PEACE TABLE TO BE SCENE OF ROUGH AND TUMBLE FIGHT

(Continued from First Page.)

of his presence and laying before him certain facts.

"The truth is, and everybody in Paris knows it, that in governmental and political circles they do not love us at all over there, neither the English nor the French.

"Now that the war is over, American observers of experience and facilities for observation are strongly disposed to think they discern a disposition on the part of the other powers to set the stage against us. At the peace conference some of our views and aims are going to clash, and clash sharply, with some of theirs. Our view of what we did over there is going to be a little different from theirs. Their inclination to 'pick the bones' of Germany does not exactly fit in with our feeling, and there will be a divergence—a very marked divergence—upon the interpretation of those famous phrases—the 'freedom of the seas' and the 'sea power.'

Resent U. S. Domination.

"Some disposition to resent anything like American domination or the speaking of America in a strong voice at the peace table is already manifesting itself in an undercurrent of criticism of our army staff and a tendency to somewhat minimize our effort in the war. This is true of the politicians. It is not true of the people."

Mr. Kent gives General Pershing credit for taking the steps that forced the allied offensive that began July 18, and says that Pershing has never been popular with the British and French high commands.

Going into details regarding General Pershing Mr. Kent says:

"In the first place General Pershing is anything but popular over there with the French and British high commands. The distaste for him dates back to the spring of 1917, when, after having first agreed to permit the American forces to be brigaded with the French and British in platoons, he got "cold feet" on that proposition and in a memorable conference with Foch and Haig stood up and in fact said that the American army was at their disposal to do with what they wanted, but it would have to be used as an army, and there would be no more splitting up of it.

French Furious.

"The French were furious, not only at what Pershing said, but at the way he said it, which was in the most outspoken American language imaginable and not, it is said, entirely free from profanity. Had he been a Frenchman, his friends say, he would probably have had to fight a duel with Foch. But he had his way and subsequent events proved him right.

"All the world knows now that it was two regiments of American marines which stopped the Hun at Chateau Thierry, when he was on the road to Paris, and the road was wide open, too, with the French broken and on the run and the British weakened and unable to hold. And it was two American divisions that started him on his way back. That was the turning point of the war.

That was where the boche got his first check; that was where the psychology of the situation went against him, and he never got it back; that was where the war was won. At the time both French and English were tremedously enthusiastic over what the Americans had done. It rallied the allied forces, gave them a chance to catch their breath, saved Paris and stopped the murderer in his stride.

Pershing and Offensive.

A little later—in June to be exact—my information is that Pershing took steps that forced the allied offensive that began July 18 and never ended until the capitulation of Germany just in time to save her army in the field.

At that time Pershing, his friends say, went to Foch and bluntly said he thought it bad policy to "stick around waiting for the boche," and that the time had come to jump in and attack.

"But," he was told, "we haven't got the troops."

"What's the matter with the Americans?" Pershing asked.

"They are not trained," was the reply.

"Try them and see," said Pershing. "They will go anywhere you send them, and I will bet my life on it."

"That is the way the story is told in Paris. Whether exactly those words were used or not, it is certain that Pershing took the initiative in urging the offensive upon Foch, that he supplied the troops that gave Foch his mobile reserve and enabled him to strike his blow, and that those troops 'delivered the goods.' In the last two months of the war the Americans were unquestionably given the hardest nut to crack in the Argonne section, and they cracked it. Here, in the most frightful fighting country, at the one spot absolutely vital to the Boche, the key to his whole position, the place where he had to hold at all hazards, our boys went up against the real thing.

Remains in Force.

"Nearly half of the whole German strength was massed there against them and the Boche so weakened his line along the rest of the front that the French and British made spectacular advances day after day while the Americans gained ground foot by foot and lost lives by the thousands.

"Now that it is over, those who know the facts know that the answer to the question of what caused the marvelous difference between March and October is "America."

"They know that when we came in, the French and the British, too, were 'all in,' and that candid acknowledgment of these facts does not in any way detract from the terrific sacrifices and heroic fighting of the British and French in the three years before we came in. Nor does it impair recognition that the British fleet saved us as well as the rest of the world. The point is that in the end we turned the trick with our armies on the battlefields and that it the field of diplomacy it was the American President who threw the monkey-wrench into the German internal machine, whereby proving as effective in bringing about the collapse of the central European edifice as the military forces.

