SHORTAGE OF MEN AND FUEL CRIPPLING EFFICIENCY OF AMERICAN NAVY

more important part in the deliberations of the conference than was anticipated. It is the British contention (reflected through authorized, although unofficial agencies) that "M. Briand and his associates have not caught the spirit of the conference and are inclined to view it as the proper tribunal in which to press national ambitions and to seek special privileges."

The French rejoinder is "the British delegates are conspiring to dictate policies that will make for British dominance over the whole of Europe."

The tension between the two countries has subsided for the time being, but it is not improbable that it will break out again when the conference turns its attention to the subject of land armaments.

Annual Parleys Favored.

Officials of this Government made no contribution to the suggestion originating in the White House that annual international conferences be held to consider matters of world importance. Secretary Hughes declined to make any comment regarding it. The suggestion seems to have found favor among the majority of foreign delegates with the exception of French spokesmen, who, while not voicing opposition to it, were manifestly displeased at the intimation that Germany will be invited to participate.

Domestic politicians hailed the suggestion for annual international conferences as a revival of the association of nations plan which President Harding proposed during the last Presidential campaign.

Republican leaders defended the suggestion on the ground that it would not involve any violation of our constitutional policy or the setting up of complex machinery that could be manipulated to draw the United States into disputes between foreign nations and that it would meet every objection raised against the League of Nations.

This view provoked Democratic leaders to taunt the Republicans with the charge that the President and his party are being forced to recognize the principle of the League of Nations by the irresistible force of public sentiment. Republicans, however, contend that no such recognition will be implied by the adoption of President Harding's idea for an annual international conference.

Justifies Ignoring League.

Opponents to the League of Nations declare that the national differences and personal animosities which have been exploited at Washington without serious effect to date prove the wisdom of the United States in staying out of the league, where such differences would have involved the United States.

A Senator who bitterly opposed the League of Nations, in commenting on the quarrels among European nations, said: "You can see what we escaped by staying out of the League of Nations. Under the Harding plan we will not be bound by the hard and fast rules provided in the Versailles treaty."

Aside from the steady progress made by the subcommittee on naval armaments engaged in checking up the Hughes formula with the technical experts of the United States, Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan, most of the activity was provided by the Far Eastern subcommittee, of which Senator Underwood is chairman, and that headed by Senator Lodge engaged in investigating the muddled fiscal tariff, extraterritoriality and post office perplexities of China.

The Chinese delegation is credited with a prospective victory in procuring the indorsement of its demand for the withdrawal by the foreign Powers of the postal services maintained by the latter in China.

Shantung Case Up Soon.

The American delegation in expressing satisfaction made toward unscrambling Chinese conditions announced that subcommittees would be created next week to take up the other subjects embraced in the Far East agenda—Shantung, Siberia and Manchuria—to which the Chinese delegation has directed specific attention.

Up to date Japan has not officially indicated its attitude on any of these specific problems, but it is quite probable proposals will be submitted on most of them.

Spokesmen for the Japanese delegation declined to speculate on the probable effect of their undertaking by the assumption of the reins of Government by Hirohito, the Crown Prince. The latter returned to Japan in September after a six months' tour of Europe. He gave expression to some progressive ideas which greatly alarmed Prince Yamagata and the other members of the Genro, made up of "elder statesmen," who have been dictating the policies of the empire for many years.

The progressive sentiments expressed by Hirohito have done much to encourage the belief among the delegates to the Washington conference that Japan will fall in line with the spirit of its purpose and finally contribute in the fullest to it. It is manifest to experienced observers that the members of the Japanese delegations are proceeding with great caution, as if awaiting developments at home following the designation of their new ruler.

Conference Doings

ANNOUNCEMENT was made by the Administration that if any nation in the conference defeats any measure designed to help the world America will make known by whom, how and why this was done.

China won another victory by gaining the acceptance in principle of the abolition of foreign post offices from the Republic.

In executive session subcommittees discussed the suggestion for international control of submarines, gas, aerial bombing and other forms of viper weapons of war.

It was explained that while Great Britain and the United States had stopped naval recruiting, the reason for the action by the latter was because of lack of appropriation to pay the men.

