

RUSS SITUATION NOW FOREMOST TANGLE BEFORE PARIS MEETING

Proposed Prinkipos Parley Evidently Fiasco as Tentative Date Has Expired; Supreme Council Tackles Problem.

CHURCHILL WOULD SPURN REDS; AID OTHER PARTIES

Many Delegates Dissatisfied With Bolsheviks' Attitude on Parley Proffer; Progress Is Made on Indemnities.

Copenhagen, Feb. 17.—Under the new terms, signed by the Germans, the armistice is prolonged indefinitely, the allies have a right to break it off on three days' notice; all previously unfulfilled conditions must be carried out, and the German offensive against the Poles must be stopped, according to dispatches received here today.

Paris, Feb. 17.—Renewed pressure was being exerted on the supreme war council today for an immediate intervention in Russia, it was learned from an authoritative source.

The French were said to have urged again that military action be taken against the Bolsheviks on a large scale, while War Minister Churchill's proposal—which has not been made public—was understood today to contemplate proclamation of a state of war, if necessary.

By FRED S. FERGUSON.

Paris, Feb. 17.—The Russian situation was again the foremost question before the peace conference today. The tentative date for the joint meeting at Prinkipos expired Saturday without anything definite having been accomplished. The supreme war council had the matter up and was expected to give it full consideration at this afternoon's meeting.

Winston Churchill, who holds the war portfolio in the new British ministry, has come forward with a new plan for solving the Russian problem. Nothing has been given out officially regarding this plan, but it is understood to include a "hands off" policy toward the Bolsheviks, while giving every economic assistance to the other Russian governments. It is known that no agreement was reached on Churchill's scheme at the meeting Saturday and it is expected that Russia will occupy the greater part of the supreme war council's time for several days.

SOME ENVOYS PEERED.

While the Ukrainians, Lithuanians, Estonians and Letts have accepted the proposal for a joint conference as well as the Bolsheviks, it is understood that a large number of other delegates are dissatisfied with the tone of the Bolsheviks' attitude and that they are disposed to discuss the situation further before going through with the conference.

The committee on reparations was also to continue its hearings today. Considerable progress is said to have been made toward solution of the indemnities question. The principal point of difference in the committee's members' views seems to be that some contend that Germany should pay the cost of the war of little nations while others hold to the American idea that the associated powers should not go beyond the 14 points, with the amendment contained in the original armistice terms.

LABOR AND WOMEN.

Two other subjects, heretofore unrepresented in international affairs, are assuming an increasingly important place in the peace work. These are labor and women. Inter-allied suffrage advocates, having gained President Wilson's approval of a plan for the commissioner's dealing with matters affecting women to confer with women advisers, are now endeavoring to put the leaders of other countries similarly on record.

They already have won the backing of President Poincaré, Jules Cambon and Paul Hymans of Belgium. Cambon pointed out that a woman's commission would be very valuable in presenting the conference with details regarding deportation of women from France, Belgium, Serbia, Greece, Poland and Armenia. He said that reports of Serbian women being sold at public auction in Constantinople and Greek girls being advertised at "reasonable prices" in Asia Minor, called for investigation and prompt steps to rescue them.

WAIT GOMPER'S ARRIVAL.

President Wilson's statement that the conference represents 1,200,000,000 people and his emphasis that the lowest workers in the most isolated sections of the world have figuratively been brought to the peace table, has established labor as one of the strongest elements to be considered in the peace settlement. The work of the special committee on labor legislation has been held in abeyance until Samuel Gompers and other members return from Belgium.

SAYS YANKERS' MORALE IN FRENCH REST CAMPS PERILED BY CONDITIONS

Senator Owen, Just Back, Urges Immediate Action to Relieve Situation, Especially at Brest.

New York, Feb. 17.—The morale of American soldiers in French rest camps is being shattered by the unsanitary and crowded condition they are subjected to and by the long periods of waiting for transportation, declared Senator Robert L. Owen, of Oklahoma, who arrived here today on the liner Rotterdam. He said he would go to Washington at once to report on the result of his investigation and to urge corrective measures.

