

## WILSON SOUGHT JUSTICE ONLY IN CARRYING ON WAR

Text of Hitherto Unpublished  
Speech To Newspaper Men  
Made Public

### DISCUSSED FRANKLY AIMS AND PURPOSES

President Explains Why  
More Soldiers Were Not  
Sent To France In Early  
Months of World War; Re-  
fused To Play Politics In  
Making Appointments

WOODROW WILSON AS I KNOW  
HIM BY JOSEPH P. TUMULTY  
(21st Installment.)  
Chapter XXXII

Speaking to me one day about the conduct of the war, shortly after the delivery of his war message, he said: "We must not in our conduct of this war repeat the scandals of the Civil and the Spanish American wars. The politics of Generals and Admirals must be tabooed. We must find the best trained minds that we can get and we must back them up at every turn. Our policy must be the best man for every job, regardless of his political affiliations. This must be the only test, for after all, we are the trustees of the boys whose lives will be spent in this enterprise of war."

This was not an easy policy to pursue. Every kind of harassing demand came from Democratic Senators and Representatives to induce the President to recognize political considerations in the conduct of the war, the argument being that after all the responsibility for its conduct rested with the Democrats, the administration of the war ought to be under Democratic tutelage throughout. But the President was final in his resolve to see the war through to the end without political considerations. The political predilections of Generals, Admirals and war workers of every kind were ignored.

Mr. Creel by furnishing a list of Republicans appointed by the President to conspicuous offices has drawn the charge against the President of nepotism and favoritism. Although the President would not tolerate a coalition cabinet, he gave to Republicans all manner of opportunities to share in the conduct and the credit of the war. I quote from Mr. Creel:

"The search for the best man for the place" was instituted without regard to party, faction, blood strain, or creed, and the result was a composite organization in which Democrats, Republicans and Independents worked side by side, partisanship forgotten and service the one consideration.

"It stood recognized as a matter of course that the soldier selected to command our forces in France might develop into a presidential possibility, yet this high place was given without question to General John J. Pershing, a life-long Republican and the son-in-law of Senator Warren, one of the masters of the Republican machine.

"Admiral William S. Sims, a voracious Republican, was sent to England in high command, and while Secretary Daniels was warned at the time that Sims' partisanship was of the kind that would not recognize the obligations of loyalty or patriotism, he waved the objection aside out of his belief that Sims was 'the best man for the job.'"

"For the head of the Aircraft Board, with its task of launching America's great aviation progress, Mr. Howard E. Coffin, a Republican, was selected and at his right hand Mr. Coffin placed Col. Edward A. Deeds, also a Republican of vigor and regularity. It is to be remembered also that when failure and corruption were charged against the Aircraft Board, the man appointed by the President to conduct the highly important investigation was Charles E. Hughes.

"Long List of Republicans  
Three Assistant Secretaries of War were appointed by Mr. Baker—Mr. Benedict Crowell, a Cleveland contractor; Dr. F. E. Keppel, dean of Columbia University, and Emmet J. Scott, formerly Booker, Washington's secretary—and all three were Republicans. Mr. E. R. Stettinius of the J. P. Morgan firm and a Republican was made special assistant to the Secretary of War and placed in charge of supplies, a duty that he had been discharging for the Allies. Maj. Gen. George W. Goethals, after his unfortunate experience in shipbuilding, was given a second chance as an assistant Chief of Staff. The Chief of Staff himself, Gen. Peyton C. March, was a Republican no less definite and regular than General Goethals. Mr. Samuel McRoberts, president of the National City Bank and one of the pillars of the Republican party, was brought to Washington as chief of the procurement section in the Ordnance Section, with the rank of brigadier-general; Maj. Gen. E. H. Crowder was appointed Provost Marshal general, although his Republicanism was well known, and no objection of any kind was made when General Crowder put Charles B. Warren, the Republican National Committeeman from Michigan, in charge of appeal cases, a position of rare power.