M. Viviani, head of the French delegation, bestowed high praise on the Harding idea for an association of nations and recurring conferences to straighten out world affairs.

NAVAL RECRUITING IN U. S. IS STOPPED

'No Pay for Further Help' Reason for Decision of Navy Department.

PERSONNEL IS FIXED

Serious Problems Faced as New Warships Are to Be in Commission.

SHIPS ARE UNDERMANNED

Naval Manœuvres Held Up Because Funds for Fuel Are Lacking.

By GRASER SCHORNSTHEIMER.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., Nov. 26.

England has stopped naval recruiting. To-day the United States stopped it. However, recruiting was not stopped because of plans proposed at the armament conference. Under the terms of the Hughes plan only one battleship now in active commission will be scrapped, and that ship is the Connecticut, flagship of the Pacific fleet.

The present personnel strength of the American navy is about 100,000 men, but these men are not sufficient for existing needs. The strength of the navy is prescribed by Congress, and naturally men cannot be enlisted above that strength because there is no money to pay them. The navy is full. "No pay for further help" is the sign that should be hung out at the department, not "No help wanted."

Shortage of Personnel.

The navy faces to-day a serious condition relative to personnel. All the battleships, cruisers and destroyers now in commission and a great many now out of commission are to be retained under the Hughes plan. The battleship forces of the Atlantic and Pacific fleets are being maintained with 89 per cent. of their full crews and are considered in active commission. Seventy of the several hundred destroyers the United States is to maintain are in actual active commission with 89 per cent. of their full crews. The others have crews of from 50 per cent. to no men at all. Most of the armored and light cruisers are out of commission with the exception of the cruisers of the Asiatic fleet, three or four destroyer flagships and the old cruiser Pueblo, which is not in active commission but is being maintained as the receiving ship at New York.

The submarine forces are also suffering from the lack of men, as is every naval district. The yards are short, the bases in Far Eastern waters are short and everything is making toward ruin because of the lack of men. So great is the lack that it was necessary to detail a battleship from the Atlantic fleet to maintain an active flagship for American naval forces in European waters.

No other navy in the world suffers from the lack of personnel as does the United States Navy. Japan keeps all her ships materially and tactically fit for duty in the slightest degree in full commission. Great Britain is maintaining a large fleet. France has her necessary ships in full commission, and, in fact, every navy in the world is being properly maintained except that of the United States.

Naval Reserve Abandoned.

It has been necessary to do away with the naval reserve because of the lack of money to pay the $12 a year retainer fees. The Naval Reserve was one of America's dearest possessions. The United States needed it badly when it went to war in 1917 and it was not in existence. During the war it was built up because it was not necessary to call the untrained reserve to battle while the Germans were being securely held to their North Sea bases by the British fleet. Now that reserve is gone. There has been some very adverse comment on the advisability of doing away with it.

In time of war the United States needs these extra trained men very, very badly and they constitute a powerful force for government. However, in time of war no enemy will wait for the United States to call this reserve from all of the forty-eight States to the colors, or is the enemy going to wait for those men to become accustomed to their ships? What is needed is a standing trained force. "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." And so it was with the Naval Reserve.

Next year there will be three fine new cruisers and some new destroyers to man. The crews of the ships aforementioned will have to be cut to do it, unless Congress allows for a very practical addition to the personnel.

An additional 50,000 men could easily be used by the new navy prescribed under the Hughes plan. If the protection of Americas colonial possessions is given over to the navy, as it may reasonably be expected that it will be, an additional 100,000 men will be necessary.

Cause for Alarm.

The matter of personnel is not taken up in the Hughes plan. It is not a loophole in any sense of the word, because each nation will naturally demand the right to set its personnel strength according to the individual needs of its service.

From an American standpoint, however, the present situation gives cause for alarm. For, coupled with personnel troubles, there are fuel troubles. It is not as yet definitely known just what the naval manoeuvres are to be this year. The lack of fuel is the reason. There are no appropriations for the extra fuel necessary for the fleet manoeuvres. Every other nation is conducting its naval manoeuvres as usual without being hindered by matters of either personnel or fuel.

