

NEAR EAST CONFERENCES OPEN IN LONDON MONDAY

Object of Meeting Is to Settle the Differences Growing Out of the Treaty of Sevres—Allies May Grant Modifications, in View of Greeks' Restoration of Constantinople—Venizelos Thinks This Incredible

LONDON, Feb. 20.—(Correspondence Associated Press).—The conference of the British prime minister, Lloyd George, Premier Briand of France and Foreign Minister Sforza of Italy with representatives of Greece and Turkey, which is to open here Monday, February 21, has for its object the settlement of important near eastern questions growing out of the treaty of Sevres. In point of world interest and perplexity it is expected to rank with the now historic conferences of Hythe, Brussels and San Remo.

One of the most interesting features of the gathering will be the meeting face to face of the delegates representing the new Greek government under King Constantine with the former Greek Premier Venizelos for the first time since Venizelos withdrew from Greece after the defeat of his ministry in the elections and the recall of the king.

This overturn in Greek affairs was an important factor in influencing the allies to call the conference. One of the most difficult issues confronting the delegates will be the disposition of the port of Smyrna and the semi-circle of adjacent territory on the Aegean sea, 100 kilometers long and 100 kilometers broad which under the terms of the treaty, were placed under the sovereignty of Greece.

Since the signing of the treaty of Sevres, however, Turkey has demanded the abrogation of Greek rights in Smyrna as well as autonomy for Thrace. Thrace was given outright to Greece. The demand for autonomy in Thrace is made by the Turks despite the renunciation by the Ottoman government of its sovereignty over the key in Europe outside of Constantinople as well as its control overnight or more islands in the Aegean sea.

Maintenance of Turkish sovereignty over the territory awarded to Armenia is another demand of the Ottoman government which is to come up for settlement. In the treaty, it was provided that Armenia was recognized as "a free and independent state." Turkey accepted the proposal that the President of the United States should be the arbitrator in the frontier in the provinces of Ezerum, Trebizond, Van and Bitlis and as to the access of Armenia to the sea.

Turks Want Modification. Modification of "the economic clauses of the treaty which include Turkish sovereignty and independence" will also be sought. The treaty of Sevres that the Turkish government can contract no loan, internal or external, without the consent of a permanent English-French-Italian commission, whose duties include the supervision of all Ottoman financial laws and the reformation of the country's monetary system. This commission is also to determine the amount of the annual sums to be paid by Turkey for the cost of occupation of her territory by allied troops.

Turkey's desire to maintain a "defensive army" will also be considered by the delegates. The military clause of the treaty forbade Turkey to have a fleet or military airplanes and provided that all the fortifications along the Dardanelles were to be destroyed. The work of demolition is reported nearly complete. France, England and Italy were obligated to maintain an army of occupation. Turkey was allowed for police purposes a force of 35,000 men, with 15,000 special armaments to reinforce them in case of trouble, and a bodyguard of 700 for the sultan.

Premier Lloyd George is expected to preside at the conference and A. J. Balfour, who was to have attended the league of nations council meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, which opens on the same day, will participate. In addition to representatives of England, France and Italy, Belgium also may send an official delegation.

Plans for holding the conference were complicated by disputes which arose both in Turkey and Greece as to the delegations to represent those countries. The Turkish ministry in Greece fell and a new premier, M. Kallogeropoulos, was chosen. He is expected to head the Greek commission. Eleutherios Venizelos, former premier of Greece, now in London, is expected to be an unofficial envoy to the conference as it was while he was premier that Thrace and Smyrna were given to the Greeks. He is on friendly relations with the allies while the attitude of the allies toward the new Greek premier has not been defined.

No Revision Says Venizelos. Venizelos has declared that "the possibility of restoring in any degree whatever the blasting rule of the Turk by revision of the treaty is incredible." Turkey's representation at the conference was complicated by the fact that the Ottoman government, headed by the sultan, controls only a small territory in the vicinity of Constantinople, the Bosphorus and the sea of Marmora, while Anatolia, the greater part of Turkey in Asia, is controlled

by Mustapha Kemal Pasha, the leader of the nationalist revolt which followed the treaty of Sevres.

Tewfik Pasha, the Turkish grand vizier, heads the delegation that represent the Ottoman government of Constantinople. Kemal Pasha who at first declared he would not do so unless the allies withdrew from Turkey and waived their indemnity claims, also consented later to send representatives to the meeting.

NO MORE WILD HORSES ON THE PLAINS OF THE WEST

DENVER, Col., Feb. 19.—Bronco busters of the northern Rocky mountain states are about to go out of business, according to reports from officials of wild west and frontier shows. The reason is there aren't any wild horses to bust. At least not around this part of the country.

But down in Arizona they have wild horses to eat. There are 10,000 of them. They belong to the San Carlos Indians who have a reservation not far from Globe. But there isn't much chance of getting the Arizona broncos for the bronco busters of Wyoming for the Indians won't give them up.

The day of the wild herds of horses roaming the plains of Wyoming and adjacent states has been growing rapidly shorter with the encroachment of civilization. More and more ranches are being fenced in, herds of cattle are reduced or confined and to make the matter worse for the existence of the wild steers, oil drilling camps have been extended over wide areas of Wyoming, northwestern Colorado and Utah.