"The Emergency Fleet Corporation was virtually turned over to Republicans under Charles M. Schwab and Charles Piez. Mr. since McCormick, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, was made chairman of the War Trade Board, but of the eight members of the following five were Republicans: Albert Strauss of New York, Alonzo E. Taylor

## MARSHAL FOCH TO VISIT THIS STATE DURING DECEMBER

Famous French War Hero  
Will Make Stops at Gas-  
tonia and Charlotte

### BULWINKLE ANNOUNCES MARSHAL'S ACCEPTANCE

Alexander L. McCaskill  
Lands Job As Collector at  
Wilmington; Defeat of  
Harding On Surtax Rate  
Victory For Democrats  
and Simmons' Leadership

The News and Observer Bureau,  
603 District National Bank Bldg.,  
By EDWARD E. BRITTON  
(By Special Leased Wire.)

Washington, Nov. 18.—Marshal Foch is to visit North Carolina. The definite announcement that the great Frenchman, the man who as the commanding officer of the armies of the Allies made the plans and issued the orders that resulted in an overwhelming victory for the forces fighting for civilization, will make at least two stops in the State on his return trip from points in the West which he has agreed to visit. The announcement of this was made today by Representative A. J. Bulwinkle, of Gastonia, himself a veteran of the World War, having served overseas in real service as major in the famous Third Division. He and Senator Overman visited the War Department and finally Congressman Bulwinkle secured the promise of two stops for Marshal Foch in North Carolina.

Gastonia and Charlotte  
The stops will be made at Gastonia and Charlotte, and at each place Marshal Foch is expected to speak briefly. The exact date has not yet been determined, but it will be sometime between the first and the fourth of December. He is to be in New York by December 14, and it would appear now that he will be seen and heard at Gastonia and Charlotte either on the 12th, 11th or 12th of December. As soon as the exact date is agreed upon full notice will be given in order that the people of North Carolina may have an opportunity of showing him how he is admired in that State. The train will stop at both Gastonia and Charlotte and Marshal Foch may speak from the rear platform. As he speaks only French his remarks will have to be turned into English, but there will be no trouble about this, as an expert interpreter will be with him. Those who want to know what he says in the original had better be on hand up on the French that they know.

Invitations To Marshal  
Senator Overman presented invitations to have Marshal Foch visit Raleigh and Fayetteville, but pointed out that it would not be possible to have him do so, as these points are off the main line of the route he will take. Major Bulwinkle, who is being congratulated here on his success on having Marshal Foch stop at Gastonia and Charlotte, is informed that Marshal Foch will pass through Richmond on November 23 on his trip West, going as far as Los Angeles, then back by the Southern Pacific to New Orleans, then through Atlanta and on by the Southern Railway to Washington with stops at Gastonia, and Charlotte. And there is a feeling here that now it is known the route that he will travel through North Carolina there will be other places that will be urging Marshal Foch to appear at the stations and speak.

McCaskill Lands Safely  
Alexander L. McCaskill, of Fayetteville, landed today as Collector of Customs for the Fifteenth Collection District, with headquarters at Wilmington, and succeeded James H. Cowan, Mayor of Wilmington.

Harding's Defeat  
The nomination of Mr. McCaskill was held up by former Senator Marion Butler, but it did not take the nomination much time to be confirmed after it reached the Senate. It is understood that there was no opposition on the floor of the Senate when the nomination came up today. And former Senator Butler sees another victory for the "Hog Combine" and that the "tail has gone with the hide," as he put the matter to those who beat the air when the McCaskill nomination was announced.

Hammering that President Harding yesterday received at the hands of 94 Republicans of the House in refusing to accept his direct protest and vote against a 50 per cent surtax for the higher brackets on income continues to be the talk here. The Washington newspapers, which are blind followers of the Harding administration, had as little to say about the defeat of President Harding as possible.

