

DIVERS' ABOLITION ASKED BY BRITAIN

France, Italy and Japan Want
Submarines.

LEGITIMATE USE UPHELD

U. S. Delegates Take No Final
Stand, but Suggest Revision in
International Practices.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 22.—(By the Associated Press.)—Great Britain's plea that the submarine be banished from the seas was presented today at the conference but it received no support from any other power.

In turn, spokesmen of France, Italy and Japan replied that they regarded the submarine as a legitimate and valuable arm of naval strength and were unprepared to see them abolished.

The American delegates took no final stand, but suggested that the conference turn its efforts toward such a revision in international practices as would prevent a repetition of the ruthless submarine methods of the world war.

Further Exchange Stated.

A further exchange of views on the British proposal will take place tomorrow unless France, whose representatives again are awaiting instructions from their premier, is prepared to go ahead with the delayed presentation of estimates for auxiliary craft she desires to keep under the naval reduction program.

The French indicated tonight that they hoped, at tomorrow's meeting, at least to make known their exact requirements on submarines.

Today's discussions took place behind the closed doors of the committee room, but the British asked that their indictment of the submarine be made public and indicated that they probably would carry their fight later to an open session of the conference. They apparently do not hope to succeed, however, after today's expression of views, and are planning to join in the move for an understanding to restrict operations of underwater craft in future wars.

French Figures Not Ready.

Announcement of the French that they were unprepared to present figures today as to their auxiliary tonnage requirements caused general surprise in conference circles. Before the committee meeting, they had indicated their estimates were ready, but later it became apparent that important cable exchanges were in progress between the French and Premier Briand. In these exchanges Secretary Hughes joined as the conference chairman, receiving word of the latest estimate of the French premier in a message from Ambassador Harvey at London.

The nature of the exchanges was not revealed, but considerable significance was attached to a news dispatch from abroad saying that M. Briand felt he must consult with the French cabinet before making a definite answer to the messages from Washington. That development generally was accepted as greatly diminishing the possibility of an agreement on auxiliary craft for several days, and some of those in conference circles professed to see a chance that some new issue had arisen which might again obscure some major plans of the conference.

Four-Power Treaty Discussed.

While the naval problems were in the place of prominence during today's negotiations, the delegates spent time to give increasing attention to the discussion in American official quarters over interpretation of the new four-power treaty.

They weighed the possible effects of the difference of view between President Harding and the American delegates and watched developments in the senate where a group is organizing to propose ratification. Meanwhile, the Japanese announced they had prepared to present at the next meeting of the far eastern committee, now expected next week, a statement to the effect that they would request for abrogation of the agreements that resulted from the 21 demand. No further instructions came from Tokyo since the resumption of the Shanghai negotiations.

The case of Great Britain against the submarine was presented to the committee by Lord Lee, chief of the British admiralty, who declared underwater craft not only outraged all considerations of humanity, but by illegitimate methods jeopardized the national life of the British Isles. As a defensive weapon, they argued, the submarine had proved inefficient except in a limited way.

Submarines Held Needed.

Albert Sarraut, Senator Schanzler and Vice-Foreign Minister Hanhara, speaking respectively for France, Italy and Japan, replied that although submarines must be held more closely within the practices of humane warfare, their abolition would remove an important element of national safety. They also expressed warm appreciation of the presentation of the case by Lord Lee, but indicated they could not agree with him as to the submarine's defensive value.

Secretary Hughes suggested that among all powers was in relation to each restriction as would remove the abhorrent features of submarine warfare as revealed in the world war. He read a report by a sub-committee of the American advisory committee, recommending retention of submarines under proper regulation, and proposed that attention be given to the possibility of bringing the submarine operations against merchant vessels within the principles of search and seizure under international law.

Alternative Is Suggested.

As an alternative he suggested that the conference might even consider what use of a submarine against merchant shipping under any circumstances should be forbidden.

