

FRANCE AND GREAT BRITAIN VIEW WITH CONSTERNATION THREAT OF U. S. TO WITHDRAW TREATY

Wilson Advises Premier That Unless Terms of Settlement of Adriatic Are Held According to Agreement of December Treaty May Be Withdrawn from Senate—Original Agreement on Adriatic Problem Reviewed, as Well as Changes Found Necessary by the Premiers.

Washington, Feb. 26.—President Wilson, in his reply to the British and French premiers on the Adriatic question, advises that, unless the terms of settlement are returned to the previous agreement, he "must take under consideration" the withdrawal of the treaty of Versailles and the French alliance from the Senate.

The response of the Premier was despatched from London today, but had not been received tonight in Washington.

With the exchange of this note the exchanges on the subject including the agreement of December 9 and the subsequent agreement communicated to Jugo-Slavia last month by the British and French Premiers, were made public today by the State Department.

Original Agreement

The joint memorandum of December 9, subscribed to by France, Great Britain and the United States said, in substance, the following:

It is to be a free state of Fiume under control and for future determination by the League with full autonomy for the city of Fiume. The city of Zara was to have originally under the League and complete control of its affairs. The islands of the Pelagos group, Lissa and the islands west of it, Lofos and Uolo, were to pass to Italy with local autonomy for the Slavs in Lissa. Italy was to have a mandate over Albania under the League. Albanian frontiers north and east, were to be those fixed by the London conference of 1913, but the south was left for negotiations. Greece was to be permanently recognized for some of which were to be left for negotiation. The city of Valona, and such hinterland strictly necessary to defence and commerce, were granted to Italy in full sovereignty.

These provisions were described in the memorandum as affording to Italy "a satisfaction of her historic and national aspirations," uniting the Italian race and as giving her "absolute stragemon of the Adriatic."

The conference declared they had carried "their concern for Italian sovereignty to the point of neutralizing the Dalmatian islands and adjacent waters from the Northern border of the Pelagos region to Fiume." Italy, however, had asked for control of the diplomatic relations of Zara, disconnection of the city of Fiume from the free state of Fiume, connection of the city of Fiume to Istria by a corridor, and annexation to Italy of the islands of Lagosta. This plan the conference characterized as "conducive to every consideration of jeopardy, economics and territorial convenience."

Explaining their reasons for arriving at the previous decision they declared:

"Economic consideration, being equally excluded, there remains nothing but a desire for further territory. The territories covered are territory inhabited by the Jugo-Slavs. They contain practically no Italian elements." On that point the memorandum included a communication from President Wilson to Premier Tittoni, under date of November 12, which, explaining the American view, declared "the broad principle remains that it is neither just nor expedient to annex as the spoils of war territories inhabited by an alien race anxious and capable to maintain a separate national state of irremediable antagonism to the demand of Italian Irredentia for union with the Italian state."

The new agreement between Great Britain, France and Italy, dated January 14, 1920, which President Wilson construed as having been arrived at without participation of the United States, after the agreement of December 9, was supposed to have settled the question, provided in substance:

"The Wilson Line" in the region of Senocchia, was to be re-drawn "to provide for the protection of Trieste." This, the agreement declared, "will leave in the Serb-Croat-Slovene territory, a Jugo-Slavic district."

(Continued on page 2)

DISAPPROVED OF PRICE FIXING AND LEFT BOARD

Judge Robson Quoted as Not Being Satisfied With Methods of Commerce Board—Other Members Surprised at His Statements.

Toronto, Feb. 26.—According to a special despatch to the Star from a staff correspondent at Ottawa, Judge Robson disapproved of price fixing and profit restrictions during peace time and he felt it was his duty to resign because he was not satisfied with the administration of the Act.

His Honor is quoted as saying: "Price fixing and profit restrictions on the products of the country, which well for war time, should not, in my view, be part of the permanent law. Regulation of profits on necessities will tend to discourage persons from entering on the useful services of life. It is, besides, an injustice to restrict these classes, while those engaged in production and distribution of luxuries, or even useful things not classed as necessities, go free. This seemed to me so incongruous that I was uneasy in the administration of the Act and felt it my duty to resign."

Commissioners O'Connor and Murdoch, of the Board of Commerce, were amazed when shown the statement authorized for publication by Judge Robson. They looked at each other in perfect astonishment for a few moments. Finally Mr. O'Connor exclaimed: "The reason given by Judge Robson is not his real reason for resigning."

Commissioner Murdoch was simply astounded, and would have stated his position, but Mr. O'Connor persuaded him this was not the time for action. It was intimated there may be quite a sensation when the remaining members of the Board of Commerce lay their cards upon the table.

RECEIVES SEVERE INTERNAL INJURIES

Calais Man Falls Distance of Thirty Feet from Roof While Shovelling Snow.

