THE EVENING STAR.

With Sunday Morning Edition.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

FRIDAY.....November 25, 1921

THEODORE W. NOYES....Editor

The Evening Star Newspaper Company

Business Office, 11th St. and Pennsylvania Ave.
New York Office: 150 Nassau St.
Chicago Office: First National Bank Building.
European Office: 3 Regent St., London, England.

The Evening Star, with the Sunday morning edition, is delivered by carriers within the city at 60 cents per month; daily only, 45 cents per month; Sunday only, 20 cents per month. Orders may be sent by mail, or telephone Main 5000. Collection is made by carriers at the end of each month.

Rate by Mail—Payable in Advance.

Maryland and Virginia.

Daily and Sunday..1 yr., $8.40; 1 mo., 70c
Daily only.....1 yr., $6.00; 1 mo., 50c
Sunday only.....1 yr., $2.40; 1 mo., 20c

All Other States.

Daily and Sunday..1 yr., $10.00; 1 mo., 85c
Daily only.....1 yr., $7.00; 1 mo., 60c
Sunday only.....1 yr., $3.00; 1 mo., 25c

French and British Discord.

Lord Curzon's speech in London yesterday is only an addition to accumulating evidence that British and French policies are drifting apart, and that misunderstandings are arising which make more and more difficult the task of bringing those policies again into harmonious co-operation. It is impossible to view otherwise than with concern and apprehension widening of the rift between the two great European democracies which unitedly did so much for the preservation of human liberty and the continued unity of which is so necessary to reconstruction of a war-torn world.

And what makes this conflict of purpose so deplorable and so hard of comprehension is that there is no lack of sympathy between the French and British peoples nor, so far as has been disclosed, any absence of good will and generous desire on the part of either government. Both nations have the same ends in view, the economic restoration of Europe and the assurance of continued peace. But they are far apart, and seemingly are growing farther apart, in their beliefs as to how these ends may be accomplished.

The crux of the difficulty is the future of Germany. British public opinion has progressed far from the day when it enthusiastically indorsed Lloyd George's declaration that Germany should be made to pay the cost of the war to the last farthing and her leaders suffer the penalty of their guilt. It has come to be understood in England that Germany cannot pay at all and that the rest of Europe cannot prosper unless the former enemy is given opportunity and materials for work and production and afforded a market in which to sell her products. France understands that so far the British view is sound, but her fear that a producing and prosperous Germany will be a Germany determined on revenge overshadows the logic of the British contention. So it falls out that inability to agree on a policy toward Germany leads to disagreements as to other policies, and in the near east and elsewhere there is conflict between French and British aims.

Could France be brought to confidence that Germany could be permitted to prosper without danger of another war there would be no conflict between the French and British German policies, and the chances are that concord would quickly be established as to policies elsewhere. If a way can be found at the Washington conference to bring this about it will add as much to the glory of the gathering as an agreement to limit naval armaments and a settlement of far eastern questions.

A Holiday Recess.

A recess for the conference, to be taken in time to enable members living at a distance from Washington to go home for the holidays, is suggested.

Christmas makes a strong appeal, even to those engaged with the most important public business. It is observable in the case of Congress. The Christmas recess takes two weeks out of the session—even the short session, which is limited to three months, and when time is precious.

Efforts have been made to change this, or to reduce the recess to a few days. Some of the veteran legislators have at one time or another tried to impress upon their associates the importance of remaining on the job once begun. The late Champ Clark held strong views on the subject, and voiced them several times while Speaker. But a sort of holiday fever precedes the holiday season, and when it seizes a person, even a legislator burdened with business, he is powerless in its grasp.

Presumably, the legislators will yield again this year, though the argument against a recess was never stronger. There will be some hangovers from the special session, and business galore besides. An early adjournment—at the beginning of summer if possible—is desired, in order that members seeking re-election may open their campaigns early. But the chances are that when the time comes the usual recess will be taken and the usual fortnight subtracted from the working time of the session. Santa Claus is a charmer, and will not take no for an answer.

