

LEAGUE OF NATIONS TO ENFORCE PEACE, CONVENTION TOPIC

Course to Pursue Following European War Discussed by Leaders of Thought.

FORMER PRESIDENT TAFT PRESIDES AT MEETINGS

President Wilson to Speak at Banquet to Be Given Tomorrow Night.

2,000 DELEGATES ATTENDING

Three Sessions Today at Belasco Theater—Speakers Suggest Method of Settling International Disputes.

Presided over and addressed by former President Taft, and anticipating an address this afternoon from Secretary of War Baker and a speech tomorrow night from President Wilson.

The plan as briefly outlined is the formation of a league of nations to submit all international disputes to arbitration and establishment of a joint police force to guarantee that no nation will violate the agreements.

Former President Taft made the principal speech this afternoon. This dealt with an explanation of why the constitutional authority of the President and Congress to declare war would not be violated by the league's plan.

Brief Reference to Present War. Speakers referred only incidentally to methods of ending the present war, since the league's program includes only the minimizing of future conflicts over questions which might be adjudicated by an international court.

President Wilson to Give Views. The address of President Wilson at the banquet which closes the assembly tomorrow night is looked forward to with a great deal of interest.

Secretary Baker in List of Speakers. Newton D. Baker, Secretary of War, is to deliver the principal speech to-night.

Among the speakers on the program for tomorrow are Theodore Marburg of Baltimore, former American minister to Belgium; Oliver of the University of California; President A. Lawrence Lowell of Harvard University; President Shuman of the Federal Council of Churches; and Cardinal Gibbons.

The public will not be admitted to any of the sessions of the League to Enforce Peace convention at the Belasco Theater until after all delegates, wearing delegate badges, are seated.

An auxiliary meeting for women is being held at the New Willard to consider "The Cooperation of Women."

World Court in Interest of International Peace Is Advocated by Mr. Taft

Acceptance of membership by the United States in a world court in which the joint powers would use their armed and economic forces to enforce its decrees in the interests of international peace.

HUGHES ROOM AID OF ROOSEVELT

Followers of Colonel Massing for Battle on Cry of His Americanism.

FAVORITE SON CAMPAIGN AIDING CAUSE, THEY SAY

Regulars of Chicago Convention Said to Prefer Defeat to Abandonment of Republican Principles.

BY N. O. MESSENGER.

CHICAGO, May 26.—Here are the lines of strategy in the republican presidential situation as they exist today.

First, Col. Roosevelt is intent upon preventing the nomination of Mr. Justice Hughes on an early ballot and to destroy the Hughes suggested candidacy if he can.

Second, the favorite sons, the progressives claim, are playing directly into the colonel's hands by combining to withhold a commanding lead from Mr. Hughes.

In Precarious Position. The managers of the favorite sons know that their position is very precarious. It hangs by a hair trigger.

Swift Changes Possible. The foregoing is the layout today. It doubtless will change frequently and swiftly.

Backbone of Progressive Platform. That is the backbone of the progressive platform, and those who are not for it, as the colonel laid it out, are against it.

Very well. The first thing the progressives are doing is to charge that Mr. Justice Hughes is opposed to this attitude.

Then they go on to say that the progressives will not support any man whose position is not definitely defined on this subject and which does not measure up to progressive demands.

Roosevelt Attitude. It is said that the colonel does not favor Burton, and that his progressives do not like Fairbanks.

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JURY SOON TO GET RIGGS BANK CASE

District Attorney Laskey Opens Final Arguments This Afternoon.

GOVERNMENT STANDS ON INDIVIDUAL INDICTMENTS

Abandons Effort to Convict on Joint Bill Against Glover and Flathers.

An important development in the trial of past and present Riggs National Bank officials accused of perjury in swearing that the bank did not deal in stocks was the fact that the government today abandoned efforts to convict on the joint indictment against Mr. Glover and the Messrs. Flathers.

The case is expected to be in the jury's hands by tomorrow. An agreement was made this morning that counsel for both sides should have two and a half hours each for argument before the jury, and that court should sit this evening until 6 o'clock.

District Attorney Opens. District Attorney Laskey opened the argument to the jury this afternoon and he will be followed by Mr. Archer and Mr. Fitts of counsel for the government.

Other Prayer of Defense. The other prayer of the defense which was granted today, and which the defense believes highly merited, is as follows.

