

THE WEATHER: Fair and much colder today, fair and continued cold tomorrow. Highest temperature yesterday, 74; lowest, 58. Details pg. 3, 2nd. sec.

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44

THREE CENTS.

MASTER MINDS OF NATION FACE GRIDIRON JIBES

Dignity Is Forgotten as Reputations Sizzle Over Verbal Grill.

POOR MISTER BRYAN JOKED ABOUT AGAIN

Serial Situations Arise as Some Try to Cash Checks on Past Fame

Although Gridiron Club dinners were always notable for the large number of famous men assembled as guests, last night's dinner given by this organization of Washington correspondents went beyond the ordinary.

The principal guest, of course, was President Harding, but the list included ten members of the new Cabinet, the Vice President, the Speaker of the House, a brilliant representation of the Diplomatic Corps, justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, the notable figures of Senate and House, the General of the army, the Major General Commandant of the Marine Corps, eminent naval officers, the executives of the great railway systems of the country, bankers, editors and business men from all parts of the United States.

Speeches Remains Sacred. In accordance with tradition, the speaking of the evening made by the distinguished guests could not be reported.

The dinner was given in the ballroom of the New Willard Hotel, a setting of lavishly floral decorations by Small. The massive illuminated gridiron on the wall behind and above the seat of the President was set in a panel of American beauty roses, while directly in front of the club president and of President Harding, who sat at his right, was a bank of orchids.

The guests entered the room through an ante-chamber which had been converted into a scene reminiscent of the Florida trip of the President.

Disturbances started with the very beginning of the dinner, no sooner were the guests seated than the rattling of dinner plates was heard outside the room. "Move along there. Hurry up," shouted a voice, followed by another which declared "You're taking days and days. No swivel chair goes with this job."

"Get that pick handle out of my eye," shouted another voice, while still another warned some one to "Keep that shovel off my feet."

The presiding officer demanded an explanation. "That dismal sound, Mr. President," came the answer, "is the Democrats going to work."

Economy Greets Messenger. An impressive feature was the inauguration with "simplicity and economy," of N. O. Messenger, of the Washington Evening Star, as president of the Gridiron Club. The inauguration committee, attended by a presumptive chief justice and a member of the Supreme Court, appeared and conducted the inaugural ceremonies in pantomime to the accompaniment of emphatic "hushes" to silence.

"What is going on up there, anyhow?" shouted a member from the "back" of the room. "You can't hear a word."

"S-s-s-h-h-h-h" replied a member of the committee. "We have just inaugurated Mr. Messenger as president of the Gridiron Club."

"How much did that inauguration cost?"

"S-s-s-h-h-h-h" was the reply. "Thirty cents, but don't tell Seneca."

"What is that bunch crying about?" asked another member. "That" was the reply. "is a committee of leading Washington business men. They are not crying. They are cheering for a simple and economical inauguration."

New Members Quizzed. Carter Field, of the New York Tribune; Jay G. Hayden, of the Detroit News; and Robert B. Armstrong, of the Los Angeles Times, were initiated as active members of the club, and Arthur B. Pierce, Fred East and J. F. M. Bowie were initiated as associate members, during the evening.

Asked why he wanted to succeed in a rigid cross-examination to their qualifications, in which it appeared that each aspired to be a member of President Messenger's cabinet.

"Is Hiram Johnson backing you?" was asked of Mr. Armstrong. "No," was the reply. "Johnson is against me. That is one of my best recommendations."

Asked why he wanted to be Secretary of State in the Messenger administration, Mr. Armstrong said: "More junkets abroad and fewer dry dinners at home."

"Have you any qualifications for the job?"

"At least one," said Mr. Armstrong. "I can't get elected to anything."

Chesterton In Wonder At Doll House America

Thinks "Forests of Cardboard Structures Quite Fantastic," Likens Gotham to Tower of Babylon.

