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# The News and Observer

PRESIDENT MOST

None of Decisions Made By Wilson Satisfied Him Less Than This

JAPAN DETERMINED

With Italians Demanding Fiume and Belgians Anx. ious About Reparations. Little Time Was Left In Which To Negotiate With

WOODROW WILSON AS I KNOW HIM BY JOSEPH P. TUMULTY (32nd Installment.) (Chapter XXXVI)

"Those last days before the Treaty was finished were among the hardest of the entire Conference. As I have said before, the most difficult and dangerous problems had inevitably been left to the last, and had all to be finally settled in those crowd

act situation at Paris on April 29th when the Japanese Chinese crisis reached the explosive point.

"It was on that very day that the German delegates were coming morosely into Versailles, ready for a withdrawn from the Conferencedeparted from Paris with the expeceither force the hands of the Con-

height the Belgian delegation which had long been restive over the nonsettlement of Belgian claims for reparations, became insistent. They French and British-neither of whom could begin to get enough money out of Germany to pay for its loss nations were always worried at Paris lest the big ones take everything and leave them nothing! Very little they reached practically as ulti matum: if Belgium were not satisfied she also would withdraw from the Conference and refuse to sign

that the Chinese Japanese question had to be settled. It had to be settled because the disposition of German rights in China (unlike Italian into the German treaty before it was presented to Brockdorff-Rantzau sign the Treaty unless it was settled. The defection of Japan, added to that of Italy and the possible withdrawal of Belgium, would have made the situation desperate.

Japan wanted at the Peace Conference were: first, a recognition in the Covenant of the League of Nations of the "equality of the na tions and the just treatment of their nationnis; and, second, the recognition of cortain rights over the former German concessions in China (Shantung.)

After a struggle lasting through the Conference, Japan had finally lost out, in the meeting of the League of Nations Commissi on April 11th, in her first contention. She was refused the recognition of racial or even national equality which she demanded, although a ajority of the nations represente on the League of Nations Commission agreed with her that her desire for such recognition was just and should find a place in the Cove-

"Few people realize how sharply the Japanese felt this hurt to their pride; and few people realize the meaning of this struggle, as a forerunner of one of the great coming struggles of civilization—the race

Having lost out in their first great contention the Japanese came the settlement of their second demand with a feeling of irritation but with added determination Japanese delegates were the least expressive of any at the Conference, they said the least, but they were the firmest of any in hewing to the line of their interests and their agreements. It must not be forgotten also, in all fairness, that Japanese delegates, not less than British, French, and American had their own domestic political problems, and epposition, and that there was a powerful demand in Japan that, while all the other nations were securing some return for their losses and enerifices in the war,

SIXTEEN PAGES TODAY.

SIXTEEN PAGES TODAY.

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

#### Over \$2,000,000 In Road Bids and Awards Tuesday

Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Districts Involved In Record Breaking Letting Here Yesterday; Average Cost Per Mile Advanced to \$30,476 Because of Heavy Grading; Award Final Contracts Today

iollars worth of roads were involved Bridge Co., for \$19,681.30 in bids opened for five construction State Highway Commission yester \$10,724.99. Contracts in the bids opened vesterday will be awarded formally

cost per mile for hard surfaced bridges, for \$265,335.10. roads advanced to an average of grading, much of it in solid rock, ac phia, \$322,440.80. counts largely for the advance in osts submitted by the contractors. Eighty two bids were offered on the

six projects. projects involved in yesterday's let-

Project 639-Iredell, Statesville to Shepherds, 10:50 miles, hard surface, by R. M. Hudson, Salisbury, for

Slightly more than two million | \$332,544.54. Bridges by Luter Project 653-Mecklenburg, Char projects in the Sixth District, one lette toward Statesville, 8.84 miles

project in the Fourth District, and hard surface, by Union Paving Co. in delayed awards of three projects Philadelphia, for \$269,940,90. Bridges in the Fifth District made by the by Laten Bridge Co., Knoaville, for

Project 665-Mecklenburg, Char-lotte toward Concord, 1.57 miles. today. Bids on the Fifth District hard surface, by Speed Parker Co.,

Although bids for surfacing re Cleveland county line, 8.5 miles, hard mained at about the same level es surface, Davis Wilcox Construction tablished a month and the total tablished a month ago, the total Co., Spencerville, O., road and

Project 622-Catawba, Newton to \$30,476 on the 40.35 miles of road Burke county line, 10.58 miles, hard let in the Sixth district. Heavier surface, Union Paving Co., Philafic!

