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BALFOUR'S TALK PLEASES U. S.

Washington Officials See Nothing New or Startling in Peace Colloquy.

FRANKNESS IS GRATIFYING

Minister's Speech No Overture to Enemy—Emphasizes Unity of Allies.

(By David Lawrence.)

Copyright, 1918, by New York Evening Post Company. Washington, May 18.—There is no disposition here to be drawn into any discussion of peace negotiations at this time, and none of the officials of the government seemed to see anything new or startling in the colloquy in the British parliament, wherein Foreign Minister Balfour expressed a willingness to listen to any proposals made by representatives of enemy countries.

But there was, nevertheless, the greatest satisfaction felt in Mr. Balfour's statements, which, indeed, reflect the viewpoint of the United States government. What Mr. Balfour said about the readiness of the entente to consider and examine overtures from any enemy country is exactly what President Wilson said in his famous speech at Baltimore on April 6, last, declaring for force without stint:

"For myself, I am ready, ready still, ready even now to discuss a fair and just and honest peace at any time that it is sincerely proposed, a peace in which the strong and weak shall fare alike. But the answer when I proposed such a peace came from the German commanders in Russia, and I cannot mistake the meaning of the answer."

The British foreign secretary says the same thing, that nothing honorable or adequate has come from the central powers that would make it worth while entering into peace parley.

But there is an affirmative value, nevertheless, in Mr. Balfour's speech which did not escape notice here.

In the first place, the British foreign secretary is not frightened by a cry of pacifism and "premature peace," such as has been raised in this country whenever President Wilson has attempted to define the war aims of the United States and comes out in the open with a frank statement of readiness to receive peace proposals, there has never been on the part of careful observers here the slightest apprehension that what is termed a peace by compromise or humiliation would for a moment be considered by this government or Great Britain or any of the other allies.

He draws a distinction between studying a peace suggestion and accepting it. And, however much as President Wilson or the British foreign secretary may express an inclination to receive peace proposals, there has never been on the part of careful observers here the slightest apprehension that what is termed a peace by compromise or humiliation would for a moment be considered by this government or Great Britain or any of the other allies.

For its frankness.

In the next place, Mr. Balfour's speech was gratifying for its frankness. German propaganda not untaunted by Irish agitators has sought to create the impression that imperialism

the persons still hold sway in Great Britain and France, and were secretly trading and bartering with the enemy and that they did not care to take President Wilson and the United States into their confidence on those matters. But Mr. Balfour states publicly what has long been believed here—that the British government and the United States government keep no diplomatic secrets from each other.

There was a time when military and naval information was jealously guarded by some of our allies, but that period has passed with the unification of the entente forces under Gen. Foch and close co-operation of our navy under Admiral Sims with the British fleet. The allies are now a unit in spirit as well as in action.

Incidentally there was much satisfaction expressed in that speech of Arthur Henderson, head of the British labor party, who said that he would trust and support President Wilson to the last in any matters of peace.

This confirms the reports that have been brought back by a procession of observers in Great Britain and France that the president of the United States has a strong hold on the peoples of the entente countries and that they look to him to stand for a democratic peace.

Unquestionably, Mr. Balfour's speech saying he had no secrets from the president and explaining the circumstances under which Emperor Charles' letter was not communicated to the American government was intended to offset the insinuation that the United States was not given a full share in the councils of the allies.

Emphasizes Cordial Relation.

The frank answer of the British foreign secretary publicly emphasizes the cordiality and intimacy that prevails between the United States and the entente governments and indicates that when the time comes for peace negotiations there will not be internal dissensions among members of the entente.

Germany has already tried to stir up such friction, but the very intimacy and mutual frankness between the different governments which now proclaim an abolition of secret diplomacy as fundamental to durable peace has served to defeat Teutonic intrigue and propaganda.

Foreign Secretary Balfour's speech was not looked upon here as the sign of any new peace overture from the entente countries, though there is, of course, an expectation that after the German offensive on the western front peters out, the German government will again try to keep the German people in line by dangling before their eyes hopes of an early and advantageous peace.

And when that time comes it is hardly probable that the United States or Great Britain will forego the opportunity to expose again the duplicity of the German leaders and spokesmen by analyzing those new overtures and restating the aims for which the entente is prepared to make the last sacrifices.

THIRD LIBERTY LOAN TOTALS \$4,170,019,650

Over-Subscription of 39 Per Cent.—Atlanta District's Feat Discussed.

