



# The Tacoma Times

Night Edition



Will U. S. lose money it loans to Russia? Read Charles Edward Russell's reply, on page 3.

1c A COPY. THE ONLY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER IN TACOMA. 1c A COPY. TACOMA, WASHINGTON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1917. VOL. XIV, NO. 216.

WEATHER  
Tacoma and vicinity:  
Fair tonight and Sunday.  
Washington: Fair to-  
night and Sunday; warmer  
east portion.

# FIREMEN ALL RESIGN

## Reading the Stars POPE HINTS AT EARLY PEACE



### PEACE COUNCIL SUPRESSED!

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
CHICAGO, Sept. 1.—The People's Peace Council's conference was broken up by the police at 1 o'clock this afternoon.

Deputy Supt. of Police Westbrook, followed by two dozen policemen, marched down the aisle to the platform of the west side auditorium and declared that "acting on orders of Gov. Lowden, I am requested to tell you to disperse."

They dispersed. Seymour Stedman, general counsel of the socialist party, acting as temporary chairman, was in the chair when Westbrook entered.

As Westbrook was making his statement, dispersing the meeting, Stedman interrupted with "just a minute, please, I'd like to make a motion to adjourn."

"You'll do nothing," shouted Westbrook.

"But another word out of you and you'll be under arrest," Stedman subsided and the delegates filed out of the hall.

Before the meeting was stopped, Stedman was made permanent chairman and Louis P. Lochner permanent secretary.

**QUIT MILWAUKEE**  
(United Press Leased Wire.)  
MILWAUKEE, Wis., Sept. 1.—They came—they read the morning papers—they went.

"The People's Council will meet in Washington to determine their constitutional rights," said Louis P. Lochner, executive secretary of the council, on board the train carrying them from Minneapolis to Chicago.

Lochner attempted to hide from reporters by locking himself in a compartment.

Morning papers carried big headline of Gov. Phillip's warning that the council should not meet in Wisconsin.

The "peaceers" appeared nervous and disturbed even though the train stopped here but a short time.

There, in the meantime, Robert Howe, secretary of the Cook County Socialist League, as spokesman for 75 members of the council gathered at the Fort Dearborn hotel, announced, "The peace conference of the People's Peace Council will be held in Chicago immediately."

Lochner and other delegates from Minneapolis on their arrival left at once for the west side auditorium to participate in the meeting.

Austria Pleas'd.  
No punitive damages.  
No dismemberment of empires.  
No exclusive economic leagues.  
No implied, direct or indirect restrictions as to the seas.

As bearing with special significance on the pope's reported view that democratization of Germany might yet come about, officials today recalled the United Press' exclusive information of two days ago reporting that not only Emperor Karl of Austria, but Kaiser Wilhelm himself had written the pope indicating a pledge to the widest democratization.

In Rome diplomatic circles today, the view was expressed that the American note by its specific strictures against dismemberment of nations, had destroyed the probability of a declaration of war against Austria or at least had postponed such a step for some time.

**Verification**  
(United Press Leased Wire.)  
WASHINGTON, Sept. 1.—Pope Benedict will launch formal "feelers" to further the ends of peace, according to confidential advisers received at diplomatic quarters today.

**"Us Too"**  
(United Press Leased Wire.)  
LONDON, Sept. 1.—England's reply to Pope Benedict will probably be mere affirmation of President Wilson's note, according to the view today, following Lord Robert Cecil's enthusiastic eulogy of the American position. All

**SEABORN COMPANY LAUNCHES VESSEL**  
The fifth ship built by the Seaborn yards will be launched at 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon. It will be named the Betsy Ross, and Miss Ross, daughter of a well known Seattle shipping man, will christen the schooner. A steamer for the Emergency Shipping corporation is now on the ways.

**WOMEN GIVEN RAISE IN WAGE**  
(Special to The Times.)  
OLYMPIA, Sept. 1.—Increases amounting to thousands of dollars were given women workers by the action of the industrial welfare commission on minimum wage schedules yesterday. Nearly every industry in the state except the lumber and shipbuilding trades will be more or less affected, according to C. H. Younger, labor commissioner. Apprentice women will receive a 33-1/3 per cent increase. Plants in which the apprenticeship period is now six months will have it shortened to three months.

**TALK O' THE TIMES**  
Greetings, do you instinctively walk a little straighter when you see one of those erect army officers?

After a few lessons in running an automobile, we respectfully offer these hints to persons who may be thinking of trying the same:

1. Take off your emergency brake before starting.

2. On entering the garage stop before you come to the far wall.

And that reminds us that somewhere we read that the Rev. E. Leslie Pidgcon, president of the International Rotary, says that Henry Ford is a greater evangelist than Billy Sunday because he has shaken the devil out of vastly more people.

