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AT HOME AND ABROAD

A Review and Interpretation of Current Events as Seen by G. W. PASCHAL

REVISED COVENANT OF LEAGUE The revised covenant of the League of Nations was out at Washington on April 27. It will ever stand as the greatest memorial of its chief author, President Wilson. As it now stands the covenant consists of a preamble, 26 articles, and an annex naming the states signatory.

Articles one to seven regard the organization of the League, its boards, officers, times and places of meeting, and the method of procedure. The main features of these articles is that action of the League shall be through two bodies, the assembly which shall consist of representatives of the members of the League, and the Council which shall consist of representatives of the United States, Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan, and of four other members of the League. It is seen that this council is really under the control of the five great nations that warred against Germany. The council meets not less often than once a year. In addition there is a permanent Secretariat. The seat of the League is the Swiss city of Geneva.

Articles 8 and 9 provide for disarmament; against private manufacturers of munitions of war, and for full publicity with reference to armaments and munitions.

Articles 10 to 13 provide that the League shall immediately take into consideration any circumstance that might lead to war among the nations of the world. This means first that the weaker nations under the protection of the League will be guarded against foreign aggression, and further that Germany will be checked at once should it again threaten war.

Articles 14 to 17 provide for the establishment of courts of arbitration and methods for settling disputes except such disputes as are "safely within domestic jurisdiction."

Articles 18 to 21 provide that copies of all treaties to be valid must be deposited with the Secretariat, and that no treaties may be secret. Special recognition of the Monroe Doctrine is given in a separate article.

Article 22 provides for a system of mandatories for the control of Germany's colonies.

Article 23 gives international recognition to labor, trade in drugs, and arms, and pledges freedom of communication among the nations.

Article 24 provides for absorption of present international board of arbitration. Article 25 recognizes the Red Cross. Article 26 relates to methods of amending the covenant.

PRESIDENT On April 23 after the Wilson and Peace Conference had in vain endeavored to reach an agreement on Italy's claim to Fiume, President Wilson who opposed the Italian claim, published a statement appealing to Italy as a friend to abandon her claim. In consequence the Italian members of the Peace Conference including Premier Orlando and Foreign Minister Sonnino have returned to Rome where they have been received with strong acclaim as the guardians of Italy's rights. As a further result it is reported that the Italians have sent 200,000 men to

occupy the disputed city. There are two questions involved in President Wilson's statement.

The first is as to whether or not Italy was just in her claim. Certainly in Mr. Wilson's view Italy was wrong, but we must remember that Mr. Wilson is judging by a standard he himself has established.

The second question is whether or not Mr. Wilson acted wisely in publishing his statement, speaking as Premier Orlando said in protest, over the heads of the Italian Government to the Italian people. Information is hard to get, the news from Paris on this subject is very unsatisfactory and apparently censored, but with the light before us, I believe that it would have been much better for President Wilson to have said nothing and to have continued to try to reach a compromise. Now Italy is mad, and the peace of the world is again endangered, we hope, only in a small way.

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