

SITUATION IN NEAR EAST TO BE AIRED NOW

Diplomatic Gathering Will
Handle the Near East
Condition Which Presents
Many Complications.

(By Associated Press.)
LAUSANNE, Nov. 20.—The complicated Near East situation which constitutes perhaps the most serious problem now remaining in European political affairs, is to have what promises to be a thorough airing in the diplomatic gathering of prime importance beginning here tomorrow, and which may continue for several weeks.

Invitations to the party, which has come to be known as the Near East Peace Conference, were sent in the names of Great Britain, France and Italy, to the governments of Japan, Rumania, Jugoslavia, Greece, Turkey and the United States. The same governments also invited Russia and Bulgaria to send representatives here "at a later date" to participate in discussions concerning the Straits of the Dardanelles—one of the most important subjects on the agenda.

Primarily, the plenipotentiaries will seek to end the war in the Near East between the Greeks and the Turks, which has been stalling, and at times assuming more menacing proportions, ever since the Sevres Treaty of 1920 informed the Turks that his presence was no longer desired in Europe. Actual military operations, in fact, were halted only a month ago, when the Turkish forces under Mustafa Kemal Pasha, commander-in-chief of the Nationalist Army, consented to an armistice following the complete defeat of the Greeks.

The attitude of both Russia and the United States toward the conference has presented many interesting aspects, not the least of which is the Russian contention that she must take a leading part in any negotiations centering around the Straits, in which she has a tremendous commercial interest.

"We are not making threats and are not rattling the swords," Foreign Minister Tchitcherin said recently, "but we do insist upon proper consideration in all questions relating to the Near East, and particularly the commercial freedom of the Straits."

The United States, on the other hand, has declined to participate in the conference, holding that as it never had been at war with Turkey, it did not believe it could appropriately take part in framing a treaty of peace with that nation in association with the Allied conference.

The Washington government did say, however, that it had sufficient interest in the conference to send observers here for the party, and outlined the subjects which particularly concerned it. Among other things the United States is on record as favoring unqualifiedly the freedom of the Dardanelles, the Sea of Marmora and the Bosphorus, as well as the protection of racial and religious minorities.

It also is recognized, according to the American Secretary of State, that the United States has certain very definite rights under the so-called Capitulatory Treaties, pertaining to extra territorial immunities granted foreigners; and again that the Washington government is not disposed to see American discrimination against in favor of the nationals of other nations.

Another side-light on the conference, and one which has played no small part in the preliminary interest, is the attitude of the United States as regards the Allied tendency to exclude Russia from participation in the general discussions.

It is understood here that the American government is strongly inclined toward the belief that no permanent solution of the Near East problem can be hoped for unless steps are taken to compare and protect the legitimate interests of Russia in any settlement that may be attempted.

EXPERIENCE WAS GOTTEN HERE

PARIS, Nov. 20.—Georges Clemenceau, one of the foremost journalists in France, got his first experience as a newspaper man during his sojourn in the United States between 1866 and 1867.

Throughout his residence in America Clemenceau sent contributions to the "Temps," "Lettres from America," they were called, and they dealt with all the foremost questions of the day. His articles on the future of the negro race in the United States, written two years after the end of the Civil war, are a model of style and show a clear understanding of this complex problem. They set forth the difficulties and the dangers besetting the relations of the white and colored races in the United States. Clemenceau wrote them after an extensive tour of the South, and he drew a vivid picture of conditions in that then devastated area. Ad-

mirable literary documents, displaying democratic tendencies, political foresight and large philosophical ideas, they show on the part of this young man of twenty-seven nearly all the qualities of the remarkable old man of today.

A New York editor, after Clemenceau's fall from power in 1909, asked him to write a book on America.

"It is already written," replied Clemenceau, "just look through the 'Temps' files for 1867 and 1868."

Heartlessness Charged.

PARIS, Nov. 20.—Georges Clemenceau is charged by his enemies with being heartless. He has never shown any mercy to a powerful enemy; the fight was always to a finish. Toward the weak, however, he has been known to be lenient.

After the court had sentenced young Cottin to death in 1919 for having pumped seven bullets into the back of the automobile in which Clemenceau was riding, two of which struck the "Tiger," he recommended that the young assassin's sentence be commuted to a term of imprisonment.