R. G. K. CHESTERTON. BOSTON, April 9.—The sharpest pleasure of a traveler is in finding the things which he did not expect, but which he might have expected to expect. I mean the things that are at once so strange and so obvious that they must have been noticed, yet somehow they have not been noted.

Thus I heard a thousand things about Jerusalem before I ever saw it; I had heard rhapsodies and disparagements of every description. Modern rationalistic critics, with characteristic consistency, had blamed it for its accumulated rubbish and its modern restoration, for its up-to-date vulgarity. But somehow the one impression that had never pierced through their descriptions was the simple and single impression of a city on a hill, with walls coming to the very edge of slopes

GIGANTIC AMOUNT OF BUSINESS FACES SPECIAL SESSION

Formalities Hold Sway Tomorrow; President Expected Tuesday.

When the extra session of the Sixty-seventh Congress begins at noon tomorrow a great quantity of business will be on hand, chiefly that which has been postponed "hush" from the previous session.

The naval appropriation bill will be among the first measures to be acted upon; the Knox peace resolution will be introduced; a number of bills proposing tax revision and tariff increases, while the immigration, reclassification, budget, and numerous other measures are to be taken up.

Harding Diseases Program. Details of the legislative program for the coming session were discussed with President Harding yesterday by Republican Leader Mondell, of the House, and Representative Good, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.

Representative Mondell said following the conference that there is no reason to believe that there will be any change in the program as to tariff and tax revision, notwithstanding the continued insistence of some of the Republican Senators that the House Ways and Means Committee take up tax legislation before completing the permanent tariff bill.

The tariff bill will be devoted to formalities, which probably will require only a few minutes in the Senate. At the special session of the Senate called by the retiring President to inaugurate the new President, the Senate was reorganized by the re-election of most of the officers, including the sergeant-at-arms, secretary, chaplain, and others. The House of Representatives, having gone out of existence with the passing of the administration, however, will have to perform the formalities of reorganizing. There have been many changes in the membership of both bodies.

Coolidge Learns Duties. Vice President Coolidge will wield the gavel in the upper branch of Congress and the speaker of the House will continue to preside over the House. During the special session of the Senate, which continued for two weeks after the inauguration, Vice President Coolidge presided, thus familiarizing himself to a nice degree with the duties of the office.

In both branches of Congress, committees have been reorganized and little in this respect will require attention tomorrow other than confirmation of the new organization.

After the call to order, prayer and other formalities, the Senate will notify the President and the House of Representatives that it has been convened in regular session and adjournment probably will be immediately taken until noon Tuesday. The House will receive the Senate's notification and proceed to the business of reorganizing the organization, when it will also adjourn.

On Tuesday, President Harding is expected to appear in person at 1 o'clock and deliver his initial message.

Will Be in Joint Session. Congress at that hour will be in joint session in the House of Representatives, which has a larger seating capacity than the Senate.

The President's message is expected to deal chiefly with the administration's policy in the world peace situation and the domestic problems. Tax and tariff will be important topics, it is understood.

Helms, Turpin, Senator from New Mexico, is expected to be Secretary of the Interior, will be sworn in tomorrow.

Recent appointees of the President probably will be confirmed Tuesday, when the Senate also will be notified of other appointments, including new ambassadors.

CIVIL WAR LOOMS AGAIN IN CHINA

SHANGHAI, April 9.—A civil war in China, such as brought the downfall of the pro-appeasement Anfu party last spring, seems again imminent. Reports from Kansu province indicate that a strong military combination is being formed in Northwest China, and that it is making preparations to march on the capital.

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SPY SUSPECT ENDS HIS LIFE IN D. C. CAFE

Man, Who Was Out on Bail for Theft of U. S. Platinum, a Suicide.

SECRET CODE IS FOUND ON BODY

Oscar Nauck, 20 Years Old, Swallows Cyanide Of Potassium.

