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ALLIES' DELEGATES LIKE AMERICAN PLAN

Four Powers Accept in Principle and Get to Work on Details

Washington, Nov. 15.—The sweeping American proposal for reduction of naval armament became the accepted fundamental policy of the armament conference today by the unanimous assent of the five great powers.

Seconding the bold lead of the United States, the accredited spokesmen of Great Britain, Japan, Italy and France rose in their places at today's plenary session of the conference and one after another declared the readiness of their governments to accept the American proposal in spirit and in principle, but with the reservation of a right to suggest modifications of detail.

Then the problem of these details, which everyone realizes may yet occupy the prolonged attention of the conference and involve the success or failure of the whole plan, was referred for preliminary examination to a committee of five technical naval advisers, one from each of the big five powers. Within this committee first of all Great Britain will ask for a further reduction of the limit proposed on submarine tonnage. Japan will endeavor to prove her right to a greater ratio of naval strength than has been suggested for her, and France and Italy will request that their naval questions be considered along with those of the three stronger naval powers embraced in the American plan.

Delicate Questions to Solve

Thus the diplomacy of the American delegation has won its first victory in the conference, but still stands itself confronted with questions of admitted importance and delicacy whose solution is requisite to attainment of the purposes for which the nations were called into consultation.

While the technical advisers wrestle with the armament proposals and the delegates themselves continue informal conversations on the American plan, the other big subject of the conference, the far eastern situation, will be given its first formal consideration at an executive meeting tomorrow of the delegations of all the nine interested nations. Tonight every one of the delegations was in a waiting attitude toward the far eastern questions, and if any nation had a comprehensive plan of settlement to present at the outset it was carefully concealed.

The lead in accepting the principle of the American naval proposal was taken in today's meeting of the conference by Great Britain, whose historic naval supremacy would eventually give way to an equality of strength with the United States, if the plan became an actuality. Arthur J. Balfour, head of the British delegation, announced the British acceptance in a speech that stirred the emotions of delegates and spectators and started a discussion in which diplomatic cards were laid on the table in a manner unprecedented in international conferences.

British Fear Submarines

While the hall still echoed with applause for the speech of the British statesman, the chief delegate of Japan, Admiral Baron Kato, was on his feet to pledge the readiness of the island empire of the east to proceed with "sweeping reductions" in her fleet. Senator Schanzer for Italy and Premier Briand for France added in their turn a pledge of co-operation in the program laid down by the United States.

Mr. Balfour alone made specific mention of the modifications that would be suggested as the negotiations progressed. Reduction of the figure set as a maximum of submarine tonnage was the project on which he indicated his government would be most insistent, but later members of the British group elaborated the suggestions they are to put forward somewhat as follows:

First: Reduction of the submarine tonnage the United States, Great Britain and Japan would be allowed to maintain in the proposed limited fleets. The figures in Secretary Hughes' proposal were 90,000 tons in submarines for Great Britain and the United States and 54,000 tons for Japan. It was indicated that Great Britain and the United States would urge cutting this in half to 45,000 tons for the two powers and a similar reduction for Japan. In addition the British propose to limit the size of submarine units in such fashion as to confine them to defensive operations

and make them unusable over sea.

Second: That to protect future knowledge and skill in capital warship construction, each nation retain one capital ship building yard capable of producing a ship a year and scrap all other warship building facilities.

Third: That allowances be made in the American replacement schedule of light warcraft, such as light cruisers and gunboats, not of particular use in any naval offensive or defensive operations, for the adequate policing of the seas by all naval powers.

Japan Wants More

So far as could be learned tonight, the Japanese modifications to be urged will be in connection mainly with the fixing of Japan on the basis of 60 per cent of the naval strength of either other power. Her spokesman, it was learned, will later endeavor to show that some increase of tonnage should be afforded here. The suggested increase will probably relate to all classes of ships, including submarines.

