

in action, must put a curb upon our sentiments as well as upon every transaction that might be construed as a preference of one party to the struggle before another. My thought is of America. I am speaking, I feel sure, the earnest wish and purpose of every thoughtful American that this great country of ours, which is, of course, the first in our thoughts and in our hearts, should show herself in this time of peculiar trial a nation fit beyond others to exhibit the fine poise of undisturbed judgment, the dignity of self-control, the efficiency of dispassionate action; a nation that neither sits in judgment upon others nor is disturbed in her own counsels, and which keeps herself fit and free to do what is honest and disinterested and truly serviceable for the peace of the world.

Shall we not resolve to put upon ourselves the restraint which will bring to our people the happiness and the great lasting influence for peace we covet for them?



The President, on August 19, sent to the Senate the following nominations: James C. McReynolds, present Attorney-General, to be a member of the United States Supreme Court; Thomas Watt Gregory of Texas to be Attorney-General; Frederic C. Howe of New York, to be Immigration Commissioner at the port of New York. On August 24, the Senate Judiciary Committee voted to recommend favorably the appointment of McReynolds to the Supreme Bench. [See current volume, page 687.]



Bills were introduced in both houses of Congress on August 19, providing for government insurance of American merchant vessels and appropriating \$5,000,000 for that purpose. The Senate passed its bill on August 21. The House bill had been reported favorably by the committee in charge on the preceding day. Another bill appropriating \$25,000,000 for purchase by the government of merchant vessels to be used in commercial transportation had been prepared by the House Committee on Marine Affairs and was introduced on August 24 by Representative Alexander of Missouri, chairman of the committee.



The President signed, on August 22, the bill admitting foreign-built ships to American registry. As finally passed, this bill does not allow these ships to engage in coastwise traffic. On August 24 the United States Steel Corporation, the Standard Oil Company and the United Fruit Company applied for permission to register their ships under the American flag. This involves 100 steamships of about 100,000 gross tonnage. [See current volume, page 805.]



The Senate passed on August 24 the bill of Senator Smith of Georgia providing for federal

control of cotton warehouses. Before passage it was amended to include also warehouses for tobacco, naval stores, flaxseed, grains and canned salmon. It provides for expiration at the end of two years after passage or within nine months after conclusion of the European war.

NEWS NOTES

—A peace treaty with Peru was ratified by the United States Senate on August 20, this being the nineteenth of the Wilson-Bryan arbitration treaties passed upon. [See current volume, page 805.]

—The German wireless station at Tuckerton, N. J., was ordered closed by Acting Secretary of Commerce Sweet, on August 24. The station is said to have operated illegally. [See current volume, page 805.]

—William Randolph Hearst was endorsed for United States Senator from New York on August 22 by the Democratic committee of Bronx county. Governor Glynn was endorsed at the same time for re-election.

—An eclipse of the sun took place on August 22 and was observed by English, Dutch, German and Swedish expeditions in the north of Sweden, where it was total. There was a clear sky and observations were reported successful.

—A woman suffrage bill was rejected by the Swedish parliament on August 23. It was supported by the Liberal and Socialist parties and had passed the second chamber, but was rejected in the first. [See current volume, page 110.]

—Receipts of the Panama Canal for its first week, ending August 22, were \$150,000, but this includes payments made in advance for ships on their way to the canal, service for which is still to be rendered. [See current volume, page 807.]

—The American and Red Star lines announced on August 18 that beginning with August 19 there will be trans-Atlantic mail service twice a week from both New York and Liverpool. The service will be through ships flying the American flag.

—A peaceful settlement of internal troubles in San Domingo was reported on August 22. Through the efforts of the American commission the warring factions are said to have agreed that a provisional president be named to succeed President José Bordas. [See current volume, pages 687, 807.]

—Ex-President Roosevelt withdrew on August 21 his endorsement of State Senator Harvey D. Hinman, a Republican, for nomination for governor of New York on the Progressive ticket. The withdrawal followed a conference with a committee of 21, appointed by the Progressive state committee. [See current volume, page 737.]

PRESS OPINIONS

The Ancient Regime Commits Suicide.

