

THREAT OF WAR IS HEARD IN PEACE CONFERENCE

MR. WILSON CAN STAY IN UNITED STATES ONLY FEW DAYS WHEN HE COMES

JAPAN HOLDING BLUDGEON OVER CHINA FOR TELLING OF EXISTENCE OF TREATIES

THE TREATIES WERE STOLEN FROM CHINA JAPS DELEGATES MAKING DEMANDS

Imperialistic Program on Part of Japanese Representatives at Peace Conference Has Aroused Plenipotentiaries—China Envoys Have Had to Tell Conference Gist of Treaties Ratified by Japan from Memory as the Acts Themselves Were Stolen When They Were Passing Through That Country.

Washington, Feb. 11.—(By the Associated Press.)—Japan's attitude toward China in the peace conference is causing grave apprehension among the representatives of the other associated powers. According to official diplomatic information reaching here, Japan virtually has threatened war if China makes public secret treaties between the two countries and fails to carry out an agreement to make Japan the successor of Germany in rights, property and concessions held by Germany at the outbreak of the European war.

China is relying on the peace conference, where her delegates are said to have made an excellent impression, and is seeking support from the United States and Great Britain. Advisers from the Orient through diplomatic channels say American Minister Reinsch at Peking, speaking to reassure the Chinese foreign minister with statements of the friendship of the United States government, was told frankly that the foreign minister did not see how at this time the United States or Great Britain could divert their attention to the Orient when the European situation demanded so much attention.

When the Chinese peace delegates arrived in Paris, the information now available discloses, they reported that their copies of the secret treaties were stolen from their baggage while they were passing through Japan, consequently they were unable to carry out their purpose of making them public at the conference. Officials of the state department declined to make any formal comment today on the situation. The impression was given that the whole matter was being handled in Paris.

According to the reports received here, the threats against China were conveyed to the Chinese foreign minister by the Japanese minister in Peking in thinly veiled terms. The Japanese minister is said to have pointed out that Japan had an army of more than a million men idle at home, fully equipped and with arms and munitions enough to conduct a long war, and to have pointed out that Japan had more than a half million tons of shipping with the intimation that this would be ready on short notice for active work. He also is said to have referred pointedly to large sums of money owed to Japan by China and to the fact that China had been unable to live up to her financial agreements.

GEORGE IS VERY ANXIOUS

King in Address to Parliament Urges Quick Action to Put Down Spirit of Restiveness.

London, Feb. 11.—King George, in opening the new parliament today, after alluding briefly to events since the dissolution of the last parliament just after the armistice, urged quick and decisive action on reconstruction measures and asked parliament to "spare no effort in healing the causes of the existing unrest."

The king stated that a government bill would be presented simplifying the procedure in the house of commons, so that the lower body might expedite what the government considers imperative measures. Among the measures, he said, were better housing, the formation of a department of health, the fulfillment of pledges to labor that unfair competition would be prevented, and the betterment of the agricultural situation through improved transportation.

EDISON KICKING LIKE YOUNG COLT

New York, Feb. 11.—Thomas A. Edison stretched an arm out in front of him at right angles to his body and kicked with each foot in turn until his toes touched his finger tips. "Now I dare any one to say I am getting old," said the inventor who is 72 years old today, to men who had assembled here from all parts of the country to congratulate him on attaining another anniversary. Mr. Edison said he never had felt in better physical condition.

TANKER IN DISTRESS

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 11.—A wireless call saying the American oil tank steamer J. M. Guffey was taking water in the forehold and was sending out S. O. S. calls was intercepted here today. The vessel's position was given as off Cape Race. Owned by the Gulf Refining Company, the tanker sailed from Inverness, Scotland, on January 24 for Hampton Roads, Virginia.

GERMANY TO NAME PRESIDENT.

Weimar, Monday, Feb. 10.—The German national assembly has adopted the provisional constitution with little amendment. The national president will be elected Tuesday.

JAPAN IS TO HOLD ISLANDS

Caroline and Marshall Islands Taken from Germany Will Not be Given Up, Delegates Say.

Paris, Feb. 11.—Japan has reiterated her intention to hold the Marshall and Caroline islands in the Pacific which she took from Germany during the war, as well as to insist upon the execution of her agreement reached in September last with China regarding Shantung. A formal statement to this effect by Japanese representatives has been made public here.