What England Demands.

"So far as we are concerned, representatives of this nation in Paris say, all our cards are on the table. We have nothing to 'put over.' We are asking nothing for ourselves. We want an enduring peace based on justice and we are not playing a game either for ourselves or for anyone else. Great Britain wants a just peace all right, but she wants Great Britain to be the policeman with the club to enforce this peace, and she is preparing to cling to her position as the dominant sea power of the world as she clings to life.

"There are some sound and excellent reasons for her position in this respect, but the American view in Paris is that her resistance of any suggestion of fleet disarmament will force us into the big naval game, and that, once having abandoned our attitude of aloofness and played a part in world politics, we cannot afford to permit any nation in the future to hold stronger weapons than we hold.

"There are Americans here like Admiral Sims, for instance, who do not share this view, and think it is absolutely all right that the mastery of the seas should be in British hands, contending that Britain will never use that weapon against us nor for any purpose ave her own protection, and that dominance as a sea power is essential to her very existence, and that she is thoroughly justified in holding to it. Others here strongly disagree. They say that from an American standpoint that view is not sound.

The Naval Future.

"What these me foresee is that if England is to continue the maintenance of a great fleet it will force us into the maintenance of a great fleet. It means that America will embark upon a great naval program; that if England builds six cruisers we will build twelve; that if she builds twenty destroyers we will build forty; that if she builds two battleships we will build four. That sort of thing, it is argued, is not the way to peace. tl is the way that logically, in the long run, leads to the other thing. It is not the American idea, and how it, with its crushing burden of taxes, is to ze avoided will be one of the big questions at he peace conference.

"Gradual disarmament with the establishment of an international police force is the plan which, in some form or other, most thoughtful Americans on the other side hope to see adopted. England is for this all right, but she wants to be the international policeman of the sea. The question is, Can we afford to let her be? There is a strong argument on both sides and political Paris is deeply stirred. A little concerned already about the merchant marine now building in the United States, the suggestion that the American nation may be forced to compete with Great Britain in the size of its navy certainly "gets the wind up" with the average Englishman. He does not like that idea at all. He knows perfectly well that his country is in no condition financially to stand the kind of competition the United States would give if forced.

"The prediction made the other day by an American in Paris that the next President of the United States would be the man who stands for the biggest navy would spoil an entire day for any English statesman. The truth is that England's financial condition means a long period of economy for her and continued high taxes for her people. A leading Englishman, who married a very beautiful American woman and who is an authority in the financial world, a few weeks ago in London said to me:

Can't Lift Ban.

"'No, we will not be able to remove the restrictions over here on petrol or on a number of other things after peace comes, because to do so means that we will have to import them from America. We cannot afford to do that. For the netx ten years we have got to export as much as we can and import as little as we can until we get on our financial feet again.

"You see we not only owe you one billion pounds, but we have a number of bad debts, such as the loans we made to Russia and to some of the smaller neutral countries, like Montenegro. Then, too, we have loaned France money and we have loaned Canada, New Zealand, Australia and other British colonies. So today we find ourselves faced with the necessity for rigid retrenchment.

"Under these circumstances it is easy to see why the suggestion that America may find it necessary to keep pace with England's naval strength agitates them over there.

France Would Seize More.

"As to the French, there is believed to be a disposition on their part to reach out for more territory than is exactly just. There is talk of extending France to the Rhine and to the Alps—God's boundary lines as they call themb here, and to look to the acquisition of certain German colonial possessions. In other words, the French statesmen are disposed to feel that the situation rather justifies the "picking of the bones" of the enemy, and it is said that Clemenceau, ferocious, forceful and a fighter wit ha tremendous personality, despite his great age, is sympathetic with the idea of gaining some material advantages for France beyond the items of "indemnity and restoration." Likewise, the French politician is not averse to England maintaining her dominance provided France is permitted to maintain her military machine of several million men. We are expected to sit still, look pleasant and agree to this program like a good little nation. Some of our representatives over here say emphatically they will be damned if we do.

England's Love For France.