The defeat of the proposition to adopt a compromise 40 per cent rate as required by President Harding is justly regarded here as a very great victory for the Democratic contention for Senator Simmons, the Democratic ranking member of the finance committee, and for the program he laid down in his opening broadside directed against the Republican tax revision bill and Senate amendments. It is a part of the history of the change forced in the bill by Democratic aggressiveness, that the speech of Senator Simmons and his savage attack on the bill in the Senate was followed by action of the agricultural "bloc" Republicans in supporting the Simmons program and forcing

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## Spurned In Love, Widower Wounds Woman, Kills Self

Harvey Furman, Aged 59, Fires Bullet Into His Breast  
After Shooting Mrs. Mary Talton At 409 Dawson  
Street; Mrs. Talton Not Seriously Hurt

"If you won't marry me, we must die together," said Harvey Furman, fifty-nine year old widower before he sent a bullet into the shoulder of Mrs. Mary Talton, widow, and then killed himself at the woman's home, 409 N. Dawson street early yesterday morning. Mrs. Talton, not seriously wounded, told the police that her refusal to marry him was responsible for Furman's act.

Furman, who was an Indiana farmer, came to Raleigh several months ago. He boarded with Mrs. Talton and operated a shoe repair shop on North Street. The body was yesterday taken in charge by his son, John H. Furman, an engineer of the Norfolk Southern Railroad. Burial will take place in Hazleton, Indiana. Engineer Furman distinguished himself several months ago by springing to the "cow catcher" of his locomotive and rescuing a child, whose presence on the track had been discovered too late to stop the train.

The attack upon Mrs. Talton, which was made as she was preparing breakfast in her kitchen yesterday morning, was the climax of a series of proposals of marriage on the part of Furman, according to statements made by the woman and her daughter. They stated that Mrs. Talton's refusal to accompany Furman to a moving picture show Thursday night was followed by threats upon the woman's life by Furman, but the threats were not taken seriously by the woman or her family.

According to Mrs. Talton, Furman came into her kitchen about 5:30 yesterday morning and besought her to accompany him to his room, refusing his offer of marriage. Furman had on no shoes and seemed distraught, says Mrs. Talton. The man went out of the room, declaring he would end it all. In a few minutes Furman entered the kitchen again, carrying a pistol and uttered his melodramatic statement: "If you won't marry me, we must die together."

Mrs. Talton was seated in a chair, and she started to rise Furman shot. The bullet passed through her shoulder and glanced off her neck. Without waiting to find out the effect of the shot, Furman turned the pistol on himself and fired again, the second bullet penetrating his chest in the region of the heart and producing instant death.

Mrs. Talton, who is a mill worker, 37 years old, was taken to Rex Hospital, where her injury was pronounced slight, but of such a nature as to cause her to be confined to the hospital for about three weeks. Coroner J. E. Owens was informed of the tragedy immediately after the occurrence and immediately began an investigation. The coroner interviewed Mrs. Talton, members of the family and neighbors and stated last night that he was satisfied that Furman was killed by his own hand. At the request of Coroner Owens, an examination of the body was made by Dr. Z. M. Carvins, who stated that the wound was of such a nature that it could have been inflicted either by the deceased or another person.

## NINETY-TWO BIDS ON FIVE PROJECTS BOARD TO ISSUE NEW RULES SOON

Slight Increase In Costs of  
Hard Surface; Gravel  
Roads Drop Sharply  
Ninety-two bids on five highway construction projects in the Fifth District were submitted to the State Highway Commission yesterday and opened in the House of Representatives at noon. Three of the projects provide for the closing with hard surface gaps in the Central Highway in Davidson, Guilford and Alamance counties. The other projects were lateral roads reaching into Caswell county. Successful bidders will be announced today.

Costs submitted yesterday ranged slightly higher than on the last previous bidding held here November 8 for hard surface construction, and for gravel roads the price ranged sharply downward from the former level to 25 cents per yard to 22 1/2 bid on the Haw River, Yadonville road. Hard surface paving advanced about 5 cents per square yard.

