

ANOTHER WAIL FROM GERMANS

(Claims to Have Been Thrown Out of Silesian Plebiscite Area)

INTER-ALLIED UKASE

No Complaint Made, However, Regarding British or Italians

BERLIN, Jan. 18.—Germany is not getting a square deal in Upper Silesia, the Germans declare vehemently. Dr. Gothein, formerly Minister of Finance, a member of the Reichstag and one of the most distinguished members of the German democratic party, openly complains of what he calls the flagrant French favoritism for the Poles.

Dr. Gothein was thrown out of the Upper Silesian plebiscite area by the Inter-Allied Plebiscite Commission. He was ordered on short notice to take the next train out, which happened to be a "Jerkwater local," or what the Germans call a "Rummel." He was even allowed to wait for the next Berlin Express, which left a few hours later. He tells his troubles in the Democratic organ, the Tagesschau.

"I was to speak in Upper Silesia on what is surely a harmless theme, Germany's Technical and Social Culture. Although permission had already been granted me and meetings had been called, I was not permitted to speak. A ukase came from the Inter-Allied Commission to forbid the meetings and to make sure that I left Upper Silesia on the first train."

"This characterizes the 'impartial' attitude which Gen. Lerond imposed on taking over the government of Upper Silesia. Toward the Germans every kind of arbitrariness is permitted; toward the Poles, both eyes are closed. I found the feeling among the Germans in Upper Silesia, oppressed and, nevertheless, thoroughly optimistic. Everyone with whom I spoke is firmly convinced that the German victories will be overwhelming if the plebiscite is not disorganized by the exercise of terror."

"There is no complaint about the

LOOKS TO STATES TO JOIN LEAGUE

If America Favors Disarmament It Should Become Member at Once

RALPH CONNOR'S VIEW

U.S. With Britain and Japan, Must Lead Other Nations, He Declares

WINNIPEG, Jan. 18.—Whether universal disarmament or military programs are to prevail among the nations of the world for the future, lies directly with the United States, according to opinions expressed by Dr. C. W. Gordon (Ralph Connor). The first essential step the United States must take, if it favors disarmament, is to join the League of Nations, he declared.

Dr. Gordon held it not difficult for disarmament to be brought about, if the first class nations, Great Britain, United States and Japan, would accept three fundamental principles.

Briefly these principles are:

1. Rule of court to replace rule of club.

2. Force to be employed only by international police.

3. Universal responsibility for world peace.

Italians or the English. Everyone recognizes their loyalty and non-partisanship towards both sides, so the bitterness over the attitude of the French occupation authorities is all the greater. A great Polish uprising had been planned for January 15, but the French called it off because of the general political situation.

"German public opinion is being fed up with inflammatory reports about 'Polish preparedness for war' against Germany." According to these reports, two main Polish army groups are marching against East Prussia and Upper Silesia, the latter under command of Gen. Joseph Haller, whose headquarters is at Cracow at present. The German military critics are beginning to write long analyses of the military situation on the German-Polish front.

Belleville Oddfellows Elect Officers

Last night at the Oddfellows Temple, the ceremony of installing the officers of Belleville Lodge No. 51, and Mizpah Lodge No. 127, I.O. O. F. was conducted by District Deputy Grand Master Bro. C. VanAlstine of Trenton. He was assisted by the following: D. D. Grand Marshall, P. G. Bro. B. A. Newton, of Trenton; D. D. Grand Warden, P. G. Bro. H. Ransom, D. D. Rec-Sec, P. G. Bro. G. Way, D. D. Fin-Sec, P. G. Bro. R. H. Ketcheson; D. D. Grand Treas., P. G. Bro. W. F. Ashley and Past Grand Chaplain Bro. Rev. A. L. Geen.