The United States Navy must be kept as efficient as any of the foreign navies, especially since its power is being curtailed. The Hughes plan provides for the bare necessities in the matter of armaments. Every nation will maintain its forces up to the total strength allowed under the plan. The United States must follow the procession and keep her forces afloat efficient and ready for eventualities.

LOOKING IN on the conference

Thrill and Novelty of World Gathering Are Fading, and Drama Grows Pale With Some of Leaders Gone—Month of Serious Work Is Before the Delegates.

By EDWIN C. HILL.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., Nov. 26.

Briand and Beatty gone, Hughes and Balfour retired to the wings, Lloyd George doubtful, so they say, the drama of Washington grows pale. A month of work rears before the conference, momentous work, but the thrill is fading.

The trouble was they saved the child (still in London, it appears) in the first act, a proceeding fatal to suspense. It is inspiring diplomacy but poor stage management. Any motion picture director would have reversed the action.

It is as if the candidates and keynoters of the national convention of the Republican or Democratic party had sunned themselves in the public eye, made their appeals and had gone away somewhere to play golf. The conference developments are interesting like those of such a convention, especially the "bossless" convention in Chicago last June.

In the first week of novelty and thrill and heated expectation crowds trailed the principal delegates in the streets as avid and eager as if the gentlemen from oversea had been visitors from—well not Mars; Venus, let us say.

Nowadays "'at 'ole g'eman lord on the fo'th flo'," as 'Sephus, the elevator man, calls Mr. Balfour, can stroll about without being mobbed.

Mr. Balfour is experiencing a distinct flavor of the existence of flat dwellers of our American cities. An abider in palaces and court houses set among great parks, this personage lives by choice in a small apartment over a shop in Connecticut avenue. Street cars with flat wheels shriek under his windows. It must be a curious episode in the life of this maker of history, who has been attending peace conferences for forty-three years.

He has said pleasant things about the skill and trustworthiness of American newspaper men. When Lord Riddell first asked him to meet the press he was not unwilling, but was doubtful as to the discretion of the proceedings. They say that some of the English correspondents gasped when they heard that the aloof Mr. Balfour had consented to stand up and be shot at. To them it was just one of those things that wasn't done. The result was distinctly happy. Mr. Balfour's clarifying confidences were rigidly kept, and the spirit of his comments was faithfully reproduced. He is reported to have inquired how American reporters manage without taking notes to reproduce interviews with such fidelity.

The British have met and lowered their indomitable colors to the haughty telephone girl. A story which comes from the British Embassy is that a very prominent person of that delegation who had occasion to telephone to Senator Underwood the other night experienced some difficulty in getting a connection. Following the telephone practice of his country he repeated with rising inflection: "Are you there?" "Are you there?" The unfamiliar reiteration annoyed the hello girl who was handling the call. She barked back: "Sure, I'm here, you poor fish. Anything else you'd like to know?"

A French diplomat whose name would count for something if one were permitted to use it in this connection says to this writer: "There is a flurry of talk about bad feeling between the British and the French and sharp language on both sides. Yet England and France have not had a war for more than 100 years and they have fought side by side several times. I have heard members of their respective Governments using ferocious language and have seen them at lunch a little later, chummy as you please."

There are an extraordinary number of Chinese not connected with the conference to be found in Washington. Hundreds of Chinese students have come here to follow at first hand the negotiations to settle the future of the sons of Ham. They are much "Americanized," but they burn with zeal and ardently seize every opportunity to plead the cause of their country. It is a little startling to have the boy that has just served your chop suey pause by the table to ask you what you think will be done toward revising the 5 per cent. ad valorem tariff restriction fastened upon the Chinese customs in 1842 or to have the cook waddle from the kitchen to define in irreproachable English the Chinese definition of Chinese territory. No matter how poor, all contribute every week to the propaganda fund. This manifestation of the possibilities of the Oriental mind makes one thoughtful.

They don't like the Japanese, don't even pretend to. It would be hard to converse fifteen minutes on Far Eastern questions with one of these extremely modernized Chinese without getting subtly or directly the reflection of the dislike and suspicion they feel toward their neighbors.

One of the principal Chinese here, a military adviser to the delegation, is Gen. Chen, a graduate of West Point in the Class of 1909. His American classmates are Majors or Lieutenant-Colonels, but the Chinese soldier won rapid rank by fighting against bandits in his own country and received several high decorations for services performed for the Allies in the great war.

