

GIVE POWER TO PERSHING FRIENDS URGE

Some Ask Harding to Make Him Ambassador to France—Great Number Want Him To Be Real Head of Army.

EFFORT IS IN EARNEST

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 9.—General Pershing's friends are divided between those who are urging President Harding to make him ambassador to France and those who are urging Secretary of War Weeks, and ultimately congress, to change the customs and statutes dealing with army organization in a way to make General Pershing in fact what he now is in name, the head of the army.

General Pershing's friends think he cannot be wholly happy in his present situation. He is the general of the United States army. This is a unique honor. It carries the privilege of four stars on his epaulettes and other similar dignities.

In a sense, the position makes him above the army and away from it, and in institution all to himself. He can wear any uniform he pleases. He is the only soldier who can wear a Sam Browne belt. He can go his way and the army runs along with much reference to him. But there lies the drawback for General Pershing's temperament. The position of general of the army carries too much dignity and too little power. The office more or less puts the holder of it on a shelf. It superannuates him before his time.

Like Ex-President. Pershing is like an ex-president. He has practically no real power in the army. The real head of the army in the sense of being active, in having power is the chief of staff. Pershing's friends and partisans think that to have the exalted honor that General Pershing has, but to be excluded from the real power and activity that the chief of staff has, is not best.

What they want and are now energetically trying to accomplish is to change the statutes and customs so as to make General Pershing, in effect, chief of staff, by attaching to his position as general of the army, all the power and much of the activity that the chief of staff now has.

Would Place Places. Roughly, the idea is to make the chief of staff subordinate to the general of the army, instead of dependent—and to make the general of the army the actual and active head of the organization. There is an earnest effort afoot to bring this about.

How it will end, depends largely of course, on the new secretary of war, Mr. Weeks, and on the president-elect, Mr. Harding. If this present effort should promise success, probably General Pershing would not care to consider anything else.

Lacking success for this effort, however, many of General Pershing's partisans would like to see him given the ambassadorship to France. That is the basis of all the present discussion. The whole thing is now largely in the state of drawing-room wire pulling. It is always drawing-room politics that has to do with ambassadorships; politics in the popular sense has little concern with it. The public generally takes little interest in it.

Uses Trial Balloons. It is easy to make shrewd surmises as to what is really in Harding's mind, so far as his mind has clarified. The fact is, however, that these foreign ambassadors are being chosen in much the same way as the cabinet members—that is to say, by a method which includes the use of trial balloons.

Whether Harding does it conscientiously or unconsciously, this method of letting a name go up, letting the newspapers, the politicians and the public generally shoot at it and letting these critics accomplish an amount of elimination which would be painful for so generous a man as Harding to manage himself, serves Harding usefully.

All that is said about these ambassadorships really represents little more than a comparison of the merits of friends of various candidates who have called on Harding and who have got indefinite replies.

Herrick Best Bet. Out of this sort of background the best surmise is that ex-Governor Myron T. Herrick, of Ohio, has or has had the best chance of being the next ambassador to France. Mr. Herrick has already held this office. He is not in very good health, and it would be easy to appreciate that the assignment might not appeal to him.

After Mr. Herrick, the men who are believed to have the most pressing endorsements are General Pershing and Colonel William Hayward, a New York man, who made one of the most picturesque records of the war as the head of a negro regiment which he raised personally, which fought with the French apart from the Americans and which as a generous recognition on the part of the French, was the first American regiment to reach the Rhine in the "Mache triumphale" after the armistice.

