

## PRESIDENT HARDING TURNS HIS BACK IRREVOCABLY ON LEAGUE OF NATIONS

### United States Does Not Propose To Become Party To Any Such Military Alliance

#### JAP GOVERNMENT WILL SEND NOTED DIPLOMAT TO DISCUSS WIDE RANGE OF PROBLEMS

It is understood that the Pacific problems, including Mandates, California, Immigration and Armaments will be discussed.

(By The Associated Press.)  
TOKIO, April 11.—Plans for sending to Washington a list of distinguished Japanese, who would take up the entire range of the so-called Pacific problems, including mandates, California, China, Siberia, immigration and armaments are understood to be in the process of formulation by the Japanese government.

Official announcement of the intention of the country to send such a delegate, who would act in a capacity similar to that of former Premier Viviani, of France, who is at present in the United States, has not as yet been made, but it is said that the subject is receiving serious attention.

The note from Charles E. Hughes, American secretary of state, to the allied, declaring America does not abandon her rights in the peace settlement, especially concerning German overseas possessions, not only created a profound impression in Japan, but has served in addition, to crystallize the conviction that the time has arrived to bring about a solution of all problems involving Japan and America before the relations of those countries reach a critical stage.

Authorities at the Japanese foreign office confine themselves to a statement to The Associated Press that the Hughes note is "so important that it is receiving the most serious consideration from the Japanese government, which is anxious to do everything possible to establish friendly cooperation with the new administration at Washington."

It is learned from other influential sources that the opinion prevails among prominent Japanese, especially those familiar with the United States, that the general situation has gone so far that it requires heroic treatment to prevent the two nations from drifting apart. There is, therefore, an inclination to permit the problem involved in the disposition of the island of Yap sink into comparative inimportance before a discussion of all the questions concerning the Pacific regarding which Japan and America have serious differences.

The plan to send a representative of the Japanese government to Washington is not unconnected with the internal situation in this country. It is understood an influential group is insisting that Japanese foreign policies be remodelled with the particular view to securing a settlement of Pacific problems, and a general understanding, permanent in nature with America. The basis of this understanding would be friendly cooperation.

Attainment of this program may involve a change in the Japanese ministry. Major General Gimechi Tanaka, minister of war, has already placed his resignation in the hands of Premier Hara.

It is apparent the political situation in Japan is complicated by differences over purely internal questions, including the one relative to the betrothal of the crown prince, which seems to have been settled in some important aspects. Every thing here, however, tends to show that the highest circles of the empire are concentrating their attention on relations with America, which responsible Japanese opinion declares "must be improved."

Leading newspapers, in their comment on the Hughes note, declare it is likely to place Japan in an embarrassing position, as the allies may find difficulty in supporting Japan's claims in the face of insistence upon American demands from Washington.

The Yomi-Uri Shimbun, of this city, which is many times apparently inspired in commenting on international questions, emphasizes the delicate nature of the problems discussed by the Hughes note. It expresses the opinion that the question of mandates is "certain to cause an increase of excitement, both in Japan and in America, until it becomes a matter of more intense interest than either the California or Shantung problems."

"It may," the newspaper continues, "force Japan and America to take blind action."

"There are two ways of preventing a possible collision," the article goes on. "First, to minimize the Yap problem as a technical matter regarding communications, and settle it by mutual concessions. Second, to magnify it so that it will represent the Pacific problems of Japan and America in their entirety, and attempt to secure, at once, the solution of all of them."

The Teikoku news agency quotes Ad-

#### EPISCOPAL CONVENTION - BRINGS DISTINGUISHED VISITORS TO GASTONIA

Sessions of Convention Proper Begin Wednesday - Bishop Horner, of Asheville, Presiding Officer.

The first gathering of the annual meeting of the Episcopal bodies to assemble in Gastonia this week is this evening in St. Mark's church at 8 o'clock when the special address of the evening will be given by the Rev. Gen. Ashton-Oldham, of Brooklyn, N. Y., who speaks to the Women's Auxiliary. All delegates and visitors and the public have been invited to hear him.

Immediately following the service and address at the church, there will be a reception at the rectory, 305 N. Falls street, when the congregation of St. Mark's church will receive the delegates and visitors. The program for Wednesday is as follows:

7:30 A. M. Corporate Communion for the Women's Auxiliary.  
8:30 A. M. Morning Prayer, followed by organization of the Convention.  
9:30 A. M. Woman's Auxiliary will assemble.  
11:00 A. M. Holy Communion. Annual address, the Rev. Junius M. Horner, D. D., Bishop of Asheville.  
1:00 P. M. Refresh for luncheon.  
2:30 P. M. Business session of Convention.

