

Foreign Diplomats Have 'Passed the Buck' to American Peace Delegates

CRUCIAL MOMENT IN PEACE PROGRAM FACED BY WILSON

Americans at Paris Conference Expected to Shoulder Burden of Explaining Peace Decisions.

TASK REQUIRES REAL TACT

Involves Retaining Favor of Peoples Whose National Aspirations Have Not Been Met.

Special Cable to The Journal and The Chicago Daily News.

(Copyright, 1919, by The Chicago Daily News.) Paris, March 12.—The crucial moment in the career of American diplomacy abroad is close at hand. When President Wilson arrives in Paris Friday he will find that the foreign delegates will have cleverly unloaded all their controversies, all their boundary disputes, all their differences over indemnities and reparations, dealings with the enemy, and disagreements over the treaties and decisions of past congresses at the door of the American diplomatic mission in Hotel Crillon. In plain American language, they have "passed the buck" to the United States.

Wilson Faces Critical Moment

Mr. Wilson faces the most critical moment in his career as a statesman. This does not mean that foreign diplomats have left the decisions in all the mooted questions to America—not at all. They still hope to arrive at decisions that will fit in with their views. Those who are benefited will not complain; those who lose will not blame Europe, but America.

It is Mr. Wilson's task to make clear to the people of the world how all the decisions have been arrived at, and to keep the favor of the peoples in spite of national aspirations and local prejudices. The task of Hercules was infinite in comparison.

Europeans Play Clever Game

European diplomacy has played a clever game. No matter what is said about lack of preparation, each nation went into the conference determined to win certain advantages. Ostensibly every government adopted the "14 points," in actuality, every diplomat made his own mental reservations. To all appearances the United States was the only nation without special interests to serve.

This statement is misleading. The work of the conference shows that various Americans here have decided views on the Monroe doctrine, immigration, the free movement of labor and the tariff. All of them are preferential and discriminatory if we are going to begin embracing the various nationalities of the world and calling them brothers.

America Is Universal Goat

The blundering diplomacy of the last 50 years was due to a series of compromises which satisfied no one. Not a state lost sight of its special interests. Sometimes people were so dissatisfied with the result that cabinets fell and careers were broken.

The difference between this conference and the other congresses of the Nineteenth century is that for the first time Europe has a universal goat upon which to unload the obloquy. In most cases foreign governments consider a question in the light of the slogan, "How does it affect our future?" America's representatives have been applying the test, "Is it right, is it just?" Unhappily, right and justice frequently run counter to special interests.

The situation is as old as man. The first of the kind is recorded in Genesis. Suffice it to say the parties which lose will blame America in such cases. Judging the Kaiser, the Italy-Jugo-Slav dispute, the Techen trouble, the disposition of the left bank of the Rhine, of Asia Minor, and, finally, what is most important for our future, the decision on the disputed treaties of Shantung and Kiao Chow.

PEACEFUL BATTLE OF YANKS IN FRENCH ALPS



A snowball fight in the square at Chamonix between American doughboys on leave at the famous French winter resort. Chamonix is high in the French Alps and is the newest leave center provided for our fighting boys. All sorts of winter sports are there for them to enjoy.

STATEMENT OF IRELAND'S POSITION IN CONTROVERSY WITH ENGLAND IS GIVEN OUT BY EDWARD DE VALERA

Here is the statement of the case of the new Irish republic, which asks the peace conference to grant it self-determination. It was written for the information of the American people by Edward De Valera, head of the Sinn Fein, who has been called "President of Ireland." De Valera recently escaped from Lincoln Jail, England, and is a fugitive. After writing this document in his hiding place near Dublin, he handed it to a Sinn Fein member of parliament, who conveyed it to Ralph F. Curch, the United Press correspondent, who found and interviewed De Valera. The correspondent brought it to New York in person, so there was no censorship.—The United Press.

By Edward De Valera, President of the Sinn Fein Party and Member of Parliament.

(Copyright, 1919, by the United Press.) Somewhere in Ireland, Feb. 25.—England has no right in Ireland. England's de facto government here rests solely on the number of her bayonets.

We challenge England to allow Ireland the principle of free self-determination. Let that principle be applied to this island as a unit and if a decisive majority of the whole people declare for separate independent statehood, then she will be silent.

If England accepts the principle of self-determination for this island it will settle the Irish question forever. If a decisive majority should declare for independence would not Ireland be justified in claiming that, and not something less, represents the free choice of the people. The recent elections prove it.

On what grounds does England refuse Ireland's demand? England cannot pretend to misunderstand that the challenge we give her is the challenge of the Irish people. Let us hear why she refuses to meet it.

