

SECRETARY HUGHES SUGGESTS NEW PLAN FOR SETTLING REPARATIONS TANGLE

Plan For Home For Armenians Presented At Near East Meet

Enterprise Would Be Financed By Possible \$20,000,000 U. S. Appropriation Or Popular Loan In Addition To Funds From Other Countries.

Lausanne, Dec. 30.—(By the Associated Press.)—Plans for an Armenian national home, financed by a possible \$20,000,000 appropriation by the United States congress or a popular loan in America...

TURKS SEND TROOPS Athens, Dec. 30.—The Turks are sending reinforcements in the direction of Mosul, the rich oil district, the ownership of which is in dispute at the Lausanne conference...

Lausanne, Dec. 30.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Lausanne conference completed its sixth week today with a solution of the Near Eastern question still in the making...

Marking Time. Bastrop, La., Dec. 30.—Another day of marking time while awaiting the return of federal and state investigators who have been conferring with state officials today served to increase the air of expectancy in Morehouse Parish...

Action by the Allies on the Armenian plan for a national home in Turkey was expected today. The sub-commission on minorities, which is wrestling with this difficult problem, listened yesterday to an appeal by the American observers...

RUSSIA, Dec. 30.—Foreign Minister Tchitcherin of Russia Friday made public a New Year's appeal to the American people, declaring that Russia while it hoped for peace in 1923, scouted the methods being pursued by the Allies at the Lausanne conference...

Expect Deputy. Baltimore, Md., Dec. 30.—Special Deputy Sheriff Calhoun of Morehouse Parish, who was held in a requisition on the governor of this state for the return to Louisiana of Dr. B. M. McKoin, is expected to arrive here tomorrow...

FARMER CAN'T PASS THE BUCK, HIBBARD SAYS

Declares Less Farming Is Means of Raising Prices.

Chicago, Dec. 30.—The farmer is thrown out of the economic line because there is no one below him to whom he may "pass the buck," Professor B. W. Hibbard of the University of Wisconsin declared here today at the closing session of the American Economic association convention...

What the farmer needs now is not a loan to make up his deficit for the moment which must be paid back later, both principal and interest. The logical way to make farmers prosperous is to lessen farming, just as the Co-operative methods have added money to the farmers' pocket but have failed because they have not made the farmer's products dearer...

What if the farmer should strike? One sort of strike he cannot stage too soon—a buyers strike against goods and services relatively scarce as high in prices as his own. It is a painful method but the sooner it is done the less will the farmer class sink in the scale of living.

CANADIAN EXPORTS TO U. S. IN OCT. WERE \$32,885,109

Washington, Dec. 30.—Canadian exports to the United States for October, the first complete month in which the new tariff was effective, totaled \$32,885,109, compared with \$26,919,000 in the same month of 1921.

RECORD ROBBERY. A cash payroll robbery was staged last night by a gang of five men in the city of St. Paul, Minn., and the robbers, believed to be part of the gang of four who had been active in the city for some time, escaped with a haul of \$20,000.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The \$225,000,000 naval appropriations bill was passed late today by the senate.

BENEDICT CROWL, FORMER SEC. OF WAR, AND SIX 'DOLLAR A YEAR MEN' INDICTED TODAY

Special Grand Jury Indicts Former Officials Under Wilson Administration On Charges Of Conspiracy To Defraud Government In The Construction Of War Camps.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Benedict Crowl, assistant secretary of war under the Wilson administration and six "dollar a year" men associated with the council of national defense, were indicted here today by the special grand jury involving war frauds on charges of conspiracy to defraud the government in construction of war time army camps and cantonments.

The other indicted are: William A. Starrett, Morton C. Tuttle, Clemens W. Lundoff, Clair Foster, John H. McGibbons, and James A. Mears.

The indictment charges a conspiracy to maladminister existing laws and regulations; to control the giving of contracts to friends, associates and clients under the "cost plus" system, which it is charged resulted in a loss to the government of millions of dollars and reduced the morale of labor.

More to Follow. The indictments are the first big salvo in Attorney General Daugherty's attack on many war-time contractors which the department of justice holds after exhaustive investigation to be fraudulent. Others are expected to follow, and it is estimated that the amounts involved when the attorney general's full program is under way will run into hundreds of millions of dollars.