"Nations are funny things, and the international complications appear to be endless. Here are some of the sidelights as reflected by the politicians: Actually, there is no love lost between England and France. Forced together as allies, they never have and never will understand each other. An English general said to me:

"'Our allies, the French, are fine fellows and gallant fighters and we have not a word to say against them, but they have their own methods. For instance, if we say we are going to attack at half-past 5 o'clock, we attack at that hour exactly, but if the French say they will attack at half-past 5 they are just as apt to make it twenty minutes past seven as not.

"On the other hand, the French sneer at the British staff, and speak of the useless sacrifice of men because the British high officers were so slow to stop doing things a certain way, just because that was the way the British had always done them.

Mutiny in French Army.

"You her, too, in Paris, what will be news in America, of the serious mutiny in the French army in 1917, and of the difficulty in suppressing it. In this direction, too, the advent of America into the war seems to have saved the situation. Neither England nor France have any use for Italy. They tell you that the Italian troops were a bitter disappointment, that they fight all right when things are goin gtheir way, but they cannot be depended upon when they are not, and have to be stiffened by suppo t whenever a real fight is due. And that they were eternally demanding men and money and refusing to "carry on" unless they got them.

The Red Cross and Italy.

"In the month of April alone, of this year, an American official who knows states that the American Red Cross presented to no less than 324,000 Italian families a sum of money ranging from 50 to 150 lire. The money went only to those families whose sons or husbands were fighting in the Italian army. When she received the money the mother or wife of the Italian soldier received also a letter telling her that it was given by the American Red Cross because her son or husband was at the front fighting valiantly for Italy. She was required to write this fact to the son or husband at the front.

"While the Red Cross in this way spent millions of dollars (and they did some of this in France, too) in a way not guessed by the people back home, the statement is flatly made here that the Red Cross disbursements in this way so strengthened the morale of the Italian army that it prevented Italy from withdrawing from the war.

The Portuguese's Valor.

"As for the Portuguese, they are said to be the limit. In April, 1917, the Portuguese were holding a section of the front line with the British. When the boche launched his attack the entire Portuguese division threw down its arms and streaked it for the rear, leaving a gap in the line of 4,000 yards, through which the boche poured like a torret and which nearly gave hi mthe channel ports. The Portuguese scattered i all directions and the only way in which they could be gotten together again at all was by he Brilsh refusing to feed them except in one place. This ended their experience as first-line troops, and since then this story ahs gone through all the armies in France.

"In what is written above I have tried to give a glimpse of the international political talk current in Paris at this time. It is the gossip of the politicians perhaps the most important gathering that foreshadows the peace conference, the kind in the history of the world. It does not represent the views of the people. Nor will you hear any of it when you get outside of the inner circle, but it does accurately represent the feeling and thought therein. In London, Americans of sanity and balance, removed from the whirl, contend that much of this is the natural atmosphere of Paris, which lends itself most heartily to political intrigue, and that Americans who take this sort of talk seriously have influenza of the soul and not very much intelligence. There may be something in that, but it is too strong, too concrete and discussed in too high quarters to be thus dismissed.

Great Game to Be Played.

"There is a tremendous international political game about to be played here and the players will be the biggest and brainiest men in the world, and the stakes will be tremendous. The present turmoil in Paris is but preliminary to the opening of the game. If President Wilson comes here, personally, the prediction is made that America's voice will dominate the situation, not only because of the power of our position and the tendency of all weaker nations to look to us as their champion, but because of the remarkable power over here of Mr. Wilson, himself.

Well-posted Frenchmen say that in France Wilson has more influence with the Socialist Labor party than any other man, and that it is the support he has given the Clemenceau government that has kept it in power. It is also true that there are a great many persons in England and Scotland with whom the words of the President have great weight. He is unquestionably the spokesman of an element in all of these countries, and this fact will not lessen the potency of his voice at the peace table. Recognition of this fact probably accounts for the lack of enthusiasm among some of the English statesmen as to his coming over. We hold a good many trump cards and they know it. A few days ago I asked one of the most powerful men in England—at that time in Paris—whether he thought the coming of the President was a good or bad thing. "Yes," he replied, "Colonel House told me he was coming over." And that was all he did say.

Light the Best Remedy.

