WILSON RECEIVES GRECIAN CLAIMS

Venizelos Recalls Entente Promise Affecting Possession of Northern Epirus

THRACE PURE HELLENE

Opposes Giving Asia Minor, Where Greeks Predominate, to Turk Control

By the Associated Press

Paris, Jan. 16.—President Wilson received Premier Venizelos, Greek Premier, and Lambros A. Coromilas, Greek Minister to Italy, and during a long conversation the Greek Premier presented arguments in support of Hellenic claims in the war settlement, which M. Venizelos said were based on the principles laid down by the President himself.

It was recalled by the Premier that at the beginning of the war the Entente Powers demanded that Greece occupy northern Epirus, with the understanding that, if at the end of the war, the occupation of Aviona by Italy was confirmed, the occupation of northern Epirus by Greece should become definite. There was also an additional understanding, it was said, that the limit of Italy's occupation south of Aviona should not exceed the limits of northern Epirus.

Thracians Hellenic

Regarding Thrace, M. Venizelos said that its Hellenic character was fully admitted, even by the Bulgarians. He said this was demonstrated in 1912, when Greece and Bulgaria collaborated against the program of the committee of union and progress in Turkey. Under that agreement, it was pointed out, the interests of Greece in Thrace were fixed as six times those of Bulgaria.

An extension of the Greek frontier in Thrace, M. Venizelos said, would involve a withdrawal of Bulgaria from the Aegean Sea, which she reached by virtue of the treaty of Bucharest after the Balkan war. He added that Bulgaria is already established on the Black Sea, which, owing to the guaranteed freedom of the Dardanelles, becomes open and free. Besides, the Greek Premier added, Bulgaria is preeminently a continental State. Her defense, he said, does not call for naval strength, while, if she retains her Aegean coast, she might utilize it for establishing a submarine base, which would enable her to upset for her own benefit the equilibrium of force between herself and Greece.

Claim for Asia Minor

M. Venizelos expressed the opinion that it was impossible to refuse to allow more than 2,000,000 Greeks living in Asia Minor and the islands near that coast to join their mother country. He pointed out that those Greeks for thirty centuries have "uninterruptedly held in Asia Minor and the islands a predominant situation, which is manifested in the economic, civilizing supremacy of the Hellenic element there."

He does not believe the Peace Congress can entrust the fate of the Christian population of the Ottoman Empire to the Turks, who, he says, "always have answered the pressure of the powers for reforms in favor of Christians by massacring them wholesale."

During the last year of the war alone the Premier added, 700,000 Armenians and 300,000 Greeks were exterminated. In calculating the strength of the Greek population in Turkey, the Premier said it must be remembered that during the last four years, 450,000 Greeks have been expelled by the Turkish Government, while several hundred thousand more had been deported from the coast districts to the interior, where a greater part had lost their lives.

U. S. Without Plan Until Wilson Acts

Continued from Page One

and Leon Bourgeois, for France, outline their views.

Meanwhile, although America is the leader in advocating the league, no distinctly American form is put forward, and no American official or unofficial comment will indicate the American position indirectly by discussing the French and, particularly, the British suggestions.

No one here, in fact, can speak on the subject except President Wilson; not even a member of the American peace commission, for there is no one completely in President Wilson's confidence, and the league idea is personal to the President. When he gives the sign the American form will show itself, with or without a superstate, as he decides.

British Have Support

If the President is willing to accept an Allied agreement to a league without a superstate there would be only one or two issues—of lesser importance—between his and the British form as expressed by Lord Robert Cecil. In that case there would be little difficulty in obtaining a complete agreement on the league, for the French and Italian Governments both are ready, in all probability, to accept a league of limited application if it would not interfere with some of their territorial ambitions; and for the British form there would be much support, as the British Empire will have fifteen representatives at the Peace Conference, a number totaling that of any three of the great powers.

If President Wilson's position agrees with the British, then the real test of his influence at the Peace Conference will be the consistency of the various territorial settlements with the spirit and purposes of the league.