Fourth district construction, poro and the Alamance county line Low bidders on the Sixth district 442.70, and the bridges by Nello L. Teer, of Durham, for \$16,611.

(Continued on Page Two.)

#### Sentiment Seems Strong For Brief Special Session

Canvass of Members By The News and Observer Finds CAN'T GET LINE Brevity In Favor

SPENCE WILL OFFER BILL ON CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

Farmers' Union and Federa tion of Labor Against General Legislation

Although at least one member of the House of Representatives has prepared a bill for the abolition of apital punishment, and other members are known to be incubating other general legislation, the preponderant sentiment of both House and Senate appears to be definitely, against any general legislation at the coming special session of the General Assembly which convenes next Tuesday.

Observer to representative members of both the House and Senate brought invariably a thumbs-down on a long session from those who had limit to which any member would shorter session. The consensus of pinion is to the effect that the ses tion will dissolve not later than

Saturday week after it convenes. Labor-Farmer Supremacy Something of surprise was occafthe Farmers' Union an dthe State Federation of Labor after the formation of the coalities between them that no legislation other than that ecommended by the Governor should be undertaken at the special session. It had been generally understood that the two organizations would advocate general legislation affecting taxation, and farm credits.

Such sentiments were expressed by President James F. Barrett be for he reached Raleigh and conferred with the members of the Farmers Union executive committee. Presideat Stone, of the Farmers Union, was definitely set against any legislation, and his eninion prevailed at the conclave yesterday. Resolutions were adopted urging the General Assembly to refrain from

any but necessary legislation. Capital punishment will be at tacked in a measure that has been prepared by Representative James E of the statutes that provide for the infliction of the death penalty for rape, murder, burglary and arson. Serious, consideration of the bill s considered unlikely, although at a regular session it would have the support of many influential members, among them Speaker Harry F

Grier For Brevity.

Among the replies to The News and Observer's inquiry as to the attitude of members of the General Assembly toward a long session are

the following: Harry P. Grier, Speaker of the ot exceeding ten days as I understand that the Governor has no other in his call, for the consideration of his remarks and question that

passed upon within this period. Senafor Lunsford Long: I am conident that the special session will undertake no legislation of general nature or of public interest other than the two specific matters of publie school funds and municipa finance, which are of such urgent nature as to necessitate its call, and that having taken care of these matters, it will adjourn sine die as quickly as possible, which could be within about ten days. Of course, such desired local legislation as may receive attention without protracting the session will undoubtedly be con sidered and enacted. I believe this course will unquestionably be approved by the people generally at

Representative W. N. Everett. chairman of House Appropriations idea is coolly received and given the

## ARMS CONGRESS Interest United States

GENERAL SPIRIT

Europe Feels New Effort To Far East Committee Adopts Has Failed

HOPES EXTINGUISHED BY HUGHES' POLICY

Disquieting Effect Upon America and Brings About Atmosphere of Hostility: Simonds Says Wells Is Nationalistic Propagandist

By FRANK R. SIMONDS.

Washington, Nov. 29.-Despite the act that no one takes very seriously the possibility of a break between the United States and Japan over the naval ratio, there is no mistakquarters over the prospects of the present conference. The fact is the are going, neither the Dutch nor the Belgians disguise the lack of interest which the present and the provide for an international com future of the proceedings have for them, while the British journalists pretty generally betray their country's disappointment.

The cause of the pessimism and disappointment is not hard to disover. From the European point of view the conference was looked for ward to as a meeting which was going in some way not quite discoverable in advance to make the conditions of life and the circumstances of National existence and international relations on that continent more tolerable. And today the whole business is comprehended to use the phrase of the foreign observer in the endeavors of some diplomatists sitting in private conference to decide upon the number of obsolete ships to be scrapped and to pass some pious resolutions regard ing China which cannot be enforced and are not in the least like to be observed when force is lacking.