Motion to Dismiss Overruled. When court convened this morning, shortly after 10 o'clock, with the jury still absent from the room, Justice Siddons announced that he had given very careful consideration overnight to the motion of the defense that the case should be dismissed on the ground that there was want of evidence, and had also carefully considered the arguments of counsel on both sides.

New Phase Develops. It was at this point that there suddenly developed the government's willingness to abandon efforts to convict on the joint indictment, and almost immediately all the lawyers in the case were on their feet.

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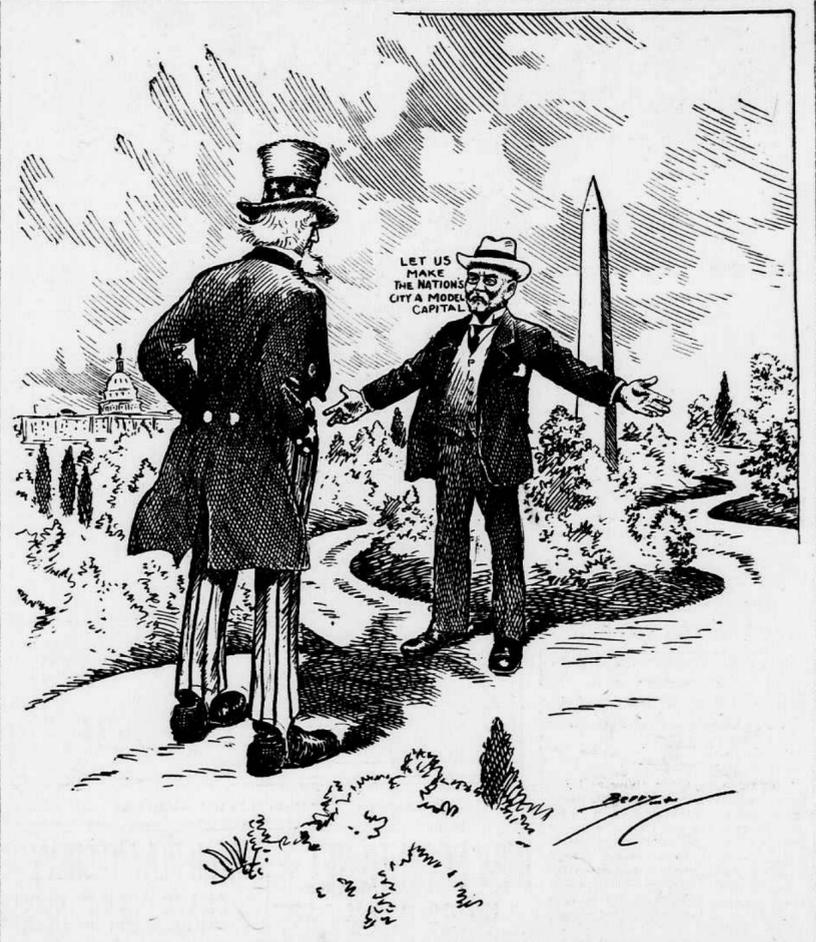
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Representative Mann, in the House debate on the District bill: "I am opposed to the repeal of the half-and-half proposition. I believe it is wiser and better for us to say that on account of this being the Capital of the country, on account of the great number of buildings and public lands which the Government owns in the District of Columbia, in order that we may continue to be proud of the Capital of the country we may well say we will pay one-half of the expenditures in the District out of the General Treasury."

THINKS SERIOUSLY OF A PEACE MOVE

President's Speech Tomorrow Is Expected to Be an Informal Overture.

IS FIRMLY CONVINCED THE WAR IS DEADLOCKED

Not Ready Yet to Offer Services as Mediator, But Contemplates Preliminary Steps.

President Wilson is giving more serious consideration to the possibility of restoring peace to Europe than at any time since the outbreak of the war.

Mr. Wilson's closest advisers believe the rulers of warring nations, because of their close relationship, even kinship, will have as important a part in restoring peace as the ministers of their governments.

Mr. Wilson takes the position, it was authoritatively stated, that the neutrals of the world, as much as belligerents, have a right to participate in, and if possible initiate, peace negotiations.

Practically all details of an agreement to dispose of the nomination of Louis D. Brandeis as an associate justice of the Supreme Court were agreed upon today by senators in favor and opposed to confirmation.