St. Stephen, Feb. 26.—While shovelling snow on the weath shed at the St. Croix Cotton Mill, Milltown, this afternoon, Edward Highland, of Calais and fell to the floor, a distance of about thirty feet. He was immediately taken to the hospital where it was found that although no bones were broken, he was suffering internally and late tonight his condition was considered quite serious.

Indian Settlement in N. S. Suffering Severely From The Influenza Epidemic

Halifax, Feb. 26.—The little Indian settlement near Elmedale, on the border of Halifax and Hants Counties, is suffering severely from influenza. The number of cases is at present six or seven, but conditions in the village are reported to be deplorable owing to the Indians not having previously reported the disease. A doctor visited the settlement yesterday for the first time since the disease appeared, more than a week ago.

Price Bros. Stand Pat On Refusal To Obey Board of Commerce Order

Ottawa, Feb. 26.—(Canadian Press.)—The order of the Board of Commerce calling for the presence of one of the partners in the newsprint manufacturing firm of Price Brothers & Company at the hearing by the Board on Saturday morning will not be obeyed by the manufacturing firm.

Price Brothers are applying, through their counsel, at once to the Supreme Court for a hearing to test the jurisdiction of the Board relative to newsprint. The attitude of the firm, as stated by Mr. Geoffrey, counsel, is that the Board's order is not a law of Canada. The order has, however, been filed in the Exchequer Court of Canada, and the Board of Commerce announces its intention of prosecuting Price Brothers for contempt.

AML POMP AND SPLENDOR PARLIAMENT OPENED IN ITS NEW HOME ON THURSDAY

Geddes British Ambassador To United States

London, Feb. 26.—It was definitely stated in the lobby of the House of Commons tonight that Sir Auckland Geddes, Minister of National Service and Reconstruction, has been selected as British Ambassador to Washington. Official announcement of his appointment, it was said, was only awaiting notification from Washington that Sir Auckland is persona grata.

St. Stephen Man Very Active About Arlington Hotel

Taken from St. John Train Yesterday, Charged With the Larceny of Fur Coats, Velour Hats and Sundry Articles of Women's Wear.

Special to The Standard.

Boston, Mass., Feb. 26.—Charged with the larceny of several fur coats, velour and stiff hats, with a sprinkling of ladies' expensive clothing, James Ray MacFadden, of St. Stephen, N. B., was arrested by Inspectors Eagen and Harrington, of headquarters, this morning, just previous to the departure of the St. John express from North Station. MacFadden, who claims to have been employed by the Todd Lumber Co., of St. Stephen, was seated in the parlor car of the train when the inspectors entered, and was certainly surprised at their appearance and mission. His trunk, or that which he had the check for, was secured on the baggage platform and taken to the station. The articles which he is alleged to have stolen were from the Arlington Hotel in the South End. The stolen articles were taken from the dining room lobby, the cafe and from the guests' rooms.

MacFadden stopped at the Arlington Hotel for three days. He was held for a hearing and further investigation.

C. N. R. THIEVES GET SENTENCE THIS MORNING

Influenza Cases in Charlotte County Reported of Very Mild Type.

Fredericton, N. B., Feb. 26.—C. N. R. Detective J. J. Dunphy has arrived with another railwayman arrested as being implicated in the theft of thirty-nine cases of whiskey from the Kentucky rye which passed through Napadogan recently. The same charge was placed against him as against the other six railway employes who were remanded yesterday morning by Police Magistrate Limerick until Friday morning for judgment. The prisoner appeared in the police court this morning. He was remanded until tomorrow morning when sentence in his case as well as the case of the other six, will be pronounced by the magistrate.

Dr. F. L. Brownlee of St. Andrew reported to the Department of Public Health this morning that there are now forty cases of influenza on Grand Manan Island, Charlotte County. Fifteen of these cases are reported to be convalescing while the others are not of a serious type.

This morning Mrs. S. W. J. Glenn, Secretary of the York County Board of Health has been notified that the epidemic at Harvey Station is clearing up. No new cases had been reported from that district, and the number of cases is falling off every day. As far as possible these are being kept from spreading outside the three or four houses quarantined.

FLORIDA NIGHT AT WESTFIELD

Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Machum Entertain Westfield's Young People's Fellowship.

Westfield Centre, Feb. 26.—Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Machum, who have recently returned from Cocoa, Florida, entertained the Westfield Young People's Fellowship at their home last evening. Mr. Machum gave a talk on the peculiarities of the vegetation and climate of Florida, while Mrs. Machum delighted by exhibiting views of interesting scenery which she had photographed.

The guests were treated to sugar cane, Florida oranges and fruits not so well known, along with other refreshments. The evening was a rare treat, the hosts keeping up their reputation for dispensing enjoyment.