Evidences of the German spy system were uncovered last night, police believe, when Oscar Nauck, 20 years old, who was recently arrested for the theft of platinum from the Bureau of Standards, ended his life by taking poison, leaving in his pocket a code message signed "Von Bohm."

Nauck, under bail of \$12,000 and under the surveillance of Secret Service agents and detectives, took his life by swallowing cyanide of potassium capsules while in Bartholdi's restaurant, 1341 F street northwest, last night about 5:30 o'clock. He became ill while in the restaurant shortly after completing his meal.

Brightened by his actions, indicating he was suffering great pain, patrons of the restaurant called Burt L. Olmsted, proprietor, and Nauck was rushed to the Emergency Hospital, where he died within ten minutes after reaching the hospital.

In a letter to a Washington publisher found on Nauck's person, the suicide declared he would die with the knowledge of the world's greatest secret. Nauck declared he was taking his life to show his bravery. He talked at great length about numerous inventions in which he was interested and further talked about talking with England and Germany via wireless.

In the code message, written on plain paper and in typewriting, police base their opinion that Nauck was connected with the German spy system in some way.

Continued on page ten.

STUDENTS NEAR BLOWS IN FIGHT OVER FACULTY

"Bolshevik" Element of Valparaiso University Nearly Cause Riot.

VALPARAISO, Ind., April 9.—Valparaiso University, known the country over as the "poor man's Harvard," is divided into two camps and awaiting a serious crisis. One camp is awaiting trouble and prepared to meet it; the other is mysteriously and ominously silent.

According to the best information some of the students have "gone Bolshevik," and are agitating against the present administration, the "loyalist," who almost precipitated a riot last Tuesday, are assembled under the banner of Dr. W. O. Winkler, dean of men, ready to act as he directs.

Institution Gift to City. The university was presented to the city of Valparaiso, Ind., last February by Henry Kinsey Brown, son of its founder. It is valued at \$1,500,000. The citizens subscribed \$500,000 to enlarge it and an additional \$1,000,000 was to be raised from outside sources. Under the terms of the gift the university was to be governed by a board of trustees, which represents the city, and Dr. Daniel Russell Hodgdon was to remain as president.

Agitators got busy, haranguing other students and enrolling them in the "Bolshevik army." They slipped through a resolution condemning President Hodgdon and the administration.

General Fight Averted. Serious trouble appeared when a number of loyal students surrounded one of the agitators who was making a violent "soap box" speech on the campus. They ordered him to stop and a general fight was imminent when Dean Winkler managed to restore order. The dean prayed for five minutes and the belligerent students went their ways without striking a blow.

A few days later the loyal students paraded the streets with banners announcing the "knockers must go." They had captured an agitator, but the chapel bell was rung summoning them to Dean Winkler's presence and he restored order for the second time.

University authorities admit the crisis is at hand and the sheriff is preparing for eventualities.

Negro Garage Employee Held for Grand Jury

Thomas Masterson, colored, alleged to have stolen an automobile belonging to Abraham Biesker, 3248 M street northwest, was held for the grand jury yesterday by Judge Hardison under \$1,000 bond.

Biesker complained that he hired the colored man to wash his machine and after doing this, he declared, Masterson took the machine from the garage and kept it nearly a week.

CHICAGO CURFEW ANNOUNCED

CHICAGO, April 9.—The curfew ordinance will be put into effect in Chicago immediately. Children will be barred from the streets from 10 p. m. until 5 a. m., unless accompanied by a parent. Police officials said they believed the curfew would eliminate 25 per cent of their work.

8 Cuba-to-Capital Navy Planes Reach Miami

MIAMI, Fla., April 9.—En route from Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to Washington, eight hydroplanes of the Atlantic fleet reached here early today. They will not resume their flight until Sunday.

Lieut. Comdr. M. C. Read, of N. C.'s fame, is in charge of the flotilla. He is aboard the mother ship, Harding, a destroyer.

