

JAPAN WILL SELL RAILROAD TO CHINA

53,000,000 Gold Marks Are Offered for Line.

TOKIO'S WORD AWAITED

China Offers Cash for Railroad in Shantung in Order to Get Rid of Foreign Control.

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The total number of capital ships to be scrapped by the three powers under the first American figures was 65 and under the revised figures will be 68. The total tonnage to be scrapped was 1,878,043 tons in the original plan, and is 1,861,643 tons in the revised plan.

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It was announced that the naval agreement, including that on naval bases and fortifications, probably would be incorporated in a treaty to be signed by the five powers. No plenary session of the conference, it was stated, would be held to consider the naval agreement until the entire subject, including that of auxiliary ships, was settled.

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"Of course, the coast of the United States and Canada as to which the respective powers retain their entire freedom.

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"While the difference in tonnage is small, there would be considerable difference in efficiency, as the retention of the Mutsu would give to Japan two (2) post-Jutland ships of the latest design.

"To meet this situation and to preserve the relative strength of the fleets of the three powers, it is agreed that the United States shall complete two (2) of the ships in course of construction, that is, the Colorado and the Washington, which are now about 90 per cent completed, and scrap two (2) of the older ships, that is, the North Dakota and the Delaware, which, under the original proposal, were to be retained. This would leave the United States with the same number of capital ships, that is, 15, as under the proposal with a tonnage of 225,000 tons, as against 220,000 tons as originally proposed. Three (3) of the ships would be post-Jutland ships of the Maryland type.

"As the British have no post-Jutland ships, except one Hood the construction of which is only part post-Jutland, it is agreed that to maintain proper relative strength the British government may construct two (2) new ships not to exceed 35,000 tons each, that is, calculating tonnage according to British standards of measurement, or according to American calculations, the equivalent of 27,000 tons each. It is agreed that the British government shall on the completion of these two (2) new ships scrap four (4) of their ships, that is, the King George V type, that is the King George V, Centurion and Ajax, which were to have been retained under the original American proposal.

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"Comparing this arrangement with the original American proposal, it will be observed that the United States will scrap 20 ships as proposed, save that there will be scrapped 13 of 15 ships under construction and 17 instead of 15 of the older ships.

"The total tonnage of the American capital ships to be scrapped under the original proposal, including the tonnage of ships in construction, if completed, was stated to be 245,740 tons. Under the present arrangement the tonnage of the 19 ships to be scrapped, taking in ships under construction when complete, would be 220,000 tons.

"The number of the Japanese ships to be retained remains the same as under the original proposal. The total tonnage of the ships to be scrapped by Japan under the original American proposal, taking the tonnage of new ships when completed, was stated to be 48,923 tons. The total tonnage of the ships to be scrapped under the present arrangement is 45,338 tons.

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"Under the American proposal there were to be scrapped 66 capital fighting ships built and building, with a total tonnage (taking ships laid down as completed) of 1,878,043 tons. Under the present arrangement, on the same basis of calculation, there are to be scrapped 68 capital fighting ships with a tonnage of 1,861,643 tons.

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Leaders Are to Await Final Action of Conference.

WILSON REPORTED SILENT

Underwood's Position Is Not to Be Challenged, Democrats Say, Despite Rumors Afloat.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Definite estimate of the senate lineup on ratification of the four-power Pacific treaty will not be obtainable, according to expressions today of republican and democratic leaders, until the arms conference is concluded and its work submitted.

The prospect today, in the opinion of prominent senators of both parties, is for ratification of the treaty, but many senators on both sides said they were withholding judgment and public expressions until the complete results of the conference have been ascertained.

Reports that there was so much feeling among democrats on the four-power pact that the position of Senator Underwood, as minority leader, might be challenged were denied vigorously today by several prominent democrats, including senators who voted against Mr. Underwood in his campaign for the party leadership.

Wilson Declared Silent

Democratic senators regarded as close to ex-President Wilson denied that Mr. Wilson had been consulted regarding the treaty or that his views had been made known to minority members. It was said to be probable that before the treaty discussion ended an endeavor to obtain Mr. Wilson's views would be made.

It was learned that when he was offered the position on the American delegation Senator Underwood said to his colleagues that he would be ready to relinquish his post as minority leader should the democrats feel his dual position would be embarrassing to them. Subsequently the democratic senators adopted a resolution congratulating President Harding on choosing Senator Underwood and it was said he regarded this resolution as an expression "against his relinquishment of the minority leadership."

