

Wilson's Visit to England May Solve the Naval Question

President Comes as a Friend Bent on Maintaining Anglo-Saxon Unity; Dramatic Changes in Plans Prompted by Necessity for Prompt Agreement

By Courier Leased Wire. LONDON, Dec. 20.—(By J. F. B. Livesay, Canadian Press staff correspondent).—Without doubt the announcement of President Wilson's immediate visit to London has greatly relieved the uneasiness of the British people, for it is felt that his dramatic change of plans can only mean that he comes as a friend bent on maintaining Anglo-Saxon unity, rather than further widening the already dangerous divergencies of policy regarding sea power.

It is useless to disguise the fact that grave anxiety as to the Anglo-American negotiations in connection with the freedom of the seas threatened to cast a shadow over the holiday. A well known British publicist spoke to me as follows: "We must recognize that elements exist for tension between Britain and America, more strained than since the Venezuelan message and of which a watchful enemy is waiting to make the most."

The President's endorsement of the three-year naval program was received with dismay by our people, mistakenly as throwing down the gauge, and there was danger that we might pick it up in the same spirit. "One can only surmise from the change in the President's plans that what he has seen has modified his views, and he comes to study our case at first hand and to seek a common ground along which the two great branches of Anglo-Saxondom may advance in unison towards world peace, and the safeguarding of civilization. He will receive a hearty and sincere welcome, and will learn how he can count on our support in every direction short of menace to our continued existence as an island empire. It would be monstrous to suppose that any formula whatever could prove so rigid as to become a rock of dissension between us after we had passed side by side through the troubled waters to victory. Such a disaster to civilization is unthinkable, and our statesmen will render every assistance to find a way out that will be satisfactory to both parties. In this they will have the valued co-operation of the overseas ministers."

CO-OPERATION NECESSARY, SAYS WILSON

PARIS, Dec. 21.—The preliminary peace conference at Versailles has been postponed until the beginning of February, at the earliest, says Marcel Hutin, editor of The Echo de Paris. This postponement is due, he says, to changes in plans because of President Wilson's visit to England, and the reconstruction of the British cabinet, which will occupy Premier Lloyd George as soon as the result of the elections is announced on December 28.

Preliminary exchanges which were to begin in Paris today, according to original plans, have also been deferred.

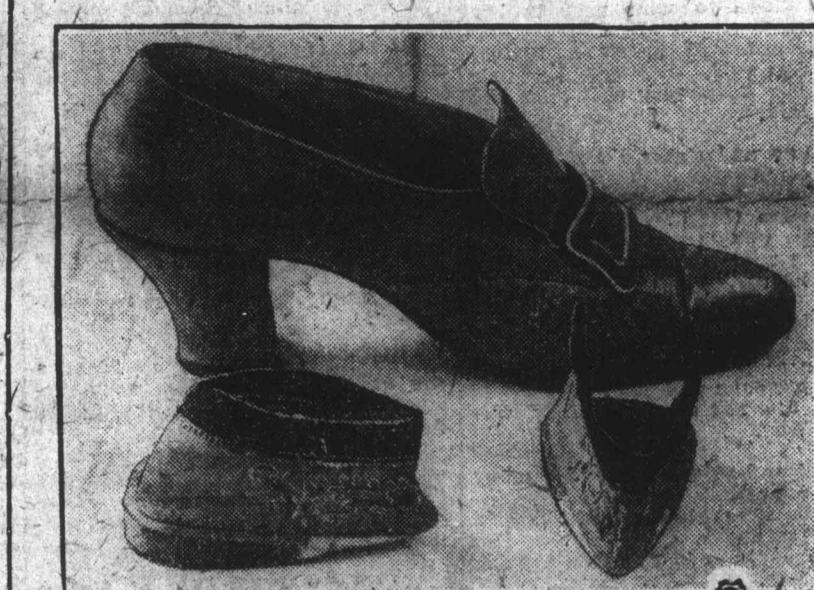
LONDON, Dec. 24.—Arrangements are being made for an imposing military reception of President Wilson, according to some of the newspapers. There will be a guard of honor at the station when he arrives, and he will be greeted by King George. Mr. Wilson and the king will then drive to Buckingham Palace through streets lined with troops. They will ride in the royal carriage. Premier Lloyd George will be among the prominent persons taking part in the welcome of Mr. Wilson.

