

VERSAILLES TREATY FORMALLY RATIFIED THIS AFTERNOON

United States, However, Will Have No Part In It - Germany Has Made No Provision to Resume Peace Relations With This Country.

(By The Associated Press) PARIS, Jan. 10.—The German peace protocol was signed by Germany's representative here today, preliminary to the ceremony of exchanging ratifications putting the treaty into effect.

Peaceful relations between Germany and the greater number of the nations engaged in the great war with her are established by the action taken at Paris today. The peace treaty now goes into effect as between Germany and those powers that have finally ratified it—Great Britain, France, Italy, Japan, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Guatemala, Panama, Peru, Poland, Siam, Czechoslovakia and Uruguay.

The United States alone of the "big five" has not ratified the treaty. China did not sign the document because of her objections to the Shantung provisions, but proclaimed a state of peace with Germany.

The treaty not only defined the terms of the peace with Germany, but contains the league of nations covenant and the provisions of the inter-national labor organization. The document comprises 15 parts with numerous annexes. It provides that as soon as it has been ratified by Germany and three of the principal allied and associated powers a process verbal of the deposit of ratifications should be drawn up, from the date of which the treaty would come into force as between the powers which had ratified it. The treaty will enter into force for each other power at the date of the deposit of its ratification.

In October last a sufficient number of powers had ratified the treaty to comply with the requirements for its effectiveness.

Because of the sinking of the interned German warships by their officers and crews at Scapa Flow, however, and the failure of the Germans to live up to some of the armistice terms, the allies on November 1 demanded that before the treaty was put into effect Germany should sign a protocol providing for reparation for the destruction of the warships and guaranteeing the carrying out of the armistice terms.

Since that time the question of the protocol and particularly the reparation provision in it have been under negotiation between the allied supreme council and the German government. It was only within the past fortnight that the situation began to clear, an adjustment of the tonnage demands upon Germany being reached.

With the taking effect of the treaty, a number of commissions created by it spring into existence, the league of nations will begin to function by the calling of the first meeting of its council and preparations will be hastened for the taking of plebiscites in the areas where the population is to have the opportunity to determine whether their territories shall separate from Germany and take on another allegiance.

Of the commissions now beginning their work, probably the most important is the reparations commission, which will do a great amount of the labor incident to the execution of the treaty, its special duty being to regulate Germany's payment of indemnification during the next 30 years.

A speedy development following the action of today is expected to be the presentation to Germany of the list of war criminals to be demanded by the allies for trial under the treaty. It has been reported recently that this list has been considerably cut down from the originally proposed 1200 names. It will still name the former German crown prince and Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria, however, it is reported, while the treaty itself arraigns former Emperor William "for a supreme offense against international morality and the sanctity of treaties," and provides for a special tribunal to try him after his surrender has been asked from the government of Holland.

PARIS, Jan. 10.—The putting of the league of nations into being, which will be one of the immediate consequences of the exchange of ratifications of the treaty of Versailles, will occur in Paris at 10:30 o'clock in the morning of Friday January 16, the supreme council decided today.

PARIS, Jan. 10.—Although the exchange of ratifications of the Versailles treaty this afternoon is the final act that restores before-the-war relations between Germany and France, no arrangements have been made by Germany, so far as can be ascertained here, to resume peace

relations with this country. Kurt von Lersner, head of the German delegation, is confined to his room under orders from his physician and will not leave it until the hour arrives for him to go to the French foreign office for the final ceremony in the making of peace.

LODGE AND HITCHCOCK GIVE VIEWS ON TREATY

Leaders of Two Parties Issue Statements to be Put Before 700 College and University Students.

(By The Associated Press.) CLEVELAND, O., January 10.—Statements of their views on the treaty of peace and the league of nations have been contributed by Senators Lodge and Hitchcock to be placed before the students and faculties of 700 colleges and universities, who will express their opinions in a referendum vote to be taken next Tuesday. Two thousand members of Western Reserve University will vote. Senator Lodge's statement says in part:

"The United States has asked nothing in the peace settlement and has received and desires nothing except the security and peace of the world. That peace, a majority of the senate believes, cannot be accomplished through the league of nations as agreed to at Versailles. We cannot amend the league as it applies to other nations, but we are determined that it shall be made safe for the United States. Surely we, who ask no territory, who wish no spoils of war, are justified in saying under what conditions we shall enter into this world alliance."

