

WILSON'S LETTER SUBJECT OF TALK

Democratic Senators Called
in Conference.

COMPROMISE IS DEBATED

Wide Disagreement Revealed on
Probable Effect on Treaty's
Chances of Ratification.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—A letter from President Wilson renewing his objection to some features of the peace treaty reservations framed by the senate republican majority furnished the basis of earnest discussion today in a conference of democratic senators called to consider what course the treaty's friends should pursue when it again comes before the senate next week.

The only decision reached was to co-operate in the parliamentary action necessary to reopen ratification, and to work for an acceptable compromise on reservations. Just what compromise should be considered acceptable was debated in the light of varying interpretations of the president's letter, but there was no attempt to frame a program.

Chill to Relations Feared.

Striking at the republican reservation on article ten and proposed substitutes, Mr. Wilson wrote that any reservation which said that the United States assumes no obligation under such and such an article unless the relationship between this country and other powers. A substitute article ten reservation containing this language under consideration by the recently disbanded bi-partisan compromise committee, the president wrote, was "very unfortunate" in form, though he agreed with its substance.

The letter was written on January 26 while bi-partisan negotiations were in progress and before publication of the letter of Viscount Grey, former British ambassador to the United States on the acceptability of the republican reservations. It was addressed to Senator Hitchcock, democratic leader, who laid it before the conference today.

Wide Disagreement Revealed. Wide disagreement was revealed in the conference and in private discussion among senators, regarding the probable effect of the communication on the treaty's chances of ratification. Some interpreted the letter as a reiteration of the president's views, while others professed to see in it a tendency toward compromise. Comparing it with former utterances, these senators pointed out that it contained no statement that he considered the language questionable, qualifying the treaty or constituting a rejection.

Senator Hitchcock declared that no change in the democratic attitude was indicated. The democratic forces remained determined, he said, not to accept the republican article 10 reservation unless modified.

Date of Letter Significant.

In some quarters significance was seen in the fact that the letter of the president was written four days before the bi-partisan negotiations collapsed, following refusal of the republicans to consider modification of the reservations on article 10 and the Monroe doctrine.

Besides article 10 the president touched on the reservations respecting withdrawal and mandatories, saying he had no objection to qualifications on them.

The letter was made public by Mr. Hitchcock in the following statement: "The president's letter dated January 26 was called forth by a letter which I wrote him on the evening of the day in which the bi-partisan conference in Senator Lodge's office came so near to agreeing to a reservation on article 10."

Hitchcock's Letter Given Out.

"My letter to him was as follows: 'My dear Mr. President: The conferences between Lodge and his three associates and myself and four democratic senators have now reached the sixth day.'

"On article 10, the effort to reach a compromise has now reached a stage where both sides are seriously considering a proposition as indicated by the enclosed clipping.

"We resume consideration of it tomorrow afternoon.

"Your truly,

"G. H. HITCHCOCK.

Proposed Compromise Stated.

The clipping referred to in the letter was the following proposed compromise reservation on article 10:

"The United States assumes no obligation to employ its military or naval forces or the economic boycott to preserve the territorial integrity or political independence of any other country under provisions of article 10, or to employ the military or naval forces of the United States under any article of the treaty, for any purpose, unless in any particular case, the congress which, under the constitution has the sole power to declare war or authorize employment of the military or naval forces of the United States, shall by act or joint resolution so provide. Nothing herein shall be deemed to impair the obligation in article 16 concerning the economic boycott."

"The reservations which the president refers to as mine were the five reservations which I presented to the senate November 19, after they had been approved by the democratic caucus.

"In the senate they received 41 votes.

Form Considered Unfortunate.

"The president's letter follows:

"January 26, 1920. My Dear Senator Hitchcock—I have greatly appreciated your thoughtful kindness in keeping me informed concerning the conferences you and some of your colleagues have had with spokesmen of the republican party concerning the possibility of ratification of the treaty of peace and send this line in special appreciative acknowledgment of your letter of the 22d. I return the clipping you were kind enough to enclose.

