

WEATHER
Fair Friday and Saturday, except probably rain or snow and colder Saturday west portion.

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COMMISSION ON LEAGUE OF NATIONS IS RAPIDLY COMPLETING ITS WORK

General Agreement Reached On Principles Which Underlie Whole Draft

Articles Which Deal With Motives Behind Formation of League and Objects Which Would Safeguard Its Constitution; Rumania, Poland, Greece and Czech-Slovakia Representatives To Be Associated With Commission in Its Work; Text of Official Statement and Other Developments in Peace Council Circles Thursday

Paris, Feb. 6.—(British Wireless Service.)—The official communication on peace matters issued this afternoon:

"The commission on the league of nations held its third meeting last night. Appreciable progress was made in the consideration of the draft. It was further unanimously agreed, in accordance with the decision of the conference at the Quai d'Orsay yesterday, that representatives of Czech-Slovakia, Greece, Poland and Rumania should be associated with the commission in its deliberations.

"In their second and third sessions the commission have covered practically one-third of their task. They have discussed those articles which deal with the motives behind the formation of a league of nations and the objects which would safeguard the constitution of its membership in the league.

"While the decisions of the commission with regard to each article are provisional, many apparent difficulties have already been resolved and a general agreement has been reached on the principles which underlie the whole draft. It is therefore to be expected that the remaining articles will be covered quickly."

WORK OF COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL LABOR.

Paris, Feb. 6.—(British Wireless Service.)—An official communication issued today says:

"The President of the United States, the premiers and foreign ministers of the allied and associated powers and Japan's representative on Feb. 6 heard Prince Feisal, who presented the case of the Arabs.

"The commission on international labor legislation under the chairmanship of Mr. Gompers also met. The commission commenced a detailed examination of the draft of a convention which provides for the creation of a general organization with a view to securing the progress of the international labor legislation. Small states members of the league of nations, would necessarily be members of this organization. The two first articles of the draft were adopted."

SOVIET GOVERNMENT WILLING TO PARTICIPATE

London, Feb. 6.—M. Tchitcherine, the Bolshevik foreign minister of Russia, announces in a wireless dispatch picked up here that the Soviet government is willing to participate in the Princess's Islands conference. The message bears the date of Tuesday and was sent from Moscow.

The dispatch begins by referring to "complaints from the Entente as concerning international revolutionary propaganda" and declares that the Soviet is ready "if there be occasion to enter into a general agreement with the Entente powers on their undertaking not to interfere with Russian internal affairs."

It then announces that the government is disposed to confer on the basis indicated in the note from the peace conference at Princess's Islands or elsewhere, "with all the Entente powers or some of the Russian political groups at the request of the Entente powers."

In conclusion, the Entente powers are asked to inform the Soviet government without delay where its representatives are to go, also what date and route to be taken.

Persia Wants Representation.

Paris, Feb. 6.—Persia is pressing earnestly a claim for representation at the peace conference the same as that granted China, Serbia, Rumania and other of the lesser belligerents, on the ground that Persia suffered more war damage, perhaps, than any of the smaller nations with the exception of Belgium, but that because of British pressure she was unable to take part in the war.

Persia will ask that Kurds on their northwestern boundary be added to Persia on the ground that the two peoples are of the same blood and religion.

Great Britain has granted the Persians a sympathetic hearing and the American delegation is apparently disposed to consider their claims carefully.

Magdeburg Lies on the Elb 76 miles southwest of Berlin. It is considered one of the strongest fortresses of the German Empire. Before the war the city had a population of nearly 300,000.

Magdeburg is one of the most important commercial towns in northern Germany.

