

WORLD WAR IS FORMALLY ENDED OFFICIAL DECLARATION MAY BE DELAYED

BRIEF CEREMONY MARKS SIGNING PEACE TREATY

In Same Imperial Hall Where Germans Humbled the French 48 Years Ago They Humble.

PRESIDENT WILSON IS HOMEWARD BOUND

Withdrawal of Blockade Against Germany Depends Upon Ratification and Her Future Good Behavior

Paris, June 28.—President Wilson left Paris for his homeward journey tonight. His train started from the gare des Invalides for Brest at 9:45.

Versailles, June 28.—Germany and the associated powers signed the peace terms here today in the same imperial hall where the Germans humbled the French so ignominiously 48 years ago.

This formally ended the world war, which lasted just 37 days less than five years. The ceremony was brief. Premier Clemenceau called the session to order at 3:10 this afternoon. Dr. Hermin Muller and Johannes Bell, the German signatories, affixed their names at 3:12 and 3:13. President Wilson, first of the allied delegates, signed a minute later. At 3:45 the momentous session was concluded.

All diplomats and members of their staffs, in conventional civilian clothes, there was a marked lack of gold lace and pageantry. There were few of the fanciful uniforms of the middle ages whose traditions and practices are so sternly condemned in the great sealed document signed today.

The allied note to the German delegation dealing with ratification of the treaty was delivered to the Germans late this afternoon. It is pointed out in the note, among other things, that withdrawal of the blockade against them depends upon ratification.

When the German delegation saw the program for the treaty signing ceremony, Herr von Halmhausen told Colonel Henry Hason, officer, that the German wouldn't consent to entering by a different door from the allied delegates; that military honors be withdrawn from them. Had the Germans known that such arrangements had been made, the delegates would not have come, Halmhausen said. As a compromise, military honors were rendered the Germans as they left.

Dr. Hermin Muller and Dr. Bell, and about fifty members of the German mission, left Versailles at 8:20 this evening going to the noisy Lezard station. There they will board the train on the return trip to Germany. Forty German secretaries will remain in Versailles to conclude the affairs of the German delegation.

Washington, June 28.—Signing at Versailles of the peace treaty with Germany, arranged for today, formally brings to a close the world's greatest war.

Although technical termination of the war will come to each nation only when the treaty is approved by the ratifying power of that nation, to all intents and purposes the conflict that began in August, 1914, will end when the historic Hall of Mirrors, the accredited peace commissioners of the allied and associated powers and of Germany affix their signatures to the treaty. Likewise will be brought to an end the armistice granted Germany last November 11 and also the period of uncertainty and doubt as to the final outcome of the peace negotiations.

With the signing of the treaty work of the peace conference proper, insofar as concerns negotiations with Germany, is brought to a conclusion after more than five months of conferences. Portions of the treaty with Austria yet remain to be completed and negotiations with Turkey and Bulgaria still must be conducted, but as to Germany, chief of the enemy powers, only the carrying through the long series of years the provisions of the treaty remains.

The ceremony planned for today at Versailles, which though simple, was expected to be one of the most impressive of its kind in history, also brings to an end the work of President Wilson in Paris, as head of the American peace mission, and in signing the treaty as such he becomes the first president of the United States to sign a treaty as a negotiator.

EIGHT STEPS NECESSARY TO RATIFY TREATY

Two Thirds of Senators Present Must Vote for Pact Or It Fails of Acceptance.

OFFICIAL ENDING WAR UP TO SENATE

Any Amendment Made Must Have Approval of Other Nations Before it Becomes a Part of Covenant.

BY A. E. GELDHOF.

How will the peace treaty be handled by the senate, which must ratify it before the war is officially ended? I have made a close study of the subject from historical and other sources. Unless the senate kicks over all precedents and exercises its now sweet will, here is about the way the biggest job before the new congress will be disposed of:

President Wilson upon his return home from Europe, probably will deliver in person at the capitol a special official copy of the treaty. Until he submits it officially it cannot be considered, except informally in the speeches of the members.

The president probably will make an address to the senate to request the ratification of the treaty and explain some of its features, particularly the League of Nations covenant.

Then Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, who will be chairman of the committee on foreign relations, will move that the treaty be referred to his committee. The senate will agree to the motion without discussion.

Then will begin the big task of studying the treaty in the committee. Whether the conferences of the committee will be open to the public is a question for the committee to decide, but the chances are the hearings will be open.

Advices of Experts Will Be Asked. Experts on international law will be called in to give their opinions on phases of the treaty which may seem questionable. Members of the American peace delegation at Paris, also, will be called in to interpret some of the phrases.