It is said that the route of the procession will be as extended as possible, so as to permit of a great popular welcome. It is unknown whether President Wilson has as yet replied to the Lord Mayor's invitation to a civic luncheon in Guild Hall, where it is understood the City Corporation wishes to present a welcoming address to Mr. Wilson. This address, if time permits the luncheon to be given, will be enclosed in a golden casket.

Paris, Dec. 20.—President Wilson gave an interview to the correspondent of the London Times in which he is reported to have stated his views on the discussion of the freedom of the seas and to have contrasted the crisis of the Vienna Congress with a hopeful outlook for the Versailles congress. Lord Northcliffe, editor of the London Times, has given the Associated Press a copy of the interview, from which the following extracts have been made.

"President Wilson, in discussing the role of the British fleet in the maintenance of what, at any rate during the war, had been the freedom of the seas for the free people of the world, spoke with a sincerity which no amount of writing can convey. His accents convinced me that he is a believer in the decency and honesty of the Anglo-Saxon race. He said: "It is essential for the future peace of the world that there should be the frankest co-operation and most generous understanding between the two English-speaking democracies. We comprehend and appreciate, I believe, the grave problems which the war has brought to the British people, and fully understand the special international questions which arise out of the fact of your peculiar position as an island Empire."

The correspondent declared that he left the President "With the assurance rising in my ears that he desired to co-operate with the British, and with all the Allies, in securing, with their counsel, a new state of affairs throughout the world."



SLIPPERS CINDERELLA COULD NEVER WEAR. One phase of the great war accomplished by Canadian missionaries in China is indicated in the above illustration, which shows the shoes worn by women of Christian faith, and those worn by heathen Chinese women. In many parts of China the old custom of binding the feet still exists.

BOHEMIA IS COMPLETELY CUT OFF FROM AUSTRIA

Czecho-Slovaks Have Completed Their Separation of Former State by the Occupation of Eger and Reichenberg.

By Courier Leased Wire. Prague, Dec. 21.—With the occupation of Eger and Reichenberg, the Czecho-Slovaks seem to have all of German Bohemia completely cut off from German Austria. German Bohemia is unable to resist, since the Austrian army does not exist. Austria is the only country the power of which extends west of Prague. It is built on a steep eminence and was formerly an important fortress. Reichenberg is 58 miles north-east of Prague.

SWEDEN AT ESTHONIA. Copenhagen, Dec. 21.—While the British fleet was bombarding Bolshevik forces near Ravel, on the Gulf of Finland, a Swedish fleet occupied Esthonian waters.

FAVORED REMOVAL OF GOVERNMENT WAR TAX

Finance Committee Feels That Tax Should Be Lifted — War Pensions For the Soldiers' Mothers.

At last night's meeting of the Finance Committee, the business of the year was finally cleaned up. Resolutions were passed to be forwarded to the government, asking that the tax on the mother's allowance be lifted. During the past year, there has been no clash of this committee, and on that fact they should be highly praised.

CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS ARE IN FULL SWING IN PARIS

French Capital Puts Aside Holiday Attire With the Departure of Italian King — Allies Look to U. S. For Concrete Proposition Regarding Freedom of Seas

By Courier Leased Wire. Paris, Dec. 21.—(By the Associated Press).—King Victor Emmanuel of Italy left Paris at midnight on his way to visit Italian troops in Belgium. With his departure Paris put aside her holiday attire and that of consideration of the conference arrangements began in earnest this morning. Premier Orlando and Foreign Minister Sonnino of Italy, remained in Paris, but will start for Rome to-night, expecting to return early in January. The Italian king will start on Sunday for Rome, going directly from Belgium. Apparently the other powers are looking to the United States to bring forth a concrete proposition concerning freedom of the seas. Probably the American delegation has not agreed upon anyone of the many suggested plans having this question in view, but there is reason to believe that the proposed limitation of construction of naval craft to lightly armored vessels, like revenue cutters, whose sole purpose would be to protect merchant shipping, finds favor. Advocates of this plan say there would be no further use for heavily armed ships if all nations were placed on an equal footing by this means.