That the policy of not printing the truth about situations such as exist in Paris today is a mistaken one seems clear to anyone who will analyze it. So long as these international jealousies, frictions, and suspicions are kept secret and dark they ferment and gorw sinister and dangerous. As soon as you drag them out in the open and turn the light on them those that are rotten and dishonest shrivel up and die, while those that are sound and sane establish themselves. Of course, it kicks up a commotion, but the light is the cure for the whole situation. Turn the light in, and in the end it will come right.

Of course, now that the Hun has been beaten, there can be no question about giving aid and comfort to the enemy through the publication of this picture of political Paris. Besides, no one knows these things better than the Germans. To illustrate just how well posted the boche is, this story was told me by the young commander of a United States destroyer. He had been speaking of the number of mines the United States naval forces had been laying for submarines in the North Sea. I asked him how the navy found out whether their mines ever destroyed a submarine.

"Why," he said, "we find out all right through our secret intelligence people in Germany."

I expressed surprise that this could be done and the commander then said:

"Why, some weeks ago the German secret intelligence department got information about an American troop fleet about to leave New York. They had the number of vessels, the number of troops, the size of the convoy and the day of the sailing, and they had it all correct, too. Our intelligence people in Germany got this information from the Germans and sent it to us. We had it from this source two days before we got it direct from the Navy Department."

Select Your Own Title - - - - By Briggs

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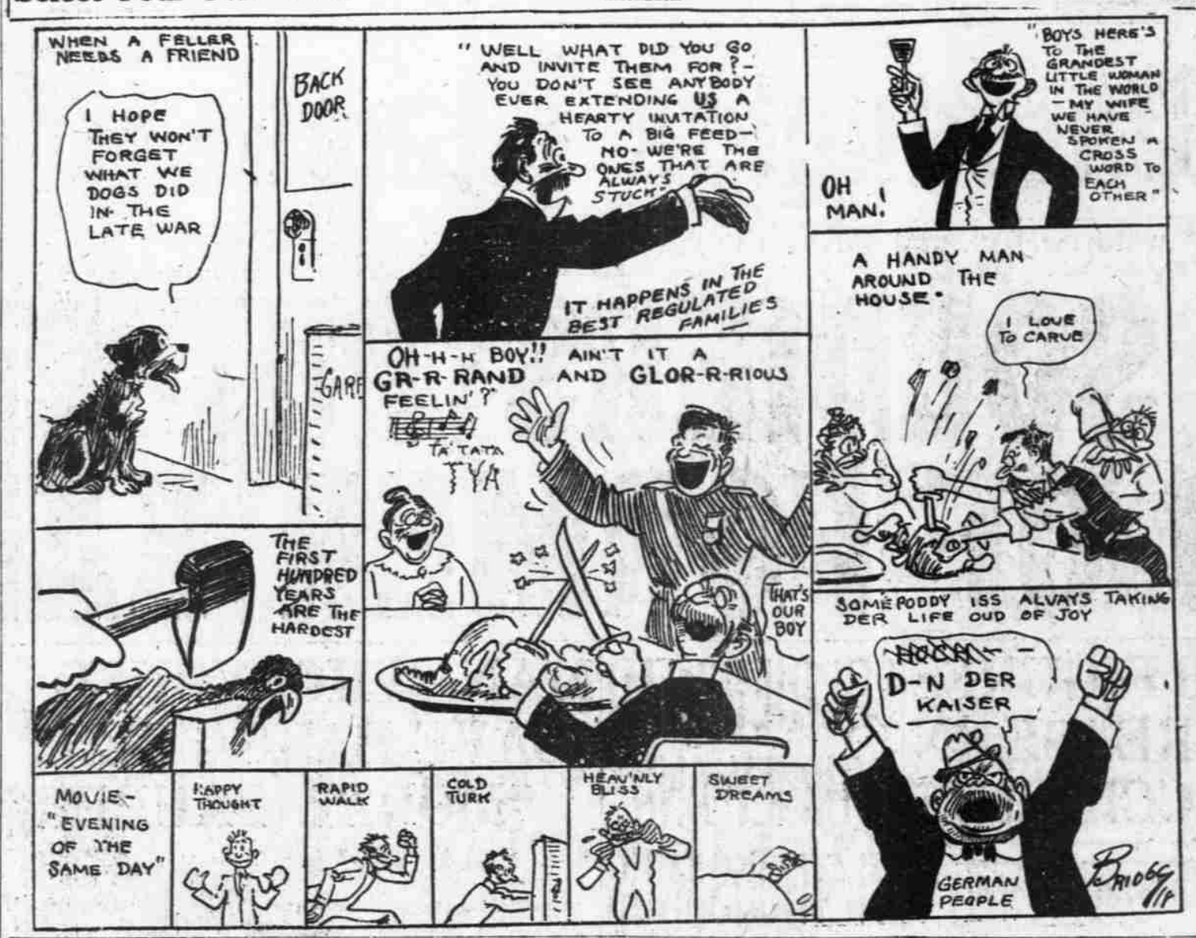

