

## SAYS FRENCH NEED AID MOST NOW

Mrs. Nina Duryea, Back from  
Devastated Area, Describes  
Population's Distress.

### SEES DANGER IN UNREST

Denounces Workers Who Feel  
They Have Done Their Bit  
and Leave Other People to  
Suffer.

The continued drive of the war relief organizations for means to alleviate the suffering of the European peoples is fully justified, and any suggestion that American help is no longer needed or wanted in France is inhuman propaganda, according to Mrs. Nina Duryea, who has just returned from the devastated regions of Northern France. Having been the first American civilian to carry clothing and food across the battlefields immediately after the German retreat in October and November, she feels that any one who has not personally visited those regions has difficulty in comprehending the utter moral and physical isolation and desolation in which the inhabitants live, and that it would be a great pity to withdraw from the French at a time when the need is greater than ever the aid upon which they have depended for four years.

"No railroads," Mrs. Duryea says, "are within many miles; the roads are sometimes impassable because inundated by the Germans to arrest the allied advance. The roads themselves, like the surrounding fields, are shattered by shell craters, and often deliberately mined by the Germans. It is a danger to pick up a helmet, to enter a ruin, or, in fact, to step off the main thoroughfare because of unexploded explosives ingeniously concealed. Powder has been cunningly placed within chimneys; door sills are mined, and although one of the articles of the armistice obliged Germany to send officers with charts and keys for such dangers, as yet little has been rectified.

"Therefore, thousands of people are as unable to procure clothing, a scrubbing brush, candle, cutlery or the commonest necessities of life, as though they had been cast on the burned-out surface of the moon and told to set up housekeeping.

"For many months the Government will remain practically helpless, for without a railroad being rebuilt no large amount of supplies can reach these regions, and before these railroads can be built the 800,000 German prisoners still in France will have to be fed, and the thousands of men who have been in the trenches for four years, and literally, yard by yard, extracted from that festering earth not only exiles but the inalienable debris of war.

"The plausible German propagandist asks why the people of Northern France cannot now return to work in the field. One might as well ask them to till and sow a pebble beach over which dynamite had been sprinkled, given when 'cleaned up' hundreds of square miles are 'sour' from disease, and like one field of eighteen acres south of Ypres, where 100,000 men have buried there is more of man than earth from which to raise crops."

After pointing out the possibilities of unrest among these people who have been twice evicted from their homes and are now suffering the greatest of hardships, Mrs. Duryea continues:

"These people are perfectly aware that America has never and will never pay the awful price that they have paid, and when they see our prosperous war workers washing their hands of tragedy and hard work, to hide themselves across the Atlantic, many feel the last bridge has broken under them, leaving them to sink into the current against which they can no longer contend.

"In 1914 every woman was knitting in her opera box, motor, and between courses at their dinner tables. Today with a thousand per cent more need, who is knitting? While old age and childhood huddle in those water-logged cellars of Northern France, American life regains its former brilliancy and luxury. The Kaiser would chuckle with glee could he hear the frequent remark: 'Oh! I've done my bit for the war. Now let France take care of her own.' So might nurse and doctor say when this typhoid patient, fever gone, still too weak to feed himself or stand alone."

To the charges of profiteering on the part of the French, Mrs. Duryea answers "that America, which for some time flourished in snug security at home, must allow that heroic people its measure of faults. The part they have played in this war has been god-like in its heroism, self-sacrifice, and glory. But we must remember they are not gods, but men, and from sheer gratitude no American should either promulgate or pass on any word or thought which tends to the belittling of France or to the withdrawal of support in this most critical time in her history.

"The shouting and the triumph die. But the aftermath of war, unsustained by emotional effort, is the harder task."

## SENTIMENT OF SOUTH AMERICA LEANS TO LEAGUE OF NATIONS

(By Victor M. Maurtua, Peruvian Delegate to the Peace Conference.)

Mr. Maurtua, who is Peru's authority on international law, will leave today for Paris, where he will act in conjunction with Francisco Guardia Caldeon, the Peruvian delegate already there. Mr. Maurtua's views on the opposition in the United States to the League of Nations plan are drafted and his analysis of its effect on the Monroe Doctrine are of value as evidencing the Latin-American attitude. Mr. Maurtua, formerly a Cabinet minister in Peru, recently represented his country in the American credit for the Peruvian currency issue and in the transfer to the United States of the German ships commandeered in Peruvian ports when Peru broke diplomatic relations with Germany.

The sentiment of South America is entirely favorable to the League of Nations. The opposition which has been aroused in the Senate of the United States against this plan for organized justice and the peace of the world is regarded with a certain astonishment. It is believed in South America that the problem does not consist in objecting to the clauses or articles of the Treaty of Peace in connection with the League, but in the attitude of the League which will depend on the attitude of its provisions, but on the good faith of the nations which will exercise a reciprocal influence on one another while they are reunited in a labor of co-operation to better the conditions of universal life.

Those who are opposed to the League draw their observations from a spirit and conception of international law and order that existed prior to the war, but do not take into consideration that there is today in the world a current of mental, moral and legal regeneration which prohibits treating these matters with the ideas and prejudices of a prior era. The League is the birth of a new spirit of public law, and it cannot be combated by the principles of an ancient law which is called upon to replace.

The long years stretch ahead in which reason will have ample opportunity to ask why and the wisdom for so much seeming injustice. Bitterness is even now in a pre-natal state. If the laborers in our country, with wages from \$4 to \$10 a day, and steadily mounting, feel a bitterness against the millionaire, what must such as this soldier of France feel who has nothing against those who have anything at all. In this country the fact that 75 per cent of an income of \$1,000,000 is taken away from the plutocrat by taxes, apparently fails to mollify the men whose smaller income is hardly taxed at all.