The Independent, August 10.—Ancient history closed at midnight of July 31, 1914. The monstrous

war with which modern history begins will end, as the big and little wars of the old days did. . . . There will be some accounts to be settled after peace is declared, and the biggest one will be that which Enlightenment has against Medievalism. Whatever causes of strife may have been lurking in the minds of the peoples of Europe, they would not have massed and exploded in this demoniac war without the agency of the Head Devils. Race differences there are. Conflicting national interests there are. The growth of populations already dense, and looking for new opportunities for enterprise and livelihood, has been disturbing economic equilibrium. Religious antagonisms have fostered hatred. But none of these things by itself, nor all of them in combination, would have made war if the consuming vanity, the monstrous egotism and the mediaeval-mindedness of the absolute monarchs had not been thrown into the scale. When the work of devastation is done there will be left stricken, sobered peoples. Every family will have lost father or son, husband or brother. Resources will have been swept away. Industry will be paralyzed. Farms will have been stripped, villages, towns and cities desolated. But fortitude and courage will be left, and men will set themselves about the task of building a new civilization. They will not be tolerant then of pious hypocrites asserting divine right, and claiming to be vicegerents of God. They will not be tolerant of taxes for the wanton expenditures of royal families. They will not deprive themselves of the necessities of life to enrich the manufacturers of artillery and powder. They will cross these items from their ledgers, and turn their attention to the creation of a social order under which men and women who are content to dwell peaceably on their own reservations can enjoy liberty and pursue happiness. Whom the gods would destroy they first make mad. Mad with the lust of power, drunk with their own egotism, the Head Devils have signed their own doom. Their days are numbered. The monarchs must go—and they will.



Desolation—and Democratic Faith.

The (London) Nation (Lib.), August 8.—The great divisions of Europe, with their dependencies and possessions in every Continent, are at passionless and undesigned war with each other; and nearly every one of the world's co-operative activities that we call civilization has, within a few hours' space, been mutilated or destroyed. . . . In the second great home of Christendom, the words of Jesus, spoken to redeem mankind from just such a desolating crime as this, are as if they had never been said. The world must for months do without the thoughts of its best and wisest, and satisfy its starving soul with the deeds and decrees of physical force. Socialism, the creed of the enlightened workmen, has disappeared in a day and a night. The vision of a world-organism, augmenting and heightening the ameliorating power of individual and State effort to a degree hitherto undreamt of in history, has temporarily been sunk in earthquake and eclipse. Science, divided like every moral force against itself, must, on the one hand, be spent in fortifying the destructive power of man against man, and, on the other, in mitigating its extremest calamities. Euro-

pean statesmanship has with its own hands torn up its timid projects for relieving the always pitiful lot of the poor. The society of hope and ideas lies in ruins; in months or years to come our enfeebled hands must collect its broken stones and try to rebuild it. . . . In the hour of reflection to which Europe will be summoned as the war draws to an end, the minds of all men will turn instinctively to the question of a complete change of political organization. Not twice can the people of seven States be summoned to take their chance of death and material ruin on the fiat of Kings and Governments from whom no statement of causes has proceeded beyond a hasty or selected résumé of the last flying messages of embarrassment or despair that have passed between them. No such order can be re-established, save as the consequence of a formal and deliberate abandonment of democracy and a reversion of the autocratic principle. On this ground thousands of thinkers in all countries stand watchful, decided and expectant; all hopeful of national victory or national preservation; but all, we hope and believe, determined to re-establish the foundations of national security, and to substitute for the broken theory of a Balance of Power the forms and the reality of a European Concert.



Harper's Weekly (New York), August 22.—This war will mark the final fall of autocracy. Such is the one star of hope that hangs on the smoke blackened horizon. Our hearts go out to the German people. May they come out of their misery free of the incubus of military despotism that has lain so heavy on an industrious, artistic and peace loving people.



The Springfield Republican.—Militarism for the moment is dominant in the world, but . . . out of this whirlwind of war the spirit of democracy will finally come like a redeemer to an oppressed people. One may need no little faith in the progressive development of mankind to steady him in such a crisis; but, certainly, the past has left its lessons for the world to consider with a robust confidence in the sure forward march of the silent legions of democracy. . . . Remembering that neither the Reformation with its long period of massacre, nor the 20 years of bloodshed which stained the French Revolution brutalized Europe to the extent that the spirit of democracy was banished from the world; that, indeed, a new and stronger democratic impulse came into the hearts of men after those struggles had ended, one may now gaze into the future with serene courage and with undying faith in the divine plan.



Why Is a Tariff?

Milwaukee Journal, July 25.—It was a Port Washington gentleman who was frank enough to say he was opposed to the income system of taxation because it stood in the way of tariff. His statement would have been complete had he added that he liked tariff taxation because it conferred a benefit on him, most of which the poor man had to pay.