

This Country Will Mediate. Wise Young Mr. Hays. A Rich Man's Son. Voltaire's Marked Books. By ARTHUR BRISBANE. (Copyright, 1921.)

The reply sent by President Harding through the Secretary of State to the German request for mediation is practically an offer of mediation by the United States in the settlement of the German indemnity. This Government cannot "act as umpire" in the settlement between Germany and the Allies. But this Government DOES suggest and URGE fresh negotiations and will act as a mediator "in a manner acceptable to the allied governments."

A wise decision by Mr. Hays, Postmaster General. Postoffice employees are no longer to be retired, regardless of their wishes, at sixty-two for women and sixty-five for men. If they are competent and want to earn full pay they will have the opportunity to do so.

For both men and women, apart from hard physical labor, the most useful period of life should be from sixty to seventy-five, when, with head clear, experience accumulated, and all foolishness thoroughly under control, the mind is "on the job."

Postmaster Hays, extremely youthful but old in wisdom, knows the working value of older men and women.

Young Jack Cudahy, son of a rich man, kills himself. His father was born poor, worked and earned success before he died. Millions of men struggle to earn money for their sons, and one in a million perhaps is able to go through life usefully in spite of the money left to him.

American millionaires, take notice—the Soviet government will sell for gold dollars that will be exchanged for food art treasures taken from the Russian nobility and royalty. Fine bargains there.

Most valuable would be the six thousand volumes that Voltaire left in his house on the Swiss border, and that his friend, the Empress Catherine, took to Russia with all the lining of the Voltaire house. On the pages of those six thousand volumes will be found, in Voltaire's fine handwriting, what he thought about the writers and their views. This writer has one volume, Montesquieu's "Spirit of Laws," marked by Voltaire. The old gentleman argued with his author as he went through the volume. That library will be worth more than any works of art.

The French government has called for service in the army two hundred thousand young men for the 1921 contingent. For physical strength, size, health and other qualities this draft of young men for the army surpasses on the average any other in recent French history.

And this, in spite of war, anxieties, shortage of food. The quality of the young men is largely attributed to temperance—but a temperance different from ours, not prohibition. French government has entirely stopped the use of absinthe, a strong, poisonous drink. It has discouraged brandy, etc. It has not interfered with light wines that the French and their ancestors have been drinking for four thousand years, nor light beer, which is growing more and more popular in France.

There are apparently two kinds of temperance: one that takes nothing—except illicitly made bootleg whiskey—and the other that takes no strong spirits, but continues moderate use of the mild stimulants.

The experiments in the United States and Europe will show which is the better kind of temperance.

Trotzky announces quite solemnly that "the Soviet is now ready for war!" He says he has millions of fighting men, one hundred and fifty thousand officers. That Bolshevik experiment, which was to last only overnight, then give way to old conditions, seems to die slowly. Men find inspiration and resisting power in the mere fact that they govern themselves, even when they govern foolishly. The French revolution frightened and conquered nearly the whole of Europe before its enthusiasm wore out, and it was ready for Napoleon and his experiment. Even then it was abler as a fighting machine than ever before.

Of all nations interested in the announcement about Trotzky's big army, Poland, next door to Russia, is most interested. She has six hundred thousand soldiers under arms, men that ought to be cultivating the soil, adding to the wealth of the country. Perhaps it would have been wiser had Poland and the other Allies allowed Russia to manage her own government in her own way.

WEATHER Fair tonight and Sunday. Somewhat cooler tonight. Fresh westerly winds diminishing tonight. Temperature at 8 a. m. 53 degrees.

The Washington Times FINAL EDITION

U. S. BUSINESS MEN FATHERED GERMAN PLEA

FIRST PICTURE OF BEBE DANIELS, movie actress, behind prison bars. Bebe, who was "pinched" recently for auto speeding and sentenced to ten days in jail, is now "doing time" in the Orange county, Cal., jailhouse, assigned to cell No. 236. Bebe has been put to work in the "kitchen squad." She will have her "coming out party" on Monday.



U. S. SEEKS TO LIFT COAL INJUNCTION PRICES STABILIZED BY D. C. MERCHANTS

D. C. Supreme Court Petitioned To Dissolve Action—Jurisdiction Is Questioned.

The District Supreme Court today was asked by Attorney General Daugherty, Guy D. Goff, L. Ert Slack, assistants, and John E. Lasky, district attorney, to dismiss injunctive proceedings filed April 2 by the National Coal Association and John D. Morrow, its president. The injunction petition sought to enjoin the Government from performing its duties in the prosecution of an alleged criminal action, involving the alleged violation of the Sherman anti-trust law. Petitioners declare that the local court is without jurisdiction in the matter and that the suit is in fact against the United States which has not been made a party to the proceedings, and which has not given its consent thereto. Petitioners claim that if the relief were granted as asked by the coal people, it would operate against the United States and not against the defendants. The company asked in its suit to prevent the service on it of subpoenas compelling its officers to appear at Indianapolis, to answer an indictment for alleged conspiracy in connection with the price and supply of coal. The motion to dismiss was filed by Assistant District Attorney Charles W. Arth, and hearing on the motion was set for Monday by Justice Hitz.