Sovietists could hardly have contributed suggestions of value to the conference, though perhaps they might have been relied on to make the argument much livelier.

In spite of the events of enormous interest and importance now progressing, practical life and popular custom cannot be ignored. It is proper to remark, "Shop early."

Futile Russian Revolts.

Gen. Petlura's Ukrainian campaign against the Russian soviet government has collapsed, as have several preceding military movements in opposition to the reds. Nobody knows how many lives have been sacrificed in these successive revolts. Nobody, indeed, knows just how many campaigns have been undertaken during the four years of soviet rule. The chief insurrections have been those of Denekin, Semenoff, Kolchak and Wrangel. Petlura's movement seems to have been of slight importance compared with the others. The people of Russia are to a very great extent hostile to the Moscow administration. The failures of these revolts do not mean that the anti-bolshevik sentiment in Russia is slight. The soviet has control of the munitions of war and has a well equipped army. It has all the advantage of position. Thus far it has been favored by the fact that these revolutionary movements have occurred separately. If all five of these insurrections had taken place simultaneously the soviet would probably have been overthrown. There is one final consideration. Most of the anti-soviet movements have been attributed to the czarists, seeking the restoration of the old regime. Whatever their sufferings from the soviet rule, the people of Russia can have no sympathy with a military enterprise which seeks or is suspected of seeking the re-establishment of their old imperial bureaucracy. Until the people acquire the capacity of revolt on their own account they will probably continue to endure the sufferings of today rather than risk the utilization of their insurgency by agents of czarism. The soviet commissars at Moscow craftily play upon these suspicions and have so far had little trouble in holding the mass of the people away from the insurgent commanders. Had there been support on the part of the peasantry and the townspeople Denekin, or Kolchak, or Semenoff, or Wrangel would have had a good chance of success.

A Supreme Court Building.

In continuation of its survey of the present and prospective conditions around the Capitol, the Commission of Fine Arts in its annual report notes a subject that has been somewhat neglected during recent years, but which forms a part of the broad plan of capital maintenance. The commission says:

By common consent the remaining vacant space facing the Capitol on the east has been assigned to a building for the Supreme Court of the United States, a co-ordinate branch of the government, but, since the removal of the seat of government to the District of Columbia in 1800, occupying the same building with the Congress. A separate building for the Supreme Court is one of the projects to be left to the time when the increasing demands of Congress for space in the Capitol shall make the removal of the court imperative. Occupiers of land to be taken, however, should face the probability that sooner or later their holdings will be required for government purposes.

Of the need of a Supreme Court building there has been no doubt for many years. That need is increasing, and if Congress were to act at once for the construction of a suitable home for the highest court the contingency which the Commission of Fine Arts notes as the imperative occasion for the removal from the Capitol will have arrived ere the building can be finished.

But the question of constructing a suitable Supreme Court building should not rest upon that of the need by Congress of the space in the Capitol now occupied by that body. Higher consideration should prevail. The Supreme Court is not a suitable occupant of the Capitol, and it has never had suitable quarters. The present courtroom, the old Senate chamber, is in itself a dignified apartment, but altogether too small, while the space available for justices' chambers, for consultation rooms, for counsel rooms, for library and for the administrative offices is wholly inadequate.

Sentiment has undoubtedly governed for some years to keep the Supreme Court where it is now established. It is understood that notwithstanding the disadvantages and inconveniences of the Capitol location, the justices prefer their present habitation to any new provision. But the time must come when a separate building will be required in the public interest. Inevitably the time will arrive when the room in the Capitol is too seriously needed for legislative purposes to warrant further housing of the court. True, the pressure on the Capitol has been lessened lately by the construction of the office buildings for House and Senate, but even so, a serious congestion is felt in both branches of Congress.

The final sentence of the extract from the commission's report is worthy of attention. Occupiers of the land that has been thus preempted in effect for the Supreme Court building should have more than such a vague warning. Inasmuch as this site embracing three city "squares" has been definitely marked off on the map as the place for the Supreme Court the government should proceed now to acquire the land, just as it did several years ago in case of the five squares at the western end of the Mall-Avenue triangle. The owners and occupants of land thus distinctly marked as eventual government property for building purposes should not be kept in uncertainty over an indefinite period.

