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VIVIANI TAKES UP PROBLEMS OF DAY

TALKS WITH AMERICAN OFFICIALS OF FRANCE—WILL PAY ALL DEBTS—FORMER PREMIER DECLARES HIS COUNTRY SEEKS MORAL AND NOT NATIONAL AID.

Washington, March 31.—Problems involved in the collection by France of reparations from Germany were discussed by Rene Viviani, envoy extraordinary from the French republic, with Senator Lodge, chairman of the foreign relations committee, and other American officials at dinner tendered the former French premier tonight by Ambassador Jusserand.

Mr. Viviani in conference with Senator Lodge had George W. Wickersham, former attorney general of the United States, after the dinner reviewed at some length results of the recent London conference in which the allied reparation demands were refused by Germany.

Those close to Mr. Viviani were emphatic in disclaiming any request by him for material aid to France stating that he suggested only the extension of "moral support" by the United States in what was represented to be a grave international situation confronting France.

The former premier, it was said, endeavored to set at rest all reports that France intends to ask for any remission of its debt to the United States. In asserting that France would discharge all financial obligations to this country, he took occasion, it was said to set at rest any impression that the official viewpoint of France was represented in any way in the recent contention in due France by the United States in an unpaid loan existing since the Revolution.

While not desiring to present any alarmist view of the situation confronting the French republic, Mr. Viviani, it was said, pointed out in conversation with certain of those present at the dinner the depression under which the French people were laboring in the face of many unsolved problems affecting the relation of France with Germany.

Mr. Viviani was said to have pointed out the barrier which France offers to the westward spread of Bolshevism and in envisaging the possible renewal of a Bolshevik offensive this year, to have emphasized the hearty approval with which the recent reply of Secretary Hughes to the Russian Soviet government's invitation to enter upon formal trade arrangements had been received in France.

Officials present at the dinner emphasized that in his conversation Mr. Viviani made no suggestion or concrete proposal for American aid, it was said that he had endeavored merely to present the situation in which France found herself at the moment without offering any suggestion as to the form of moral assistance which the United States might render.

He was understood to have stated merely that France could not proceed to the task confronting her without the moral support of the United States as well as the allied powers.

No attempt was made by the former French premier, it was said, to enter into a discussion of the precise part the United States might take in the future European affairs.

So far as disclosed the question of the withdrawal of American troops from the Rhine or the conclusion of a separate peace between the United States and Germany did not enter into the conversation.

Washington, March 31.—Rene Viviani, former premier of France, now on a mission of courtesy as envoy extraordinary of the French republic to President Harding, ad-

REV. M. T. ELLIS HERE

Rev. M. T. Ellis is in the city for a short visit to his brother Mr R. S. Ellis. From Abbeville he will go to Due West to visit other kindred. Rev. Mr. Ellis is a native of this county, being a son of the late W. Turner Ellis, of Long Cane township. For a good many years he has been pastor of the A. R. P. Church at Doraville, Ga. He has recently been called to the pastorate of the church at Fayetteville, Tenn., which call he has accepted. He comes here to visit his kindred before going to his new charge.

PLEA FOR FARMER MADE BY WALLACE

Should Have Protection With Manufacturer—Secretary of Agriculture Issues Statement Taking Up Position of Planters.

Washington, March 31.—Protection for the farmers on equality with manufacturers and industrial interests in any tariff policy which is to be decided upon, and adding to any rates which may be levied "an amount equal to the extra freight charges in getting products to the consuming centers" was urged tonight in a statement by Secretary Wallace. The heavy additional burdens imposed on the producers by increased freight rates, the secretary declared, "are a differential imposed upon our own producers and to the benefit of our foreign competitors."

Manufacturers "are naturally and properly" laying plans to meet foreign competition in the world markets and desire a tariff to protect them against cheap foreign goods, Mr. Wallace asserted, but he insisted that the situation facing the producers "must be considered" in any tariff legislation, whether emergency or permanent. Producers, he said, are getting prices below cost of production "not alone because of inactive business conditions at home, but because of the importations of competing foreign markets."

The nation "can not afford to permit the breaking down of its own agriculture," the secretary continued "even if for a time we can buy food and other farm products cheaper from some one else." At present, he said, there is a large surplus of agricultural products, but this "will not continue," because the population is growing and consumption will catch up with production.

"We can not under any circumstances afford to permit the present discouraging conditions to continue and result in seriously decreased production," the secretary asserted "because that decreased production may mean exorbitantly high prices within a few years."

Dressed a message of greeting here tonight to the American people in his first public statement since arriving in the United States.

"I have accepted the mission with which the government of my country has honored me," M. Viviani said, "with a deeper joy, as by entrusting me with the mandate of bringing to President Harding the wishes which friendly France forms for him and for his administration. I could have the opportunity through you, to hail America, whole America—never America, whole America, will know the gratitude of my country for her.