GERMAN POLICY IN WAR

Destruction of French Industries Was One of the Main Purposes of the German in Arms.

Paris, Feb. 11.—(By the Associated Press.)—The report prepared in 1918 by German main headquarters to show how Germany would benefit from the destruction of certain industries in France, contained 482 pages, according to the statement made to the supreme war council at its meeting Monday afternoon by Louis Klotz, the French minister of finance. Material for the report was collected by 200 experts who were released from military duties for the purpose.

A full review is made of every French industry, including spinning, dyeing, pottery, chemicals, sugar, brewing, mining, leather, milling, clothing and rope making. The report says that all these industries "offer excellent openings for German traders in spite of a somewhat hostile feeling."

As the French metal industry in the occupied regions had been "suppressed" and was without supplies of raw material, which the occupied regions could not produce, the report says that it was impossible for German traders to "substitute yourselves in this new market."

Regarding the French sugar industry the German headquarters' pamphlet says: "Business relations with Germany are sure to continue because the French sugar industry cannot do without German beet seed without damaging itself and it must also buy large quantities of German coal, the French coal mines having suffered severely."

In its inventory of the ruin caused in the weaving plants of northern France the report says: "Considerable quantities of raw material, manufactured goods, thread on bobbins and warps have been sent to Germany. In Sedan all the plants have been destroyed. The machinery has been taken away and the buildings lie open to the winds like scrap iron. There is an enormously important opening there for German constructors."

BOLSHEVISTS REPULSED.

London, Feb. 10, Monday.—The bolsheviks launched an infantry attack on Saturday against the allied positions near Sredmakenga, southeast of Archangel, and were repulsed, according to an official statement on activities in northern Russia issued by the war office tonight.

TEXTILE WORKERS GO BACK

Employers Assert That More Hands Are at Their Jobs Now Than at Any Time Since Strike Started.

Lawrence, Mass., Feb. 11.—While leaders in the textile workers' strike here for 48-hours' work with 54-hours' pay asserted there was no increase in the number who returned to work either yesterday or today, mill officials said today more employees were at work than at any time since the strike started a week ago.

The Lawrence Central Labor Union issued a copy of a statement sent to Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, setting forth what it declared to be the "true conditions existing in the city." The statement says the Central Labor Union sought and obtained a 48-hour week for the textile workers, but declares while negotiations were going on "a group of bolshevik and I. W. W. propagandists" arrived and became active among the non-English speaking, non-organized textile workers, "making rash promises and giving un-American advice."

"They also stated," the Central Labor Union says, "that they were in a position to supply unlimited funds, which up to the present time has proven to be untrue." The statement adds that on the advice of the Central Labor Union many of the workers went back into the mills, but at present it is unable to meet with any success in its efforts for the textile workers "because of the trouble and unrest caused by these bolshevik and I. W. W. representatives."

PRESIDENT IS TO HURRY BACK FOR THE CONFERENCES

TO SAVE BILL BY A COUP

Naval Expansion Project Has to be Plucked Out of the Burning by a Parliamentary Device.

Washington, Feb. 11.—To save the new three-year naval building program from defeat through a parliamentary coup, the house rules committee today ordered the report of a rule making the legislation authorizing construction of ten battleships and ten scout cruisers in order for house consideration as a part of the \$720,000,000 naval appropriation bill.

Champions and opponents of the expansion policy prepared for a test of strength in the house in consideration of the rule. A vote on the rule was to be taken after two hours of debate.

No record vote on the rule was taken in the house committee, but three republicans present—Representatives Fess of Ohio, Snell of New York and Campbell of Kansas—said they did not support the rule on the viva voce vote.

WILL SIGN BILLS AND GO AT ONCE

Importance of Issues That Are Pressing for Attention at Peace Conference, Even After Question of Society of Nations Has Been Determined, Necessitates Mr. Wilson's Speedy Return to Paris.

Paris, Feb. 11.—(By the Associated Press.)—Evidence of President Wilson's intention not to abandon the peace conference upon the ratification of the society of nations plan was found in the disclosure yesterday of his plan to return from Washington to Paris by March 15. This involves so brief a stay at Washington as to permit only the signing of bills during the closing hours of congress. It is understood that Mr. Wilson intends to give personal attention in Paris to the work of the supreme executive council which promises to be the most important feature of the peace conference after the disposal of the society of nations.

