

HARDING SPEAKS TO DELEGATES

Urges Formation of Cotton Exports Corporation By Southern Men

ALL PLANS IN READINESS FOR ORGANIZATION

General Reduction Estimated 20 Per Cent, Cut in Fertilizer 30 to 50.

New Orleans, May 15.—After an address late today by Governor W. P. G. Harding, of the Federal Reserve Board, in which he urged cotton interests in the Southern belt to "get together" and support the formation of a \$100,000,000 cotton exports corporation, delegates assembled here to consider plans for such an organization, were told that a proposed charter for the concern, would be submitted to them at once.

The announcement came after a conference between Mr. Harding and the full committee empowered to draft the charter.

Mr. Harding declared in his address that the cotton interests of the South would, by establishing the exports corporation, "be doing not only a great thing for themselves but for their country, which he said at this time "needs your support."

Pointing out that there is small chance for further governmental aid, Mr. Harding said there is a splendid chance for the South to progress on its own initiative and ability. The war finance corporation, he said, should prove of assistance to the cotton corporation, provided the new concern is soundly financed and ably managed.

"The war finance corporation," Mr. Harding declared "can loan funds only on good security and it expects to get back every dollar it pays out."

"Requests for assistance are certain to be heavy from many and varied interests, and the nature of things is bound to be a long waiting list after the door is shut."

The speaker, read an interview quoting Frank A. Vanderlip, of the National City Bank, New York, to the effect that conditions in Europe are badly unsettled and likely to continue so for a long time.

"America," continued Mr. Harding "must do the world's financing until the world gets back on its feet. We have become the creditor nation of the world and the net credit to us is approximately \$100,000,000,000 today. The volume of domestic commerce is bound to exceed foreign trade but foreign trade is the best index to our prosperity."

"Gratifying as these figures may be from a feeling of national pride they confer a solemn obligation upon us. It is very necessary for us to continue and expand our foreign trade. Conditions in Europe are chaotic. We also have the problem of the returned soldier and the reopening of plants formerly engaged in war purposes."

Mr. Harding concluded by saying that ordinarily the floating of a \$100,000,000 corporation, to be financed in the South, would seem a gigantic problem, but he averred it is "entirely practicable, if we get together among ourselves."

The value of export cotton, he said, ought to be \$1,000,000,000 a year.

The general reduction, it was estimated, would be about twenty per cent. Use of fertilizers, the reports showed, are reduced from thirty to fifty per cent in States where it is used. The crop is estimated to be between twenty and thirty days later.

The following figures were given from official reports furnished the committee by State commissioners of agriculture:

Texas, 20 per cent reduction; Georgia, 20.5; North Carolina, 20.2; South Carolina, 26.1; Tennessee, 18; Mississippi, 15, and Louisiana, 15 to 20.

No official reports were received from Arkansas and Oklahoma.

Commissioner Frederick W. Davis, of Texas, commenting on the agricultural situation in his State, said acreage in wheat and oats there has increased "enormously;" that on land where cotton formerly was grown nothing now could be seen but fields of grain. Many fields, he declared, are producing 100 bushels of oats to the acre.

Prepared For Emergency

Allies Will Permit no Material Modification of Treaty

London, May 17.—Earl Curzon, government leader in the house of lords, speaking at the Primrose League, said, if Germany refused to sign the peace treaty the allies were not unprepared for every emergency and would permit no substantial modification of the treaty.

Allies at Smyrna

Naval Forces Concentrated There to Take Over Administration

Paris, May 16.—Extensive allied naval concentration has begun at Smyrna in connection with the mandate to Greece to administer the city.

Athens, Wednesday, May 14.—Greek forces landed today at Smyrna, the news being received here with great enthusiasm.

WATCH ALL NIGHT BY WIRELESS

Navy Officials Keep in Touch With Trans-Atlantic Flyers Enroute to Azores

THREE SEAPLANES MADE RECORD TIME

They Followed the Prescribed Course and Were Reported at Intervals by Destroyer Patrols

Washington, May 17.—Cryptic radiograms from the seaplane division on its way to Europe, picked out of the air by the naval radio station at Bar Harbor, Me., indicated that the planes were in the vicinity of the destroyer Thatcher, at station No. 9, nearly 500 miles from Trepassey Bay soon after midnight.