A strong impression prevails that the British proposals for limitation of the size of submarines will not prove acceptable to American naval officers. It is well known that American naval opinion regards the submarine as a potential war weapon of greatest value to the United States and not to be surrendered, on any argument thus far presented. To reach its full efficiency, American officers argue the submarine must be a sea keeping vessel of great size so as to be habitable for her crew. There were decided expressions against the British idea that by limiting the size the submarines could be tied down to defensive operations in their own home waters. To agree to such a plan, it was said, would be to sacrifice a weapon the United States has every reason to retain.

As to the suggestion in British circles that submarines are not a proper subject of naval warfare, the American view is that the use of submarines in warfare is a question aside from that now being discussed. It will may be, some officers say, that a code of rules to govern submarine warfare, preventing "sinking without warning" similar barbaric practices in which Germany engaged, may be adopted. Provision is made on the agenda of the conference for that and for aircraft and gas warfare rules.

In any case, the pros and cons of the American proposal are to be thrashed out by sailor men of high degree.

ARGENTINE TARIFF ON FRUIT CAKE WAS \$20

And Kinston Society Will Not Send Cake to Missionary This Year

Kinston, Nov. 19.—A local church's women's missionary society will not send a cake to its representative in Argentina this Christmas. It did last Christmas.

Looking forward with keen enthusiasm to what they may do at the coming Yuletide to make folks happy, and with the missionary in South America well in mind, the members have no intention of baking for the latter any such delightful confection as was shipped away from here about this time last year. The Argentine government called it a confection. That was where a lot of trouble came in. It was a rare sort of cake, a fruit cake with icing and frills and calculated to bring cheer to the heart of the missionary supported by the society in the far southern country—a cake reminding of plum pudding days back in the U. S. A.

The cake cost \$4.50, exclusive of the labor of love that went into the baking and some ingredients that may have been donated free. The express charges was about \$7. The cake found its way to Argentine safely. There the missionary was told to "come get it." The customs functionaries charged \$20 for duty. The \$4.50 cake by that time had come to be worth \$31.50, and the missionary could not spare the money. The duty on "confections" was high, the officials explained. The missionary seemed not to be likely to get the cake. The diplomatic machinery of the United States of America was set in motion to solve the dilemma for the missionary. It was finally delivered as something not so valuable as confections, possibly farm machinery or toothache drops. The society will send something this year more compatible with the Argentine tariff.

Personal Sketches of Big Men at the Washington Conference

Washington, D. C. Nov. 20.—The conference on the limitation of armaments has brought to Washington dozens of foreign notables who are entirely human—yet the thousands of words written daily out of this now international capital say little except about the serious things of the conference. Nobody is informed how Premier Briand acts when he is being interviewed; the public is uninformed about the habitual smile of Balfour and the kind of shoes he wears; there is little known about the inscrutability of the face of Admiral Baron Kato—and so on.

This abbreviated story, with perhaps more to come in a later issue, will attempt to give certain impressions of the mannerisms and human qualities of certain of the delegates to the conference.

Mr. Balfour, the head of the British delegation, has set a new style in shoes at the arms conference. His shoes are square at the toes, as many British shoes are, but they are likewise practically devoid of heel and very heavy of sole. The combination causes Mr. Balfour to walk heavily, if not ponderously. The Balfour shoe of no heel is something new in Washington.

Persons who come to interview Mr. Balfour are told by him, as a rule, that he is getting old and slightly deaf, he therefore suggests that they "speak up," whether newspaper interviewers or others. However, the British statesman assists in the process of understanding. He walks real close to the inquisitor, leans his head forward and not infrequently places his hand behind an ear.

Since arriving in Washington Mr. Balfour was stumped by one question. An interested party wanted to know the total population of the British empire—not the British Isles but the empire upon which the sun is said never to set. Mr. Balfour said he couldn't reply off hand. He asked a member of the British delegation, that official estimated that it was somewhere about 400,000,000. Mr. Balfour said he did not like to venture such stupendous figures without census verification.