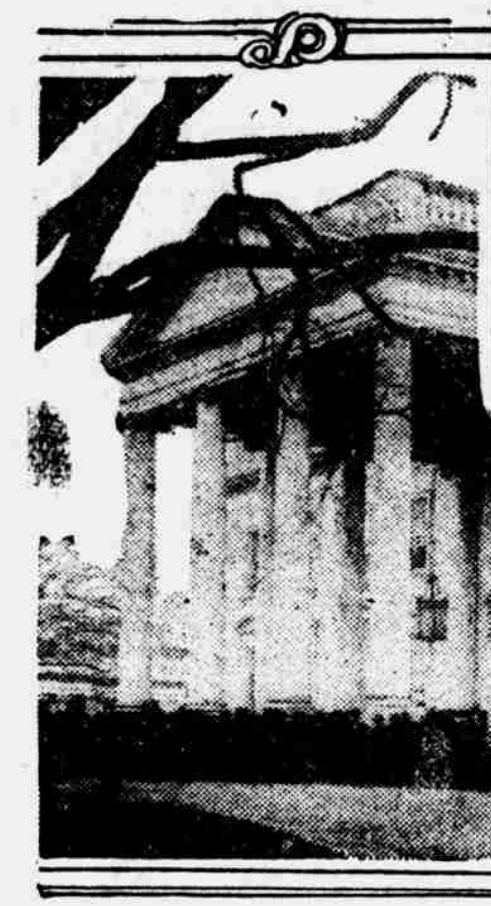
Oppose Harvey. The universally expected probability that Col. George Harvey will be named as ambassador to Great Britain has excited an opposition which is large in quantity but somewhat timorous in quality. The files of Harvey's weekly are being systematically searched for passages that might render Colonel Harvey unpopular either to England or to sections of our own people. Many senators and other politicians are without enthusiasm for the appointment.

It will probably be accurate to describe their state of mind as one of wondering just how far President Harding's heart is set on this particular appointment.

If they thought it represented a

Once More May Folk Inspect White House and Grounds

Probably the first act of President Harding on his arrival at the White House was to order the opening of the iron gates at the entrances to the grounds that the public might once more feel free to wander about the premises. The grounds had been closed to the public ever since the war.



Above, group of capital folk and visitors about one of the open gates, and, below, crowd about the White House steps hoping to get a glimpse of the new president and his wife.



1,011 VOTERS MUST SIGN HOME RULE PETITION TO SECURE CHANGE FOR RICHMOND SAYS RELLER

A petition signed by 1,011 qualified voters must be presented to the city clerk not earlier than 30 days after the promulgation of the law passed by the recent state legislature providing for home rule for cities in Indiana adopting either the commission or business-manager forms of government, to secure a change, according to W. W. Reller, city attorney, who has been active in the formulation of the bill.

The above number is equivalent to 20 per cent of the electors of the city who voted at the last preceding general municipal election. Women are eligible to sign the petition. Steps that must be taken by those interested in the adoption of the commission or business-manager forms of government in Richmond were outlined by Mr. Reller in an interview Wednesday morning.

Must Settle Form. "The first active step that must be taken is to determine whether the petition that is to be circulated shall be for the commission or business manager form of government. The committee from various civic organizations of the city which was active in securing the passage of the bill in the state legislature probably will take the lead in deciding on the plan to be petitioned for here.

"One thing that should be cleared up at the start is that if one of the proposed methods is adopted the city does not bind itself to that plan for all time. A provision is made in the bill whereby cities can return to the old methods or adopt a new one by the same method employed in adopting either of the proposed systems.

Must Wait 30 Days. "Petitions for an election cannot be filed until 30 days has elapsed from the date of signing of the bill. This does not mean that petitions cannot be circulated during that 30 days, however. If people are interested it would be a good idea to circulate these petitions immediately.

"The law provides the form of petition which is to be filed with the city clerk after its circulation. The clerk is then allowed five days to investigate the signatures to determine whether it is signed by a sufficient number of qualified voters. The clerk then certifies the petition at the first regular council meeting. The council shall then declare a special election which cannot be held earlier than 30 days or later than 60 days after May 1.

Would Postpone Primary. "If the petition is filed with the required number of signatures the primary which is provided to be held on May 3 would be automatically postponed.

"The referendum on the adoption of a new form of government probably would be held in June. If the governor should sign the bill today, March 9, the petition could be filed with the clerk on April 18, at its regular meeting and not less than 30 days after this the special election could be held.

"In case the special election should

show that people of Richmond do not want either form of the proposed new government, the law states that the mayor shall call a meeting of the city council within five days following the referendum vote, at which meeting a date for a primary election shall be set and the nominations proceed as usual.