Tomorrow Admiral de Bon, for France, will make a further argument for retention of the submarine, and it was said tonight that even if he were not ready to present in full the estimates of the French government as to all classes of auxiliary craft, he probably would reveal what submarine tonnage is desired.

Some of the delegations at least will require further instructions from their governments before they can reply in full to the British proposal. The plenary session will be delayed accordingly. In British circles the fact that inquiries had been sent abroad by some of the delegations was taken tonight as a hopeful sign.

British Not to Push Decision.

Every power represented, the British spokesman said, had determined at least that nothing like the submarine warfare carried out by Germany would ever be employed by them. The British delegates would not push for a speedy decision, he said, believing that the more the

U. S. ESTIMATES ON DIVERS DIFFERENT FROM BRITISH

England's Spokesmen Say Figures Mean Increase, While Americans
Declare That Reduction Would Emerge if Conference Takes Action.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 22.—(By the Associated Press.)—An 8000-word communique by the armament committee after today's meeting was in the form of a paragraph of the statement made for the delegation of each power with respect to the British proposal that submarines be abolished as a naval weapon. The argument of Lord Lee of the British admiralty stated the view of the British government to be that what was required was not merely restrictions on submarines, but their total and final abolition.

He presented the following estimates of existing submarine tonnage: United States, 82,500; Great Britain, 80,500; Japan, 23,000; France, 28,200; and Italy, 18,200.

He pointed out that under the American proposals of 50,000 tons each for Great Britain and the United States and 54,000 for Japan, the United States could build 4000 tons more than Great Britain and Japan 2,800, with the other two countries in proportion.

Increases Declined Strangely.

"He felt bound to say," the paragraph continued, "that it seemed to him very strange to put before a conference on the limitation of naval armaments proposals designed to foster and increase the type of war vessels which, according to the British view, was open to more objection than surface capital ships."

The number of submarines a nation could build depended upon the needs of national defense, he said, and submarines of large size were more in accordance with the laws of humanity than the demand for creation of armed vessels should be reduced. Large cruising radius was needed, he said, to protect the colonies and to maintain lines of communication.

For the Italian delegation, Senator Schanzler said that the Italian naval experts did not share Lord Lee's opinion, that "submarines are not efficient means of defense."

They think that the submarine is still an indispensable weapon for the defense of the Italian coast," he said. "Our naval experts are furthermore of the opinion that submarines are necessary to protect the lines of communication." He said that the Italian delegation was not ready to "associate ourselves with a proposal of abolishing submarines and we are not authorized to do so."

Abuse Opposed by Japan.

For Japan, Mr. Hanhara said he was "unconditionally opposed to all abusive uses of submarines," but felt that a legitimate use of submarines was justifiable and necessary for defense. He suggested that international rules of war be modified to guard against abusive use of the submarine.

Mr. Hughes said none could fail to be deeply impressed by the statement of Lord Lee and that it was clear all were agreed "that the submarine should be used only for necessary defense and not for the purpose of attacking the lines of communication." He said that the Japanese delegation was not ready to "associate ourselves with a proposal of abolishing submarines and we are not authorized to do so."

Channel Crossings Cited.

"No less than 15,000,000 British troops had crossed and recrossed the English channel and not one man had been lost from the action of submarines except on board hospital ships," the paragraph declared.

"Later some 3,000,000 United States troops had been brought across the Atlantic and the submarine had proved itself powerless in their case," it added. "The fact is that the submarine considered as an offensive or a defensive weapon against any sort of organized naval force, had proved almost completely contemptible."

Taking up the argument as to coast lines, Lord Lee pointed out that Great Britain alone had almost as much coast to defend as all the other powers at the conference combined. In addition, he added, Great Britain had the longest trade route to protect.

"It was partly because our experience had shown that they were not effective that we were ready to abandon submarines," he said. "The war had made it abundantly clear that the greatest peril to maritime communication was the submarine and that peril which did not possess command of the sea on the surface. Hence it was our duty to consider the submarine as a weapon which would get rid of this terrible menace."