Hold 6 in U. S. Toils; Huge Auto Thief Ring Bared

Officers Say 500 Are Involved in Scheme to Steal Cars.

CHICAGO, April 9.—A nationally-organized band of automobile thieves, consisting of more than 500 theft experts, dealers in used cars, and a few manufacturers, was uncovered today by the Federal authorities.

Two Chicago branches of the government, the Department of Justice and the District Attorney's office, have joined forces to break up the ring. Evidence already obtained, shows the band has stolen automobiles valued at nearly \$1,000,000 in the larger cities of the Middle West during the last year. Six alleged members of the gang were arrested Saturday.

The Chicago branch of the thieves' organization is said to have operated exclusively in the exclusive residential districts. After stealing the automobiles here, members were assigned to drive the cars to Indianapolis or other cities in the Midwest.

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Federal officials believe the operation is financially backed by several wealthy men.

STAND ON TARIFF BEATS HAYDEN FOR DEMOCRATIC POST

Tague Gets Ways and Means Place; G. O. P. Agree on Chairmen.

With the tariff as the issue, the Democrats in Congress yesterday morning voted 59 to 54 to place Representative Peter F. Tague, of Massachusetts, on the Ways and Means Committee over Representative Carl Hayden, of Arizona.

Hayden had been nominated for the tariff bill last session while Tague's record on the principal issue between the two parties was clear.

The vote, however, does not indicate the division in the Democratic ranks on the tariff question, although there is some division. The issue was made after many members had pledged their votes to Hayden and the chances are he would have been elected if not for anathema had not transcended pledges in the minds of a number of Democrats.

Kitchen Floor Leader. The caucus selected Representative Claude Kitchen, of North Carolina, as minority floor leader to succeed the late Champ Clark. Kitchen was nominated as Democratic candidate for Speaker but with a Republican majority of 169 the proceeding was a mere formality.

At Kitchen's request, the caucus also selected Representative Finis Garrett, of Tennessee, should act as floor leader during his absence. This action was taken as a direct rebuke to Representative John Garner, of Ohio, for having gotten off with the Democratic ticket when he voted for the emergency tariff bill last session.

At the beginning of last session Garner was considered the logical floor leader of the Democrats. In the event that Kitchen's health prevented him from assuming the post, Garner's stand on the tariff, however, eliminated him as a factor.

Oldfield Likely to Be Whip. Kitchen explained that his health is not of the best, despite several months' rest, and that he might not be able to give all the attention to his new duties that they require.

It was indicated that Kitchen would insist on Representative Oldfield, of Arkansas, a member of the Ways and Means Committee, as Democratic whip and John C. Box, of Texas, as junior whip.

The Republican members of the House also caucused yesterday, ratifying the new committee assignments made by the Committee on Committees, and creating a "Cherokee strip" on the Democratic side of the House, to be in charge of the care of the overflow of Republican members brought about by the November landslide.

A resolution was adopted providing that a member of one of the major committees of the House could not be a member of any other committee. The Democrats fled protest against this resolution and another against the ratio of Republican and Democrats on the committees, but both were overruled.

Agree on Chairmen. Ratification of committee assignments included the following members of the District Committee in the order named: Benjamin K. Focht, Pennsylvania; chairman; Loren E. Wheeler, Illinois; Stuart K. Hastings, Virginia; Frederick N. Zihlman, Maryland; Florian Lampert, Wisconsin; Anderson E. Keller, Minnesota; Roy O. Woodruff, Michigan; Elliott W. Sprout, Illinois; Charles L. Underhill, Massachusetts; Warren I. Fox, New York; Roy G. Fitzgerald, Ohio; Frank C. Millsap, Missouri; and Joe Brown, Tennessee.

Hughes Watches Both Allies And Germany, Says Writer

His Job Is to Prevent Hope of Help Reaching Enemy and to Brook no Hoodwinking From War Partners, Simonds Says.