Women Eligible. "Any qualified elector can run for commissioner, which means that a woman will be eligible for office. If the business-manager plan passes, five commissioners will be elected at a salary not to exceed \$300 a year. If the commission form is adopted, five members will be elected at a salary not to exceed \$1,000.

"The whole plan is absolutely non-partisan. It is designed to encourage citizens to take an interest in the city government.

"If the plan is adopted commissioners will be elected by petition, which must be signed by one per cent of the voters at the last general municipal election.

Names Rotated. "These commissioners are voted on at the regular election, each voter voting for five commissioners. The number of candidates is not restricted. The names of the candidates will be rotated on the ballots and printed in series, so that each man will appear on an equal number of ballots in relative corresponding places.

"Blank spaces for the number to be elected will be left on the ballot so that names can be filled in that are not on the ballot. These will be counted as regular candidates.

"One of the commissioners will be elected mayor by the commissioners. He shall be recognized as the head of the city at ceremonial gatherings, and as chairman of the commission.

Chooses Officials. "The commission chooses the city clerk, a director of finance, a city attorney, and a city judge. It will adopt ordinances and have the powers now vested with the common council and board of works. Each commissioner shall be bonded for \$5,000.

"The city manager, if the plan providing for one should be adopted, shall be the chief executive of the city. He is to be selected on the basis of his executive and administrative ability. The commission fixes his salary. He has in his hands the administration of affairs and is held responsible for all departments. He must attend the meetings of the commission.

Mr. Reller concluded his statements regarding the proposed measure by saying that the success of the plan depended upon the interest manifested by the citizens of the city. He stated that it was necessary to get the best men to run for commissioners, if the plan was adopted, and an efficient government for the city would be assured.

CONFLICTING REPORTS COME FROM RUSSIA

(By Associated Press) COPENHAGEN, March 9.—News of the Russian situation today was conflicting with the latest Helsingfors dispatches reporting that the Soviet government forces had recaptured the fortress of Krasnoy Gorko and Systerbak this morning, and were training the big guns of these fortresses upon Kronstadt where fires were observed. An infantry assault by the Soviet troops upon Kronstadt is reported to have been repulsed with enormous losses to the attacking force.

These reports were preceded by claims made in Helsingfors dispatches that Petrograd was in the hands of the revolutionaries. According to a Reval special, however, the Soviet troops recaptured the southeastern suburbs of Petrograd. Thousands of fugitives from Petrograd are clamoring for entrance into Finland, the Finnish advices state.

Sweet potatoes are regarded by the Chinese as too plebeian for use by any except beggars.

Treasury Wants 99 Days to Make War Fund Report

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, March 9.—It will require at least three months for the treasury department to submit an itemized statement showing detailed expenditures under the \$150,000,000 special war fund, set aside for use by the president. Such a statement was called for in a resolution adopted two weeks ago by the house. During the discussion of the resolution members evinced particular interest in the detailed expense of the American peace commission at Paris.

In the report transmitted by President Wilson previous to adjournment of congress and made public today total net disbursements were \$114,967,770. It was stated that there was an unallotted balance of about \$12,000,000 and that approximately \$23,000,000 had been carried to the surplus fund.

JAPANESE NEWSPAPER SAYS AMERICAN ARMS MUST BLAZE PATHWAY

TOKIO, March 9.—America must be willing to make some sacrifice in behalf of the principle of disarmament advocated by President Harding in his inaugural speech declares the militarist Kokumin Shinbun in comment on Mr. Harding's address.

"Otherwise," the newspaper continues, "power would accept his suggestions. Disarmament must be mutual and no country caring for peace will oppose it."

Others Comment. Other newspapers here commented more on the controversy regarding the island of Yap than on Mr. Harding's inauguration. It appears to be the consensus of opinion that Japan should insist upon the mandate given her, but should make some concession relative to cable communication.

The Nichi Nichi Shinbun interprets America's protest over the island of Yap as another indication of the "dark cloud" lowering over relations between Japan and America, already evinced by the strengthening of their defenses in the Pacific.