Briand and Cigarettes

Briand, the French premier, smokes many cigarettes when persons come to confer with him. Mr. Briand speaks only French at his conferences.

He has a massive head topping a short body, a drooping mustache, clothes of indifferent fit and the gestures of the motion-picture Frenchman.

As he talks with much animation, Premier Briand will permit his cigarette to go out. If there is enough of the "stump" left he will relight it. Otherwise he will move suddenly forward, grab a match from a nearby box and light a new one.

Then the Frenchman moves back to his original position and continues to talk, never missing a syllable between puffs.

Mr. Balfour was in a big automobile en route on a sightseeing tour over the streets and boulevards of Washington. His car was almost overrun by an even more magnificent car and one that was breaking all the speed limits.

The machine carrying the British statesman was traveling at a fair clip, policemen giving it the high sign and secret service men following along behind.

"And who was that person speeding by?" inquired Mr. Balfour.

"That," said his American guide, who occupied a place on the rear seat of the Balfour machine, "was a product of our prohibition. I understand he is known here in Washington as the 'king of the bootleggers' probably he has a cargo of liquor aboard right now."

"How remarkable," Mr. Balfour is said to have replied. "And how does he operate?"

Explains Bootlegging

With more or less detail the knowing American went into the habits of bootlegging gentry. He drew an entertaining picture of the risks run, the high profits gained and the prospects of capture.

He wound the story up by saying—and this seemed to flabbergast Mr. Balfour of the British Isles, where they have no prohibition—"And they say he makes about \$75,000 a year. That is the salary of the President of the United States and 10 times the salary of the members of Congress who voted the United States dry."

It was apparent that Mr. Balfour

couldn't understand it all.

Mr. D'Almeida, the Portuguese delegate to the conference on armaments, has a record that is almost without parallel. He has been minister from his country to Washington for many years, but, being a modest man, has avoided publicity.

It appears that he has received little written or photographic publicity. When he came to the White House a day or two ago he was photographed for the first time in many months.

Veteran photographers said they had overlooked him when his name came out as one of the delegates to the conference.

Portuguese Man Popular

Yet D'Almeida, of Lisbon, is one of the most popular members of the diplomatic corps, has made his government a most capable representative here, is a talented orator and has quite an engaging manner. He is simply "publicity shy" and has managed for years in his quiet way to avoid the news photographers of the national capital.

DOES SMALL FARM PAY?

Theron Parker, of Near Kinston, Proves That It Does

Kinston, Nov. 15.—Can a small farm be made to pay in this region of tobacco and cotton plantations? Is the question that Theron Parker, owner of the most unique four-acre estate in the territory, is preparing to answer. Parker has just completed preparations. During 1922 his tiny plantation will bloom like a flower garden, near Granger, a few minutes ride from here. The ground looks as though it has been swept clean with a broom. On the place is the most elaborate dual drainage and irrigation system in eastern Carolina, considering the size of the farm. There are four brick-in wells, with a power pump and pipe lines and well constructed small canals. A part of the time, during dry weather, Parker's crops will need moisture from the wells, he states.

There is no animal on the Parker farm other than chickens. He has stocked a henry with fowls of three standard breeds. Small workshops and out buildings have been erected. The tiny fields have been worked and reworked and fertilized until the soil is in perfect condition. There will be an amazing variety of crops next year, of vegetables and flowers. Already there are winterbearing strawberries, feathery ferns and chrysanthemums and other things growing out-of-doors on the tiny plantation, all appearing to have ignored the several frosts that have come save chrysanthemums, thousands of enormous yellow flowers growing on plants as tall as a man's head. Over the chrysanthemum "field" a temporary plank shelter has been erected, 3,000 feet of lumber having been used for this. Parker, who at one time was a truck farmer near Omaha and at another proprietor of the biggest florist's business at Chicago, has located here for the climate's sake. His unique farm is not a commercial venture, although there are already a thousand dollars' worth of chrysanthemums on the place which he is making no effort to market. It will simply be "home" to this man who took a bit of a wilderness and converted it into a garden of golden chrysanthemums.