2:30 P. M. Woman's Auxiliary and addresses by Bishop Horner and Miss Grace Lindley, executive secretary National Woman's Auxiliary.

3:30 P. M. Automobile ride tendered all delegates and visitors by the congregation and other Gastonia citizens.

5:00 P. M. Missionary service in the First Presbyterian Church. Speaker: The Rev. Louis G. Wood, of Newark, N. J., held secretary.

Some of the delegates arriving during the day are the Rt. Rev. J. M. Horner, D. D., the Rev. Messrs. J. H. Griffith, Archbishop W. G. Clark, of Asheville, E. N. Joyner, of Morganton, S. R. Cullough, of Lincolnton, Rev. F. D. Lobbell, of Oconee, and Messrs. Raywood Parker, Charles E. Waddell, K. Van Winkle, of Asheville, A. S. Jones, of Lenoir, and Mayor J. P. Cutler, of Marion.

Among the ladies are Mrs. Charles I. Minor, of Asheville, president of the Women's Auxiliary, Mrs. C. M. Sumner, of Lincolnton, and Mrs. B. S. Laxister, of Marion.

Chicago Police To Use Wireless Telephones  
CHICAGO, April 12.—Wireless telephones are to be used by the Chicago police in their war on crime, it was announced today. A \$12,000 plant is being installed on the roof of the city hall for constant communication with rifle squads, fire engines, fire houses, police stations and patrol wagons. At first the terminals will have only receiving stations.

William G. Keith, commissioner of gas and electricity, who proposed the experiment, said today that he hoped ultimately to have every policeman equipped with receiving apparatus, which weighs only a few ounces and can be concealed under his clothing.

The teaching of the Stags is clean.



ATTEMPT MADE TO IMPEACH GOVERNOR OF OKLAHOMA. An investigating committee recently filed a report in the Oklahoma House of Representatives, recommending the impeachment of Governor J. B. A. Robertson. The report charged gross neglect and corruption in office. It is charged that the governor made "unwarranted use of his executive power" in extending pardons and paroles to 1,900 persons.

#### THOUSAND DELEGATES GATHER FOR CONFERENCE LEAGUE WOMEN VOTERS

Delegates Come From All Parts of the Country—Conferees on Child Welfare, Election Laws and Methods, Social Hygiene.

CHICAGO, Ill., April 12.—The second annual convention of the National League of Women Voters, tentatively opened here this morning with more than 1,000 delegates and observers from all parts of the country in attendance. The convention will close Saturday afternoon.

Conferees on child welfare, uniform laws concerning women and food supply and demand reported their recommendations last night. Those to report today are American citizenship, election laws and methods, social hygiene and women in industry.

The conferees on child welfare, recommended the immediate passage of a congressional bill giving federal aid for the territory and infant care, endorsed the principle of 10-year education in schools, through state action and urged the enforcement of all child labor and school attendance laws.

The food supply and demand conferees recommended a national stock exchange, regulation of the meat packing industry, prevention of unfair trade practices, and cooperation with foreign agencies to secure the proper production, distribution and use of food.

The conferees on election laws and methods, recommended that the national legislature be organized on a basis of equal representation of the states and territories, and that the national legislature be organized on a basis of equal representation of the states and territories.

HUNDREDS GATHER FOR FUNERAL JUDGE PRITCHARD  
ASHEVILLE, April 12.—Ashville's largest gathering of people from every section of the country who are here to attend the funeral services over the body of Judge John C. Pritchard, will convene at the Fourth Street, First National Bank building, at 11 o'clock this morning.

The services, which will be conducted by Rev. W. P. Powell, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, will take place at 11 o'clock. Former Congressman J. C. Pritchard died at Asheville, N. C., on April 10.

PACKERS REFUSED HEARING  
(By The Associated Press.)  
CHICAGO, April 12.—Mr. E. T. Coughlin, of the National League of Women Voters, refused to allow a representative of the Institute of American Meat Packers to present facts and figures concerning the industry to the conferees on food supply and demand at Cleveland, according to the Chicago public here today by the institute. The statement said that S. T. Nash, president of the Institute, was told by Mr. Coughlin that "it would be impossible to permit the packers' side to be given a hearing at the committee conference."

According to the statement Mr. Nash had requested that the Institute be given a place on the program because he had learned that "the anonymous press group plainly indicated that only one side of the question would be presented," when Federal regulation of the meat industry would be considered.