If, however, President Wilson decides for a superstate, his big fight will be on that issue, and there will be a real test of his strength in the conference and his courage and leadership, with Britain's preponderant power against him.

President Wilson apparently is in doubt as to his course; otherwise on the eve of the Peace Conference it is believed the American experts charged with drafting the league details would not be in the dark as to how far the American concept of the league should take form.

British Form Is Not State

The scheme proposed by Lord Robert Cecil in his discussion with the American press representatives goes only so far as to give to the league the authority to call on its members to compel submission to the league in disputes and enforce a definite lapse of time before any declaration of war.

But the authority to act, by this form, remains entirely in the hands of the individual nations. The league is then rather an advisory than an executive body, possessing, moreover, certain definite functions as a world court and world arbitration commission, but not in any sense a state.

On two other vital points, the Cecil form may raise an issue with the American form. On these President Wilson is silent; consequently, the American peace commission and its advisers are silent. These two points are that there are no British suggestion of freedom of the seas and the suggestion of the administration of uncivilized regions and the support of new and weak nationalities, not by the league, but by delegated individual nations.

Favors British Interests

The American experts regard the British form in these two respects as favoring British interests and extending the sphere of British influence under cover of an international organization. Great Britain has the power of her large colonial experience and expects to be a mandatory of the league in administering many areas, such as German Southwest Africa, Palestine and Mesopotamia.

The contiguity of these regions to British dominions probably would assure Britain's being a mandatory of the league in respect to them if the British scheme were adopted.

The hope to be a mandatory of the league in certain eastern European countries probably inspires the activity of the other larger Allies in those regions.

League Should Have Power

The Americans who will be engaged in drafting the American form for the league incline to the view that the league itself at least should possess the powers to administer such areas and act in the interest of the nations requiring support, not work through mandatories.

The British suggestions, however, meet American wishes in one respect; namely, the preservation of the Monroe Doctrine. Under the proposed form the United States would be the mandatory of the league in the Western Hemisphere to the extent required for the preservation of its Monroe Doctrine.

Lord Robert Cecil emphasized this in his discussion with the American press. He supports the Monroe Doctrine energetically. The British form also would enable America to safeguard her own immigration laws, regarding questions such as Japanese and Asiatic exclusion, by having in the written constitution of the league recognition of national laws on such subjects.

OUR NAVY ACTIVE IN WAR

Carried 46.25 Per Cent of U. S. Troops to Europe, Guarded 82.75

Paris, Jan. 16.—(By A. P.)—Official figures showing the full extent to which American ships transported the American army of approximately 2,079,000 men to Europe, and also the very high per cent of vessels escorted by American warships vary from those previously announced, which represented a large proportion carried in British ships and escorted by the British navy.

The official figures show that 46.25 per cent of all the American troops were transported exclusively in American ships. Of these, 43.75 per cent were carried in American naval transports. The percentage carried in British ships was 48.25 per cent, as against the much higher figures recently made public. An additional 3 per cent was carried in Italian ships leased to the British, and another 2.50 per cent was carried in ships of other nations.

The American navy escorted and guarded the transport of 82.75 per cent of all the troops, representing 1,720,350 men. The British escorted 14.12 per cent, representing 297,903 men. The French escorted 3.13 per cent, representing 61,817 men.

