

Peace Parley--158th Day of the Armistice

First of Enemy Ships to Arrive



The Kaiserin Augusta Victoria has arrived in Hoboken from Germany. This is the first of the vessels turned over by the German government to the Allies, in exchange for food, to reach this side of the Atlantic.

assume the character of a discussion, but merely the elucidation of any points which may assist in securing prompt and favorable action when the plenipotentiaries return to Weimar.

It is believed that the stay of the plenipotentiaries at Weimar will cover a week, thus bringing them back to Versailles about May 8 or 10. This, however, is conjectural, for it is dependent upon the rapidity of the decision reached at Weimar.

Allies to Revise Belgian Treaty

Famous "Scrap of Paper" Pact To Be Brought Up for Amendment

PARIS, April 17 (By The Associated Press).—The Council of Five Foreign Ministers, at a meeting to-day at the Foreign Office, decided in favor of the revision of the Belgian treaty of 1839, which Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, the Imperial German Chancellor, made historic as a "scrap of paper."

Other questions, including restriction of the opium trade, acceptance by Germany of Allied prize court decisions, treaties with Austria and Bulgaria, and questions for the ending of the state of war, were referred back to the drafting committee for minor changes.

The Moroccan and Egyptian questions were referred to the reparations committee.

BRUSSELS, April 17.—Belgium's war damages, for which it is contended an indemnity should be collected from Germany, are placed at 25,000,000,000 francs (\$7,000,000,000), in a report made by the central industrial committee, which has completed an investigation of the subject. The committee has reckoned the cost of materials on the basis of prices now prevailing, declaring this is only just if Belgium is to be restored to the condition it was in at the beginning of August, 1914.

In itemizing the damages the claim for state property is placed at 5,335,000,000 francs (\$1,072,000,000), of which 4,315,000,000 francs (\$863,000,000) is on account of railroads, posts and telegraphs.

The damage to Belgian industry is

placed at slightly more than 8,000,000,000 francs (\$1,600,000,000), of which approximately 5,750,000,000 francs (\$1,150,000,000) is computed as due for the destruction and requisition of property, while for the destruction of private houses and furniture 3,000,000,000 francs (\$600,000,000) is claimed.

Wilson Grants 15 Audiences in Day

Hears Pleas From U. S., Europe, Near East, Far East and on Irish Issue

PARIS, April 17.—There was no meeting of the council of four to-day because of the extraordinary number of engagements made by the President, who, beginning at 11 o'clock, gave an average of fifteen minutes each to delegations from America, Europe, the Near East and the Far East, besides attending to routine matters put up to him by his secretaries.

From 11 until 11:10 o'clock the President talked to a Chinese delegation, then listened twenty minutes to the French National Congress on the question of the Rhine as a frontier. Fifteen minutes went to the Assyrian-Chaldean national delegation, the same to the Slavic Dalmatians, who presented the results of a plebiscite in the Dalmatian territory occupied by Italy.

Ten minutes went to the Chargé d'Affaires for San Marino, ten more to the Swiss Minister of Foreign Affairs, then to Rose Schneiderman and Mary Anderson, representing the American Women's Trade Union League; fifteen to a long-haired Greek patriarch from Constantinople, which is the seat of orthodox Eastern Christianity; fifteen to Essad Pacha to present Albania's claims, and fifteen minutes to the Greek Minister Coromilidis from Rome.

The President then went to lunch with Secretary of War Baker, who informed him about American matters. Beginning again at 4 o'clock, Herbert Hoover got a quarter of an hour of the President's time, and was followed by a Rumanian delegation. A member of the Portuguese government was next, and he was succeeded by Boghos Nubar, the Armenian leader, who came to plead the cause of his country, which desires that America assume mandate over it. Then came the venerable Serbian Minister, Dabitch, and, finally, Frank Walsh, pleading for a free Ireland.

Foe Given Till May 15 to Sign

Drafting Committee Has Most of Treaty Clauses; Terms Ready Soon

(By The Associated Press).—Germany will be forced either to accept or reject the Allied peace terms by May 15, according to reports printed in Paris. It is indicated that no reply is expected before May 6, the peace conference being disposed to give the German government what it considers ample time in which to digest the terms and frame its reply.

