testimony in connection with the operation of the New York Insurance Exchange will be requested in the course of the investigation to determine the propriety of rates throughout the country.

Major Hunter, of the Picatinny Arsenal, who made the detonator for the bombs which were being tested, was injured by a fragment which lodged in his arm, but is not in the hospital.

Private Lester J. Bigelow, 34th Ordnance Company, twenty, of Hampden, Mass., second and third fingers shot off.

Court Deprives Alfonso Of \$500,000 Bequest

Engine Service Hardest Hit by Scale Effective July 1, but All Classes Will Suffer Reduction

Decision Points to Lower Living Cost

Trade Depression Called Problem Workers Must Aid in Solving

Special Dispatch to The Tribune CHICAGO, May 31.—The United States Railroad Labor Board has decided on an average reduction of 12 per cent in the wages of various classes of employees on 104 railroads. The board announced its decision to-night. The ruling, it is estimated, will take \$400,000,000 a year off the pay rolls of the railroads. The reduction becomes effective July 1. It is on this date that the national working agreements will be abrogated.

Men classed as engine service employees will suffer the greatest reduction in wages under the decision. Some cut 64 cents a day. Freight engineers, motormen, firemen and helpers will find their pay envelope has been trimmed at the rate of 64 cents a day. Passenger engineers will be reduced 48 cents a day and firemen will suffer a similar cut.

While to-day's decision affects only 104 roads, it eventually will apply to every line in the country. One hundred roads whose requests for reductions were filed since April 18, when the hearings started, will present their cases to the board starting June 6.

Some of the roads sought cuts in common labor only; others included other groups, and some have asked wage slashes for all classes. There is no uniformity about the cases in this respect. But the board's decision sets the same uniform scales for all groups of employees, from the trainmen to the engineers and conductors, and tells each company involved to apply the new scales to the special groups whose pay is asked to be reduced.

The next step is expected to be a move on the part of the roads individually to have all the new schedules applied to them. When this is done it will mean a loss of \$400,000,000 of the yearly pay roll, according to the board's memorandum.

Peggy Cost Him \$1,489,316.32, Joyce Asserts

Charges Her With Bigamy, Moral Turpitude and Says She Drove U.S. Lieutenant To Suicide in New York

Ridicules Her 'Stage Aunt' Lists Prince, Duke, 'Con' Man and a 'Nobody' as Ex-Phone Girl's Admirers

Special Dispatch to The Tribune CHICAGO, May 31.—Peggy Joyce to-day took a new role in the Joyce domestic legal drama as Attorney Alfred S. Austrian, representing her millionaire husband, filed an answer in the Superior Court to her petition for \$10,000 a month alimony. James Stanley Joyce, Chicago lumberman, in the declaration, which fills fifty-nine printed pages, paints a colorful portrait of a new Peggy—a picture of sharp highlights and considerable shadow. He says he has spent \$1,489,316.32 on Peggy.

He observes that the ingenious Peggy, instead of being a hunted maiden, fleeing before hordes of love inspired millionaires, was really a huntress with a knack of marksmanship. He charges her among other things with bigamy, deception and moral turpitude.

Peggy, he charges, did not obtain a divorce from her first husband until fourteen months after she had married her second and that only a manipulation of the dates on her second marriage saved her from a similar offense in her third matrimonial venture.

The first two husbands, whom Peggy in her bill of divorce had described as millionaires, Joyce declares to have been without millions. Both of them, his answer recites, were men of very limited means.

From Prince to a "Nobody" He lists a number of men as admirers who found favor with Peggy, among them an Albanian prince without a principality, a duke, an army lieutenant who killed himself after he had gone into debt to lavish gifts on her, a restaurant keeper, a confidence man and "nobody."

A recent liaison, as listed by Mr. Joyce, involved an army lieutenant whose name is withheld in the answer. She was still the wife of her second husband, Sherman Philbrick Hopkins, the answer states, "and some years prior to the granting of the decree of divorce said petitioner was living with one Lieutenant James H. Joyce, U. S. Army, now dead, whose name is not mentioned out of respect to his memory. She lived with him at 1 West Sixty-seventh Street in New York City, and due to her extravagance and craving for jewels said Lieutenant was reduced into debt and by reason of that fact became involved and committed suicide by shooting himself at the Murray Hill Turkish Baths in New York in the fall of 1918."

Four Air Mail Chiefs Are Ordered Suspended

Action Follows Inquiry Into Deaths of Five Pilots in Chicago Division

Bok to Give \$10,000 Yearly To Most Useful Philadelphian

PHILADELPHIA, May 31.—Dr. W. W. Bok, of 1230 Chestnut Street, announced to-day that Edward W. Bok, of Merion, former editor of The Ladies' Home Journal, had deposited a fund of \$200,000 from which the annual amount of \$10,000 would be given as "The Philadelphia Award" to "that resident man or woman of the metropolitan district of Philadelphia, its suburbs or vicinity, who during the preceding year shall have done an act or rendered a service best calculated to advance the largest interests of Philadelphia."

