

FRANCE TO FOLLOW AMERICA IN REVISING WASHINGTON PACTS

Parliamentary Commissions to Modify Conventions in View
of Brundage Reservation to Pacific Treaty.

Paris, April 11.—From authoritative sources the Christian Science Monitor learns that an immediate consequence of the Brundage reservation to the Pacific Treaty in the United States Senate is the determination of parliamentary commissions, with the approval of the Government in France, to adopt reservations to make modifications and generally revise the various Washington conventions respecting the navy and the Far East when they come before the Chamber of Deputies for ratification. On the other hand, the Poincaré Government will oppose alterations of such a character as will destroy the treaties. M. Poincaré is prepared to make this issue a question of confidence and will resign rather than permit what has been promised by his predecessor to be completely wrecked.

But the situation becomes really difficult. The point is that the American Senate reveals against all treaties affecting other countries, though claiming the benefits under them, if it does not reject them it mutilates them. French politicians, who are deeply disturbed, not only by the naval accord as it affects France, but by the manner in which it was obtained, claim the right to follow the example set them by the American Senate. If America is not bound, neither is France.

It will be seen that a possible application of such reasoning is extremely grave. Many engagements that Parliament has disliked and has not taken as a duty. Today there is an entirely new spirit. It is decided that the ministers must submit diplomatic agreements to Parliament for approval before definitely committing themselves and must not take such approval for granted.

Senator F. B. Brundage is regarded as having extracted from the Pacific treaty any value which it possessed. Now it is considered that the circumstances in which the naval treaty was accepted were hardly fair. Public opinion was beaten up against France, who was excluded from the preliminary conversation of America, Japan, and England, in which the ratio were fixed. France was treated, it is felt, as a second rate power. She submitted, but the deputies now revolt and M. Poincaré may have some trouble in moderating their transports. Much of the comment of latter days is unmistakably hostile to the conven-

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But newspaper protests are now reinforced by official declarations. Moreover, while an attempt will be made to change the French coefficient to secure the right of building, it is thought necessary, other decisions, such as the Root motions, will be challenged at The Hague and elsewhere. It is felt to be unfair that submarines may not attack merchant ships, while merchant ships can carry cannon to sink submarines. Further, the French definition of merchant ship differs entirely from the British. Vessels carrying contraband should not be protected. Altogether, the attitude of the American Senate, though on the first report it was received with favor, is now seen to provide France with an unexpected opportunity of reopening questions decided at Washington against French interests.

Treaty Benefits Eamonn De Valera, Says An Expert

Newest Pact With Ulster and
South May Prove Temporary
Boomerang.

London, April 11.—Fear that a further delay in making possible a real Government in Southern Ireland would give De Valera's rebels more prestige spurred Parliament to quick action on Irish treaty bill. After a brief debate the Commons killed every one of the Lords' Amendments, the adoption of which would have postponed final action, sent the bill back to the Lords who were awaiting its arrival and within a short time the Lords decided not to press for their amendments. The bill then only needed the signature of the willing king to make it law.

Besides the danger of delay which has been pointed out in these despatches repeatedly, Parliament is faced with a new factor, in the opinion of many Irish observers, and that is that the newest treaty arranged between Ulster, Southern Ireland and the British might very easily prove a temporary boomerang.

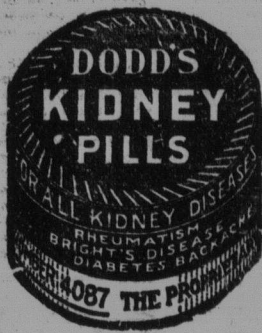
The only cry in Southern Ireland has always been against a union with Ulster. After the signature of this treaty De Valera and his commandants who are preaching secession from the Provisional Government, might say "the Provisional Government has joined hands with two peoples we hate—the Northern Protestants and the British" and it is feared in some quarters of London that the plea would be effective to the extent of augmenting De Valera's followers. It might win

over to his side many who are still wavering.

Aside from the Unionist Irish Times of Dublin the Irish press has not been as enthusiastic over the new arrangement as the British press. This enthusiasm is not substantiated by Winston Churchill's long speech in the Commons on the treaty and the prospects for bettering conditions.

Mr. Churchill declared the new treaty gave Irishmen the best chance they ever had for co-operation and the peaceful progressive future of their country. But he put a damper on immediate hopefulness when he added, "I have complete confidence in their good faith and good will. I have less confidence in their powers to discharge fully what they undoubtedly desire to do."

The whole tone of Churchill's speech was that while the leaders of all sides had reached the best possible agreement, too much should not be expected. While it is admitted generally that the only way to get peace in Ireland is through some sort of unity, those who fear this treaty may work toward the temporary assistance of De Valera are of the opinion the present step might better have been taken after an elected Government is set up in the South or preferably that such an elected Government had been made possible months ago, thus putting such an agreement as has been reached on the sound foundation that Parliament hoped to build for it when the original treaty bill was rushed through yesterday.



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