Tried for Failure to Send Son to School

Greensboro News, Nov. 19.—John Allred, Pleasant Garden man, was yesterday given the choice by Judge Collins of sending his boy to school or of spending a day in jail for each day his boy missed school. Allred paid the costs of the action and promised that the boy will be kept in school henceforth.

His excuse for not sending his son to school was that he was tired of buying so many new books, that the boy already had one book and that it appeared to the father to be unnecessary to purchase any more as was ordered by the teacher.

Mr. Allred's arrest and trial followed an investigation by Mrs. Blanche Carr Sterne, county welfare officer, who had received information that the boy was not being kept in school. Mrs. Sterne stated yesterday that she was checking up information in regard to the negligence of parents to send their children to school and that all violators of the compulsory school law will be prosecuted.

HUGHES WILL NOT LET EXPERTS SHAPE POLICY

Civilian Delegates Doing That and Mean to Stick to the Naval Proposal

Washington, Nov. 19.—Secretary Hughes and his associates of the American delegation have no intention of surrendering to the naval experts the formulation of any policies to guide American action in naval or other questions pertaining to the armament conference.

It was made plain today that the function of the experts was strictly that of developing the facts. Determination of policies upon those facts is the reserved right of the civilians who make up the American delegation.

Emphasis in this connection was laid today on the undesirability of diverting attention from the main issue of the American naval proposals, the capital ship ratio plan. All questions of proportions of auxiliary craft the place of submarines in the scheme of curtailment and similar items are looked upon by the American delegation as of secondary importance.

For this reason the American attitude of resolute adherence to the "5-5-3 ratio" of the American capital ship plan has been emphasized. It is this main issue which is still to be met together with the 10-year building holiday and a substantial immediate reduction in tonnage already afloat. The announced intention of the Japanese delegation to seek an alteration of the ratio, however, is the only known stumbling block to this first, vital agreement so far as can be seen.

How far the work of the experts has cleared the way for that understanding it is difficult to say at the end of the first full week of conference deliberations. The workings of the experts remain a mystery, little known process to the world at large.

In connection with the Japanese attitude, the impression appeared to gain ground today that Admiral Baron Kato, in announcing his purpose to seek a slightly higher tonnage ratio for Japan was prompted to some extent by considerations involving home politics. It was hardly to be expected some officer said in comment, that he could accept out of hand a definite relegation of Japan to the short end of the "5-5-3 ratio" proposal without a fight. Japan was said always to have looked toward a ratio of 75 to 100 in naval strength as compared to the United States.

How far Baron Kato is prepared to press that fight, however, and whether he does not already stand committed to the American program of maintaining a naval status quo between the two powers on a reduced scale, remains to be seen. There is nothing to indicate that success of the conference has in any way been jeopardized by any action yet taken by the Japanese delegates.

H. D. Turpin Selected as Sheriff of Stokes

Winston-Salem, Nov. 18.—On the first Monday in December H. D. Turpin will assume the office of sheriff of Stokes county to succeed E. O. Shelton, who resigned recently to escape prosecution for alleged conduct unbecoming an officer. Two members of the board of county commissioners, to the surprise of the 17 candidates and their friends, met at Danbury Wednesday and selected Mr. Turpin. The special session was scheduled to be held Thursday, but the commissioners decided that by meeting a day earlier they would escape a lot of worry and save time. Turpin is a farmer residing near Pineville. His election is expected to produce much discussion pro and con for months to come and many are predicting that it means a live issue for the next campaign in Stokes county.