But down on the San Carlos Indian reservation there are 10,000 wild steers, roaming at will over the fields, destroying mile after mile of grazing lands which might be put into good use for cattle, and turning green grass of the prairie into a scrawny covering for their bones which hardly make even a decent meal for an Indian.

The cattlemen have tried to buy them, but the Indians won't listen. The government, through A. H. Symonds, Indian agent, offered to purchase them at about \$5 a head, invest the money into cattle and save the meat from the horses, giving it back to the Indians for winter food. But the Indians would have none of it. The horses are worthless, even for hides. They cannot be domesticated and the meat isn't much of a delicacy, but the Indians insist on their age-old prerogative to have their herds out on the open prairie even as their fathers did. The Indians also have about 2,000 wild burros which they say they will keep.

"And when an Indian makes up his mind," Mr. Symonds says, "you've got to have patience to get him to change it. They are proud of the horses and burros for some reason and although some of their leaders have tried to persuade them to accept the offers made, so far they have refused to sell."

Sometimes in the isolated mountain regions horses are found running loose, but while these might be termed wild, they usually belong to some rancher who has let them run loose. Wild burros are frequent in various parts of Arizona and occasionally are found in Utah. But the old wild horse herds of the mountain plateau regions have gone, probably forever.

OLD-TIME PROPAGANDA SENT OUT BY GERMANY, CHARGED

GENEVA, Jan. 30.—(Correspondence Associated Press).—Germany is begun to flood Switzerland and other neutral countries with very expensive propaganda both in book and pamphlet form, such as the memoirs of Ludendorff, Von Hindenburg, Von Seeckt and other naval and military leaders in the war. The books cost between two and 50 Swiss francs each.

These together with experiences of the former Emperor William and Crown Prince Friedrich are sent to Swiss citizens free of all cost without anything to show where they originated. All classes of persons receive them and the Swiss newspapers are full of propaganda. The German minister at Berne was denied any official knowledge of it.

The Journal Democrite says that while Germany is pleading poverty in order to obtain exemption from reparation payments and provisions of the treaty of Versailles, and that while she is sending to Switzerland many children for charitable care, she is spending large sums for useless propaganda through which it is hoped to create favorable neutral pressure on the allied premiers.

HENS IN LAYING CONTEST MADE RECORD IN DECEMBER

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 19.—The hens in the nation-wide laying contest conducted by the Nebraska college of agriculture are raising a record in the customary winter strike. Twenty-three of them laid 23 or more eggs during December; one laid 27 eggs and four laid 28 each. During November and December, the first two months of the present contest, one hen laid a total of 50 eggs, and ten laid 39 or more eggs each.

Among the 23 high layers during December were the following breeds: Seven White Leghorns, four White Wyandottes, four White Orpingtons, two Rhode Island Reds, and three Buff Orpingtons. The highest layer was White Orpingtons. Six hundred hens, representing breeders in nine states, are entered in the contest, the purpose of which is to encourage the breeding of better laying strains of poultry.

NEW BARON GIVEN TITLE THAT NO ONE CAN FOLLOW

LONDON, Feb. 1.—(Correspondence Associated Press).—Vaughan Davies, member of parliament for Cardiganshire, one of the five recently created peers, has discovered that a mere baron cannot select any title he may like. He wanted to call himself baron of Cardiganshire, which he has represented in parliament for many years, and so notified the authorities that have charge of such matters.

It is reported that the entire Japanese fleet will be equipped with wireless telephones. They have already been installed in ships of a unit of the first squadron.

PITTSBURGH DRIVES A TUNNEL THROUGH IMPRISONING HILLS

After having tried, for a number of years, to get over and around the hills surrounding their city, the residents of Pittsburgh, Pa., have decided to strike at the heart of the difficulty and go through them. Accordingly tunneling operations have been gotten under way which, when completed, will result in a double-tube bore that will accommodate pedestrian, street car, and vehicular traffic, says the March number of Popular Mechanics Magazine, in an illustrated article. The estimated cost of the undertaking is between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000, and it is expected that two years will be required for its completion. It establishes no precedent, as another bore, made several years ago, has given satisfactory service, although reserved for the use of street cars only.

MACHINE TESTS DYED FABRICS FOR FASTNESS OF COLORS

With the constant production of new dyestuffs, whose color fastness is tested by nature only through the slow processes of years, a method for the rapid determination of permanency becomes desirable. A machine for this purpose is now offered by an Illinois manufacturer, says Popular Mechanics Magazine in an illustrated article in the March number. An inclosed electric arc, with special electrodes giving light of solar quality, including ultraviolet rays, is surrounded by a metal drum with 40 windows, at which samples of fabric, up to 3 by 5 in., are exposed in individual holders. Arrangement is made for shielding part of each sample for comparison. To give access to the arc, the lower part of the drum slides over the upper, without disturbing the holders.

An extensive scheme of waterpower development is to be carried out in Iceland, where the waterfalls will be made the source of hydro-electric power.

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