Dr. Keen is chairman of the board of trustees appointed to administer the award.

He said the award was intended to recognize services to others. Politics is one field which will be fought shy of, he said, but he has no objection to service noted during any year no award will be made. In case no award is made in any year the \$10,000 shall be devoted to or toward free scholarships for boys and girls, residents in the metropolitan district of Philadelphia, its suburbs or vicinity.

CHICAGO, May 31.—E. W. Majors, superintendent of the Chicago division of the air mail, was relieved from duty on orders from Washington to-day following a month's investigation by postal inspectors.

Assistant Superintendents W. S. Moore and Paul V. King and Field Manager Paul Dumas also were relieved from duty pending further instructions. C. A. Parker was appointed temporary chief of the division in Major's place.

The investigation into conditions at Cheekboard Field follows the deaths of five pilots in the Chicago Division in the last few months. Charges of inefficiency, negligence and drunkenness were made by witnesses during the inquiry, which was in charge of Charles H. Clarahan, postal inspector. All of these charges were strongly denied by the accused officials, whose conduct also was defended by the inquiry, which was in charge of Charles H. Clarahan, postal inspector. The chief witness before the investigating board was C. C. Eversole, former air mail pilot, who was discharged from the service after he had made a parachute leap from his plane near Minneapolis last February.

Twelve Held After Fire On Martha Washington

Flames, Believed of Incendiary Origin, Extinguished Barely in Time to Save Officer

BUENOS AYRES, May 31 (By The Associated Press).—Fire was discovered this morning on board the United States Shipping Board steamer Martha Washington. It is believed to have been of incendiary origin. Twelve of the vessel's firemen among those to be taken back to the United States under the terms of the boycott settlement are being detained by the police pending an investigation.

The fire was extinguished barely in time to save the life of one officer who was imprisoned by the flames in his cabin. Another officer escaped by crawling through a porthole. The damage to the steamer is not sufficient to prevent her sailing, probably to-morrow, unless prevented by further labor troubles.

Loading operations on the Martha Washington by union labor ceased when the port strike was resumed, but the steamer was being loaded by non-union labor to complete loading.

Geo. Washington, Wilson Peace Ship, Damaged in 2-Hour Fire

The steamship George Washington, which carried President Wilson to and from the peace conference at Versailles, burst into flames last night at the plant of the Tietjen & Lang Dry Dock Company, Hoboken.

At 10:30, two hours after the fire was discovered, Commissioner McFeeley of Hoboken announced that it was under control. For two hours the entire Fire Department of Hoboken, two fireboats from New York and tugs of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western and the Central of New Jersey railroads had been fighting the flames.

Esperanto Crew May Be Wrecked Fleet Champion Have Been Rescued

HALIFAX, N. S., May 31.—Hope is held out that the crew of the Gloucester fishing schooner Esperanto, which sank off the coast of Sunday night, is aboard the schooner Elsie II. Fishermen are awaiting reports of the vessel, believing that vessel picked up the crew while on the way to the fishing grounds.

The arrival of the schooner Mildred Robertson, also a fishing vessel, created excitement when it was at first believed she had been rescued. The crew, however, had not seen the latter boat, and did not know of the wreck of the Esperanto.

Fishermen along the coast expressed the opinion that failure of the Elsie to appear at the door of the Elsie II, which was caused by light headwinds under normal conditions, the schooner should have reached some Nova Scotian port last night.

One Slain, 5 Wounded In Tulsa Race Rioting

TULSA, Okla., May 31.—One negro was killed and two whites and three negroes wounded in race trouble here to-night when a score or more white persons, armed, clashed with about two hundred negroes who gathered in the vicinity of the Courthouse after a negro had been arrested for an alleged attack on a white girl.

Scattered firing continued until near midnight when the bodies of the dead negro still lay in the street.

McFeeley called on New York and the railroad companies for help.

Engravers Call Strike on All Dailies in City

Union Issues Ultimatum for \$8 a Week Pay Increase on Day's Notice; Declines to Accept Arbitration

Publishers Will Fight Offer to Renew Highest Wage Time Scale; Won't Have 'Pistol at Their Heads'

Photo-Engravers Union No. 1 late yesterday afternoon ordered a strike against all newspaper plants and all plants making pictures for newspapers.

State's Laws On Insurance Aid Frauds

Lockwood Committee Is Told Mutual Fire Companies Become Stock Firms as Profits Grow

State's Laws On Insurance Aid Frauds

It was disclosed that when mutual fire insurance companies—those returning their profits to their policyholders in the form of dividends—become successful and prosperous through the immense reserves and surplus piled up by the policyholders, many of them are converted into stock companies, to the great profit of those on the inside.