

FRANCE IS COLD TO WILSON PROPOSAL ON DISARMAMENT

Little Confidence Placed in Reported Plan to Call World Conference.

FAILURE IN LEAGUE

Officials Say Naval Problem Is Vital Only to Britain, Japan and U. S.

WILLING TO LEND ITS AID

Nation More Interested in Merchant Marine Than in War Vessels on Routes.

By LAURENCE HILLS.

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Paris, Jan. 2.—President Wilson's reported intention to call an international conference with a view of bringing about disarmament by all nations so far has failed to stir up any noticeable enthusiasm in French official circles, wherein it is apparent that little confidence is placed in the utility of such a project since the League of Nations Assembly and Council, which went into every possible phase of disarmament during the several weeks at Geneva, failed to find even a semblance of a solution.

Highly placed French authorities, to whom THE NEW YORK HERALD correspondent broached the subject, professed they could not see any advantage in all nations studying the problem of naval disarmaments, which was vital principally to the United States, Great Britain and Japan.

"France is not greatly worried about naval supremacies," said one authority. "Our problem is one of military disarmament, and the key to its solution lies in the disarmament of Germany, and the Allies evidently are beginning to appreciate the necessity of compelling this at all costs. Once that is settled Europe can begin disarming its land forces and France will then be found to have done her share just as soon as any other nation."

It was asked how Mr. Wilson could expect to get results at Washington with the world's diplomats, gathered

Would Have France Recall Negro Troops

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—Declaring that "the cause of justice and humanity is not being promoted by the retention of the French colored troops in the occupied area of Germany," Representative Britten, Republican, Illinois, announced in a statement to-night that he would introduce to-morrow in the House a resolution calling on President Wilson to communicate with President Millerand of France and the League of Nations' secretariat with a view to removal of French colonial troops from the occupied zone. Mr. Britten said he would present a petition carrying 30,000 signatures with his resolution.

at Geneva and hearing the fullest credentials of their governments, could not attain.

"Our statement, however, do not wish to dampen the ardor of any effort which will make for world peace through disarmament," another authority said. "If the conference actually is called France probably will be represented, although it cannot be seen whether there lies any hope of preparing a naval disarmament agreement by having nations present which are not directly interested, and which have other equally important problems and policies demanding the closest attention."

This does not mean, however, that France does not desire an amicable arrangement of the naval question between Great Britain and the United States. In fact, this is one of France's sorest worries, as her diplomats admit they must continually walk warily lest they give the appearance of favoring one or another nation in this matter.

It also is appreciated here that the abandonment of big navy policies by the great Powers probably would tend to calm the financial markets and enable France and other suffering countries to get loans which are now refused on the ground that the wealth of Great Britain and America must be conserved for the possibility of a naval conflict.

The Paris-Midi to-day discusses the American naval policy, admitting that "the United States has a maritime tradition which the logical succession of events demands that she must fortify. Every time the United States has been worried in the past her sea power has had something to do with it. For instance, the war of 1812, and even the last war, was no exception to the rule. If Germany had not committed naval crimes the United States probably would not have entered the war, but would have continued the controversy with France and England in regard to their blockade, which admittedly was not in conformity with American doctrines of liberty."

The same newspaper contends that the complaint of the American people against the Versailles treaty to which Mr. Wilson subscribed was that it did not provide a freedom of the seas

clause, which is perfectly justified from a national standpoint, as the United States has a right to take steps so that her commerce in the future cannot be disturbed by the battles of other nations. "But," the Paris-Midi continues, "it is ridiculous to assert that because of this a conflict between Great Britain and the United States is inevitable. There often have been bad family relations between the two countries, but they are only family affairs which do not demand shedding of blood. To be precise, the United States is the only nation in the world which can endeavor to create a fleet equal to that of Great Britain or even superior, with such certainty that Great Britain must accept it as an accomplished fact. It is apparent that the Anglo-American naval rivalry must end by an agreement between the two nations."

SOVIET ARMENIA SETS PRE-WAR FRONTIERS

Turkish Nationalists Want Kars and Ardahan.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 29 (delayed).—The new peace treaty being negotiated between the Armenian Soviets and the Turkish Nationalists will prescribe the pre-war frontiers of Armenia, it was intimated to-day by the Government of the former at Erivan. The Nationalists are said to be insisting upon application of the Brest-Litovsk treaty, leaving Kars and Ardahan outside Armenia. The boundaries favored by President Wilson, who recently accepted the position of mediator, are not yet known here.

The boundaries for Armenia favored by President Wilson, according to a despatch from Washington dated December 21, cuts less deeply into former Turkish territory than the extreme limits prescribed by the Premier. They asked the President to fix the frontier "in the vilayets of Erzurum, Trabzon, Van and Bitlis," but it is understood that none of these vilayets or provinces was included in its entirety in Armenia. Roughly the boundary as drawn by Mr. Wilson extends from one Black Sea at a point slightly west of Trabzon, west of Kerkat and Erzingan through Mitikan, west of Mush and Bitlis and south of Lake Van to the frontier of Azerbaijan. The vilayets of Diarbekir, Sivas, Harput and Adana, sometimes claimed by zealous Armenians, were not included in the President's award, nor was there any attempt to draw the eastern frontier of Armenia contiguous to Georgia and Azerbaijan.

HEALTH DRIVE OPENS IN SPAIN

MADRID, Jan. 2.—The desire of the authorities that the entire country should be brought to the highest standard of modern hygienic conditions in accordance with recent legislation, is expressed in a decree published to-day by La Gaceta. The newspaper publishes in that connection the nomination of a national commission for the sanitation of villages and small towns in Spain. The commission comprises leading sanitation experts.