The three machines left Trepassey at 6 o'clock last night and were officially reported as passing Station Ship No. 6, 300 miles out, a little more than 4 hours later, and the next report of progress was the messages reported by Bar Harbor.

The Bar Harbor station set a new record in catching the signals of the planes at a distance of more than a thousand miles. The NC-1, flagship of Comdr. John H. Towers' aerial fleet, was calling the Thatcher in the message the Maine station overheard.

Navy officials assumed that the Thatcher was still ahead of the airplanes which have passed other destroyers in the long line closely bunched and all making speed in excess of the 60 mile rate they had expected to maintain. If no accident interferes, it was said, early this morning there is every reason to expect the planes will reach Ponta Del Gada around midday today.

The most difficult leg of the whole trip from Rockaway Beach, L. I., to Plymouth, England, was more than one-third covered when the signals from the NC-1 were intercepted.

The planes were making tonight the only portion of the trip that will require them to fly in darkness. Apparently they were keeping dead or their course down the long lane of destroyers which were dropping astern of them swiftly as they sped eastward on their epochal journey.

Washington, May 16.—The American naval seaplanes enroute on the first attempt to reach Europe from America by air passed Station Ship No. 6, the destroyer Ward, 300 miles from Trepassey Bay, at 2:05 Greenwich time, 10:05 p. m., Washington time, according to a message received late tonight by the navy department.

The dispatch to the navy department was sent by the war ship to the U. S. S. Prairie at Trepassey Bay which in turn relayed it by radio to St. John's, N. F., whence it reached Washington by cable and telegraph. The means of sending the message back indicated that the U. S. S. Arcostock already had left Trepassey and that the destroyer line behind the swiftly flying planes was rapidly breaking up.

A delayed message over the same route said the planes had passed station ship No. 3 at 8:03 p. m., flying with 12 minutes' difference between the passing of the first and the last of the trio.

The NC-1 was leading when station ship No. 3, the destroyer Buchanan, was passed.

Navy officials estimated the speed made by the seaplanes division up to the time they passed station ship No. 6 at 70 miles an hour. At this rate they would reach Ponta del Gada about on the schedule of 19 hours, or 1 o'clock tomorrow afternoon (Washington time).

The radio station at Bar Harbor, Me., intercepted direct messages from two of the seaplanes shortly after midnight. One message picked up at 12:27 o'clock was from the NC-1, calling station ship No. 9, approximately 500 miles from Trepassey Bay.

The first message from the Bar Harbor station to the navy department said:

"At 12:16 a. m. heard the NC-1 sending on four fifty metre, says: 'Passed 414.' Signal very weak."

It was not certain at the department what the figures "414" meant.

The second message read: "At 12:25 heard the NC-1 call Cape Race (British radio station): 'Am receiving interference. Go ahead again.'"

"At 12:27 heard the NC-1 call No. 9 and say: 'Answer.'"

Officials here said that this interception of communication between the planes and destroyers by the Bar Harbor station at a distance of approximately 1,000 miles broke all records for radio communication of this nature.

Vote on Treaty

German Government Plans to Hold Plebiscite on Peace Terms

Berlin, May 17.—The German government has arranged for plebiscite, if the allies refuse to make concessions in the peace treaty, according to the Zeitung Am Mittag.

Italy Relinquishes Claim

Withdraws Demand for Aegean Islands in Favor of Greece

Paris, May 17.—Italy has relinquished her claims to the Dodecanese Islands in favor of Greece, thereby ending one of the acute controversies before the peace conference.

DOWN AND OUT SAY THE HUNS

Member of Peace Mission Admits That Germany Cannot Escape Signing Treaty

HELPLESS IN HANDS OF ALLIES

"On the Ground, With Your Knees on Our Stomach and Thumbs in Our Eyes."