Interesting developments in the work of the supreme council of the peace conference are expected today. The draft of the plan for a society of nations will be before the commission for second reading and it is probable it will be prepared for action by a plenary session of the conference late in the week. Unanimity continues to prevail that the commission's report will be adopted.

The supreme war council, although hearing the claims of Belgian delegates in support of the French view that their country should be protected until on the same footing as Germany, is expected to refer this matter to an economic committee. It is now evident the supreme war council will be relieved entirely of this question, which is regarded as an economic rather than a military question.

The supreme economic council, which is about to be organized, is expected to consider the French and Belgian proposals that Essen and other German industrial towns should be occupied to prevent the manufacture of munitions and arms. This is a question which bears on the ability of Germany to pay heavy indemnities through products of industry and it is the American view that the suppression of Germany's munition production can be as well assured by a system of authorized inspection by entente agents. This would permit German industries to continue with safety to the allies.

The French and Belgian plea that they should be permitted to recoup their losses by the destruction of their industrial plants through the stoppage of German industries until France and Belgium have been rehabilitated is met by the American view which is shared by the British that such losses should be reimbursed by cash indemnities from Germany within a reasonable time. The supreme economic council can regulate the distribution of raw materials between countries of the league of nations and Belgium is to have permanent access to German and proper advantage over Germany and prevent the latter from gaining the world markets.

Once divested of its economic features arrangements for an extension of the military armistice can be quickly completed. It is believed certain American troops will not be employed as permanent garrisons in the Rhine country longer than is necessary for military purposes or to insure the carrying out of the commercial conditions of the armistice.

To meet doubts cast upon its authority, the Chinese delegation has published cablegrams received from Shanghai, the provincial legislature of Shantung and the Chinese society for a league of nations at Peking. These cablegrams overwhelmingly favor the activities of the delegation and direct that there be restitution to China of properties in Shantung.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, assistant secretary of the United States navy, has virtually completed the work of disestablishing American shore stations in France. He will return to America on the George Washington with President Wilson.

TO STUDY ARMISTICE TERMS.

Paris, Tuesday, Feb. 11.—In view of the complexity and diversity of the problems raised by the armistice, says a Havas report, the supreme war council has appointed a committee of eight members to which would be entrusted the task of studying these questions. The council therefore has postponed for a few days the adoption of conditions to be imposed upon Germany so as to be better prepared as to means for insuring their execution.

The committee is composed of Norman Davis and General Bliss for

FRENCH DELEGATE IS OPPOSING PLAN

Paris, Monday, Feb. 10.—(By Associated Press.)—The commission on ports, waterways and railways of the peace conference, met today with Dr. Silvio Crespi, of Italy, in the chair. England, supported by America, proposed the proclamation of the principle of complete liberty of transit to every country on equal conditions to all. This proposition was opposed by Albert Clavelle for France and Lambros A. Coromilas for Greece, who pointed out that England and America occupied special situations that made the question of commercial land transit insignificant for them.

The commission appointed two sub-committees, one to study the question of the control of ports, waterways and railways, and the other the question of liberty of transit. The first commission has approved of the principle that no country may charge duties on goods passing through its ports or over its railways or waterways other than the freight rates paid on goods destined for the country itself. Neither may they levy on such goods customs or local taxes.

Belgian delegates, protested against allowing freight destined for German ports to pass through their territory exempt of duty, thus expediting the prosperity of Germany. They claimed also such measures should be taken as would make navigation of the Scheldt river free for Belgium. The Czechoslovaks and Poles insisted on having ports of their own, the former on the Adriatic and the latter on the Baltic. M. Coromilas proposed to give them, respectively at Trieste and Danzig, the same privileges that Greece granted to Serbia at Salonika, where Serbia has part of the port and enjoys territorial rights. The Czechoslovaks and Poles consider this proposition an insufficient guarantee and definite decision was postponed.

The commission agreed that navigation of the Rhine and Danube should be free to all countries bordering on them or through which those rivers pass. The Rhine passes or borders Switzerland, Germany, France and Holland and the Danube holds the same relation to Germany, Austria, Bohemia, Hungary, Serbia, Bulgaria and Rumania.

MAY MOVE CONFERENCE.

Paris, Feb. 10.—The question of moving the peace conference from Paris to a neutral country may be considered by the conference if what is characterized as the obstructive policy of the French press and certain French officials continues, it developed today.

