

U. S. CAN GUIDE NATIONS TO NEW ERA BY PROPOSAL

Purposes of Powers Hold Key to Success, Nebraskan Asserts.

BY WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN. (Special to News-Times.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 10.—The conference which is about to assemble may prove to be the most important gathering in centuries, or it may bring the greatest disappointment experienced in generations.

It all depends upon the real purpose of the actors—a purpose that can only be revealed by acts. If the delegates believe universal and perpetual peace possible, they will try to secure it; if not, they will not attempt anything of real and permanent importance.

It is a conference from which any of the nations may emerge the hero.

Depends Now on Nations. The United States may surprise the world by offering so much that the other nations will be compelled to accept the offer and end war.

Japan may announce a willingness to go so far as to insure the success of the conference.

Great Britain may step to the front and settle discussion by a proposition which will leave the other nations no alternative but to accept.

France may find in disarmament her greatest security, and point the way to world peace.

Who will win the capitol prize, which in this case will be the plaudits of the world and the gratitude of posterity?

U. S. Has First Move. The United States has the best position. She extended the invitation and has the first move. More than that, her traditional policy has been to rely upon her pacific intentions rather than upon fleets and armies. In the present instance, she has a mighty asset in the debts due her.

Suppose the United States were to step forward and say: We are willing to pay \$10,000,000,000 for the progressive disarmament of the world, begun at once and continued until the navies are no larger than necessary to police the seas and the armies no larger than necessary to preserve peace on land, could the nations refuse the offer?

Ten billions of debt cancelled on such conditions would enable the allies and their enemies to get together and so distribute the sum as to bring a large measure of financial relief to every nation involved in the war, and this relief would restore friendly relations and permit a disarmament otherwise impossible. The cancellation of this debt, added to

the reduction of military and naval expenses, would give the world a new birth.

Americans are "Sentimental." Could the United States afford it? A reduction of one-half in her military and naval appropriations would enable her to save the amount in less than 20 years. A reduction of three-fourths in army and navy expenses would enable her to save the amount in less than 15 years. It will be difficult for the debtor nations to pay the sum, and the obligation to pay it is made the basis for indemnities which, however just, threaten the amity of Europe for generations, and thus furnish an excuse for military and naval expenditures scarcely less burdensome than the indemnities.

Would the American people support such a proposition? Why not? They are sentimental; they spent over \$10,000,000,000 to end war by means of war; would they not spend \$10,000,000,000 to end war by peaceful means? And besides the American people are practical.

Has this nation any better offer to make? Is any other nation able to make so large a contribution toward the success of the conference?

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WILSON PLANS TO ATTEND SERVICES

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10.—Woodrow Wilson is determined to risk his health in order to pay tribute to America's unknown soldier Friday.

It will be the ex-president's first appearance at an official function since he attended the inaugural ceremonies for Pres't Harding.

GEM BANDITS GET \$35,000 IN HOLD-UP

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Nov. 10.—Two armed bandits today held up and robbed employees of the S. P. Plan Jewelry Co. of gems valued at between \$35,000 and \$50,000.

MAY ASK HARDING TO MEDIATE TAX

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10.—Pres't Harding may be asked to act again as mediator in the tax revision fight. This is the view of democratic leaders in the house, who point to the wide split in the republican ranks in both the house and senate on the income surtax provision in the tax measure.

The democrats say that the majority leaders in both houses are opposed to the senate amendment with its maximum rate of 50 percent, but are faced with the possibility of its final enactment through a coalition of "insurgent" republicans and the solid democratic minorities.

Rep. Dickinson, of Iowa, and other leaders of the "insurgent" republicans in the house believe they have sufficient votes, with the aid of the solid minority, to force acceptance of the senate surtax rates. They have agreed, however, to defer the fight in the house until after the conferees get under way their work of re-writing the tax bill.

ITALIAN STRIKE SPREADS RAPIDLY

ROME, Nov. 10.—The general strike called by the chamber of labor in protest against anti-radical activities of the Fascisti was spreading rapidly today. The Fascisti following their meeting here, held a parade during which there was some fighting between the paraders and striking railroad workers. The general strike was called after the railroad workers had protested to the Fascisti congress against anti-socialist activities of members of that organization in the attacks upon the communist deputies, Signore Zanardi and Tuntar.

One railway worker was killed in a fight with the Fascisti.

Many members of the Fascisti have been arriving in Rome, Milan and other cities to join their comrades.

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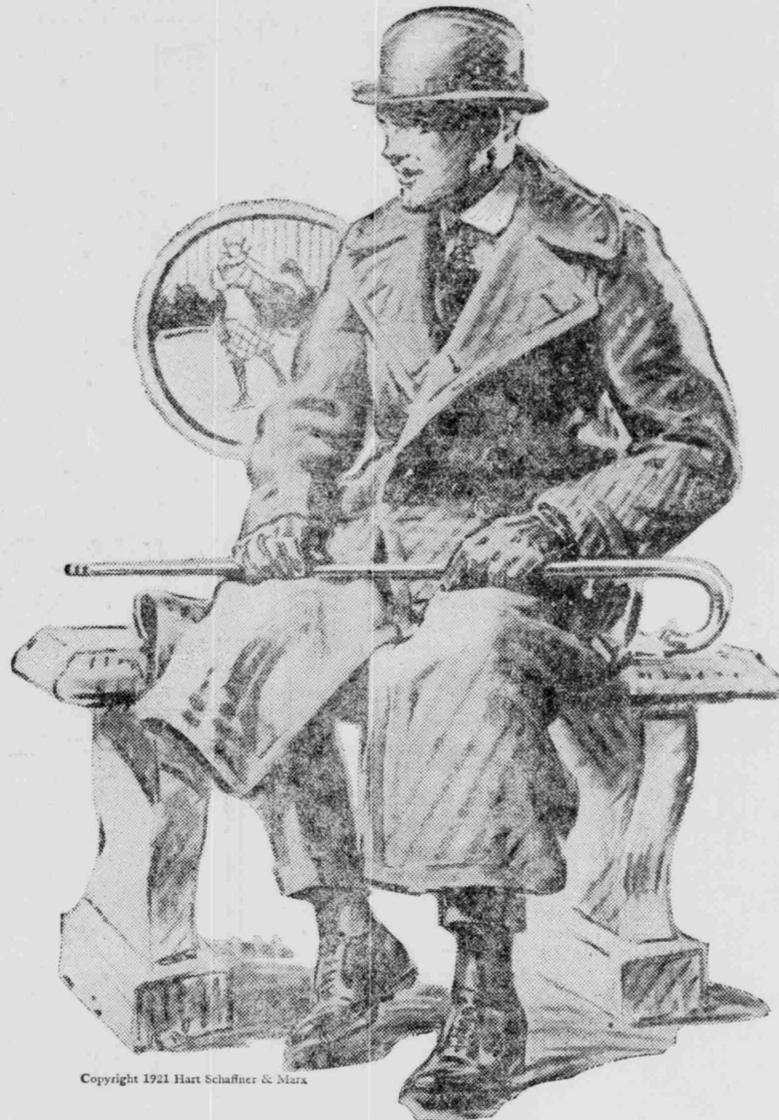


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