In answer to the British plea that she requires a great navy to defend her colonies, advocates of the plan

requesting the removal of war taxes, as they deem them no longer necessary, now that hostilities have ceased. The committee are well satisfied with the work accomplished, it being of such a strenuous nature. During the past year, there has been no clash of this committee, and on that fact they should be highly praised.

Premier Clemenceau also conferred with the President during the evening. The Bourbonnais will confer an honorary degree upon the President to-day.



SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT FROM A BERLIN PALACE. The picture shows the little house, formerly a paragon, in Holland, in which the former German Crown Prince of Germany is making his home while interned.

NATIONAL ARMY WILL BE FORMED IN GERMANY

Hindenburg's Suggestion For a People's Guard is Adopted—Successor to D. r. Solf Has Been Appointed.

By Courier Leased Wire. London, Dec. 21.—The German Government has accepted Field Marshal von Hindenburg's plan to form a Peoples Guard, or national army, according to a Copenhagen dispatch to The Daily Mail. It is said that the German army under this plan will be a stronger force than ever. All officers have received instructions to keep the details secret. Women will be employed for auxiliary services. NEW MINISTER. Copenhagen, Dec. 21.—Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau, German minister to Denmark, has been appointed foreign minister of Germany in succession to Dr. Solf, according to reports from Berlin.

SPAIN CANNOT REMAIN ISOLATED FROM ALLIES

Premier Romanones Discusses His Conference With President Wilson — Hopes For Solution of Catalonian Trouble

By Courier Leased Wire. Paris, Dec. 21.—Count Romanones, the Spanish premier, in discussing his visit to Paris, said today: "Spain cannot remain isolated at the present moment. She has always maintained the best of relations with the allies. In coming here to take advantage of the invitation given me by President Wilson, I have profited by talking with him, and also with members of the French ministry. I have conferred with Premier Clemenceau and Foreign Minister Bichon, and left them with good impressions. "I believe my sojourn in Paris will advance the interest of my country. Spain does not enjoy absolute tranquillity at this moment, because of the Catalonian movement, for which I hope to find a satisfactory solution."

WILL USE GERMAN SHIPPING TO CARRY FOOD TO HUNGRY EUROPE

Herbert Hoover, the American Food Administrator, Will Shortly Have Ships at His Disposal — Germany Last to Receive Consideration From Allies

By Courier Leased Wire. Paris, Dec. 20.—Herbert Hoover, American food administrator, will soon come into possession of a million tons of German shipping, which will be employed in revictualizing devastated portions of France, Serbia, Belgium and Roumania, now destitute of food. These ships were wrung from the Germans by the army commissioners, without pledging that Germany would be supplied with food. At present no supplies will be sent to Germany, the first relief work of the Allies being planned in neutral countries. In the meantime, it is believed the Germans can subsist on food stored for the use of their army and hoarded by peasants. A thorough investigation of the food resources of the Central Powers is being made and only after the needs of the Entente nations and neutrals are met will supplies be diverted to enemy powers, should such action be found imperative.

WEATHER BULLETIN

Toronto, Dec. 21.—Pressure is high over the Western Provinces, and on the Atlantic coast and low to the west of the Mississippi Valley. Showers have occurred near Lake Superior, elsewhere the weather has been fair. Forecasts. East to south-east winds, mild, rain to-night and on Sunday.

Success! R SALE... PITCHER & SON... Market Street... Marriage Licenses

For Sale... 6-room red brick cottage... 2-storey white brick house... 5-room brick cottage

For Sale... 1 1/2 Red Brick... 1-2 rough... 3-piece bath, etc...

R SALE SNAP... 3 bedroom cottage... C. Coulson... Commercial Chambers

RESTAURANT... CLEAN AND FRESH... BOB DAY, Prop.

ANTFORDS... Fur Store... It possible for you to Fur direct from the furrier

THE... man's Valet... Pressing, Re... W. BECK... 132 Market St.