TODAY'S MARRIAGE LICENSES

Leo M. Chenoweth, Baltimore, Md., and Emma McGilloway, Baltimore, Md.
Conrad D. Eisenman, 2817 Washington ave., and Hettie W. Engle, 3611 North 5th st.
Charles Hopkins, 1718 N. 21st st., and Eleanor Hoxter, 1824 S. Mole st.
Garnett Harrell, 1434 N. Camac st., and Celeste W. Cain, 1430 N. Camac st.
Robert B. Ingram, 2630 S. Sartain st., and Mary A. Moore, 2628 Gerritt st.
Andrew P. Larson, Port Reading, N. J., and Annie M. Barry, 1616 N. 34 st.
Oliver N. Wormley, Lancaster, Pa., and Minnie M. Fisher, 3423 N. 2d st.
Claude Cureton, 2166 Naudain st., and Martha Jefferson, 2020 Addison st.
Theodore Friess, 2163 N. Philip st., and Helene Kerns, 2316 Edgemont st.
Nikifor Wolenis, 407 N. Darien st., and Katarayna Kivik, 2245 N. 33d st.
Joseph F. Uhlman, 4563 N. 16th st., and Emma F. Roth, 2478 Jasper st.
William H. Lilley, Jr., 4219 Brown st., and Theresa R. McAleer, 56 N. 36th st.
John J. French, 3810 N. Broad st., and Beatrice Riccadonnia, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Thomas Gomes, 511 Randolph st., and Marietta Hamilton, 1016 Naudain st.
William J. McAvoy, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and Mary E. Brett, S. Bethlehem, Pa.
Samuel Cooper, 508 Callowhill st., and Rebecca Pollin, 2426 S. Marshall st.
William Bryant, 1019 S. 18th st., and Bell Walker, 1030 S. Bouvier st.
Daniel Rogers, 2207 Sharswood st., and Elizabeth Wright, 2022 Wilder st.
Eugene Scott, 788 Lex st., and Maud Faulk, 719 S. 45th st.
James Mariello, 2618 E. Lehigh ave., and Winnie Smyth, 2618 E. Lehigh ave.
Fred Ford, 3924 Filbert st., and Alice Talbert, 318 N. 56 st.
Ellwood A. Clymer, U. S. A., 3814 N. 9th st., and Sarah Meiss, 3711 N. 11th st.
Albert Levin, 807 Pine st., and Goldie Rancer, 535 South st.
Delaware E. Larkin, Ogden, Pa., and Ella Rodgers, 3439 N. 3d st.
Felix Mulak, 623 S. American st., and Anna Kurbowska, 2341 Wallace st.
Charles H. Crow, Plevna, Mont., and Lidie L. Stevenson, 2331 Greenwich st.
William Yeager, 356 Mercy st., and Louise Eckhardt, 2234 S. Darien st.
Lonnie H. Delk, U. S. N., and Mary G. Harding, 742 N. Judson st.
Albert Harris, Washington, D. C., and Rebecca Golden, 1608 N. Fawn st.
Harry D. Williams, 2334 N. 17th st., and Alma M. Scott, 5327 Boston ave.

Public Service Board's Report Rejecting the Transit Lease

This is an application of the City of Philadelphia in which the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company joins for a certificate of public convenience, approving a contract between the said city and the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company for the operation of the city's transit facilities.

The agreement is in pursuance of the act of June 17, 1913, P. L. 520, authorizing cities of the first class to construct transit facilities and operate or lease them. The act empowers the city to lease the transit facilities upon such terms and conditions, including the prescribing and fixing of rates for transportation as the Councils shall determine.

The Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company operates lines of railways, surface, subway and elevated, in the city of Philadelphia and from its last report apparently earns more than sufficient revenue after paying operating expenses to provide for all its fixed charges and pay a dividend of 5 per cent upon its capital stock.

Though the act of 1913 invests the city with full power to determine its terms and conditions, the contract must be approved in conformity with the act of July 26, 1913, P. L. 1371, by this commission. The approval of this commission can be given "only if and when the said commission shall find or determine that the granting or approval of such application is necessary or proper for the service, accommodation, convenience or safety of the public."

Approval Is Refused

In view of the duty placed upon the commission and in order to reach a proper conclusion, the commission held a number of hearings, at which evidence was submitted by the applicant and by protestants and oral arguments were presented and printed briefs filed—the latest data being the detailed audit of the financial reports for a period of years ended June 30, 1918, which was furnished to us on January 7, 1919. After due consideration the commission finds that **the approval of this application is not necessary or proper for the service, accommodation, convenience of safety of the public and the contract therefore is not approved.**

Under the evidence presented, the commission is of opinion that a unified system operated by the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company would accomodate the public and give better service than separate operations by the city and the company.