New Effort Has Failed Europe feels two things quite manifestly, first that a new effort to interest the United States in its situation has failed, not only as the Paris conference failed ultimately. but in the present case that the American refusal has been prompt and unconditional Europe also quite as plainly that the Anglo-French rumpus of recent days Las had a widespread and evil effect in the United States in confirming the determination of Americans generally to keep out of European entan-

When Mr. Hughes made his opening address which so thrilled that audience which was the American public, the applause of both Europe and Asia was polite rather than un restrained. It was a faint echo of the applause which greeted Wilson when he first unfolded to Europe his plan for a League of Nations. having applauded, Europe and Asia both waited to see what reference would be made later to subjects in China's needs for increased revenue which they were vitally concerned, were recognized generally, but At the second open session, when Mr. Hughes did not open the Far five per cent tariff was necessary Eastern question, the Japanese sat back with evident relief and accepted the Far Eastern question as disposed of, that is to say they appreciated at once that the United been a subject of the debate. States was not to undertake to defend China by force or challenge

power in the Far East. Their Hopes Exanguished There remained the hopes of the various European nations and particularly the hope of Britain that the United States by insirting that land disarmament should be discussed seriously, would open the way to the reduction of the French army which is the night mare of England. There was a similar hope on the part of the French that some sign would come from Mr. Hughes that his country would take up the pledge of Mr. Wilson and revive the treaty

of guarantee against Germany. Both hopes were in due cours of time extinguished and in this period there developed that Anglo-French quarrel which has had one terribly disastrous effect, Mr. Hughes had deliberately set out to restrict the objective of the conference to limits which made positive results possible. But his hope frequently expressed was that the realization of some actual agreement, if only in the matter of a naval holiday, would demonstrate the existence of a will for peace in the world and thus open the way for later agreements on more important questions, probably at later international gather

ings. No Atmosphere of Peace. But after the Anglo-French explosion and while Italian mobs were ssailing French consulates because of remarks falsely ascribed to Bri and, when American correspondents right in this city were listening to the chief British press agent announcing that his country would destroy France if it built submarines. when the chief French spokesman was declaring that the French dele-gation would quit if the Germans were invited to come to Washington, when the leading British internation alist in action-journalism was conducting a fierce Nationalistic campaiga against Franco and the best known French journalist present was using the American press to pindue time there will come the an-nouncement that President Harding could cherish the illusion the could cherish the illusion that the here of peace was gaining charter member and organizer of ground in the world?

### STEPS TAKEN TO ABOLISH FOREIGN **COURTS IN CHINA**

Resolution On Extra-Territorial Matter

FOREIGN TROOPS TO

Anglo - French Rumpus Has Commission of Jurists To Make Investigation of Chi nese Law and Court Prac. tices and Report Within a Year; Other Matters Presented By Chinese

> Washington, Nov. 29 .- (By the Associated Press ) -- China won further concessions today in the conference of the nine powers on quesions affecting the Pacific, and Far East In conformity with the Root resolutions declaring for the territorial and administrative integrity of China, the Pacific and Far Eastern committee adopted reso lutions looking to shandonment of foreign courts in China. The reaclutions drafted by the sub-com-mittee, headed by Senator Lodge mission of jurists, which is to re port within a year whether the Chinese laws and court practices warrant abandonment of the foreign courts, created under treaties granting extra-territorial rights in China

> Want Troops Withdrawn. Immediately these resolutions wer dopted, the Chinese delegates pres sed another of their "ten points" that declaring for withdrawal of all foreign troops from Chinese soil, and also for abandonment of foreign telegraph, radio and police wire systems. Dr. Sze, Chinese min ister here and a delegate to the conference, presented detailed information regarding the number of troops and extent of foreign wire systems, in which the Japanese predominate, and there was wide discussion of the questions by all the delegates behind closed doors

> Troops and Wire Questions. General adherence, it was said, was given to the principle of retirement of foreign troops and wire systems from China, in conformity with the principles of the Root resolution. Qualifications were presented, however, by Japanese spokesmen, who dealt with the necessity of policing railroads and telegraph lines. Discussion of the troops and wire questions are to continue tomorrow with prospects that a solution will be worked out by the delegates of the nine powers without reference of the details to a sub-committee.