British Ready to Scrap All.

"To show the earnestness of the British government," he pointed out, the paragraph said, "Great Britain possesses the largest and probably the most efficient submarine navy, composed of 100 vessels totaling 80,000 tons. It is our proposal to scrap the whole of this great fleet and to disband the personnel provided that other powers would do the same."

That was the British offer to the world and he believed it was a greater contribution to the cause of humanity than the limitation of capital ships.

In closing, he said it was not the intention of the British delegation that the settlement as to capital ships "should be affected if they failed to carry their point in regard to the abolition of submarines."

U. S. Figures Different.

Chairman Hughes intervened to say that figures of American naval experts were different from those of the British. He said that the British would do anything "dishonorable" found therein.

He added that the British would do anything "dishonorable" found therein.

BROKER LOSES LICENSE

San Francisco Operator Charges
Action to Disaffection.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 22.—Don C. Aldridge, a mining broker, was deprived of his broker's license yesterday by the state commissioner of corporations, because of practices in his handling of Silver Hill, a Nevada mining stock, which the commissioner charged were improper.

He was charged with having profited to the extent of \$102,000 from sales of \$271,000 worth of stock. Mr. Aldridge's seat on the San Francisco stock exchange was not involved.

Mr. Aldridge, in a statement, attributed the revocation of his license to the efforts of a few "disgraced" persons made while he was attempting to refinance the mining company and save holders of its stock from loss. He said he had volunteered to let the corporation commissioner examine his books and had offered to

ALLIES TO DISCUSS REVIVING EUROPE

Rehabilitation of Russia Also
to Be Considered.

COMMISSION IS WANTED

United States and Germany Would
Be Invited to Take Part in
Working Out Scheme.

LONDON, Dec. 22.—(By the Associated Press.)—The allied supreme council at its coming meeting in Cannes will be asked to invite the interested powers to appoint a commission to elaborate a comprehensive scheme for the rehabilitation of central Europe and Russia. This conclusion was arrived at in the conferences of the French and British premiers just ended here.

The United States would be invited to have a membership in this commission. Germany also would be placed in writing. These can only be taken by the supreme council at its next meeting.

No Decisions in Writing.

"One could almost say on practically all essential points," added the premier, "but no decisions have been placed in writing. These can only be taken by the supreme council at its next meeting."

The discussions held by the premiers, it was learned, were much wider in scope than the mere debating of the German reparations situation.

First, it develops, they thoroughly reviewed the numerous plans suggested for fixing the reparations payments on a basis mutually agreeable to France and Great Britain, with regard also to insuring Germany's economic stability.

The question of the restoration of Austria and the possibility of bringing Russia within the councils of the nations were next gone into.

Commission Is Proposed.

Then it was decided that the best course to pursue would be to suggest to the supreme council that it ask the powers in a position to render the necessary discussion is one of no interest to America, and as a participant in the consideration of those subjects affecting the United States.

Aside from the question of European rehabilitation, it is likely that the supreme council will have before it the Turco-Greek situation and other problems which have long been awaiting its attention.

Meeting To Be Important.

It is expected the Cannes meeting will prove to be the most important the council has ever held. The council will meet in a much better atmosphere, it is thought, as a result of the Washington conference and the promising outlook on the Irish situation.

M. Berthelot, general secretary of the French foreign office, called at the American embassy today and delivered Premier Briand's reply to Secretary of State Hughes' note, expressing thanks for the French acceptance of the capital ship treaty proposed at the Washington conference.

It was learned from a French source that Mr. Hughes' note contained a request for further information regarding French naval intentions. This information was obtained from Paris and conveyed to Ambassador Harvey today. The next step, it was said, would be held in abeyance pending a conference by Premier Briand with his cabinet.

Ex-German Reconstruction Minister Rathenau, who has been here during the conversations, today expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the premiers' parleys.

Mr. Harvey Asked to Meeting.