The action of the commission in refusing the application was unanimous and while other objections were advanced, which to some of the commissioners are controlling, the following seem vital to the majority:

First. The sums mentioned in Item 6, Article XX, should not be postponed in payment as set forth in Clause 2 of that article, and should be cumulative, as are the payments mentioned in Items 2, 3, 4 and 5. The taxes on dividends and the payments on account of paying are obligations of some of the underlying companies in accordance with their charters or acts of Assembly. These sums are now treated as fixed charges and should be paid before any dividends are declared.

Fare Method Opposed

Second. The commission cannot approve of the method proposed for increasing or lowering the rate of fare. To so do would in effect be determining that the initial rate is just and reasonable. This the commission declines to do except in accordance with the methods and upon consideration of the principles recognized by the Public Service Company Law.

Third. The provisions of Article XXII as to the custody and control of funds, A and B, do not meet with the commission's approval. The depreciation reserve funds A and B are for the maintenance of the city's transit facilities. These funds will be the property of the city of Philadelphia. They should be deposited with the City Treasurer or the Sinking Fund Commissioners, as Councils may determine, and should be invested in legal securities so as to be available at all times for repairs, replacements and renewals, but should not be invested in the bonds, notes or other securities of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, as provided in the proposed lease or contract.

Fourth. The commission will not now approve any contract which would be in effect an approval of the contract of 1907. The latter is not before the commission, and having been entered into prior to 1914 does not require the commission's approval and the commission will not in any indirect manner give its approval to that contract.

The proposed contract in the particulars herein mentioned does not meet with the commission's approval and an order will be made refusing the application.

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.

ORDER

This matter being before the Public Service Commission of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania upon petition and protests on file and having been duly heard and submitted by the parties, and due investigation of the matters and things involved having been had, and the commission having on the date hereof made and filed of record a report containing its findings of fact and conclusions thereon, which said report is here approved and made a part hereof.

Now, to-wit, January 14, 1919, it is ordered, That the petition in this case and the approval of contract prayed for be and the same are hereby refused.

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.

FAILURE OF TRANSIT LEASE REGRETTED BY THE AUTHOR

Continued from Page One

meet the objections of the commission.

The commission's decision brought expressions of disappointment from city officials and of approval from members of the United Business Men's Association. The association had fought the proposed lease at hearings by the commission.

The commission's judgment on the lease came more than seven months after the final brief was filed and the final argument made. Director of City Transit Twining was away from the city when the verdict was disclosed. The assistant director, George Atkinson, expressed the department's disappointment over the rejection.

The proposed 5 per cent return on the $30,000,000 capitalization of the transit company, creation of a board of supervision over the transit system in this city and basing of the pact on the 1907 contract appeared to be the biggest stumbling block in the path of ratification of the lease.

Concurring opinions were filed by Commissioners Rilling and McClure, in which references to the $30,000,000 valuation and its effect on rates of fare were amplified.

The Public Service Commission took the view that the proposed supervisory board would encroach on the commission's own powers.

Work Will Go On

Assistant Director Atkinson, of the Department of City Transit, commenting on that phase, said the suggested board was designed to give the city a greater measure of control over local transit affairs. The proposed board's decisions on service and fares, it was intended, be continued, would be subject to the commission's approval as the final court of appeal.

The decision does not affect the work of the city transit department, according to Mr. Atkinson. The department is exactly where it stood before the rejected lease was agreed upon.

"We started construction without an operating contract, and we are still engaged in construction without an operating contract," commented the assistant director.

When Mayor Smith was asked, what the next move would be in the complicated transit situation, he replied:

"We must try to get the Transit Company to agree to some other lease. I don't know if that is going to be easy. This 1907 agreement is a matter for legal opinion, and whether or not we can draw a lease that will not conflict with that is something to be decided legally."

Would Be Tacit Approval

In presenting his views in a separate concurring report, Commissioner McClure declared:

"To me the objectionable features of the agreement are the attempt to have the commission by indirection approve the contract of 1907, and the provisions for the revision of fares. These directly concern the general public, the car rider, whose interests it is our duty to protect.

