

RUSSIAN OFFICIAL SAYS LAND NOT AIM

Polish Territory Not Desired by Soviet.

U. S. FRIENDSHIP HOPED

Peace With England Wanted but Meddling to Be Resented; Dardanelles Discussed.

BY ARNO DOSCH-FLEUROT.
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 MOSCOW, May 31.—(Special Cable.)—Russia will not attempt to annex Polish territory, M. Tchicherin, commissioner for foreign affairs, said recently in an interview respecting the conditions under which Russia would conclude a peace with Poland. "Matters of territorial distribution will naturally fall to the peace conference. The principle to be applied will be that of self-determination, of that there can be no doubt."
 Asked as to the probable fate of eastern Galicia, beyond the boundaries of the former Russian empire, M. Tchicherin said: "In former days, the district ought to live under such government as seemed best to themselves. Then I asked him as to Russia's attitude toward the entente, particularly England.
 He replied Russia would be glad to make peace with England. In his view it would be possible for a socialist state to live in harmony with a capitalist state. In former days, he said, the Russian monarch kept on good terms with republics. A prime condition of good relations with England, he declared, is that England must cease to try intervention of any kind in Russian affairs.

Remote Control Disliked.
 Concerning the near east, he asserted Russia is pursuing the same policy as elsewhere, recognizing the right of all peoples to form their government for themselves. He said the Dardanelles should not be controlled by nations remote from immediate interest in them, but by those bordering on the Black sea and having vital interest in free passage to the Mediterranean.
 Concerning Armenia, he said negotiations already are well advanced for recognition of its independence and Russia would use all its influence to prevent further massacres in that country.

M. Tchicherin says he believes Russian influence strong enough to check further persecution of Armenians and that the people there may hope to prosper in peace and security. He says that if this prediction should be right the Armenian Near East Relief commission should have ample opportunity to become active in Armenia.
 "Armenia will be left in complete independence, so far as Russia is concerned," he said.

American Friendship Hoped.
 Speaking of America, he said that while there had never been a formal state of war between Russia and the United States, he hoped good relations might be renewed by means of a formal peace. Even without formal negotiations, trade and commerce should be resumed between the two countries, in his opinion.
 The attitude of Italy has been more promising, he said, than that of the other western countries. In this case the co-operatives have shown the way for peace between Italy and Russia. Yet the Italian government, he pointed out, has undergone some change of policy since the Polish offensive, and those in authority in Italy seem to have subordinated themselves once more to the entente policy.

M. Tchicherin specially emphasized, at the close of the interview, his desire of the Russian government for peace with all the world, in order that Russia may develop normal international trade relations.

SENTIMENT IS DIVIDED

PHILIPPINES VIEW PLAN TO ALTER NAVIGATION LAWS.

Application of Coastwise Code of U. S. to Islands Causes Division of Opinion.

MANILA, P. I., May 13.—Divided opinion exists among business interests here regarding the application to the Philippines of the coastwise navigation laws of the United States. Three hundred American firms and professional men have adopted a resolution approving it.

Manuel L. Quezon, president of the Philippine senate, declared it would kill all chances of Philippine independence.

The Philippines council of state and the Philippines Chamber of Commerce, composed of Filipinos, and the Manila Chamber of Commerce, in whose membership there was declared to be a majority of British subjects, adopted resolutions against application of the bill to the Philippines. The council of state and Philippines Chamber of Commerce also cabled protests to Washington. Their resolutions said congress' action was detrimental to the trade of the islands.
 The Manila Merchants' association, in which American members were said to be dominant, repudiated the signature of the association to one of the cablegrams of protest. They said the cablegram had been signed by the secretary of the association without authority.

All English language newspapers in Manila today printed editorials favoring extension of the coastwise laws to the Philippines, as provided in the merchant marine bill.
 "It is easy enough to say we will be ruined," the Manila Daily Bulletin said, "if the proposed legislation is passed, but we have seen no arguments supported with facts and figures to prove that point."
 "Which will be the most profitable for the future development of the Philippines," the Times asked, "economic control by the United States, which made the Philippines what they are, or economic control by foreign interests which seek only to extend their own commercial advantages?" The argument that extension of the coastwise shipping laws to the Philippines would throttle competition and increase freight rates will not hold water.

"If the bill becomes law," the Cable News-American said editorially, "President of the Senate Quezon would use his influence to suspend improvements and extensions of the port of Manila. We believe final action by congress should be awaited before threats are made and cabled to the United States."

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