What action would follow rejection of the terms by the Germans has not been forecast in reports from the French capital.

U.S.-French Treaty Report Is Scouted

Couldn't Be Ratified in Senate, Says Borah; At Variance With League

WASHINGTON, April 17.—Disbelief that the President has negotiated a treaty with Great Britain and France with a view to protecting France from aggressions was expressed on every hand here to-night. The cablegram from Paris, as printed in "The World," is believed by officials here to be based on a distorted idea of conversations at the peace conference.

"What would be the function of the league of nations if such a treaty is necessary?" asked Senator Warren G. Harding. "That is the worst I have heard yet."

"No treaty of the kind indicated providing for an alliance with France could be ratified," said Senator William E. Borah. "Even if ratified the Senate which approved it could not bind succeeding Congresses to carry

out its provisions when the time came by a declaration of war in support of France.

"I venture to predict that a Congress ratifying such a treaty would never have a chance to pass on the declaration of war, because its members would be retired from their seats by their indignant constituents at the next election."

Other Senators, including Charles Curtis, of Kansas, admitted that affection of the American people for France, but insisted that no treaty binding this country to protect her would meet approval.

The idea here is that the origin of the story probably dates back to some exchange between Premier Clemenceau and President Wilson, in which, after Clemenceau had insisted that the league of nations did not sufficiently protect France from aggression, President Wilson made some remark to the effect that the United States would never sit idly by and see France overrun.

hostilities, is still wretchedly bad, and the unemployment question consequently has become serious.

The Italian proletariat has shown its strength at Milan, but not without the usual clash with the authorities. Some Italian leaders declare there are only a handful of Bolsheviks in the whole country, while others say the country is on the verge of revolution.

Extremists Held In Check. To date the moderate labor leaders and the Socialists have been able to hold the extremists in check. They are trying to obtain their demands by peaceful, constitutional methods, but the situation is fraught with possibilities of serious disturbances.

The Italians are intensely interested in the peace conference, where Premier Orlando pleads their cause, while Baron Sonnino, part Jew and part Scotch, silently but none the less successfully, presses their demands.

The majority of the Italians are realists and nationalists, who applaud Orlando's phrases about the league of nations, but never for a moment lose sight of their national aims.

Food is now arriving in sufficient quantities to insure the country against a coal famine, and the amount of imports is steadily increasing as more tonnage is made available with the acceleration of demobilization of troops.

Nation Is War Weary. The Italians are sick of the war. The Socialist leaders recently threatened a general strike as a protest against the employment of Italian troops in Russia.

The executives of the Italian Socialist party, at a meeting in March, hailed the Russian, German and Hungarian revolutions, and condemned the Paris conference on the ground that it was reactionary.

The Radical Socialists in small numbers decided recently to join the Revolutionary Socialist International, which met some weeks ago in Moscow.

The numerically stronger Socialist party, on the other hand, is violently anti-Bolshevik.

Milan is the storm centre. Three forces are clashing: the moderates and extremists among the workers, and

Germans in Coblenz Get U. S. Army Food

COBLENZ, April 17 (By The Associated Press).—Twenty-three American freight cars loaded with bacon, flour, evaporated milk and rice, have arrived at Coblenz for the Germans.

Distribution through German channels will begin immediately, the food having been obtained by the Germans from United States army supplies in France because of the delay experienced by the Inter-Allied Food Commission in carrying out the details of its plan for feeding the population of occupied areas.

both with the employers. Good judges believe the danger of the situation is growing less, but they qualify their forecasts with reservations about the peace conference.

If the Orlando-Sonnino programme fails they believe a more or less bloody revolution is bound to follow. The disappointment will drive the Italians to disorder, they predict. The Italians consider that real accord with the Jugoslavs is virtually impossible. There is almost as much bitterness between the two as there is between France and Germany.

Farmers Ask for Place in League of Nations

DENVER, April 17.—Resolutions were adopted at the closing session to-day of the national convention of the Farmers' Educational and Cooperative Union of America asking for representation of farmers on the league of nations. A copy of the resolutions was sent to the American peace delegation at Paris by cablegram.

The resolutions request the creation of a department in the league of nations which shall have direct control over international agricultural affairs.