"How long shall we give him?" the minister of justice asked. "About ten years," said Clemenceau, "I'll be dead and gone before he comes out, in case he should like to live for a target again."

Cottin has now served nearly four years of his sentence and, with time allowance for good behavior, he should leave jail about 1926.

Clemenceau, in spite of the bullet from Cottin's revolver, which he still carries between the shoulder blades and collarbone, shows no signs of departing from the world. He is in better physical shape now than he was when the assassin spent his life in his hands.

PARIS, Nov. 20.—Georges Clemenceau's antireligious ideas were always very pronounced until he witnessed the courageous behavior under fire of Catholic priests mobilized during the war. Then his point of view underwent a change, and his attitude toward the church of Rome at present is not antagonistic.

As Clemenceau was being carried into his house on the rue Franklin after the attempt on his life by the anarchist youth Cottin, a priest belonging to a congregation with headquarters adjoining the garden of the former premier's house, rushed up to him and offered his good services.

"Thank you, my Reverend Father," said Clemenceau not unkindly, "but I don't think I'll need you this time." Then he added earnestly: "However, if you wish to be agreeable to me," he added, "I should like you to have that tree removed," pointing to a tall poplar in the priest's yard which threw its shadow into the premier's garden. "It keeps the beautiful sun away from me."

"It shall be felled today," replied the priest, "I should not like to be responsible for keeping you from enjoying the only sight of heaven which a sinner such as you are is likely to have."

They both laughed and shook hands, the priest wishing him a prompt convalescence.

PARIS, Nov. 20.—A bright young deputy had just made his maiden speech in the chamber. His doubt had preceded a huge success, and congratulations were being showered upon him from all sides.

"Come and let me press you to my heart," contributed Clemenceau with a slight touch of sarcasm. The young deputy belonged to the opposition.

"Thank you, Mr. Premier," replied the deputy, "but I have a better of a visitor."

PARIS, Nov. 20.—Georges Clemenceau had just overthrown one of the numerous cabinets for whose downfall he is responsible, and the President at the Elysée had just for fifty minutes and entered a room with the task of forming a new cabinet. Suddenly, telephoned Clemenceau that he would like to see him at his house.

The "Tiger," upon arrival, found the President smiling, already surrounded by nearly all the future members of his cabinet. There were some long cigars and part of a bottle of champagne. Clemenceau, at his stock as wet knees, started and said Clemenceau.

"What will you tell me, Mr. Clemenceau?" Sorbonne was getting ready to shout in the voice of a lion on the subject, when Clemenceau interrupted him by saying: "I'll show the interior," Clemenceau said.

He was Minister of Interior for six months, afterwards succeeding Poincaré as premier.

London is to try the experiment of putting stamps with black containing rubber pads. The initial outlay is very high, amounting to nearly 500,000 per mile for a road ten yards wide, but it is believed that the cost of maintenance will be much reduced.

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Triumphant Fascisti Enter Milan



"For King, for Italy and for the Fascists" was the cry of Benito Mussolini's "black-shirts" as they advanced to power over the Socialist stronghold in northern Italy. This photograph is the first to reach America showing the Fascist marching into Milan and assuming control.

YOUNG LADY IS ENGINEER

PRUDENCE ISLAND, R. I., Nov. 18.—This island today boasts the only young woman licensed ferry engineer in New England, and possibly in the country. She is Miss Rebecca Chase, of twenty-seven summers, and she took every morning to take her place in the throttle of the ferryboat, Harriet, connecting the island with mainland.

That she is at home at the helm is demonstrated by her license, which grants her the right to navigate a power boat. Frequently she directs from the pilot house, handling the Harriet with the skill of the ablest skipper.

Shortly after America entered the World war her grandfather, owner of the ferry, unable to obtain an engineer, called upon Miss Chase, who was an experienced automobile driver. She succeeded in passing



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Fleisher's Knitting Worsted, two ounce ball	50c
Ladies' Bedroom Slippers	\$1.25 to \$1.89
Children's Bedroom Slippers	\$1.39
Men's Bedroom Slippers	\$1.75 to \$1.98

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