

Grand Forks Herald

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WEDNESDAY EVENING, DEC. 13.

LOYD GEORGE AND PEACE.

There seems to be some belief that the peace proposals from the German powers were made at this time because of the cabinet crisis in Great Britain, the theory being that this crisis indicated a weakening of the British determination, and the inauguration of an era of fluctuation and uncertainty.

Considerable dissatisfaction with Premier Asquith has been expressed; but that dissatisfaction has not been inspired by any thought of yielding. On the contrary, the complaint has been that Asquith, great and scholarly and patriotic though he was, was by temperament too slow in action and too inclined to compromise to be able to handle the war situation with the required vigor.

A similar situation exists in France. There has been some cabinet disturbance in that country; but there is no demand for peace. The demand is for the putting forth of greater effort, and for the mobilization of the full resources of the nation in order that when peace does come it will be an enduring peace.

THE PROVISIONAL SUPREME COURT.

A number of interesting questions have been raised in the course of the controversy over the correct time for the beginning of the terms of supreme court judges. One of these relates to the validity of the action taken in calling in five district judges to constitute a temporary, or provisional supreme court to decide the controverted question. It is maintained on behalf of the judges-elect that this action was invalid because taken by judges who were interested in the case, and therefore disqualified.

The calling in of at least one district judge to sit as a temporary member of the supreme court is of very common occurrence. A recently elected judge may have been attorney for one of the parties in a suit to be tried before the supreme court, and it would manifestly be improper for him to assist in deciding such a case. Under these circumstances the interested judge abstains from participation, and if the situation seems to require it, a district judge is asked to sit in his place. This action is taken by the remaining judges, and not by the one who is disqualified.

But if other judges cannot be called in when all the regular members are disqualified, we have the possibility of a number of peculiar situations arising. The validity of any law may be called in question, and when it is called in question the supreme court must determine it. If those interested insist in pressing the matter that far, suppose that some citizen were to demand that the entire supreme court be abolished on the ground that the laws under which it was created are unconstitutional. We fancy that as good a brief could be made in defense of that position as are submitted in connection with a good many other cases. Every member of the court would be an interested party. His official existence and his salary would be at stake. If he cannot sit in judgment on his own case, and if he cannot call in outside assistance, there could never be any decision in such a case. But the case would be there, formally entered, and the man who brought it would be entitled to a hearing and a decision from somebody. It would be rather interesting to see the thing tried.

THE PEACE PROPOSAL.

Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey, the four central nations associated together in this war, have asked the representatives of neutral powers to transmit to their adversaries proposals that peace negotiations be entered upon. This is the first formal proposal since the war began. There have been speeches, and rumors, and suggestions, and it is reported that in certain cases there have been secret negotiations. But until now, no one has been publicly authorized to carry to the Allies a message from the central empires looking toward peace.

CATTLE BREEDING SECRET CLAIMED

Washington, Dec. 13.—J. O. Munsch of Shakopee, Minn., claims to have discovered the secret of sex control in breeding cattle. He says in a letter to Representative Charles R. Davis that he can assure the birth of heifers, most desired by dairy breeders, so that there will be an increase of 50,000 cows a year. Mr. Munsch says he is willing to sell his secret to the government and names \$50,000 as the price.

diate results in the proclamation of an armistice and the undertaking of peace negotiations. And, as a political move, it appears to be well timed, and it may have some effect on sentiment in certain places.

It has been evident for a long time that Germany and her allies were anxious for peace. In this it may be said they have shared the sentiment common to all nations. But the Teuton negotiators as victors, while their opponents preferred to fight on until this advantage would be on their side. From time to time expressions more or less official have come from Germany and Austria to the effect that those nations were ready for peace, that they had demonstrated their invulnerability, and that responsibility for continuance of the war must rest on those who insisted on prolonging it.

For months the tide has been setting strongly against the central powers until the Rumanian campaign. They have lost ground at Verdun, on the Somme, on the Ancre and in Russia. The Allies have a powerful army in Greece, and the rehabilitated Serbian army has captured Monastir and some of the territory beyond. By the concentration of three great armies on a single objective the German forces have been able to seize the Rumanian capital and inflict signal losses on the Rumanian army. That success has its political effect in the Balkans, and on Teutonic sentiment at home, and an occasional German vessel, slipping through the British cordon, has doubtless added to the general impatience in the Allied countries at the slow progress of affairs in their direction.

The proposals for peace negotiations will be transmitted with all speed to the Allied governments, if they have not already been received. Unless all signs are misleading, they will be rejected. It is impossible to see how proposals emanating from the central powers can be made in such form as to be acceptable to their adversaries, unless the latter are prepared to abandon everything for which they have been struggling. And there is no sign of such abandonment. On the contrary, there is every indication that the Allies are determined to fight this thing through until there is a possible peace which will not be mere prelude to another great war.

