NEW BALKAN WARS SEEN BY TARDIEU

Allies Allowing Turks to Install Gendarmerie Held Big Mistake.

FEARS NEW MASSACRES

French Publicist Says Near East Trouble Due to U. S. Failing to Accept Armenian Mandate.

BY ANDRE TARDIEU.
Former French High Commissioner to the United States.

Special Cable to The Star.

PARIS, October 14.—After another brief scare, due to Lord Curzon's sudden visit to Paris, the Mudania agreement is signed and delivered. It marks another great concession by the powers to the Turks. Whereas the agreement of September 23 only provided that Thrace would be delivered to Kemal and his forces following signing of a formal peace, the armistice agreement allows him within a fortnight to install a government and, what is worse, gendarmerie.

It takes a clever mind to distinguish between the Turkish gendarme and a Turkish soldier. Both are masters at the art of torturing Christians.

Apparently the return of the Turk arouses no emotion in either England or France. In France the semi-official press has succeeded in persuading the people that we were within an inch of war, consequently there is rejoicing that it has been averted, although, truth to tell, it never was imminent. Moreover, the opposition developing in London against Lloyd George strengthens the Paris legend that Poincare obtained a great triumph over his British colleague, which is ridiculous, since the French policy has finished by placing the Dardanelles exclusively under British control.

French Glee Paradoxical.

It is astonishingly paradoxical that French opinion is gleeful over the return of the Turk to Europe. That joy will not last. In England Lloyd George's undoubted blundering has made the near eastern question a battleground of parties, enabling a coalition of the opponents of the premier. The latter deemed the situation serious enough to break the long silence with his Manchester speech and other party leaders are taking the platform to debate the merits of the case. The Christians in Thrace, even at the straits, are forgotten in the party fracas. It is not the first time in England and elsewhere that party strife takes priority over national interest.

It is impossible to overestimate the extreme gravity of the events now unfolding. Not alone is victory canceled on one of the war's greatest battlefields after only four years; not only is it wonderful encouragement for the pan-Germans and the pan-Slavs who dream of revenge, but, according to the latest agreements, we now have the same territorial situation which provoked all Balkan wars, whose effect on European policy is only too well known.

Blame Part American.

When the Turks and Christians clash in Macedonia war is inevitable, and it is curious that the French papers ignore this truth taught by long experience. Added to this is the Russian danger, for the soviets, like the Kemalists and Germans, have territory to reconquer to efface the peace which they never have recognized.

American public opinion seems to see further than the French and British. American newspapers are disturbed by the reflux of Turkish barbarism, and they are right, but, to be perfectly frank, I must say the United States is largely responsible for the existing conditions. If the United States had not quit the game so abruptly in 1920 and had accepted the proposed Armenian mandate, it could have exercised a happy influence in the Levant, restrained the absurd megalomania of the Greeks, encouraged by the English, and curbed France's pro-Kemalist zeal. Thus the perfectly just criticisms of the American press lose some of their force.

In general, it is going to be rather difficult for America to convince Europe of her viewpoint after declaring she desires to have nothing more in common with Europe. Abstention is not a method of action. Action entails risks, and whoever refuses risks cannot expect to influence solutions. With this reservation, I heartily agree with the American press that Europe is committing gross stupidities in the near east.

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To Depart for Austrian Post in January

Who has been stationed at Fort Myer, will depart early in January for Austria, where he will serve as military attache at the American legation at Vienna. He will also serve as an attache at the legation at Prague, Czechoslovakia.

GERMANY TO ELECT HEAD OF REPUBLIC

Will Select President to Succeed Ebert, Who Was Named by Assembly.

BY MAXIMILIAN HARDEN.
Germany's Foremost Publicist.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Star.

BERLIN, October 14.—In seven weeks, for the first time, the German people will elect a president. Ebert, it will be recalled, was named in 1919 by the national assembly without a plebiscite. Why his mandate outlasted the general assembly which elected him and why the reichstag never until now consulted the popular will must interest the people of the United States.

