

# WORLD NOT YET NORMAL IN 1920

## European Nations, Especially, Are Beset With Troubles During Period of Readjustment.

### PRINCIPAL EVENTS REVIEWED

#### Failure of Senate to Ratify Peace Treaty Leaves-United States Technically at War—Presidential Election Holds Interest.

By DONALD F. BIGGS.

The world throughout the year 1920 was passing through the troublesome period of readjustment and reaction that began with the close of the World War. Of all the great powers that had been involved in the conflict, the United States alone remained technically in a state of war with Germany through the failure of the senate to ratify the peace treaty. For all practical purposes, however, the United States was at peace and conditions in this country were more nearly normal than in most of the nations of Europe which had accepted the settlements agreed upon by the peace conference at Paris.

Although the great war had ended, the world was not at peace in 1920. Territorial disputes and jealousies growing out of the war resulted in a large number of minor conflicts.

The Irish problem remained unsolved and the situation in the Emerald Isle grew more serious as the year progressed. In the United States, despite minor radical activities and the uncertainties accompanying the readjustment of business and industrial conditions, there was continued prosperity and optimism.

### INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

The World War was formally ended January 10 when Germany and fourteen of the powers allied against her in the war exchanged ratifications of the Treaty of Versailles at Paris. The United States, however, was not among the nations participating in this ceremony, as the treaty had not been ratified by the senate.

The League of Nations came into actual being at Paris January 16 when the executive council held its first meeting with representatives from Belgium, Brazil, England, Italy, France, Japan, Greece and Spain participating.

The Russian government made a step toward securing peace with its warring neighbors by concluding treaties with Ukraine and Estonia.

The Turkish peace terms were completed on March 3, and a week later the Allies decided to use force to impose the terms upon Turkey, sending troops to occupy Constantinople. The Allied forces occupied the Turkish capital without opposition.

Polish troops began a spring offensive against the Russian Bolsheviks in the Baltic region on March 23. Warsaw reported heavy fighting at many points on the 400-mile front. Three days later Poland offered peace terms to Russia, providing for restoration of the kingdom of 1772, return of art and other treasures, and an indemnity for invasions since 1914. Polish troops administered a severe defeat to the Bolsheviks at Podolia April 13.

The Poles and Ukrainians negotiated a treaty on April 27, recognizing Ukrainian independence from Russia. A combined army of Poles and Ukrainians then launched an offensive against the Russian "Red" forces, capturing Kiev on May 8 and the great port of Odessa on May 11.

Bolshevik troops invaded Persia at Astara May 18, forcing the withdrawal of British troops. Bolshevik troops on the Polish front were re-enforced and launched an attack on a ninety-mile front, seeking to open communication with East Prussia. On June 3 they succeeded in flanking and driving back General Pilsudski's Polish troops.

The supreme council continued its efforts to complete the peace settlements. The treaty with Hungary was signed June 4 at Versailles, Ambassador Wallace signing for the United States. Turkey was granted fifteen days additional time to present its views regarding the treaty with that country.

While these peace negotiations were in progress, fighting continued at many points. Over 300 Italian prisoners were killed by Albanians at Tirana on June 18 in retaliation for the assassination of Essad Pasha in Paris on June 13.

On July 7 the Bolshevik troops captured Rovno, throwing the Poles into retreat on the entire front. Poland opened negotiations for an armistice and these continued for a week when it was reported that Russia had ordered the postponement of the negotiations and the capture of Warsaw. Bolshevik troops captured Lomza and Brest-Litovsk, and began a drive on Lubers August 1. During the next two weeks they continued to advance and on August 17 were within twelve miles of Warsaw. The Polish capital seemed doomed, but on the 17th the Poles launched a great counter-offensive and drove the Bolsheviks back in disorder. Heartened by the crushing blow given the Russian forces, the Poles rejected the Bolshevik peace terms.

In the meantime, on August 11, the

French foreign office surprised the other powers by giving recognition to General Wrangel's de facto government in South Russia.

The Turkish peace treaty was signed on August 10 by all nations concerned except Serbia and the Hedjaz. Soviet Russia continued its effort to make peace with its neighbors by signing a treaty with Latvia and agreeing to armistice terms with Finland.

On October 12 the Poles signed an armistice and preliminary peace treaty with Russia to become effective October 18.