"Nothing will ever break the ties of the heart which unite to your republic France, France who has suffered so much for right, who asks only for justice, and who hopes for the salvation of humanity through a better world."

The statement was regarded as clearing up for the first time officially of the precise status under which the French official was received by the American government.

State department officials have said the former French premier presented no formal credentials upon his reception by the state department, but was content with the verbal introduction of M. Jusserand.

COURT ADJOURNED THURSDAY MORNING

Several Cases Tried and Ended—Judge Leaves For Home in Columbia.

The Court of Common Pleas finished the work for the Spring term Thursday morning, the jurors were discharged, and Judge Townsend returned to his home in Columbia. The court worked steadily from the time it convened and several cases were tried and disposed of.

In the case of Cary Fuller vs. Burial Aid Society, which case was on trial when the Wednesday's paper was issued, the jury returned a verdict for the defendant.

W. M. Broadwell was given a verdict for \$143.00 on an account against J. R. Preshler. The action was on an open account, partly for goods alleged to have been sold to Preshler and partly for goods sold to his tenants on his order. Preshler did not

appear for the trial although he had filed an answer denying the account.

In the case of W. W. Smith vs. West A. Anderson, the jury found a verdict for the defendant. Smith sued on a note which he alleged had been given him by Anderson for rent for the year 1917 which he stated had not been paid. Anderson contended that he did not sign such a paper, but that the paper he signed was for rent for 1918, which rent he said, he had paid.

The last case tried was the case of Jesse Bibbs vs. Amy Paul. The action was for the recovery of a piece of land on Blue Hill which Bibbs alleged belonged to him, and which the defendant had fenced in. The jury found for the plaintiff.

VERDICT OF \$25,250.00 AGAINST STATE OF S. C.

For Death of A Child from Anti-Typhoid Serum, Furnished by State Was Fatal.

Columbia, March 31.—A verdict of \$25,250.00 was found by the jury in the case of J. O'Neal Sandel against the state of South Carolina in which the Calhoun county man sued for \$50,000.00 for the death of his daughter following the use of typhoid serum furnished by the state board of health.

The jury found its verdict last night but it was sealed and handed to the court this morning.

There is another case for the death of another of the Sandel children, in which the state is sued for a like amount. It is not known yet when this will be tried.

Attorney General Wolfe will appeal the decision of the court in the first case to the supreme court. This is the second time the case has been tried. The first verdict was for the defendant, but the supreme court granted a new trial on the ground of error in the judge's charge to the jury.

INJURED ON RAILROAD

Mr. H. E. Staples, of Winder, Ga., an employee of the Seaboard Air Line Railway, was painfully injured Wednesday evening at the shops of the company in this city. Mr. Staples had just come in from a trip, and was on his way from his train to the offices at the shops. Another train, a long string of box cars, was between him and the offices and it was necessary to cross this string of cars. In attempting to do so, Mr. Staples put his foot on the coupling of the cars, and just as he did so the cars moved, with the result that one foot was caught by the couplers.

It was thought at first that he was seriously injured, but when he had been taken to the hospital, and Dr. Gambrell examined his foot it was found that the instep of the foot had been badly pinched and three or four small bones broken, but that the injury while painful was not serious. Mr. Staples will be on crutches for a while according to the doctors, but should soon recover.

AN ABBEVILLE BEAUTY

Miss Eleanor Schroeder, who represented Abbeville at the Palmetta week in Columbia, has come out fifth in the beauty contest, and took a prominent part in the festivities of the occasion. The "movie" people made a film of the South Carolina beauties and they will be shown in all the Pathe picture houses.

HOUSEKEEPING

Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Townsend are moving this week into their home and are starting on their adventure of housekeeping.

MRS. NICKLES HURT.

Mrs. J. R. Nickles is suffering from a fall. Yesterday she drove down town to see the doctor. After alighting from the car in which she was riding she started to go to the office of her husband. When she undertook to step up on the sidewalk in front of the office, she hung her foot on the curb. Her leaning position, in attempting to make the step caused her hands, her face struck the sidewalk, and before she could catch with her hands. Her face struck the sidewalk, and she suffered considerable bruises. She suffered a good deal from the wounds yesterday, but her friends will be glad to know that the wounds are only bruises.

HIGH SCHOOL BOY DIES FROM HURT

Kirke White, Tenth Grade Pupil, Hit By Ball Thrown By Pitcher. Hit in Head With Baseball in Timmonsville—Death Causes Grief.

Timmonsville, March 31.—As the result of a distressing accident in a ball game played here yesterday afternoon between Timmonsville and Florence, J. Kirke White, the 17 year old son of Capt. and Mrs. Lawrence B. White, formerly of Florence, passed away at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon in an automobile while being carried to the Florence infirmary.