The animals that found a final resting place in the Roosevelt collection in the National Museum did not know when they met what they considered a misfortune that it would eventually enable them to participate in a brilliant social function.

The fact that peace would mean repose does not encourage any idea of running the risk of being caught napping.

The Chinese are famous for their philosophy, but are necessarily troubled by large elements of population that would rather fight than philosophize.

November has established itself in the calendar as a gale month.

Foreign Flags.

Not to be unduly boastful, it may be pointed out that Washington's present experience with the flags of the nations in use as complimentary decorations proves that the United States has really the best of all national emblems. It is always right side up, except by sheer blundering. There is a right way about it, and so obviously a wrong way that only by a mechanical mistake can it get twisted. The blue field of stars naturally belongs next to the staff, and once seen in that position can never be forgotten. But other flags are different. There is no plainly distinguishing mark about some of them to insure their proper hanging. It takes an expert to know when a British flag is upside down, and the same is true, it would seem, of some others. Of course, a Hollander or an Englishman or a Chinaman would know instantly whether the flag of his own country was flying right, be the differences between ends and sides ever so slight. But let one of those nationalities once get an American flag right and it will be always right, because there is something to remember in the "blue field next the staff" direction. For the inadvertent mistakes that have been made in Washington during the past fortnight in the hanging of foreign flags every one is deeply regretful. There is no lack of courtesy or of desire to be particular. It is simply that somehow some of the foreign flags are not "self-hangers," and that Americans have not yet learned their secrets. Fortunately there are people here who take these matters seriously and are helpful in correcting mistakes.

A Session and Its Application.

Shall we see the controlling power on Capitol Hill apply at the regular session the perfectly obvious lesson of the special session?

When Congress assembled in April everything seemed set for early action on the more pressing questions of the day. The Speaker of the House and the floor leader of the majority had virtually been selected, as had also the majority leader in the Senate. Committee assignments could speedily be made. Organization work, therefore, would require no time at all. What was to prevent dispatching all the business in a few months?

Everything looked so easy, everything began to drift. "There's plenty of time" was the answer returned to every inquiry as to the lack of speed.

So here is the session's end, with an uncompleted card and much criticism current as to delays and frictions and divisions.

Will the regular session buckle to business, and from the first day drive full speed ahead? Or will it go upon the proposition that "there's plenty of time," and thus permit things to drift?

There is no time to spare. The routine alone will draw heavily against the time there is, and midsummer should see the shutters up and the legislators scattered to their homes, and those aspiring to further service busy with their campaigns. A regular session "hard at it" from the very start, and keeping at it until the close—no drifting, no recesses—would be the greatest blessing Congress could bestow upon the country, and the most valuable asset the party in power could show in the fall contests.

Mulligrubs and the Remedy.

Softly! Why so hot? Why so impatient? Why such frequent and fluent despairing of civilization?

Congress met in April, and tackled a large and difficult job. There was no reason for expecting immediate relief from the woes afflicting the country. They had grown out of a war unprecedented for size and suffering. And yet because relief has not been immediately forthcoming a raucous complaint goes up that the country is headed for smash. What can save us? If anything can, how long shall we have to wait for it?

The armament conference has been in session only a fortnight. It got an excellent and assuring start with a program of great delicacy and difficulty. The whole world applauded. There was no reason for expecting an immediate solution of the different problems awaiting attention. And yet murmurings about delay and failure are rising. At home here, and in some quarters abroad, an effort is being made to discredit the conference and hand the world over to the bow-wows.

America will come back, and Congress will help to bring it back. The world will come back, and the armament conference will help to bring it back. Those in despair, or who think they are, should brace up and have some style about them. Civilization is not at the mercy of even such commotion as the world is now experiencing, but is deeply socketed in the hearts of those who are standing together in its behalf and able and eager to save it. The man with mulligrubs should send for a doctor.