The newly installed officers are: Belleville Lodge No. 51, J. P. G.—Geo. W. Kerr, N. G.—N. Thompson, Rec-Sec.—S. A. Barclay, Fin-Sec.—J. W. Adams, Treasurer.—R. A. Coon, Warden.—P. Ransom, Conductor.—H. Ransom, R. S. N. G.—J. Hill, L. S. N. G.—J. Marshall, R. S. V. G.—G. Youker, R. S. V. G.—G. Boyle, R. S. S.—H. Fringle, L. S. S.—A. Moon, Chaplain.—G. Way, Inside Guard.—C. F. Frost, Outside Guard.—I. Sills, Mizpah Lodge No. 127, J. P. G.—Geo. F. Reid, N. G.—A. Gael, V. G.—H. W. Lindstrom, Rec-Sec.—F. C. Fairman, Fin-Sec.—C. F. Cochrane, Treasurer.—G. R. Brower, Warden.—W. Adams, Conductor.—J. Harris, R. S. N. G.—J. Duckworth, L. S. N. G.—A. Allison, R. S. V. G.—E. Elliott, L. S. V. G.—T. P. Amans, R. S. S.—J. Alexander, L. S. S.—H. Galway, Chaplain.—W. H. Ralls, Inside Guard.—Geo. Thompson, Outside Guard.—C. Coleman.

After the installation ceremony a splendid banquet was provided which was enjoyed by about seventy-five members who were present. Noble Grand N. Thompson, of Belleville Lodge, officiated as chairman and proposed the first toast to His Majesty the King, all responding by singing the National Anthem. P. G. Bro. J. O. Herby proposed the next toast to the Grand Lodge

of Ontario and the D.D.G.M., Bro. VanAlstine in response, spoke his pleasure at again visiting Belleville and said he was proud to claim membership in one branch of the Order in Belleville, namely, Belleville Canton No. 3. He also expressed the hope that Oddfellowship throughout this district would rally around their officers and support the splendid record made last year as an appreciation to Grand Site Bro. J. Oliver, of Toronto.

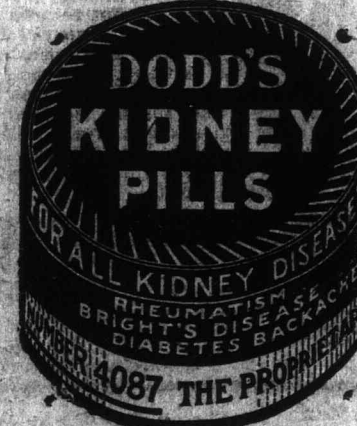
Past Grand Patriarch R. H. Ketcheson was the proposer of the next toast, that of the Grand Encampment, and Past Chief Patriarch G. Way, who is an enthusiastic patriarch, responded, both appealing to the subordinate members to advance and join the Encampment branch.

Major W. R. M. Gilbert, who is the recognized after-dinner speaker of the order in Belleville proposed the toast of the Patriarchs Militant and Belleville Canton No. 8. Major Gilbert spoke in high terms of this, the highest degree in Oddfellowship. Captain H. W. Lindstrom responded.

Bro. E. Cherry proposed the toast to the visitors and Past Grand Bro. E. Gartley of Tweed Lodge, responded.

Noble Grand A. Gael and Bro. P. Ransom spoke on behalf of the new officers and asked the support of every member.

P. G. Bro. R. H. Ketcheson moved a vote of thanks to the chairman and Bro. Thompson replied. After Bro. Rev. Geen offered prayer the Brethren sang the National Anthem and another installation evening was concluded.



Sir Geo. Foster On League Of Nations

[By SIR GEORGE FOSTER]

(Head of the Canadian delegation to the recent Assembly of the League of Nations at Geneva.)

(Written for Canadian Press Ltd.)

OTTAWA, Jan. 18.—The First Assembly of the League of Nations, which began on November 15th and ended on the 18th December, was of great interest to the world in two respects: First, in the possibilities of an assembly made up of representatives of so many nations distributed throughout the world, with so many differences of language, race and interest, getting together on any practical basis of sentiment and action; and second, as to whether or not under such conditions practical results along the line of the League's ideals could be attained. In both these respects, hostile critics were disappointed and the friends of the League gratified at the more than expected measure in which their hopes and desires were fulfilled.

