

4. The British Ministers do their best to stimulate and hasten the work of the Conference. Much concern was manifested at the proposal of Mr. Lloyd George to return to London on the 20th instant. The letter addressed to him by the President of the United States, the Prime Minister of France and the Prime Minister of Italy, has been made public.

5. The memorandum submitted by Sir Robert Borden respecting the Covenant of the League of Nations has not yet been considered at a meeting of the British Delegations.

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Numéro 14

Paris, March 24, 1919

1. This memorandum covers the period from Monday evening, 24th March, to Saturday evening, 29th March.

2. The recent overthrow of the Hungarian Government by the Bolshevik Party and the reported alliance of the new Hungarian Government with the Russian Bolshevik Government have evidently aroused the representatives of the Great Powers in the so-called Council of Ten to a fuller sense of the realities with which they are confronted. During two months immediately succeeding the Armistice practically nothing was done in the arrangement of the peace terms. In the period of nearly three months which has since elapsed there has been a conspicuous waste of time, some of which was unavoidable, but a great portion of which might have been avoided. It is announced that the Prime Ministers of Great Britain, France and Italy, with the President of the United States, are engaged in drafting the Peace Treaty, and the hope is held out that the draft will be completed during the coming week. There seems but a very slender prospect that any such hope will be realized.

3. As a matter of fact war did not cease when the Armistice was declared. On the contrary, it has been carried on with considerable vigour throughout the winter in more than half of Europe. There is reason to believe that as spring opens the tide of battle will sweep further west unless very active measures are taken to stay it and unless the Treaty of Peace is immediately prepared by the Allied nations and accepted by a reasonably stable German Government.

4. Doubtless there is truth in the report that the German Government are using the danger of Bolshevism to induce better terms. But there is convincing evidence that the strong and stable elements of the German people are seriously considering the establishment of a Bolshevik Government and the formation of an alliance with Russia if the terms imposed upon their country are so severe as to forbid any reasonable hope of national recovery within a generation.

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