The cessation of hostilities on the Polish fronts enabled the Bolsheviks to strengthen their other fronts. Directed by Trotzky, the war minister, the Bolsheviks launched a violent offensive on October 31 against the South Russian armies commanded by General Wrangel. They succeeded in smashing General Wrangel's forces and drove on through Crimea.

The Bolsheviks forces captured Sebastopol November 14. General Wrangel and the remnants of his army were on board American, French and British warships which steamed out of the harbor as the Bolsheviks entered the city.

An agreement on the Adriatic question was reached November 10 at a conference between the Jugo-Slavs and the Italians and a treaty embodying the agreement was signed at Rapallo two days later.

The Assembly of the League of Nations opened its first session at Geneva November 15. Paul Hymans of Belgium being elected president.

On November 29 President Wilson accepted an invitation extended by the Council of the League of Nations to act as mediator between Armenia and Turkey. Two days later the Russia Bolshevik took Erivan and announced the establishment of a soviet Armenian republic. On December 3 Armenia and the Turkish Nationalists signed a treaty of peace.

Several attempts to secure action on amendments to the covenant of the League of Nations were voted down by the league assembly. Because of this action the Argentine delegates to the assembly withdrew on December 3. On December 1 Austria was admitted to the league, the first of the allies of Germany to be granted membership.

### FOREIGN AFFAIRS

With continual strife, amounting virtually to civil war, in Ireland, with spasmodic revolutionary outbreaks in Germany, with counter-revolutionary movements developing at intervals in Russia, with civil war in China and with political upheavals in France, Italy, Greece and other countries, the unrest and changing conditions growing out of the World War were reflected in the disturbed internal conditions of many countries of the old world in 1920.

One of the unexpected political developments of the early days of the year was the failure of Premier Clemenceau to obtain election as president of France upon the expiration of the term of President Poincare. Paul Deschanel was elected on January 17 and the following day Clemenceau's cabinet resigned. Alexandre Millerand formed a new cabinet at the request of President Poincare.

The All-Russian government in Siberia, headed by Admiral Alexander B. Kolchak, was finally destroyed with the killing of Admiral Kolchak by Social Revolutionists at Irkutsk on February 7.

In Great Britain the government took its first definite step toward a settlement of the Irish question on February 25 by presenting to the house of commons its Irish home rule bill, providing for autonomous rule under a dual parliament, representing both the north and the south. On March 10 Ulster voted to accept the bill.

A new counter-revolution, directed by militarists, broke out in Berlin March 13. The revolutionists gained control of Berlin and Dr. Wolfgang Kapp proclaimed himself chancellor. The revolution was short-lived, however, ending in failure on the 16th when Dr. Kapp resigned.

The Irish situation continued to attract the attention of the world. On March 19 the mayor of Cork was killed by assassins. In the House of Commons the Irish Home Rule bill passed its second reading on March 31, 348 to 94. On April 4 Irish tax offices and records were burned at many points and wire communication from Belfast was cut.

In Mexico the presidential campaign developed a revolution which resulted eventually in the overthrow of the Carranza government. On April 10 the state of Sonora withdrew from the republic and fighting between the Sonora troops and federal forces began. By April 21 nine Mexican states had joined the secession movement. The revolutionary movement gained rapidly and on May 7 President Carranza fled from Mexico City toward the eastern coast. On May 22 Carranza, the fugitive president, was shot and killed by troops in his escort while asleep.

A cabinet crisis in Italy on June 9 resulted in the resignation of Premier Nitti and his cabinet. Signor Orlando also resigned as president of the chamber. A new cabinet was formed June 17 under former Premier Giovanni Giolitti. On June 27 Italian troops mutinied at Ancona and "Red" uprisings broke out all over Italy in what appeared to be a concerted anarchist plot.

On August 13 Mayor Terence MacSwiney of Cork was arrested by British troops for sedition in holding a Sinn Fein court at the City Hall. He was convicted by a court martial on the 17th and taken to an English pris-

on, where he immediately entered upon a hunger strike. Riots and incendiarism continued to assume more serious proportions at many points.

In the constitutional election held in Mexico September 5 General Alvaro Obregon was elected president.