The Washington pickpocket, unlike prohibition enforcement officers, is no respecter of diplomatic immunity. Tatsu Kawai, one of the Japanese attaches, was "touched," as the saying is, while entering or leaving a theatre at the Thanksgiving matinee. He mourns the loss of $750, not to mention private papers contained in the wallet. The police say word runs through the underworld that the Japanese are made of money and that special attention is being paid to them by nimble handed thieves.

Washington high prices make the diplomats shudder. M. Briand bought a hat the other day, paying $10, about 130 francs for it. Maybe it goes on his expense account, but the cost caused the thrifty Frenchman to exclaim: "A month in America would ruin me."

The French are not spending much money outside of their official entertainments, nor are the British for that matter, but the Japanese are making the money fly. Whatever price is asked they pay without comment or argument. Most of them live at the Shoreham, an excellent place to thin out pocketbooks.

A Democratic politician walked in the street with this writer to-day, got a square look at Prince Lyesato Tokugawa, head of the Japanese delegation, as he passed in a motor car. The politician stopped in his tracks. "I was trying to think the other day who that fellow looks like," he said. "Don't you get it? Charles F. Murphy of Tammany Hall—same build, same small, keen eyes behind glasses, same shape of head and features; hard to tell apart."

REGENCY IN JAPAN IS LAID TO POLITICS

Emperor Off Throne for Good, Is Belief, With Liberals in Ascendancy.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., Nov. 26.

Important developments in Japanese internal politics are believed to be back of the decision to elevate Crown Prince Hirohito to the regency in place of his father, the Emperor. While it is explained that a return of the Emperor's health would end the regency, this is not expected.

The regency is believed to indicate a growth of the liberal movement in Japan and registers the increasing power of the Satsuma clan over that of the Choshu. The Satsuma controls the navy, while the Choshu controls the army.

This increased influence on the part of the Satsuma points to the growing power of Admiral Tomasaburo Kato, a Satsuma in the politics of Japan, and it is assumed that this fact will give to the head of the Japanese delegation to the Washington arms conference controlling influence in the Japanese delegation's policy.

In the conflicts between the civil power and military groups, the Japanese navy people are credited with having a larger view point and a clear realization of the real relationship of Japan to the rest of the world. It is the Choshu, or army group, which is charged with having embroiled Japan in her present entanglements in Siberia and in Manchuria, producing an embarassing situation for the Japanese delegates in Washington.

HAYS SURE CONFERENCE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL

Postmaster-General Says People Are Praying for It.

Postmaster-General Will H. Hays, in this city yesterday, expressed himself in enthusiastic terms over the armament conference.

"President Harding and Secretary Hughes," he said, "are making great progress in the attainment of the object set forth at the opening of the armament conference. One of the delegates from Europe told me only yesterday he would not dare return home before enough had been done to assure the carrying out of the President's programme.

"Furthermore, the American people are praying for the success of the conference, to the same extent they prayed for the American Army when our boys went abroad.

"Personally, I have no doubt whatever the conference will be a very great step in securing the peace of the world."

ARMY CUT FAVORED IN FRENCH CHAMBER

Recruiting Bill Under Plan of 18 Months' Service Goes to Commission.

PARIS, Nov. 26 (Associated Press).—The Government's recruiting bill to raise a nucleus of professional soldiers as the stabilizer of a smaller conscripted army under the proposed eighteen months' service, was filed to-day with the Army Commission of the Chamber of Deputies. This bill is still indefinite in its terms, but its advocates consider it capable of producing 100,000 men who will form the framework of a big army in case of general mobilization.

The bill, coupled with Premier Briand's declaration at Washington of a reduction in the army, has resulted in much discussion among military men and parliamentarians. It is agreed that the country demands eighteen months service, and this probably will be adopted, but there are wide differences of opinion regarding what force France should maintain. This doubtless will take a foremost place in the debates in the Chamber and Senate after M. Briand returns to Paris.