Washington, May 18.—The total of the third liberty loan is \$4,170,019,650, an over-subscription of 39 per cent. above the three-billion minimum sought. The number of subscribers was about 17,000,000. Every federal reserve district oversubscribed, the Minneapolis district going to 172 per cent., the highest, and the New York district to 124 per cent., the lowest. The Atlanta district was fourth in per cent. of quota subscribed, having raised \$186,653,350, or 151 per cent. Kansas City and St. Louis were second and third, respectively.

In announcing the figures today, nearly two weeks after the campaign closed, the treasury explained that the total may be changed slightly by later reports.

The feat of the Atlanta district was the topic of favorable comment about the treasury today. Throughout nearly all of the four weeks' campaign the district stood at the bottom, owing to the tardiness of banks to report subscriptions and of subscribers to place their pledges on record by payment of the first 5 per cent. installment.

"This is the most successful loan the United States has offered, both in number of subscribers and in the amount realized," Secretary McAdoo announced. "Every subscription was made with the full knowledge that allotment in full was to be expected, until, like the first loan, when allotments were limited to \$2,000,000,000, and the second loan, when allotments were limited to one-half the over-subscriptions. I congratulate the country on this wonderful result, which is irrefutable evidence of the strength, patriotism and determination of the American people."

The New York district, the largest contributor, with \$1,130,700,000, more than a fourth of the total, held the bottom position on the percentage table because big business interests with headquarters in New York and banking institutions failed to subscribe heavily to the loan, owing to imminence of federal taxing time.

Records by districts are as follows:

Table with columns: District, Quota in Millions, Subscription, Per Cent. Includes entries for Minneapolis, Kansas City, St. Louis, Atlanta, Philadelphia, Dallas, Chicago, Richmond, Boston, St. Francisco, Cleveland, New York.

U. S. treasury subscription, \$17,915,150.

The subscriptions accredited to the treasury were those sent direct to Washington.

EIGHTEEN OHIO PRISONERS TAKEN TO ATLANTA

(International News Service.) Atlanta, Ga., May 18.—Eighteen prisoners convicted in the federal court at Cleveland, O., have just arrived at the Atlanta federal prison. They were found guilty of violations of the postal and interstate commerce laws and passing spurious coins.

J. L. DARRAGH MADE COMMERCIAL AGENT

To Have Charge of Traffic Matters of N. C. & St. L. Railway Company.

J. L. Darragh has been promoted to general agent of the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis railroad. He was formerly commercial agent of the line, having been located here for about a year in the freight department. He will have charge of all traffic matters in the Chattanooga district.

CRISIS APPARENTLY HAS BEEN AVERTED

Both Sides Claim Victory in Senate Row Over Chamberlain Resolution.

(International News Service.) Washington, May 18.—Both sides were claiming victory today in the senate row over the Chamberlain investigating resolution. A crisis apparently has been averted and whatever form the controversy takes next week, it is unlikely to present an issue of confidence or want of confidence in the administration.

Out of the jockeying of the past few days, one fact stood clear today, according to members of the senate military affairs committee: a congressional inquiry into the aircraft program, ordnance production and the quartermaster's corps is assured.

When the question is brought up in the senate Monday, as it will be if present plans are not changed over the week-end, a solution designed to restore complete harmony will be presented.

It is the intention of administration leaders to submit a substitute for the Chamberlain resolution. The substitute will authorize in the most formal manner an inquiry into the aircraft situation. This will be acceptable to the Chamberlain faction, it is understood. The committee will then open its inquiry.

Proceeding under authority granted it in a resolution adopted last year, the committee will also go into the ordnance program and the condition of supplies in the quartermaster's corps. The ordnance inquiry, in fact, has already begun. The failure to get the Chamberlain resolution adopted in its original form will have little or no effect on the committee's activities, members stated today.

The situation permitted both the administration forces and the Chamberlain faction to claim success. The administration forces insisted they had never opposed a congressional aircraft inquiry and had succeeded in blocking a general investigation into the conduct of the war. The Chamberlain followers pointed out they had never intended to go into the general conduct of the war and that out of the fighting they had obtained practically what they wanted.