Another Chinese question, that of tariff and other revenue, was taken up later in the day by a sub-committee headed by Senator Underwood, of the American delegation An intitial meeting of the sub-committee lasting was said to have developed the ne cessity for intensive study of Chirese finances and the sub-committee adjourned without action until to-But morrow afternoon,

Need More Revenue. In the discussion, it was said that whether an increase in the present was said to be a question requir ing considerable study. Administration of the customs laws by Chinese officials also was reported to have The Chinese position, it was said. favored a tariff increase to the 12 1.2 per cent figure suggested some time age by Great Britain, but considerable divergence of opinion was said to have developed among representatives of the other powers. It will be several days, it before any report can be submitted to the full committee.

Stress Troops Matter. Stress was laid by the Chinese delegates before the Far Eastern committee today on the question of foreign troops in China. Their presence. Dr. Sze declared, palpably was a violation of Chinese integrity inasmuch as the troops were sent into the republic without China's consent and tests. Dr. Sze asked that the con ference "specifically discountenance" the alleged violations. He gave minute data regarding the number of troops, police stations and other features which China is protesting. Prince Tokugawa, of Japan, newspaper men later in the day that

"intends to abolish" the sys-Japan tem under which Japanese troops are in China "as soon as possible. This was taken to mean withdrawal of the troops would begin when satisfactory formula toward the problem of China was worked out QUIET FOLLOWS BIG

#### WATERFRONT BATTLE

Orleans, Nov. 29. Quiet reigned today at the scene of last night's pitched battle on the waterfront between police and sympathiz era of the striking union dock workers. It was indicated today that early settlement of the strike possibility, the union having voted to open negotiations with the New Orleans Steamship Association, Iron bars, bricks, clubs and fists were used in last night's battle which started when non-union workers knocked-off for the day. It was esti-

mated that twenty men were serously beaten. Italian Destroyer Sinks London, Nov. 29 .- The Italian destroyer Centrauro has gone down in

#### AMERICAN DELEGATES WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY PROPOSAL TO MODIFY NAVAL PROGRAM

#### Refreshing Promises In Ebb Tide At Washington

BE CONSIDERED NEXT League of Nations, First American Initiative Toward Organized World Peace, Stands Now on Shelf, Says H. G. Wells; In Place of World Constitution We Now Have at Washington World Conversation.

By H. G. WELLS.

(By Arrangement With The New York World and the Chicago Tribune)

Washington, Nov. 17 .- The League of Nations was the first American initiative towards as organized world peace. It's beginning, the world wide enthusiasm evoked by its early promise, its strug gle to exist, its abandonment by America, its blunders and omissions and the useful incomplete body that now represents it in Geneva, are the material of an immens conflicting literature. For a time at least, the League n the background. It has not kept holf of the popular

imagination of the world.

I will not touch here upon the mistakes and dis putes, the possible arrogance, the possible jealousies the inadvisable compromises, the unnecessary conces sions that made the League a leaser thing than it has promised to be. I will not discuss why so entirely Ameri

can a project, into which many nations came mainly to please America failed to retain the official support of the American government. Of such things, the historian or the novelist may write, but not the journalist The fact remains that the project was a project noble and hopeful in it beginnings, a very great thing indeed in human history, a dawn in the Carkness of international conflict and competition, an adventure that three halo of greatness about the nation that produced it and about that splendid and yet so humanly limited man who has been chiefly identified with its promise and its pertial failure.

Heads of Farmers' Union and State Federation of Labor Sign Agreement

Pledging themselves as "the chosen epresentatives of the State's two great and indispensable forces" to welfare and happiness of the farmer the wage earner, President James F. Barrett, of the State Federation of Labor, and President R W. H. Stone, of the State Farmers' Union, set their names to a "Declara

tion of Affiliation" yesterday.

The coalition of the organized farmers and the organized labor forces of the State was effected at a conference of the executive comnittees of the two organizations called here at the suggestion of President Barrett. Members of both organizations declared after the igning of the Declaration of Affil iation that political considerations were not touched upon in the discussion leading to the promulgation of the declaration.