In the last inning of the ball game yesterday, Kirke White, who was batting for the home team, received with full force near his temple a ball thrown by Manning Brunson, pitcher of the Florence team and devoted friend to young White. Although the blow caused unconsciousness, the physician did not anticipate serious results until today when the patient's condition grew alarmingly worse.

Kirke White was a popular boy with sterling qualities and brilliant prospects, and his untimely death has caused general sorrow here and in Florence. He was a tenth grade student of the Timmonsville high school which tomorrow will attend the funeral in a body. The ball team has requested that they serve as pallbearers. No definite plans for the funeral will be made until Captain White arrives tonight.

DR. WILLSON HAS SLIGHT STROKE WEDNESDAY

Dr. John O. Willson, president of Lander College, suffered a slight stroke of paralysis in Laurens early this morning. Friends will be encouraged by the statement of the attending physician that only the voice and right arm are affected. Dr. Willson was subject to a test of great endurance yesterday in Laurens being in a gathering of ministers from early Tuesday morning until two o'clock this morning and it was at the close of this conference that the stroke came. Mrs. Willson went over on the early train and later reports are that Dr. Willson is showing improvement.—Index-Journal.

BEN HILL STILLS.

Ben Hill has entered his name amongst the good "stillers" of the county. Ben lives on the plantation of Calvert & Henry in the Little Mountain section. The mountain air down that way made Ben long for some of the dew which goes with mountains, so he learned to make the dew from one of his last year's neighbors, he says, and has been trying to keep his stomach right with it since that time. Everything would have been all right if it hadn't been for the "revnoos" nosing into Ben's business. Now Ben must face the judge at the next term of the county court, and also attend Uncle Sam's court at Greenwood.

Mr. J. H. Sherard and his little laughter, Nannette, were in from Calhoun Falls Thursday spending the day.

HARD TASK AHEAD FOR DRY OFFICERS

ENFORCEMENT OF PROHIBITION FAR FROM EASY—FEDERAL COMMISSIONER TELLS SENATOR CAPPER OF WORK ACCOMPLISHED AND TO BE DONE—LETTER FROM KRAMER

Washington, March 31.—Difficulties in enforcing national prohibition include hostile public sentiment, lack of cooperation by the states, bootlegging on the borders and issuance of too many dealers' permits, according to John F. Kramer, federal prohibition commissioner. What he terms as his "honest views" on prohibition were given by Mr. Kramer in a letter to Senator Capper of Kansas and made public today by the latter.

Commenting on charges that liquor was being sold openly by 398 New York saloons, Mr. Kramer detailed the problems of the "dry" enforcement authorities.

"In view of all these conditions and circumstances," said Mr. Kramer, "I believe we have made remarkable progress during the year or more in which the national prohibition act has been in existence. We still have much to do and will have for years to come. You can't turn the current of history overnight. Anything that has fastened itself upon political, economic and personal history of our country as has the liquor traffic can not be removed in a day or a year."

No Radical Revision.

Mr. Kramer said the Volstead law itself was sound, that he was not advocating any radical revision of the law by congress and that enforcement problems largely were administrative.

Too many permits for medicinal preparations containing alcohol were issued originally, Mr. Kramer said. These have been reduced. Permits for manufacturing industrial alcohol also are being curtailed and refused to those selling illegitimately.

Summing up, Mr. Kramer said he believed failures of enforcement during the past year were "due to the administration of the law more than they were to the law itself."

Among recommendations made by the prohibition director to tighten up enforcement was; "Removal of whiskey to a few large and well guarded storehouses; increase of prohibition agents on the Canadian and Mexican borders and enactment of prohibition codes by all the states.

To the specific charge that 398 saloons in New York are violating the law openly, Mr. Kramer wrote Senator Capper that "there are places in New York city where liquor is sold more or less openly but in none as it was sold prior to prohibition."

The bulk of the people, Mr. Kramer explained must favor enforcement before substantial headway can be made and this sentiment he said is largely absent in New York and some other communities.

Many Men Discharged.

Mr. Kramer said that while congress had been criticised for providing inadequate prohibition enforcement funds, he was "disappointed" in the reduction of deficiency appropriations, which necessitated discharge of about 150 men.

"But I believe" Mr. Kramer continued, "that the appropriation made for the next fiscal year, of \$7,500,000 is sufficient to enable the federal government to carry on the work which it is possible to do."

Mr. Kramer said the government had "to a considerable extent" help upon the part of state and local officials. This condition he said, was improving and with new state codes being adopted much prohibition litigation would be diverted from federal to state or police courts. In the end, he said, the bulk of enforcement work must be done by the states themselves.