

placed under the control of the Rhine Commission. The vessels, goods, and peoples of all countries are to be accorded equal rights in both ports. The area of the unit may be enlarged to permit of the extension of wharves and railway terminals. The whole course of the Rhine being now open to the ships of all nations, the acquisition of Alsace-Lorraine by France and the establishment of the free zone of the ports of Strasbourg and Kehl will no doubt cause a rapid development of the manufacturing and commercial industries of eastern France.

Cession of the Saar Basin.—To compensate France for the destruction of manufacturing plants and coal mines, and particularly the mines near Lille, Germany cedes to France the coal mines of the Saar Basin. This district lies along the south-west valley of the Rhine River near the border of Alsace-Lorraine and has an area equal to that of an average Ontario county. All the coal mines, whether previously under private ownership or under the operation of the German State, pass into the hands of France. The government of the district is placed under the control of a committee representing the League of Nations.

Fifteen years after the date of the signing of the treaty, the inhabitants of the Saar Basin are to decide by vote whether they will remain under the control of the League of Nations, return to Germany, or become part of the French Republic. In case they decide to return to Germany, the latter country must purchase the coal mines from France at a price to be decided by three experts.

Luxemburg.—The Grandduchy of Luxemburg, which was nominally an independent state, had passed gradually under the control of Germany. The treaties securing this control are now renounced by Germany, and she consents to accept whatever arrangements the Allies may make concerning Luxemburg.