Eighteen months' service, it is estimated by the members of the Army Commission of the Chamber, would maintain a force of a quarter of a million men. This is based on the fact that there are about 300,000 men of military age annually, out of whom could be drafted about 170,000. Some think, however, that there would be such pressure in time of peace for the most liberal exemptions that each class would yield only 110,000 to 120,000 men.

From these, therefore, could be raised an army of a class and a half, amounting to 165,000 to 180,000. In addition, contingents could be recruited from among professional soldiers, as well as Moroccans, Sengalese and Orientals.

Members of the commission assert that the plans of the military authorities call for a total force approaching half a million men. But there is an evident desire by the Chamber to reduce the army to the smallest number compatible with the country's safety.

LAST OF KITCHENER'S ARMY LEAVES FRANCE

7 Officers and 36 Privates Have Been There 7 Years.

CALAIS, Nov. 26.—Seven officers and thirty-six privates, the last of the four and a half million men constituting the British Expeditionary Force, have embarked for England after an absence of seven years.

No official ceremony attended the departure. The French Government had suggested a sendoff celebration, but the British War Office decided otherwise. Private farewells on the quay, however, were extremely cordial.

ANTI-FRENCH RIOTING IN ITALY STIRS PARIS

Reactions of Washington Conference Affect Politics of Old World.

IN FEAR OF ISOLATION

Curzon's Warning, Naples Outbreak and Other Incidents Prove Alarming.

HUGO STINNES IS BLAMED

Conditions in Both France and Italy Easily Affected by Irritable Causes.

By LAURENCE HILLS.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

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New York Herald Bureau, Paris, Nov. 26.

Incidents in connection with the Washington conference are beginning to have an inevitable repercussion in the tinder box of politics of the Old World. This is evident from the Italian anti-French riots yesterday and to-day, of which it now appears the last has not yet been heard, and from the feeling aroused in French minds by the speech by Lord Curzon, British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Friday, when he publicly criticised the French Government's policy.

As usual when serious divergences appeal among these three allies, there is now talk of the convocation of the Allied Supreme Council to reaffirm the Entente, which seems all important if the Allies are to act together in the event Germany should insist she cannot pay the reparation instalment due on January 15.

Between making sacrifices to maintain this accord and seeing France isolated, a majority of French citizens unhesitatingly would elect to follow the former policy. Incidents like the Italian riots and Lord Curzon's warning are showing them that isolation is a growing peril for France. Premier Briand's policy, which is to save France from this, is sure to triumph on his return here from Washington, providing the French financial situation does not get worse, but it is doubtful if any Government here could stand at present if it advocated any further reductions in Germany's debt to France.

Restraining Excitement.

With Premier Briand now on the ocean homeward bound, the Government is making efforts to restrain the excitement regarding the anti-French demonstrations in Italy, emphasizing the visit of the Italian Ambassador here to the French Foreign Office yesterday and the speech of the Italian Foreign Minister in the Chamber of Deputies in Rome denying the reports that a wordy clash had occurred between Premier Briand and the head of the Italian delegation at the Washington arms conference.

Unfortunately, however, a certain section of the Italian press obviously is carrying on an anti-French campaign. Despatches received here show that, influenced by this channel, serious riots occurred in Naples to-day and that all day yesterday mobs, in which Italian students were prominent, made repeated attacks on the French consulate there, burning French flags. Several of the rioters were wounded by troops which were sent to guard the consulate.

The students acclaimed the Italian army, which Premier Briand was incorrectly reported to have aspersed in Washington. These incidents, following those of a month ago, show that anti-French feeling is running extremely high in Italy, which is attributed here to German influences, particularly the affiliations of Hugo Stinnes, in Italy.

Blames British Newspaper.

Were the present Government stronger there would be little to feared, but Italy is politically very much torn up. The fact that it was a British newspaper which apparently started the latest trouble in Italy naturally is not helping the feeling aroused by Lord Curzon's speech, and the sending of a British cruiser to Messina ostensibly to protect British residents who might possibly be imperilled by France's Silician evacuation.

This, however, the *Temps* says, must not be considered by the French as another "Panther" incident, inasmuch as the British Ambassador took pains to indicate that the sending of the cruiser was not intended as a sign of disaccord with France.