President Wilson himself may be asked by the committee to explain the League of Nations covenant. If he is called on it is expected that he will appear, ready to answer any questions that may be asked of him, as advice from Paris make it appear that he is ready and willing to give the American people all the information they desire about the treaty.

The committee may adopt any number of amendments to the treaty by a majority vote of its members, but if it does so the amendments must be approved by all the nations which have signed the treaty—including Germany if she signs it. This would mean a great delay in finally establishing the peace of the world, so if any amendments are offered there is certain to be a lot of argument and discussion in the committee conferences. The committee will be made up of 10 republicans and 7 democrats. Partisan feeling probably will enter into the discussion.

May Be Two Months Delayed. How long it will take for the committee to consider the treaty is problematical, but senators now in Washington do not expect the committee will report for at least a month and a half or two months after the treaty is submitted to it.

When the committee's report, or reports, reach the floor of the senate there will be another discussion by senators who are not members of the foreign relations committee.

The constitution provides that two-thirds of the senators present must vote for the treaty to ratify it. It is not necessary, therefore, that a two-thirds vote of the entire membership be cast in its favor, nor is it necessary that every member of the senate be present. If all the 96 members were present, 64 votes would ratify the treaty.

When the treaty is ratified the senate will advise the president of its action, just as it does in the case of any bill or resolution. President Wilson will then issue a proclamation declaring the war at an end.

If, however, the senate should refuse to ratify the treaty without amendments, then the amendments would have to be submitted to all the nations, large and small, which signed the document. If they consented to the

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Germany Signs.

By Edmund Vance Cooke

She signs it with the pen, who thought to sign it with the sword!
Blood of her veins and golden gains she freely, vainly poured,
And prestige she had coveted and honors she had stored,
Yet day by day her shame and guilt grew like a Jonah's gourd,
Till now she signs it with a pen, who hoped to use the sword.

So ever when a pride-mad prince shall pledge a blood-red day!
So ever when wolf-men shall lead sheep-minded men astray!
So ever when a tribe would crush its brother tribes to clay!
So even to us should we forsake our ancient, lawful way
Or dare to raise the cankered sword the Prussian castr away!

GULF PORTS TO GET BETTER FREIGHT RATES

Senator Fletcher is Advised By Railroad Administration Through Bills Lading Will Be Issued.

BY GEORGE H. MANNING.

Washington, June 28.—Senator D. U. Fletcher, of Florida, was today advised by the United States Railroad Administration that an order has been promulgated lowering and otherwise adjusting export freight rates from the interior to the gulf and South Atlantic ports, so that through bills of lading will be issued from the point of origin to destinations.

This will mean a great deal to the gulf and South Atlantic ports, as it will put them on an equality to a considerable extent with the North Atlantic ports, which, because they have always enjoyed through bills of lading on export business, have heretofore held a decided advantage over the southern ports on export business.

This action by the railroad administration has been strenuously urged by Senator Fletcher for some time. A few days ago he appeared before the railroad administration officials and urged that they take this action, asserting that these gulf and Atlantic ports would always be at a disadvantage so long as they suffered from injurious export freight rates, while the North Atlantic ports enjoyed through export rates.

Under the old rates, Senator Fletcher said, through the refusal of the eastern railroads to divide rates with the southern railroads all the export business, even including that to Central and South America, has necessarily been driven to the congested North Atlantic ports.

VALERA INVITED TO SPEAK BEFORE BOSTON SOLONS

New York, June 28.—Eamonn de Valera, "president of the Irish republic," canceled engagements and temporarily closed his office here today preparatory to leaving for New England, where he will make several addresses setting forth his claims for Irish independence. Monday he will address the Massachusetts house of representatives by the unanimous invitation of its members, and has accepted the invitation of Gov. Bartlett, of New Hampshire, to visit that state. A mass meeting has been arranged for Fenway Park, Boston, Sunday afternoon, when de Valera will make an address.

Steps in Ratifying Treaty.

1. President submits official draft of treaty and addresses senate asking its ratification
2. On motion of chairman of committee, treaty is referred to committee on foreign relations.
3. Committee holds conferences on treaty, calling in experts and members of peace delegation.
4. Committee submits to senate either one unanimous report or majority and minority reports.
5. Discussion of committee report or reports on floor of senate.
6. Vote on ratification: two-thirds vote of senators present required to ratify.
7. Senate submits its action to president.
8. President proclaims treaty ratified and the war ended.

WARTIME PROHIBITION LAW NOT TO BE SUSPENDED YET

President Wilson Announces He Has No Authority to Act in Matter Without Congress.

Washington, June 28.—President Wilson, through a White House statement tonight, announced that he would not suspend the operations of the war-time prohibition law, effective Monday at midnight.

