

REPORT OF CLASH
DENIED BY HUGHESFrench-Italian Relations Are
Most Friendly.

VIVIANI SCOUTS TILT

Use of Harsh Words by Premier
Brind Against Schanzer Is
Declared Mythical.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 28.—(By the Associated Press.)—Published reports alleging use of harsh words by Premier Brind of France while in Washington against Senator Schanzer, head of the Italian armaments conference delegation, were formally denied in a statement made today by Chairman Hughes at a meeting of the conference committee on far eastern and Pacific questions.

The reports, which have led to much comment in Europe and to demonstrations against the French in Italy, were said by Mr. Hughes to be absolutely without foundation. He declared that the relations between the French and Italian delegations within the conference had been most friendly.

Mr. Brind, Mr. Hughes asserted, had no words whatever that could give offense to Italy in any manner. Rene Viviani, president of the French delegation, speaking after Mr. Hughes, also denied the reports.

Friendship Pointed Out.
Italy and France, Mr. Viviani said, were bound together with ties of friendship and gratitude. Senator Schanzer spoke, thanking Mr. Hughes for the statement made by him, and declared that coming from the chairman of the conference itself would put an end to all agitation in Italy.

The matter of the published reports was brought up by Mr. Hughes at the opening of the sitting at the joint request of Senator Schanzer and Mr. Viviani.

(The newspaper reports referred to and denied by Chairman Hughes, Mr. Viviani and Senator Schanzer, were published by one of the special European correspondents at the conference.)

Communique Is Issued.
A communique issued today after the meeting of the far eastern committee, said:

"The committee on Pacific and far eastern questions met at 11 o'clock A. M. Monday.

"The chairman, Mr. Hughes, called attention to the inaccurate and damaging press reports which had been published abroad in Italy and that it was unfortunate that, inaccuracy and falsity might be noted. He referred to the report that the Italian delegation in the committee regarding land armaments, M. Brind had made statements of an offensive character regarding the Italian army, that the representatives of Italy did not appropriately resent the statement.

Viviani Thanks Chairman.
Mr. Hughes said that, as every member of the committee knew, it was wholly false, was made out of whole cloth, that M. Brind had said nothing reflecting on the Italian government or the Italian army, that nothing occurred that required any rejoinder by the representatives of Italy, and that the report had no existence in fact.

"M. Viviani, on behalf of France, said:
"I thank the chairman for his kindness in aiding with his high authority his denial to that of Mr. Schanzer and myself. Not only was the debate always courteous, but at no moment did it go beyond the bounds of becoming intensity, which is perfectly legitimate even between allies when they have before them questions of the highest importance. It is perfectly apparent that M. Brind could never have said such things as have been put into his mouth.

Friendship Is Cited.
"How could he have done so, when the closest bonds of friendship and alliance exist between the two countries? The two nations have always been friendly. France cannot forget the great extent of her cultural and spiritual debt to Italy. The blood of the two peoples has flowed on the same battlefields for the same cause.

"Mr. Schanzer then thanked the secretary of state for making this statement, which, he said, was quite necessary, because certain persons outside of the conference had made use of the press to disturb the good relations existing between the countries represented. He said to the chairman that he had used his high authority to close the unfortunate M. Brind and Brind for their sentiments of sympathy for Italy. He wished to state that Italy cherished the most cordial feelings toward France and was sure that he would be able to continue in the work of the conference an unchanged atmosphere of cordiality towards France and all the other countries.

Committee Is In Accord.
"The committee unanimously agreed that the committee on foreign postal offices in China and adopted, provisionally, the date on which it shall come into force and effect being deferred for public announcement in the near future. The report as adopted follows:

"A. Recognizing the justice of the desire expressed by the Chinese government to secure abolition of foreign postal agencies in China, save or except in leased territories or as otherwise specifically provided by treaty, it is resolved:
"(1) The four powers having such postal agencies agree to their abandonment subject to the following conditions:
"(a) That an efficient Chinese postal service is maintained.
"(b) That an assurance is given by the Chinese government that they contemplate no change in the present postal administration so far as the status of the foreign co-director-general is concerned.
"(2) To enable China and the powers concerned to make the necessary dispositions this arrangement shall come into force and effect not later than—
"B. Pending complete withdrawal of foreign postal agencies the four powers concerned undertake to afford full facilities to the Chinese customs authorities to examine in these agencies all postal matter (excepting ordinary letters, whether registered or not, which on external examination appear plainly to contain written matter) passing through them, with a view to ascertaining whether they contain articles which are dutiable or contraband or which otherwise contravene the customs regulations or laws of China."

"The committee received the statement of the sub-committee on extra-territoriality, reporting progress and a statement from the Chinese delegation asking for the removal of the various establishments placed in China by foreign powers without treaty sanction, such as foreign troops, police boxes and telegraph and wireless stations. The committee decided to begin the discussion of these questions at its next meeting.

"The committee also decided that there should be constituted a standing sub-committee on drafting. The committee adjourned to meet tomorrow."