NO CENSORSHIP ON PEACE NEWS

British and French authorities will relax all censorship on news dispatches coming to the United States on the subject of the Peace Conference. The order was issued at the personal request of President Wilson.

It was also announced that no censorship of any kind will be exercised by the Committee on Public Information. The machinery of the committee will be used entirely to facilitate the work of American newspaper representatives in Paris.

A regulation passport has been issued to President Wilson, which permits him to visit England, France and Italy, and is surrounded by the same requirements and restrictions as would apply to any other citizen.

BRITAIN TO SEND GEORGE, LAW, BALFOUR AND READING

LONDON, Nov. 28.—Premier Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer Bonar Law, Foreign Minister Balfour and Viscount Reading are considered certain as Great Britain's delegates to the peace conference. Among those listed as probable are Lord Curzon and Mr. Barnes, the labor leader.

CHILEAN MOBS PURSUE AND STONE PERUVIANS

LIMA, Peru, Nov. 28.—Peruvians are being pursued through the streets in Iquiqui and stoned by Chileans, according to refugees from that place arriving at Mollendo, by boat. Senor L. Horna, the Peruvian consul at Iquiqui is among the refugees.

The mobs were lead by prominent Chileans while the authorities did practically nothing. Many homes of Peruvians were burned. Strict censorship on all press and official dispatches from Chile to Peru apparently is still being maintained.

TODAY

(Continued from First Page.)

months with your mother at home."

From this case you learn that it is important to have a good lawyer. If the average "big lawyer" would take 64-cent cases, there would be more vacancies in the prison cells.

The Anti-Saloon League has notified President Wilson that Samuel Gompers must not be sent to the peace conference as a representative because he is an opponent of absolute prohibition, maintaining that workmen should have beer, if they want it.

This raises an interesting question as regards the President. For while he is an extremely temperate man, he has not been in the literal sense of the word a total abstainer. It will be necessary to inspect rigidly the list of peace delegates, to make sure that no unfit American is included.

George Washington couldn't have gone, for he made his own alcoholic liquids, at Mount Vernon, and drank them. Lincoln wouldn't have been eligible; Jefferson imported French wine and told about it. General Grant had the sad record with which you are all acquainted.

The Mauretania, great British passenger ship, will resume her regular trips, and, according to official announcement, London, thanks to great enterprise carried on during the war, will be the greatest port in all Europe, and perhaps in the world.

Give England credit for executive capacity, and for swiftly resuming business at home and abroad after a big war. Her sttatesmen make a business of government and have no masters in diplomacy or in planning.

25 STEEL COMPANIES MERGE FOR FOREIGN TRADE

NEW YORK, Nov. 28.—A merger of twenty-five steel companies, authorized by the Webb law for purposes of competition with the United States Steel Corporation in foreign trade, is reported to have been formed.

TO MAKE PEACE GOODS.

The vast munitions plants of France will shortly be making locomotives, building construction material, agricultural fertilizer and other things necessary in reconstruction, French cables announce.