#### TABLET MARKS SPOT WHERE GERMAN BOMB FELL

PARIS, April 12.—On the wall of the Credit Lyonnais Bank, Rue de Choiseul, this city, a tablet has been placed bearing the simple inscription: "Aeroplane bomb, January 30, 1918." The ministry of war has had tablets placed on the walls of the houses near which the first and last bombs of the war fell in Paris, and it seems to be the general custom for private individuals to mark with some simple inscription the various points of the capital where damage was done by German bombs or shells. The tablet on the wall of the Credit Lyonnais recalls one of the most murderous raids ever made on Paris, 110 persons losing their lives, while several hundred were wounded.

#### HARDING'S MESSAGE IS AWAITED WITH KEEN INTEREST BY CONGRESS

Crushing Crowd of Spectators Expected For First Appearance of New Executive.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—Important announcements of administration policy on both foreign and domestic issues were looked for today in President Harding's message to the special session of the 67th congress, to be delivered in person at 4 p. m. before a joint session of the house chamber. Special crowds of attention to the house galleries were held at a premium today and a crushing crowd was expected for the first appearance of the new executive before congress.

The president's message will be the significant beginning work at the special session, yesterday's meeting of the house having been devoted largely to organizational matters, while the senate, which was organized by the republicans at the extra session last month, remained in session only twenty minutes. Discussion of foreign relations was expected to form the chief part of the presidential message, which probably will serve as a broad declaration of administration policy on these and other issues. Getting down to work after reading of the message, the senate planned to begin debate at once on the \$25,000,000 Columbus treaty, Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, republican leader, having served notice yesterday that he would move for open discussion and himself make the initial speech in behalf of ratification. Several other senators were expected to discuss the treaty, which under a previous agreement will come up for final vote on April 20.

It might be the treaty debate, introductory bills and resolutions was the order in the senate today, this having been determined yesterday pending the coming of the president's message.

After the decision to summon the republican members of the foreign relations committee to the white house, the president cancelled the regular Tuesday meeting of the cabinet, which had been scheduled for 11 o'clock.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—President Harding's principal recommendations to congress, in his first annual address delivered today, included the following: Foreign Relations: "No separate peace with Germany." "The assumption should be that this would be adequate." "The wiser course would seem to be to engage under the existing treaty, assuming, of course, that this can be satisfactorily accomplished by such explicit reservations and modifications as will secure our absolute freedom of indivisible commitments and safeguard all our essential interests." "No helpful society of nations can be founded on justice and committed to peace until the covenants re-establishing peace are sealed by the nations which were at war."

Taxation: "Adjustment of internal taxes and revision or repeal of those taxes which have become unproductive and are so artificial and burdensome as to defeat their own purpose."

Tariff: "Instant tariff enactment, emergency in character and understood by our people that it is for the emergency only."

Railroads: "Efficient operation 'at a cost within that which the traffic can bear.'" "Railway rates and costs of operation must be reduced."

Good Roads: "The strengthening of laws governing federal aid."

Merchant Marine: "The United States means to establish and maintain a great merchant marine."

#### DECLARES FOR PEACE BY CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION

Does Not Present His Plan for New Association of Nations to Preserve Peace But Has Matter Under Consideration and Hopes to Work Out Plan - Republican Senators of Foreign Relations Committee Discuss Matter With President.

WASHINGTON, April 12.—President Harding in his message to be read today to congress declares for peace by congressional resolution and turns his back irrevocably on the league of nations, according to republican members of the senate foreign relations committee with whom he discussed his message at the white house this morning.

The time has come, these senators quote the message as saying, for the world to understand that the United States does not propose to become a party to any such military alliance as the league of nations proposes.

The president, it was said, did not present his plan for a new association of nations to preserve peace, but said that he had the matter under consideration and hoped to be able to work out a plan. Republican leaders said Senator Knox, of Pennsylvania, would offer in a day or two his peace resolution amended to include a declaration of policy that the United States, if the world's peace should be again threatened, would act as it had in the world war.

The president was said to make it clear that he spoke in opposition to the present league. The message was quoted as saying he wanted it definitely understood that the United States would not enter this league upon any terms, regardless of any modifications or amendments.

The president summoned the republican members of the foreign relations committee to the white house for a final discussion of the portion of his address dealing with foreign relations. One senator declared that it was "pre-eminently satisfactory" to all senators who attended the conference.

Republican members of the senate foreign relations committee were called into conference this morning by President Harding while he was reading the final portion of his first message which he was to read to congress in person at 4 p. m. The call for the senators to visit the white house went out unexpectedly. It was understood that the president desired to present to the senators his statement in his message regarding foreign relations.

The senators began arriving at the white house soon after 10 o'clock and the conference began half an hour later. The proof of the address, as corrected by the president, was given to the public printer at that time. If any corrections were to be made after the conference it was assumed they were to be telephoned to the government printing office.