"It is imperative that these men be brought home at once," said Owen. "Their demobilization should proceed more systematically and provision should be made to give them a new start in life when they get back home. This is not charity, but a duty we owe them."

Owen said that conditions were particularly bad at Brest. There has been some improvement, particularly as regards food, but overcrowding still continues. He declared that men in the Brest camps are becoming despondent and that Major _____, whose name he refused to give, committed suicide while suffering from melancholy. He described the mud there as "knee deep." The on extension for this he said, was that climatic conditions are bad.

BLAMES FRANCE FOR FAILURE OF PLANNED PARLEY WITH RUSSIA

Mason Says French Attitude Serves to Widen Breach of Sentiment Between Muscovites and Western Democracies.

By J. W. T. MASON.

New York, Feb. 17.—Failure of the allies' plan to bring about a conference of the rival Russian factions to date is due to the influence of France which has inspired the conservative forces in Russia to refuse to participate in the proposed Prince's Islands discussion.

One more step has thus been taken to continue the division of sentiment between Russia and the western democracies and to encourage the Germans to plot for a future Russo-German alliance. Neither the French statesmen, who have so strongly criticized the Prince's Islands meeting, nor the conservative Russians, who have rejected the idea, have made any counter proposals, except to urge America and Great Britain to send armies into Russia to overthrow the Bolsheviks.

TO RESCUE FINANCES.

This solution has been proposed exclusively in the interest of Russia's foreign creditors and those domestic factions that cannot find support for their doctrines within Russia itself. Neither America nor Great Britain will consent to declaring war upon Russia for such purposes as these.

A renewed effort, therefore, will have to be made to bring about an understanding between the western nations and the Bolsheviks or the policy of isolating Russia must be continued. The latter alternative is the most fruitful at the western powers could assume for Germany's benefit. It will be impossible for Russia to be re-traced long after the peace conference adjourns. Thereafter, if the allies continue to sit by in lofty contempt of the Slavs, the formation of a rival "league of nations" with the socialistic government of Germany will become Russia's aim.

PLAN NOT EXPLAINED.

How continental Europe can oppose an alliance of this character has not been explained by the statesmen of Europe. If such a union of forces is permitted to occur it will be one of the most stupendous diplomatic blunders in modern history, probably making another war inevitable.

MARINE OFFICER AND SON KILLED IN AUTO COLLISION

Washington, Feb. 17.—Captain Richard Parfet, U. S. M. C., and his 4-year-old boy are dead, while his wife lies in a critical condition as a result of a collision between Parfet's automobile and a street car.

WILSON PLANS TO ACQUAINT AMERICA WITH ALL PHASES OF LEAGUE OF NATIONS DRAFTS

By ROBERT J. BENDER.
Aboard the U. S. S. George Washington, Feb. 15.—(Delayed.)—President Wilson displayed the deepest interest today in American comment on the league of nations, received by wireless. He devoted considerable time to studying the varying degrees of approbation and disapproval, especially that emanating from Washington.

HAASE BLAMES EBERT REGIME FOR DEATH OF REDS' LEADERS

National Assembly Cast in Up-roar When Radical Declares Workmen's and Soldiers' Councils Would Continue.

ADMITS SPARTACANS HAD FINANCIAL AID OF RUSSIA

Cabinet Minister Admits Germany's Financial Situation Desperate; Credits and Loans of \$40,000,000.

By FRANK J. TAYLOR.

Welmar, Feb. 15.—(Delayed.)—Hugo Haase, radical leader, threw the national assembly into an uproar today when he declared that the workmen's and soldiers' councils would continue in existence until the Social-Democrat-Centrist coalition demonstrates its intention to socialize the new republic. He said he doubted the coalition would carry out this program and threatened new outbreaks unless socialization is accomplished.