Bond Issue is Sold at a Premium at Concord

Concord, Nov. 18.—A \$105,000 issue of sewer and sidewalk bonds, sold by the city of Concord Thursday night, brought a premium of \$1,470, and was purchased by Wellroth and company, of Cincinnati, the total being \$106,470. Thirteen bids were received by the city, and 10 bond houses were represented at the meeting. The bonds have been printed, and the money will be delivered to the city November 22, it was announced at the meeting Thursday.

One local concern, the Citizens Bank and Trust company, bid par for the bonds and the American Trust company, of Charlotte, offered a premium of \$800, the third highest bid received.

FORD WOULD BUY SCRAPPED SHIPS

Detroit Manufacturer Made Offer to Harding; Will Get Nitrate Plant

New York, Nov. 19.—"You bet it's going through," Henry Ford said today regarding his proposal to buy and lease the Muscle Shoals, Alabama, nitrate and water-power projects. The terms, he added, were up to the government.

Mr. Ford, who conferred here today with Thomas A. Edison, regarding the Muscle Shoals project, was asked if he proposed to compete with Chile in the production of nitrate.

"It we can't beat the Chileans, we ought to quit," he asserted.

Referring to his visit to Washington yesterday, when he conferred with Secretary Hoover regarding Muscle Shoals, Mr. Ford said he also had had a conference with President Harding and at that time had offered to buy for junk battleships scrapped by the government as a result of the arms conference. He added that the President had enjoyed a hearty laugh.

Governor's Pardon Mill Doing Little Work

Governor Morrison today paroled W. E. Wooten, of Guilford, who is serving a sentence of four years for the larceny of an automobile, for the commission of which crime he was convicted in May, 1921.

Judge T. B. Finley who tried the case, and Solicitor John C. Bower, who prosecuted the defendant, join in the petition for clemency and the parole is conditioned on payment of such costs as remain unpaid and upon good behavior and respect for the law. Any breach will forfeit this kindness and the governor reserves the right to revoke the parole "upon the slightest information that it is not being respected."

Governor Morrison has declined to interfere with the execution of Claud Morehead, Guilford negro, who is to be electrocuted November 30 for the murder of his wife.

The case was presented by R. R. King, Jr., but the Greensboro lawyer was shy of legal or sentimental reasons for the clemency. Morehead beat and choked his wife, albeit he murdered her after a protracted debauch. This was about all that could be said for him. Wife murderers have not fared well at the hands of the governor.

Hubert O'Neil, Vance youngster, who is serving two years for the abandonment of his wife, has been paroled after a service of five months, Governor Morrison acting on the representations of O'Neil's mother, "male members of his family," and the wife. She says there has been a complete reconciliation and that she has perfect confidence in O'Neil's willingness to go to work. Governor Morrison is "convinced that there is a strong probability that the prisoner will protect and support his wife." The parole for the remainder of the term is given with express understanding that the slightest suspicion will warrant revocation.

Henry Grubb, of Randolph county, who was convicted July, 1920, of retailing and sentenced to 18 months, was refused pardon yesterday, but the governor indicates his purpose to parole Grubb January 18, 1922, if the family desire to take Grubb from the state and provide a home for him.

The governor is hearing pardon cases all the week, but so far the clemencies granted are far below those denied.

Woman Sat on Jury in Harnett Over Year Ago

Lillington, Nov. 20.—"On November 16, 1920, Harnett Superior court convening, Judge W. A. Devin presiding, a jury was formed for the trial of a certain cause, the said jury being composed of eleven men and one woman, the woman being Miss Carrie Speight, official court stenographer, whose home is in Goldsboro."

Rowan County Young Man Fatally Burned

Salisbury, Nov. 20.—G. G. Basinger, aged 23, of the Grace church neighborhood, died here in a local hospital early this morning, as a result of burns received Saturday evening when he attempted to replenish his gasoline supply in his car from another car. While the gas was being moved some one struck a match and the resultant fire so burned the young man that his death resulted in a few hours. He will be buried from Grace church Monday at 11 o'clock.