

WHY THE ARABS DEMAND THEIR INDEPENDENCE

Their Side of the Story Set Forth by Hadad Pasha, Special Envoy of Emir Feisal.

PART OF THE REWARD PROMISED TO THEM

For Support to the Allied Cause During the War—Promise Stable Government.

Class-Atlantic News Service. (Copy Right.) By Hadad Pasha, Special Envoy of Emir Feisal, recently proclaimed King of Syria.

Zenon, May 13.—Canadian readers will remember in history the great achievements of Arab civilization. For some centuries the Arabs kept alive the torch of learning when it was practically extinguished in Europe. They assimilated Greek science and philosophy; they made discoveries in mathematics which have enabled the modern world to master the forces of nature; they built the Alhambra and the masterpieces of Saracenic architecture which are the admiration of every Canadian visitor to Cairo.

This wonderful efflorescence of the Arab genius spread over all lands from the Persian Gulf to the Atlantic. But the Arabs always looked to the homelands of the race and the twin cities of Damascus and Baghdad as the cradle of their culture, and when the Turkish hordes came down from the north and spread like a blight over the Middle East, the Golden Age of Arab civilization passed away.

Never Forgotten Ancient Glories.

But throughout the centuries of Turkish tyranny the Arabs have never forgotten their great past. They have often made efforts to free themselves but never succeeded with success. The Turkish government was incapable of reformation and numerous Arab patriots in their desire to reform it have suffered death or exile at the hands of the Turks.

In 1903, when Abdul-Hamid was overthrown, the Arabs were the strongest element in the party of Union and Progress. But this failed. Many had already emigrated, especially to America; and the Syrian community in Canada and the United States today is a proof of how intelligent and progressive our people are when they live under good government.

Averted "Holy War."

Then the war came. Turkey joined Germany. The Sultan proclaimed a holy war. This effort to stir up the whole Moslem world was a serious menace, and the Allies turned to the Arabs, who inhabited the central regions of Islam, including the Holy Places, to help them meet this threat. The Arabs on their side had already taken stock of the situation and decided the opportunity had come for them to make a definite bid for their independence. The population of Mesopotamia and Syria were under the iron rule of the Turks, reinforced by the Germans.

The Sheriff of Mecca, now King Hussein of the Hedjaz, who belonged to the noblest family of Arabia, put him at the head of the movement. He became the ally of Great Britain. To the Emir Feisal, his son, who before and during the war had been forming an Arab party in Syria and Mesopotamia, and was looked upon by them as their leader, he entrusted the command of the northern Arab army, composed of volunteers, consisting of Beduin irregulars of the desert tribes of the Hedjaz and Syria, and regulars drawn from Syria and Mesopotamia. The men were mainly deserters from the Turkish army, who crossed the desert under their own officers, like wise deserters. When they joined up they were encouraged by Allied officers (British and French), who said to them:

Promised Independence.

"There is your country. Fight for it, and it will be yours." I have seen many letters written to their parents by young officers of ours before going into battle saying how pleased they were to shed their blood to gain their country's independence. These young men are now dead and it is the duty of all Syrians now to see that they have not died in vain.

As to actual military assistance, the Emir Feisal's army rendered the British in their Palestine campaign. I refer to the declarations made by my chief, Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby, at the London Mansion House, when he was given the freedom of the City of London, that it would not have been possible to win such decisive successes without the assistance of the Arab forces on the right flank.

When the United States came in, we were delighted to read the declaration made by President Wilson on April 2, 1917, to Congress. There he expressly stipulated that the United States was entering the war to ensure the rights of small nations.

The Secret Treaty.

In the meantime, in 1916, the British and French governments had constructed a secret treaty partitioning the Arab provinces into zones of influence. The text of that treaty was published by the Bolsheviks when they ransacked the Russian Foreign Office, and caused consternation among our people. However, they were reassured by repeated declarations of the Allies that that treaty was no longer of any effect, and by President Wilson in the first of the fourteen points, which declared all secret treaties to be null and void, and by the 12th point, which stipulated for the autonomy of peoples hitherto subjected to the Turkish yoke.

Up till now, though 18 months have elapsed since the conclusion of the fighting, no settlement on these lines have been made. On the contrary, we have heard that our country is still to be divided into spheres of influence, and handed over to "mandatory" power.

REFUSAL TO ALLOW FREIGHT CARS OVER BORDER JUSTIFIED

New York Globe Says American Roads Did Not Play Fair in Returning Cars.