FOCH FINDS GERMAN ARMS NEAR MINIMUM

Failure to Fill Agreements Chiefly in Bavaria Guard and Fort Defences.

PARIS, Jan. 2.—Marshal Foch's report on Germany's disarmament, according to the Temps, says that the Germans have surrendered 41,000 cannon, 29,000 mounted cannon barrels, 163,000 machine guns and barrels, 2,800,000 rifles, 16,000 machine pistols and 25,000 airplane motors.

The German delinquencies in executing the disarmament clauses of the treaty and the Spa agreement are said to be principally the maintenance of civic guards in Bavaria and Eastern Prussia, the organization of security police, and failure to destroy the required amount of artillery in the eastern and southern frontier fortresses.

The report recites the details of the Germans' request that they be allowed to retain 841 cannon in the fortresses, but the Allies have approved the retention of only 20 guns at Koenigsberg, 26 at Pillau and 22 at Swinemunde.

The meetings between Premier Lloyd George and Goltz, which

Venizelist University Professors Discharged

ATHENS, Jan. 2.—Prof. Fotitrides, formerly of Harvard, and Prof. Papanicolaou, formerly of New York University, are among those who have been discharged from Athens University. They had come here by request of former Premier Venizelos. M. Zaimis, the former Premier, has resigned his post as director of the National Bank. The Government is paying its current expenses with 200,000,000 drachmas of currency, the issue of which has not been authorized by the International Finance Control.

has been prominently mentioned in recent discussions, will be held in Paris next week, the Gaceta announces to-day. No confirmation was obtainable at the Foreign Office.

Reports received last Thursday announced that an early meeting of the French, British and Italian Prime Ministers would be convoked by the French Government in order to discuss disarmament of Germany, especially in view of the German notes lately expressing some resistance to the project.

GREEK PREMIER UNDER KNIFE; MAY RESIGN

Sophie Gives Decoration to Italian Propagandist.

ATHENS, Jan. 1 (delayed).—Demetrios Rallis, Premier and Foreign Minister, will be obliged to undergo an operation which may mean his withdrawal from office, it was learned to-day.

King Constantine has begun the holding of audiences. Queen Sophie, acting for Constantine, bestowed his first decoration on a foreigner, the Italian newspaper correspondent Sughiant, who has been conducting the royal propaganda in Italy.

The Paris declares that former Premier Gounaris has been unable to maintain his desire to protect the followers of M. Venizelos in their offices. The newspaper also asserts that coalition parties in Greece will be impossible when the families of the Venizelists have been compelled to flee from the country.

14 DIE IN EARTHQUAKE.

PARIS, Jan. 2.—Fourteen persons were killed, 300 injured and 10,000 rendered homeless by the earthquake which almost obliterated the city of Elbasan, Albania, according to an undated despatch received here to-day from the American Red Cross at Tirana.

The only Americans in the city were two junior Red Cross nurses, Miss Norma Ruddy of St. Louis and Miss Winifred Wilford of Boston, and a Chicagoan, Miss W. Both were reported safe.

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- Imported Wraps of Selected Dyed French Coney \$195 and \$225
- Shoulder Capes and Coatees in Various Furs \$125 up
- Cloth Coats and Wraps \$85 up

A Statement of Conditions in the Fur Market

Speculation after the armistice drew into the fur business a large number of operators without technical knowledge who indiscriminately raised prices of merchandise so that furs of inferior quality brought at auction sales nearly as high prices as the better class furs.

The collapse of this speculative market left this merchandise largely in the hands of untrained dealers. The necessity of selling at once explains the extraordinarily low prices now quoted for certain grades of furs.

Today the quantity of fine fresh furs to be obtained is not large, and just as during the speculative period inferior merchandise brought the prices of really fine furs, the fine goods have now declined nearly to the price of the inferior merchandise.

The supply of good furs grows more limited every year and cannot be artificially increased. As the purchasing power of the world develops, this supply will be less and less in proportion to the demand.

1—The merchandise offered in this advertisement has been entirely manufactured in our workroom from fresh skins collected through our regular buying agencies and fur trading posts, and for the greater part manufactured since the settlement of the fur strike on October 30th, 1920.

2—This is a market for conservative buyers as quality goods are now proportionately cheaper than inferior merchandise.

3—Buyers who investigate and compare qualities will see at once the advantage of buying furs from long established furriers.

Fur Muffs; Neckpieces

- Neckpieces
- Skunk, Animal Scarfs . . . \$55 up
- Sitka Fox } 65 "
- Pointed Fox }
- Natural Hudson Bay Sable (Canadian Marten) 1 skin 65 "
- 2 skins 95 "
- Natural Blue Fox 95 "
- Cross Fox 110 "
- Silver Fox 325 "

Muffs

- Natural Nutria \$35 up
- Hudson Seal (Dyed Muskrat) 45 "
- Mole 45 "
- Skunk 48 "

Imported Muffs

- Hudson Seal (Dyed Muskrat) \$65 up
- Mole 65 "
- Odd Scarfs and Muffs 25 "

Afternoon and Evening Coats \$95 up

Men's Fur-Lined Coats

In wide selection of Furs

- Natural Muskrat (various collars) \$250 up
- Dyed Ringtail lined \$375 up
- Mink lined \$575 up
- Civet Cat lined 325 "

Fur Robes

- Hair Seal, Marmot \$110
- Natural Muskrat \$135
- Nutria, Kolinsky Squirrel 295
- Australian Opossum 395

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