"Manipulations of speculators nd the "machinations of politic ians," are mentioned and denounced in the declaration, the former be cause they prey upon the producer without compensation for its labor, and the latter because they have raised barriers between the farmer and the wage carner, creating the impression that the two classes are enemies. Both will have to he met and conquered, it is set ments and the Pacific committee

forth. Further than the general declaration of the amalgamation of in erest and influence, and the plan to campaign actively for their common interest, the officials of the two organizations do not go. Politicians bosses have all but ruined the State and the Nation, it is declared, and these must be discredited through the combined action of the farmer and the wage earner. The Declara

tion of Affiliation reads: "Between the farmer and the wage carners, civilization's two great and necessary forces, there has been crected by a common enemy a barrier of prejudice that has played havor with both the farmers and the wage workers. The wily manipulations and expert propaganda of the speculators who neither produce convert raw products into in creating in the minds of millions of farmers and wage earners the abover are natural enemies, each dvancing at the expense other. As a result of this false impression a small clique of poliicians who always do the bidding our State and Nation.

rights of mankind.

"Feeling keenly the responsibility resting upon us as officers and mempers of the executive boards of the and Co-operative Union and State Federation of Labor, in a special called joint meeting, do hereby pledge ourselves to the task of coustic and restrained bringing together in all rgihteous of these gentlemen could causes the farmers and wage work-ers of North Carolina. We do not u nderestimate the forces of oppo Powerfu ition we shall meet. influences, combinations of wealth the need there was for the utmost and the machinations of politicians will have to be met and conquered Plans will be perfected whereby the farmers and wage workers may

Largely An American Idea. It was, I insist, very largely an

American idea and only America, because of her freedom from the complex and bitter spirited traditions of the European foreign offices, could have brought such a proposal into the arena of practical politics. The American nation is exceptionally free from ancient traditions of empire, ascendency, expansion, glory and the like. It is haunted by a dream, an obstinately recurrent dream, of a whole world organized for peace. It comes back to that with a notable persistence. The League of Nations stands

now, as it were, on the shelf, an experiment not wholly satisfactory use every means of promoting the not wholly a failure, destined for searching reconsideration at no distaut date. Meanwhile, the American mind, with much freshness and boldness, has produced this second experiment, an a widely different direc tion, the first Washington Conference for the Limitation of Arma ments. The League of Nations was too definite and cramped in its con-stitution, too wide in its powers. It was a premature super state. One standard objection, and a very reasonable one, was that America might be out-voted by quite minor powers and be obliged to undertake responsibilities for which it had no taste. The second experiment, therefore most severely defined and limited yet. that, it too, is an experiment, likely but again not wholly satisfactory. Instead of a world constitution, we

have had a world conversation. Decided Ebb In Spirit. That conversation has passed from the open sessions of the Conference to the two committees of five upon

the limitation of land and sea arms of nine. In all these committees there are wide fluctuations of thought and temper. There are daily communications to the press from this committee or that, from this delegation or that, from a score of propagandas. It is really not worth the while of the ordinary who always do the bidding of their citizen to follow these squabbles and flights and recriminations and excitements. Certain broad principles have been established; the ordinary citizen will be advised to hold firmly to these and see that he gets them carried through.

And now there has been a decided ebb in the high spirit of the Conference. These disputes about details have produced a considerable amount of fatigue, attention fatigued, and the exploit of M. Briand has for a time shattered and confused the general mentality. The American public was in a state of pure and simple enthusiasm for finished articles, have succeeded peace and disarmament and quite inprepared for the exploit of M. Briand, Like all serious shocks impression that the farmer and the it did not at first produce its full result. The mood was so amiable here, so eager for cheering and emotional human brotherhood, that when France, in the person of M. Briand, snapped her fingers at of their bosses have all but ruined the mere idea of disarmament and quoted a twenty year old passage "If Christianity is to survive; if from a dead German Field Marshal ivilization is to progress; if hu- to justify a vast army and an agman freedom and liberty are not to gressive naval programme in the become mere hollow mockeries of face of an exhausted Europe, there the declaration of independence and was a touching disposition on the our National Constitution, the farm. part of a considerable section of ers and wage workers must strike the American press to greet this to the dust that barrier of prejudice display as in some way conducive that the United States will not accept and ignorance, and shoulder to to our millennial efforts. Only a any enlargement of the status offered shoulder battle for the common very few of us called a spade a spade to Japan. That was clear to the that the irony and restrained indignation of Mr. Balfour and Signor North Carolina Farmers Educational M. Briand's stupendous claim that naval situation today in Peeretary

of these gentlemen could be so con-strued, and that the London Daily all administration officers. Mail should attempt to break and mutilate my comments on the French that American public opinion fully attitude, demonstrate beyond doubt supports the "5.5.3" ratio. It was outspokenness in this matter. But of national security brought up by the situation is now better realized. The air here is rather clearer for the outburst. France, we realise, has to stop bullying Germany and threatening Italy; Europe can only be saved by the honest and unre-