Eight Enter Transcontinental Flight. SAN DIEGO, Cal., May 26.—A list of eight prominent Western aviators who have declared their intention of entering the transcontinental flight, starting from New York, to be conducted by the Aero Club of America in September, was announced here today.

Congressmen Tell of Their Maiden Speeches.

One was almost ruined as a public speaker by a hen turkey; another failed until he preached a sermon without a collar and tie; and still another delivered another man's speech.

merely means the killing of more people and the further impoverishment of European nations, both belligerent and neutral.

Through various channels Mr. Wilson has kept in close touch with the development of peace prospects. It is understood he will convey a message to his audience tomorrow night which is certain to be read with deep interest by representatives of foreign governments and by the peoples of the warring nations.

AGREE TO TAKE VOTE ON LOUIS D. BRANDEIS

Senators Favoring and Opposing Confirmation Decide on Practically No Debate.

Practically all details of an agreement to dispose of the nomination of Louis D. Brandeis as an associate justice of the Supreme Court were agreed upon today by senators in favor and opposed to confirmation.

Three Killed in Storm. PHILADELPHIA, May 26.—Three lives were lost, many persons were injured and much property was damaged in a severe electrical and hail storm that swept over eastern Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey last yesterday.

Bridgemen in Pittsburgh Strike. PITTSBURGH, May 26.—One thousand bridgemen employed in open shops in Pittsburgh and vicinity are on a strike. The men ask for an increase in wages.

GERMANS KEEP UP VERDUN ASSAULTS

Claim to Have Extended Their Positions on East Bank of Meuse.

PARIS CLAIMS ENEMY CHECK AT DEAD MAN HILL

British Gain Advantage in Mine Fighting—Teutons Regard Seizure of Cumieres Important.

LONDON, May 26.—There has been little change in the situation on the Verdun front, says the French official announcement issued by the war office this afternoon.

French Statement. The text of the French statement follows: "In the Argonne district French troops exploded a mine with success at La Fille Morte."

On the left bank of the river Meuse there has been very violent artillery fighting in the sectors of Avocourt and Dead Man Hill.

Mining Activity Near Loos. The British official statement on the western campaign reads: "Wednesday night and Thursday there was considerable mining activity in the Loos salient, in which we had the advantage."

Connects German Lines. BERLIN, May 26.—The capture by the Meuse of the village of Cumieres, on the Verdun front, has been regarded as specially important, since it connects the German lines east and west of the river.

German Official Report. The text of the German official statement of today follows: "The capture of the east bank of the Meuse was successfully continued our attacks."

WILLIAM THAW WOUNDED IN AERO DUEL AT VERDUN

PARIS, May 26, 12:30 p.m.—Lieut. William Thaw of the Franco-American aviation corps, shot down a Fokker aeroplane in the region of Verdun yesterday.

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SAY CARRANZA SOLDIERS STONED U. S. TROOPERS

COLUMBUS, N. M., May 26.—American truckmen recently have encountered a spirit of hostility on the part of soldiers of some of the Carranza commands along the American line of communication in Mexico.

U. S. TROOPERS KILL VILLA'S CHIEF MAN

Pershing's Soldiers Shoot Candelario Cervantes in Battle Near Cruces.

AMERICAN DETACHMENT ATTACKED BY MEXICANS

One Corporal Slain and Two Privates Wounded—Engagement Ends Bandits in That Vicinity.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., May 26.—Candelario Cervantes, styled by Gen. Pershing in a report by radio from field headquarters to Gen. Funston today, as "second in importance only to Villa," was killed yesterday in a skirmish near Cruces.

Ten Attacked by Twenty. Gen. Pershing reported that seven men of the machine gun company of the 17th Infantry, two engineers and an employe of the quartermaster department were six miles southeast of Cruces when attacked by twenty Mexicans under Cervantes.

Americans Were Outnumbered. When the engagement began the bandits outnumbered the Americans two to one, there being twenty of them.

EAGER TO BE IN DANGER; SCARED AT VACCINATION

Many Texas National Guardsmen Faint While Waiting for Anti-Typhus Inoculation.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., May 26.—Members of the Texas National Guard who have been impatient at the delay in being ordered to duty along the Mexican border have fainted in large numbers while waiting in line to be inoculated with anti-typhus vaccine.

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