Senator Hitchcock's statement says in part:

"The Lodge reservations are destructive because they go much further and work a number of changes in the meaning of the league covenant. They specifically repudiate the reciprocal obligation to join other nations in preserving the territorial integrity and political independence of members of the league against outside aggression. This obligation affords a practical insurance against any war of conquests in the future. If repudiated by us now it is an invitation for Germany to renew attacks, because it leaves in doubt the question whether we must be taken into account."

The students will vote on six questions, for, against, and compromise, framed after consultation with leaders of both sides, in order to present the case fairly.

As soon as compiled the results will be gathered to the Inter-Collegiate Treaty Referendum Committee at New York, who will record the result of the vote from all parts of the country.

CLEMENCEAU TO SPEAK FOR LEAGUE HERE?

(By The Associated Press.) PARIS, Jan. 10.—Georges Clemenceau is said to intend, if he is elected president of the republic, to cross the Atlantic to carry on in the United States a "vigorous campaign" in behalf of the league of nations, according to the newspapers Evening.

WASHINGTON (Jan. 10)—Ludwig C. A. K. Martens, "Russian Soviet Ambassador to the United States," and his Secretary Santeri Nuorteva, have been subpoenaed to appear Monday before the senate foreign relations subcommittee investigating Russian propaganda in the United States. Both expressed a willingness to appear before the committee.

Martens, whose whereabouts in Washington has been more or less a mystery, was served with the subpoena last night at the residence of a friend in the fashionable Dupont Circle section. The department of justice holds a deportation warrant for Martens' arrest, but early today it had not been served.

YEAR'S FIRE LOSS IN CITY ONLY \$15,268.50

Property Valued at Over \$400,000 Was at Risk From Twenty Fires in 1919 — Excellent Showing Made by Department.

Fire caused a total loss in Gastonia during the year 1919 of only \$15,268.50 according to the records kept by the city fire department and given out today by City Manager W. J. Alexander.

When it is considered that property valued at \$403,875 was at risk from fire the loss is indeed small. No small part of the credit for this excellent showing is due to the efficient work done by Gastonia's excellent fire department.

Following is the report for the year in detail:

Table with 2 columns: Cause, Value. Includes Fire Alarms and Causes, Unknown causes, Gasoline, Defective wiring, Electric irons, etc.

Total number of alarms 20

Value of buildings at risk \$256,175.00

Value of contents at risk \$147,700.00

Total value at risk, buildings and contents \$403,875.00

Total insurance at risk \$186,350.00

Insurance loss on buildings and contents \$ 4,900.50

Uninsured loss on buildings and contents \$ 10,368.00 \$ 15,268.50

Fire risk inspections are made each week.

CHICAGO HOUSEWIVES TO COMBAT H. C. L.

(By The Associated Press.) CHICAGO, Jan. 10.—Ten thousand Chicago housewives will hold mass meetings in public schools January 21 in a campaign against high prices, the women's fair price organization announced today.

Housewives will be told how and where to buy economically, and complaints will be heard against alleged profiteers. Prominent economists will be selected as instructors.

MEN'S CLOTHING TO ADVANCE IN PRICE

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—Further increases in the prices of men's clothing without much change in style were predicted today by delegates who attended the tenth annual convention of the International Association of Clothing Designers here.

Labor contributes about 90 per cent to the cost of a suit, it was said. While the supply of woolen cloth was said to be increasing, the designers offered little hope that this would decrease the cost of clothes.

The designers were disinclined to believe reports from London that purple, gold and bright colors would be worn by men and declared that conservatism both as to cut and fabric would prevail in the United States and Canada.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—In an effort to agree on the stand they will take in the negotiations between President Wilson's coal commission and the operators and miners here Monday, bituminous coal operators were continuing today discussion of strike issues.

Operators outside the central competitive fields were expected to complete their arguments today. The operators of the central fields held a conference yesterday, but it was understood today they did not agree on a policy.

Whether or not the operators will refuse to enter negotiations with the commission still was undecided early today and some opposition was known to exist among the operators to the personnel of the commission appointed by President Wilson to adjust the coal controversy. Some contended that the members of the commission already had committed themselves on the principal issues.

J. F. THOMSON BUYS H. P. STOWE'S INTEREST

One of City's Largest Retail Establishment Changes Hands — Mr. Stowe Has Not Decided What He Will Do.