President Deschanel of France resigned September 21 because of ill health and on the 23rd Premier Alexandre Millerand was elected to succeed him. Georges Leygues, minister of marine under Clemenceau, became premier.

Further disturbances were reported in Italy during October. On the 13th leaders of the Socialist party and the General Confederation of Labor ordered demonstrations in every town in Italy in an effort to force the Italian government to recognize soviet Russia, and on the following day many persons were killed and wounded in the course of a two-hour strike called as a protest against the arrest of political offenders opposing the allied policy toward Russia. The government began a drive on the 17th to round up all advocates of violence in the country.

After a hunger strike of 74 days, which had drawn the attention of the world, Terence MacSwiney, lord mayor of Cork, died in Brixton prison, London, October 25. Great pressure had been brought to bear to secure Mayor MacSwiney's release, but the government stood firm in its stand against the hunger strikers.

King Alexander of Greece died on October 25 as a result of a bite by a pet monkey, and it was announced that the throne would be offered to Prince Paul, third son of former King Constantine.

Peace in China seemed to be finally assured by a proclamation issued by the government November 1, declaring that there had been a reunion of North and South China and calling for the election of a new parliament.

Fierce rioting between Unionists and Sinn Feiners broke out in North Belfast, Ireland, November 7. Serious disorders were reported also at Londonderry, where five policemen were shot and many ships burned or wrecked. The Irish home rule bill passed the house of commons on its third reading November 11. At Dublin on November 21, following the murder of 14 British officers, a force of troops raided a football game and fired upon the crowd, killing and wounding a large number of persons.

A political upheaval came in Greece with the defeat in the general election on November 14 of the party headed by Premier Venizelos. Premier Venizelos resigned on November 17 and George Rihallis, former premier and leader among the followers of ex-King Constantine, formed a new cabinet.

On December 4 the Greek people in a plebiscite voted for the return of King Constantine. On December 19 Constantine returned to Athens in triumph.

The Irish situation neared a crisis during the closing weeks of the year. Wholesale arrests were made by the British authorities during the last weeks of November, among those taken being Arthur Griffith, acting president of the "Irish republic" and many other Irish leaders. On November 28 Irish plotters set fire to several large warehouses on the Liverpool water front and killed two men. Martial law was proclaimed in south Ireland on December 10 and two days later a large part of the business district of Cork was burned in reprisal, it was claimed, for Sinn Fein raids.

### DOMESTIC

The year 1920 being a presidential election year, politics held the attention of the people of the United States during the greater part of the year. Senator Warren G. Harding of Ohio was nominated for President by the Republicans at Chicago June 12. The Democratic national convention at San Francisco nominated Governor James M. Cox of Ohio on July 5 on the forty-fourth ballot.

In the election on November 2, the Republican national ticket was elected by an overwhelming majority, receiving 414 electoral votes while the Democratic candidates received 117. The Republicans also won an overwhelming majority in congress.

By winning their long fight for equal suffrage, the women of the country gained the right to vote for all offices in the November election.

The United States Supreme court on January 5 upheld the constitutionality of wartime prohibition and the Volstead enforcement act. On January 16 nationwide prohibition, under the eighteenth amendment to the Constitution, went into effect.

On January 10 the New York assembly, with but two dissenting voices, voted to exclude the five Socialist members of that body, pending trial on charges that the platform of their party is revolutionary.

The anti-radical campaign resulted in the indictment of 88 leaders of the Communist Labor party in Chicago on January 21.

The railroads of the country were returned to private operation on March 1, under the terms of the Cummins-Each railroad reorganization act.

Senator Truman H. Newberry of Michigan was convicted in the federal court at Grand Rapids on March 20 on charges involving the use of excessive campaign funds. He and 16 co-defendants were given prison sentences, but remained at liberty pending an appeal to the higher courts.

The trial of the five Socialist members of the New York assembly ended with their expulsion from the legislature April 11.

Several suits had been instituted during the early months of the year attacking the validity of the eighteenth (prohibition) amendment. All these cases were taken to the United States Supreme court and on June 7

that tribunal decided that the amendment and the Volstead enforcement act were constitutional.

Big increases in rates were granted the railroads of the country by the Interstate commerce commission July 31 to enable the roads to meet increased wages. Passenger rates were increased 20 per cent, with a Pullman surcharge of 50 per cent for the railroads. Freight rates were increased from 25 to 40 per cent in different sections of the country.