Any Attack On "5-5-3" Ratio Regarded As Attack On Fundamental Principle Limitation Plan

BELIEVE JAPAN WILL ACCEPT PROPOSAL AS OUTLINED BY HUGHES

Authoritative Figures Show Japan To Have Less Than The 60 Per Cent Status Would Entitle Her: Japaness Spokesman Declares Admiral Kato's Contention For a 70 Per Cent Status Merely a Personal Expression; No Announcement of Final Position of Japanese Delegation On Matter; Hints That a Plenary Session of The Conference May Be Held Soon

Washington, Nov. 29 .- (By the Associated Press ) - The purpose of the American delegation to the arms conference to accept no modification of Secretary Hughes' proposed "5.5.3" ratio of naval strength as the fundamental basis of any limitation agreement was authoritatively stated today. The statement was backed by disclosure of the facts as

to existing naval strength . This showed Japan to have less than the 60 per cent status to which the "5-5-3" plan would entitle her, no matter what method of calculation was applied. It showed also that the American delegates had been over the whole field before offering the plan and that their figures were

correct. Kato's "Personal Opinion." Meanwhile, "rince Tokugawa, of the Japanese delegation, declared that the statement yesterday of Vice Admiral Kato, of the Japanese advisory staff, contending for a 79 per cent status for Japan, was based "personal opinion" alone. It was not, the Prince said, sponsored by miral Kato is not a member.

Prince Tokugawa would not reveal, lowever, the actual view of the Japanese delegates ah to what perentage Japan would insist upon in fleet strength. He said the four delegates were determining this for themselves, independently of any additional instructions from Tokio. has been tried very properly with He would not say whether a de-the loosest of constitutions and the cision actually had been reached as

While these developments indito be successful within its limits cated still more strongly that a daeision of this fundamental question was drawing near, the arms conference itself marked time. A further meeting of the naval experts of the United States and Japan, scheduled for today, was postponed for twenty-, four hours at request of the Japan-The Americans were not informed as to the reason for this postponement. At Japanese headquarters it was said further time to examire figures supplied by the

Americans was needed. In any case, the naval experts of the three powers chiefly concerned are scheduled to meet tomorrow in further sub-committee deliberstions. Their work cannot deal with any major factor in the American naval plan, however, for today's revelations showed that these constitute a closed chapter of proceedings. The British experts have fully accepted the accuracy of the original American fleet estimates. The Japanese have been able to produce no figures competent to challenge successfully the American showing.

Plenary Session Probable. There were hints that a plenary sesson of the arms conference might be called next week. This could not be confirmed in any authoritative quarter. It is known, however, that when that meeting is called it will mean that the delegates are preparing to reach' a decision.

There is no present expectation that the fundamental question of the ratio or any other major point will be worked out at the plenary session. Officials closest to the negotiations expect that informal meetings between the various delegates will bring about the ultimate greement by personal touch. will then be translated into conference action.

Expect Japan To Accept, It is no secret that the American group expects Japan to accept the "5.5.3" ratio. It is also equally clear right away and declined to pretend most casual observer after the American delegates, with the exception of Schanzer were "endorsements" of be present, again talked over the France, with her submarines and Schegalese, might do as she pleased Lodge, Mr. Root and Mr. Underwoo in Europe. The facts that the are known to be of one mind or utterances this and to be backed by

> The American group has no doubt made clear today that if the ques not adequately express Amer needs or British needs. It was that reason that the American

(Continued on Page Nine.)