Berlin Is Cut Off By Rail From Munich

BERLIN, April 15, 19 P. M. (By The Associated Press).—Railroad communication between Berlin and Munich has ceased, Bamberg, which is still the seat of the Hoffmann government, is also cut off from Munich.

Numerous rumors are current, but there is nothing to indicate clearly which party is in control. The troops apparently have been successful in crushing the insurrection to Munich.

Large forces of Bavarian troops, with artillery and also tankers, began an advance on Munich this morning, according to the "Tagblatt," but it is yet unknown whether a decisive battle has been fought. It is assumed the government will wait until an adequate number of reliable troops has been placed about the city.

The Communist government in Munich is reported to have opened negotiations with Italy by which valuable woodlands belonging to Munich would be pledged for a loan of one million marks (\$250,000,000) with which to buy food.

Bolsheviks Seek Bargain With "New Bourgeoisie"

COPENHAGEN, April 17.—Bolshevism in Russia is giving way to a "new bourgeoisie," according to the director of the Moscow Red Cross, who has arrived here. Premier Lenine and War Minister Trotsky are trying to reach an understanding with the modern elements in Russia.

The situation in Petrograd, the director reports, has been growing worse and numerous anti-Bolshevik outbreaks have occurred there. In February there were 83,000 deaths in Petrograd, compared to 123,000 in January.

British Labor Views League As Defective

R. W. France, Back From England, Says Union Element Considers Wilson Abandoned His 14 Points

Royal W. France, brother of Senator Joseph I. France, of Maryland, who returned several days ago from England, said yesterday that when he left the official attitude of the British Labor party toward the league of nations covenant was that it was both "defective and unsatisfactory."

"It is not stating it too strongly," said Mr. France, "to say that the attitude of the liberals, both in England and France, toward the proceedings of the peace conference is one of bitter disappointment. They had looked at President Wilson as a great liberal leader, who would show the world a way out of the abyss of hatred and despair in which it finds itself."

No Enthusiasm for League

Mr. France said he discussed the question of the proposed league with William Adamson, leader of the Labor party in the House of Commons, with George Lansbury, editor of its official organ, "The Daily Herald," and with Arthur Henderson, secretary of the British Labor party, and with many other persons of both liberal and conservative views.

"In no quarter," he said, "did I find any enthusiasm for the Paris proposal. The executive committee of the British Labor party met and formulated a statement representing the official attitude of this party, which I believe will soon control the government in Great Britain."

Mr. France had a copy of the statement. It set forth that the league covenant of February 15 was "defective and unsatisfactory," as it provided for representation of governments instead of parliaments, did not include automatically all nations willing to accept its obligations, and failed to provide definitely for control of armaments, freedom of trade, an international labor policy, and a programme providing for the eventual independence of all colonial possessions instead of merely a vote of Germany.

The joint committee which drew up the statement expressed in it also their conviction that "immediate and total abolition of conscription" was a requisite of such a covenant.

Big Labor Demonstration. Mr. France on March 30 saw a great labor demonstration in Hyde Park, in London, in favor of raising the blockade which prevents food from going into Germany. The gathering, he said, was estimated to contain about 100,000 workmen, who paraded with banners reading "Raise the Blockade" and "We Don't Fight Babies."

"The pity and hatred," said Mr. France, "engendered by the war has given way, so far as the great laboring classes of England are concerned, to a feeling of pity and a desire for fair play, and the current which the late President Wilson has made to the bitter and violent spirit of the reactionaries of England and France has filled them with the deepest disappointment."

Cornell Systems of Irrigation. Beautifying the Capitol Grounds. The official show-place of the nation is the Capitol at Washington. It is a noteworthy endorsement of Cornell Systems of Irrigation that they are depended upon to ensure the continued freshness of the Capitol lawns and shrubbery.

Unique Flower Holders. A beautiful setting contributes to the success of your Easter decoration. Unique flower holders like this white English chin elephant, 12 inches high, will help brighten some dark corner, or add charm to the dining table.

Miss Cavell's Funeral Is Fixed for May 15. Services at Westminster Abbey Will Precede Interment at Her Former Home. LONDON, April 17. The body of Edith Cavell, the English nurse who

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