A business deal of considerable proportions was consummated this week when J. F. Thomson and associates bought the entire holdings of H. P. Stowe in the H. P. Stowe Co., dealers in dry goods, ladies' ready-to-wear, millinery, etc. Mr. Stowe was the controlling stockholder. The business will be continued at the same stand, No. 207 West Main avenue. For the present the firm will continue to use the present name.

Mr. Stowe has not as yet decided upon his future course further than that he expects to remain out of the retail business. He has been identified with the business life of Gastonia for many years past and has a wide circle of friends who hope that he and his family will continue to reside in Gastonia.

Mr. Thompson has been in business here for many years and has been a member of the firm of H. P. Stowe Co. since its organization. He is thoroughly familiar with the retail trade in this territory.

AMERICAN HOLDS BIG JOB IN HAITI

(By The Associated Press.) PORT AU PRINCE, HAITI, Jan. 10.—Promotion of Sergeant William A. ("Spot") Miller, United States Marine Corps, to a lieutenant in the Gendarmerie d'Haiti has brought forth the fact that he holds the strangest job in the whole corps.

Lieut. Miller, for the last four years, has been personal bodyguard of President Anteguenive, of the republic of Haiti. He has become so influential in native governmental circles that he is known as the "vice-president of Haiti."

STILL TRYING TO SOLVE ADRIATIC PROBLEM

(By The Associated Press.) PARIS, Jan. 10.—Secret conversations between Premiers Clemenceau, Lloyd George and Nitti continue in an atmosphere of confidence, with a reciprocal desire to reach a solution of the Adriatic problem, which is acceptable to all, according to The Journal. The project of bringing about direct negotiations between Italy and Jugo Slavia also is said to be proceeding favorably.

THOUSANDS FREEZE TO DEATH IN ESTHONIA

(By The Associated Press.) REVAL, Jan. 10.—Thousands were frozen to death in a blizzard which swept across Esthonia on New Year's day. Reports received here state that 300 bodies of refugees were found in a forest between this city and Narva, and American Red Cross workers say many babies were frozen to death at their mother's breasts. Many fugitives from the collapsed army led by Gen. Yudenitch in his recent offensive against Petrograd have perished in the drifting snow.

IRISH CONDEMN THE PREMIER'S PROPOSALS

(By The Associated Press.) DUBLIN, Jan. 8.—Premier Lloyd George has put a "dangerous weapon in the hands of declared enemies of the empire" in framing his Irish home rule bill, according to resolutions passed by the executive committee of the Irish unionist party here today.

Every party and sect in Ireland condemn the premier's proposals and the present unhappy state of the country is simply the natural result of many years of mal-administration, the resolution says. The only way in which Ireland can be "saved from civil war and anarchy," it is stated, is to establish a union form of government.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—The government has definitely decided to render aid to the dependents of alien radicals whom it deported, Assistant Attorney General Garvan announced today. Action in this direction will be taken purely as a humanitarian measure and not because of any obligations to the families of the aliens, he said.

NATIONAL SYNDICATE OF BANK SWINDLERS IS BEING SOUGHT

Ringleaders of Enormous Bank Robbing Organization Said to Conduct Clearing House in Chicago — Have Divided \$2,000,000 So Far.

SOCIALISTS TO TAKE CAUSE TO PEOPLE

New York Assembly Severely Criticized For Barring Recently Elected Socialist Members.

(By The Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—Socialist leaders, as the next move in their fight against the action of the state assembly in suspending five members of their party, today were perfecting plans to take their cause directly to the people.

A mass meeting in Madison Square Garden will be held at which not only socialists, but leaders of other parties and citizens generally will have an opportunity to voice protests.

The committee of 8 seeking to organize the fight to regain the seats of the excluded assemblymen has issued an appeal to all civic organizations and labor unions to send delegates to a non-partisan conference to be held at the Rand school on Monday evening.

While letters and telegrams from all parts of the country, some approving and others censuring the action of the assembly, continued to pour in upon various party leaders, a letter from Charles E. Hughes, sent last night to Speaker Sweet, of the assembly, attracted the greatest attention today. The former justice condemned the suspension as an act in which "the very principles" of the American government are ignored. He said that it was the prerogative of a legislative body to consider charges made against an individual, but that as he interpreted this action it was an attempt to indict a political party.