The ancient idea that a man had to be a good dancer in order to make a successful diplomat has about vanished. It has given place to the milder requirement that he shall be ready to shake hands at a moment's notice.

Loan cancellation cannot become popular if there is any possibility of its setting a precedent which might assert itself in ordinary business transactions.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

The Dove in the Spotlight.

The dove of peace is not so shy
As doves are often painted.
His present effort is to try
To get men more acquainted.

As an observant bird he knows
A man respects his brother,
And people seldom come to blows
Who understand each other.

Unto seclusion he inclines
When rage becomes erratic.
But very brilliantly he shines
In matters diplomatic.

Mathematically Considered.

"I am sure you would never think of buying votes as people were accused of doing in the old days."

"No," said Senator Sorghum. "Prices in general have become so high that I should at present regard the cost of votes as prohibitive."

Jud Tunkins says that losin' your temper is like losin' a golf ball. No matter how good your intentions were to start with, you're delayin' the game."

Mental Limitations.

I offer no apology
For dropping off to sleep.
When some one says "psychology,"
I know I'm in too deep.

"Sometimes," said Uncle Eben, "de guest of honor at a party don't succeed in lookin' near as important as de floor manager."

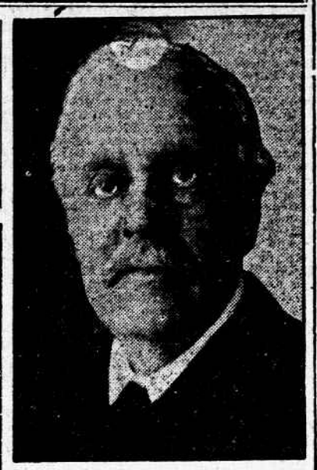
Not Wasting Any.

"That lady talks all the time."

"She has heard," suggested Miss Cayenne, "that silence is golden and is trying to be economical."

Who's Who At the Arms Conference

V—Arthur James Balfour



ARTHUR JAMES BALFOUR.

ARTHUR JAMES BALFOUR, former prime minister of Great Britain, heads the British delegation to the conference on the limitation of armament during the time that Lloyd George is not present. Mr. Balfour is not a stranger in Washington, and many there are who remember him when he came here during the war to beseech immediate aid from America, and accomplished all his aims by his geniality and inspiring personality. He was tremendously popular in America, despite the fact that he is not of a democratic nature.

Although Scotch by birth, his chief characteristic from his first appearance in the house of commons up to the present day has been that of an autocratic aristocrat, despite which fact he has kept to the fore in British politics for many years through his brilliancy and intellectuality.

Arthur Balfour is the son of Mr. Balfour of Whittinghame, his mother being a Cecil, a daughter of the Marquis of Saulsbury. He was born in 1848 on the big family estate near Preston Kirk, near the Firth of Forth, and his whole youth had the sheltered bringing up of one of the nobility. At fourteen he entered Eaton, where he got on well with both students and teachers, but took no active part in sports, as he was a frail youth. In later years, however, he became very fond of deer stalking, and became a golfer of no mean skill. Drifting through Cambridge in an easy way, his only real attraction being to play the concertina and to collect blue china, he left college a callow, esthetic, wealthy, languid boy, with apparently no gift and less ambition.

Despite little desire for work or achievement, he entered parliament as the representative from the borough of Hertford, most of which belonged to his mother's family, and he was altogether bored with the house. He showed, however, keen aptitude as a statesman, although he gave the impression of merely playing with politics for the fun of the fight. He soon became a strong member in the conservative party, and his scholarly and erudite address won leadership for him, but his policies were not the sort that found favor throughout the land. Since 1885 he has represented East Manchester in the house. In 1886 he was secretary for Scotland, and later his uncle, Lord Salisbury, chose him to be secretary for Ireland, because he thought he had the strength and fearlessness to put her government on a firm foundation. He proved at once that he was both intelligent and courageous, and set about to help the economic situation. The Irish press abused him from the very start, because of his unmerciful attitude toward the common people, his determination to put down disorders by any means at hand and his utter contemptuousness for the Irish parliament. He was sympathetic with the Irish people, but looked upon them as an unruly nursery in revolt, whose spirit had to be broken. Despite the hatred of Erin, when he resigned his post as secretary to become leader of the house and first lord of the treasury, his position was one of unassailable superiority, and withal a great good had been accomplished.