We can ourselves settle our minority question (Ulster) because we shall want to. England will never settle that minority question because she desires to keep it unsettled. Let her remove her interfering hand.

We ask the world to listen and to

these statements. They will have a right to ask: Where now is the impartial justice that knows no favorites, which recently you spoke so much about? Where now is this new order and these handsome foundations of lasting peace? Were all these beautiful professions of yours that, simple and grand, seemed tuned to the eternal verities of our souls, wakening in them a sympathetic response that we could not smother—were these beautiful professions but selfishly spun phrase, finely woven to smother us?

Are you after all, only as we were the rest—was this war only as we were others—was it for your puny ambitions that humanity has endured the horrors of the past five years and the entail of sorrows they have bequeathed to the future? I do not know whether the statements at Paris will prove worthy of the trust or whether they will be great enough to grasp the opportunity that requires so little to improve it and found firmly now those relations between peoples on a basis worthy of our common humanity.

People Are Behind President

But it is surely a source of hope to know that at Paris there is one man at least who apparently realizes his duty and who can accomplish what he wills if he only remains steadfastly determined and true. The Machiavellis may scoff at him, but he ought to know that he has the best of mankind everywhere at his back. Let him but be bold enough to lead straight on and that respectable portion of mankind, the plain people, whose spokesman he has been and whose hearts he has won, will be ready to march with him to the realization of their common dream.

Why should he hesitate to see that America's aims be accomplished? Were those aims not stated unequivocally from the start? Is the cause less worthy now that triumph is in sight? Are those who oppose now less the enemies of that cause than those who were thought lately to oppose it?

Cannot Believe Wilson Weak

Why should any of the statesmen in Paris even seek to oppose President Wilson in having the cause of justice upheld? How can any of them claim the privilege of condoning wrongs? Should they attempt to do so, President Wilson should boldly save them from themselves. Wrong is no less wrong because it happens to be one of their own number that is guilty of it. If President Wilson should by any chance prove too weak for his trust, he will have all the less excuse, because, luckily, America is strong enough not to allow herself to be cheated. She, at any rate, has no need to tremble when the British lion growls his intimidating warnings to those who might disturb him at his prey. I cannot believe that the president will be weak or will allow himself to be deterred from cutting away a vicious canker at the core of the new world order by the conventional diplomatic niceties that belonged to the order which the blood of millions was shed to destroy.

Free Ireland Only Demand

But whether Ireland be heard or not—whether the statesmen at Paris stand forth as the most conspicuous fallacies in history or not—the duty of Irishmen and the duty of all lovers of liberty is clear. That duty is to see that England cannot be placed in the position that she occupies now. England tries to bind and gag Ireland to throw her into obscurity as of a dungeon. It is our duty to support all who lend a hand at loosening her. We must strive at least to let in the purifying light to show Ireland as she is, struggling ever against the slavery in which England would confine her, fighting through centuries, maintaining in blood and tears communion with all who fight for liberty everywhere—battling for it as she is with the foe upon her own hearth at home.

Ireland seeks nothing from England but the removal of England's interfering hand. Her only demand is the right to live her own life in her own way with no limitations except those imposed by the necessity of respecting the equal rights of other peoples.

Reduce Number of Generals

Washington, March 12.—(U. P.)—The number of generals in the army—from the brigadiers up—will be decreased from 228, the present number, to 125 under the war department plans to hold 500,000 men until congress authorizes future strength of the army, it was said today.

Prayer Unheard, Tak's His Life

Chicago, March 13.—"Please God, send me over to France to help the poor suffering American and British soldiers." This was the prayer of A. H. Olsen of this city and because it was not answered he threw himself to death here beneath a train. He was rejected by the army because he had a wooden leg.

MONETARY SYSTEM OF NATIONS IN BALKANS CAUSES UNEASINESS

Czecho-Slovakia Calls in Bank Notes to Be Officially Stamped; Vienna Disturbed.

By A. R. Decker Special Cable to The Journal and The Chicago Daily News.

(Copyright, 1919, by Chicago Daily News Co.) Vienna, Austria, March 1.—(Delayed)—Czecho-Slovakia without warning called in all the bank notes to be stamped, announcing that unstamped bank notes henceforth will not be considered currency.

Jugo-Slavia started stamping notes within her borders and Czecho-Slovakia followed, while Poland is expected to be next, but Jugo-Slavia is poor and Czecho-Slovakia is rich, and that is why Prague's act caused such a furor in Vienna.