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Good Roads: "The strengthening of laws governing federal aid."

Aviation: "Regulation by the Federal government and encouragement of aviation for development for military and civil purposes."

Service Men: "The American people expect congress unfailingly to voice the gratitude of the republic in a generous and practical way to its defenders in the world war." "The immediate extension and utilization of government hospital facilities to 'bring relief to the acute conditions most complained of.'"

Public Welfare: "Co-ordination of various government agencies now working on the subject and endorsement of the pending maternity bill."

Lynching: "Congress ought to wipe the stain of barbaric lynching from the banners of a free and orderly representative democracy. A proposal for a commission with representatives of white and black races to study and report on the subject," the president said, "has real merit."

Army and Navy: "Early consideration of pending appropriation bills was urged. 'The government is in accord with the wish to eliminate the burdens of heavy armament,' said the president. 'The United States will ever be in harmony with such a movement toward the higher attainments of peace. But we shall not entirely discard our agencies for defense until there is removed the need to defend. We are ready to cooperate with other nations to approximate disarmament, but must prudently forbid that we disarm alone.'"

National Finance: "The staggering load of war debt must be cared for in orderly funding and gradual liquidation. We shall hasten the solution and aid effectively in lifting the tax burdens if we strike resolutely at expenditures."

Administration: "Enactment of a national budget system and general resolutions by efficient management of the cost of government."

Business: "Less of government in business than business government." "There is no challenge to honest and lawful business success. But government approval of fortunate, untrammeled business does not mean toleration of restraint of trade or of maintained prices by artificial methods." "We are to restore the natural flow of business, it is fair to combine assurance and warning in our utterance."

AGRICULTURE: "The maintenance of retail costs in perishable foods cannot be justified. Reduced costs of farm production has been recorded but high cost of living has not yielded in like proportion." "Without the spirit of hostility or haste in accusation of profiting some suitable inquiry by congress might speed the price readjustment to normal relationship, with helpfulness to both producer and consumer. Unmeasured rod of fair prices will satisfy the country and give us a business revival to end all depression and unemployment."

These were the principal subjects touched on in the address which was about 7,000 words in length and a large portion of which was devoted to the related subjects of peace, the league of nations and the country's foreign policy.

The president's discussion of the peace question opened with a definite declaration against the existing league of nations.

"In the existing league of nations world governing with its super powers," said the president, "the republic will have no part. There can be no misinterpretation and there will be no betrayal of the deliberate expression of the American people in the recent elections and, settled in our decision for ourselves, it is only fair to say to the world in general and to our associates in war in particular that the league covenant can have no sanction by us." "Manifestly the highest purpose of the league of nations was defeated in linking it with the treaty of peace and making it the enforcing agency of the victors of the war." "There can be no prospect for the fundamental purposes to be achieved by any such association of nations."

(Continued on page 9)

#### BIG PACKERS RID THEMSELVES OF ALL STOCKYARD INTERESTS

Under the Plan Companies Must Deliver Their Stock in Yards and Terminals to Bank Within 30 Days For Administration by Two Trustees - Stock Must Be Sold Within One Year.

(By The Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, April 12.—A new plan under which Swift & Co. are to divest themselves of their interests in stockyards and stockyard terminal railroads was agreed today by the department of justice and immediately approved by Justice Stafford of the District of Columbia supreme court.

Under the plan the companies must deliver their stock in the yards and terminals to the Illinois Trust & Savings Bank, at Chicago, within 30 days for administration by two trustees, Henry W. Anderson, of Richmond, Va., and George Sutherland, of Salt Lake City, Utah, until sold, which must be within a year.

"The legal principle of course was up to the department of justice," Justice Stafford said after he had signed the plan, "and when the department had approved the plan it was only incumbent upon me to see that the law was not violated."

lated by any of the particulars. I was glad to find that such was not the case and therefore approved the plan."

In the event that any of the stock interests were not sold at the end of the year, the defendants may obtain an extension of time upon a showing made to the court of diligence in their efforts to dispose of the stock at a fair and reasonable price.

The trustees are to receive salaries of \$10,000 a year each and will have power to interfere in the management of any stockyard or railroad, if in the opinion of both either the Sherman act or the terms of the decree are being violated.

The plans set forth that the defendants are to proceed to sell their stock with due diligence and reports of all sales submitted to the court for its approval. These reports must contain the price and the name of the proposed purchaser and must be accompanied by affidavits that the proposed purchasers are in no way connected with the defendants.

WEATHER.  
North Carolina, fair and warm; or tonight and Wednesday.