OVERTHROW OF GERMAN GOVERNMENT REPORTED.

(By The Associated Press.) BRUSSELS, Jan. 10.—Travelers from Germany reaching here today brought unconfirmed reports that the German government has been overthrown. It was reported that the socialists were masters of the situation and that a general strike had been declared throughout the territory not under allied occupation.

In connection with the unconfirmed reports from Brussels of a German government overthrow, messages from Berlin by way of Copenhagen, received this morning, did not indicate that anything of an extraordinary nature had been foreseen in Germany up to late last evening.

The Brussels report of a German government overthrow are not confirmed from any other source and it may be noted that the despatches themselves carry their own qualifications, emphasizing the lack of positive information.

If it should prove true that there has been a new uprising in Germany, it would appear to have been deliberately timed to coincide with the date set for putting the treaty of Versailles into effect and creating a state of peace between Germany and the allied powers.

News despatches from Germany are ordinarily at least 24 hours in reaching this country and the latest messages from Berlin, received Friday, bore Thursday's date. These messages indicated some unsettlement in labor conditions, particularly in the vicinity of Essen and in the Ruhr industrial basin, but the unrest reported did not appear to be of unusual significance.

The independent socialists have been disturbing factor for the government in the German internal situation. Since the defeat of the Spartacan outbreak last spring they have been threatening a renewed effort to take control of affairs.

\$200,000 Fire in Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 9.—The workshop of the Maryland school for the blind was destroyed by fire of undetermined origin early today. An officer of the institution estimated the loss at \$200,000. The stock of Solomon Rosenbloom, clothing manufacturer, in an adjoining building, was damaged by smoke and water to the extent of \$75,000.

Spring silencers have been invented to eliminate the clicking sound of overhead valves on automobile engines.

(By The Associated Press.)

CHICAGO, Jan. 10.—Fourteen members of a national syndicate of bank swindlers, who are alleged by police to have divided more than \$3,000,000 with politicians, lawyers, police and some bank officials and employes, were being sought here today.

John Louis, representing a New York indemnity company, conferred with officials of the state's attorney's office, and presented evidence intended to show such a syndicate existed and a number of the ring-leaders operated a clearing house here.

Thirteen men, alleged members of the gang, are under arrest in New York, Louis said.

NEW CRATER STILL EMITS SMOKE AND DUST

Volcanic Dust Thrown Twenty Miles — Panic Prevails Over Wide Section.

(By The Associated Press.)

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 10.—Flames are still being emitted by the new volcano at San Miguel in the western part of the state of Vera Cruz, according to advices received here last night. It is stated volcanic dust has floated twenty miles east of the new crater. Every village in that vicinity has been destroyed, while lava and floods of contaminated water from sources opened by the recent earthquakes are flooding the district near the crater.

Refugees from San Miguel confirm earlier reports telling of numerous deaths from falling buildings and poisonous gases. Rebels, who had their headquarters in that region, have suffered severely from casualties and from loss of supplies, it is stated.

Reports from Teocelo by way of Vera Cruz, state a panic prevails there from the fear that the old volcano near Cofre de Perote will become active since cracks have appeared on the sides of the mountain.

First accurate reports from Courtlan were carried last night in special despatches from Jalapa quoting Dr. Garcia Luna, who had just returned from Courtlan. He stated he had counted seventy-two dead and 100 injured in that village.

Jalapa reports that other travelers arriving there by the village of Barranza Alta, near Courtlan, was almost destroyed with numerous victims. In Jalapa itself, 95 per cent of the buildings were damaged.

(By The Associated Press.)

LONDON, Jan. 10.—Regret over America's absence from participating in the ratification of the treaty of Versailles is again expressed in editorials printed in this morning's newspapers.

"America's absence," says the Telegraph, "clouds alike the prospect of the present and the future. It weakens profoundly the moral authority of the league of nations and consequently the sense of security regarding the immediate future. Instead of new machinery for the world's future guidance standing ready and complete waiting only motive power to set it going, the machinery is not yet put together. The United States still stands outside. The allies have waited until they could wait no longer and must now go forward alone, deeply sensible of the loss they have sustained, but still hoping that sooner or later they will be rejoined by the great republic."

The Daily News contends: "A world order from which America, or for that matter Germany or Russia or any considerable fraction of mankind is excluded, is foredoomed to failure."