FIRST BIG DECISION DUE

(Continued From First Page.)

six-group classification as to measurement, and is insisting on the point that ships under construction shall not be counted in estimating existing strength of a navy. Her various classifications gave her 75.5 per cent, as compared with the American navy.

According to one conception of the conference work, the American contention is that superdreadnoughts and dreadnoughts and all ships under construction should be logically taken as the basis of measurement.

Under this plan, it is stated, America counts the estimated tonnage of ships when they are actually completed, although some have only been started. Under this classification, also, it is stated that the American fleet places the present Japanese navy somewhat under 50 per cent, as compared with that of the United States and Great Britain.

PLAN ANALYSIS COMPLETED

Full Committee of Experts Is to Hold Meeting Today.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 28.—(By the Associated Press.)—Delegates to the conference on the principles of a naval building holiday and naval limitation thereafter may expect to meet tomorrow from the meeting of the full committee of naval experts to which the task of detailed examination of the plan was referred.

The experts have completed their analysis of the major elements of the plan and it can be said authoritatively that the plan is a masterpiece of technical skill in the Hughes proposals has been revealed.

The American basic offer of a "5-5-3" ratio between Great Britain, the United States and Japan has stood in American opinion, every test of fact applied by the experts. It embodied no mistakes or errors of calculation. And it is tonight, as it was the day Secretary Hughes announced it, the nub of the whole matter.

The American experts are expected to report that the basis of the fact underlying the American plan was as stated.

What action British or Japanese experts may take is not known. The report, however, will clear the way for action by the conference on the principles.

American officials are very hopeful that the utterances of A. J. Balfour, secretary of the Admiralty, and Kato for the Japanese, in replying to Secretary Hughes, will prove to have been acceptance of the principles of the American proposal. They were widely construed in that way at the time, but, necessarily, whatever was then said was subject to an agreement to the facts upon which the plan was predicated. In the American view, those facts have been sustained.

Naval experts were still asking and answering questions today, but these are understood to have had to do with the subsidiary elements of the plan. The capital ship figures were apparently beyond the stage of technical discussion and ready for translation into formal agreement at an early date. All other elements of the scheme hinge on that factor.

Next in interest to the "5-5-3" ratio proposal had been the discussion as to the status of the Japanese battleship Mutsu. There was authoritative indication in American circles that this was regarded as of secondary importance, provided any proposal for retention of the Mutsu did not alter the "5-5-3" relative standing between the United States and Japan.

It was suggested informally that if Japan was bent on keeping the Mutsu she might possibly negotiate an agreement to the by offering an scrap instead one of the four battle cruisers she would retain under the American plan. There was no official indication, however, such a plan had been formally presented.

Arms Limitation Imperative.
Limitation of armaments is a thing of imperative necessity at the present time, but it seems to me that it is not the only trouble in the world of today calling for a cure. International ailments, like the poor, are with us always, and existence of permanent machinery for the settlement of international controversies is of tremendous importance in the preservation of world peace.

The world has dreamed and talked long enough about the coming of just such a guarantor of peace. The people of the east and of the west have doubted about the final appearance

of the utopia long enough it would seem to me.

With the political and financial as well as the trouble center of the world steadily gravitating toward the Pacific, the United States stands in the unique position to answer the world's cry for its one outstanding need and this question of crowning the present Washington conference with the resolution of an association of nations appeals to me as the noblest of all the American contributions to the welfare of the human race, both east and west.

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The American delegation has taken the leadership by making known that it regards the Root resolution as vastly more than a few finely turned phrases. The American position is that by accepting the "four points" the nations have bound themselves to apply in a concrete way the long-proposed principles of fair dealing toward China, and to proceed without subterfuge to give China as much of the independence as conditions warrant.

Powerful support from outside the American delegation has strengthened that position and in the discussions of tariff autonomy, extra-territoriality and postal rights the trend of the conference has been permitted to stray far from the Root platform. In every case proposed solutions have been scrutinized in the light of appropriate sections of the "four points" with the result that the four American principles have become the dominating element of the discussions.

How this method will affect such problems as Shantung, Manchuria and the twenty-one demands if they come before the conference is to be determined.

In its consideration of China, it was expected, the conference is considering the situation as divided, roughly, into three sections. First there has been a grouping of all the sovereign rights that China still retains, with general agreement that all must be preserved. In the second group have been placed all rights in dispute as a result of the treaties and other agreements, with the understanding that these will be restored to China as far as possible. The third group comprises rights which China declares have been seized from her without of pretext whatever and which it is the desire of the conference to give back unless valid reasons can be produced to the contrary.

Lost Canoe House Is Found.
SALEM, Or., Nov. 28.—(Special.)—The canoe house of the Salem Canoe club, which washed from its moorings during the recent high water, has been located at Dayton, Or., according to a telegram received here today. A number of canoes, in the house the day it was washed away, were reported missing.

FAMILY OF NATIONS
TRAVELED BY JAPANProposal of Harding Held
Crowning Touch of Parley.