Balfour is an eloquent, scholarly speaker. His addresses, however, have more the characteristic of giving a survey of a subject than pointing out any distinct line of action. Once after a brilliant pronouncement of his at the Paris conference Clemenceau said: "That is wonderful, Mr. Balfour. Now just which side of the question do you suggest we adopt?"

Although Britain's former prime minister is supposed to have no great interest in the welfare of the common people he at least is keenly and zealously interested in the welfare of his and other nations, and he enters this conference with a heart and mind set for but one purpose—to aid the world in throwing off a part of the load of militarism from its shoulders.

EDITORIAL DIGEST

China's Declaration of Independence.

China is no novice in the manufacture of fireworks, and apparently her verbal skyrockets are as impressive as the more tangible variety she ships us in the late spring. At any rate, the unexpected projection into the conference of the ten proposals which the Chinese representatives submit as a basis for a new Chinese policy is looked upon by editorial writers as a clever means of keeping up the pyrotechnics that Secretary Hughes started. Whether regarded as a "declaration of independence" or merely as a "plea," the Chinese platform is accepted by sympathetic American papers as pointing the way to equitable adjustments in the far east. The feeling is expressed by other writers, however, that the attitude of the delegates rather unfairly places all the responsibility for China's condition on other shoulders when, as a matter of fact, she is very largely to blame, and her problems, after all, are chiefly domestic.

The "amazing thing about China's ten points" to the Louisville Courier-Journal (democratic) is that "they plead for things which nations of the western world take for granted." Even in this the Philadelphia Public Ledger (independent) says that country "has dared greatly" in its declaration that "it wants to be a nation again, not a road to riches for aliens," and that "it is tired of being a field where the yellow man plows and sows and the white man and the brown man reap." But that very daring reveals to the Birmingham News (democratic) that the Celestial empire is developing "a man-sized race consciousness clothed with all the zeal and determination that have marked the birth of new republics," a development, the News adds, which will doubtless "be viewed with alarm, not only by the Japanese but by those great western powers who for many generations have viewed the empire as a vast stretch of territory abandoned by Almighty God to the strategems and spoliation of so-called civilized powers."

The statement of principles which China now advances is indeed "an indictment of the exploitation to which she has been subjected in the past quarter of a century by the very powers to which she now appeals," declares the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot (independent democrat), an attitude which is shared by many writers. But if it is an indictment of past treatment, in its relation to the future it is "nothing short of a declaration of independence," according to the Newark News (independent).

The "ten principles," says the Boston Transcript (independent republican), "are in accord with the spirit of disinterested friendship for China which Secretary Daniel Webster set forth in his instructions to Mr. Cushing, and which has been the American policy toward China ever since," being, in fact, the Topeka Capital (republican) adds, "scarcely more than a paraphrase of traditional American policy relating to the far east." Acceptance and observance of these principles by the other powers will, the New York Times (independent democrat) states, "safeguard China against infringements upon her independence, her territory and her liberty of action, and will leave her free to work out her destiny in her own manner."

Varying estimates of the force behind China's proposals may be suggested by the terms applied to them. The Pittsburgh Press (independent), for instance, speaks of them as "uncompromising demands"; the Duluth Herald (independent) thinks China has made no "requests" that should not be granted, and the Canton News (democratic) regards them as "a plea so reasonable that it is not easy to see how any honorable nation can raise objections."