Moderate papers here speak regretfully of Lord Curzon's speech and the disaccord which seems to exist among the Allies, expressing the hope that Premier Briand will immediately undertake conversations to restore the harmony now lacking in Allied affairs.

FRENCH FLAG BURNED BY MOB IN NAPLES

NAPLES, Nov. 26 (Associated Press).—Anti-French demonstrations, which broke out in Turin last night following publication of despatches from Washington reporting a clash of words between Premier Briand of France and Senator Schanzer, head of the Italian delegation in America, spread to Naples to-day, where several persons were wounded in a revolver duel between the police and the demonstrators.

Enraged over reading published reports of harsh words directed against the Italian delegate by the French Premier, a band of demonstrators, consisting for the most part of students and Fascisti, paraded the principal streets of the city crying "Down with France!"

The most serious incident in connection with the demonstrations occurred when the mob found a French flag and burned it publicly amid hostile exclamations against France.

ROME, Nov. 26 (Associated Press).—Foreign Minister Della Torretta to-day announced he had received a cable message from Senator Schanzer, head of the Italian delegation in Washington, emphatically denying press despatches from the American capital alleging that Premier Briand of France had used harsh words to the Italian delegate in a committee meeting at Washington.

WOMEN TELL LADY ASTOR PARLEY MAKES PROGRESS

Four Members of Advisory Arms Committee See New Era of Diplomacy in Effort to Prevent Wars in Future and Preserve Our Race.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26 (Associated Press).—Conviction that the Washingtontbn conference "has marked a new era in diplomacy" is expressed by the four women members of the advisory committee to the American delegation in a letter addressed to Lady Astor, member of the British House of Commons, made public to-night.

The letter, which is signed by Mrs. Charles Sumner Bird, Mrs. Katherine Phillips Edson, Mrs. Eleanor Franklin Egan and Mrs. Thomas G. Winter, is in reply to a letter from Lady Astor transmitting the views of the women of England as expressed through eighty-seven national organizations with respect to the armament conference.

"This conference has marked a new era in diplomacy," the letter written by the advisory committeewomen says. "We now realize that here in America, as in other countries, public opinion has found its new way to power and is affecting the course of statesmen who once could settle everything behind closed doors.

"We do not agree with those people who have little faith in the outcome of this conference, who believe that nations, having been selfish and having settled their disputes by war, must therefore continue to do so. These people are filled with suspicions and call for more armaments and increasing preparations for war, begetting a spirit of fear and distrust.

"We believe with you that the great war has taught us the need of peace and that no nation can stand by itself. We believe that if we want our type of civilization and culture to endure and to progress that this fierce race for armament must cease. We all know that another world war would be more swift, more extensive, more destructive than the last, and might well be the beginning of the degeneration of our race.

"The conference was called together three weeks ago. Already the decks have been cleared for action, all side issues brushed away and a concrete, far reaching proposal for immediate limitation of naval armaments has been advanced by the United States and accepted in principle by the two other great naval Powers, England and Japan.

"Now must come the vast and stupendous work of adjusting the details of these principles, of little by little removing the suspicions, the hatreds, the fears of age long existence. . . . Nearly a million of the best of your manhood, as 50,000 of ours, fell fighting on the fields of battle. . . . It is for us to see that the task is finished."

'COREA FREE MEANS PEACE IN FAR EAST'

Commissioner Asks America to Make Japan Release Her Stranglehold.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., Nov. 26.

"If the United States in dealing with the Far Eastern question wishes to score a tremendous moral victory and at the same time take the one practical step which will prevent, for a long time to come, war in the Orient, she will insist that Japan release her present strangle hold on Corea and give to Corea her complete independence."

This statement, made to THE NEW YORK HERALD to-day by Dr. Philip Jaishon, Commissioner in the United States for the Corean Republic, epitomizes the contents of diplomatic representations the Coreans will make to the Washington conference.

The Corean commission is proceeding tactfully, not because it has any hesitancy about filing the strongest kind of charges against Japan, but because, in the present situation, it is considering Japan as America's guest at the conference and, therefore, hesitates to act boldly out of courtesy to America. The Coreans feel, however, that their country is the crux of the entire Far Eastern situation and that its affairs will, of necessity, come before the conference. When the time arrives the Corean mission will have a good deal to say.