WHY GERMANY PUTS UP A POOR MOUTH

Should Be Prevented From Declaring Herself a Bankrupt State

PERIT SAYS SHE SHOULD BE MADE TO PAY TO LIMIT Financial Problem, He Adds, Is Most Momentous One Before Peace Congress

Paris, Feb. 6.—(By The Associated Press.)—Germany is making utmost efforts to have the Allies believe that she is nearing bankruptcy, declared Raul Perit, chairman of the budget commission of the Chamber of Deputies and former minister of justice, in discussing today the financial problems facing the peace conference. The first measure of the conference along financial lines, he added, should be to take measures to prevent Germany from declaring herself an insolvent debtor or a bankrupt state.

"Then," Perit continued, "we should immediately fix the amount of our account against Germany which she must be made to pay to the full limit of her financial ability without consideration for her feelings. It will be time enough then to decide about the method of payment. She may pay either in capital immediately or in yearly installments."

"I do not believe that Germany at the present time is in a position to pay a large amount in cash. We must not demand from her a too-heavy payment now, so as not to place her in a position where she might argue that we are strangling her and killing the goose that is to lay the golden eggs."

"Whether the installments we shall demand from Germany be twenty, thirty or fifty billions of francs yearly depends entirely upon our decision, after an investigation as to what amount Germany will be able to pay. These payments would be guaranteed by customs tariffs decided upon at the conference, reserving for ourselves the right to raise such tariffs should Germany fail to meet her obligations."

For Financial Society of Nations.

"I believe in the creation of a financial society of nations and that all expenses incurred by each nation should be put in common and an international tax levied upon all until such debts are paid. Neutrals should be included in this financial society of nations, especially those neutrals who profited by the war."

Discussing the question whether Germany should be permitted to import raw material so as to enable her to resume her manufacturing industry, M. Perit said: "I do not believe that all importations of raw material to the Germans should be forbidden, because their industry would then be at a standstill and they would be unable to pay."

Preferential Treatment.

"I would suggest that preferential treatment be given the allied countries, as France, Belgium and Serbia have suffered the greatest damage. Raw material from America should be sent to these three countries first, the overflow being allowed to revert to Germany so as to enable her to keep her machinery working without enabling her to undersell us."

"The financial problem is the most momentous one before the peace conference and I am greatly surprised that it has not been considered before this. The first thing usually done when a

GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF THE WHEAT MARKET

Price to Consumer Should Be Dictated by Law of Supply and Demand

Washington, Feb. 6.—While the farmer would be paid the \$2.25 government guarantee for the 1919 wheat crop the wheat would be sold to the consumer at a price to be dictated by the law of supply and demand under legislation approved tonight by the House Agricultural Committee. The government would lose the difference between the purchase and sale prices.

With the government given absolute control of the wheat market in the United States members of the committee said it would be difficult to determine what would be the price if in operation, but they thought it would be based largely on the world market price.

The bill approved by the committee is a substitute for that presented by the Food Administration and Department of Agriculture. It gives the President discretionary powers to continue the present agency for handling the wheat crop or create a new one and appropriate \$1,000,000,000 as a revolving fund to carry out the guarantee.

THE EVE OF HUN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Weimer Filling Up With Germans of All Degrees From Over Former Empire

EBERT AND SCHIEDEMANN AND ERZBERGER THERE

Town Strongly Policed To Prevent Any Possible Attack By Spartans

Weimar, Wednesday, Feb. 5.—Weimar today is filled with the most notable throng that probably ever assembled in this beautiful little German city. Some 3,000 German political leaders, ranging in repute from such well-known men as Chancellor Ebert, Philipp Scheidemann, Count Von Brockdorff-Rantzau, the foreign secretary, and Matthias Erzberger, to the humblest and hitherto unknown figures from every corner of the former empire have been gradually assembling here and are ready for the opening tomorrow of the first German national assembly since the war.

Special trains for the last two days have been plying passengers into Weimar until the city is filled to overflowing.

Yet so thorough had the arrangements been made that each person not only had his living quarters definitely assigned to him in advance, but his eating place as well.

The entire arrangement is a characteristic German system and it seems to work excellently except for the annoyance of keeping track of so many cards.