It remains that both governments strive to dissipate misunderstandings. In this connection the Asahi Shinbun of Osaka says America's insistence upon freedom of submarine communication in the Pacific should be respected by Japan.

TORREDO RETURNS LIMA, Peru, March 9.—Juan Belmonte, the famous Spanish Torredor, who has been giving exhibitions in Peru during the past few months, left for New York on his way to Spain.

Why Richmond is the Best Place in Which to Live

Each day a Palladium reporter will interview persons at random to find out why they like to live here.

"Do you know that one of the excellent attractions in Richmond is the museum at Earlham college," remarked a father today. "When I was a boy I liked to stroll over to the college and wander through the museum in the Lindbergh hall, admiring the many exhibits which have been collected there."

"Many residents of Richmond know nothing at all about the collection. I recently took my son for a visit to the museum. One of the civic bodies of Richmond would be conferring a favor upon its members by holding a 'personally conducted' tour through the museum, in order that they might become acquainted with an asset of the city of which they know nothing."

"The late President Moore, who was curator of the museum for many years took an active interest in the collection. Many friends of the college have made donations of valuable collections and curios until the museum is one of the best in eastern Indiana."

URGE PUBLIC TO PREVENT RAIL STRIKES

Railway Labor Representatives Before Labor Board Ask Defeat of "Concerted Movement to Down Labor".

ROADS ARE CRITICIZED

(By Associated Press) CHICAGO, March 9.—Railway labor representatives testifying in the nation agreement before the railroad board today appealed to the public to prevent a possible recurrence of disastrous strikes and lockouts by defeating what they term "a concerted movement by organization capital to down labor." Unless this movement is defeated labor would be "compelled to use economic force in obtaining its rights," witnesses declared.

J. C. Smock, vice-president of the maintenance of way brotherhood, told the board that the roads had proved they could not keep faith with the public with their employees, and charged that they "were not playing fair" in stating their reasons for wanting the national agreement abrogated.

Charge Hostility. "Back of this demand of the road is a concerted movement by organized capital to down labor," he said. "Capital realizes that in a way this fight is a test between capital and labor and it is swinging its power to the railroad's side in an attempt to influence the public and this board."

"I am addressing my appeal today to the three men on this board who represent the public, for it is always the public that pays the piper."

Concerning the request of the roads for the right of individual dealing with their employees, Mr. Smock said many roads had been offered this plan and had refused it. He cited many instances where he said the men had sought conferences and had been refused. Other representatives of the maintenance of way union gave testimony similar to Mr. Smock's.

Pennsy Issues Notice of Wholesale Wage Reductions

(By Associated Press) PHILADELPHIA, Pa., March 9.—The directors of the Pennsylvania railroad today adopted a resolution directing the executive officers to give as promptly as possible proper notice that it is the intention of the company to reduce the salaries and wages of officers and employees to accord with economic conditions.

The resolution did not specify any amount in the proposed reductions. While no specific officers were mentioned it was understood at the offices of the company it would effect every one from the president of the company down.

YOUTH SERIOUSLY HURT WITH BULLET IN HEAD; SHOOTING ACCIDENTAL

LeVere Ball, 18 years old, is in a serious condition at the Reid hospital as the result of an accidental revolver wound sustained Saturday afternoon while he was in the river bottom about five miles south of Richmond. Apparently not suffering greatly from the wound, young Ball was not taken to the hospital for an operation until Tuesday morning.

Ball is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Ball, 2126 North E street. He, with three or four other boys of about his age, went into the country in an automobile belonging to one of the boys. They were dressed in khaki and pretending they were soldiers, at the time of the accident. The parents do not know exactly how the accident occurred, but a boy carrying a 22 calibre revolver, shot the bullet which lodged in the skull of Ball.

It is said that the boy did not fall when hit, but exhibited unusual nerve. When his companions felt sick and faint at the sight of blood, he is said to have remarked, "You boys are hurt worse than I."

He was driven to a physician's office and his wound was dressed. While his parents were at the cause of the accident, they did not learn until Monday night that he had been shot. His temperature increased and he decided to go to the hospital Tuesday morning. Several of the boys that had been with him at the time of the accident accompanied him and his mother to the hospital. At the door of the operation room he said, "Good-bye boys, I'll see you tomorrow."