Those who remember the heated, often savage, electoral battles in America, France, Mexico, even in quiet Switzerland, might imagine trembling, violent agitation here. Should they listen in the trains, in street cars, in restaurants the conversation so overheard would all be about the high prices, which are unbearable; taxes; tariffs, unheard-of workers' wages; occasionally of attempts to poison too talkative accomplices in Rathenau's murder with chocolate, but almost never about the presidential election which is so uninteresting that no candidates yet have appeared.

Indifference Analyzed.

Is the president's power so restricted that his person does not matter? No. Wilhelm von Hohenzollern, in his tedious book, which, because of its author, demands an annihilating answer, boldly declares even the kaiser was without real power and was forced to yield to the chancellor's will. The man who writes that for thirty years had and used despotic rights, named and dismissed chancellors, ministers and state secretaries; made them wait like lackeys or travel a whole day to report to him for twenty minutes in some hunting lodge, ship, train station or theater; called them insulting names in marginal notes on their reports and behaved like a Turkish sultan in his intercourse with the greatest ministers and most eminent statesmen of modern times.

The late Wilfred S. Blunt relates in his interesting book, "My Diaries," how Sultan Abdul Hamid advised the kaiser to dismiss the all too powerful Bismarck.

"'Would you like to see how I treat my grand vizier?'

"Instantly Kamil Pasha stood before him with bowed head and folded hands. The sultan let him stand unnoticed for a while and then said casually:

"'You needn't wait; it's nothing important. Go!'

"And the vizier went. Wilhelm took the lesson at heart and dismissed the chancellor hardly less brutally."

Of course, the president has less absolute powers, but those he has are sufficient to make the choice important. They are less, of course, than President Harding's, but quite as great as those of most European presidents of republics. The president cannot only prevent almost anything he deems bad, but can exercise a positive influence on the whole management and spirit of the republic if he possesses the right personality.

Reasons for the indifference are many. The German nation always has been the easiest to rule, but it should not be despised for this reason. Its efficiency in scientific, industrial and artistic work, which, after all, determines a nation's fate, can still, under most unfavorable conditions, compete with all others, but the exaggerated respect for persons in authority has survived the kaiser's fall. Secondly, the Germans have repeatedly been told that their misery was due solely to the malice of foreigners and that fortune can return only with foreign help, and any self-help is impossible under the malicious pressure of the war victors.

False, But Readily Believed.

That is false, but readily believed by a people whose political instinct, never highly developed, now is blunted by the struggle of every-day miseries. Foreigners, however sympathetic, cannot realize how demoralizing is the fact that the thousand-mark note, which formerly kept a family comfortable for two months, now is insufficient to buy a shirt or a pair of theater tickets.

Thirdly, the idea has been implanted that for tactical reasons the Presidency must go to a social democrat and, if a social democrat, why not Ebert? This Heidelberg tailor's son, saddler, ex-editor of a small paper, innkeeper, party secretary is popular among the bourgeoise. After violent speeches against repression laws and rule, he, as President, calmly pulled the flag of the idealist from its pole.

Under his Presidency thousands of workmen and republicans have been shot and imprisoned while the monarchist plotters are untouched. The principle of equality before the law has been infringed and special jurisprudence involved for attacks and slanders against the President, the ministers and deputies. Even the Kaiser did not dare to make special laws to protect himself.

Monarchists Prefer Ebert.

The monarchists and nationalists desire no President this hard winter than this little, portly, cunning gentleman who greeted our returning troops as "our unconquered army." He reviews troops everywhere now like an emperor and covers all with the social democratic flag. Unpopular with his own party, hated by the best elements of labor, still if no really popular candidate appears, or unless Ebert himself, seeing dangers in the people's misery, retires to a less responsible position, he will succeed himself.

This is exceedingly to be regretted for the moral depression of the people equals their economic misery and the needed new spirit cannot be awakened by a man who takes principles, once called all-healing remedies, out of the window like removed goods.