### SHANTUNG VEXES AT PEACE PARLEY

TO SECURE RIGHTS

Japanese About China

(Continued)
Wilson-The Lone Hand

Mr. Ray Stannard Baker in his "What Wilson Did at Paris" "Of all the important decisions at the Peace Conference none worried the President so much as that relating to the disposition of the

Shantung peninsula—and none, fin-ally, satisfied him less. Not one of the problems he had to meet at Paris. serious as they all were, did he take more personally to heart than this. He told me on one occasion that be had been unable to sleep on the previous night for thinking of it.

ed days of late April. Consider, for a moment, the ex-

treaty that was not yet finished. The Three-for Orlando had then had been gradually lengthening their sessions, the discussions were longer and more acrimonious. They were tired out. Only six days before, on April 23rd, the High Council had been hopelessly deadlocked on the Italian question. The President had issued his bold message to the world regarding the disposition of Fiume and the Italian delegation

ference, or break it up. "While this crisis was at its had no place in the Supreme Council and they were worried lest the es - would take the lion's share and leave Belgium unrestored. The little appeared in the news at the time concerning the Belgian demands, but

'It was at this critical moment claims in the Adriatic) had to go and his delegates at Versailles; and because the Japanese would not

What Japan Desired "The two principal things that

(Continued on Page Nine.) (Continued on Page Two)

letting were held over from Novem-ber 18. Louisville, for \$51,088.39. Project 632—Gastonia to

grading and bridges between Hills

Awards were announced for the

No Agreement Anywhere As To Exactly What Harding

Means To Say The News and Observer Bureau, 603 Daitrict National Bank Mldg. By EDWARD E. BRITTON.

(By Special Leased Wire.) Washington, Nov. 29 .- Conflicting pinions crowd each other here among those who endeavor to get a line on what President Harding's real position is with regard to some kind of an association of nations to grow out of the present arms parley. Inquiry addressed by the News and There does not appear agreement anywhere as to what exactly is

meant by the President. On one side there is a disclaimer replied last night. Ten days is the of President Harding having taken any fixed position in the matter, have the session go, and most of the those who take this view saying that replies were advocative of even it was only in the course of casual conversation he spoke of the matter, that perhaps an association for in ternational co-operation might grow out of the present conference. Another view is that the President spoke definitely, that back of the plan which has brought the present conference was the idea that it might be utilized as the vehicle for the for mation of that nebulous association of natio, about which Presidentia Nomince Harding spoke at times when he was on his campaign tour around his front porch in Marion. But whatever he means now he has it well smoke screened and it is only a hazy kind of an affair that is seen by the men on the outside of

his "best minds" coterie. Senator Borah Enters Fray. Senator Borah declaims violently the accomplished facts of Japanese tlat President Harding is leading the way with a backward movement by the back door into that pet abomination of the Idaho Senator, the League of Nations, and at once be comes again an "irreconcilable" as to it. Over in England Lord Robert Cecil ses in the Harding idea a bid for the countries in the League of Nations to scrap it and become 'liners" in the Harding association It would be "worse than madness' Spence, Republican, of Bandolph to do any such thing is his view, county. The bill is brief, providing saying: "The League of Nations merely for the repeal of the sections actually is in working order, and it would be worse than madness to abandon that organization for the hope of putting anything in its place unless we know exactly what it is. In his words there is the confes sion that he too is in the dark as to what President Harding means. wherein Lord Cecil is in exactly the same position as millions of Ameri cans, as they were in the days of the campaign for the presidency, for

during that time it was "wiggle and wobble" as to exactly where Candidate Harding stood. And on top of these things today Arthur J. Balfour of the British House: It is my opinion that the delegation declared that the Harding Legislature should finish its work in association of nations plan on parallel lines with the League of Nations will not suit, and as Great Britain matters other than those mentioned is a staunch member of the League the General Assembly. All local leg- don't want two Leagues of Nations islation could be considered and do we?" is one that should set President Harding to thinking. Students of the Harding mind and methods should agree on what appears to be the real purpose of the semi-official announcement that President Hard ing proposed to call for an associa tion of nations with simply a "gentleman's agreement" as its backbone This purpose may be well described feeler" after public opinion, and as a "feeler" it is working most

admirably both on this side of the

Put Out As a Feeler.

If the idea is gobbled up, and it

appears that it will be a go, then in

(Continued on Page Eight)

(Continued on Page Two)

Adalia during a storm, according to a dispatch from Brindisi to the Daily Mall. (The Centranio is not listed in architekter of interests. There is a direct flesh and blood conan "association of nations." If the Mr. Balfour made a very generous response to M. Briand's plea for Daily Mail. (The Centranto is not in a direct from and blood listed in available maval registers.) A Continued on Page Tyo)

Vice Admiral Kato were a ratio of even 10 to 5 in ship strength as to Japan anot adequately express Ame