

ARMS LIMIT TREATY SOON TO BE SIGNED

Technical Phraseology Only Problem Remaining.

DELEGATES VIEW DRAFT

Definitions, Particularly of Merchant Vessels in Time of Conflict, Are at Issue.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 9.—(By the Associated Press.)—Only details of technical phraseology remain to be worked out before the treaty for limitation of armament is ready for signature by the plenipotentiaries of the five great powers.

Passing today on its last question of policy, the armament committee of the Washington conference decided against any present attempt to limit or regulate aerial warfare and voted to refer the problem to a continuing committee for future study.

Each of the five delegations, meeting separately, began an examination of a tentative treaty draft prepared by the subcommittee of experts. The delegation heads are to come together late tomorrow to compare opinions and it is expected that the complete text would be ready for publication to the world at a plenary conference session Thursday of Friday.

For Questions to Be Speeded. Exactness of definition, particularly with reference to the status of merchant vessels in war time, were understood to be chief concern of the delegates in their efforts to agree on a wording acceptable to everyone.

With the armament end of the conference approaching final disposition, the delegates are expected to complete the far eastern discussions to an early conclusion. The Shantung question still is in deadlock, but fresh hope of a settlement was announced tonight when it became apparent that the negotiations on that subject were turning into new channels.

Some delegates took an optimistic view of the outlook that they were predicting a plenary session for Saturday or Monday to announce completion of the far eastern treaty. Arthur J. Balfour, head of the British delegation, made definite plans to sail for home on Friday of next week, and his colleague declared it was entirely likely that he would sign the far eastern agreement before his departure.

Study Exceeds Allotted Time. On the other hand it became apparent tonight that the study of the naval treaty text by individual delegations was promising to consume more time than originally had been allotted for it. Late today it was decided to suspend plans for tomorrow's committee meeting and to hold the meeting of heads of delegations late tomorrow.

The merchant ship question, as treated in the subcommittee draft of the treaty, was the subject of an immitting the armament of merchantmen to six-inch guns and by prohibiting the conversion of any commercial vessel of more than 1,000 tons into a naval auxiliary. There was general expectation that these provisions would be finally accepted.

In American circles the relation of merchant shipping to the general naval question was discussed from a new angle as a result of a suggestion by Homer L. Ferguson, head of the Newport News Shipbuilding & Drydock company, that the arms conference agree on an allocation of shipping facilities and opportunities to be shared by the belligerents.

President Hears Proposal. The proposal was laid before President Harding at a White House conference attended by Mr. Ferguson, chairman leader of the United States shipping board, and Chairman Jones of the senate commerce committee, but there appeared no immediate prospect that it would receive administration approval.

Another question, said to remain unsettled in the tentative draft of the treaty, related to the siting of warships within the jurisdiction of the signatory powers but for the use of outside nations. Several alternative wordings of this section were understood to have been prepared.

Aside from Shantung, the far eastern questions remaining in abeyance related chiefly to the Chinese railway roads and to elements involved in the agreements resulting from the "21 demands." The Japanese delegation made also with respect to Siberia, but no great difficulty was expected in reaching an agreement on that point.

chief of the British forces, into the Mansion house. The question of the republican funds was debated lengthily. Referring to Harry J. Boland, Mr. Collins said it was his duty to report in accordance with the terms of the bonds; he would regard it as a breach of the treaty to object to this course.

He declared that his side in the opposition to their colleagues, had not used a penny of the republican funds and hoped that the other side could say the same. Incidentally, he revealed the fact that members of the Dail Eireann receive compensation for their services.

He suggested that the funds in the future should remain in trust in the hands of the existing trustees, these including Messrs. Fogarty, bishop of Killaloe, and Mr. de Valera.

Stack Supports Valera. At the afternoon session of the Dail, Austin Stack, minister of home affairs, supported the re-election of De Valera. He said the republic was established by the people's will and must have a president and executive. He thought De Valera's policy was the only policy.

In his opinion, Eamon de Valera was perhaps the biggest man in Europe today; he was ready to commit suicide if De Valera left office. The referendum of the people must be the people's free choice between the republic and the treaty. Michael Collins opposed the re-election. In this he was doing De Valera a greater service than those who had put forward his name.

Charles Burgess, minister of defense, supported the re-election of De Valera. He repeated his challenge to the statement that Collins had won the war, declaring that the men responsible for bringing Ireland to the ineluctable position which it found before the treaty were men whose names would not be recognized if he mentioned their names.

Valera Held Indispensable. Mr. Burgess said their policy was to preserve the Dail; they were not going to co-operate with the treaty men but were not going to obstruct them. De Valera was indispensable. When Mr. Burgess sat down Mr. de Valera jumped up and said: "No one man, no group of men, can deliver over the Irish nation to anybody."

James Fitzgerald of Cork supported the motion. A portion of the army, he said, was against the treaty and the army was overwhelmingly in favor of the treaty. The only way to keep it united if the army remained in existence was to maintain De Valera and the Dail government while leaving the majority party free to have Ireland evacuated by the British troops.

Another change in the sub-committee conclusion was the insertion of the words "in time of war" in the language of the British group of words "at present." Mr. Balfour said the time might come when arms limitation projects could be protected into the field of aviation, more definite knowledge then being available as to practical distinction between commercial and military flying machines.

Schanzer Expresses Regret. Senator Schanzer of Italy expressed regret that it was the opinion of the conference that nothing could now be undertaken in the way of limiting military aviation to avoid competition, as competitive building of capital ships was to be curbed. He suggested a future conference on the subject.