To the substance of it I, of course, adhere. I am bound to. I am solemnly aware to obey the constitution of the United States. But I think the form of it very unfortunate. Any reservation or resolution stating that 'the United States assumes no obligation under such and such an article unless or except' would, I am sure, chill our relationship with the nations with which we expect to be associated in the great enterprise of maintenance of the world's peace.

Hitchcock Reservations Accepted.

"That association must in any case, my dear senator, involve very serious and far-reaching implications of honor and duty which I am sure we shall never in fact be desirous of ignoring. It is the more important

not to create the impression that we are trying to escape obligations. "But I realize that negative criticism is not all that is called for in so serious a matter. I am happy to be able to add, therefore, that I have once more gone over the reservations proposed by yourself, the copy of which I return herewith, and am glad to say that I can accept them as they stand.

"I have never seen the slightest reason to doubt the good faith of our associates in the war, nor even had the slightest reason to fear that any nation would seek to enlarge our obligations under the covenant of the League of Nations or seek to commit us to lines of action which, under our constitution the congress of the United States can in the last analysis decide.

Veto Power Reserved.

"May I suggest that with regard to the possible withdrawal of the United States it would be wise to give the president the right to act upon our resolution of congress in the matter of withdrawal?

"In other words, it would seem to be permissible and advisable that any resolution giving notice of withdrawal should be a joint rather than a concurrent resolution. I doubt whether the president can be deprived of his veto power under the constitution, even with his own consent. The use of a joint resolution would permit the president, who is of course charged by the constitution with the conduct of foreign policy, to merely exercise a voice in saying whether so important a step as withdrawal from the league of nations should be accomplished by a majority or by a two-thirds vote. The constitution itself providing that the legislative body was to be consulted in treaty-making and having prescribed a two-thirds vote in such cases, it seems to me that there should be no unnecessary departure from the method there indicated.

"I see no objection to a frank statement that the United States can accept a mandate with regard to any other provision of the treaty of peace, only by the direct authority and action of the congress of the United States.

"I hope, my dear senator, that you will never hesitate to call upon me for any assistance that I can render in this or any other public matter.

"Cordially and sincerely yours,

"WOODROW WILSON."

LOYALTY TO BE PLEDGED

Sunday Ceremony to Preclude

Lincoln Birthday Celebration.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—Hundreds of thousands of churchgoers and Sunday school children throughout the United States, members of the United States Legion, Christian Endeavor and other religious societies, as a prelude to the celebration of Lincoln's birthday Thursday, will sign pledges to uphold the constitution and particularly the 18th amendment.

Children over 10 years of age will be asked to commit to memory the following words attributed to Lincoln: "Let reverence for the laws be breathed by every American mother to the lisping babe that prattles on her lap; let it be taught in schools, in seminaries, and in colleges; let it be preached from the pulpit, proclaimed in legislative halls and enforced in courts of justice, and, in short, let it become the political religion of the nation."

ALLEGED ROBBERIES HELD

Duo Said to Have Confessed to At-

tempted Holdup.

John Strickland and Emory Brannen, two men arrested for investigation by Patrolmen Perkins and S. F. Tully, confessed to Detectives Morak and Howell yesterday that they had attempted to hold up a man last Tuesday night, according to the detectives.

Brannen, who was holding the revolver, ran away when the would-be victim showed fight, according to the alleged confession. The man who was being held up is then said to have knocked Strickland down and made his escape.

A revolver which the men are said to have used was secured at 75½ Thurman street, where Strickland is said to have had his trunk.

PRINTERS TO GET RISE

Coos County Scale to Go to \$36

Week on March 1.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Feb. 7.—(Special.)—The union printers' scale, which had been \$30 a week since last September, will go to \$36 on March 1, according to arrangements made at their February monthly meeting. The printers are drawing an agreement for the employers' signatures.

The union has jurisdiction over North Bend and included in the territory are three job shops, two weekly papers and two dailies. One daily, the Evening Record, advanced its scale to \$6 a day on February 6. Two job shops and one weekly have not signed any agreement.