By FRANK H. SIMONDS. The past few days have seen the striking refutation of the Wilsonian doctrine that American influence upon world affairs could only be expressed in Paris, and that our presence, our diplomatic presence in Europe was a condition antecedent to all possible solution of war problems. Today it is in Washington, and not in Paris—that problems of world policy are being discussed, and European events are patiently waiting upon American decisions.

It is not merely the Viviani mission which emphasized the dominant position the United States occupies in the world. This is but the most conspicuous of a series of incidents. Thus, while Viviani was arriving, Germany was indicating through indirect channels that she sought American assistance and not in Paris—that problems of world policy are being discussed, and European events are patiently waiting upon American decisions.

But escape is not easy. In the first place in certain respects no primary escape is possible. The world which is not within the wish of the nation to pay. At Paris our representatives gave no attention to material advantages affecting the United States. Only in the matter of mandates, cables and perhaps of last fall, to avoid all political entanglements and to escape from such entanglements as still survived from the last administration.

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What is more important, before Viviani arrived, thus giving clear evidence of decision reached without any French or allied suggestion, the United States replied—and Berlin noted the reply and revealed it in press dispatches—that my readers, Nations regarded the moral responsibility of Germany for the war as established beyond debate, and as a consequence, her financial liability, up to the limit of possibly equal beyond discussion.

After Viviani arrived, the same root conception found new expression, and it may well be that before this article reaches my readers, the United States has been shown the moment of Paris onward and all of Germany should pay, up to the limit.

limit, will find new utterances either from the President or from the Secretary of State. Here, then, we touch something fundamental in the matter of policy. But there are many angles, many details, yet to be established, and in the present article I mean to discuss the situation both as it affects American and European situations.

Every sensible man recognizes, as one of the most conspicuous members of the new administration recently said to me, that we are and must remain economically intermingled in European affairs beyond all present hope of extrication. But it is equally necessary, said the same commentator, to appreciate the fact that it was the will of the country expressed in the referendum of last fall, to avoid all political entanglements and to escape from such entanglements as still survived from the last administration.

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FIST FIGHT FATAL TO ST. ELIZABETH HOSPITAL PATIENT

Attendant Held by Police Says He Acted in Self-Defense.

Stephen D. McCarthy, a patient at St. Elizabeth's Hospital, died at that institution last night as the result of an injury to the head received when he is alleged to have been felled by a blow during a scuffle with Oscar Flaherty, 22 years old, an attendant.

McCarthy, who, according to the police, was considered a violent patient, attacked Flaherty, and in the scuffle the attendant dealt him a blow, which knocked him to the floor.

Insulted Attendant. Following the evening meal at the institution, McCarthy directed several insulting remarks to the attendant, which the latter did not pay any attention to, police assert. McCarthy then is said to have struck Flaherty a glancing blow on the forehead.

Flaherty managed to brush the patient aside and made efforts to quiet him. McCarthy grabbed Flaherty by the collar and striking him, Flaherty then struck the patient, causing him, police say, to fall to the floor.

Physicians were notified and rendered first aid, but McCarthy died a short time later.

A short time after the affair, Flaherty left the hospital and was arrested by Detective Grant at the home of his brother, 2377 Champlain street northwest. He is being held for investigation.

Claims Self-Defense. When brought to police headquarters, Flaherty told his version of the affair, claiming that he acted in self-defense.

Detective Vermillion, who investigated the case, learned that McCarthy was admitted to the institution in 1915 from the Canal Zone. He was confined in the Home ward at the institution because he was considered violent.

Flaherty was alone when he was attacked by the patient. An inquest will be held at the District morgue tomorrow afternoon.

LENROOT'S MEN WIN APPOINTMENTS

Senator Irvine L. Lenroot, of Wisconsin, has won over his colleague, Senator La Follette, in their campaign for the appointment by President Harding of Claude Z. Luse, of Superior, Wis., to United States district judge for the western district of the State, and William H. Dougherty, of Jaynesville, to be United States district attorney for the western district.