The trial of the Communist Labor party leaders in Chicago, in progress for several months, ended August 2 with the conviction of 20, who were given jail sentences.

The five Socialist assemblymen expelled from the New York legislature in the spring, having been re-elected, were again unseated when the legislature met in special session September 21.

Sharp drops in the prices of cotton, wheat and other farm products brought appeals for assistance from the farmers of the country during the latter part of the year. Night riders appeared in southern states in an effort to force the growers to hold their cotton for a higher price and a movement was started to secure the holding of wheat from the market.

### NATIONAL LEGISLATION

The continued fight over the ratification of the treaty of Versailles, with the League of Nations covenant, resulting in rejection of the treaty for the second time, occupied the attention of the United States senate during the early months of 1920 and monopolized the attention of the public, so far as congressional action was concerned. The Cummins-Each bill, under which the railroads of the country operated after their return to private control, and the army reorganization bill were the principal pieces of legislation enacted before the first regular session of the Sixty-sixth congress ended June 5.

On January 10, the house, by a vote of 328 to 6, for the second time refused to seat Victor Berger, Socialist, who had been re-elected to congress from a Milwaukee district after he had been once barred by the house because of his alleged disloyalty during the war.

The Water Power Development bill, which had long been pending in congress, was passed by the senate January 15. A similar bill had been adopted by the house in July, 1919.

Another long congressional fight for the adoption of the Oil Land Leasing bill, was ended when the conference report was adopted by the house on February 10 and the senate two days later.

The senate then turned its attention to the peace treaty. The original Lodge reservations were again adopted, with some amendments. The treaty, with the reservations, came to a vote on March 19, and for the second time failed to secure the requisite two-thirds majority, the vote being 49 to 35. The following day the rejected treaty was sent back to the President.

With no prospect of the early adoption of the treaty, resolutions declaring the war at an end were introduced in both the house and the senate. Both houses adopted the Knox senate resolution. President Wilson vetoed this resolution, however, on May 27.

A few days earlier, on May 24, President Wilson asked the senate for authority to accept the mandate for Armenia that had been offered by the supreme council. On June 1 the senate "respectfully declined" to give the President the authority requested.

On June 3, the house voted, 343 to 3, the repeal of all war laws except the Lever act and the enemy trading act, the measure already having passed the senate, but President Wilson withheld his signature from the act and it died, with several other important measures, with the adjournment of congress. On the day before adjournment, President Wilson vetoed the budget bill which had been passed by both houses.

Congress reconvened on December 6 for the short session. President Wilson in his message, which was read the following day, recommended that the Philippines be given their independence.

### LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL

Industrial unrest which manifested itself during the period of reaction immediately following the war, became even more marked during the year 1920. Radical activities were involved in some of the labor disputes in this country, but this was true to a much larger extent in the labor troubles that beset most of the countries of Europe during the greater part of the year.

The first month of the year was marked, in the United States, by the abandonment of the steel workers' strike which had been begun on September 22.

Railroad traffic was tied up in France, February 27, by a general strike of rail workers. The premier called all the strikers into the army, and two days later the strike was settled by a compromise.

Peace was declared between the bituminous coal operators and miners March 31, when they signed a two-year agreement based on an award made by the coal commission named by President Wilson.

An "outlaw" strike of railroad switchmen began in Chicago April 15, and spread rapidly to other parts of the country. Federal officers arrested 30 leaders of the strike in Chicago, April 15, on charges of interfering with the mails and violation of the Lever act. On April 19 the joint railroad wage board created by the Cummins-Each bill, announced that it would not hear cases of men who were on strike.

A new coal strike was inaugurated in Illinois and Kansas April 5,

five thousand men going out because of dissatisfaction with the wage awards made by the coal commission.

The first of a long series of strikes involving Bolshevik activities took place in Italy March 25, when workmen and peasants in Naples and the provinces of Novra, Alexandria, Brexica and Treviso, attempted to establish soviets. Troops restored order and the strike ended within two days.

On May 1 there were riots in Paris, and railway workers struck for nationalization of the railroads. French dock workers and coal miners joined the strike on May 5. The French government took vigorous steps to end the strike, moving to dissolve the General Federation of Labor and characterizing the strike leaders as Bolsheviks. The strikes were called off by the General Federation of Labor on May 21.

