

MAY DECLARE COTTON CONTRABAND OF WAR

BRITAIN DETERMINED TO PREVENT IT REACHING ENEMIES.

Government Will Do Everything in Its Power to Avoid Injury to American Interests.

London, Aug. 13.—Lord Robert Cecil, parliamentary undersecretary for foreign affairs, in a formal interview today defining the British government's attitude in the cotton situation made this statement:

"The allies must by all lawful means prevent cotton reaching their enemies; it may be considered necessary to make cotton contraband."

At the same time Lord Cecil refrained from any hint that the commodity would be removed from the free list at any specific date, or that the government had evolved any solution to meet the demands of American cotton growers and neutral consumers. He said explicitly, however, that if cotton were made contraband England would consider the act legal and internationally just.

This statement, being the first in behalf of the government outside parliament relative to cotton, and coming at a time when the public is clamoring for drastic action to shut off the supply from Germany, is taken in some quarters to presage this step in the near future. Lord Cecil's statement, which is prefaced with the explanation that it describes the government's position concerning cotton "so far as it is at the moment possible to define it," says:

Affects Americans Deeply.

"The British government is giving the cotton situation its continuous and most earnest consideration. We fully understand that on a satisfactory adjustment of matter depends to a considerable degree the welfare of nearly a quarter of the population of the United States. The welfare of the whole population of Great Britain, however, also is involved, as well as that of all Great Britain's allies, for whom the British government is acting in these other matters concerning contraband and trade.

"The fundamentals of the situation are quite clear. The allies must by all lawful means prevent cotton reaching their enemies. That is a vital military necessity which all the world will recognize.

"The same and equally important consideration must be given to a great cotton producing country like America and to consuming countries like Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Holland. A policy must be devised which will respect the legitimate rights of neutrals and yet safeguard the legitimate interests of the allies and inflict as much damage as possible upon our enemies.

Enemy's Supply Stopped.

"Cotton has not yet been declared contraband, but under our blockade all cotton which is believed to be destined for Germany is stopped. It may be considered necessary to make cotton contraband. There is a demand in the allied countries that this should be done. There is assuredly ample justification for the action if it is deemed necessary.

"Cotton is a very important, an essential, ingredient, in fact, of propulsion explosives. Copper is contraband by all the laws of the nations, and yet in the present war cotton has been shown to be more important than copper. There may be a substitute for copper in making munitions of war. For cotton there is no known substitute. If American cotton goes through to Germany the Germans use half of it to kill allied soldiers. Therefore, cotton must not go to Germany.

"Making cotton contraband would be a distinctly legal action and can be internationally justified beyond protest. So far as American cotton is concerned, however, the problem of marketing cotton on this side would undergo little change. American cotton destined for Germany is now stopped. If the product were made contraband it would be stopped in the same manner. The principal difficulty would be that if cotton were contraband, shipments from America which were suspected of being for Germany would be seized and would be liable to confiscation by prize court proceedings if proof were obtainable of German destination, whereas now the cotton is seized but not necessarily confiscated.

Will Permit Trading.

"In any case, whether cotton is contraband or not, the allies must permit neutral trading in this product. American growers must be given their market in neutral countries, even if they are adjacent to Germany. How to permit this supply to move forward and yet safeguard the allies' interests by making sure that none of it will go to the enemy, constitutes a complicated problem of great dimensions.

"We are interested only in keeping cotton out of Germany. We not only

do not object to its going to neutral countries, but we, in fact, are anxious that it should go in order that there shall be minimum inconvenience to the neutrals concerned.

"It is obvious what the loss of German and Austrian markets will mean to American cotton growers. We fully realize that if there is no German and Austrian outlet prices may go down and that Americans will suffer unless some means are devised for compensation. Proposals in that direction have been made and are receiving careful consideration. What will come of them I can not say, at this time. Certainly I am not at liberty to imply that favorable action will be taken, nor will I say that it will not.