Forty-two different nations were represented, three delegates being allowed to each nation and the total number of delegates was 104. Taking into account that most of these delegates were total strangers to each other, the process of acquaintance was exceedingly rapid and before a week had passed these were on terms of acquaintance and knowledge of each others opinions and views. This was brought about largely in two ways. The work of the Assembly was divided and entrusted to six grand commissions, each of which had a membership of 42, being one representative from each member of the League. These commissions almost immediately set about their work and the discussions from day to day brought an intimate knowledge of each others views and opinions. The Commission met almost daily to continue the discussions and prepare work for the Assembly. The second agency was the social one. The Swiss Government was most generous in its hospitality and reunions in which all the delegates mingled were frequent in the shape of receptions and banquets. In addition to this, the different delegations had social meetings, luncheons and dinners, one with the other and the intercourse thus established speedily tended to induce intimacy and friendship. These two agencies were wonderfully helped by the spirit which seemed to animate the delegations from all the countries and which showed itself in an intense desire that the ideals and principles of the League should be embodied in practical results and to that end national and sectional aims should be subordinated to the central purpose.

With all the diversity, it so turned out under the guiding influence of the above mentioned that little difficulty was found in the end in coming to agreements on all matters of importance which came before the Assembly and there were instances of even a request being made for the record of an adverse vote. Two things were thus demonstrated: First, that the common sense and dominance of moral sentiment carried the Assembly over what many critics thought would be the breaking point, viz. that in the important matters complete unanimity was necessary in order that conclusions might be reached. Complete unanimity was necessary and it was brought about by the common sense and fine purpose of the delegates as a whole. If nothing else had been gained by the Assembly than this exemplification of the desire of the nations for a better

method of regulating international difficulties than the old methods of war and their determination at the end of sectional or individual opinions to bring about the better method and to work in sympathy and harmony towards that end, the Assembly would have thoroughly justified the trouble and expense of bringing it together.

There was one slight deviation from this general rule in the case of Argentina, whose delegation desired to have certain propositions taken up and immediately passed upon by the Assembly itself, although the Assembly had previously decided upon its rules of procedure which provided for the consideration of all resolutions and proposals first by the Committees and thereafter upon their report by the Assembly. As this would have nullified the rules of procedure it was found impossible to accede to Argentina's wish, whereupon the delegates from that country withdrew from the Assembly in order to make their protest more marked. The main proposition upon which Argentina withdrew was the admission of all nations at once to membership in the League. The overwhelming opinion of the Assembly, however, was that membership to the League should be carefully considered by the Commission appointed therefor and dealt with upon their report, which, in the end, recommended that certain requirements should be fulfilled before membership was given in the League. There was a universal desire that ultimately all nations should become members of the League but there was also a feeling that caution should be exercised in the admission of new members and that the best of guarantees should be given before such admission was allowed. Six new members were admitted on the report of the Commission and the subsequent endorsement of the Assembly making the League's membership at the present time 48.

One marked feature was the courteous relations which existed both in Committees and in the Assembly between the different delegates. While there were keen discussions, there was an entire absence of harsh expression or discourteous criticism on one to the other, the whole course of the Assembly being distinguished by a complete absence of unparliamentary allusions and the prevalence of a spirit of unvarying urbanity and courtesy.

The two official languages used were English and French, and almost without exception the delegates were able to speak in either one or the other language. The question of making Spanish one of the official languages was raised by the eighteen countries whose official language was Spanish and the matter was debated with keenness and spirit. In the end, however, the common sense argument prevailed and the advocates of the Spanish language courteously accepted the general verdict. Whilst English and French remain the official languages, a delegate may speak in any language, provided he furnishes a translation of the same in either English or French which will then go upon the records.

The question which might have been difficult to solve, namely, that of precedence in seating the delegation, was happily arranged by making the seating alphabetically so that the different delegations fell naturally into their places in the large hall of the Assembly.