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On the league side of the fence J. C. Miller of Bottineau has appeared as an active candidate, and it is understood that he is making an effort to attract some Independent votes his way largely on the strength of his record as an advocate of prohibition legislation.

LITTLE HOPE FOR KENMARE MAN HURT IN MINE ACCIDENT

Minot, N. D., Dec. 30.—Little hope is entertained by the attending physician for the recovery of Benjamin Bohm of Kenmare, who is confined in a local hospital suffering from burns which cover practically his entire body, and which were sustained when a keg of powder was ignited in a mine near Parshall, exploding and burning his clothes off.

Three Parshall, N. D. youths, Leroy Sanden, Lyle Clausen and Walter Deum, all age 15, who were watching the miner prepare the charge of explosives, are confined to their homes suffering from minor burns, which, according to word received here today, will not prove fatal.

FIRE UNDER CONTROL. Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 30.—A peat and brush fire which for a time threatened to burn several houses in St. Louis park, a suburb, was brought under control early today after about 1,000 residents of the community had battled the flames for four hours. The fire was brought under control without serious damage.

Priceless Historical Treasures In Canadian Church Destroyed

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OPTIMISTIC OVER OUTLOOK FOR COMING YEAR

Chicago, Dec. 30.—(By the Associated Press.)—Optimism for 1923 permeated summarizations from business standpoint of the year now closing as made public today by some of Chicago's leaders of finance and industry. They gave their reasons for their optimistic view of the situation, chief of which were:

Upward trend of trade. A tone of greater confidence. Improved conditions of agriculture. Increasing business activity generally. Favorable condition of bank reserves, interest rate and credit.

More normal relationship between prices of different classes of commodities.

LEGISLATORS AT SEA OVER SPEAKERSHIP

Independents to Caucus Monday Evening; Forecast Impossible at Present.

(By Staff Correspondent.) Bismarck, N. D., Dec. 30.—Members of the house of representatives who have so far arrived in Bismarck for the legislative session are decidedly at sea over the speakership question.

Caucus Monday Night. As the Independents have a majority of three in the house, it is conceded that they will be in a position to name the speaker, provided they unite on one man. With this end in view a caucus of the Independent house members is scheduled for Monday evening following a dinner to be held by all Independent legislators and state officials.

Miller Active Candidate. On the league side of the fence J. C. Miller of Bottineau has appeared as an active candidate, and it is understood that he is making an effort to attract some Independent votes his way largely on the strength of his record as an advocate of prohibition legislation.

Lackey a Possibility. There has also been some talk in league circles as to the possibility of Claude Lackey of Grant county, an Independent being supported as a compromise candidate. There seems to be some support for this plan which will meet with general favor of the Independent house members the names most frequently mentioned for the speakership, are those of C. H. Stark of Stark county, James Carr of Stutsman and Roy Johnson of Cass. William Watt and L. L. Twitchell, both of Cass county, are also mentioned to some extent, although neither of them has declared himself as a candidate. There has as yet been no crystallization of sentiment sufficient to make any forecast possible, however.

BABY ASPHYXIATED. Rugby, N. D., Dec. 30.—The infant child of Mr. and Mrs. John Schwan of the Balta neighborhood died at the local hospital from the effects of coal gas breathed during the night when the hard coal stove at the Schwan home filled the house with fumes. The father and mother, and Jacob Hoffart, a visitor, all of whom were nearly asphyxiated, are recovering.

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Financiers' Conference Urged As An Alternative If Allied Premiers Fall

HERALD TO PRINT AT NOON MONDAY

The evening edition of the Grand Forks Herald will be printed at noon on Monday, January 1, New Year's day, in order that the employees of the institution may properly observe the day.

Paris, Dec. 30.—A mortgage on the wealth of the German people up to 20 per cent of its total value is the guiding principle of the reparations proposals which Germany will make to the premiers' conference, according to the version of the German plan given by Lucien Chassaing, foreign editor of the Journal.