"Our approval would evidence our assent to all the rentals and other obligations of the transit company to its underlying companies, amounting to $7,365,900 per annum, being used in the making of a rate base, regardless of the real value of their properties used and useful in the transportation of passengers. Here a base for the determination of just and reasonable rates of fare not recognized by the law is attempted to be set up by contract."

The Concurring Opinion

In a voluminous concurring opinion, Commissioner Rilling declares the lease disapproved by the commission is not really a lease at all, since the city does not thereby let any property to the company, nor does the company in any manner or at any time agree to pay to the city a single penny on rental for the property leased to it.

Commissioner Rilling concludes with this suggestion:

"If the city of Philadelphia desires to enter upon the policy of municipal ownership of transit facilities, as it seems to have done, and of the wisdom of which we are not convinced, and does not desires to operate such facilities, let it make a lease thereof for a definite period, providing for a fixed return, making the terms thereof elastic enough to meet conditions as they arise, and which cannot possibly be foretold, with a mutual right therein vested in both parties to terminate the same at certain stated periods upon giving due notice to the other."

Main Grounds of Refusal to Approve Transit Lease

First. The commission holds that certain provisions in the financial arrangements do not properly safeguard certain charges due the city. It holds that in case there should be a deficit the money due the city, about $1,000,000 annually, would be jeopardized.

Second. The commission objects to the proposed supervisory board. It holds that this board is given powers concerning fare regulations and the changing of service which the Legislature has vested in the Public Service Commission itself.

Third. The commission contends that it cannot approve the proposed lease without indirectly giving its approval to the 1907 contract between the city and the P. R. T. Company. To give this approval indirectly, the commission holds, would be to give sanction to matters which have never been laid before it.

MOTOR ROADS TO BE PAVED

Survey Ordered to Improve Philadelphia-to-Atlantic City Highways

Atlantic City, Jan. 16.—County Freeholders have directed Alexander W. Nelson, County Engineer, to make a survey of the Mays Landing-Pleasantville boulevard, one of the two direct motor routes from Philadelphia to Atlantic City, with a view to the permanent improvement of the highway with hard-surfaced paving.

The survey resolution provides for a driveway twenty feet wide, instead of thirty, to cost between $500,000 and $600,000.

The Mays Landing-Pleasantville stretch is twelve miles long. It is used by many motorists who come from Philadelphia via Woodbury, as well as being a direct route from the Cumberland-Salem agricultural district. The paving of the White Horse pike road from Camden has been provided for by the State Highway Commission out of New Jersey's $15,000,000 road fund.

CHILDREN'S HOME AS MEMORIAL

Beidleman Advocates Large Institution Embody Two Existing Ones

Harrisburg, Jan. 16.—Lieutenant Governor-elect E. E. Beidleman advocates a plan for the erection of a soldiers and sailors' memorial by the community for the poor children.

"My idea of a proper memorial for the soldiers of the city who took part in the great war would be a fine country home with farm surroundings to house the present children's industrial home and the nursery home," he said yesterday.

STARS FORM OWN COMPANY

Mary Pickford, Fairbanks, Hart, Chaplin and Griffith Combine

Los Angeles, Jan. 16.—Miss Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks, William S. Hart, Charles S. Chaplin and D. W. Griffith have banded together and the actress and actors will hereafter produce their own pictures, according to an announcement made here by Douglas Fairbanks. The part of Mr. Griffith, who is producer in the new alignment, was not definitely announced.

Mr. Fairbanks said he and his associates planned to produce their own pictures, and that they would also operate their own releasing corporation, handling the films from their inception until they reached the exhibitor.

The motion-picture actors, Mr. Fairbanks said, had been watching "with keen interest and some apprehension" a meeting of picture producers which has been in progress here for several days. He said certain interests were combining and if they perfected their plans they would be able to dictate the entire future of the film business, and the exhibitors would be the greatest sufferers.