"In France taxation is spared many for the simple reason there is nothing to tax, nor for many is there any means by which prosperity can be regained. Up to the present there has been more patience than grumbling; more giving of all than thought of retention; more sacrifice of self than desire to make the other fellow pay. But as our own emotion for pity weakens, so does their emotion of noble sacrifice weaken, and human demands for human needs augment. The voice of the demand is waxing ever louder. It is no longer a pitiful cry, but a command, and soon may be a shrill defiance against negation."

"It has been said that all human beings are capable of all crimes and all heroisms, given the proper incentive and environment. France is clearly a case in point. The blood of those who made the revolution the most ruthless page of French history runs in the veins of those whose spiritual force has proved the supremacy of the soul over that material law which claims that self-preservation is the strongest law of the material world. But the pendulum can swing backward again, and if it does let not America flinch herself in any way responsible."

"Let us continue to support and strengthen a nation which proved its glory in our defense. For, in truth, for selfish reasons, we cannot afford to have the masses in France descend from their moral elevation. France is the hub on which the wheel of civilization in Europe turns, and according as her status is well or ill, so will forces for good or evil radiate from her with invincible force."

"The League of Nations must be moral as well as material, and let America look to it that on this threshold of a happier future France may see that America flings wide the door with generous largesse."

The United States cannot withdraw from the jolly obligations imposed upon it as a leading nation, at this time in the history of the world. No Senate or Parliament on earth would have sufficient power to frustrate the conscience now ruling the entire world. The United States, under the pressure of human solidarity, will maintain the organization of the League of Nations. No greater misfortune could be con-

ceived for the world, and particularly for the United States, than that the League of Nations should fall because of the opposition of the United States. The frightful war which we have suffered would remain as a German war, the tyranny of force would dominate the small and weak, and even the powerful and great would have to govern their relations as under the old regime of the balance of power. The world would have gained nothing by the victory of the Allies because the Germans, although under a more terrible form, would, if successful, have imposed nothing different in substance, than the peace which the enemies of the League are trying to put through. The sanction of the treaty for the

League does not infringe the constitution of the United States, nor is it opposed to the Monroe Doctrine. The constitutions of all civilized states, without any exception, invest the Senate or Parliament with the authority to direct foreign relations and to approve international treaties. There is no special reason to consider those constitutions, and more particularly the constitution of the United States, in any way affected by the provisions of the League. These lawyers' arguments are too subtle and narrow for matters so new, so lofty and transcendental as the organization of world justice supreme above all particular Powers. The League would pre-suppose a new method of constitutional

operation for foreign affairs in all nations. It is in this way that written constitutions have always developed in history, modifications being made from one century to another in practice without changing the provisions of the written text.

The Monroe Doctrine may be viewed in two aspects—one which affirms the independence and security of America as against all the Powers of the world and one which permits the United States to exercise a friendly help in internal affairs and in the maintenance of peace and the organization of inter-American relations. The first aspect of the Monroe Doctrine will be fortified by the League, because the independence and security of all nations will be cared for by the authority and force of all. But, nevertheless, America will continue enjoying the privilege in foreign affairs of the United States.

## THE CONCLUSION WAS NOT EQUIVOCAL

One Must Never Lose Sight of the  
Will Always Seek to Record  
as Long as the Slightest Chance

By Andre Cheradame.  
(Special Cable to The N. Y. Tribune  
and The St. John Standard.)  
(Copyright 1919, N. Y. Tribune, Inc.)

Paris, March 11.—The recent statements of Premier Clemenceau to The Associated Press in the best justification I could wish for the judgments I have been sending to The Tribune for several weeks. It remains now for the Allies to come down from the clouds of idealism and to face the clearly defined attitudes of Theoretic discussions to a world of realities. The danger must be looked in the face if once again it is to be averted. Ways and means are not lacking, but the condition is that no time be lost.

The fundamental mistake of the Allies has been the belief that the conclusion of the armistice was equivalent to peace, and therefore that to forward operations of a military character might cause the Germans, without discussion, of the Allied peace terms when these are drawn up—necessarily only after a delay of several months. Provision for such a strategic movement having this special character and this particular is absolutely indispensable.

There is no excuse for a doubt that the Germans will keep their word and endeavor in all ways to avoid reparations and seize the first opportunity to put their hand again on Central Europe. That is the basis of the reason why on page 246 of my book, "Essential and Enduring Victory," publish-

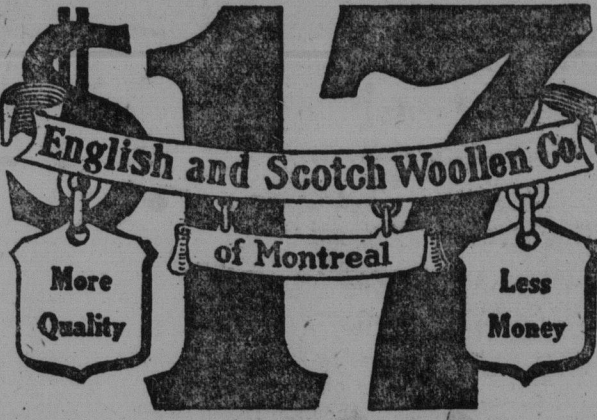
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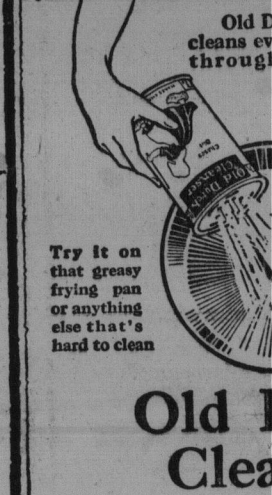
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