Town Strongly Policed.

Weimar is strongly policed with cavalry and infantry to prevent a possible Spartacist attack.

The special arrangements made for feeding the delegates will admit of the serving of meals with a good choice of dishes and a fairly wide selection of luxuries. The butter served is apparently the real article and marmalade and tea may be had.

The government has occupied the beautiful, ancient, but recently renovated theater where the assembly will be held and which has already been transformed into the appearance of a legislative chamber. The telegraph service was busy today putting the final touches on the tremendous extra wire facilities for the accommodation of both the newspaper men and the delegates.

Weimar, a clean and attractive city as compared with the present Berlin, lies under a covering of snow which has brought numbers of sleighs in which the delegates are swiftly drawn on their errands.

Although the constitution for the new republic undoubtedly will be one of the first subjects brought up for discussion and consideration, there are on the scene those who would like to push to the fore the discussion of a league of nations, and there were predictions in some quarters today that this subject might have first consideration.

DURHAM IS AFTER PART OF CHATHAM

Mr. Bryant Introduces Township Annexation Bill in House

SAVE MORGENTHAU, HOUSE FEATURELESS

Thirty Working Days Passed Yesterday and All Big Work Ahead

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NEGRO LYNCHED AT JACKSONVILLE

Slayer of Mr. Grover Dickey Shot and Hanged From River Bridge

PETTEWAY ALSO TAKEN FROM JAIL NOT LOCATED

Jailer Says He Was Forced To Give Up Keys When Seized

(Special to The News and Observer.)

New Bern, N. C., Feb. 6.—John Daniels, slayer of Mr. Grover Dickey, the Roper Lumber Company farm manager at Camp Perry, near Jacksonville, on January 25th, was early this morning taken from the Onslow county jail by a party of masked men, who overpowered the jailer after he had been called up to answer a knock at the front door. Citizens found the body of the negro at daybreak hanging from the draw bridge over Negro river with several nails protruding from his chest.

Daniel Petteway, also colored, an accomplice in the murder, was also taken from the jail at the same time by the mob, but until a late hour tonight he has not been located. Sheriff Walton was reached on the telephone and stated there is every reason to believe Petteway was also lynched, but searching parties had failed to locate him. Daniels was taken from the jail fully dressed, but Petteway wore only one shoe.

Mr. Peter Andrews, the jailer, stated that three, possibly four automobiles, stopped in front of the jail at about midnight Wednesday. He soon heard a knock at the door, no uncommon occurrence, and he opened. As he turned the door two men seized him, turning his back to them so that he could not recognize any one, while others thrust pistols into his face, demanding the two negroes. Failure to obey their orders was punctuated with the threat of death, and the keys were delivered up. The mob went upstairs where Mr. Andrews was guarded. He was soon sent for to unlock the cells containing the negroes. While being forced to do this, Daniels asserted that he would kill the first man who came into his cell. In reply four shots were fired and the negro slid to the floor. He was seized and whisked away together with Petteway.

Mr. Dickey was struck on the head with a heavy wooden pole by Daniels Saturday afternoon, January 25, while Mr. Dickey was reconstructing with Petteway for leaving certain gates open in the farm hog pastures. It was said that Daniels took no part in the exchange of words, but simply dealt the unfortunate blow that caused his death, and afterwards assisted Petteway in beating Mr. Dickey about the body. All this took place in the presence of Mr. Dickey's wife, who had gone to the pasture with her husband in a car. Mr. Dickey died just before being placed aboard a special train to be brought to a New Bern hospital. His remains were taken to Branch, Arkansas, his old home, for burial.