Mortgage, the writer says, would be established by means of income tax returns. Small business would make direct payments on the obligation but in the case of large concerns special shares of non-voting stock having preference in the profits, would be created. All these shares would be centered in a bank in Holland or Switzerland managed by a mixed control board presided over by a neutral.

Such a mortgage, M. Chassaing says, is estimated by the Germans as to produce thirty billion gold marks. In return, however, Chancellor Cuno, the article declares, will ask for abrogation of those clauses of the Versailles treaty which limit German commercial activity.

Figure Too Small. Although France accepts the principle of a mortgage on German wealth, the editor says that Herr Cuno's figure is much too small, inasmuch as the French share in the total would drop to sixteen billion gold marks or about half of the amount she has already spent in reconstructing the devastated regions.

International bankers, the writer asserts, are inclined to favor a loan to Germany. The Petit Parisien learns that the French reparations plan now is ready and that it requires only the approval of Premier Poincare.

Bonar Law Has Plan. London, Dec. 30.—(By the Associated Press.)—Prime Minister Bonar Law will take to the Paris conference of plenipotentiaries a complete plan on which the British cabinet passed judgment yesterday in the hope of obtaining a French agreement for a final settlement of the reparations problem, it was announced in British official quarters today.

Paris, Dec. 30.—Persistent reports that the United States would participate in next week's conference of premiers were definitely eliminated Friday upon the receipt of news that the United States would take no part in the meeting and that the American administration regards the forthcoming premiers' meeting as a purely European affair.

Although it is not believed the state department at Washington has made any statement on the matter, it is understood that there did not seem to be the slightest chance of American participation. There was some suggestion, however, that the breaking of the moratorium on reparations might prove some eleventh hour step by the United States.

4-POWER PACT REMOVED. Reports that Wilhelm Cuno, the German chancellor, intends to startle the premiers' conference with definite proposals for a four-power pact which would guarantee the security of France and the present Franco-German reparations problem, were commuted by President Harding today to expire at once on conditions that the eight prisoners leave the United States and never return.

The men whose sentences were commuted were: Aurelio Vincenti Azura, sentenced to 20 years; C. J. Bourg, 10 years; Peter Cron, 10 years; Charles L. Lambert, 20 years; Harry Lloyd, 5 years; Burr Lorton, 10 years; Sam Scarlett, 20 years, and Archie Sinclair, 10 years.

All of the men are subject to deportation if they are not permitted to return to their country the clemency granted would be void. It was further said that the president had reached the decision that should any one of them return, they would be apprehended and returned to Leavenworth penitentiary to serve out the remainder of his sentence.

The prisoners will be given sixty days in which to arrange for their departure, and will be required to give bond on their departure from prison that they will appear at a stated time and surrender themselves for deportation.

KIDNAPPED CHILD RETURNED HOME

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 30.—Eight-year-old Mary Giovannangeli, kidnapped eight days ago and held for a ransom of \$20,000, was returned to her home this morning less than 12 hours after her father, Nicola Giovannangeli, East Side banker, had reported her disappearance to the police.

The child was brought to within half a block of her home, where a man helped her from an automobile and directed her to "hurry home and don't be afraid of the dark."

DECLARES U. S. IS OPPOSED TO PLAN OF FORCE

Borah Is Willing to Withhold His Proposal for Economic Meet.

These Two Announcements Tend to Clear Air Regarding European Problems.

(By The Associated Press) Paris, Dec. 30.—France has made an intensive study of the reparations question for the last four years and is convinced that Germany does not want to restore her financial stability if such a step means payment in full of a reasonable war indemnity, much in the author's opinion, than a partial comment on the speech of the American secretary of state at New Haven last night.

Washington, Dec. 30.—Disclosure by Secretary Hughes, in his New Haven speech last night of the belief of the Washington government that an international commission of financiers, including Americans, might well be called in to recommend method of settlement of the reparations crisis, apparently leaves the next move in the hands of the Allied premiers.

Offered As An Alternative. The American suggestion, Mr. Hughes specified, was offered as an alternative in the event that the premiers, after their Paris meeting, Tuesday fail to find a basis for adjustment of their views "among themselves."