Scores of delegates leaped to their feet and clamored for recognition. Others joined in a chorus of denunciation of Haase's statement without the formality of obtaining recognition from Chairman Fehrenbach. Order was finally restored but other outbursts occurred as Haase continued his speech.

CHARGES MURDER.

When Haase openly accused the Ebert-Scheidemann government of murdering Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg a riot almost ensued. Practically every delegate except the radicals threatened to oust Haase and his followers from the assembly. Haase waited calmly until the members quieted down again and then resumed his attack on the government as a whole and every one connected with it individually.

Referring again to the Spartacans, he admitted they had received money from Russia, but he said, this money was used for buying food for their wives and children, and not for fighting.

NOT AS OWNERS.

Finance Minister Scheffer, who preceded Haase, said: "The property conception in Germany must change completely, and that hereafter individuals must regard themselves not as owners but merely as administrators."

"Germany's financial situation is

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TAFT'S ENDORSEMENT OF LEAGUE TO CHECK SENATE'S CRITICISMS

President's Plea to Curb Argument Until His Explanation Proves Most Effective Muzzle.

Washington, Feb. 17.—Ex-President Taft's endorsement of the league of nations constitution was regarded here today as likely to have considerable weight with Republican senators. The main point of difference here was as to whether the covenant will cause surrender of some of America's sovereignty. While some contended that the league constitution tends to infringe upon the United States constitution there was little disposition to criticize openly.

The president's appeal to curb discussion until he arrives and confides the inwardness of the document to foreign committee members served to stop much of the talk. While there was no positive assurance that discussion of the league would be entirely stifled in congress, administration members were disposed to heed the president's request, while the Republicans showed a tendency to get the nation's verdict rather thoroughly before venturing on either approval or condemnation.

BULGAR ENVOY AVERS LEAGUE SHOULD TAKE CONTROL OF BALKANS

Washington, Feb. 17.—"The league of nations must take the Balkans out of European politics," declared Stephen Paneroff, Bulgarian minister, in discussing the league's constitution with the United Press today.

Idaho Troops in Gotham; May Be Part of 'Second'

Another body of Idaho soldiers has returned to the United States. They arrived Sunday in New York. It is believed they represent a majority of the Second Idaho, but the unit designation, given them after the Idaho regiment was swallowed up in the nomenclature of new divisions and regiments, renders it difficult to positively identify the returning Idahoans as to number or personnel.

A large number of the Second Idaho was merged into the 116th engineers. Others were otherwise attached.

Direct word has been received from Paul Broxon and Harry Hawley, Boise boys with the 116th engineers, that they had arrived in New York and it is assumed they returned as part of a general Idaho contingent of the 116th.

It is the understanding the Idahoans will be mustered out without delay. A hope has been entertained that they might be demobilized at Boise barracks, but the program as recently announced was that all northwest soldiers, with the exception of some small casual units, would be mustered out at Camp Lewis.

CONFIRMATION LACKING.

New York, Feb. 17.—Nearly 2000 officers and soldiers of the cruiser Huntington are at Camp Merritt today getting in shape for return to their demobilization camps. The units which arrived on the Huntington yesterday under command of Major R. C. Beach, New Castle, Wyo., who was a motor transport officer for the 89th division, are:

Supply company, machine company, third battalion headquarters company and companies I, K, L and M, of the 183rd infantry, comprising 30 officers and 977 men; first battalion headquarters companies A, B and C, of the 161st infantry, 17 officers and 718 men; two casual companies of men from all parts of the country detached from their original organizations; the 164th ambulance company and four casual officers.

U. S. CASUALTIES FROM RUSSIA REACH 'FRISCO

31 Sick Soldiers Being Treated in Coast Hospital; Buhl, Idaho, Boy Included; Tell of Hardships in Muscovite.

San Francisco, Feb. 17.—Thirty-one sick soldiers from the American forces in Siberia are receiving treatment in the Letterman general hospital today, having been transferred immediately after their arrival Sunday on the United States transport Sheridan. Many of the men are from the middle west.