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SEAT IS WEAVER'S, SAYS COMMITTEE

Decision Likely Marks Beginning of End of Celebrated Election Dispute

STEDMAN ASKS \$500,000 SITE AT GREENSBORO

Yates Webb Says He Was Misquoted On What Brewers Would Do

Washington, D. C., Feb. 6.—With forty lines strictly drawn, committee on election No. 3, by a vote of four to three went on record today in sustaining the claims of Representative Zebulon Weaver of the Tenth Congressional District of North Carolina that he was duly elected to the 65th Congress of the United States. The effort to unseat Representative Weaver as advocated by James J. Britt, of Asheville, former Republican Congressman from the North Carolina district, was defeated by a vote of 4-3.

The committee on election No. 3 is composed of nine members—six Democrats and three Republicans—seven members of the committee defeated the Britt-Weaver contest. Representative William J. Soars of Florida, a Democrat, and Representative Harvey Helm of Kentucky, a Democrat, were defeated in their respective homes on account of illness in their families. The following members of the committee voted to sustain the statements of Representative Weaver:

Representative Walter A. Watson, chairman of Virginia; Representative Michael F. Phelan, of Massachusetts; Representative H. U. Claypool, of Ohio; Representative Tom Connally, of Texas. Here are the committee doubting the validity of the claims of Representative Weaver and voted to declare former Congressman James J. Britt duly elected to the 65th Congress: Representatives Cassius C. Dwell, of Iowa; F. H. Logsdon, of New York, and Everett Sanders of Indiana. Whether a majority report will be filed in the House of Representatives has not as yet been established as a certainty.

Signs November, 1916.

The celebrated election controversy between Representative Weaver and his former Republican congressman had its inception on November 17, 1916, when Mr. Britt served a writ of mandamus on the Buncombe county canvassing board. The hearing was held before Judge Adams, with the result that the injunction proceedings were dismissed.

Former Congressman Britt appealed to the Supreme Court or North Carolina, this tribunal confirming the decision of the Asheville jurist. Conse-

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CONFEREES SUBMIT WAR REVENUE BILL

Long Delayed Measure Carrying Six Billion Dollars For Year 1919

PRINCIPAL FEATURES OF IMPORTANT MEASURE

Feeling of Assurance in Congressional Circles That It Will Be Passed

Washington, Feb. 6.—With the submission to Congress today of the conference agreement on the long-delayed war revenue bill, the American people were presented with their prospective federal tax budget for 1919, and ensuing years—something over \$6,000,000,000 this year, and \$4,000,000,000 thereafter, the subject to the revision of future rates expected to be undertaken by the next Congress.

The conference report, presented to the House by Majority Leader Kitchin, is regarded as assured of adoption by both House and Senate and of approval by the President. It provides for a total of \$4,370,000,000. Besides this year's tax levy of about \$6,000,000,000 further treasury needs, to be raised by bonds and other means, are estimated by the treasury at about \$12,000,000,000.

The completed measure will not be sent to France unless the President's departure for home is delayed well beyond the date now set for his sailing. The President is expected to sign the bill soon after his arrival here.

About one-third of this year's estimated federal expenses are provided in the bill which, uniformly following the original House plan and the peace-time modifications of the Senate, provides that the bulk of revenues shall be secured from incomes, corporate and individual, and war-excess profits. Large revenues also are expected from intoxicating beverages until July 1, when prohibition legislation becomes effective.

Except for slightly increased war-excess profits rates for 1919 and corporations' income tax rates for 1920, virtually all the rates as revised in the bill passed by the Senate are approved by the conferees and remain in the final conference draft. Like the original House bill and the Senate's revision, the bulk of the taxes are levied upon war excess profits of corporations and an incomes, individual and corporate. Rates of the Senate on transportation, levies, cigars and tobacco, amusement admissions, club dues, luxuries and semi-luxuries, stamp and special taxes, all substantially were adopted by the conferees, while the House rates on estates and insurance were reinstated.

Corporation Income Tax Raised.

