

WRONGS MUST BE MADE RIGHT BEFORE PEACE

Belgium Must Be Restored; Crime of '71 Shall Be Repaired

WAR AIMS SET FORTH

Lloyd George Tells Why England Will Fight with Allies to Last

(Continued from page 1)

The premier said that in the last few days he had taken special pains to ascertain the view and attitude of representative men of all sections of thought in the country. He had read the statement of labor's war aims; he had discussed war aims with Mr. Asquith, the former premier and Viscount Grey, the former foreign secretary. Had the Nationalist leaders in Ireland not been engaged with the tangled problem of Irish self-government, he would have been happy to exchange views with them, but Mr. Redmond, speaking in their behalf had made clear what his ideas are as to the object and purpose of the war. He had also

consulted with representatives of the overseas dominions. As a result of these discussions he continued, although the government alone was responsible for the actual language he proposed using, there was national agreement as to the character and purpose of the nation's war aims and peace conditions. He was speaking, therefore, not merely the mind of the government, but the mind of the nation and empire.

Allies Not Aggressive.
"We may begin by clearing away some misunderstandings," said the premier, "and stating what we are not fighting for. We are not fighting a war of aggression against the German people. Their leaders have persuaded them that they are fighting a war of self-defense against a league of rival nations bent on the destruction of Germany. The destruction of or disruption of Germany has never been a war aim with us. Most reluctantly and quite unprepared we were forced to join in this war in self-defense, in defense of violated law of Europe.

"The British people have never aimed at breaking up the German people or the disintegration of their state. Our wish is not to destroy Germany's great position in the world, but to turn her aside from schemes of military domination to devote her strength to the beneficial tasks of the world.

"We are not fighting to destroy Austria-Hungary or to deprive Turkey of its capital or the rich lands of Asia Minor or Thrace, which are predominately Turkish.

"We are not fighting to destroy the German constitution, although we consider a military autocratic constitution a dangerous anachronism. Our view point is that the adoption of a democratic constitution by Germany would be the most convincing evidence that her old spirit of military domination had indeed decided in this war, and it would make it much easier for us to include a broad, democratic peace with her. But that is a question for the German people to decide.

"It is more than a year since the president of the United States advised the belligerents by suggestion that each side should clearly state the aims for which they were fighting. Even on so crucial a matter as their intention regarding Belgium they have declined to give any trustworthy indication.

Conquest Not to Be Allowed.
Referring to the pronouncement of Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian former minister, at the Brest-Litovsk peace conference on December 25, that it was not the intention

of the central powers to appropriate forcibly any occupied territories or rob of its independence any nation which lost its political independence during the war. Mr. Lloyd George said it was obvious that any scheme of conquest and annexation could be perpetrated within the literal interpretation of such a pledge.

"We must know what is meant," said the premier, "for equality of right among nations, small as well as great, is one of the fundamental issues this country and her allies are fighting to establish.

"Reparation for Belgian towns and villages and their inhabitants," he asserted, had been repudiated emphatically by the central powers, and the rest of their so-called offers were almost entirely a refusal of all concessions. On one point only were they clear. Under no circumstances would Germany's demand for the restoration of the whole of her colonies be departed from. All the principles of self-determination here vanished.

"It is impossible to believe that any permanent peace can be erected on such a foundation," said the premier. "Mere lip service to the formula of no annexation, no indemnity and self-determination is useless.

"The days of the treaty of Vienna are long past. We can no longer submit the future of European civilization to the arbitrary decisions of a few negotiators striving to secure by chicanery or persuasion the interests of this or that dynasty or nation. Therefore, the government must be the basis of any territorial settlement. For that reason, also, no treaties be upheld, it is obvious that no treaty of peace can be worth the paper on which it is written.

Restoration First Demand.
"The first requirements always made by the British and their allies have been the complete restoration, political, territorial and economic, of the independence of Belgium, and such reparation as can be made for the devastation of its towns and provinces. It is no demand for war indemnity, but insistence that before there can be any hope of stable peace this great breach of public-law in Europe must be repudiated and, so far as is possible, repaired.

"Reparation means recognition. Unless international right is recognized by insistence on payment for injury done in defiance of its canons, it can never be a reality.

"Next comes the restoration of Serbia, Montenegro and the occupied parts of France, Italy, Rumania, the complete withdrawal of alien armies and reparation for injustice done is the fundamental condition of a permanent peace.

Wrong of '71 Must Be Righted.
"We mean to stand by the French democracy to the death in the demand they make for a reconsideration of the great wrong of '71 when Alsace-Lorraine was torn away.

"This sore has poisoned the peace of Europe for half a century and until cured healthy conditions cannot be restored.

"The premier said he would not attempt to deal with the question of the Russian territories now in German occupation. The Russian policy since the revolution had passed through so many phases that it was difficult to speak, without some suspension of judgment, on what the situation would be when the terms of European peace came to be discussed. Referring to the facts that the war was started by Russia's decision to protect Serbian independence, and that the present rulers of Russia had entered into separate peace negotiations, the premier said:

"I am indulging in no reproaches. I am stating facts to make it clear why Britain cannot be held accountable for decisions taken in her absence and concerning which she was not consulted, or her aid invoked.