OPPORTUNITY IS SEEN

Association Will Silence Jingoes
Clamoring Against Yellow
Peril, Declares Writer.

BY ADACHI KINOSUKE.
WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 28.—(Special.)—It is the crowning touch of the Washington conference, this idea of President Harding's to call forth an association of nations as the final outcome of the present gathering, said Dr. Juichi Soyeda this morning.

Dr. Soyeda has served as the president of the imperial railways of Japan. He was the first president of the Bank of Formosa and of the Industrial Bank of Japan, and is altogether one of the foremost figures in the financial Japan of today.

It has a particular significance to Japan at this time when President Harding's association of nations would stand in all its splendor as an accomplished fact. It would replace the Anglo-Japanese alliance in the natural and most satisfactory manner imaginable. For some 30 years England and Japan have stood side by side and worked for the common end of preserving the peace of the extreme east. If President Harding's association would come into being it would simply mean that the peace which the Anglo-Japanese alliance has tried to guard would be watched over, not by the two countries alone, but by practically all the great nations of the world. Nothing would please Japan more than to see this happy consummation. She would naturally join the association wholeheartedly. The Anglo-Japanese alliance has always had just one object in view—the preservation of the peace of the extreme east.

No Other End In View.
It has never had any other end in view. The masterpiece of monstrous absurdity that the Anglo-Japanese alliance was, as a principal delegate to the United States which I found quite fashionable in this country to be absolutely swept off the horizon by the mere existence of the association.

The people of Japan naturally feel reluctant to let the alliance between the two great maritime powers, which has weathered the storms of 30 years without something quite as effective to take its place as the guardian of the far-eastern peace. But the association of nations suggested by President Harding is much more effective to maintain the peace of the far-east than the old arrangement.

Moreover, this will give Japan an opportunity of silencing once and for all her enemies who have been painting Japan as a menace upon the peace of the world. The association of nations aimed at the United States.

Japan Welcomes League.
The people of Japan welcomed the league of nations with a great enthusiasm. They have not only supported it with all the enthusiasm of the glowing hope of transition from the old into a new every-day fact. We have established the league of nations association in Tokyo, of which Tokugawa, who is here as a principal delegate, is the governor, and Viscount Shibuya, the president, and both Baron Sakai and myself are vice-presidents. But all of us are aware that the league of nations is incomplete because the great United States is out of it.

Japan wants an international organization backed by the might of the great powers to do an effective work in preserving the peace of the human world. That is what we pray for if, therefore, the United States would accept Japan's proposal, we would be able to bring about the realization of the great dream of this war-weary world under the name of association of nations it would satisfy the longing of the Japanese people quite as well as any other.

America Must Be Leader.
Moreover, we of Japan realize keenly that the effective organization for the preservation of the world's peace must have the leadership of the United States. America is about the only power capable of filling such a role as a tremendous responsibility.

Her resources, her wealth and her position in the family of nations would fit her pre-eminently for the leadership. It may be very possible that there may be some among the Japanese enthusiasts of the league of nations who would oppose the association of nations proposed by President Harding, but the number will not be imposing, for most of us support the league in Japan are those who would like to see some definite actual machinery for the preservation of the world's peace. That, and that alone, is all-important.

The name counts for little. Whether the present league of nations will be preserved or whether it will be replaced or whether it will join the now proposed association of nations, these things are mere matters of detail and of no vital importance.

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Breakfast cereals 10c
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CHINA'S HOPES AT ISSUE

Delegates Hear Rumors of Attempts
to Reach Agreement on Shantung
Outside Arms Conference.

STOLEN COIN RECOVERED

More Than \$100,000 of Loot From
Liner Sonoma Found.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 28.—More than \$100,000 of the \$125,000 in English sovereigns stolen from the speck of the Oceanic Steamship company's liner Sonoma while en route here from the Antipodes has been recovered and it was expected that the remainder would be found within a few hours. Approximately \$75,000 of the money was located late this afternoon concealed in three oil cans suspended in the water from the stern of the steamer. Earlier in the day \$27,500 was brought to light in a length of hose secreted in a ventilator in the forward hold.

The authorities questioned a member of the crew who was said to be the only person having access to that part of the ship where the first discovery was made.

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HOSTILE DRIVE STARTED
(Continued From First Page.)
The preponderant voice of the pacifist, for a moment, was silenced. The time there is more unanimity of every element noticeable in the fight to curtail arms and reduce the loss of life and tax burdens.

Within a few days other Hearst senators are expected to find, if possible, something wrong in the league of nations so that they may be able to justify a change in their attitude, most of them having been quick to approve the American plan when it was revealed at the opening session November 12.

It is believed that President Harding and his "big premier" will have concluded their negotiations and have their pact for less arms and less bloodshed signed, sealed and delivered in much less time than it took Mr. Wilson to get up steam on his scheme for open covenants secretly signed. No opposition, it is asserted, can get far without a good deal of time to get before the public mind and play on human prejudices.

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