

WILSON CAN GAIN HIS PEACE AIMS IF HE INSISTS ON IT

People in Allied Countries Now Demanding Action and Not Talk; President Still Leader.

SECRET TREATIES DISLIKED

British Press Clamors for End to Secret Diplomacy; French Will Stand by the President.

By James J. Montague

Paris, Feb. 1.—The surrender to President Wilson on the German colonial question proves beyond doubt that America will gain her aims in world politics if she will insist.

While this is a minor question as compared with the great problems yet to be settled, its disposition is highly important as showing American authority in the conference. As has been repeatedly pointed out, the president is not only asserting himself forcefully enough and often enough, the allies will abandon equivocation and range themselves behind him.

What is wanted by all peoples is action and not talk. Delays weary the patience of the soldiers under arms and the peoples. It is apparent to every observer in France that the speedy way to take the world out of the twilight of the armistice and into the light of peace is for America firmly to take the lead.

British Press is Clamoring

This President Wilson seems to have done on the colonial problem that is as yet only provisionally agreed upon, Japan having no premier here and her representatives having to cable home for authority to sign.

It is evident from the English newspapers, notably the Daily Mail, that the British people are clamoring for the end of secret treaties and secret diplomacy and are looking to Wilson to bring all international relations into the open. While the French newspapers are not so outspoken, the sentiment of the French people will support President Wilson without doubt, if he will state America's position clearly and unequivocally.

President Wilson's friends believe it would be better if he would now outline definitely his plan for the league of nations. While this might entail opposition, it would be certain to prevail and common sense would dictate that America now use her great prestige to make good her claims, inasmuch as these are only that peace and justice be established in the face of the earth.

Quick to Follow Wilson

All nations represented in the conference were quick to follow President Wilson in the colonial settlement and will be as quick to follow him in his league of nations plan.

This will be taken up Monday night when the conference will begin the framing of the constitution for the

league. It is the present purpose to complete this before President Wilson leaves for America, so that it can be finally disposed of while he is at the peace table.

The great matter out of the way, there will remain the Russian and Polish snarls to clear up, after which the German delegates will be permitted to play their small part in the conference.

There appears to be little hope of a final settlement before the trees are again green along the Quai d'Orsay, but one thing is certain and that is that firmness and open action on the part of America will hasten the conclusion of the great treaty and hesitation and lack of confidence will tend to drag it out till the world is wearied.

CONTROL IS RETAINED FOR PANAMA CANAL

(Continued From Page One)

between the Czechs and the Poles over possession of that rich industrial district.

A queer angle has developed in the relations of the Czechs and Poles in that their representatives are sitting at the peace conference as if they were a treaty with a common enemy, yet there are outbursts of fighting between their own troops over the question of readjustment of their own boundaries. A temporary settlement by the allied commission will be followed by final settlement by the league of nations when the latter institution is formally established.

May Obliviate Return to Paris

By Robert J. Bender

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Paris, Feb. 1.—The peace conference has developed so marked a tendency to accept practical application of the 14 principles and to speed up its work, the belief was expressed today that President Wilson may find a second trip to France unnecessary.

Whether the president will return after his departure for the United States two weeks hence is known to depend not only upon the handling of the most important problems in the interim, but also upon the trend of the conference's policy after he has withdrawn from the councils and their inclination to work along the general lines of the American program.

Work Being Systematized

Just six weeks after his arrival in France the president felt confident today that the pivotal victories had already been won and that future action by the conference will be in strict accordance to the broad principles included in the armistice terms. Within a few days the delegates will have accomplished the framing of a constitution for the league of nations in conformity with the principle of no annexations, the president believes. This, in his opinion, will be one of the most vital accomplishments of the peace settlement.

Wilson is advocating systematization of the peace work to the utmost, in order to hurry the handling of all details. The plan for reference of each great problem to a special committee is now known to have been adopted by the league of nations in conformity with the principle of no annexations, the president believes. This, in his opinion, will be one of the most vital accomplishments of the peace settlement.

President is Busy Man

With all these committee functions

ing simultaneously, a pace could be maintained that would bring the signing of the treaty several weeks nearer than was believed possible. The policy of his intensive work for 10 hours a day is telling on the president. The last few days, during which he fought valiantly against the policy of spoliation, were particularly trying. Despite the fact he is working longer and harder than at any time since he assumed the presidency, he continues to urge a "hurry up" policy and find means for carrying it out.