"All Americans must be fully aware of the complicated and gigantic character of any scheme of this sort and the study of it will require being put into operation. I hope America will not be impatient, but will rest assured that the governments of the allies will give every consideration to the legitimate interests of all neutrals."

To Conserve Cotton.

Berlin, Aug. 13 (via London).—The German government has promulgated two regulations intended to check consumption of cotton. The first limits the work in cotton mills, weaving mills and establishments using cotton, wool, flax, hemp and jute to five days each week. The other orders dealers, under penalty of expropriation, to dispose of cotton refuse within a fortnight to manufacturers who may work on army and navy orders.

LEARNS ALL ABOUT MEXICO.

President Gets Comprehensive Review of Entire Situation From Secretary Lansing.

Washington, Aug. 12.—President Wilson returned from New Hampshire today and was given a comprehensive account of the Mexican situation in all its phases by Secretary Lansing.

The secretary told the president that official reports indicated that the situation in the vicinity of Brownsville was of a local character and that quiet now prevailed at Vera Cruz, where there had been another anti-foreign demonstration.

He also outlined peace plans adopted by the Latin-American diplomats at New York yesterday.

Both the president and Secretary Lansing were inclined to view the sending of battleships to Mexican waters and more federal troops to the Texas border as sufficient precautionary measure. They devoted most of their time to discussing the inter-American plan for an early restoration of peace.

Not Yet Sent.

The appeal to the factions has not been sent, although signed by Secretary Lansing and the ambassadors and minister of the six Central and South American governments participating in the conference. As soon as a list of Mexican chiefs, generals and governors is compiled the appeal will be telegraphed.

On the eve of this action came the announcement from the Villa agency here today that Gen. Carranza had refused to permit a peace conference between his representatives and those of Gen. Villa. Enrique C. Llorente, Villa's Washington representative, gave out letters that had passed between himself and Eliceo Arredondo, the Carranza representative here. Llorente began the correspondence after observing in the press that Charles A. Douglas, counsel for Carranza, had filed a brief with the state department calling attention to the presence in Washington of Luis Cabrera and Eliceo Arredondo as Carranza representatives, saying that "either or both of them, I am assured, will be glad to confer with any element of the Mexican people with a view to furthering the common interest and the peace and welfare of the nation."

Refuses to Treat.

Llorente then telegraphed Gen. Villa and was instructed to begin a discussion of peace terms. Arredondo replied that he would present the matter to Carranza, whose response today came in instructions to Arredondo not to enter into negotiations.

Secretary Lansing revealed today that Gen. Villa recently had informed the state department that he was willing to sign an armistice for three months or longer, during which peace conferences might be held. The opinion prevails that Villa and Zapata elements are preparing to receive the joint American appeal.

Gen. Carranza's displeasure over the new turn of events does not alter the feeling of optimism among officials and diplomats who declared unwarranted the inference that an attempt is to be made to invade Mexico's sovereignty.

The American View.

The reply of the minister for for-

eign affairs of Argentina to Gen. Carranza, issued by the Carranza agency here, in which it was stated that the Pan-American countries specifically understood at the outset of their conference that there was to be no impairment of Mexico's sovereignty represents the view of the United States, whose present effort, it was officially stated today, is to obtain peace without resort to force or interference in Mexican internal affairs.

The appeal issued by the seven governments will be made public in a day or two. It takes the form of an inquiry to determine which faction or element is willing to rehabilitate the nation's sovereignty. Those elements which respond will be considered as exponents of national patriotism in Mexico, while those who do not will be ignored.

ASK FOR REPRESENTATION.

Prohibitionists Want Lawyer in Injunction Case.