Versailles, May 6.—The distinct impression that is prevalent among some of the subordinate members of the German peace mission that the Germans will sign the treaty is reflected in a remark of one of the secretaries who is quoted as saying: "What else can we do but sign? We are on the ground, your knees are on our stomachs and your thumbs in our eyes."

LAY DOWN TO CHAMP CLARK

Democratic Members Being Hounded by Precedent Select Clark for Leader

OUTLOOK FOR PARTY IS VERY DARK

If the Party Had Able and Progressive Leadership It Might Do Something.

Washington, May 17.—The Democratic members of the new house today smoothed out their differences which threatened to develop a fight on Champ Clark for Democratic house leader and at the party conference the former speaker was chosen for leadership by acclamation.

Governor Takes Action

Child Welfare Commission Appointed for South Carolina

Columbia, May 16.—Gov. Cooper has appointed a child welfare commission for South Carolina, at the request of the State Board of Charities and Corrections, under the direction of and in conjunction with which the work of the commission will be carried on. The members, who are serving voluntarily and without compensation, are:

B. Harris, Commissioner of Agriculture, Commerce and Industries; Mrs. Ruth A. Dodd, children's bureau, State Board of Health, Columbia; Walter B. Wilbur, president of the South Carolina Juvenile League, Charleston; Miss Sylvia Allen, instructor of the feeble-minded in the public schools, Charleston; A. T. Jamison, superintendent of Connie Maxwell Orphanage, Greerwood; C. J. Kimball, judge of the juvenile court, Columbia; T. Frank Watkins, State senator, Anderson; L. E. Carignan, member of the House of Representatives, Society Hill; Mrs. W. C. Casheart, secretary, Children's Home Society, Columbia; and John L. Davis, director, United States Employment Service, Columbia.

Cotton Seed Market

State Food Administration Actively Interested in Finding Market for Unsold Seed

Within the past month there has been considerable activity in the cotton seed market and a great deal of the seed left in the hands of the farmers has been taken by the mills. It is stated that except in the middle and eastern counties of the State the seed remains in the hands of farmers and buyers. In Sumner, Lee, Clarendon and the Lee-Dee counties there is still a large unsold surplus of seed. A representative of the State food administration is now making a tour of investigation of the eastern section of the State and he was in the city Thursday night. He stated that the demand for seed is now more active and that the food administration is doing everything within its power to bring the farmers and seed buyers who have unsold seed on hand and the mills that are in the market together. He said also that in the event that the mills in this vicinity are unable to take all of the seed offered it would be possible to find a market in nearby States. He asked that the newspapers publish an urgent request that all farmers and seed buyers who have seed for sale immediately to the State Food Administration, Columbia, S. C., stating the amount of seed on hand, the post-office address and the shipping point of the seed owner. If this is done at once the Food Administrator will be in a position to assist in finding an immediate market for the surplus seed.

London, May 16.—Serious fighting between Serbians and Croats at Agram, the Croatian capital is reported in a Vienna dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph. Many are reported killed.

NEW CLAUSE IN PEACE TREATY

Associated Powers Will Be Required to Ratify the Treaty With Germany

TEXT NOT YET MADE PUBLIC

The Full Treaty Will Be Published in Instalments Beginning Probably To-night.

Paris, May 16.—The German peace treaty, it developed today, contains a clause not yet made public, providing for its ratification by Germany and three of the principal associated powers. The text of the German treaty will probably be made public by instalments. It is reported that the financial and boundaries sections of the document will be released to-night.

RETURN TO THE MOTHER CHURCH

Holy See Expresses Opinion on Plan For Church Unity

EPISCOPAL BISHOPS RECEIVED BY POPE

Cardinal Gaspari Papal Secretary of States Discusses Church Unity

Rome, May 17.—Pope Benedict yesterday received five American Episcopal bishops and cordially thanked them for their call. Cardinal Gaspari, papal secretary of State, talked with them and said "rather than a reunion of Christian churches, the Holy See aims at the unity of the church, which, in the opinion of Rome, can only occur by all returning to the Catholic church."