Attempts of physicians to remove the bullet from the skull have been in vain. An X-ray shows clearly the location of the lead. His condition Wednesday afternoon had not improved.

PANAMA, COSTA RICAN ARMISTICE IN EFFECT

WASHINGTON, March 9.—The armistice concluded between Panama and Costa Rica at the instigation of the United States has been put in full effect along the entire frontier, according to information communicated to the State department today by the Panama legation.

Dispatches from Panama City said that when the Costa Rican order went out to withdraw the expeditionary force, which last week crossed the international boundary line and captured three towns, Panama troops sent to repel them, also were recalled. Although specific information regarding the terms of the armistice are still lacking, it is understood that both sides have agreed to abide by the decision of mediators.

Agree to Separation



Ethel Barrymore.

NEW YORK, March 9.—Broadway was much interested, but not surprised, by the announcement that Ethel Barrymore, famous actress, and her husband, Russell Griswold Colt, are on the verge of a legal separation.

No denial of the impending action was made by Miss Barrymore, who is now recovering from an operation through which her tonsils were removed. She is at Flower hospital. Close friends of the family said the announcement was correct.

Miss Barrymore was taken ill several weeks ago in Cincinnati while on a tour in "Deedee." Broadway pointed to the fact that her husband did not go to Ohio to bring his wife back to New York. She was brought back by her uncle, John Drew.

Miss Barrymore and Mr. Colt were married at Hyde Park, near Boston, in March, 1909. He is the son of Samuel Pomeroy Colt, of Providence, R. I., a scion of the family that made a great fortune in the rubber and textile industries. They have three children—Samuel, 11 years old; Ethel Barrymore, 10 years old, and John Drew Barrymore, born in 1913.

DATO'S ASSASSINATION SPREADS CONFUSION IN SPANISH GOVERNMENT

(By Associated Press)

MADRID, March 9.—This city was horrified last night when it became known that Eduardo Dato, premier, and Minister of Marine, had been assassinated while returning to his home from a late session of the Spanish senate. Immediately after the news was received in official quarters arrangements were made to carry on the government until a new premier could be appointed by King Alfonso. The Count of Bugallal, minister of interior, will act as temporary premier.

All trace of the men who killed the premier was lost in the excitement attending the assassination. Immediately after the crime had been committed the criminals, who were riding in the side car of a motorcycle sped away and disappeared.

Premier Dato left the senate chamber at 8:30 o'clock and entered his car. The machine was driven through Calle Arenal to Puerto Del Sol, and thence through Calle de Alcalá. A motorcycle with a side car carrying two men had followed the premier's motor unnoticed, there being many similar machines on the streets. When the premier's car had reached Plaza Independencia, near Senor Dato's home, the motorcycle increased speed and approached the side of the premier's automobile. At that point the streets are quite dark owing to the fact that a large park borders on the right side of the Plaza.

Men Open Fire. When the motorcycle had drawn up even with the automobile the two men in the side car and the driver of the machine opened fire upon the premier. 21 shots being discharged. The whole scene was enacted in a few moments and as the last shot rang out the motorcycle swung into a side street and vanished.

The driver of the premier's car, hearing the firing increased his speed but the premier shouted: "I am wounded; stop the car." The chauffeur found the premier seriously wounded about the head, but able to speak. He said he was badly hurt. The driver leaped to his seat and drove to a dispensary on Calle Cezazas nearby, where first aid was administered. Senor Dato was conscious when taken from the automobile, but collapsed in a few minutes and died while at the dispensary. He had three wounds in the back of his head. The car in which he was riding was riddled with bullets.

At the session of the senate which the premier was attending the minister of Labor had introduced a bill extending the provisions of the Labor accident law to agricultural workers.

PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERS TO BE IN SAWYER'S HAND

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 9.—Dr. C. E. Sawyer nominated today by President Harding to be White House physician with the rank of brigadier general in the army medical reserve corps, also will make an investigation of public health matters for Mr. Harding. He will be authorized to formulate suggestions for a plan of coordination of government agencies for safeguarding the public welfare.