But a number of papers are not so sanguine of the reception which will be accorded such a policy. "If the powers would consent to the full application of these principles, they would give up all the special rights and privileges that they enjoy in various parts of China," and the Waterbury (Conn.) Republican (republican) thinks this "is too much to expect." The Chattanooga News (democratic) feels that "the conference will have to possess courage far above the ordinary to try its hand at going back of these accomplished facts and undoing the ancient wrong," for, as the Brooklyn Eagle (independent democrat) says, while less material concessions may be made, "Japan shows no disposition to relinquish her grip on the Liao-tung peninsula and upon Manchuria, nor does Great Britain indicate that she intends to part with her valuable trade concessions, and, least of all, with Hongkong." Even the United States is not so guiltless, the Des Moines Register (independent republican) points out, but that "the Chinese demand that Americans, along with all the others, quit bothering the Chinese in China will put an entirely new face on the negotiations."

The "central difficulty in China's position," the New York Post (independent) agrees, is "the weakness of China herself," which has made possible "the series of aggressions upon her territory and has rendered necessary the introduction of the principle of extraterritoriality." China "as a government," says the Buffalo Express (independent republican), "is a mental as well as a financial bankrupt, and it has been necessary for the great powers to take a hand in governing." It is all very well, the New York World (democratic) holds, "to talk about pledges to respect the integrity of China, but what is the China whose integrity is to be respected? There must first be a Chinese government that can keep the door open, at least to the extent of not secretly yielding to foreign pressure and making itself a tool of foreign intrigue."

Ghandi's Remorse.

Mahatma Ghandi, the inspirer and guide of the non-co-operationists in India, whose policy of boycott and passive resistance has proved highly troublesome to the British, has been deeply affected by the violence which has accompanied the latter stages of anti-British agitation. He has issued a statement deprecating the rioting which marked the arrival of the Prince of Wales. He declares the outbreaks, which resulted in bloodshed and death, "stink in his nostrils." He beseeches Hindus and Mussulmans alike to repent and seek God's forgiveness, and he announces that he will neither eat nor drink until peace is restored.

It is possible that Ghandi's appeal for order will be heeded. His influence in India is extraordinary, and is potent, regardless of caste or religion. He is looked on as a saint, even as a divine being. Yet when a mob has drawn blood even the most respected leaders may be ignored when they urge a return to peaceful methods. Passion and fear of retribution unite to put the frenzied man beyond control. Ghandi may have started something he cannot stop.—New York Herald (independent).

Accepting the Universe.

While the great conference is trying to set this tiny world right there's small space in the paper for news of the universe. Still, four inches are devoted to Prof. Albert A. Michelson's announcement to the National Academy of Science that there are superstars millions of times larger than the sun—of such vastness that the brain reels in trying to describe their dimensions in terms of human understanding.

It's a relief to be told that imagination can be stretched no further in attempting to grasp infinity. The astronomers of late have been progressively staggering the minds of poor mortals with celestial measurements that make our pinpoint of a planet appear more and more contemptible. When Professor Michelson a few months ago, with his interferometer, proved that Betelguese, one of the pretty little sparks of Orion, has three hundred times the diameter of the sun he did quite enough to belittle our whirligig of a solar system. The admission that the picayune globe can be dwarfed no more by comparative figures that are intelligible is welcome. Our habitation was being reduced to the point of vanishment. Nothingness seemed near at hand.—New York Tribune (republican).

The pen is mightier than the fine.—Binghamton Sun.

Only way to get the entire congregation to church is burn the church.—Muskegon Chronicle.

"Marble Men Plead Guilty."—Headline. Been playing for keeps, evidently.—Indianapolis News.

The nations should make peace first and then they should make it last.—Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

President MacCracken of Vassar says that woman is fifty years ahead of man. It's a long lead, but the villain still pursues her.—Boston Globe.

There may be nothing in a name, but it is interesting to note that a Mr. Splitt has just gotten his third divorce in a court out west.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

The former Omaha newspaper man who camouflaged himself as a tree trunk and captured a blackmailer at Peoria showed he was made of pretty good timber.—Omaha World-Herald.

A Virginia man never saw an automobile until last Friday, his ninety-eighth birthday. That's one reason he's ninety-eight!—Schenectady Gazette.

China sets her demands for independence in "ten-point," which will be read just as easily and undoubtedly more effectively than Mr. Wilson's "fourteen-point."—Kansas City Journal.