There will be a great outpouring of sentiment from pacifists in this country. Their theory appears to be that war is the greatest evil that can fall upon the race, and that peace on any terms is to be preferred to war under any conditions. Those who hold that theory will naturally feel that the Allies ought immediately to agree to an armistice and join in the conclusion of a peace on such terms as are obtainable. But those who believe that the failure of the Allies to establish themselves in such a position that they, and not their enemies, will be able to dominate the situation and shape the general terms of the peace agreement, will place the world for generations in the grip of a militaristic spirit, realize that the time has not yet come for such a peace as will be permanent; and, grim as is the alternative, they will desire to see the war go on until that condition is reached.

WHEAT AND WAR.

Wheat is high partly because a war is on. There are other causes which have their influence, among them being short crops in many parts of the world. But the war is one of the very important causes of high prices. When Germany and Austria made a tentative offer of peace, the price of wheat in the American market dropped like a leaden thing. Sudden fluctuations in price are often ascribed to speculative manipulation, that is, to the effort of a few individuals to force prices up or down, arbitrarily, in order that they may reap a profit. There was just as much wheat in the world an hour after the proposals had been made as before, but prices were lower. And yet, whoever may have been trying to manipulate the market, that drop was entirely natural, logical and inevitable.

Wheat prices, like most other prices, are always speculative, when the term is understood in its broadest sense. The man who holds his wheat for a higher price, although he is doing that which is universally conceded his right to do, is speculating, that is, he is risking a loss in the hope of making a gain. And the wheat held by such persons in the hope of higher prices is an element to be considered in the making of prices. Should any large number of these men become nervous over prices, and begin to sell rapidly, prices must fall, although the quantity of wheat in the world is not changed by a kernel.

The sudden talk of peace did not change the quantity of wheat, but it suggested the possibility that the wheat actually in existence would be come more available for general consumption, and the possibility of peace involved also the possibility of the return to the grain fields of some millions of men who are now producing nothing and consuming a great deal.

Railroads Must Act Together in Relieving Present Car Shortage

Washington, Dec. 13.—The American Railway association's car service committee announced last night its intention to "bring before the eyes of public opinion" any road which does not co-operate in securing an equitable re-distribution of freight cars.

Get Your New Clothes NOW

You have no idea what a remarkable effect a new suit of clothes will have on your whole outlook on life till you have tried it. Properly dressed, you feel like a new man. You'll have courage, you'll have conviction in your voice and "punch" in your mind. As a man feels, so he is!

Every person in the world is affected by what he wears. He can't help it. That is why people who are on the down-grade find it so hard to pull up and get started back.

Most Complete Medical Organization in History of U. S. Army Developed on Border; Fine Base and Camp Hospitals

San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 13.—Within the last five months the most complete medical organization known to the United States army has been developed to care for the 150,000 state and regular troops stationed at border points and in Mexico.

The system includes five base hospitals, located at strategic points in the long stretch of border territory; eight camp hospitals at other points where troops are stationed, a cantonment hospital at Columbus, N. M., to serve the force on duty in Mexico, and 26 ambulance companies and 41 field hospitals distributed among troops in the field.

The base and camp hospitals afford accommodation for a total of 4,600 patients and have medical and surgical facilities of the best hospital type. Not more than half the beds have been occupied at any one time since the nation's militia strength was called into the federal service, but the room is available in case of need.

Back of this array is the potential organization. A hospital train of ten Pullman cars, with a capacity of 250 patients, has been placed in use to transport patients from the camp to the base hospitals and from base hospitals to general military hospitals in various parts of the country, about a campaign in Mexico being undertaken. These larger institutions are the Walter Reed hospital at Washington, D. C., and General Army and Navy hospital at Hot Springs, Ark., and the Lettman hospital at San Francisco.

Economies Principal Relief From High Cost of Living, Say Officials

Washington, Dec. 13.—Government officials made it plain today that what they are conducting inquiries into the cost of living is not a blanket grand jury action against any who have conspired to maintain prices. The principal remedies must come through economies and cooperation of the public. They recommend that persons buy as little foodstuffs as possible and seek cheap substitutes for high priced articles in many cases. Better transporting necessities of living to consumers and increased production by farmers were other direct remedies suggested.

Federal Bureau of Markets Working to Keep Food Cost Down

Washington, Dec. 13.—Efforts to keep down the cost of food by bringing producer and consumer closer together are outlined in the annual report today of the Federal Bureau of Markets. Some of the things accomplished in this direction include extension of the bureau's market news service, study of economic methods of food distribution and transportation, experimental work and parcel post shipment of foods, investigation of co-operative purchasing and marketing plans for municipal public markets. Plans were developed during the year for investigation of foreign markets for American farm products and for assisting in developing an export trade in foodstuffs.

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Peace With "Murderers" Impossible

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The "Chronicle" says: "Germany can have peace any day on our terms. If she has any doubt as to those terms she can always inquire of us. We have always urged the disarmament of the Prussian military machine and the surrender or destruction of its navy and the whole of its artillery. We doubt whether the nightmare of a further peace any day on our terms, leading to a further war can be got rid of on any less terms."