Senator Underwood replied that airplanes and dirigibles were used both for land and naval warfare and for commercial purposes. A pilot training for commercial work could fly a military machine, he added, and for this reason and also because the question of land armaments was not to be taken up by the present conference, he agreed with the technical committee that aircraft limitations were impracticable.

Mr. Balfour pointed out that many persons thought development of aviation would exert an immense influence upon economic development of mankind, adding that restrictions on aircraft development, therefore, would restrict also the "peaceful" purposes of international inter-communication.

Whatever the future might make possible, he said, present knowledge would not permit a distinction between fighting and commercial development in the air.

LIMIT ON AIRCRAFT NOT YET ATTEMPTED

Suggestions Thrust Aside as Impracticable.

PROBLEM HELD TOO BIG

Argument Made That Planes and Dirigibles Can Be Used for Trade Purposes, Then War.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 9.—(By the Associated Press.)—All suggestions for limitation of military aircraft were thrust aside as impracticable today by the naval committee of the arms conference, the following resolution being adopted: "The committee is of the opinion that it is not at present practicable to impose any effective limitations upon the numbers or characteristics of aircraft, either commercial or military."

Agreement was reached for the creation of a mixed commission of experts and jurists to take up at some future time a study of the merits of the various applications to aerial operations. The exact wording of the resolution to this end, including the specific mission of the commission and just how the body was to be constituted, was left to the drafting committee.

Language Is Changed. The resolution declaring aircraft limitation impracticable at this time follows closely the language of the report of the sub-committee. It was changed, however, to eliminate an exception in regard to dirigibles noted by the sub-committee. The full committee discussion made it clear that the delegations were agreed that the same general argument against restricting aircraft development because of the wide possibilities the future may hold for commercial aviation applied both to airplanes and dirigibles.

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View Shared by French. M. Sarraut, for the French, shared this view. He would regard with apprehension, he said, anything of a nature "to paralyze the progress of aviation."

Baron Kato, for Japan, said the time would come when aircraft limitation would be necessary, but agreed it could not be done at present. Mr. Hughes summed up committee opinion as against any attempt to restrict airplane development.

This is the question of dirigibles to be considered, Mr. Hughes said. He said the report of the sub-committee showed that limits of size of dirigibles was at least practicable. Whether the advantage to be gained in a military limitation way of fixing the size of heavier than air craft, he said, would be more than offset by restrictions thus placed on commercial use of such craft was for the committee to decide.

Phrase Is Stricken Out. Senator Schanzer suggested that by striking the words "lighter than air" out of the sub-committee conclusion, it could be made applicable to all aircraft, and this was done after Mr. Balfour had inserted the words "at present" in the declaration that limitation of air forces was impracticable.

The sub-committee suggestion that another conference be called to consider the rules of war applying to aircraft was then taken up. Senator Schanzer said Italy considered essential that "certain principles of international law" in this connection be "solemnly proclaimed" by the conference, if it could go no further.

Admiral De Bon of France concurred, citing Hague conventions against the bombardment of unfortified towns as having been violated. Mr. Hughes, however, stated that those conventions were aimed in that respect at land or naval bombardment, not specifically nor by implication at aircraft bombing. He added that Paris was fortified and that most of the cities of Europe had some sort of defense which might be held to make them liable to bombardment by an enemy and suggested that the committee might act to extend the rules of international law more clearly and apply it to aircraft.

Two Rules Proposed. There were two rules, Mr. Root said, one that a defended town must not be bombarded without warning to the non-combatants to seek safety and the other that undefended towns could not be bombarded at all. The spirit of those would prevent aircraft from bombarding any town whatever, he said.

The rules, Mr. Root insisted, were inadequate as they are and Mr. Hughes in agreement with the matter of necessity would require careful consideration. He suggested a provision for a future "commission of justice" to be set up to consider the matter.

Sir Robert Borden said it was obvious the present conference could not give the question adequate consideration. He suggested that the committee include other than jurists and that it be limited specifically to terms of international law, a consideration of "rules of the control of new agencies of warfare."

The subject finally was sent to the drafting committee with the general adherence of all delegations to the proposal for a future conference to work out rules of warfare of this nature.

ARBuckle DENIES GUILT SECOND TRIAL ON CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER BEGUN. Comedian Faces Court This Time on Grand Jury Indictment, Not Police Court Plein.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 9.—Roscoe C. (Patty) Arbuckle pleaded not guilty today to the charge of manslaughter for which he will go to trial Wednesday a second time. He is accused of having caused the death of Miss Virginia Higgins through events at a party in his hotel apartments here last September.

Both prosecution and defense agreed last week that Judge Harold Louderback to put over the trial until after the conclusion of the Mrs. Minnie Neighbors perjury hearing, an outgrowth of the first Arbuckle trial.

When the case was called today the district attorney announced that the film comedian would be tried this time on a grand jury indictment, instead of the police court complaint used in the first trial. The formal order of continuance until Wednesday then was entered.

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VALERA IS DEFEATED

(Continued From First Page.) notice had been given. The speaker sustained the argument, but insisted that all the proceedings today were similarly out of order and could only be carried on by consent. An adjournment until tomorrow morning was moved, and Mr. Collins said he would hand in notice of his motion. Throughout the debate Mr. Collins showed he realized the possibilities of a misunderstanding of their first steps as a provisional government. Lauchlin is Proposed. Some of them would have to go to Dublin castle if only to find out what was there. He provoked general laughter by saying one of the first things that they would do would be to try to get back 20,000 pounds of the republican funds the crown authorities had appropriated. He drew a parallel between their entry into Dublin castle and the entry of General Macready, commander-in-

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