SPOKANE MAN AND IOWAN TALKED FOR I. C. C. POSTS Joseph B. Campbell, of Spokane, will probably be named a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission on Monday. It was indicated at the White House today. The name of E. I. Lewis, of Indiana, is also expected to be sent to the Senate for a post on the commission.

How To Make a Million Girl to Earn Fortune Breeding House Fly

WAUKEGAN, Ill., April 23.—If Marjorie Rowson, ten, doesn't earn at least a million dollars this summer, she is going to be a pretty disappointed little girl. If she does, the city of Waukegan is going bankrupt. The Waukegan councilman announced that each child will receive 10 cents for every 100 houseflies captured and taken to the official fly counter. "And they told us," Marjorie explained, "that each fly produces 5,000,000,000 other flies each summer. So I am going to capture 100 flies and put them in a cage and see what happens."

ARREST ACTOR IN WIFE'S SUIT

Mrs. Ockstadt Cites Evidence Secured by Airplane Dash in Trial for Bigamy.

Charles W. (Buck) Ockstadt, Washington football star, ex-marine officer, and actor, is in jail today at Syracuse, N. Y., on a warrant charging bigamy sworn out by his girl-wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Agee Ockstadt, of Washington. SEQUEL TO AIR TRIP. The arrest is a sequel to the airplane flight Mrs. Ockstadt, claims to have made last November, from Washington to New York City, where she charged she discovered her husband living with an actress known on the boards as Terese Van Grove. Ockstadt, according to advices from Syracuse today, was playing in stock in that city under the stage name of Bucksleigh Oxford, when the warrant for his arrest, sworn to in Boston by Mrs. Elizabeth Agee Ockstadt, and charging that he had bigamously married the Van Grove woman, caused his arrest. The Syracuse police say Ockstadt admits marrying Terese Van Grove in Boston, September 3, 1920, but claims he did so only after receiving a letter from his Washington wife in which she declared she had received a divorce from him.

"She even flew to New York by airplane and broke into my apartment, where Terese and I were spending our honeymoon," the downcast actor is said to have petulantly told the police, when they questioned him after his arrest. The Syracuse police say Ockstadt admits marrying Terese Van Grove in Boston, September 3, 1920, but claims he did so only after receiving a letter from his Washington wife in which she declared she had received a divorce from him.

HYTHE, England, April 23.—Premier Lloyd George left Kent at noon for Dover to meet Aristide Briand, premier of France, who is due to arrive there from Boulogne this afternoon. Before the afternoon is far along the two premiers will have plunged into their long-heralded conference on the German reparations questions. Upon its outcome hinges the question of peace and stability in Europe. NO FORMALITIES DUE. No time will be lost over formalities at Dover. The premiers will immediately go to the home of Sir Philip Sassoon here, and begin their deliberations. Their secretaries will be the only witnesses.

ARMY PILOT TAKES HER. An army pilot offered to whisk her to New York, where her husband had secured a theatrical engagement. She charged on her return from the trip that Ockstadt and the Van Grove woman were living as man and wife in an apartment at 207 West Fifty-sixth street. The Ockstadt couple are both well known in Washington. She was one of the prettiest girls at Central High, and her future husband was at that time Central's premier athlete. He was a commission in the marine corps during the war, when they were married. Following his discharge from service he began his stage career.

U. S. WAITS REPLIES TO HUGHES NOTE Holds Strategic Position, Washington Believes—Expects Assent From Berlin Soon.

The Administration is marking time today, awaiting responses from the capitals of Europe to the delicate offer of mediation contained in Secretary Hughes' note on German reparations. Reports which have filtered through to Washington from London, Berlin, and Paris are on the whole of a pleasing nature, it was stated in official circles. The impression prevailed today in official and diplomatic circles that the United States is in a strategic though delicate position. It is confidently expected that a favorable reply will be received from Germany within the next forty-eight hours.

SLAIN MERCHANT HAD \$2,290 ESTATE Court Appoints Collector to Administrator Affairs of Abdul Hosserin Molavi.