New York, May 14.—(By Canadian Press.)—The New York Globe publishes an article which purports to endorse the recent action of Canadian officials in refusing to permit Canadian freight cars to cross the international boundary. The newspaper, dealing with the general car shortage at present prevailing in the United States, points out that the car service commission, which acts under authority of the Interstate Commerce Commission in Washington, so far has hesitated to exercise its authority during the present situation. It says:—

"The Canadian border in the case of a car shortage which is particularly annoying to New York. It is provoked by neglect of American railroads to return empty cars belonging to Canadian roads."

"During the war, Canadian roads have almost a piece time quota of new and large freight cars. They allowed these cars to come to the United States to bring newspapers and other products to New York and other cities with the understanding that the Canadian cars would be returned immediately. "American railroads disregarded this agreement it seems. Canadian assets that their cars have been diverted elsewhere but back home. As a result, Canadian officials now refuse to allow cars over the border, resulting not only in a paper famine for newspapers of the eastern States, but also creating a delicate international situation."

When the United States government first asked for the return of 7,000 passenger coaches, and 3,200 locomotives, according to conservative estimates made by the Globe. The newspaper adds these figures do not include an emergency surplus, nor do they allow for normal increase in traffic, which has grown on an average of 10 per cent. per year. It also says there are some 2,500,000 freight cars in all on American railroads.

They appear to be thinly disguised disguised provocations. It is surprising that under such circumstances, announced with a future under which we shall be neither free nor united, there has been "unrest" in the Arab provinces?

The Turks have seized the opportunity to say to the Arabs: "You have been fighting against us with the Allies and look what they are doing now in your country." The intelligent section of the Arab population, to cut short these intrigues, proclaimed the independence of Syria and Mesopotamia, proclaimed the Emir Feisal King of Syria, and his brother Abdullah, King of Mesopotamia, in the full hope that the Allies will help them to realize their aspirations.

Can Give Stable Government.

All that the civilized world has the right to ask of us is to establish a civilized government based on democratic principles; to maintain order and public security throughout the country, and to respect economic interests.

That we are prepared to do, being responsible to the League of Nations. To avoid any political complications, we will ask the great American public to lend us a certain number of men to serve in the Syrian Government, to help in the organization of the administration. We have plenty of intelligent Syrians who are at present holding back, pending some decision as to the future. Once they see their country settled they will return.

The United States Government would not be bound in any way by such an arrangement. Many Americans are already interested in Syria, thanks to their wonderful educational work, and the American college of Beirut has often been truly described as the centre of light for Syria and surrounding countries.

In my opinion, unless a settlement is made on this basis I cannot see how trouble and disorder can be avoided. This is terrible for me to say, but taking into consideration the Bolshevik threat from the North, the Middle East may well be the site of another holocaust, in which thousands of lives will be sacrificed. The Syrians have full hope that the American public will raise their voice with them to see that they get justice and to avoid such a catastrophe.

Jews Need Not Fear.

People in Canada and the United States seem to be worried about the state of the Jews in Palestine. I don't really see any reason to prevent a cordial collaboration between the Jews and the Arabs. King Feisal has already expressed his views to the Zionist leaders that the establishment of local national government, placing the right of all sects on equal terms, should satisfy all parties.

The present Zionist leaders have also approved these outlines for a settlement, recognizing that the establishment of a purely Jewish government is out of the question, and I have full hopes that a good understanding will soon be arrived at.

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DIRECT SERVICE FROM CANADA TO ITALY IN JUNE

C.P.R. Will Open This Route as Part of Reconstruction Programme in Europe.

AGREEMENT WITH ITALY

State Railways to Act as Agents With Reciprocal Rights in Canada.

(Montreal Gazette.)

London, May 13.—An outline of the re-construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway organization through-out Europe was given to your correspondent today by Sir George McLaren Brown, European traffic manager who has just returned from a visit to Italy. The most important statement was that the Canadian Pacific has concluded an agreement with the Italian State Railways, whereby the latter will act as C. P. R. agents for Italy, and it is understood that there will be reciprocal rights in Canada.

A direct steamship service from Naples, or Genoa, to Canada, is to be inaugurated and the first sailing will take place next month.

"The company is systematically re-organizing agencies throughout the continent," said Sir George. "Reorganization is necessary in consequence of the war. In Holland the headquarters of the company, the principal office is now situated at 98 and 100 Boulevard Adolph Max.

In Italy the Canadian Pacific interests will be represented by the Italian State Railways, together with the Company's own agents. The Italian State Railways control 14,000 kilometres out of a total of 18,000, the remainder being private enterprises subject to Government control. They also operate passenger steamship services between Italy and Sicily and Sardinia.