PIANOS

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STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF THE Hamilton National Bank CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE In Response to Comptroller's Call at the Close of Business, May 10, 1918. RESOURCES: Loans and Discounts, Overdrafts, United States Bonds, Hamilton National Bank Building, Furniture and Fixtures, Stock in Federal Reserve Bank, State, Municipal and other Bonds, Other Real Estate, Cash in Vault and Due from Banks. LIABILITIES: Capital Stock Paid in, Surplus and Profits (Net), National Bank Notes Outstanding, Due Federal Reserve Bank Account Liberty Bonds, Deposits. OFFICERS: T. R. Preston, President; G. H. Miller, Vice-President; C. M. Preston, Vice-President; Jno. Stagmaier, Vice-President. DIRECTORS: D. P. MONTAGUE, T. R. PRESTON, JOHN STAGMAIER, RICHARD HARDY, G. F. MEEHAN, L. M. STONG, J. B. POUND, W. A. BURNS, S. T. DEWEES, W. E. DYER, A. W. CHAMBLISS, J. H. CANTRELL, G. H. MILLER, J. B. F. LOWRY, W. A. MEYER, F. O. RETTIG, E. R. BETTER, GEORGE E. SCHOLZE, SOL. MOYSES, C. M. PRESTON, F. A. SEAGLE, J. O. MARTIN, S. M. WATKINS, O. B. ANDREWS, F. L. RIGGS, C. M. WILLINGHAM. NEW BUSINESS INVITED

HOTEL WEBSTER 40 West 43 St. New York. One of New York's most beautiful hotels. Much favored by women traveling without escort. Within four minutes walk of forty theatres. Center of shopping. Rooms private bath, \$2.50 and upwards. Sitting Room, bath, room and bath, \$6.50 and upwards. W. Johnson Quinn.

Noah's Wonderful Spring Tonic For run-down systems and loss of appetite, try a bottle of NOAH'S Root-Bark Sarsaparilla. This famous Tonic has no equal—refuse substitutes. Your system needs a tonic in the spring-time. By actual tests, Noah's proved the most effective in building up and purifying the blood. Get a trial bottle from your druggist right now—notice the improvement in health with the first few doses. Ask your druggist or doctor. GUARANTEED BY Noah's Products Corp. RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

NOTICE! SAVE FUEL When you use gas you SAVE fuel and help win the war. The price of gas is the same as before the war; it is the only fuel that has not advanced. Coal is now selling at an advance of 150%! Ten cents worth of gas equals 25 cents worth of coal. Later on you may not be able to get coal at any price. Buy a Gas Stove TODAY It will soon pay for itself. Chattanooga Gas Company J. P. Hoskins, Pres. S. E. DeFrese, Gen. Mgr. Directors: W. A. Sadd, Garnett Andrews, Wm. Nixon, G. E. McGee

Why America's Army Will Decide the Battle in France

That America must furnish the reserves to win the final battle is a truth recognized not only in allied countries but in Germany also. "We must hurry to obtain a solid victory by arms before the full American forces arrive," admonishes one German paper while others seek to reassure their readers by decrying American efforts. Meanwhile, Secretary Baker's statement that we already have more than half a million soldiers in France makes it certain that we are more than replacing the British and French losses in the battle on the Western front. You will derive immense satisfaction from reading the summary of the war which comprizes the leading article in THE LITERARY DIGEST this week (May 18th). It shows what is expected of the United States armies; how our soldiers are fighting, and how they have been decorated; what the Germans think of the American soldiers; how our shipbuilding is progressing, etc., etc. Other vital subjects covered in this week's "Digest" are:

Irish Conscription As the British Press Sees It All Phases of the Vexing Problem Shown in This Comprehensive Article An Unlimited Army for Victory A Nation of Bond-holders U-Boat Delusions Railway Built Through a Thousand Waterless Miles Clearing Land to Grow Food For Clean Swimming Pools Books of To-day and Yesterday Great Pictures That May Embarrass Their Owners One Hundred Millions for the Red Cross What Killed the Holy War Striking Illustrations, Including Cartoons, Maps, and Half-tone Reproductions

National Crisis Brings Motor-Trucks to the Fore THE LITERARY DIGEST appeals to, and is carefully read by, manufacturers, business executives, progressive retailers, everywhere throughout the nation, and this number will be of particular interest to them inasmuch as all varieties of commercial vehicles are pictured and described. Prospective buyers of motor-trucks are especially urged to buy THE DIGEST this week and read these interesting announcements.

May 18th Number on Sale To-day—All News-dealers—10 Cents The Literary Digest FUNK & WAGNALLS COMPANY (Publishers of the Famous NEW Standard Dictionary), NEW YORK