Read Attacks Pact

Another attack upon the treaty was made in the senate late today by Senator Reed, democrat of Missouri, who characterizes it as a "gold brick" and an "American-Japanese alliance."

Mr. Reed also turned on the American naval reduction proposals, which, coupled with the four-power treaty, he declared made Great Britain "absolute master of the seven seas for ten years." The combination of treaty and a reduced navy, he declared, was a "dangerous concession."

"In substance and effect," he added, "it binds us never to have a navy greater than Britain. It concedes to Japan a navy group of all proportion to her wealth and population." He described the 5-5-3 proposal as no generous to Great Britain and Japan that he could not but wonder whether it had not come from the British government itself.

"Reduction Is Scored. "America demonstrated during the war," he continued, "that she could not win. Had need be, she could have demonstrated that she could conquer the world. She has the wealth and population to eclipse all in the race for naval armaments."

"She could have kept on and become sole master of the seas, but she chose to forego that advantage. Now it appears she is allowing the plan for a reduction of armaments to become the packhorse on whose back is to be carried a quadruple alliance in the interests of Britain and Japan in the orient and have the United States underwrite in the blood of her sons the ambitions and avarice of Great Britain and Japan in the southern seas."

Mr. Reed did not complete his discussion before the senate adjourned.

Dealing with the criticisms of the extremists, Mr. Churchill expressed conviction that no responsible body of men could be found who would solemnly declare for the sake of "margins of disagreement" with the treaty that it would be justifiable to lay Ireland waste with the scourge of war, or drag the name of Britain through the dirt in every part of the world. He was sure the people of England would refuse to join in such a war.

Mr. Churchill concluded by declaring that the world would applaud the treaty as a stroke of British genius; that every friend of England rejoiced and every foe was dumfounded.

Lonlist Makes Attack. Ronald McNell, lonlist, criticized the treaty. He described Michael Collins as "the second Snuts of the empire," and charged McNell with asserting every Irishman would say concerning the oath of allegiance: "This isn't an oath; there's devil a word about the Almighty in it."

When Andrew Bonar Law rose he was greeted with cheers. At the outset he announced his acceptance of the treaty. He had no responsi-

bility for it, but felt that on such an important matter it would be almost cowardly not to express an opinion.

He said that at one time it seemed Ulster might be forced into an all-Ireland parliament, and then he might have been called on to cooperate with others in framing an alternate policy. He was bound to admit that his fears had been unjustified.

"With the exception of the proposed modification of the boundary," he continued, "the policy of the government, as proposed in the agreement represents the alternative policy which I should have recommended to parliament on my own responsibility. For that reason no other course than acceptance of the agreement on my part is possible."

Coelection Called Nonsense. He treated as nonsense the idea that Ulster would be economically coerced to entering an all-Ireland parliament.

Adopting a conciliatory tone as to Lord Carson and the other treaty opponents, Mr. Bonar Law said he had noticed with great grief the bitter feeling growing up in Ulster, which he added, "to me is one of the most disastrous things that could happen."

"That feeling is not justified by anything in the agreement, and I am inclined to believe it exists less on account of the provisions of the treaty than on account of what happened here and in the press before the agreement was published."

He considered bitterness against Ulster also unjustified, because Ulster was only trying to carry out the act of 1920, which unfortunately the public expressions until the agreement was published would have nothing to do with.

He argued that one of the worst features of the treaty was the boundary commission. If ever Ulster had right to consider anything settled, it was the Ulster boundary, and he thought that the government had made a mistake in omitting to consult Ulster.

Real Adjustment Likely. At the same time he thought that if the boundary commission acted in a spirit worthy of the agreement, and if it was not a question of throwing out counties, but making a real adjustment, Ulster would be making a mistake in refusing to have anything to do with the commission.

One of the great merits of the agreement, in his opinion, was that it left Ulster free to come in when it liked.

Concluding, he said that by admitting Ulster's right to shape her own destiny, a tremendous change had been accomplished, which gave him new hope that there might be peace. There was a feeling of rejoicing all through the empire, but there would be a reaction, and six months hence he believed that the treaty would not be the political asset of Mr. Lloyd George. He did hope, however, that in the distant future by the verdict of posterity it would be a permanent triumph.

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