PARIS, Dec. 22.—(By the Associated Press.)—An invitation to attend the meeting of the supreme council at Cannes will be sent to Mr. Harvey at London.

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the meeting of the supreme council next month has been extended to George Harvey, the American ambassador at London. The meeting is scheduled to open in Cannes on Wednesday, January 4.

Italians Prepare to Leave.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 22.—(By the Associated Press.)—Some of the Italian arms delegates have made tentative reservations for steamship accommodations from New York January 18.

21-DEMAND PACT BACKED

ANY DECISION OF VALIDITY IS
TO BE OPPOSED.

Tokio Delegates Prepared to Act
In Case Subject Is Brought
Up by Chinese Envoys.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 22.—(By the Associated Press.)—Japan will formally oppose a discussion of the validity of the 21-demand treaty of 1915 if the matter is brought up by Chinese envoys expected in tomorrow's meeting of the far eastern committee of the armament conference, it was announced today in responsible Japanese circles.

If the treaty proves to be on the agenda for tomorrow Japan is expected to submit a communication in the nature of a reply to the Chinese memorandum.

The Japanese statement, it was said, would be brief and would largely center about the declaration that since the treaty of 1915 was duly signed by the governments of Japan and China, Japan could entertain no discussion of the validity of the document.

This point of view is understood to be based upon the contention that if the validity of the 1915 treaty is questioned, it would be only logical to suppose that all other treaties enunciated by the great powers would necessarily have to be placed upon the agenda.

The impression was given in Japanese circles that Japan might stand ready later on to modify some of the existing clauses of the treaty of 1915 in case China initiated a movement that end by direct negotiations with the government of Japan.

Primal Japanese interest in the 1915 convention is centered in the authority which it grants for an extension of the leases to Japan of the Kwang Tung peninsula, including Chefoo, and the right to lease Manchuria railway, a line which the Japanese consider as their main artery for transporting the produce and products of the great province of Manchuria to the sea.

Unofficial Japanese seem quite ready to admit that some elements of the 1915 treaty appear to be in violation of the principle of equal opportunity, notably those clauses which call on China to appoint Japanese police inspectors at Chefoo, Manchuria, and to lease land for residential and commercial purposes and to ask Japanese capitalists to furnish loans for certain developments, like railroads. It is declared, however, that Japan has no objection to the granting of similar privileges to nationals of other lands.

U-BOATS AND GAS ISSUES

(Continued From First Page.)

termined very largely by what the conference does with reference to land disarmament and by what it does with reference to China.

A little later on Senator Borah said his policy would be to "eliminate submarines and banish them from the sea entirely."

It is well known that in this latter sentiment about the submarine Senator Borah is supported by some other senators and by large and important sources and exponents of American public opinion. Merely to achieve a satisfactory compromise between France, which wants submarines, and Great Britain, which does not want them, would be a short of satisfactory ending of the troubles of the conference over this particular form of armament.

Borah Interested in China.

Senator Borah said the extent of his opposition to the treaty will be determined also by what the conference does with reference to China. We have not heard much from the conference about China recently. The internal troubles of that unhappy country undoubtedly add greatly to America's difficulties in trying to get China on her feet. It can reasonably be expected, however, that in spite of handicaps the American delegates will hold firmly to their program about China.

There remains one other subject about which the friends of success

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There is high military judgment to the effect that ten years from now the most of the other forms of warfare will be regarded as innocuous compared with poison gas, and that a conference which fails to deal with it is, in effect, confining itself to the obsolete rather than to present and coming dangers.

I am told that General Pershing and General March both believe that poison gas should be severely restricted.

New Feature Page Starts Tomorrow

The "Model Kitchen and Pantry" is the name of a new feature advertising page which will begin tomorrow and be published each Saturday. This page will show pictures of a number of local advertised products and at the same time have interesting and informative articles in regard to them.

Many recipes showing new and different ways of using these food products will be featured. Housewives will find this interesting and suggestive for their cooking.

A splendid Christmas Menu will appear on this page, which will be full of suggestions.

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