Three hundred or more contractors crowded into the Hall of the House when the bids were opened, and the bidding was followed with keen interest. Again the Union Paving Company was the center of interest, with renewed wonder as to what the big Philadelphia contracting company would offer. The notice contractors have not yet recovered from the shock sustained when this company underbid by a quarter of a million dollars on three jobs several weeks ago.

On the basis of the bids submitted yesterday the cost per mile of hard surface roads has advanced to a little above \$25,000. On the three hard surface projects (let, there were 27 1/2 miles of hard surface roads. The cost of gravel roads declined somewhat in comparison with former lettings. The most radical cut in costs submitted was in solid rock excavation, bid at 50 per yard.

## WATERWAYS MEETING COMES TO A CLOSE

Savannah, Ga., Nov. 18.—The Atlantic Deepwater Waterways Convention adjourned today after a four days' session. Officers elected included the following: J. Hampton Moore, President; vice presidents, at large, John H. Small, North Carolina; John N. Cole, Massachusetts; Murray Hulbert, New York; Fredrick W. Honnelly, New Jersey; William P. Broening, Maryland; vice-presidents, George T. Leach, North Carolina; director, Louis T. Moore, North Carolina.

The convention went on record as opposing the St. Lawrence River ship canal project.

## "Are We Going To Let Them Die?"

Sir Philip Gibbs, noted English war correspondent, is back from Russia, with a story of the Russian peasant that every American ought to read. It will be published in tomorrow's News and Observer. Gibbs tells a plain unvarnished story about conditions as he found them in the interior of Russia. His article is simply written—in the style that made his war letters in the New York Times and the London Chronicle the most widely read reports of the World War.

## N. C. CONFERENCE NAMES ITS FIRST WOMAN DELEGATE

Mrs. J. LeGrand Everett, of  
Rockingham, To Go To  
General Conference

### TWO NEW MINISTERS RECEIVED BY BISHOP

Conference Decides To Ad-  
journ By Sunday Night  
and Appointments of Min-  
isters Will Be Read Then;  
Alumni Association Ban-  
quet a Feature

By T. A. SIKES  
New Bern, Nov. 18.—The North Carolina conference, in session here today, availed itself of the new law of the church allowing women equal rights with male members by electing Mrs. J. LeGrand Everett of Rockingham, as its first woman delegate to the General Conference.

Rev. Thomas N. Ivey, D. D., editor of the Christian Advocate, Nashville, Tenn., was elected to lead the delegation of this conference at Hot Springs next spring. Rev. M. T. Plyler, presiding elder of the Durham district, was the only other clerical delegate who was elected today. Joseph G. Brown, president of the Citizens National Bank, Raleigh, leads the lay delegations.

Two New Ministers  
Another feature of today's session was the reception into full connection of two young ministers who had been on trial for two years. In receiving these young men, Bishop Darlington delivered a strong address to them, setting forth the requirements for ministers of the Gospel. He emphasized the meaning and importance of the ministry and told the young men that he feared "we are prone to drift away from Holy things. Some men, said the Bishop, go through life treating their ministerial duties as a huge joke."

"I want you to always have reverence for divine things. If you cannot answer in the affirmative questions that I am about to ask you, and then keep them, it would be better for you to leave here now. Some men do not keep their word. They promise not to use tobacco for instance, and then use it. I am not a crank on that subject, but I am a crank about preachers keeping their word."

The Bishop admonished the young men to devote themselves wholly to the work of the ministry. "You are not to sell sewing machines or life insurance—you are to preach the gospel."

Appointments Sunday  
The conference decided fully this morning that it would adjourn on Sunday night, at which time Bishop Darlington will read the appointments of the preachers for next year. This will be the second time in the history of the conference that this has been done.

Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock a special session of the conference will be held, according to a resolution adopted this morning, when the matter of group insurance for the preachers will be considered. This is a movement to insure every preacher in the conference to the amount of three thousand dollars. The premium to be paid in the regular budget of the church.