Justice Hitz, of the District Supreme Court, today appointed George P. Lemm collector for the estate of Abdul Hosserin Molavi, the Persian antique dealer, who was shot to death, the police allege, April 14 last by his wife, Mrs. Lydia Molavi. The estate is valued at \$2,290, according to a petition for letters of administration filed by Blanche G. Kanode and James T. Ryan. There are debts amounting to \$1,450.

AN EARLY EDITION of The Sunday Morning Times Sold With the New York American For 10 Cents

Will be available in Washington this evening. Get it from your newsdealer or a newsboy.

CHARLES W. (BUCK) OCKSTADT, former D. C. football star, who is held in jail at Syracuse, N. Y., on a charge of bigamy preferred by his wife.



PREMIERS ON WAY TO HYTHE

Lloyd George and Briand Speed To Rendezvous for Reparations Conference.

By WILLIAM L. MALLABAR. International News Service.

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Berlin to Ask Revision of Reparations Sum Each Year

SIMONS SEEKS SLIDING SCALE

Teutons Will Request Indemnity Payments to Allies Fixed Annually by Court.

By FRANK E. MASON. International News Service.

BERLIN, April 23.—An "elastic" reparations total, to be decided from year to year by an international "board of appraisal," will be suggested in Germany's reply to President Harding, which is to be dispatched to Washington at noon today and to be announced in the Reichstag this afternoon.

FEATURE OF PROPOSALS. The International News Service learns that this is the outstanding feature of the new proposals finally agreed upon by the leading German statesmen after conferences which lasted throughout the night and well into this morning.

In the meantime the tentative total which Germany will offer to pay is understood to be far from the total demanded at the Paris conference but much larger than that which was fixed at the recent London conference.

The offer of this tentative total, it is believed, will be "amplified" by a clause providing that the total be made a "variable factor." Germany agreeing to pay sum to be decided annually by the judgment of an international appraisal board in accordance with the progress of Germany's industrial recovery.

WILL MEET LEADERS. Dr. Walter Simons, the foreign minister, and Chancellor Fehrenbach are scheduled to meet the party leaders shortly after noon to inform them of the text of the document.

Germany's leading statesmen worked throughout the night over the note. Thoroughly aware that its text and tenor are bound to have a decisive effect not only upon the reparations question, but upon the whole future of the Republic, and indirectly of all Europe, Dr. Simons and his colleagues in the cabinet bent their energies in herculean efforts to map out a proposition which President Harding will feel justified in forwarding to the allies.

The foreign minister is expected to read the reply to the American president in the course of his address in the Reichstag this afternoon. He contemplates to be the target for violent attacks in the conservative press, which is showering epithets upon him ranging from "weakling" to "traitor."

APPEAL TO PEOPLE. The liberal organs, on the other hand, are frantically appealing to all Germans to rally solidly behind the foreign minister and the government as a whole in this, Germany's greatest crisis since the pre-armistice days.

Of all mistakes in the reparations question, says the Berliner Tageblatt, "the refusal to co-operate with Dr. Simons at this moment is the most stupid. It cannot fail to impress the world with Germany's obstinacy and stubbornness."

Some of the organs of reaction, with their defiant, uncompromising editorials, give the neutral reader the impression that they think Germany is still master of the western front and in possession of Belgium, as she was in 1917, instead of being, as she actually is, threatened with immediate military measures by France and her allies which if carried out would strike at her very existence.

SIMONS ON TRIAL. At a meeting of party leaders the demand of the reactionaries for the immediate ousting of Dr. Simons was rejected. The leaders agreed to give him two weeks in which to settle the crisis.

The British envoy is said to have emphasized that the new German offer must reach Hythe in time to prevent England from agreeing to the French military program.

Wig-Wags from Washington Signaled by Tiller Will be found hereafter in the Sunday Morning Times. Anecdotes of public men, sidelights on Congress, and gossip about the White House, make up this readable feature, written by Theodore Tiller. For twelve years the name Mr. Tiller was familiar to readers of The Times. He returns to these pages to contribute a copyrighted, breezy column of so each Sunday to the new Sunday Morning Times.

Tabloid Analysis of the Critical Reparations Puzzle

A world-important diplomatic race is on.

At Hythe, England, the premiers of Britain and France are discussing the question of how to force Germany on or after May 1 to meet the reparations demands. France is adamant in her insistence upon far-reaching military measures, including occupation of the Rhur valley and other areas. England opposes these steps, but it is believed, would agree to them rather than let France act single-handedly, thus precipitating the first open repudiation of her ally since the war.

But over their deliberations looms the shadow of America, whom neither can afford to ignore. President Harding, in his note to Germany has asked her to make a new offer, and expressed his willingness to consider forwarding it to the allies. He implied an earnest desire for a peaceful solution as against coercion.