Want Vaughn Examined

Grand Lodge Odd Fellows Petitions Governor Cooper

Columbia, May 15.—A resolution calling for an investigation into the mental condition of T. U. Vaughn, former superintendent of the Odd Fellows' Orphan home at Greenville, who was convicted some years ago of statutory criminal assault on one of the girl inmates, while he was head of the institution, was adopted at yesterday's session of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina Odd Fellows' meeting here. Following his conviction and sentence to be electrocuted, a commission of alienists examined Vaughn at the State penitentiary here, and, acting upon their report, the condemned man was placed at the State Hospital for the Insane for observation.

Governor Cooper is called upon to have the examination made, and, if Vaughn is declared sane, to see that he is electrocuted. Copies of the petition, which are to be filed with the Governor and Samuel M. Wolfe, Attorney General, had not been received by them up to this afternoon. The resolution was offered by Cole L. Blease, former Governor of South Carolina, and only one member is said to have opposed it.

The resolution reads: "Be it resolved, That we respectfully petition the governor to investigate personally or appoint physicians, who are not residents of or who are not connected in any way with the State Hospital for the Insane, to make a thorough and competent examination of the present mental condition of T. U. Vaughn, and if he, the governor, finds Vaughn a proper subject that he see that the mandate of the court is carried out."

Birmingham is Headquarters

Southern Baptist Educational Board Organized

Atlanta, Ga., May 17.—The newly created educational board of the Southern Baptist convention will be located at Birmingham, with Rev. J. W. Goshlin, of Louisville, Kentucky, as its executive head, as the result of the action of the convention here today.

Appeal to Pope

Episcopate Petition Him to Use Influence to Mitigate Peace Terms

Rome, May 17.—In response to the petition from the entire German Episcopate begging his good offices in securing the mitigation of the peace terms, Pope Benedict has taken steps to communicate with the heads of one of the important peace delegations with a view of getting the conditions modified.

BUILDING MATERIAL

Build Now
Production depends on Construction
U. S. Dept. of Labor
W. B. Wilson
Secretary

Rough and dressed lumber, brick, lime, cement, plaster shingles; in fact everything for the builder.

BOOTH & McLEOD, INC

REPUBLICANS FIX COTTON GROWERS THEIR PROGRAM FORM COMPANY

Legislation to Be Considered by Special Session of Congress Agreed Upon

Adopt Plans for \$100,000,000 Export Corporation to Market Crop

APPROPRIATION BILLS TO BE FIRST

POWER TO ACT IN ANY STATE

Then Follow a Number of Other Important Measures Including Budget System.

Concern Will be Authorized to Begin Business When Fifty Millions is Subscribed.

Washington, May 16.—The legislation to be considered by the house immediately after the annual appropriation bills are disposed of was agreed upon today by the Republican steering committee, subject to the approval of the conference of Republican representatives tomorrow night. The program includes the immediate repeal of the tax on semi-luxuries, legislation for the return of telephone and telegraph companies to private owners, railroad legislation, determination of the national shipping policy, passage of the woman suffrage amendment, inauguration of the budget system, means for reducing the government expenses, tariff legislation, measures benefiting returned soldiers and sailors.

Charleston Political Row

Petition of W. Turner Logan to Open Club Rolls Denied

Columbia, May 15.—The State Supreme Court, in an order signed by Chief Justice Eugene B. Gary this afternoon, refused to grant the petition of W. Turner Logan, of the firm of Grace & Logan, attorneys of Charleston, asking that the temporary restraining order issued by the court yesterday prohibiting the Democratic executive committee and the city convention of the City of Charleston from performing its functions be so modified that the scheduled enrollment of the voters of Charleston could begin May 29th.