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PREMIER'S FUTURE BRITAIN'S CONCERN

May Be Compelled to Align Himself With Tories, Says Gardiner.

BY A. G. GARDINER.
Britain's Foremost Liberal Editor.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Star.

LONDON, October 14.—The future of Lloyd George is the chief subject engrossing all England today. With the passing of the near east menace the plans of the premier are discussed everywhere. Will he resign? When will the general election come? What will be the political alignment when it does come?

Matters cannot go on as at present. The premier's astonishing diplomatic methods in relation to the Turk have left him in an extraordinary position. He is distrusted by all parties about equally, but the new factor in the situation is his loss of the support of the newspapers. Heretofore his chief power came from that source.

Near-panic pervades the financial and commercial world at the revelation of his political levity. City opinion may be summarized thus:

"He landed us in the position where we have the choice of fighting the Turk without other European support or of kowtowing to him. We have kowtowed and suffered a humiliation no great nation should accept."

The tremendous assaults of James Louis Garvin on him show how low his prestige has fallen because Garvin's former enthusiasm for the premier approached idolatry. He was the heaven-sent minister, hardly human, almost godlike. He was Pitt, Cromwell, Lincoln, all in one miraculous body. Now he is more black than I, who have been exposing his juggleries for seven years, even have painted him. He is the chief author of all of Europe's misfortunes and must be cleared out bag and baggage.

Fights, Back to Wall

All England is laughing at this unprecedented somersault, but the significance of the comedy is great. It indicates the complete pricking of the bubble of the greatest reputation ever blown in English politics. But George, with his back to the wall, will fight desperately.

Speculation centers on the question of whether he will make the plunge to the right or the left. His recent efforts have been directed toward making peace with the liberals, but "no thoroughfare" is inscribed on this path. Any compact with labor is out of the question. His own personal following is small and will vanish if he is unable to provide troughs for their hungry mouths.

There remains the tories. But the tory rank and file is as hostile to Lloyd George as is the rank and file of the liberals and laborites. He does, however, retain a powerful hold on the leaders of the tory faction whom he has skillfully involved in his failures, and who see no chance of retaining office excepting through his strategy. It seems probable, therefore, that he will plunge to the right, raise the cry of bolshevism to discredit labor, and seek to capture stray liberal support on the ground of the success of his Irish policy and the pursuit of the Gladstone traditions in the near east.

Premier Will Not Resign.

One thing generally is agreed. He will not resign. He knows that the chief source of power is possession of office, and that once he is robbed of this power recovery would be problematical. His aim, therefore, will be to keep the shadow of the coalition even though the substance has gone, and decide the date and issue of the general election rather than leave that advantage to others.

The strength of his position is the poverty of the tory leadership. Chamberlain, Churchill and Birkenhead all have failed, and there is no outstanding figure to lead any revolt there against Lloyd George dictatorship. The present impression is that he will force the election before Christmas.

What will be the result? It is most problematical. There is an overwhelming feeling against coalition, and there may be a landslide against its continuance by the tory voters. In that case the liberal and labor parties would be enormously strengthened. It now is estimated that labor may secure one-third of the house of commons, the tories rather more and the liberals less.

Would labor take office with the liberals? It is more than doubtful. Meanwhile we await the declaration of the election and an outburst of anti-bolshevism, with Lloyd George playing the role of St. George slaying the suppositious dragon.

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APPROVE REALTY LAW.

Real Estate Association Would License Brokers.

NEW YORK, October 14.—The National Real Estate Boards' Association at the final session of its convention approved a new law drawn up to embody the association's advocacy of licensing real estate brokers, which will be presented to the various state legislatures for passage.

Eight real estate boards were elected to membership—those of Lafayette, Ind.; Florence, Ala.; Newton, Kans.; Loraine, Ohio; Bloomfield, W. Va.; Portsmouth, Ohio; Lake City, Fla., and Newport News, Va.