Both these men were recommended by Senator Lenroot. Senator La Follette had opposing candidates.

Latimer Made Judge Advocate

Capt. Julian L. Latimer, who commanded the battleship Rhode Island during the war, has been recommended to the President as Judge Advocate General of the Navy to succeed Rear Admiral George R. Clark, who is going on the retired list.

THE DRAMA Earle Dorsay's authoritative essays on the stage and screen are featured every Sunday in the pictorial dramatic section of The Herald.

BRITISH TIE-UP MENACE FADES IN NEW PARLEY

Government and Triple Alliance Chiefs Hold Conference.

EARLY SETTLEMENT NOW SEEMS CERTAIN

Both Rail and Transport Men Demand Ballot Before Striking.

(Special Cable to The Washington Herald and Chicago Tribune.) By JOHN STEELE. LONDON, April 9.—As a result of tonight's conference between the government and the triple alliance, early settlement of the coal miners' strike and, consequently, averting of the threatened industrial catastrophe seemed certain.

It was officially announced after the conference that government officials will attend a meeting between the striking miners' executives and the mine owners' representatives at 10 o'clock Monday morning, at which the contending factions will attempt to settle all difficulties.

No conditions preliminary negotiations were interposed on either side and the government will attend as an interested but neutral party.

Strike Heads Order No Violence. Shortly before midnight the miners' federation telegraphed orders to all its branches instructing all members to abstain from any action which would interfere with the safety of the mines or make necessary the use of force by the government.

Mr. Gosling, leader of the transport workers, privately informed a prominent British shipowner tonight that both sides in the controversy were bluffing and that there would be no strike on the part of the transport workers of the railway men.

Reports from all the military depots throughout England indicate that scenes like those which were witnessed in the first days of the war are being re-enacted from all directions reservists are flocking to the colors in response to the King's proclamation. They are being outfitted with uniforms, arms and equipment, and are being dispatched to join various units.

The military authorities also report there has been a satisfactory response to the call for volunteers for a special defense force, which the radicals already have christened "white guards."

Armories Are Crowded. The plan of defense provided for twenty-four battalions in London and all the armories are crowded with young men, mostly of the middle class, who are anxious to enroll. The conditions of enlistment call for ninety-day service at ordinary army pay. Former service men and territorials are given the preference.

Both sides have been sobered by the gravity of the crisis, and this morning a delegation of railway men and transport workers met in the morning at the House of Commons street for a two-hour conference. The proceedings were kept secret, but it is declared the promoters suggested the possibility of a settlement of the strike on a basis of a wage. If this is so, it means that a great concession has been made to the miners, for it was the owners' demand for the adoption of a national wage system that caused the strike in the first place.

Transport Men Against Strike. On the labor side there is grave apprehension of defeat if the struggle is continued. A railroad leader said this morning that he did not believe that over 50 per cent of his men would obey the strike order.

The transport workers also oppose a strike and all classes of workmen are likewise opposed to the policy of allowing the mines to be flooded. Even among the miners there have been several breakaways of men who oppose the destruction of their means of livelihood.

Cabinet Meeting Called. After meeting the labor men, the premier called a cabinet meeting at which Lord Stamfordham, the King's private secretary, was present. He reported that the King is greatly concerned and sent an urgent message insisting on the necessity of avoiding bloodshed.

It is understood that the premier asked the railway men and transport workers to use their influence with the miners to prevent violence against the men sent by the government to man the mine pumps. The conference agreed to do all in their power in this direction.

The authorities sent 250 naval stores from Portsmouth to South Wales today for pumping service.

The members of the Merchant Sailors' Union decided to take a ballot of the members before obeying any strike order from the triple alliance, and demands are pouring in on the leaders of the railwaymen for ballots to be taken before the sympathetic strike is put into effect.

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