Elect Newspaper Man  
Luther L. Gobble, of Greensboro, was elected Sunday School field secretary for the North Carolina Conference upon nomination of the Sunday School Board. Mr. Gobble was selected from a number of names which were presented to the board. Since his graduation from Trinity College a few years ago he has been doing reportorial work on the Greensboro News and it is felt that the board is exceedingly fortunate in securing his services to lead the Sunday School work of the Conference for next year. It is understood that Mr. Gobble has accepted the work and will immediately enter upon his duties.

Alumni Banquet  
A most delightful social event was enjoyed by the conference tonight in the basement of Centenary Church, the occasion being the annual Trinity College Alumni Association banquet, when 250 former students and friends of the Methodist institution gathered together, ate turkey and all that belongs with it, listened to music by the New Bern Orchestra and heard some rousing speeches. Dr. Albert Anderson, one of the "older boys," acted as toastmaster. He first introduced Rev. A. W. Plyler, of the western North Carolina Conference alumni association, who brought greetings from the West to the East. This is the first time that a messenger has been sent from one to the other, but it is to be perpetuated. Rev. J. M. Ormud responded to the greetings of Mr. Plyler. Dr. W. P. Few spoke of a greater Trinity and S. W. Marr, of Raleigh, spoke in the interest of the recent educational campaign.

Marr Named President  
Mr. Marr was elected president of the association and Rev. C. B. Culbreth, manager. Revs. J. M. Daniels, L. D. Hays and E. B. Slaughter, were named as the executive committee for the ensuing year. Rev. T. G. Gibbs, D. D., led opening devotions at the opening of conference this morning Bishop Darlington announced that he had transferred Rev. T. S. Coble from the Western North Carolina Conference, H. C. Erwin from South Georgia, J. C. Harmon from upper South Carolina and E. L. Hillman

## PEACE WITH AUSTRIA FORMALLY DECLARED

Washington, Nov. 18.—Peace between the United States and Austria was declared formally in a proclamation signed today by President Harding.

## JAPANESE REQUEST MAY LEAD TO SOME HOT TALK OVER NAVAL ARMAMENTS

### Wells Says Japan Needs To Apply Birth Control

### BRITISH HOLD UP ON SHIP PROGRAM

Order Cessation of Work On  
Four Warships; Regarded  
As a Good Omen

London, Nov. 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Admiralty announced today that it had ordered the cessation of all work on the four warships of the Hood type. The ship building firms were notified yesterday not to incur any further liabilities on new naval construction until further notice from the Admiralty.

These contracts were awarded only two weeks ago. Officials explained that the practical effect of the Admiralty's order would be the absolute cessation of all warship work pending the outcome of the Washington conference.

Confirmation of Order  
Glasgow, Nov. 18.—It is officially stated that the contracts awarded the Clyde Ship Carriers for the construction of three warships of the super-hood type have been suspended.

The steel works are affected by the suspension. The work on the four capital ships of the Hood type, the only capital ship building program on which the British have been engaged since the armistice, came as no surprise here. There was much doubt, even before the conference on limitation of armaments was called by President Harding that the British would complete these ships. Their status as to construction on most American tabulations has been carried as "doubtful."

ORDER SHOWS WHICH WAY  
THE WIND IS BLOWING  
Washington, Nov. 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—Action of the British government announced from London today in ordering work on the four capital ships of the Hood type, the only capital ship building program on which the British have been engaged since the armistice, came as no surprise here. There was much doubt, even before the conference on limitation of armaments was called by President Harding that the British would complete these ships. Their status as to construction on most American tabulations has been carried as "doubtful."

Regarded As Final  
In any case, deliberations of the technical commission headed by Assistant Secretary Roosevelt and including highest naval officials of the five powers represented in the conference appear to have reached a point where the capital ship ratio may be considered settled, so far as the British and American fleets are concerned. The American proposal that Great Britain retain 16 battle ships and four battle cruisers and the United States 18 battleships appears to have been accepted by the experts which implies final acceptance by the conference itself of that element of the program. The British Admiralty order stopping work on the four new ships is only an added straw to show which way the wind is blowing.