The question is asked: "What were the practical results of the First Assembly?" This question finds an

answer which I think is perfectly satisfactory. Personally I know of no parliament or convention of widely distributed delegates which in so short a time became acquainted with each other, got down to work and left a better record of performance than the Assembly at Geneva. And we must not forget that the Assembly was different from any other that was ever convened and that it represented so many nations and such varying differences. In the first place the Assembly organized itself and its work which was no light achievement. Rules of procedure had to be adopted, the varying competence of the Council and the Assembly had to be defined in a workable manner, the various committees to be organized with their chairmen and secretaries and the work of the League distributed thereto. The various technical organizations through which the League of Nations has to work out the obligations and duties imposed upon it were to be established and as may be well seen great care had to be taken both as to the powers given to these and the capacity of the staffs responsible for carrying out the work of each. The scope of the Secretariat and the whole basis of preparing the Budget of the Secretariat, the Labor Office and the technical organizations had to be formulated for discussion and adoption by the Assembly, the method of providing for the expenses of the League and the control of its expenditures had to be devised and authorized by the Assembly. These were all laboriously carried out and the League of Nations is now complete in its three branches of co-ordinated effort—the Council the Secretariat and the Assembly. That is the working machine is complete and hereafter will only need supervision and amendment as amendment comes to be found necessary.

The great work, however, of the Assembly transcended these necessary arrangements of basis and method of operation and had to do with the larger and more important scope of the League's functions. The basis upon which new States should be admitted to the League had to be settled. The question of armaments and war equipment which lies at the very root of the existence of the League was thoroughly examined and keenly debated to the end that as near a future as possible armaments should be reduced to the lowest limits possible and that the tremendous expenditures hitherto involved should no longer exist to burden nations and to serve as incentives for future wars. The overwhelming opinion, of course, was that armaments should be discontinued, but that wisdom and caution must be exercised in the present conditions of the world as modifying the demand for immediate and total disarmament.

The question of mandates was also carefully examined and gave rise to a keen discussion in the Assembly the result of which was to express very strongly the opinion of the Assembly that mandates should be carried out in accordance with the original idea upon which they had been created, whose underlying principle was that these mandates should be exercised primarily in the interest of the country governed thereunder, and not in the selfish interest of the mandatory power.

The crowning work of the Assembly was the institution of the Tribunal for the hearing and settlement of international disputes which was most carefully considered and which at last passed the Assembly in a very satisfactory form. Twenty-two nations have already signed the agreement to submit their differences to this Tribunal and when a majority of the members of the League of Nations have so intimated their approval and ratified the same, the Court will be appointed and proceed to its work. The importance of this step cannot be overestimated. While it is true that the judgments of this Tribunal are not obligatory, it is also true that the impetus given to the Tribunal by the adhesion of the foremost nations and the larger part of the nations of the world will by its moral force finally draw all nations within the scope of the Tribunal and its decisions will gradually assume all the force that would have been possible under the obligatory constitution.

A study of the work of the First Assembly shows a commendable number of practical achievements along most important lines that fully justify the existence of the League and demonstrate its practical usefulness. Amongst a summary of these may be mentioned the following:

1. The settlement of its rules of procedure as to its new powers and the relative powers of the Council and the Assembly.
2. The laying down of rules to guide the admission of new members and the admission of six members at the first session.
3. The establishment of a Commission to consider proposed amendments to the Covenant of the League.
4. The formulation of principles by which the economic blockade is to be applied for the purposes required by the Covenant.
5. The creation of a number of technical organizations to carry out the purposes of the Covenant as laid down therein, in respect to health, communications and transit, economics and finance, the control of the traffic in opium and the traffic in women and children, and the elimination of typhus and other epidemics which have resulted from the war.
6. The discussion and examination of the Armenian question and the arrangements by which a probable settlement may be attained.
7. The first step taken in the limitation of armaments and their ultimate reduction.
8. The establishment of a Permanent Court of International Justice.
9. The discussion of measures to be taken by which financial and international credits may, if possible, be established, with the object of bringing about by co-ordinated effort the quicker adjustment of the present economic and financial situation.

General regret was manifested at the absence of the United States from the membership of the League, but the feeling was general that the

way remained open to that country to join with the other nations of the world in completing the work of peace and adjustment following the Great War in which she had taken so important a part in eliminating military despotism and thus make way for better world conditions.

As respects the Canadian Delegation, one must in speaking for it be appropriately modest in his expressions. I think it can, however, be well stated that Canada's work in the Assembly compared favorably with that of other members and that her delegation contributed effectively to the results that were brought about. Certainly her delegates were well received and were assigned important duties in the work of the Assembly which they performed to the satisfaction of the Assembly and to the credit of Canada.