With Prague out of Austria the monetary scheme of the whole structure falls in pieces. The Austrian central bank finds itself face to face with a crisis which will perhaps have far reaching consequences, the first of which perhaps means the quick union of Austria with Germany. Unless the allies wish a greater Germany it will be necessary immediately to offer a loan, whether in dollars or crowns, to Austria to permit the country to buy the food which the allies have said it might purchase. Siegfried Rosenbaum, director of the Anglo-Austrian bank of Vienna, explained to me why, Rosenbaum, to use his own terms, "comes nearer being a Socialist than any other banker in Austria. The banker said:

"One can argue from all points of the compass the question of Austria uniting with Germany and not come to conclusions, but now the answer is forced upon us. We have no choice. The Czechs in attempting to better their position, whether or not they wish to hurt Austria, have done so. Many Czechs will not have infinite confidence in the Czecho-Slovakia stamp and they will immediately start to buy in Austria, the only place where crowns are good, and likewise other countries like Galicia and Ukraine and even the entente will pour crowns into Austria. We will be confronted by a vast purchasing offensive. The holders of crowns wishing to convert their holdings into goods and consequently prices will jump.

"This is an impossible situation be-

cause the prices are already so high that it is almost impossible to live and conduct business. It is impossible by bookkeeping to rearrange the relation of values to the note issue. We must also stop the notes and war loan certificates. "If America would loan us \$100,000,000 in crowns so that we could purchase in crowns it would enable us to live through August and give us a new start. That is not enough for America. You say that there are many countries that wish loans. All right, so much the better for America. By placing your money in many countries you insure against the failure of any one of your proteges."

British Oil Ship Outwits Germans With Double Hull

London, Feb. 27.—(I. N. S.)—(By Mail)—The British outwitted the U-boats and got oil and gasoline to this country when a veritable crisis faced the nation and its army contingents in those supplies by use of "double bottom" tankers. An engineering device permitted use and extension of the water ballast system for carrying oils. The plan was put into operation July 2, 1917, and when the armistice had been signed 1,014,470 tons of oil and gasoline had been conveyed to this country by that means.

The U-boat drive against tankers was nullified. In all, 761 ships, 420 of them British and 341 of them American, were fitted with proper facilities for bringing over a cargo of oil in addition to the regular cargoes. * But 15,191 tons of oil were lost under this plan by enemy action.

The device permitted the motor transport and aerial branches of the army in France to work at top speed, in addition to maintaining proper supplies for the navy and work in munition factories. When the plan was inaugurated supplies were near the danger point and could not be increased by the "bottom" tankers plying between America and the British Isles.

Newspaper Rejects Hun War History

(Exclusive Cable by the International News Service and London Daily Express.) London, March 12.—(I. N. S.)—General Ludendorff's offer of his history of the war to the Daily Express for \$200,000 has been rejected. In making known the decision today the newspaper said: "Ludendorff has already cost the allies dear enough. We are not prepared to pay him indemnity."

Aalanders Are More Hopeful Appeal Is Made at Paris

By Paul Scott Howerer Special Cable to The Journal and The Chicago Daily News.

(Copyright, 1919, by Chicago Daily News Co.) Paris, March 8.—(Delayed)—At least one European territorial dispute seems about to be settled amicably. The French, British, Italian and American representatives apparently all agree that the Aaland islands shall go back to Sweden.

This group of some 200 islands, lying across the mouth of the Gulf of Bothnia between Finland and Sweden, was ceded to Russia along with Finland in 1809, and has been considered a part of Finland ever since.

Its deep water bays offer splendid naval bases, which the Russians never entirely finished fortifying, but its thrifty and hardy population of 25,000 farmers, woodcutters, shipbuilders and fishermen speak Swedish, and despite more than a century of Finnish rule, still consider themselves Swedes.

Their principal port, Mariehamn, lies 24 miles from Sweden, but 48 miles from Finland. Their exports of fish, meat and wood go principally to Sweden, and the great city to which they look cul-

turally is not Helsingfors but Stockholm. Of these facts there seems to be no doubt, for the Finns themselves admit that they are so. The Aaland islanders have sent a delegation to Paris, headed by Julius Sundblom, editor of the principal Mariehamn newspaper and former Aaland representative in the Finnish diet, to ask the peace conference to apply the principle of self-determination to their case.

"Sweden has never made a propaganda for the return of these islands to the motherland," said Herr Sundblom to me today. "But in 1917 we sent a deputation to the king to ask him to help us. When we learned that the principle of self-determination was among Wilson's 14 points we said: 'Thank God, our time has come at last!' and we decided to send a mission to the peace conference. Finland dislikes to lose the islands, but realizes that our cause is just.