"Naturally enough, Americans know very little of the Corean question," continued Dr. Jaishon. 'In recent years they have been deeply engaged in other matters, but I imagine they will become rather interested in Corea before the conference is over.

"Japan's talk of the economic necessity for her having an outlet for her population into Corea is rot. This is proved by the fact that there are but 300,000 Japanese in Corea to-day, and of this number 125,000 are soldiers and police. The truth is that economically the Japanese cannot compete with either the Chinese or the Coreans. The northern Chinese and the Coreans are bigger and stronger than the Japanese. They can do more work. The Coreans average two inches above the Japanese in height and weigh on an average twenty-five pounds more.

"But Corea is an essential point of strategy for Japan in her ambitions to conquer Manchuria and Siberia. It was her base in Corea that enabled Japan to take Port Arthur in the Russo-Japanese war and from this base she threw troops into Manchuria at Mukden. After this war Japan, following out the Prussian thought her army men had learned from their German instructors, began to feel that, since she had conquered Russia, she could conquer other territory, and then turned her eyes to Manchuria and Siberia.

"So now we have Japan in military control of the strategic p[illegible] from which to make trouble in the [illegible] East. Corea is to her what the Rhi[illegible] bridge heads have been to Germany in her role as a menace to France. Again, Japan's talk of economic expansion is ridiculous. She has made no improvements in Corea except in the matter of road building. And the roads she has built and improved are for military purposes purely."

BLAME JEALOUS WOMAN FOR PASSPORT DELAY

Satchel With 82 Documents Found at Coblenz.

COBLENZ, Nov. 26.—The missing suitcase containing the passports of the wives of eighty-two American soldiers who left here for Antwerp yesterday on their way home, was found here this morning by the military police. Discovery that the satchel was missing was made just before the train pulled out.

The military police who found the documents expressed belief that the satchel had been taken from the train by a jealous woman. The passports are being rushed to Antwerp by a courier and arrangements have been made to delay the sailing of the transport Cantigny until the documents arrive.

SOVIET SEEKS TRADE AGREEMENT WITH U. S.

MOSCOW, Nov. 26 (Associated Press).—Soviet officials indicated to-day that they expected official restoration of business relations with America in a very short time, or at least the negotiation of some sort of a trade agreement between the United States and Soviet Russia.

The conference at Dairen between the Far Eastern Republic and Japan is regarded as the possible gateway through which Soviet officials may find admission to America. The Moscow Government is to participate in this conference unofficially, and it links up so closely with the Pacific problem which the Washington conference is considering that Bolshevist officials hope it will result in an invitation to Soviet Russia to send representatives to Washington.

CANADIAN LEADERS SEE HOPE IN PARLEY

Sir Thomas White Tells Diners Here It Is an Epochal Event.

Real proof of the sincerity of the purpose of the Washington conference is to be seen in America's open hearted avowals and Great Britain's swift and uncompromising espousal of Mr. Hughes's proposals, said John Hamilton Fulton, president of the Canadian Society of New York at that organization's annual dinner in the Biltmore last night.

Sir Thomas White, Canadian Minister of Finance during the war and now vice-president of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, followed Mr. Fulton, saying that while he was not optimistic enough to believe the world has seen its last war, he did believe if the world "could only be induced to take the lesson of this war to heart there would be no more war."

"The mere bringing of nations together upon such a theme is an epochal event in the history of humanity," said Sir Thomas. "Reduce armaments, yes, if done fairly and with due appreciation of the needs of each nation. It is always the unknown that is feared. One way to avoid war is to keep public opinion accurately informed upon international affairs and enable the public correctly to judge the purposes of nations.

"If England had not possessed a powerful navy she would have been starved out by Germany in half the time the war lasted. And there would have been no conference in Washington to-day. Complete disarmament is impossible. Nations must be able to protect themselves against aggression.

"When you have reduced armaments you have not reduced the possibility of war. In its deeper sense the problem is ethical—the attitude of man to man, of nation to nation. You will have peace on earth when you have good will among men; when the rule of selfishness and its greed, avarice, ambition and arrogance have passed away.