In the number are Michael Sabatino, Benjamin Triner, Harvey C. Schiager and Peter Samkus, all of Chicago; Arthur E. Humes of Swan Creek, Ill.; William J. Baron, Lincoln, Neb.; Robert L. Fishell, Grand Lodge, Mich.; Lester C. Robinson, Marshall, Mo.; Hugh Halladay, Warsaw, Ind.; Clyde O. Ballard, Buhl, Idaho; Harry Wertz, Peoria, Ill.; Willis H. Lusher, Butte, Mont.; Jay Mues, Fort Worth, Texas; Fred A. Hammon, Sherman, Texas, and Yazzel Jordan, Carthage, Ind.

U. S. POSITION SECURE.

With the party were Leo J. Hatras, Ewing, Neb.; Polyvion K. Hartakis, Bartlett, Texas, and Edwin Lund, sick, brought from the army stationed in the Philippines.

The men brought detailed accounts of personal experiences in Siberia fighting the Bolsheviks.

The weather is severely cold, they said, and amusements are lacking. The American position is secure, they agreed, and casualties have been light. The American units, they said, have not been used in the fighting to any great extent, but as an army of occupation.

PATERSON STRIKE IS ENDED.

Paterson, N. J., Feb. 17.—Paterson's silk strike ended today when 17,000 strikers returned to work under the provisional settlement effected by the war labor board. The board's award calls for a forty-two and one-half hour week.

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TAFT CERTAIN SENATE'S O. K. TO BE HANDED LEAGUE DRAFT

Former President in Speech at Portland Congress Gives Wilson Highest Praise for Success in League Project.

GREAT ADVANCE TOWARD PERMANENT PEACE TIME

Has No Fear That Pact Ratified By 14 Nations Will Be Turned Down By Upper House in Congress.

Portland, Ore., Feb. 17.—Former President William Howard Taft today, in a speech, predicted that the senate would ratify the "great covenant of Paris." He characterized the objections of some of its opponents as "reactionary."

"On the whole, we should thank God that such a great advance toward the suppression of war and the promotion of permanent peace has been taken as in the agreement on this constitution," he declared.

Taft addressed the Northwestern Congress for a League of Nations. It was his first complete statement on the league of nations constitution.

"It is possible that a feature of the treaty upon which 14 nations, through their representatives at Paris, agree, is to be defeated by the lack of the necessary two-thirds vote in our senate? I think not," Taft said.

REACTIONARY DOCTRINE.

Regarding the objection of Senator Poindexter that the constitution minimizes the sovereignty of the United States, Taft said: "That is a reactionary doctrine that belongs to the German view of the state. It leads directly to the proposal that might makes right."

Taft said in part: "When President Wilson returns to present the result of his visit to Europe it will be that the American people will welcome him with approval and congratulations upon the success of the congress in which he has taken so prominent a part."

"In the president's addresses and messages, during the war and since, he promised to the harassed peoples of the allied nations that the United States would press for a league of nations, which should secure permanent peace when this war ended. Thus he revived the morale of our weary soldiers and workers of our allies. These promises were not repudiated by any American when they were made. They were echoed in all the appeals to the American people, and they found ready response among them and no protest.

"The nation is thus pledged to the idea of a league of nations to render peace permanent. Good faith requires that what other nations are willing to undergo to secure the peace of the world, we should ourselves be willing to assume. Only now after the war, after the reaction that the ending of war brings and after impatience at the delays in reaching peace conditions, do we hear on the floor of the senate the criticisms of a league of nations.

"If uttered during the war, they would have been out of tune with the overflowing spirit of the American people, and their determination to win

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41 YANKS INTERNED IN TURKEY RETURN HOME

Officers and Crew of U. S. S. Scorpion Seized by Boches Early in War; 1550 Other Yanks on Transport.