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You know at first glance it is dou-

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Black only—roomy 18-inch size—

extended-end type—full lined—

with three inside pockets.

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—any piece of luggage you are likely to require is better if it

bears that name. Woodard-Clarke is special "Likly" agency—

with unusually large assortments.

of its planks. It was voted that a

committee be appointed in the near

future to outline a definite plan for

fighting the single tax propaganda

which it was declared the northwest

was flooded with in a short time.

The time for the annual conven-

tion of the association was set for

July 15, 16 and 17, at Spokane, and

W. R. Chandler of Spokane was named

as chairman of a publicity committee

to inform all realtors who are mem-

bers of the interstate association of

the meeting and attempt to secure

their presence. Tacoma was decided

upon as the location for the next

quarterly meeting of the executive

board, the dates being May 7 and 8.

Three directors were named for the

association, to fill vacancies, as fol-

lows: Charles T. Cross, of Victoria,

for British Columbia; Ira High, of

Boise, and R. H. Wallace of Lewiston,

for Idaho.

VANCOUVER PASTOR QUILTS

Rev. L. K. Grimes to Accept Pul-

pit in Portland.

* VANCOUVER, Wash., Feb. 7.—(Spec-

ial.)—Rev. L. K. Grimes, pastor of

the First Presbyterian church of this

city for the last three years, has re-

signed his pastorate here to accept

one in Portland at the Kenilworth

Presbyterian church.

A congregational meeting will be

held tomorrow when arrangements

will be made to accept the resigna-

tion. During the three years Mr.

Grimes has been pastor here, he has

been chairman of the Red Cross for

the county, and chairman of the Ar-

menian and Assyrian campaign for

relief, and was acting camp pastor

for the Presbyterian synod during

taxation along single tax lines as one

of the war.

TAX CHANGE IS SOUGHT

RESOLUTION BY REALTORS AP-

PLIES TO WASHINGTON.

Interstate Association Decides to

Ask Submission of Amendment

to Vote of People.

Governor Hart of Washington will

be asked to call a special session of

the legislature to draw up a consti-

tutional amendment to be submitted

to the people providing for a change

in methods of taxation in the ever-

green state, according to the decision

of the executive committee of the

interstate Realty association, which

closed a two days' conference here

yesterday. Under the leadership of

the Washington delegation a resolu-

tion was adopted urging each mem-

ber of the board from Washington to

write to Governor Hart urging a spe-

cial session.

At present, real property in Wash-

ington bears 85 per cent of the tax-

ation. It was declared, while repre-

senting but a small fraction of the

wealth. The purpose of the consti-

tution amendment being urged by the

realty men would be to allow a

greater burden of taxation to rest

upon stocks and bonds, deposits in

the banks, incomes and other sources

of wealth.

The single tax, which it is expected

will be before the people at the next

convention, through an initiative

petition, was vigorously rapped, as

was the new Oregon Land and Labor

league, which has a revision of state

taxation along single tax lines as one

of the war.

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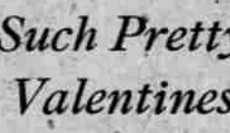
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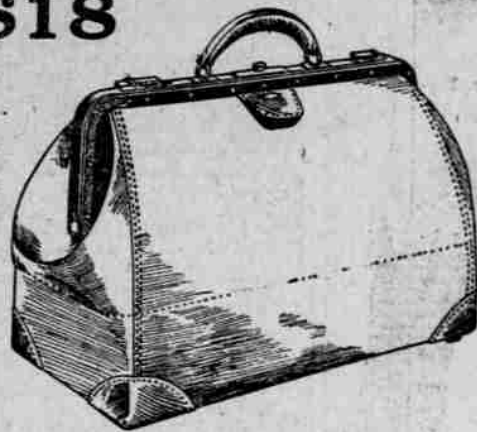
Black only—roomy 18-inch size—extended-end type—full lined—with three inside pockets.

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