"Canada belives in conferences which may result in better international understandings. If the home, the pulpit, the press, the schools, publicists and political leaders in all nations could be induced from this forth to preach and practise right rules of conduct as between man and man and nation and nation war would measurably be nearer an end."

Mr. Fulton said, in part:

"It is clear there is nothing selfish in the proposals of the United States Government to scrap $300,000,000 worth of naval equipment. Great Britain was certainly not selfish when she agreed so quickly and wholeheartedly to the American proposals.

"Of the future let us have no fear. The present has problems enough for us, but let us be thankful that to-day our problems are problems of construction and not of destruction. The coming era might well be called the 'building age,' because the world is fast getting its forces in order to repair the damage of the past. In this coming era the Canadian Society will be found at its post striving with all its resources to continually broaden the new day now beginning so auspiciously."

LORING DRESEL OUT OF DANGER

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Berlin, Nov. 26.

Ellis Loring Dresel, American Charge d'Affaires, who has been seriously ill with bronchitis, was pronounced out of danger to-day.

FUTURE CONFERENCE PLANS INDORSED

World Benefit Seen in Renewed Session of Washington Parley.

NO CONFLICT OF AIMS

High Court and League Considered as Dealing With Europe Alone.

By GEORGES LE CHARTIER.

Correspondent of the Journal Des Debats.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., Nov. 26.

The announcement that, in accordance with the desire of the American Government, the present conference shall probably be followed by many others in years to come, has been, of course, the subject of many conversations in all circles of Washington to-day.

The new decision appears as a logical consequence and result of the excellent method which has been unceasingly applied by the Administration to the developments of this conference. From the first it has been obvious to the unprejudiced observer that the head of the American delegation had a preconceived and precise plan of progressing in the debates, a plan from which he was resolved not to depart under any circumstance. And this plan consisted in advancing a new step only after the previous one had been so firmly strengthened that no influence or reaction whatever could force a recoil.

Of course, the first condition to be observed in applying that method is to gather so many documents, facts and evidences that the certainty and strength of the final resolution of action just obtained can never be shaken or upset hereafter. But it will necessarily take weeks and months to gather some of these evidences for such complex questions as those now placed before the conference.

Two Courses Are Open.

So if the programme must be achieved under the indicated method, two ways are open. Either the conference should be made permanent in Washington, an obviously impossible course since none of the delegates could settle in Washington; or the conference should adjourn after it has come to a point where no new progress can be expected without the necessary inquiries having been made and reports having been completed and carefully studied.

To take an actual example. The Chinese delegation formulated two demands yesterday, one dealing with the exploitation of foreign post offices in China, the other aiming at the abrogation of extraterritorial rights in China. Of course, the first question is easy to answer and no nation is expected to make any objection to the Chinese desire on that point. But the second is most delicate and will require a careful and long inquiry beforer a decision based on evidence and fact can be reached.

So, if the actual conference is not to be blocked the results and reports of the agreed inquiry must be reserved for some other session. That example, suggested by a high official here, may show how the idea of calling new conferences in the near future was logically forced on the mind of the American delegates as a result of the methods previously adopted.

That the next conferences should be larger and include representatives of Germany is just as logical, as it will appear legitimate or urgent that all the nations who have interests in the questions to be discussed may be allowed to expose their views.

No Conflict of Jurisdiction.

Of course it has already been pointed out that some difficulty may arise out of the apparent permanency given to the conference since there still exists a League of Nations in Geneva, and an already organized High Court of Justice at The Hague. The solution, as it seems to appear to the Administration here, should be in a kind of moral or gentlemen's agreement, according to the league at Geneva and to the high court at The Hague especial consideration of European affairs.

And some relations, wholly unbinding, might be more easily solved should some, if not most, of the European delegates to the Washington conference be already members of the league. Thus without any binding connections between the two organizations being created, the Washington conference might be informed of the European views on such general problems as those of disarmament and war methods which are scheduled in both programmes.

It does not seem to be doubted here that not only should no conflict arise between the two assemblies, but since the league and the Washington conference have similar aims, namely establishment of the peace of the world, some mutual help should come out of the disinterested study in two different places of the most difficult problems of civilization by the best experts to be found. The result cannot be but of the greatest benefit to the civilized world.

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