"Our company will be equally active in the Mediterranean and the Levant organization. Organizations in France, Spain and Switzerland are also receiving attention and the organization of the company is as nearly normal today as is possible in the present unsettled state of Europe.

Italian Recovery.

"I have just returned from a visit to Rome, and frankly, I was much impressed with the evidence of a general return to satisfactory working conditions in Italy. Prominent Britishers living in Italy, as well as Italian officials themselves are all very optimistic. There is certainly every indication of steady and rapid improvement in the situation in that country. Reports of strikes and revolutions are, to my mind, very exaggerated. In one instance what was really a fight over a football game, was reported in our papers as a revolution, a movement. I know, because I was in the neighborhood at the time. If this incident is accepted as a sample of the general situation, it is not very encouraging."

KEEP URIC ACID OUT OF JOINTS

Tells Rheumatism Sufferers to Eat Less Meat and Take Salts.

Rheumatism is easier to avoid than to cure, states a well-known authority. We are asked to eat less meat, keep the feet dry; avoid exposure; eat less meat, but drink plenty of good water.

Rheumatism is a direct result of eating too much meat, and other rich foods that produce uric acid which is absorbed into the blood. It is the function of the kidneys to filter this acid from the blood and cast it out in the urine; the pores of the skin are also a means of freeing the blood of this impurity. In damp and chilly cold weather the skin pores are closed, thus forcing the kidneys to do double work, they become weak and sluggish and fail to eliminate the uric acid, which keeps accumulating and circulating through the system, eventually settling in the joints and muscles causing stiffness, soreness and pain, called rheumatism.

At the first twinge of rheumatism get from any pharmacy about four ounces of Jad Salts; put a tablespoonful in a glass of water and drink before breakfast each morning for a week. This is said to eliminate uric acid by stimulating the kidneys to normal action, thus ridding the blood of these impurities.

Jad Salts is inexpensive, harmless and is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia and is used with excellent results by thousands of folks who are subject to rheumatism. Here you have a pleasant, effervescent lithia-water drink which helps overcome uric acid and is beneficial to your kidneys as well.

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Will Wilson Run Again?

That "there will be 'hell-a-popping' at San Francisco" is the warmish comment of the chief Democratic paper in Nebraska on Mr. Bryan's victory in the State primaries, for he will now go to the Convention as a delegate "with full opportunity to devote his power and talents to either guerrilla or open warfare upon the leadership of President Wilson and the policies for which he stands." The President has indicated very plainly, in his letter to Delegate Jouett Shouse, read to the Kansas Democratic State convention, that he will insist that the party support his League program. The New York World believes it would be a fatal policy for the party to repudiate the President, for "it is only under his leadership that the party can be held together," and the Brooklyn Eagle says that if the party is to make the campaign on the League issue, "the only logical candidate is Woodrow Wilson." The Republican press naturally have a few remarks to make about all this. Thus the Milwaukee Sentinel: "Run for a third term nomination? Of course he'll run—health permitting. And, as a prominent Democrat remarks, such is Mr. Wilson's sublime self-confidence that when it comes to that question he will regard himself as the best judge of the permissive state of his health."

One of the most interesting articles in this week's LITERARY DIGEST—May 15th—deals with the possibility of Mr. Wilson again being a candidate for the Presidency, and presents the editorial view-point on this contingency from many angles.

Other important articles in this number are:

Candidates' Strength Revealed in "Digest" Poll of 11,000,000 Voters

More Than 1,100,000 Votes Are Summarized This Week, and the Votes from Southern States Are Beginning to Be Heard from—Greatest Non-Official National Poll Ever Undertaken in This Country.

Has California Eliminated Hoover.

Morality of Trading With Lenin

Is Poland "Freeing" the "Ukraine?"

The Sky-Rocketing of Sugar

Painless Extraction of Bonus Taxes

The Irish Muddle

Soviet Grip on Russian Cooperatives

Italy's War-Dissolution

Storage to Avert a Coal Crisis

Why Gasoline Is and Will Be High

The Undesirability of Oil Gushers

The Passing of Tragedy Queens

Berlin Acclaiming the French Tricolor

The Motion-Picture as a "Handmaid of Religion"

Catholic Union Against the "Reds"

"Hand-me-Down" Sermons

The Veto Power of the President—Character of the Veto Power—Exercising It—Presidential Procedure—Origin of the Veto

Comparative Prices of Foodstuffs

Governor Edwards, Champion of the "Wets"

Seven Candidates Tell Why They Would Be President

Beneficent Influence of the Workman's Silk Shirt

Secretary Meredith, Another Successful Man Who Was "Once a Poor Boy"

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