Another cheer for Rachel Roe! That girl is hard to beat. She makes piano music with Her hands and not her feet.

Go into the wood business, too, Mayor.

An excellent way to get rid of moths is suggested by a Ruston friend. Impale them on a No. 8 fishhook and drop them lightly on a trout brook.

If Nick Romanoff is as fond of shovelling snow as reported he can have a perfectly lovely time in Siberia.

**Second Note To Be Sent; Kaiser May Be Ditched.**

### REFORM IN GERMANY?

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
ROME, Sept. 1.—Pope Benedict is still hopeful that peace may come, perhaps soon, on President Wilson's own terms—democratization of Germany.

Emphasis was laid today on the fact that despite the unfavorable reply from America, Pope Benedict does not propose to abandon his attempts to restore peace. When all the belligerents shall have replied, the Holy Father proposes another attempt. The second note probably will set forth the points of unanimity in peace aims developed in all the reply notes and will discuss the points of variance.

An exclusive epitome of the Vatican's view of the president's note, as given the United Press, today contained this significant expression of optimism.

The initial disappointment of the American reply has been dispensed in part, the United Press was informed, by careful weighing of the president's words.

See Common Ground.  
The pope now sees the note as holding promise and not as a cold, absolute rejection.

He is hopeful that President Wilson's attitude "eventually, perhaps soon, will cause the creation of a German chancellor responsible to the people," said one of the United Press' informants.

It can be stated on the highest authority that the pope has been cheered by some features of the president's note. The Holy Father believes that the president's persistent and insistent distinction drawn between the German people and the German government and what certain Vatican officials call his "fixed genius of direction," is changing the whole philosophy of the allied war.

The just Christian peace, which Pope Benedict proposed in his appeal was regarded as entirely harmonious with the American president's policies. Those policies, as the Vatican saw them today, were in the main:

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**Dishonorable**  
(United Press Leased Wire.)  
BERLIN, Sept. 1.—"It would be dishonorable to refuse the demand of President Wilson that the people of Germany guarantee the peace treaty," the Vorwaerts asserts today.

**Verboten**  
(United Press Leased Wire.)  
AMSTERDAM, Sept. 1.—President Wilson's reiterated distinction between the German government and the German people caused most irritation in German editorial comment today, on the reply to the Vatican.

Dispatches here quoted the Berlin Tageblatt as remarking in this connection:

"President Wilson speaks of the democratization of Germany, which we also desire. But internal questions are forbidden territory for foreigners."

## Fine Business!

- Good work, Mayor Fawcett! can get around to attend to them.
- Your plan for the city to sell coal is the best idea that has come out of the city hall in many a day.
- The government has fixed a maximum price that the mine owners can charge at the mine.
- The wholesalers and retailers are showing no disposition as yet to make a corresponding reduction in the cost as laid down in our basements.
- They probably will be forced to do it as soon as Dictator Garfield
- But the winter may be half over by that time.
- So let the city do it now.
- It is a simple matter.
- Buy trainloads of the coal, haul it to a central depot in Tacoma and distribute it by auto truck to who ever wants it, and DO IT AT ACTUAL COST.
- A whole lot of duplication of effort will be eliminated and at least two middlemen's profits saved the consumer.

### REJECT UNIONS' APPEAL

Requests of the Building Trades Council of Tacoma that city officials declare a closed shop in construction of the new street railway viaduct over the Milwaukee switch yards at 11th street, were turned down at the city hall Friday afternoon.

T. Meredith Parsons, secretary of the council, with two other labor representatives, made the request in Commissioner Atkins' private office, with other officials present.

"We told the gentlemen that the city absolutely could not declare a closed shop in any of its industries," declared Atkins Saturday.

"We must give our own citizens employment, and select the persons whom we feel best fitted for the work. The request for a closed shop was unreasonable and we refused it."

The city has already started construction on the viaduct, and is hiring pile-driver workmen, carpenters and structural workmen. All work in connection with construction of the new trolley car line will be done by day labor, under supervision of city officials.

**CARPENTERS ASKED TO GATHER AT 9:30**  
All union carpenters are notified by L. Richter, secretary, to meet at 9:30 a. m. Monday at the new hall, 923 Commerce street, to form for the parade.

other allies were expected to take the same course.

That the allies were not consulted prior to the dispatch of President Wilson's reply to the pope's peace appeal, was definitely stated today by Cecil.

### Fatally Hurt In Auto Smash

H. E. Barker, 4842 South M st., was perhaps fatally hurt Friday when the automobile he was driving left the road and turned over, near Sumner. His 4-year-old boy also was hurt. Other members of the family were uninjured. Barker is a longshoreman, and was driving to Orting to visit relatives.