It is not clear, however, that the experts have as yet reached a conclusion as to Japan's fleet strength. Formal announcement yesterday by Admiral Baron Kato, heading the Japanese group, that Japan desired more than the ratio in the general naval tonnage allowed for her under the American proposal was taken to mean that this is the point now being debated by the five admirals of the sub-committee and their staffs.

## THREE PERSONS HURT IN MOTOR ACCIDENT

Young Men Riding Motor-  
cycle In Hickory Crash  
Into Automobile

Hickory, Nov. 18.—Reid Poovey and Harold Essex, Hickory students of Lenoir College, were seriously injured, and Richard Hamilton, a companion, suffered severe bruises when a motorcycle on which all three were riding crashed into a Ford sedan on Tenth Avenue this afternoon. The boys were riding to college and Poovey was driving. The car was driven by Walter Heffer.

Essex was riding in front of the cycle with his legs over the handle bars when the auto, which was getting in front of a truck, and the motorcycle went together. Poovey and Essex each had a leg broken and were otherwise badly bruised and cut. Hamilton, sitting behind escaped with minor injuries. The motorcycle was a complete wreck and the automobile, a new one, was badly damaged. Poovey and Essex are in a local hospital.

Leave China Alone  
The fact, plain enough to any one who is not lost in the game of diplomacy, is that this conference is an occasion for generosity and reconciliation. There is no way out of the Pacific dilemma except to disentangle China and form a self-denying ordinance of all the powers concerned to leave her alone while she reconstructs. I submit that even Japan, most intent of all the chess players, will do best to fall in line with such a plan.

Would a world covenant to protect China from aggression and to concede her the progressive abolition, cruisers, large submarines

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## DECLARES OVER-POPULATION OBSTACLE IN WAY OF FAR EASTERN SETTLEMENT

### Wells Says Japan Needs To Apply Birth Control

### VIEW OF FUTURE OF ISLAND EMPIRE GIVEN

"Open Door" Policy In China  
Will Benefit Japan As  
Well As World

By H. G. WELLS  
(By Arrangement with the New York World and Chicago Tribune.)  
If we adopt as our guiding principle that China is "worth while" if we make up our minds, and it seems to me that the American public at least is making up its mind, that China is to bring itself up to date and to re-organize itself as a great Union of States under purely Chinese control and that it is to be protected by mutual agreement among the powers from outside interference during the age of re-organization, then it is clear that all dreams of Empire in China or any fragments of China on the part of any other power must cease.

New National Policy  
This building up of a united, powerful China by the conscious self-denying action of the chief powers of the world is evidently, under present conditions, the only sane policy before the powers assembled at Washington. But it is unhappily quite diametrically opposed to all traditions of competitive nationality. And I find a most extraordinary conflict going on in men's minds here in Washington between the manifest sanities of the world situation and these habits of thought and action in which we have all been bred. Competitive nationalities and the long established competitive traditions of European diplomacy have gone far towards wrecking the world; and they may yet go far towards wrecking the Washington Conference. We have all got these traditions strong in us, every one of us. These traditions, these ideas of international intercourse as a sort of game to beat the other fellow, have as tough a vitality as the appetite of the wasp, which will go on eating greedily after its abdomen has been cut off. Indeed, some of the representatives of the powers at Washington seem still to be clinging to the ambition of finally devouring China, or large parts of China—a feat which they will not have the remotest prospect of digesting.

Means More Wars  
If that sort of thing goes on, a continuation of war preparation, a renewal of war and the consummation of the social smash now in progress is inevitable. Yet, on the face of that plain inevitable consequence, my diplomatic friends in Washington go on talking about such insane projects as that of ceding Manchuria to Japan right down to the Great Wall, of giving Japan practical possession of the mines of China, of giving "compensation" in the matter of Chinese railways to France, of getting this "advantage" or that for Great Britain, and so forth and so on. I remain perpetually astounded before the foreign officials. They have such excellent brilliant minds, but alas! so highly specialized—so highly specialized that at times you doubt they have in the general sense of whether they have, in the general sense of the word, any minds at all.