The Railway Labor board announced its decision on wage increases on July 20, awarding increases of from 20 to 27 per cent to nearly 2,000,000 employees, the total increase amounting to about \$600,000,000 a year, about half the raise that employees had asked. The award was accepted by the railroad unions.

During the latter part of July coal miners again struck in Illinois, Indiana and Kansas, but on July 31 they were ordered back to work, after an appeal had been made by President Wilson.

Serious riots occurred at Denver August 5 in connection with a street car strike, many being killed and injured. Federal troops were ordered to Denver to stop the disorders.

The Railway Labor board made another award August 10, granting an increase amounting to \$50,000,000 a year to 75,000 railway express workers.

On August 30 President Wilson approved the majority report of the anthracite wage commission, awarding wage increases of from 17 to 20 per cent. On September 1 anthracite operators and miners signed a two-year contract based on the award, but thousands of men remained on what they termed "vacation" in protest against the award.

Industrial conditions grew more serious in Italy during the late summer and fall. An obstructionist campaign was started by 500,000 workmen on August 22. On August 31, in Lombardy, 300 metal-working plants were seized by employees and workmen's councils took charge of the plants. On September 14 the workmen's council voted for co-operative management and profit-sharing by the workmen. At the same time the workmen took over 200 chemical works and several textile mills. Premier Giolitti intervened, and on September 19 the employers agreed to his terms of settlement, granting increases of pay retroactive to July 15. The workmen accepted the settlement and ordered the factories returned to the owners.

An industrial crisis was precipitated in England, on October 16 by a strike of 1,000,000 coal miners. On the 28th an agreement was reached for an increase in wages in consideration of a pledge on the part of the miners to help increase production. The strike was called off November 3.

A severe business depression was felt throughout the United States during the closing weeks of the year. The trend toward lower wages was marked by the announcement of the textile mills of New England in December of a reduction in wages amounting to 22 1/2 per cent.

### SPORTS

The revival of interest in sporting events of all kinds which was apparent in 1919, following almost a complete suspension of athletic activities during the war, was even more marked in 1920.

The first of five races between Sir Thomas Lipton's Shamrock IV, challenger for the America's cup, and the defender, Resolute, was held off New York July 15. The Shamrock won the first and second races, but the Resolute took the next three, winning the cup on July 27.

Charles Evans, Jr. of Chicago won the western amateur golf championship July 17, and Jock Hutchison won the western open golf championship August 5. Edward Ray of England won the American open golf championship August 13. Charles Evans, Jr., won the national amateur golf championship, September 11.

The United States, for the seventh consecutive time, made the biggest score in the Olympic games at Antwerp, Belgium, with 212 points. Finland was second with 105 and Sweden third with 95.

Jack Dempsey retained the heavy-weight championship of the world by knocking out Bill Miske in the third round at Benton Harbor, Mich., September 6. Georges Carpentier of France, knocked out Battling Levinaky, October 12, and became light heavy-weight champion of the world.

A sensation was caused in the baseball world just before the close of the season by the exposure of a conspiracy by which the world's series of 1919 was "thrown" by the Chicago American league team to the Cincinnati National league team. Seven members of the Chicago team, including several stars, and one former member were accused of accepting bribes, and they later were indicted by a Chicago grand jury. Cleveland won the American league pennant on October 2 and met the Brooklyn club, National league pennant winner, in the world series on October 5. Cleveland won the series by taking the seventh game from Brooklyn, October 12.

A baseball war was threatened by a conflict between clubs of the American league over plans for a reorganization of the game. Peace was declared, however, on November 13, and a new

board of control was established with Judge Kenesaw M. Landis of Chicago as chairman with an annual salary of \$42,500 a year.

Roscoe Saries won the 250-mile automobile race at Los Angeles November 25. In this race Gaston Chevrolet was killed in a collision.

### DISASTERS

The world was comparatively free from disasters causing great loss of life during 1920. Tornadoes in the United States and earthquakes in Italy and Mexico, caused the greatest destruction.

Several thousand people were reported killed by a violent earth shock in central Mexico January 8, the damage being particularly heavy in the western part of Vera Cruz.