### ARMY'S SHELLS FAULTY

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 1.—One third of the rifle ammunition supplied to Gen. Pershing's expedition proved faulty, it was learned officially today.

When originally tested at the Frankford arsenal, Philadelphia, where it was made, the lot was good. Deterioration afterward rendered the cartridges useless.

The defectiveness was due to use of impure domestic potash lorde, as the supply of German potash has been exhausted. The new quality was found to contain by-products which reacted to form an acid and prevent explosion.

As soon as this difficulty was noticed the department obtained chemically pure potassium chlorate and has had no further trouble since.

**TODAY'S CLEARINGS**  
Clearings ..... \$ 380,269.99  
Balances ..... 44,953.44  
Transactions ..... 1,118,688.41

### A Tragic Problem to Face

(Special to The Times.)  
INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Sept. 1.—"The problem American women will have to face and fight at the close of the war is the Black Plague—the social disease which inevitably follows in war's wake," is the declaration of Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association and International Council of Women.

"A conspiracy of silence has been keeping this fact from women, but they are learning the truth."

"The women of Australia have learned it—Australia, clean and free from disease before the war."

"News from Germany is censored, but I know, personally, that German women have had meetings to deal with this greatest of all war's tragedies."

"The soldier's leisure time when he is not in training or trenches, the separation from women, and war's general abnormal conditions are responsible."

"We cannot help these abnormal conditions, for we cannot follow our sons and brothers to

France. So we will have to wait until they return, and provide the remedy."

"The first step will have to be a compulsory physical examination and certificate of health as a requisite for a marriage license. We will have to insist on treatment for venereal diseases and try to stamp them out just as we try to stamp out tuberculosis."

"This will raise a new problem—the problem of immorality—illegal unions will be formed if a marriage is prohibited when a health certificate cannot be obtained. But these clandestine relations cannot continue indefinitely, and they will prove a less evil than legalized marriage of the unhealthy, which can be nothing but disastrous."

"Women are directly responsible for cleaning up districts in the vicinity of training camps. If these efforts fail, the women of America will do as the women of Great Britain have done. They will form a patrol to keep the prostitute from the training camp."

**105 Members of Force To Step Out On Sept. 12.**

### PUTS CITY IN BAD FIX

Every city fireman in the Tacoma fire department—105 men of all ranks from hosemen to captains—announced their formal resignation to Commissioner Pettit Saturday morning, effective Sept. 12.

The resignations filled several sheets of paper, and simply announced that the men would quit their places one week from next Wednesday.

Each sheet bore the seal of the Tacoma Firemen's union No. 15,601, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

At the same time that the resignation was laid on Pettit's desk the city council convened for what was to have been a joint session with heads of the fire department union. Not one of the firemen appeared in the council room, however.

Members of the fire department explained afterwards that they had nothing to discuss with the city council.

They had made a simple request for a two-platoon system in the fire department, they said, with the warning that they would resign on Sept. 1 if the request were not granted.

**City in Dilemma.**  
No surprise was expressed when Commissioner Pettit announced that his entire fire department had quit.

"Well, let them quit," said the mayor. "Every man has a right to quit his job if he wants to."

"The long hours of the fire department are terrible, there's no doubt about that. But we're up against a situation that has no apparent solution."

"There isn't any law which demands that the city must furnish fire protection. And there is a law which prevents us from going over a 15-mill levy. So what are we to do about it?"

**Call For Applicants.**  
After the council session, Commissioner Pettit sent word to Secretary Dudley Eshelman of the civil service board that he would call immediately for an examination of applicants for the fire department.

"I do not believe that anyone will apply for the positions of the men who have resigned," explained Pettit.

"But the law provides that we must have civil service men if they can be obtained."

If no one does apply the city will endeavor to hire men at random to assume charge of the fire department. This is also expected to be difficult, because the department is almost completely motorized, and only skilled men are capable of handling the powerful machines.

**24-Hour Job.**  
Any men hired to fill the places of the firemen who quit will be asked to work 24-hour shifts.

The resigned firemen automatically lose all their standing in the civil service ratings, and their rights to any pension benefits.

Every member of the city council expressed utter dismay over the fire department situation Saturday.

Mayor Fawcett produced figures from City Controller Shoemaker showing that if the city's expenses continue during the remainder of the year at the same proportion to the first seven months, there will be exactly \$1.53 left in the general fund on Jan. 1.

With no available money to meet the demands of the firemen, and no chance to increase the debt limit except men declared that they were by vote of the people, council-fearing one of the most perplexing and serious problems in the life of the city.

Some Real Estate Bargains On Page 6 Today

The real estate market has started to boom. If you are thinking of buying a home or investing, now is the time.