The principles and ideals underlying the League of Nations have from the first had my heartiest sympathy and support. The practical working out of the same has presented difficulties of varying degrees. It was, therefore, with much interest and anxiety that its friends contemplated the work of the First Assembly.

After having participated therein and witnessed the fine spirit and accordant work of the delegates of the forty-two nations represented at Geneva, I am confident in the belief that the League is destined to a great future and will ultimately displace war as an agency for settling international disagreements, and establish in its place the moral force of the nations working for peace and the economic and social uplift of the world.



Editor Ontario:

The writer is one of those who was present at the discussion which took place last Thursday night in the City Hall on the subject of the "attractiveness" of our city, as a place in which to locate or to live in. The debate, together with the singing, proved to be quite entertaining. And the two leaders in the discussion, Judge Deroche in the affirmative, and Major Ponton for the negative, certainly presented their respective sides of the subject in a very able manner.

But, Mr. Editor, I feel that the leader on the affirmative side, when pointing out certain buildings, including churches and the Albert College that is to be built, etc., overlooked one very important structure (if my memory is not at fault) namely, our city building, on the market square. There are very few cities in Ontario, if any, I think, with no greater population than Belleville; that can boast of having such a fine municipal building. Now I shall mention just two things as evidence of the costliness and magnificence of this building. In the first place the pointing of the outside wood-work on this structure last summer cost the large sum of two thousand three hundred dollars. This would indicate to those who had never seen the building that it must be of an immense size.

Then, secondly, the main front door which was placed onto this building last summer cost the city one thousand and forty-six dollars and three cents (\$1046.03). This alone would impress on the minds of those who had never seen our market and city building the idea that Belleville is a place of enormous wealth, and that our principal corporation building is a thing of beauty and an everlasting joy. Moreover, luckily we have in this building a very large burglar and fire-proof vault which cost several hundred dollars, which is situated on the ground floor. Now right here I wish to strongly suggest to our new Mayor that he make a strong effort to have the aforesaid valuable triplicate door taken apart and placed in that vault every night before it gets dark so that it will rest safely nights where thieves cannot break through and steal, for there is sufficient brass on this very ornamental door to make it worth while to do so. This reminds me that some years ago a certain live wire in the shape of an alderman conceived the idea of having at the expense of several thousand dollars a large new gas-holder constructed for our municipal gas works. Well strange to

say this gas-holder was never installed, but after the parts were made ready for setting up for some reason not generally known it was stored in the basement of our city building and a few years later was sold for scrap-iron. Now I cannot help but remark that any "old fossil" should know better than manage the city affairs in such an incompetent manner. But all these things have helped to bring our tax rates up to four cents on the dollar of our assessment as at present. And this high rate of taxation acts as a deterrent, because many would-be investors in real estate naturally feel that by locating here they would be expousing a heavy burden, or figuratively speaking would be trying themselves to a millstone. Besides this many have left here for the same reason.

Although I think Major Ponton handled his side of the question splendidly, and with a good deal of what he said I heartily agree, nevertheless I got the impression that if all his suggestions were carried out, or even a good part of them, the city would be so completely overwhelmed with debt that the end of it would never be seen for three generations at least, and besides this our tax rates would have to be greatly increased if allowed by law.

Major Ponton deprecated very strongly the fact that our railways were constructed through the most dilapidated and uninviting parts of the city. Well, Major, please tell us where you would have located them. I feel that in order to carry out Mr. Ponton's idea the C.N.R. and the C.P.R. should run down Highland Avenue and then easterly to the end of Bridge Street east and onward easterly. Major Ponton should be aware of the fact that most other cities are similarly conditioned as we are in respect of their railways running through the worst parts of their towns and cities. Even Toronto is afflicted similarly. We must not overlook the fact that the railway companies paid out a very large amount of money for undesirable properties, and some of them almost useless and enhancing the value of all other properties, also in Foster ward and "sawdust flats," which would not likely have been the case in a hundred years if the railways had not chosen that route. It was simply a most fortunate event for that part of the city and many of its residents, saying nothing of the splendid shipping facilities as well that these roads have provided for that part of the city.

A. ROBINSON.