The principal rate increase agreed to in conference were to raise the corporation income rates for 1920 from 8 per cent, as proposed by the Senate, to 10 per cent, and an increase from 60 to 65 per cent in the second "bracket" of sliding rate

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FOURTEEN POINTS ARE WINNING OUT IN PARIS COUNCIL

Conference Working As Previous Conferences Could Not Have Worked

IDEALISM MODIFIES DEMANDS OF NATIONS

Old-Fashioned Diplomacy With Its Old Objectives Also a Force That Is Operating; Coming of Mr. Wilson Coincided With General Aspiration For a New Order

By FRANK H. SIMONDS. (Copyright, 1919, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.) (Special Cable From Paris.)

Paris, Feb. 6.—There are in Paris at the present time two sets of influences which are working to modify the old-fashioned idea of the actual conduct of international relations. One is the ambitious, appetite and demands of the various nations and which is contributing to the creation of a real league of nations, which in my judgment will have permanent value for world peace and world understanding; and in the second place, old-fashioned diplomacy with its old objectives, its ancient, time honored methods, seeking to do in Paris in 1919 what it did in Berlin and Vienna in the last century.

In the present article I am going to try to give an example of the operation of this old-fashioned method, because I think it is valuable for the American people to understand this phase, as it is, and exactly as it is; neither exaggerating nor minimizing its effect. And I am going to try to indicate some of the effects of this sort of thing.

For a period of time stretching back to the crusades France has exercised a certain half real, half shadowy protectorate over the Christians of the near east, and particularly those of Syria. This has had its practical value, but hand in hand with this in the last century and in the present there has grown up a measure of economic development in Syria—for example the French railroads and harbor works at Beirut. In clear fashion Syria has been marked as a future field for French occupation (territorially and otherwise when Turkey should dissolve.

Syria Given To France.

In 1916 England and France signed a treaty, secret then but known generally now, which in substance recognized that France should have in Syria for the future precisely the status which England was shaping for herself in Mesopotamia. The language was perhaps veiled but the purpose of the document was unmistakable.

Somewhat later the British entered into a second treaty with the shah of Mecca, now known as King of the Hedjaz, by which Great Britain recognized the sovereignty of the King of the Hedjaz, over the Arabian East, including Syria, already promised to France. On evidence of this agreement the Allies and contributed material, if not decisive aid in Allenby's great campaign of last year.

In this situation the British position became difficult. The French demanded that the agreement of 1916 become effective. The King of the Hedjaz with equal emphasis called attention to the British commitment to him, and sent his son, Prince Feisal to Paris, accompanied by a very interesting young British officer, Colonel Lawrence, in some respects one of the most attractive figures in Paris today, to plead the cause of the Arabs.

Meantime England and France in November of last year uttered a joint agreement, pledging themselves not to annex territory in the near East. But this meant much or nothing as one chose to take the French or the British view. What is of importance is the fact that British policy has decided to support this Arab commitment and has pitched itself formally on that part of Mr. Wilson's fourteen points which demands self-determination for small races and peoples.

Embarrassing Problem.

Now the fact of the case seems to be that, left to themselves, the majority of the Syrian people would not choose a French protectorate. They would seek some form of independence guaranteed by one or more protecting nations. Therefore it will be seen that the present British policy, which would exclude France from Syria, falls in with President Wilson's policy; but for the French at least, there is a suggestion that the President's principles have pulled the British out of a bad hole, and bid fair to exclude the French from Syria. Given this material to work upon, it is easy to see how the professional diplomats of the old order would borrow and dig and mine and manipulate; and they have done it, and from one quarter therefore, we have an insistent whisper that the French have become Chauvinistic, and from other still, the relatively old whisper that the British have remained hypocritical. And out of exactly this sort of mixture grows the impression one gathers over and over again in the American Press that the Paris Conference is after all a gathering place of the old reactionary appointees and diplomats who behind a facade of idealism, are doing the same old thing in the same old way. This after all is a part of the Syrian mess.

But it is worth recalling again that

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