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(Continued from Page 1.) bear their heavy burden or even heavier burdens as long as there is no possibility of agreeing upon an acceptable and sensible peace. Up to Entente. Dr. Wolff declares it will be impossible to reach a final verdict regarding the step of the Teutonic government until their proposals for peace conditions are known. He believes, however, that the entire program of the Central powers has not yet been revealed—a program which the Entente can turn of if it desires to do so.

Mayor Mitchell Vetoes Objection to Increases in Employees' Salaries

New York, Dec. 13.—Mayor Mitchell rebuked the board of aldermen here today in vetoing its objection to salary increases to certain city employees, amounting to \$20,440 in the city's budget for 1917, which totals \$211,115,016. The mayor said that the increases are not only merited but necessary because of the high cost of living. The board made no objection to an increase in the salaries of some 20,500 other city employees.

Historic Dolls of France Collected; Value is \$30,000

New York, Dec. 13.—A \$30,000 collection of 100 French dolls each representing a person of historical importance has been purchased by an anonymous donor to be presented to the Toledo Museum of Art. It was announced last night by the British, French and Belgian permanent fund relief fund for soldiers and sailors by which the dolls were owned.

Secretary to U. S. Congressmen Due For Big Boost in Salary

Washington, Dec. 13.—After a warm debate the House today voted into the annual executive and judicial appropriation bill a provision increasing the salaries of representative's private secretaries from \$1,000 to \$2,000 a year and giving each representative an additional employe at \$75 a month. Chairman Fitzgerald of the appropriations committee in opposing the measure, said that the House could well give more attention to curtailing "the high cost of government" and predicted a treasury deficit of \$1,600,000 for the current fiscal year.

Senator Kenyon to Propose Inquiry of Election Activities

Washington, Dec. 13.—Senator Owen, Iowa, having withheld introduction of his resolution to direct an investigation into the expenditures of the recent national political campaign, Senator Kenyon of Iowa, Republican, announced today he would submit such a measure in the near future. In the house a similar resolution is pending before the elections committee. Senator Owen decided not to press his demand for an inquiry after receiving informal assurances from Republicans that they would co-operate in the passing of a general corrupt practices bill.

U. S. Signal Corps Makes Improvement in Cable Telegraphy

Washington, Dec. 13.—Success of secret experiments which have developed rapid radical improvement in cable telegraphy through use of the type of receiving instrument employed in radio communication was announced today by war department signal corps officers. This is said to permit the reception of ordinary Morse signals by ear, eliminating the necessity for highly trained cable readers, and permitting the operation of ocean cables under conditions that would make communication impossible under the present system. The final experiments, which were initiated by Lieut. Col. George O. Squier were made on the signal cable cable, 1,058 miles long from Sitka, Alaska to Seattle, Wash.

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Study Food Values. Food provided for the family table deserves the careful thought of every housewife. Do you use thought when buying baking powder? The quality of cake, biscuits and all quickly raised flour foods depends largely upon the kind of baking powder used. Royal Baking Powder is made from cream of tartar derived from grapes. It is absolutely pure and has proved its excellence for making food of finest quality and wholesomeness for generations. Royal Baking Powder contains no alum nor phosphate. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO. New York

Daniels Urges an Increase in Pay of All Men in the Navy. Washington, Dec. 13.—An increase of five dollars a month in the pay of every enlisted man in the navy was recommended by Secretary Daniels today to the house naval committee. It would add three million dollars a year to the pay roll. Enlistments are increasing. Mr. Daniels said. He disapproved of a proposal for a bonus to stimulate the enlistment campaign. Colonel Roosevelt remarks that during the seven and a half years in which he was president, the country was never in the slightest danger of war. A piece of ground, even though small, is a very good thing to have. The most of the things bought lose value after they are bought, but it is not so with real estate.

Enchanting FLORIDA Awaits You. Real luxury in life includes a Winter trip to Florida—where cold is forgotten and summer pleasures mock the calendar. Golfing, bathing—all the exercise you crave, all the rest you seek. But, next best to getting there is the pleasure of going there, if you take a Burlington-planned trip. The route of scenic beauty—of princely service—is The BURLINGTON. The Mississippi River Scenic Line via Chicago—liberal stop-overs—long limits—generous choice of routes South. Whether Florida every winter is a yearly custom or you're experiencing it as a new joy—Burlington Service will add to your pleasure. Let's talk over your Winter rest and pleasure plans. F. M. Rugg, N. W. P. A. Railroad Building St. Paul. Burlington Route

A New Foley Book. "THE FRIENDLY FOLEY BOOK" A book of human verses by James W. Foley. Bound in brown cover leather, gold stamped, printed on hand-made deckle edge paper. All material in this volume is original matter never before published in book form. Each copy boxed. This is a true art edition, and a rare example of bookmaking art. As a Christmas Gift This Volume Is Ideal. Priced at \$2.50 Per Copy by insured mail, 15c extra. We have every Foley book printed in stock. Send for list. HOSKINS, PUBLISHER BISMARCK, N. D.