As a Politico-Social Event it Was One of the Most Dazzling Ottawa Has Ever Seen—Society Surged Forth in a Glorious Riot of Beauty and Splendor — Politically or Legislatively Speech from Throne Forecasts Nothing Remarkable—Forthcoming Session Regarded as Momentous Because of Probable Political Consequences — Life of Union Gov't is at Stake.

Ottawa, Feb. 26.—With an array of pomp and splendor, made all the more imposing by the grandeur of its background, the fourth session of the thirteenth Parliament was yesterday put into motion in its new legislative home. As a politico-social event, the evening was the most dazzling that Ottawa has perhaps ever seen. It was as if after five years of pent-up ambition, society freed from the grip of war, with its sufferings and restrictions, surged forward in a glorious riot of beauty and brilliance and splendor, and this, adorning what was in itself a great event in the national life, the christening, as it were, of the new home of Parliament, helped to make a day that will long be memorable in social and political annals.

Apart from the significance of the opening of the new buildings, however, and the festivities attendant upon it, and viewed solely from a legislative and political standpoint, there was nothing in this opening that was very remarkable. It has long been a parliamentary bromide to say that the speech from the throne was more remarkable for what it left unsaid than for what it contained, but that is the only phrase that can adequately describe the document which the Duke of Devonshire read to Parliament yesterday. Indeed, coming after introductory remarks which dwelt upon the dislocation and chaos and unsettled state of Europe, the reaction of which was being felt in the Dominion, there was somewhat of an anti-climax in the succeeding passages which went on to say that what Parliament was being summoned to do was to ratify an opium convention (whatever that is), to provide a Dominion Franchise Act, and to amend a few statutes.

If this is all that Parliament has to do, if the Government's programme consists of nothing more than this, then most certainly the session will not be remembered for its legislative labors, or for its productivity in important measures, and its duration will be brief.

Political Consequences.

Indeed, it is for its probable political consequences, rather than because of any expected vital legislation that this session is regarded as potentially important. What the next few months will bring forth, politically, whether it will see a new orientation in politics, with the passing of an old historic party, and the birth of a new, no one at Ottawa pretends to know. Much, perhaps everything, will depend upon a caucus of Unionists to be held at an early date. Last year, Sir Robert Borden had returned from the Peace Conference, and was about to leave for the South in search of health, he summoned a caucus of his followers and outlined to them the frame work of a policy that might be adopted as a permanent platform. This platform, which dealt with all vital domestic issues and problems, was in line with Canada's national status and position in the Empire, was not put forward by the Prime Minister for adoption there and then. What Sir Robert asked was that the members should consider it during the recess, and when they returned to this session meet together and see if they could not unite upon it as a permanent party.

The caucus that is now being summoned is the result. The members have been home, they have talked with their constituents, have taken the pulse of the nation and have had opportunity to test the Premier's positions in the light of actual conditions as they have obtained during the past six months, and it is now for them to decide whether they can agree upon such a platform, or whether by compromise and pragmatism mutual trust they can permanently unite upon a foundation of fixed principles and behind a leader in whom they have faith, or whether they shall agree to disagree, to demobilize Unionist coalition, or if they work and go back to more congenial groups.

Union Government at Stake.

The situation from the Government's standpoint, and from the standpoint of all those who want to see the good frame work of a policy that might be adopted by the Government, keep light and under the same flag, is not without danger. Not that the opposition is strong, because it is not strong, but because the cohesive forces of the Union have, for one reason or another, some good, some bad and some mad, been steadily weakening, and there is menace of schism and insurrection within.

The coalition in its composition is made up of three groups. The largest of these is the middle group, moderate Conservatives, and moderates Liberals, mostly advocates of a centre party, who can be trusted to fight for continued solidarity. Then there are the old Tories, mostly from Ontario, but with sprinkling from elsewhere, who never can reconcile themselves to association with their ancient foes, the Grits, and who, if they could see their way clear to destroy the Unionist party in such a way as to leave the old Conservative party master of the field, would not hesitate to strike.

And, finally, there is a group, who, with their eyes on the constituencies, are inclined to edge nervously nearer and nearer to those Western Unionists and others who have found a

DIFFICULTIES IN THE TURKISH SITUATION LAID BEFORE HOUSE OF COMMONS BY PREMIER

Lloyd George Says the Decision Not to Oust Turks from Constantinople Came After Long Consideration—The Decision Was a Balance of Advantages and Disadvantages and it Was Believed Better Results Would be Achieved by Leaving the Turk There—Russia Has No Claim.

London, Feb. 26.—The decision not to oust Turkey from Constantinople was reached by the Allies' Supreme Council only after long consideration of the difficulties in the Turkish situation, Premier Lloyd George declared in the House of Commons today when the question of the future of Turkey was brought up for debate.

FIRE DESTROYS BANK BUILDING AT SYDNEY, N. S.