In the face of the universal hopefulness for satisfactory results from the conference, I find myself full of doubts. The naval disarmament proposal of Secretary Hughes was obviously meant only as the opening proposition, the quite splendid opening proposition of the conference. The second meeting, I felt would find Mr. Baifour, and Admiral Kato and M. Brand in eloquent sympathy, saying: "Certainly. All this, and more also, we can do, on the understanding that a stable, explicit, exhaustive, permanent Pacific Conference that will remove all causes of war whatever. But the second meeting was disappointing. One nation after another agreed, as Mr. Baifour, that "old parliamentary hand" put it—"in principle. But—" And now we are all playing four-handed chess with reservation of extraterritorial privileges, nations about deckyards, naval stations and the like. We are all trying to put the effective disarmament on to the other fellow. Meanwhile, the nine powers are sitting in secret session on the Pacific question and it is clear, from the rumors, that one-handed chess is in progress there.

There was every indication tonight that all the powers would go into tomorrow's Far Eastern conference fully prepared to express their views on the plan presented as a basis of discussion by China. During the two-day recess the foreign delegations have been in touch with their governments, and although not all may desire to make detailed statements of their views at this stage of the negotiations, there is a general expectation that some progress will be possible.

The Japanese, in particular, indicated that they preferred to have their policies developed step by step as the negotiations continue. They were prepared to see for an interpretation of some of the Chinese "ten points," and seemed especially interested in the proposal for the re-examination of all compact affecting

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## AMERICAN DELEGATION READY TO DISPUTE ANY MATERIAL CHANGE FROM RATIO IN HUGHES PLAN

### BELIEVE ANY CHANGES WOULD UPSET ENTIRE PRINCIPLE OF PLANS

### Clear Delineation of American Position Turns Attention Again To Naval Armaments

Washington, Nov. 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—At tomorrow's meeting of the "Big Nine" Ambassador Shidehara, of the Japanese delegation, will present a statement of the Japanese viewpoint in response to the proposals of the Chinese delegates.

Washington, Nov. 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—Japan's request for an increase in the proportional strength of her navy may lead speedily to some talk across the council table of the arms conference.

The American delegation stands ready to dispute stubbornly any material change from the ratio set forth in the American plan. That ratio, it was emphasized by highest authorities today, reflects existing proportional strength and so cannot be altered without upsetting a fundamental principle of the whole plan.

In effect, the American figures give Japan six fighting ships to every ten owned by the United States and every ten owned by Great Britain. The Japanese have hinted, but never formally announced, that they want seven to ten. The naval experts of the United States really believe that five to ten is nearer the proper allotment. Great Britain has accepted the six to ten plan in principle, but her spokesmen have been silent about the new figures proposed.

If it turns out that the "slightly greater" naval force suggested for Japan by Admiral Baron Kato only amounts to the addition of one battle cruiser to the Japanese figures then the emphatic objections of the American delegates may not be deemed necessary. But if the suggestion comprehends a real change in proportion, it is declared on authority that a determined diplomatic struggle will result.

Armaments To Front  
The clear delineation of the American position on this subject served to turn attention again to naval armaments today while the Far Eastern negotiations were at a standstill to permit the powers to work out details of their policy. Neither the conference nor any of its committees met during the day, but the nine delegations will assemble tomorrow in executive session to resume their discussions of the Past East.

Coincident with the disclosure of the American viewpoint on naval reductions it was revealed today that the administration does not propose to limit the armament agreement if there is one, to the nations represented in the Washington conference. Whether a treaty or simply an "understanding" would come out of the negotiations, administration officials would not predict, but it was said that whatever the form of agreement the other interested nations would be asked to participate.

No Congressional Show  
Should no treaty requiring Senate confirmation result, it would be the belief of the administration that the whole armament reduction program could be put through without Congressional action. International "understandings" of policy do not require the approval of Congress, and officials say the proposed scrapping of warships could be accomplished under general authority already possessed by the executive.

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