

PITTMAN'S TREATY PLAN SIDETRACKED

Compromise on League Pact
Is Allowed to Rest.

NO PROCLAMATION PEACE

President Says He Is Neither Able
Nor Willing Thus to Dodge
U. S. Responsibility.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21.—The compromise proposal to have the senate adopt peace treaty reservations, but keep them separate from the ratification itself, after democratic leaders had declined to assume responsibility for it and republicans of all shades of opinion had given notice they could not accept it.

Among the republicans the development was interpreted as meaning that action never, so long as the compromise proposal in its present form, and democratic leaders generally said they had no plans for bringing it to a vote.

Meanwhile, a White House announcement and an executive session of the foreign relations committee brought to the surface again two other issues of the treaty fight.

Evanson, Says President.
President Wilson, replying to a suggestion that he might put the country on a peace basis by declaring the war at an end, announced that he not only considered himself powerless to take such a step, but considered a peace declaration either by himself or congress prior to ratification of the treaty would "put a stain upon our national honor" by evading responsibility in the world peace settlement.

The foreign relations committee got into another argument over prompt committee action on the treaty which ended without a record vote, to continue its hearings on the cases of the Irish, Greek, Egyptian, Lithuanian, Ukrainian, Estonian and Latvian races.

In every democratic quarter, including the White House, it was indicated that the compromise proposal as presented yesterday in a resolution by Senator Pittman of Nevada, a democrat, of the committee, was not specifically sponsored by the president, though it followed generally his suggestion to the committee Tuesday regarding reservations.

Move Not Inspired by Wilson.
Senator Pittman issued a statement saying the president had no knowledge of the resolution, and Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska, a republican, a committee leader, indicated that in no sense was the move inspired by the administration. There was no formal expression from the White House.

In his statement, Mr. Pittman said his idea in presenting the measure was to expedite action on the treaty. He argued that any compromise of the reservations proposed could be gained from the nations which will control the league of nations council, thus making it possible to ratify the treaty with the assurance that the disputed sections of the covenant would not be interpreted to the disadvantage of this country.

There was increasing of speculation during the day, however, that the group of republicans who have agreed on reservations similar to those in the Pittman resolution would not be recommending their approval from any plan not contemplating inclusion of the qualifications in the ratification itself. Republican leaders said they were ready for a vote today if the democrats wanted to bring the Pittman resolution to a roll call.

Trusteeship Given Over Colonies.
President Wilson's announcement of his stand against a peace declaration was made in a letter to Senator Fall, republican, New Mexico, replying to a list of questions submitted by the latter. At the same time Mr. Wilson explained the treaty provision turning over the German colonies to the five principal powers by saying it vested only a trusteeship over the colonies pending a permanent arrangement for their government.

A provisional agreement in the matter had been reached, he said, but it was contingent on the league of nations.

The president wrote that it was deemed wise to have American representatives on various European boundary commissions, because it would "add a useful element of entirely disinterested judgment." Replying to another question, he said his belief that ratification of the treaty would reduce the cost of living was based on the assumption that ratification would have the effect of restoring production and commerce to their normal strength and freedom.

Text of President's Letter.

"My dear Senator Fall: You left yesterday in my hands certain written questions which I promised you I would answer. I am hastening to fulfill that promise.

"I feel constrained to say in reply to your first question not only that in my judgment I have not the power by proclamation to declare that peace exists, but that I could in no circumstances consent to take such a course prior to the ratification of a formal treaty of peace. I feel it due to perfect frankness to say that it would in my opinion put a stain upon our national honor, after sending our men to the battlefield to fight the common cause, we should abandon our association of only three of the allied and associated governments.

"In reply to your sixth question, I can only express the confident opinion

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