BEVERAGES TAX AGREED TO

House and Senate Conferees Accept Rates for War Revenue Bill

Washington, Jan. 16.—(By A. P.)—Tax rates on beverages in the war revenue bill were agreed upon by Senate and House conferees today, the latter accepting substantially all the Senate's rates, estimated to yield about $450,000,000 in revenue.

Anglo-Saxons Urge Lifting Peace Veil

Continued from Page One

open when business is advanced to a point where it can be regarded as ready for final action. It may be, however, that in the earlier stages, when subjects are being discussed between groups or in committees or in meetings of all the delegates with a purpose of reaching agreements on controversial phases, it would be inadvisable to conduct these discussions openly. There might never be an agreement otherwise.

That would not be secret diplomacy in any sense, however, for no agreement so arranged could be effective until approved by all the delegates in open session.

The complaints which the British correspondents have made to Mr. Lloyd George and which the Americans have submitted to Mr. Wilson concede that it may be incompatible with public interest to disclose certain phases of controversial questions while they are being discussed, but protest against the "gentleman's agreement" which forbids any one of the delegates from giving information whatever, outside of the official statement, on which public opinion may be formed and guided.

Official circles in Paris are not discussing peace nor terms today. Attention is occupied with the question whether there will be a reconsideration of the action of yesterday.

No Discussion by Envoys

Announcement was made late yesterday that an agreement had been made to confine the information given to the public to a daily official communique and that a gentlemen's agreement prevailed among the delegates not to discuss or in any way give information of the meetings in the Foreign Office.

No written official announcement of this purpose was issued, but word was passed to this effect, and it was followed by an explosion of protests which quite drowned out the doings of the peace commissioners.

The understanding is that the American and British delegates opposed this decision, but that the French, Italians and Japanese, voting together, prevailed.

The British newspaper correspondents immediately joined in a memorial of protest, which they put before Premier Lloyd George. The American newspaper correspondents united in what is virtually a round robin to President Wilson, in which they protested in measured terms against the decision and reminded the President that one of his fourteen points specifies "open covenants of peace openly arrived at."

Will Issue One Communique

Hitherto it has been the practice of the Governments taking part in the preliminary peace conversations to issue separate communiques regarding the proceedings. From today it has been decided to issue a joint communique, and the following is the English text of yesterday's communique adopted by the British and American delegations:

The President of the United States and the Prime Ministers and Foreign Ministers of the Allied Powers, assisted by the Japanese ambassadors in Paris and London, held two meetings today. In the course of these meetings the examination of the rules of the conference has been continued and almost completed.

It was decided that the United States, the British Empire, France, Italy and Japan should be represented by five delegates apiece. The British dominions and India besides shall be represented as follows: Two delegates, respectively, for Australia, Canada, South Africa and India, including the native States, and one delegate for New Zealand.

Brazil will have three delegates, Belgium, China, Greece, Poland, Portugal, the Czecho-Slovak Republic, Rumania and Serbia will have two delegates apiece, Siam one delegate and Cuba, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Liberia, Nicaragua and Panama one delegate apiece.

Montenegro will have one delegate, but the rules concerning the designation of this delegate shall not be fixed until the moment when the political situation in this country shall have been cleared up.

Two Principles Adopted

The meeting adopted the following two general principles: One—Each delegation being a unit, the number of delegates forming it shall have no influence upon its status at the conference. Two—In the selection of its delegation each nation may avail itself of the panel system. This will enable each State at discretion to entrust its interests to such persons as it may designate.

The adoption of the panel system will in particular enable the British Empire to admit among its five delegates representatives of the dominions, including Newfoundland, which has no separate representation.

Jugo-Slavs File Protest

Serbia cannot take part in the Peace Conference unless represented in a separate delegation from the combined Serbo-Croatian-Slovene State, the Jugo-Slav committee here declares in a protest issued against the decision of the Supreme Council to admit delegates from the kingdom of Serbia, but not of the United Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.

The committee declares this action threatens to provoke a conflict which might have serious consequences and the refusal to accept the delegates of the united Jugo-Slav States would make it impossible for Serbia herself to participate in the conference.