When demobilization terminates, the president said, "my power to act without congressional action will be exercised." The terms of the war-time prohibition law do not allow him to act, the president said, until the termination of the demobilization of the troops, and there are still a million men in the service under the emergency. The president said he was advised by the war department.

The message from President Wilson made public by Secretary Tumulty, expressed no opinion as to the authority of the president, when he does raise the ban, to make his action applicable only to beer and wine.

Now that the peace treaty has been signed legal officers of the government, probably the attorney general, will have to decide whether the signing terminates government control or supervision of many private activities, within the meaning of the laws

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SHOOTING OF PENTON HELD JUSTIFIABLE

Coroner's Jury Was Out Only Five Minutes in Making Out Verdict in Tragedy Case.

Only a coroner's inquest was necessary to free W. P. Cox, confessed slayer of Frank Penton, former chief of police at the Pensacola Shipbuilding company. The jury brought in a verdict that Penton "came to his death by a gunshot wound, inflicted by Cox in justifiable defense of his life," after they had been out but five minutes.

The applause in the court room of the justice of the peace where the inquisition was held yesterday morning, was deafening when Judge Johnson pronounced the verdict and Cox was warmly congratulated by men from all walks of life, who had witnessed the hearing. L. D. Green, Charles Simpson, J. C. Branch, Wat Gentry, J. R. Marble and George Harper composed the jury. State's Attorney R. A. McGeachy was present to hear the testimony. Geo. Earl Hoffman represented the defendant.

Developments at the hearing showed that physical assaults made by Penton on Mrs. Annie Maroona, a woman well over 60, his housekeeper and formerly owner of a soft drink stand on West Zarragosa street, were the direct cause of the shooting. Penton, it was brought out in the testimony, while in a nude condition, beat and misused the woman late Tuesday night until she was compelled to seek safety in Cox's bedroom. It also developed that Penton was drinking at the time he fired at Cox.

Apparently very much calmer than he had been Friday morning after the tragedy occurred, Cox sat by the side of his lawyer, Geo. Earl Hoffman, as witnesses were examined and later made a straight-forward statement of the shooting and the events which led up to it. He wore the shirt which he had on at the time Penton fired at him at his home, on the grounds of the shipbuilding plant, and exhibited bullet holes, torn places in the material and the marks of powder burns on his bare skin. He said that Penton, which took them over. Legal limitations placed on some of the principal war-time government controlled areas, railroads, 21 months after the war ends; espionage act, at the end of the war; government operation of ships, five years after the war.

Agreement upon the naval appropriation bill, fixing the personnel for ton had courts and slapped him even before shots were fired. He made no mention of his wife, who is said to be innocently the women in the case. Sentential testimony was given by

Excitement intense. Intense excitement marked the meeting and Judge Beggs, chairman of the board frequently was forced to interrupt the arguments and call for order.

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BOND BIDDERS GET EXCITED IN COMPETING

School Board, At Long Session, Failed to Act On Any of Numerous Offers for Warrants.

ANOTHER MEETING TO BE HELD MONDAY

Fair Premiums Were Offered By Most of Bidders for the \$150,000 Issue of Warrants Authorized.

Bidders from various sections of the country wrangled in a heated four-hour debate with each other and members of the county board of public instruction last night the board's attempt to dispose of \$150,000 in time warrants without arriving at any definite conclusion.

Sig Steiner, of Steiner Bros., Birmingham, was high bidder and recognized as such, but because of the many qualifications in the 6 per cent bids it was decided to conduct a hold-over session Monday for the purpose of receiving 5 1/2 per cent bids, with the right to decide on the 6 per cent bids reserved. Two propositions on 5 1/2 only will be considered at the meeting, a straight proposition for delivery and payment at once of \$150,000 and a second proposition of deferred deliveries with payment of \$25,000 each 30 days for 6 months at the option of the board. An attempt to put in depository bids was over-ruled.

The high bid was for a premium of \$6,000, straight proposition, with a second bid of \$4,500 premium with delayed deliveries of \$25,000 per month, the option to deliver sooner resting with the county. It's constitutionally was doubted as the bidder had failed to endorse the \$2,500 certified check required, payable to the school board as, it was claimed, had previously been decided upon, but was made out to Steiner himself. After the board held an executive session he was permitted to endorse it in this way.