"Nobody who knows Prussia and her designs toward Russia can doubt her ultimate intention. Whatever phrases she uses to delude Russia, she does not mean to surrender any of the Russian provinces and cities now occupied. Under one name or another they will henceforth be part of the Prussian dominions, ruled by the Prussian sword, and the rest of the Russians will be enticed or bullied into complete economic and ultimate political annihilation.

Russia Must Save Herself.
"Democracy in this country will stand to the last by the democracies of France and Italy. We should be proud to fight to the end side by side with the new Russian democracy. So would America, France and Italy. But if the present rulers of Russia act independently we have no means to avert the catastrophe. Russia can only be saved by her own people.

"An independent Poland, comprising all genuinely Polish elements who desire to participate in an urgent necessity for the stability of western Europe.

"Though we agree with President Wilson that the breaking up of Austria-Hungary is no part of our war aims, we feel that unless genuine self-government on true democratic principles is granted those Austro-Hungarian nationalities who have long desired it, it is impossible to hope for the removal of those causes of unrest in that part of Europe which have so long threatened its general peace.

"On the same grounds we regard as vital the legitimate claims of the Italians for union with those of their own race and tongue. We also mean to press that justice be done to the men of Rumanian blood and speech in their legitimate aspirations. If these conditions were fulfilled Austria-Hungary would become a power whose strength would conduce to the permanent peace and freedom of Europe, instead of the instrument of a pernicious Prussian military autocracy.

"Outside of Europe we believe that the same principles should be applied.

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national conditions. What the exact form of that recognition should be need not here be discussed beyond stating that it will be impossible to restore to their former sovereignty the territories to which I have referred.

"Much has been said about the arrangements we have made with our allies on this and other subjects. I can only say that no new circumstances, such as the Russian collapse and the separate Russian negotiations, have changed the conditions in which the arrangements were made, we are always ready to discuss them with our allies.

"Respecting the German colonies, they are held at the disposal of a conference, whose decision must have primary regard to the wishes and interests of their native inhabitants.

Self-Government Demanded.
"The governing consideration in all these cases must be that the inhabitants shall be placed under control of an administration acceptable to themselves, one of whose main purposes will be to prevent their exploitation for the benefit of European capitalists or governments.

The chiefs and councils, said the premier, were competent to consult with and speak for their tribes, and thus to separate their wishes and interests regarding their disposal.

"Finally," continued the premier, "there must be reparation for injuries done in violation of international law. The peace conference

must not forget our seamen and the services they have rendered and the outrages they have suffered for the common cause of freedom.

"One regrettable omission was noticed in the central powers' proposals. We believe that an attempt must be made to establish a great international organization as a means of settling international disputes. War is a relic of barbarism, and as law has succeeded violence in the settlement of individuals' disputes, so it is destined to settle national controversies."

"We are fighting for a just and lasting peace," declared the premier in conclusion. "Three conditions must be fulfilled: Firstly, the sanctity of treaties must be re-established; secondly, territorial settlements must be based on the right of self-determination or the consent of the government; lastly, the creation of an international organization to limit armaments and diminish the probability of war.

"To secure those conditions the British empire is prepared to make even greater sacrifices."

Labor Welcomes Statement.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—Arthur Henderson, leader of the Labor party in the house of commons, tonight stated it was his opinion that the British labor would welcome Premier Lloyd George's statement of the aims for which Great Britain is fighting in the world war. "In some respects," Mr. Henderson said, "it embodies the principles and the objects which labor, at our recent conference, defined as essential to the war aims."

Labor stands for the absolute freedom and integrity of Belgium, Serbia, Rumania and Montenegro and for the establishment on a firm basis of a league of nations and peoples for disarmament and the prevention of future wars, he pointed out.

"These things," (Mr. Henderson continued, "constitute our irreducible minimum and if we desire this we desire the fullest restoration of international intercourse and the complete repudiation of all attempts at an economic war or a boycott. So far as the premier's statement conforms to these principles, we welcome it and we are convinced that no other settlement can be consistent with the expressed desire for peace which, as he says, will not contain within it the seed of future wars."

HOPE FOR THE ZEBRA.

Next to snakes, the zebra is the most perfect case of delirium tremens in the animal kingdom. But the zebra's case isn't utterly hopeless. His stripes are bad, but he might take lessons from a peroxide blonde.—St. Paul News.

Not True Bills Reported by County Grand Jury

As the result of the first day's session of the Marion county grand jury, Foreman R. D. Teter yesterday reported to the circuit court the following not true bills: Jay Cooke, accused of forgery, alleged to have cashed checks on the

Ladd & Bush bank, one for \$39, signed by John Schindler, one for \$2, signed by J. H. Zerkke, and one for \$10 on the United States National bank, signed by James Garrison.

Joseph Hrudka, charged with pointing a shotgun at A. N. Gola, William Brown, accused with having used a dagger within striking distance of Robert H. Neyman.

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