Columbia, Aug. 12.—The prohibitionists, through D. W. Robinson, the secretary of the steering committee, have asked the office of the attorney general for legal representation during the hearing of the Chappell injunction proceedings before the supreme court on August 20. Attorney General Peeples, in a letter to Mr. Robinson states that he will raise no objections if the court permits legal representatives of the prohibition movement to appear and give argument at the hearing. The following is the letter of the attorney general to Mr. Robinson:

"Mr. D. W. Robinson, Columbia, S. C. Dear Sir: I am in receipt of yours of the 11th instant, in which you say, 'I am writing to ask if it will be satisfactory to you, provided the court was willing, to allow some counsel to appear at the hearing of the case of Chappell vs. McCown et al, for the purpose of succinctly representing our (that is the prohibitionists') viewpoint of the law. This is the case in which an injunction is asked against the holding of the election in September next, and we understand the matter is to come before the full court on the 20th instant.'

"In reply I will say that it seems to me that the proper procedure for you to take in the matter would be to ask leave of the court to be heard as amicus curiae, and I have no doubt but that leave will be readily granted by the court if the court desires further argument after the matters have been presented to the court by the attorneys of record. I will not oppose your application to the court to be heard as amicus curiae.

"Yours very truly,
(Signed) "Thomas H. Peeples,
"Attorney General."

LEAVES HIS ESTATE TO CONNIE MAXWELL

Laban Mauldin Bequeathes About \$13,000 to Build Memorial to Wife at Orphanage.

The State. Easley, Aug. 13.—The will of the late Laban Mauldin was opened and read yesterday morning. The Connie Maxwell orphanage of Greenwood received practically the entire estate. Mr. Mauldin was a trustee of this institution, giving it much thought and attention during his lifetime.

The will provided that Walter Evatt, nephew of Mr. Mauldin, was to receive the house and lot, located on Smith street, in which Mr. Evatt now lives, and left \$500 in cash to Mrs. Charlie Thomas, niece by marriage of Mr. Mauldin. These were the only persons who received bequests, the remainder of the estate going to the orphanage. Included in the orphanage bequest are the residence in which Mr. Mauldin lived, situated on a large lot on Main street, and in a most desirable part of town, a small house and lot located on Smith street, one block from Main street; two farms of 280 acre, situated about two or three miles from town, and all personal property. The total value of this is approximately \$13,000. All this property, according to the will, is to be sold and the proceeds to be given to the orphanage to build a home at the orphanage called the Mrs. Laban Mauldin home. The amount to be expended for this home is not specified, but the amount left after the completion of it is to be placed as an endowment fund for the institution.

Walter Evatt was named as one executor and another is to be selected from the board of trustees of the orphanage.

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AT THE OPERA HOUSE

'The Man Who Found Himself.'

Robert Warwick is the star of the five-reel photoplay "The Man Who Found Himself," based upon the drama which, when it was produced, and successfully so, a few years ago, was called "The Mills of the Gods" in New York and "The Coward" in Chicago. The author, George Broadhurst, was, and is, a master of stage construction and his polished craftsmanship is seen in the story of this photoplay, which will be the feature offering of Manager Wells this week, and will be shown at the opera house on Tuesday, August 17.

There is something of a problem in this play, not a sex problem, but one which concerns the vital parts of a young man's career. James Clarke has fallen into disgrace by theft and forgery; has been sent to gaol and escapes. This is where his problem presents itself.

Society, i. e. his old associates and partners in error won't let him go straight. They never do—or more accurately, perhaps, they frequently do not. It is in the main an unforgiving world. People have long memories, as James Clarke in this film-play found to his cost.

James was tracked down by a brother thief who had served his full time. James was working hard. He had saved a girl's life and they were mutual lovers. Payton, the blackmailer, tightened his hold so Clarke, the poor fellow, was driven to desperation. Payton, in the last resort of the quarrel called Clarke a coward.

But coward he was not. He accepted the situation. He resolved to defeat his enemy. "He had found himself." So he voluntarily went back to prison to serve the remainder of his sentence, conscious that his girl would wait for him and would marry him when he came out.