More than 100 persons were killed, many were injured and heavy property damage was caused by tornadoes which swept Georgia, Alabama, Indiana, Ohio and Illinois, March 28.

Three hundred persons were killed by an explosion of a munitions dump at Rothenstein, East Prussia, April 11. Another tornado caused heavy damage in Alabama, Tennessee and Mississippi, April 20. More than 150 persons were killed and property valued at \$2,000,000 was destroyed.

Fifty-nine persons were killed by a tornado in Cherokee county, Okla., May 2.

Great floods were reported in Japan August 19, with heavy loss of life. A severe earthquake in the district north of Florence, in Italy, on September 7, destroyed 100 towns and killed about 400 persons.

Disastrous earthquakes occurred in Chile and Central America December 9, and later in the month.

### NECROLOGY

Death took many persons prominent in national and world affairs in 1920. Among those who were best known and most active in their particular fields of labor, were the following:

January 3, Nicholas Sicard, famous French painter; January 8, Maud Powell, world's foremost woman violinist; January 16, Reginald DeKoven, American composer and music critic; January 23, Richard L. Garner, author and explorer; January 24, Rev. Cyrus Townsend Brady, widely-known author.

February 4, Edward Payson Ripley, for 24 years president of Santa Fe railroad; Ohio C. Barber, organizer of the match industry; February 11, Gaby Deslys, noted French dancer; February 12, Julius Chambers, New York author and explorer; February 18, Gen. William E. Mickle, for many years adjutant general of the United Confederate veterans; February 20, Rear Admiral Robert E. Peary, U. S. N., retired, discoverer of the North pole.

March 1, John H. Bankhead, senior United States senator from Alabama; March 3, John J. O'Shea, Catholic author and editor; March 24, Mrs. Humphry Ward, famous English novelist; March 28, Elmer Apperson, pioneer automobile manufacturer.

April 1, Dr. William Martin, U. S. N., retired, yellow fever expert; April 6, Laurent Bonore Marquette, French sculptor; April 11, Ferdinand Roybet, French author; April 15, Theodore N. Vail, pioneer in telegraph and telephone industries.

May 1, William Barrett Ridgely, former controller of the treasury; May 9, Bishop John A. Vincent of the Methodist Episcopal church, founder of the Chautauque assembly; May 11, William Dean Howells, famous American novelist; May 16, Levi P. Morton, former vice president.

June 3, Rev. Charles Augustus Stoddard of New York, author and theologian; June 13, Mme. Gabrielle Charlotte Rejane, famous French actress; June 18, George W. Perkins, New York financier; June 26, Rev. Dr. William Henry Roberts, for more than thirty years superintendent of the Presbyterian general assembly.

July 4, Major General William C. Gorgas, former superintendent of the United States army; July 10, John Arthur Co. Fisher, former first lord of the British admiralty; July 11, former Empress Elizabeth of Austria; July 11, July 22, William K. Vanderbilt, financier and former railroad president.

August 1, J. Frank Hanly, ex-governor of Indiana and Prohibition candidate for president in 1916; August 3, Isham Randolph of Chicago, noted engineer; August 10, James O'Neil, famous Irish actor; August 16, Sir Norman Lockyer, eminent English scientist; August 28, James Wilson, former secretary of agriculture; September 15, Raimundo de Madrazo, famous Spanish portrait painter; September 25, Jacob H. Schiff, American financier and philanthropist.

October 2, Winthrop Murray Crane, former United States senator from Massachusetts; October 5, Charles Norris Williamson, noted English author; October 12, Mrs. Ogden Mills, social leader in New York and Paris; October 13, Charles M. Alexander, famous singing evangelist.

November 2, Louise Imogen Guiney, American poet and essayist; November 9, Ludwig III, former king of Bavaria; November 10, Henry Thode, noted German historian; November 19, Franklin Fort, former governor of New Jersey; November 22, Ole Thoenfeldt, Norwegian violinist; November 23, Margaret Brewster, American writer. November 30, Eugene W. Chaffin, prohibition candidate for president in 1908 and 1912.

December 3, Francis Lynde Stetson, eminent attorney of New York; December 10, Horace E. Dodge, automobile manufacturer; Marquis Della Chiesa, brother of the pope; December 12, Olive Schreiner, novelist.

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