Representatives of various other powers taking part in the peace conference, it is declared, believe that the work of the body is being greatly hampered through unfriendly criticism by the French press of various leaders in the conference. They are represented therefore as inclined to consider the removal of the conference if the hostile attitude of the French press is maintained.

Should it be deemed necessary to take up the matter it would be considered at a full meeting of the peace conference.

WANTS PACTS KEPT SECRET.

London, Feb. 10.—Japan has notified China that China must work in harmony with Japan at the peace conference and must undertake not to reveal to the conference secret Sino-Japanese agreements, according to a Reuters dispatch from Peking dated February 3.

The correspondent says his information comes from Chinese sources and Reuters says it should be regarded with some reserve.

JUDGESHIP ISSUE GETS MOMENTUM

WEBB NOT PRESSING HIS CLAIMS

Several Cities of State Have Aspirants, Notably Among Them Being Charlotte With the Name of T. C. Guthrie, Esq.—Simmons and Overman Unmoved in Suffrage Vote.

By W. C. LYON. Washington, Feb. 11.—Interest in the campaign for the new federal judgeship for the western district of North Carolina was revived this week by the appearance in Washington of North Carolinians who spoke of additions to an already long list of candidates for the position which it is believed will be available before a great while.

A bill has been passed by both houses of congress which authorizes the president to appoint an additional district judge where it is shown that the incumbent, by reason of physical or mental "slowing-up" not able to attend to the duties of his office fully. The bill has not been signed by the president and Representative Webb, who is chairman of the house judiciary committee, and who has fostered the bill through the house, said today that he had advised that the bill be held here awaiting the return of the president and not be sent abroad to him.

It is believed by those who have followed the measure through congress that the president will sign the bill shortly after his return and before the end of the present session of congress. The bill does not contemplate the forced retirement or resignation of a federal judge who may be unable to fulfill all of his duties. It merely gives him assistance through another judge. Judges under present conditions may retire at the age of 70 if they have served 10 years on the bench and are entitled to full pay after retirement.

Judge Boyd, of the western North Carolina district, has passed the age of retirement and it is said has no present intention of making use of his privilege along that line. Members of the bar in the district say the additional judge is needed at present.

Real campaigns for the place have been under way for some time. W. C. Newland, of Lenoir, has been spoken of here as the candidate who at present has the longest line of endorsers for the place. T. C. Guthrie, of Charlotte, also has been mentioned as a likely candidate for the place.

Greensboro comes forward with two candidates in the persons of A. B. Kimball and H. C. Strudwick, both prominent members of the bar. Julius Martin, of Asheville, has been prominently spoken of for the place and E. E. Raper of Lexington, has a num-

ber of friends actively presenting his case to those who will be in at the sitting when the time comes to choose. Some of these friends have been here this week.

Representative Webb has been spoken of by many as a man who might do honor to the place. Mr. Webb, however, declines to admit that he is a candidate. He is not making any apparent effort to put himself in the light of being a candidate or an aspirant for the place but he is close to the president and his duties as chairman of the judiciary committee have put him in close touch with Attorney General Gregory as well as Justice Gregory's predecessor in office, Justice McReynolds, so that endorsements to the man or men higher up in Mr. Webb's case would be rather superfluous. Mr. Webb's predecessor at the head of the house committee on the judiciary now holds a federal judgeship for an Alabama district, an appointee of President Wilson.

Senators Simmons and Overman remained firm in their opposition to the resolution to submit the amendment to grant suffrage to women when the vote was called in the senate yesterday, in spite of last-minute appeals from the state. Senator Simmons received a telegram from Governor Bickett urging his support to the resolution and Senator Overman received a joint telegram from Lieutenant Governor Gardner and Speaker Brummett.

The joint telegram from the presiding officers of the General assembly read: "We believe that party policy at this time justifies the submission of the federal woman suffrage amendment."

Senator Pollock of South Carolina, led the discussion in the senate in favor of the amendment. He met the "often-used" argument against equal suffrage that it would be distasteful at least to have the vote given to negro women of the South. Mr. Pollock said that would be a matter to be attended to by the states of the South and that they were competent to settle such matters themselves and that the people of the South wanted woman suffrage. He stated that the white women of the South would outvote the negro men and the negro women.

THE WEATHER

Forecast for North Carolina. Fair in east, probably rain in west portion tonight or Wednesday; warmer. Moderate winds becoming south.