New York, Feb. 17.—Three American officers and 28 of the crew of the U. S. S. Scorpion, interned by the Germans at Constantinople in the early part of the war, arrived here today on the transport Dante Alighieri from Marseilles, France. There were also on the transport 1550 men of the 51st regiment, C. A. C. The Sixola arrived shortly afterward with 47 casualties for Camp Merritt.

More than 2700 soldiers and officers arrived on the transport Rotterdam. They were members of the 367th infantry field and staff headquarters companies, medical detachment, headquarters troops and companies G, I, K, L and M (51 officers and 1484 men, colored), detachment company D, 182nd infantry, Camp Dix; 92nd division headquarters with Brigadier General James B. Irwin, commander; 92nd division headquarters troops; cement mill company 58, Camp Dix; evacuation hospital No. 5; 280 casual officers, 79 civilians and 344 convalescents.

PRESIDENT SCHEDULED TO DOCK BOSTON PORT MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Expected to Leave For Washington 12 Hours Later; No Demonstration to Be Allowed.

Boston, Feb. 17.—The transport George Washington, bringing President Wilson from France, probably will reach Boston next Monday, it is the opinion of naval officials here, who pointed out that the big liner's speed will be gauged by that of the naval vessels in the convoy.

The latest information is that the president will leave for Washington within 12 hours after his arrival, a fact which is being considered in plans for his reception. The pier at which the presidential ship docks will be heavily guarded by police and it was stated today that, although radicals of the National Women's party may try to stage a demonstration, steps will be taken to see that the executive party is not annoyed and that a radical demonstration will not be tolerated.

KANSANS BUTCHERED AS SHEEP, GOVERNOR TELLS HOUSE BOARD

Charges Lack of Artillery Aid Caused Huge Casualty in Argonne Zone; 98 Per Cent of Losses in Infantry.

Washington, Feb. 17.—Governor Henry J. Allen, of Kansas, told the house rules committee today everything in the war machine in France "fell down somewhere except the raw man product."

The committee is considering a resolution introduced by Representative Campbell, asking for an investigation of the 36th division's losses in the Argonne.

Allen reiterated his statement made in a recent speech when he declared that "men were slaughtered like sheep because of the lack of artillery."

Allen read letters and statements from officers and enlisted men of the division tending to bear out his charge. "We had white cloths to wave at the airplanes, but there were no airplanes to wave at," one letter stated.

NOT ONE HAND GRENADE.

Another writer declared, "there was not one hand grenade" in the unit to which he was attached.

The men had no overcoats or blankets and wore summer underwear. They were obliged to lie on the wet ground for many hours without treatment. Because of lack of blankets and liners their vitality was reduced 50 per cent," Allen said.

"A French officer told me that if their men had suffered the same percentage of losses as the 25th division that France would have had no army left after the first year of the war," he said.

Ninety-eight per cent of the losses were in the infantry, which proved the lack of artillery protection, Allen testified.

Officers seized rifles from the hands of dead and wounded soldiers in their efforts to drive off the enemy planes, he said.

PERILED BY OWN SHELLS.

Referring to March's testimony that the division received adequate artillery protection Allen said the lack was in division artillery and not in heavy guns.

"Some of the shells from some of the big guns of the corps artillery fell within our own lines," he added.

Reading from a soldier's letter, he said:

"Occasionally we saw an airplane but they were not sufficient to keep the Huns off our heads.

Another letter read: "After the first advance there was absolutely no artillery protection for our men.

Allen said he had received a great many letters from soldiers since he delivered his recent speech every one of whom agreed with him.

A few Democratic papers, he said, had printed letters from soldiers declaring his statements were unjustified, but no such complaints had reached him.

EX-CANADIAN PREMIER DIES.
Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 17.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier died this afternoon.

Laurier, who was 78 years old, was stricken with paralysis yesterday morning. He had been in poor health several years.