K. C. B.'s TOWN TOPICS

I'M THANKFUL today.
THAT IT'S given me.
TO BE on earth.
JUST ON this day.
OF ALL the days.
THAT THE world has known.
FOR IT'S strange.
BUT IT'S true.
THAT THE greater our griefs.
THE GREATER our joys.
WHEN GRIEF has gone.
AND JOY has come.
AND ON this day.
WHEN I give thanks.
IN THE peaceful quiet.
OF MY own home.
MY MIND will go.
TO THE battlefields.
OF A year ago.
AND OF weeks ago.
AND INTO my ears.
THERE WILL come the sound.
OF POUNDING guns.
AND THE cries of men.
AND THE whispered words.
FROM STRICKEN lips.
AND THE messages.
THEY SENT back home.
AND THE grief that came.
WITH THE golden star.
WHERE THE blue had been.
AND I'LL awake.
AND OVER the field.
WHERE THE guns had been.
AND DEATH had stalked.
THERE'LL COME a calm.
AND I'LL strain my ears.
FOR THE sound of guns.
AND THE cries of men.
AND I'LL hear no guns.
AND INSTEAD of cries.
I'LL HEAR men laugh.
AND I'LL hear them cheer.
THAT THE war has done.
AND INTO my heart.
AND DOWN to its depths.
WHERE GRIEF has lain.
GREAT JOY will come.
AND THE voice it has.
WILL BE my prayer.
OF THANKFULNESS.
THAT PEACE has come.
AND THAT today.
I MAY look on a world.
WHERE THE might of right.
HAS PLANTED its flag.
AND THE right of might.
HAS CEASED to be.
AND INTO my prayer.
MY THANKS will go.
FOR THE guiding hand.
AT WASHINGTON.
AND ACROSS the seas.
AND THE soldier boys.
AND THE sailor boys.
AND THE Red Cross nurse.
AND THE women at home.
AND THE men at home.
AND THE love we have.
FOR THE Stars and Stripes.
AND THE glory it sheds.
WHEREVER IT flies.
FROM THE Capitol dome.
OR ON foreign land.
OR OUT on the sea.
I THANK you.

39-LB. TURKEY ON PRESIDENT'S TABLE

President Wilson and several million other Americans, including two millions overeas, today are partaking of a Thanksgiving feast which includes the observance of historic custom and the first holiday after victory.

Insofar as epicurean preparations are concerned, they have been carried out with great success.

The President in the White House is wielding the carving knife on a thirty-nine pound turkey raised in the blue grass regions of Kentucky.

The 2,000,000 Yanks in France and Germany are receiving their portions of roast gobbler from the capacious rolling kitchens of Pershing's army.

"Moderate conservation" is the keynote of the plans of Washington residents for the Turkey Day dinner.

Home owners, in response to the appeal of the Food Administration regarding continued saving of food, have eliminated many of the "trimmings" from their mid-day repast.

Restaurateurs, too, plan conservation in their long-planned program for the feast.

"Saving of food is the policy of the New Willard today," said August F. Moeller, maitre-de-hotel.

The New Washington Hotel is featuring music and dancing rather than the feast menu.

The menu at the Shoreham is conservative, too, although with a wider range of epicurean offerings than normally.

Washington housewives have bought out practically the entire supply of foods offered at the local markets for Thanksgiving with the exception of the more luxurious "fixin's," which were not in great demand.

SAYS JEWS SHOULD HAVE PEACE SEAT

A plea that the Jewish people be represented at the peace table so that terms may be drawn and enforced to prevent their further persecution was made today by Simon Wolf at the Chanukah services for enlisted men at Eighth Street Temple.

"Despite the signing of the armistice," said Mr. Wolf, "the massacres of the Jews in Poland, Galicia, and Roumania continue. Despite the sacrifices of the Jews on the altar of freedom and humanity, the Jews, as ever, remain victims of religious persecution.

"We are surrounded by prejudice. The very proclamation which has called us together to give thanks this date says, 'the year of our lord,' instead of, 'the year of our independence.' Yet giving thanks for the blessings which are ours we pray for the safe return of our boys, all our boys.

"But hope is with us for we have not sacrificed in vain. We can put our trust in one man who will represent, not America, but humanity at large. In him we have boundless faith. Through his efforts we may see the liberation of all mankind."

Don't stop buying War Savings Stamps until you have purchased all you can.

SPECIAL NOTICES

J. CLINTON TRIBBY, of 3115 M St. N. W.

—has been appointed captain of the Home Defense League of the 7th Precinct by Major Pullman, Chief of Police.

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