The protest concludes by saying that the council in arriving at its decision did not take into account the new situation in Serbia and thus will be obliged to examine into the question anew.

Armistice Negotiations

Marshal Foch, the Allied commander-in-chief, arrived in Treves Wednesday morning for the meeting with the German armistice delegates for discussion of the extension of the armistice. The Marshal received Mathias Erzoerger and General von Winterfeldt, the German representatives, in his private car.

The discussion over the renewal of the armistice began at once and the first dispatch from Marshal Foch reached Paris last night, says Marcel Hutin, in the Echo de Paris, but nothing has been made public as yet as to the result of the conference.

It is likely that the pourparlers will be continued today and be completed by this evening.

Paris Papers Displeased

The decisions of the Supreme Council as regards both publicity and representation announced last night, are freely criticized in the French newspapers of this morning. Le Journal, commenting on the question of representation, after pointing out that the British and Americans together have fifteen votes out of the total, asks why, if the British dominions are represented separately, are the French colonies and protectorates not similarly represented?

"Morocco, Tunis, Cambodia, Annam and Laos, which have given us many fine soldiers, are sovereign States protected by France," says the newspaper. "Really, have not they as much right to be represented as Liberia? Since the small States have been so generously treated, why have San Marino and Andorra, which declared war, been forgotten? To admit them would not be any more comic than to admit a delegate from Montenegro."

This quotation may be taken as a fair example of the views expressed by most of the other morning newspapers.

As regards the decision on the publicity question, the Figaro says:

"The public must be kept constantly posted on the subjects dealt with, the questions under discussion and the solutions reached. Reporting by hearsay is certain to be dangerous. Will it not be obvious that the result of the method adopted will be to substitute gossip for news?"

Plan Bone Dry Jubilee Here

Continued from Page One

are put in the law, and I am sure that Penrose and other Pennsylvania leaders will get on the band wagon and help us. I believe the greatest benefits from country-wide prohibition will fall to the workers. It will increase their efficiency, stimulate their happiness and lift them to a higher plane in the social life of the nation. Liquor has been the worst enemy of labor and labor will rejoice at its downfall.

The Rev. W. Bay Roselle:

"We must admit that all license systems have failed despite the restrictions and regulations the liquor interests always managed to defeat the purpose of the moral forces. Finally the people took the bull by the horns and started a fight that would outlaw the infamous business. And that fight has been won.

"In twenty-five years from now there will be no regrets; for men who are now opposed to nation-wide prohibition will have had time and opportunity to appreciate its benefits. In Georgia and Washington, editors who opposed State-wide prohibition laws admitted, after such laws that had been tried, that they made for economic efficiency and developed a spirit of happiness in the homes. Nation-wide prohibition will be vindicated in the same manner. In a word the measure is in keeping with the modern trend of thought. We are making the world better every day."

Expected It, Says Liquor Man

John Sinnott, president of the Wholesale Liquor Dealers' Association:

"I expected it. The trade as a whole during the last month or two expected the various Legislatures to ratify the national amendment."

The Rev. Dr. Henry Berkowitz, rabbi of Rodeph Shalom Temple:

"I won't miss it myself, though I like a glass of beer or wine occasionally. I'm sorry that the country requires prohibition, because it seems to me a confession of weakness, that the people can't be temperate and must be prohibited.

"Among the Jewish people spirituous liquors have always been used temperately in the family and in religious services, such as weddings, holidays and festivities generally, as a symbol of joy. All of God's gifts are blessings, but by their abuse men turn them into curses."

"The Mistakes of Moses"

Following is the leading editorial in the Saturday Evening Post of this week:

THE MISTAKES OF MOSES

Years ago Bob Ingersoll had a lecture that delighted an enthusiastic following of agnostics. It was called Some Mistakes of Moses. But in his anxiety to discredit the lawgiver Bob overlooked a vital point. In spite of all his mistakes Moses brought back the law from Sinai, greatly to the moral profit of his people. And in the face of that achievement no one except Bob and his fellow knockers attached any special importance to the mistakes of Moses.