Robert Warwick's sterling abilities find splendid scope in this role; and the production, in the hands of Frank H. Crane, is in every way worthy of his theme. There is a wonderful supporting cast in the photo drama and the offering will assuredly please every one who sees it.

Cotton at Allendale.

The State. Allendale, Aug. 14.—The first bale of new cotton was marketed here today by O. B. Harden and was bought by M. Sharfsen.

Putting Out the Cat.

Indianapolis News. The almanac is still offering advice. It says, "When you lock up the house to go on your vacation, don't forget to put out the cat." The almanac is strangely human. It never wants to talk about anything it knows about, but is forever giving advice on subjects of which it has, at best, only the most superficial knowledge. It might well have advised us to make arrangements for having the lawn sprinkled in case of a dry spell, or for having the attic windows closed in case of severe storms. The almanac has displayed a ridiculous lack of knowledge in regard to cats. In the first place, you can not get rid of a cat by merely saying, "Put her out." There is more to a cat than a mere condition of being out or in. The cat has an appetite and the neighbors have feelings. One might even suggest that the cat has feelings, too. The neighbors will either feed the cat or they will not feed her, and either way somebody's feelings are going to be hurt.

Moreover, there are cats and cats. If your cat is merely a cat you might shut her out and forget about her. If, however, your cat is fluffy and beautiful and spoiled, if she has even the smallest claim to intelligence or affection, you can not just "put her out." If she is accustomed to sleeping on the davenport and having fresh milk and kidneys twice a day; if she is in the habit of spending her evenings with the family in a half intoxicated state of complete satisfaction with herself and her supper and with you, you can not "put her out."

No, the almanac does not understand. If you are locking up your house to go on your vacation the cat is a serious problem, and in order that she may not be annoyed at your absence or too greatly troubled by the change in her mode of living, you must make careful arrangements for her comfort. The milkman must leave milk for her each day. Somebody must be found to give her the milk and supplement it with beefsteak or kidney. Arrangements must be made with a trustworthy boy or girl to exercise her properly. It may, as a matter of fact, be easier to stay at home and take care of her yourself.

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NOTICE OF ELECTION IN BIG CREEK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 20.

Whereas, one-third of the resident electors and a like proportion of the resident freeholders of the age of 21 years, in Big Creek school district, No. 20, of the County of Newberry, State of South Carolina, have filed a petition with the County Board of Education of Newberry County, South Carolina, petitioning and requesting that an election be held in said school district on the question of levying a special additional tax of two mills to be collected on all the taxable property located in the said school district.

Now, therefore, the undersigned, composing the county board of education for Newberry county, South Carolina, do hereby order the board of trustees of Big Creek school district No. 20, to hold an election on the said question of levying a special additional two mill tax to be collected on the property located in the said school district, which said election shall be held at Big Creek school house, in said school district No. 20, on Saturday, August 28, 1915, at which said election the polls shall be opened at 7 a. m. and closed at 4 p. m. The members of the board of trustees of said school district shall act as managers of said election. Only such electors as reside in said school district and return real or personal property for taxation, and who exhibit their tax receipts and registration certificates as required in general elections, shall be allowed to vote,

Electors favoring the levy of such tax shall cast a ballot containing the word "Yes" written or printed thereon, and each elector opposed to such levy shall cast a ballot containing the word "No" written or printed thereon.

Given under our hands and seal on this the 10th day of August, 1915.

CHAS. P. BARRE,
S. J. DERRICK,
J. S. WHEELER,
County Board of Education for Newberry County, S. C.

NOTICE TO TRUSTEES.

It is utterly impossible for the County Auditor to know the location and amount of real and personal property in districts having a special tax, unless he has the assistance of the trustees of the special districts. I therefore request and urge that all trustees of special school districts meet in the Auditor's office at different times between now and the 15th of August, 1915, and check over the returns and place the amount of real and personal property due to be taxed in their respective districts.

Eugene S. Werts,
7-27,td
County Auditor.

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