GERMANS ARE INDIFFERENT TO SEIZURE

People of Cities Occupied by Allied Troops Proceed About Usual Affairs—Strike Effort Fails.

MILITARY FORCE QUIET

(By Associated Press) DUESSELDORF, March 9.—Although 7,000 French, British and Belgian soldiers were today occupying Dusseldorf, Duisburg and Ruhrort, the people of those cities were proceeding about their usual affairs in apparent utter indifference to the presence of the allied forces.

There were no signs today of any immediate labor movement by German workmen as an outcome of the occupation, the effort of agitators to bring on the long threatened general strike in protest against the imposition of the allied penalties having failed. This refusal of the workmen to strike at least for the time being, is attributed by the leaders to the poverty of the men, which would not admit of their existence without their daily wage. However, the temper of the laborers in the Essen district is reported such that it is feared the agitation may develop a menacing situation there.

Military Quiet. Allied troops to the number of 5,000 with four tanks and three river flotillas are stationed at Rhine but the military are not in evidence except the double sentinels were at the street corners with machine guns.

Along side the order of the French general of occupation which was posted in public places, was the proclamation by President Eber calling the people to bear peacefully under the contents of "slavery." General Degoutte's order places the miners and other functionaries of the public utilities under military control. It likewise forbids passenger train service except for workmen and international travelers. There has, however, been no cancellation so far of trains or other changes in service.

General Gaucher, commanding the French troops in Dusseldorf visited the burghomaster today and told him General Degoutte had no objection of the French occupying the provincial landtag, called for Sunday, provided no speeches were made in regard to the occupation.

Police on Duty. The communal police are remaining on duty, the security police force, which was disbanded yesterday, received its arms back. The men on duty were reduced to the smallest number consistent to the preservation of order.

All theatres, moving picture houses and concerts were ordered closed yesterday by General Degoutte, commander of French forces occupying the city, but he promised this order might be modified in a few days.

Provincial authorities were invited yesterday to meet the commanders of the allied troops here and a state of siege was declared.

BERLIN, March 9.—Protests voiced before the supreme allied council in London by Dr. Walter Simons, foreign minister, and head of the German delegation at the reparations conference, were emphatically endorsed by Chancellor Konstantin Fehrenbach, who spoke before the Reichstag yesterday. After announcing that negotiations at London had been broken off and that the German delegation was returning to Berlin, the chancellor said: "This violation of law and justice can not be defended on any judicial grounds. It assumes doubly perilous aspects when directed against a people from whom the last defense has been taken. The events of the past week have convinced the government the methods pursued by the allies cannot possibly accomplish the rehabilitation of Europe nor bring about a liquidation of the war."

Shifts Responsibility. "In the course of the London negotiations foreign minister Simons appealed to history," said the chancellor in discussing the question of responsibility for the war. "I feel permitted to declare the judgment of history is already established and that the nature of the verdict is such that any attempt to fasten responsibility solely upon Germany must fail because it is false."

VIENNA, March 9.—Sympathy with Germany in the developments which followed the breaking up of the negotiations at London is expressed by newspapers here. The German attitude is generally praised, and long excerpts from Berlin newspapers are printed here.

The Neue Free Presse, called the allied action "war in the midst of peace," while the Mittags Post, maintains the advance of allied forces on German cities will "serve to knit the German people so closely that they will rise above all party strife."

The Acht Uhr Blatt and the Abendblatt both predict general strikes in Germany and the Mittags Zeitung says "it may be assumed the German people will bear their sad fate with dignity and will do nothing to render the task of the enemy easier. The German giant may be momentarily down, but he never will forget tortures to which he was subjected."

M'Cray Signs Four Bills Affecting Cities

(By Associated Press)

INDIANAPOLIS, March 9.—Four bills designed to apply to Allen county, became law today when signed by Governor McCray. One of the measures applies to all second and third class cities. It was Representative Daley's measure, House Bill 95, authorizing city councils to increase salaries of city officials.