Republic Re-established.
Lisbon, Feb. 15.—(Delayed.)—The republic has been completely re-established in Oporto. It was officially announced today. Members of the insurrectional monarchal government have been arrested and all their troops have either been arrested or dispersed.

U. S. ENGINEERS SENT IN RUSSIA; WITHDRAWAL IS EXPECTED SOON

Wilson Acts to Facilitate Recall of American Forces in Murmansk Region, House Military Committee Is Informed.

TO EXIT BY SPRING AND EARLIER, IF POSSIBLE

British Take Similar Action by Sending 2400 Men to Work With the Yonks in Keeping Transport Open.

Washington, Feb. 17.—President Wilson is sending engineer troops to Russia to facilitate withdrawal of American forces in the Murmansk region, members of the house military committee today said, following reading to the committee of a presidential communication transmitted by Secretary of War Baker.

The cabinet further stated, according to committee members, that the troops would probably be moved out in the spring, but the movement would start sooner if found practicable.

BRITAIN ALSO ACTS.

The British are taking similar action by sending 2400 men to work with a few engineer companies which the president is sending. The troops will operate in the Murmansk region in keeping open lines of communication between the American and British forces and the seaports, it was explained.

"The point of embarkation for the American troops will be Archangel, the house military committee said. It was explained in a letter from Secretary Baker, which accompanied a copy of President Wilson's cable.

How soon the withdrawal will be attempted depends on ice conditions at Archangel.

Nothing was said in the cablegram concerning the American troops in Siberia.

From state department sources it was learned that 750 American engineers are included in the movement which totals about 2400. It is proposed to have these forces repair the railroad from Murmansk to Archangel so as to permit retirement of the associated powers' forces in the spring.

SPARTACANS STAGE NEW OUTBREAKS; RIOTERS AT DRESDEN ENTER CHURCH

Copenhagen, Feb. 17.—New Spartacan outbreaks have occurred in several German towns and cities, according to dispatches received here today. At Dresden, rioters interrupted church services, Belgian troops have occupied Dulsberg in the Rhine district, where the Spartacans have created disturbances.

Vienna, Feb. 17.—The Socialists won a majority in the national assembly of German-Austria in Saturday's elections. All Social Democratic leaders in Vienna were elected, while the other cities and towns were almost solidly Socialistic.

In the country districts the delegates were divided between the Socialists and the Christian party. There were no disorders.

AMBASSADOR FRANCIS COMING BACK; SENATE PLANS FOR A HEARING

Washington, Feb. 17.—Ambassador Francis, home-bound from Russia, may tell his story to the senate committee studying Bolshevikism, on his arrival here, it became known today.

Should he appear, the committee would be able to obtain first hand information from the man best qualified to give it. Whether Francis appears depends on state department action.

Supporters of the Soviets will be given their opportunity to testify this week. Miss Louisa Bryant is scheduled to appear Thursday. She spoke at a recent meeting here which caused much indignation in the senate.

SUFFRAGE RESOLUTION RE-ENTERS IN SENATE

Washington, Feb. 17.—The woman suffrage resolution, beaten last Monday by the senate, was re-introduced today by Senator Jones, Washington. Suffragists have a lingering hope that they will be able to get another vote this session, of which only 13 days remain.

Senator Jones, New Mexico, chairman of the suffrage committee, said he regards this as practically impossible.

IN ROOSEVELT'S MEMORY.

New York, Feb. 17.—A cemetery in France for American dead has been suggested by Dr. Lyman Abbott to the Roosevelt National Memorial committee as a fitting international tribute to the ex-president.

THE WEATHER

Forecast for Boise and vicinity:
SNOW AND COLDER TONIGHT;
TUESDAY FAIR.
For Idaho: Tonight, snow; colder in north and southwest portions; Tuesday, fair, except snow in southeast portion.
Highest temperature yesterday, 48.
Lowest temperature this morning, 34.
Mean temperature yesterday, 42.