Worst Blaze Seen There in Many Years Wipes Out Valuable Block of Bank of Nova Scotia, Causing \$100,000 Loss.

Sydney, N. S., Feb. 26.—Fanned by a forty mile an hour gale, with the thermometer registering around zero, fire this afternoon completely destroyed the Bank of Nova Scotia building block, causing losses estimated tonight at \$100,000. The blaze was one of the worst seen in Sydney in years. Oak Hall clothing establishment, office of A. D. Gunn, K. C. and Gillies & Hill, and the magnificent home of Sydney Council Knights of Columbus, were totally destroyed.

The fire was discovered shortly before two o'clock near the office of George Boyd, manager of Oak Hall, and inside of ten minutes the building was filled with dense smoke. The flames spread quickly and the occupants of the legal offices of the second floor were unable to save any of the furniture. Mr. Gunn having a narrow escape from suffocation, being the last to leave the building.

Inside of half an hour the entire building was a mass of flames and firemen, handicapped by the intense cold and the terrific wind, worked heroically and through their efforts kept the fire confined to the one building. The cause of the fire is unknown. The building was one of the best blocks in the city. The loss of the bank is \$50,000, with \$20,000 insurance. The other losses were: Oak Hall \$70,000 with only \$21,000 insurance, A. D. Gunn \$25,000 with \$5,000 insurance, Gillies & Hill \$9,000 with \$2,000 insurance, Knights of Columbus \$5,000 with \$1,500 insurance.

WOODSTOCK IS SNOW-BOUND

Teachers and Pupils Snowshoed to Their Duties Yesterday — Farmers Cannot Get to Town and Fuel Shortage Threatens.

Special to The Standard.

Woodstock, N. B., Feb. 26.—The snow storm last night and this morning was one of the heaviest witnessed in this town and county for many years. Early in the morning the snow plows were out, but the teachers and many of the pupils went to school on snow shoes. The storm abated in the morning and the sun shone for some hours. After the snowing was over the snow was piled up in some places about 15 feet.

The farmers were unable to get to town today, and for a fortnight past their trips were not numerous and there is much suffering from lack of wood and coal.

The Smith Lumber Company had a large snow plow out, hauled by five span of horses, which enabled them to haul logs to the mill to continue their work. The mail drivers were unable to make their daily trips and all trains running north were cancelled.

Soviet Russia Makes New Peace Proposals To The Great Powers

Washington, Feb. 26.—In a new peace proposal to the Great Powers, according to official despatches received here today, Soviet Russia pledges the establishment of democratic principles in that country and the calling of a constituent assembly.

It promises to withdraw the decree annulling Russia's foreign debt, restoring sixty per cent. of the liability, and also pay arrears of interest, giving to an Anglo-American syndicate, as a guarantee of the fulfillment of its obligations, valuable platinum and silver mining concessions.

In return, the powers are asked to give intervention in Russia. The United States is asked to allow a credit to Russia conditional upon considerable concessions.

The decisions, said the Premier, was a balance of advantages and disadvantages and it was upon this balance, and after weighing carefully all the arguments, pro and con, that the Council concluded that, on the whole, the better course for achieving the common end was to retain the Turk in the capital on the Bosphorus.

Russia Side Tracked.

Referring to the agreement made early in the war under which Russia was to obtain Constantinople, Mr. Lloyd George said this agreement had ended, so far as Russia was concerned by the revolution of 1917, and the Peace of Brest-Litovsk. He reiterated his pledge that there would be "a different guard at the gates."

It would be the height of folly again to trust the guardianship of those gates to the people who had betrayed their trust, he declared, and never again would those gates be closed by the Turks in the face of British ships.

India's Position.

The influence which had decided the Peace Conference to retain the Turks in Constantinople, the Premier observed, had come from India. The two peace delegates of India at Paris, neither of whom was a Mohammedan, had declared that, unless the Allies retained the Turk in Constantinople, their action would be regarded as a gross breach of faith on the part of the British Empire, the Premier stressed.

Mr. Lloyd George pointed out that Turkey could not have been converted and nothing could be more damaging to British prestige in Asia than the feeling that Great Britain did not keep her word. He promised, however, that when the Peace terms were disclosed, they would be found drastic enough to satisfy Turkey's bitterest foe.

ST. STEPHEN WAS NOT OVERLOOKED

Snow Storm and Wind Visited the Border City and Got in Their Scheduled Work.

St. Stephen, Feb. 26.—One of the worst storms of the season struck here last night when about twelve inches of snow fell with a strong wind blowing. Traffic was completely blocked. No C. P. train arrived here last night and no train left this morning. The noon train did not arrive until four o'clock this afternoon, but got away tonight nearly on time.

The Maine Central train due to arrive in Calais last night, did not arrive until 11 this morning, and the noon train today did not arrive until 7 o'clock.