Delegation to Visit Posen

Paris, Feb. 1.—The peace conference Friday decided to send allied delegates to the Posen (Posen) district to assure a peaceful exploitation of that region. This will be carried out in agreement with the Czechs and Poles, pending the conference's territorial settlements of the Posen question.

Roumania and Serbia's question as to the Banat of Temeswar were heard Friday.

The following communiqué was issued by the peace conference Friday night.

The president of the United States of America, Woodrow Wilson, and the foreign ministers of the allies and the associated powers and the representatives of Japan met this afternoon at 2 o'clock.

"The delegates of the great powers, composing the interallied commission, which will shortly proceed to Poland, were instructed to state the conclusion which they had reached after hearing the representatives of Poland and the Czechs and the representatives of the provisional government of the industrial district of Posen.

"A statement of the views of the respective interests and rights of Roumania and Serbia in the Banat of Temeswar was then heard. Mr. Bratiano and Mr. Minu represented the Roumanian government and Mr. Lashitch, Vasilitch and Trumbitch.

"The next meeting was fixed for tomorrow (Saturday) at 3 o'clock."

Balkan Problems Studied

Paris, Feb. 1.—(U. N. S.)—Instead of an ordinary session of the peace conference, the Balkan problems were the subject of a special session of the inter-allied council met again at the peace conference to consider Balkan problems.

The controversy between Serbia and Roumania has been deeply occupying the attention of the representatives of the "big five," who realize fully the dangers attending the Balkan territorial disputes.

This controversy is understood to hinge upon former claims made to territory formerly belonged to Austria-Hungary.

President Wilson and the premiers and the foreign secretaries of the allied nations, with the exception of the Balkan problem, cautiously, not alone because of the national jealousies of the Balkan states, but because of the number of human beings involved in the final settlement. The population of Banat, which is subject to rival claims, is upwards of 500,000 persons.

Next week will be a busy one for the committees dealing with the league of nations, international labor legislation, financial problems and war reparations.

It is understood that the colonial question, upon which it has been agreed to accept President Wilson's principle of internationalization, was discussed in detail Friday, and it was not known if it would be treated today.

German Socialists Complain

Berlin, Feb. 1.—(U. N. S.)—A peace conference without German delegates present will result in only a dictated peace, but an unjust peace, said the Socialist organ Vorwaerts today. "The lasting peace that was intended already has its birth infected with death germs."

COURSE OF PEACE MEETING SMOOTHER THAN INDICATED

(Continued From Page One)

edly in the nature of a counter irritant. Both sides are evidently bluffing for an advantage and are likely to reduce their demands when the developments of the peace conference show that there is no urgent need of an amicable settlement.

The Italians and Greeks have reached a practical settlement of their antagonistic claims in Albania and the Northern Epirus. In the same way the disagreement between the Chinese and Japanese representative has been exaggerated. There has been only a preliminary skirmish from which it is unsafe to make any final deduction. Japan is very insistent upon securing the ownership of the German islands in the North Pacific, but as the policy of the conference is as yet undefined as to the German colonies the Japanese claim is quite properly made, since the islands, it is reported on good authority, were conceded to Japan by a secret treaty with Great Britain.

Progress is Satisfactory

The reported indignation of Australia, New Zealand and South Africa concerning the proposed guardianship of the German colonies by the league of nations, is also overstated, as the system of the league of nations concerning the German colonies has not yet been defined. The British colonies, as well as other nationalities will undoubtedly be influenced ultimately by the development of the policy of the conference whether that will prove to be one of cooperation and mutual concession or of individual insistence on selfish national interests.

Considering the many difficulties in its way the continued armed conflicts in eastern Europe and the unstable conditions among the new nationalities seeking self-government the conference thus far has been progressing as satisfactorily as might be expected. The one great danger the conference runs at present is that it may fail to keep the world sufficiently interested and informed concerning the developments, with the result that the public may lose faith in the efficacy of its resolution.

An automatic train control system that produces audible signals in locomotive cabs is being tested by a large British railroad for general use.

PROFESSIONAL MEN FEEL BODY BLOW FROM HOUSE BILL

Curb for Aggravators of High Cost of Living Prohibits Combines of Dealers, Producers.

PENALIZES FAILURE TO VOTE

Friday Is Record Day for Sponsors of Proposed Measures Because of Warning of Speaker.

Salem, Feb. 1.—Profiteers are dealt a blow in a house bill introduced by Representative Richards Friday.