To make that offer before the allied premiers have reached a final decision, and to frame that offer so it will be considered, is the momentous task confronting the German statesmen.

An International News Service dispatch says they have hit upon a novel plan, namely, to offer a reparations total with the suggestion that it be paid in annual installments, to be decided by an "international board of appraisal."

FRENCH TURN DOWN NEW BERLIN TERMS

Briand Will Tell Lloyd George Reconstruction Proposals Are Unacceptable.

By NEWTON C. PARKE. International News Service.

PARIS, April 23.—The new German proposals for the reconstruction of the devastated regions of northern France are considered insufficient and unacceptable by the French government, the International News Service was reliably informed this afternoon. Premier Briand is expected to tell Premier Lloyd George so at the conference at Hythe this afternoon.

The eyes of all France are eagerly fixed upon the old Kentish town where the two premiers are to thresh out the whole complex reparations question and arrive at a definite decision on the joint attitude of France and Britain, not only toward Germany directly, but toward the prospects of American mediation, which was opened by President Harding's note to Berlin.

HOW FRENCH FEEL. That note continues to be the main topic of discussion in the French press. It is now clear that three conflicting emotions dominate French feeling, namely:

1. Satisfaction that the American president refused to be the "umpire" in reparations question. 2. Disappointment that he did not categorically refuse to have any dealings whatever with Germany on this question.

Some of the leading Paris journals urge the government to insist upon its proposed coercive measures as all costs unless Germany fully meets the reparations demands on May 1. "We are glad," says the Echo de Paris, "that Germany shows the same interest in the problems of peace as she did in those of war, but new German preparations will not suffice to cause the suspension of the execution of the measures upon which France has decided."

URGES UTMOST LIMIT. Marcel Hutin quotes an official of the foreign office as saying that "if on May 1 Germany has not accepted to pay the total agreed upon at the Paris conference, and given the surest guarantees of payment, France is determined to go to the utmost limit in the exercise of her rights."

"Germany has thrown down her last card, and it wasn't a trump," says Le Journal. Le Matin declares that "the note means America will be represented at the reparations discussions. Words, however, are useless; acts alone can save Germany."

YANKEES WANT TEUTON TRADE

American Commercial Interests Inspired Note to Hasten Indemnity Peace.

By FRANK E. MASON. International News Service.

BERLIN, April 23.—The mammoth shadow of American business loomed today as the guiding spirit that prompted the German appeal to President Harding.

AMERICANS HAD DEAL. The International News Service is able to disclose the substance of the mysterious negotiations that resulted in Germany's dramatic action in directly soliciting the mediation of the President of a country that she is still technically at war.

A group of American attorneys, representing American cotton growers, bankers and holders of vast supplies of raw materials, completed financial arrangements for credits amounting to \$1,500,000,000, and then across a gigantic American deal.

They found Germany confronted by serious danger of a fresh French invasion. They heard of vague threats of allied confiscation of any goods Germany imported from anywhere as a part of a scheme to coerce the Germans. They found the German government apparently at a standstill. Thus, they arrived at a dead stop in the negotiations, which required only international guarantees against confiscation.

So they forced the leaders of the German industries which depend upon their deal to prevail upon the German government to act.

LED UP LETTER. The German government got in touch with the American attorneys, who gave their viewpoints as Americans, and urged immediate new proposals by Germany if she would avert a catastrophe.

These conferences directly led to the appeal to President Harding. The Americans say they are here on a strictly business mission, and they took a hand in the political arena only because of the necessity of securing guarantees for their big industrial group. That group is representative mainly of financiers in the South and on the Pacific coast.

Dr. Richard Mollenko, consulting engineer, New York. The mission is staying at the Deutscher Garten here.

BLISS URGES USE OF FORCE UPON GERMANY

Germany must be made to pay for the war, and the only way in which it can be determined how much she can pay is to use force in securing reparations payments, General Tasker H. Bliss, who was a member of the American peace commission, said today following a call upon President Harding. General Bliss said that he had merely called to pay his respects to the President, and had not discussed reparations or other international matters. General Bliss said that he had always been of the opinion that the peace treaty should have been a military treaty, and that recent events are making him more completely convinced of this.

Today's Best Laugh

NEWARK, N. J., April 23.—Oscar Sokoloff began an action for divorce here yesterday, refusing to believe his wife's explanation of the hairs in the cake. Mrs. Sokoloff avers that when she feared she was losing her husband's love she went to a spotsayer, who advised her to bake six cakes for Oscar, in each of which she should mix some of her hair. She did so and the ill feeling which resulted caused her to sue for a separation. She was unsuccessful, and now Oscar is trying his hand.