The secretary stressed the view that settlement by the premiers was to be hoped for. He pointed out that failing such an agreement, the world might be facing the employment of forcible means to collect reparations from Germany, a situation which he said would be a world peace the American government foresaw in that course.

Plan of Force Not Approved. The plain warning to Allied statesmen that the United States could not look with favor on attempted forcible collection of reparations, Mr. Hughes in his address, and the financial commission plan was put forward as an alternative that would "open hopefully" the way for American help.

Secretary Hughes' address and Senator Borah's withdrawal of his navy bill amendment requesting the president to offer it as an amendment combined to clear the air considerably with regard to the effort of the American government to be helpful in the reparations struggle. It has been made plain that the administration has the present hope of accomplishing good results through the method proposed by Senator Borah.

The two-day senate debate has served, however, to make officials both here and abroad aware of the desire in this country that American help should be given toward European recovery if a way to make it available can be found.

No Further Steps. There was nothing here today to indicate that the American government had it now in mind to take any other steps to suggest informally, as Mr. Hughes has done, to the Allies which the Allied premiers themselves might seek the aid of American economic strength in restoring Europe. Neither the White House nor the state department would give any definite information as to what attitude the sounder out process may have developed in European capitals. At the same time, however, there were indications that so far the plan had encountered no actual opposition on the part of any foreign government and that it is maintaining high hopes of its final acceptance.

Will Withhold Proposal. Washington, Dec. 30.—Although privately stating that he was prepared to offer it as an amendment to some other bill should the necessity arise, Senator Borah's decision to withhold his proposal for an international commission to investigate an amendment to the naval appropriation bill was regarded today as having finally disposed of it and settled the immediate issue which has held the senate in suspense for nearly a week.

The Idaho senator's announcement that he would withhold the proposed amendment came as the climax of the senate battle late yesterday after administration officials had been given by Senator Watson of Indiana, that the president was soundly out of the situation in ways which might result in a movement aiding in the adjustment of economic conditions in Europe. He appealed to Senator Borah for this reason not to press his proposed resolution.

New Haven, Conn., Dec. 30.—Secretary Hughes last night speaking before the American Historical association, suggested that a body of financiers, including Americans, discuss the reparations problem in an attempt to find a basis for settlement. Regarding this proposal, the secretary spoke as follows:

(Continued on Page 3.)

MINNEAPOLIS DAILY NEWS HAS BEEN SOLD

St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 29.—Sale of the Minneapolis Daily News to John H. Perry and Richard Lord, owners of a string of newspapers, was announced here today.

The Clover Leaf Publications company, owner of the News, the change in ownership became effective January 1, 1923.

\$6,500,000 FOR MODERNIZING VESSELS ASKED

President Transmits Letter From Denby Urging Appropriation.

Enactment of Capper Rural Credits Bill Urged By Sec. Mellon.

Washington, Dec. 30.—A supplemental appropriation of \$6,500,000 for modernization of battleships was requested of congress today by President Harding, who transmitted a letter from Secretary Denby declaring that as a result of the arms conference decisions, the nation must adopt a new policy regarding its capital ships if they are to be maintained at a standard of efficiency comparable to that of similar vessels of foreign powers.

BOOSTS CAPPER BILL. Washington, Dec. 30.—(By the Associated Press.)—Enactment of the Capper rural credits bill, together with legislation extending the power of the war finance corporation for nine months, rather than the Lenoxx bill, which heretofore has borne the administration stamp, were commuted by Secretary Mellon today before the senate banking committee.

EIGHT L. W. W. MEMBERS SET FREE TODAY

Harding Commutes Sentences On Condition That They Leave U. S.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The sentence of eight members of the Industrial Workers of the World, convicted in the Haywood case of conspiracy and violation of war time laws, were commuted by President Harding today to expire at once on conditions that the eight prisoners leave the United States and never return.

The men whose sentences were commuted were: Aurelio Vincenti Azura, sentenced to 20 years; C. J. Bourg, 10 years; Peter Cron, 10 years; Charles L. Lambert, 20 years; Harry Lloyd, 5 years; Burr Lorton, 10 years; Sam Scarlett, 20 years, and Archie Sinclair, 10 years.

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