Five bids in all were submitted, each covering the full amount in time warrants which the Florida legislature has authorized for educational purposes in this county. H. T. Adams, Davies-Bertram Co., Cincinnati, offered \$3,075 straight premium, par and accrued interest; Ray Baum, Silverman and Huyck, Cincinnati, offered \$2,357 premium; Alfred Holman's bid for J. C. Mayer and Co., Cincinnati, was for \$4,657 premium; The American National Bank of Pensacola offered a straight premium of \$1,500; W. L. Slayton and Co., of Toledo, through their representative, Fred Dean, offered par and accrued interest and \$5,250 premium as the first proposition, \$4,500 premium, par and accrued interest as the first proposition, \$4,500 premium, par and accrued interest subject to deposit with a Pensacola bank, the same to bear 4 per cent interest, deposits to be \$25,000 cash, \$25,000 within 30 days, \$50,000 within 90 days and \$50,000 within 120 days, and a third proposition paying a premium of \$5,250 with delayed deliveries, \$25,000 in 30 days and \$25,000 each 30 days thereafter with the option of taking up all or any amount sooner than that in which event the company pays 1/2 of 1 per cent on all deliveries. O. G. Wood, of Graves, Blanchard Thorn-dyke, Toledo, was also among the bond buyers at the meeting, but he did not make a bid.

Excitement intense. Intense excitement marked the meeting and Judge Beggs, chairman of the board frequently was forced to interrupt the arguments and call for order.

Contention centered around the bid of Mr. Steiner. Alfred Holman made vain attempts to pick flaws in the bids of Steiner Bros. The argument grew hot when he characterized the former's bid without the required endorsement as a famous trick of all bonding houses with meaningless figures and pleaded with the board that Steiner be not allowed to dicker with them when his case was so hopeless. Steiner reiterated that his check was as good as a liberty bond with Holman still defying its validity.

At this point Morris Bear, who was a spectator at the meeting offered to vouch for Steiner's check and said that he would put up a bet with Holman matching the amount of the certified check. At this point the chairman interposed and declared that wagers could not be allowed at the meeting.

Secretary of Bruce Dry Dock Goes to Philadelphia to Arrange Details With Fleet Corporation.

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FINANCES FOR DRY DOCK HERE ALL ARRANGED

Secretary of Bruce Dry Dock Goes to Philadelphia to Arrange Details With Fleet Corporation.

WORK MAY BEGIN WITHIN 15 DAYS

Resident Engineer Who Will Supervise Construction is Already on Ground Awaiting Word to Start.

With all financial arrangements made for the construction and equipping of a repair shop to cost approximately \$200,000 as required by the U. S. Emergency Fleet Corporation in their proposal to the Bruce Dry Dock company here to construct a floating dry dock of 5,000 tons capacity, at a cost of approximately \$450,000, Secretary Thomas A. Johnson, of the Bruce company, left last night for Philadelphia to arrange the final details.

Mr. Johnson expects it will be necessary for him to be in Philadelphia for only a few days in getting the details, preliminary to the beginning of actual construction work on the project, arranged. He expressed the belief last night, just before leaving the city, that work, in all probability, will begin inside of two weeks.

Guy W. Cobb, engineer in the employ of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, is already on the ground and will begin activities as soon as the word is given that all details have been arranged and the Emergency Fleet Corporation is ready for the project to proceed. He will remain in the city through the entire period of construction of the dock and perhaps longer.

It was the desire of the fleet corporation that as many local men as possible be interested in the project and that this desire has been fully met, especially by the laboring classes, is evidenced by the great number who have subscribed for stock, organized labor taking an active part in the campaign.

From the time construction work is well under way till the dock is finished and after it is estimated that the enterprise will employ an average of about 1,000 men, most of whom will be skilled workmen, making a pay roll of something like a million dollars a month. After the dock is completed the pay roll will be maintained to as great or even greater extent, it is expected, by the number of ships that will be brought into this port for repair work.

The enterprise also means the attraction of more shipping and is one of the facilities that had to be provided by some means for Pensacola to receive the recognition to which she is entitled in the development of South American trade and trade with other foreign ports.

ENGINEERS ARE LAST AMERICANS TO LEAVE RUSSIA

Archangel, Russia, June 28.—The last of the American forces here, a battalion of the 110th Engineers, with the exception of Brig. Gen. Richardson, the American commander, and a small detachment of headquarters troops, embarked for Brest today. General Richardson and the headquarters troops will remain here several weeks. The departure marks the close of American participation in the Archangel campaign.

DORSEY WANTS POWER TO USE STATE GUARDS

Atlanta, Ga., June 28.—Gov. Hugh M. Dorsey, on the occasion of taking oath of office for his second term today, recommended to the legislature that the governor should have broader authority in dealing with threatened mob violence. The governor should have authority to take precautionary measures without waiting for a call from local authorities for military assistance, when he learns of threatened mob violence, Dorsey said.