With all his achievements President Wilson has a very generous list of mistakes to his debit, but we do not believe that he went to France to hear the bands play him down the Champs-Elysées and the populace roar out a welcome. If he made a mistake in going he made a greater one in not telling the American people just why he went. But if he brings back what we fought for many mistakes can be forgiven him.

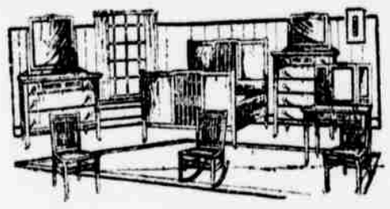
To any one who could read between the lines of foreign press dispatches during late November and early December the compelling motive that took the President abroad was fairly clear. To any one who talked with well-informed pro-American Americans returning from Europe at the same time the reason was crystal clear. Whether the President might not have exerted greater influence from America is another question. There are possible advantages and quite obvious embarrassments arising from his being in France.

As the military censorship lifted after the armistice the political censorship settled down like a fog bank between America and Europe and between Paris and the people of the Allied countries. Americans were kept in total ignorance of what was really going on abroad. We walked around in a soft blue haze of sentimentality, without the slightest notion that powerful reactionary influences were at work trying to shape up in advance a peace that would be to their liking. The things for which we and the people of the Allied countries had fought were in grave danger of being lost in the shuffle of secret diplomacy. **Over here we were all so busy being pro-British, pro-French, pro-Italian and pro-Belgian that we had small time for being pro-American where our national interests were involved.** Things had reached the point among our expatriates—the fifty-eighth and lowest form of exotic—and in certain Paris circles that to be pro-American was really bad form. These folk were tiptoeing round with finger on lip, whispering "Hush!" whenever any one so far forgot his manners. By a reductio ad absurdum it became unpatriotic to hint that any word or action of one of our Allies could fall short of absolute perfection. In short, it was an orgy of soothing sirup.

We need a good strong reaction to common sense. There is plenty of it about us among the Allies. It is time for us to recognize facts and to weigh them calmly and sanely. Among other things let us have done with this silly stuff about forgiving the Entente nations their borrowings from us. They do not want it, and our mush-head talk about it is humiliating to them as hard-headed business men. Besides, when we get through settling our bills abroad—and we have paid liberally, even prodigally—the balance in our favor will not be so large as some of us think. All this sort of agitation simply tends to nullify the good impression that the work done by Hoover and the Red Cross created. There is and there should be no limit to what individuals can give through the Red Cross to alleviate actual want and suffering in Europe. That is the proper way to express our sympathy and to extend our help.

Much of our nonsense and hysteria is the direct result of censorship and the consequent withholding of the truth about conditions from the people. **If there ever was a time in the history of the world when there should be pitiless publicity and an uncensored press, an open peace table and the whole truth for the world, this is the time.** There must be no scrambling for spoils, no old-fashioned hog peace, with every nation crowding to get its feet in the trough—and there will be no peace of that sort if the men who did the fighting know what is going on. The soldiers of the Entente and of America laid down their lives for an ideal. And any peace that is not made in the open, that involves secret understandings and agreements that distributes spoils and that is not guarded by a League of Nations—with teeth in it—is simply the prelude to a new and unthinkably horrible war—a war to be preceded for us, as for the others, by conscription, competitive armaments, by everything that we fought to escape, by the sacrifice of everything that has made America the most worth-while country in the world. Unless, as is more than likely, such a peace is followed by a world uprising of the deceived and overburdened people—a blind plunge from the age-long devilries of king-made and politician-made wars into the bloody excesses of anarchy and Bolshevism.

If there is the slightest danger that the Peace Conference may become a congress of Vienna the people of every nation should know the facts. **Any secrecy in settling the affairs of the world would be the one great irretrievable mistake. With a fully informed public behind them, there is little doubt that the Allied and American leaders who are working for a just and permanent peace will triumph over the reactionaries.**



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