The measure is directed at all combinations in restraint of trade and in particular at such combinations as are entered into for the purpose of withholding merchandise or produce commodities of any kind from the market in order to aggravate the shortage of goods.

The Richards bill is an act defining and prohibiting trusts in restraint of trade and commerce, providing penalties for the violation thereof, and providing procedure to secure evidence concerning violations. Representative Richards admits that the measure is the direct result of the notice introduced by many dealers in foodstuffs and other commodities in combining to withhold their wares from the market in order to create a shortage of goods, and thus afford an excuse for fixing excessive and exorbitant prices.

Manufacturers, wholesalers, jobbers, retailers and producers are brought within the provisions of the act, which also affects amusements, insurance, transportation facilities and every other agency through which it is possible to create such combinations in order to manipulate conditions to their selfish ends.

Violations of the provisions of the act would be punishable by a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1000 or by imprisonment in the county jail for not less than 30 days nor more than six months.

Penalizing failure to vote at general elections by the assessment of a poll tax is provided for in another house bill introduced by Richards. This bill provides for the payment of a \$5 poll tax by all persons of 21 years of age or over in Oregon except those who have voted at the preceding general election. Insane persons, Indians not taxed and insane persons are treated as exceptions. The bill provides that the bill would not become effective until 1921.

Automobile drivers who persist in mixing "boose" with their gasoline would be given an opportunity to contribute to the good roads fund of the state if a bill introduced by Representative Hurd becomes a law. This bill provides that upon the second conviction of the driver of an automobile upon a charge of intoxication while driving, his automobile, truck or other vehicle is to be confiscated and sold and the proceeds from the sale to be turned into the fund of the state highway commission.

The assessment for taxation of all automobiles and trucks held in warehouses within the state, and of other property, is required in another of the numerous bills introduced by Richards.

A bill introduced by Representative Lewis by request provides for a change in the form of ballots to be used at general election, requiring the segregating of the names of candidates under the party emblem and precluding the possibility of any candidate running on more than one ticket.

Dennis is responsible for the appearance of a bill which would abolish the office of county judge in counties of not less than 6000 population, 100,000 population, transferring the probate and divorce work to the circuit court, and creating a board of county commissioners.

Friday Is Record Day

Friday was the record day of the session in the number of bills introduced in the house, 45 being placed on first reading. An announcement by Speaker Jones earlier in the week warned that this would be the last week for the introduction of bills without running the gauntlet of the committee managers. The time was extended Friday until Monday evening. The bills introduced Friday were:

H. B. 275, by Woodson (by request)—Relating to bank deposits of deceased persons.

H. B. 280, by Dennis—Prohibiting dogs from running at large after 6 p. m.

H. B. 281, by Horner—Relating to super-tax on wild lands and wild lots.

H. B. 282, by Burdick—Providing for advertising for work on irrigation districts.

H. B. 283, by Moore—Amending law relating to state board of medical examiners.

H. B. 284, by Edwards—Providing for apportionment of money for schools where have been closed by epidemics.

H. B. 285, by Committee on Assessment and Finance—Relating to paying taxes.

H. B. 286, by Smith (Multnomah)—Prohibiting deduction from wages for hospital fees.

H. B. 287, by Smith (Multnomah)—Relating to licensing of hospital associations by state board of health.

H. B. 288, by Wright—Defining mineral lands.

H. B. 289, by Martin—Relating to public school district notices.

H. B. 290, by Gordon—Making it unlawful to sell motor vehicles with serial number detached.

H. B. 291, by Joint Ways and Means Committee—Repealing law declaring public policy of state against appropriation of money for state aided institutions.

H. B. 292, by Gallagher—Relating to granting of payments on bonds in defaultness for irrigation and drainage districts.

H. B. 293, by Wheeler—Relating to vital statistics.

H. B. 294, by Lewis (by request)—Providing for form of ballots.

H. B. 295, by Richards—Prohibiting combination of the policy of the conference.

H. B. 296, by Richards (by request)—Repealing act relating to giving notice of injury.

H. B. 297, by Richards (by request)—Relating to employment agents.

H. B. 298, by Richards—Relating to employers to relieve themselves of workmen's compensation for taxation purposes.

H. B. 299, by Richards—Reinstating poll tax and denying use of ballot to persons refusing to pay same.

H. B. 300, by Hurd—Relating to net fishing.

H. B. 301, by Hurd—Relating to net fishing.

H. B. 302, by Hurd—Relating to net fishing.

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