"When the islands are returned to Sweden the present forts will be raised and we can give all our attention to peaceful pursuits. We know America well, for 15 per cent of our population has emigrated there for economic reasons."

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Druggists know this, and that is why most of them freely recommend Begy's Mustarine for all aches and pains, inflammation and congestion. Don't fall to rub it on when you have a sore throat or a cold in the chest or bronchitis or diphtheria—the quick results will amaze you.

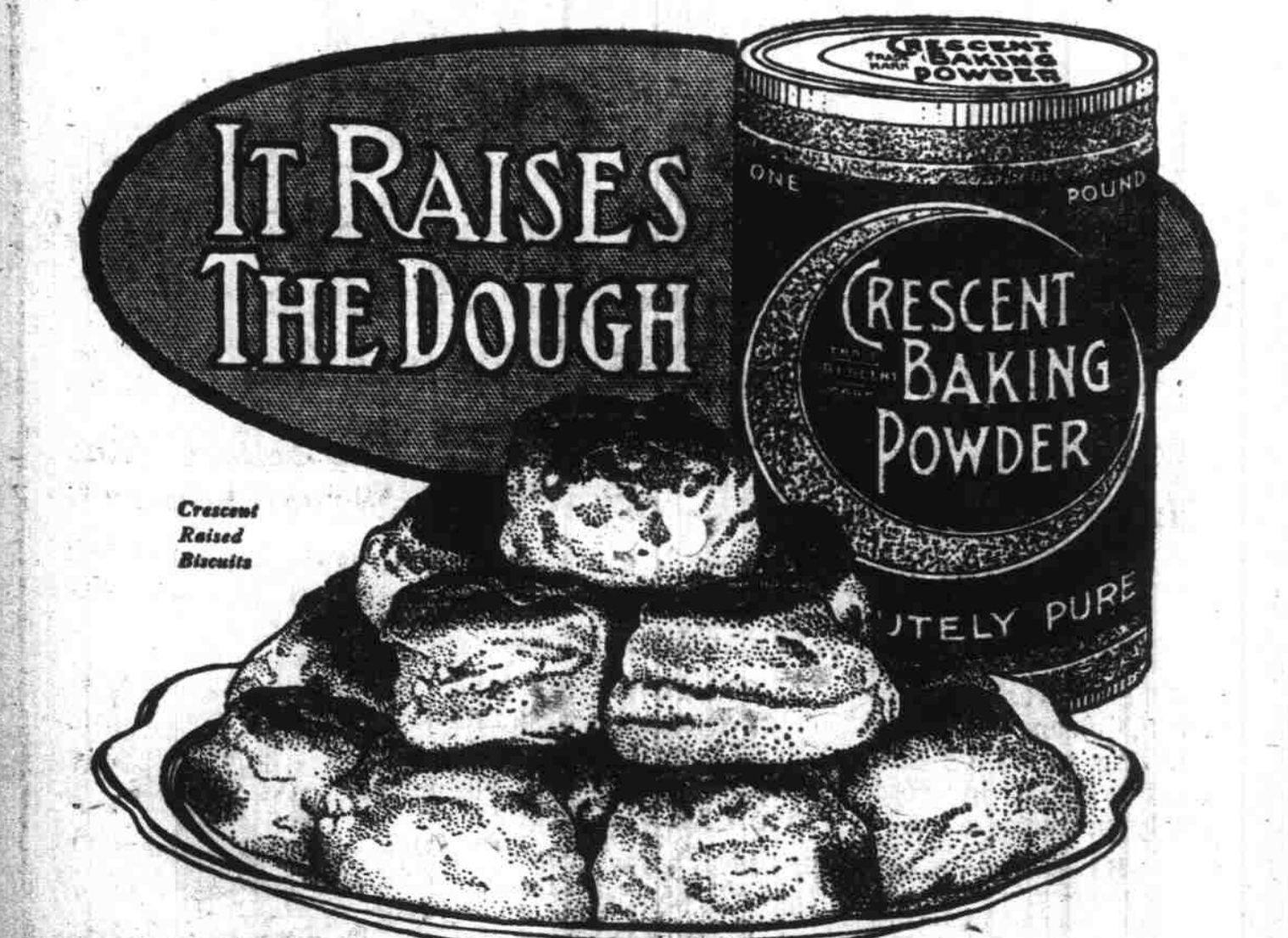
For rheumatic pains and swellings, gout, stiff and sore muscles, stiff neck and inflamed feet it is better than plasters, poultices or liniments.

It's the simplest and best remedy known to stop headache, earache, toothache and backache in just a few minutes, without any stomach dosing.

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