

THE WEEK IN THE UNITED STATES

Harding Sees U. S. World Aid.

IN TWO speeches last week, President Harding developed his previously enunciated themes relative to the readiness of the United States to aid the world in recovery from postwar conditions and to his belief that war may be abolished altogether.

The world could never settle its present-day turmoils and complications without the helpfulness of American influence and example, the President declared in a patriotic address at Valley Forge, Pa., scene of the darkest epochs of the revolution.

"I can think of an 'America,' he said, 'that can maintain every heritage and yet help humanity throughout the world to reach a plane a little higher.'

"When I pledge our America to world helpfulness, at the same time I exact the pledge that America will cling to her own independence of action and her own conscience," he added in justice to the Americanism of which he is a devotee.

At the convocation of the American university at Washington, later in the week, the President, replying to a speech by the Hon. Newton W. Rowell, K. C., of Toronto, Canada, noted that the United States and the Dominion have been neighbors for more than a century without resort to a "super-power" in settling their controversies. In such an example, he said, the world might find the answer to the question as to how true world amity is to be brought about.

"If we can commit civilized humanity to abiding righteousness and everlasting justice, and inspire it with our example, we shall have made a long stride toward the peace the world craves," said Mr. Harding.

"I have said on many occasions that if all the nations of the earth were as honest and unselfish as our republic, there would never be another war. I shall revise it today and say that if all the nations of the earth are as unselfish and devoted to their ideals as the United States and Canada there never will be another war."

Following decrees of wage reductions of 12 per cent for 2,000,000 railway employes on July 1 by the United States railroad labor board, representatives of 150 lines last week appeared before the board with a plea that all advances to workers granted in July, 1920, be wiped out. This in general would mean a reduction of an additional 8 per cent.

A HORSEMAN, TOO



GEORGE B. CHRISTIAN, Jr., secretary to President Harding, does not depend on tennis alone to keep him fit for the strenuous duties of his post. Recently he has taken up horseback riding, and several times a week may be seen upon the bridle paths of Potomac and Rock Creek parks. Mr. Christian scorns the English saddle, using the Western type, dear to the heart of Senator Borah.

RETURNING FROM IMPORTANT MISSION



THE President, his faithful guards, and his indefatigable Boswells foaming it back to the White house after the Chief Executive's recent call upon the interstate commerce commission in respect to horizontal freight rate reductions. It is still early morning, as the clock swung out from a Pennsylvania avenue jeweler's indicates. To Mr. Harding's left and rear are secret service men, while newspaper correspondents march in the background.

G. O. P. Committee Meets.

FORCES in the republican national committee intent on reducing the number of accredited delegates to the quadrennial convention as regards the southern states, won a signal victory last week when the committeemen met in Washington to choose a new chairman.

Only "legal and qualified voters" are to participate in Republican primaries and caucuses hereafter, the committee decided. It further decreed reapportionments which cut the southern delegations by 17, though there will be 53 more delegates at the 1924 convention than at the last.

The most important thing to come before the committee, officially, was the selection of a successor to Will H. Hays, now postmaster general. As was a foregone conclusion, this honor came to John T. Adams, of Dubuque, Iowa, until now vice chairman. Ralph E. Williams, of Portland, Ore., takes the post left vacant, while Mrs. Leonard G. Woods, of Pittsburgh, was chosen second vice chairman.

The reapportionment plan also makes provision for the seating of two additional delegates at large from each state carried by the G. O. P. at the last election.

In his farewell address, Mr. Hays warned committee members against overconfidence because of the 7,000,000 majority of 1920.

"It is large," he said, "but no alibi for mistakes, negligence and extravagance of misgovernment."

Committeemen were saddened by the death of Alvin Tobias Hert, of Kentucky, a staunch pillar of republicanism, who succumbed to heart disease in a Washington hotel on the eve of the meeting.

Weeks Against Disarmament.

Under present conditions it would be "the height of folly" for the United States to be the first nation to disarm, Secretary of War Weeks told the graduating class of New York university last week in a notable address.

Declaring he abhors war, Mr. Weeks nevertheless described it as possibly "the only alternative to a dishonorable peace" in future as in the past. He is entirely in sympathy with "every wise and sane endeavor" to bring about world disarmament, but "we must remember that the passions of war and the disturbances to society, as well as to the individual, cannot be overcome or forgotten in a day."

"World-wide disarmament must come as the result of an international agreement," said the war minister, "and must be simultaneous. Prudence would not permit our disarming while others hold weapons in their hands."

New Ship Board Members.

PROPHECIES were borne out last week when A. D. Lasker, of Chicago, advertising expert and formerly a supporter of Senator Hiram Johnson for the republican presidential candidacy, was appointed chairman of the United States shipping board by the President.

Together with this nomination, Mr. Harding sent to the senate those of the six other members provided for under the Jones act. They are as follows:

T. V. O'Connor, republican, of Buffalo, N. Y., president of the International Longshoremen's union, appointed for five years as representative of the great lakes region.

Former Senator George E. Chamberlain, democrat, of Portland, Ore., appointed for four years as a representative of the Pacific coast.

Edward C. Plummer, republican, of Bath, Maine, appointed for three years, as representative of the Atlantic coast.

Frederick I. Thompson, democrat, of Mobile, Ala., reappointed for two years as representative of the Gulf coast.

Meyer Lissner, republican, of Los Angeles, appointed for one year as a representative of the Pacific coast.

Rear Admiral William S. Benson, retired, democrat, Georgia, reappointed for one year, as a representative of the Atlantic coast district. He is at present chairman.

When the names were presented to the senate for confirmation several democratic members voiced objection to Lasker's filling the post. However, confirmation was forthcoming in speedy order.

The new board faces many and large problems, with a congress actively opposed to continuation of the heavy expenditures that have marked the body's progress.

To Settle Old Peruvian Claim.

REPRESENTATIVES of the United States and Peru have signed a protocol for arbitration of the long pending so-called Landreau claim. This claim, which has been pending for over half a century and has been the subject of prolonged diplomatic negotiations, arose out of certain services rendered to the Peruvian government by an American citizen, John Celestin Landreau, in connection with discoveries of guano deposits.

Under the protocol each of the interested governments is to select an arbitrator, and the two thus selected are to choose from among the nationals of a European country a third arbitrator, who shall act as president of the commission. The arbitral commission is to sit in the country from which the third arbitrator is selected. Each of the interested governments will be represented by an agent.