The following is the text of the petition to modify the injunction:

"The petition of your petitioner respectfully shows:

"(a) That heretofore, to-wit, on the 14th day of May, 1919, the petitioners-plaintiffs herein filed their petition for a writ of certiorari herein, and obtained, pending the return upon the rule of this honorable court to show cause why said writ certiorari should not issue, directed to the defendants-respondents herein, a temporary injunction ordering and restraining, among other things, the chairman, vice chairman or members of the city Democratic executive committee of Charleston, S. C., from meeting or taking any action as such."

"(b) That the rule herein was issued as not returnable until May 23, 1919. That pending such return the defendants-respondents, their agents and servants of the Democratic party, having arranged under the rules, constitution and laws governing such matters, for the opening of the club rolls in the various ward clubs in the City of Charleston on May 20, 1919, which is the exact date fixed by law for such procedure, assuming that the election is to be held on August 12, 1919, which is the date fixed under the constitution and rules of the city Democratic executive committee in compliance with law, are prevented and would be prevented from starting in motion the machinery of election if relief is not granted against the temporary restraining order herein, modifying it to such an extent as to permit the opening of said club rolls, etc., for the purpose of registration, on the day named.

"Wherefore your petitioners pray that the temporary restraining order heretofore issued be modified as above set forth."

Meet Austrians Monday

Ceremony of Presenting Credentials Will Be Held

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Five Billion in Gold

Austria Will Have to Pay Heavily for War on Civilization

Paris, May 17.—The indemnity clause of the Austrian peace treaty provides for five billion marks gold without bond.

New Orleans, May 15.—Southern cotton growers and affiliated interests from the entire Southern belt, at a conference here tonight unanimously adopted plans submitted to them for the formation of a \$100,000,000 cotton exports corporation, and the organization of a permanent corporation to be known as the Southern Cotton Association.

The adoption of the plans for organization of the permanent cotton association followed approval of the proposed exports corporation. Minor differences marked the convention regarding certain clauses of the charter for the exports concern. But these were quickly ironed out and unanimous approval was given amid cheering and applause which continued for several minutes.

The exports corporation, under its constitution, will not engage in buying and selling cotton for its own account for exports business. Capital stock was reduced from \$100 to \$50 so the small farmer might buy a share with a liberty bond.

The authorized capital stock of the corporation is fixed at \$100,000,000 all common stock. The concern, however, will be authorized to begin business when the amount of capital stock subscribed reaches \$50,000,000 and when \$20,000,000 shall have been paid in.

The charter will give the corporation power to act in any State, territory or possession of the United States, or any foreign country, as agent, trustee, broker, or consignee of others in buying, warehousing, selling and otherwise dealing with cotton products abroad.

The American Cotton Association is designed to protect the interests of cotton growers in the entire Southern belt, and will take care of the problems growing out of domestic business entirely.

Officers of the association probably will be elected tomorrow and plans for further incorporation of the exports concern.

Germans Seek Trade

Export Firms Answer Before The War Letters

Treves, April 15.—To illustrate the German attitude toward the war as a mere artificial interruption of trade relations the following incident is cited by the chief American censor: "A German firm in the American occupied area writes to a firm in New York, enclosing the New York firm's letter of June 6, 1914, and began in this manner: 'In reply to yours of June 6, 1914, beg to state, etc.'"

At the American censor's office here, where all mail from the occupied zone is passed upon before being sent on its way to the entente countries, an average of two thousand letters a day written by Germans have been received, with indications of a gradual increase during the next few weeks.

Dirigible Not Wrecked

Picked Up at Sea and Being Towed Back to St. John's

St. Johns, May 16.—United States naval dirigible C-5 is said to have been only slightly damaged when she broke from her moorings and drifted to sea yesterday. She is reported in tow of the destroyer Edwards on the way back here today.

Ready for Another Trial

Naval Seaplanes May Start Again for Azores To-day

Trepassey, May 16.—Seaplanes NC-1 and NC-3 and probably NC-4 will make another attempt this afternoon to take the air on the second leg of the trans-Atlantic flight via the Azores. Mechanics overhauled the NC-1 which arrived last night from Halifax and hope she will be ready to join the other planes when a start is made late today.