

GERMAN DILEMMA IS LAID TO FRANCE

War Passions Demand Too
Much Reparation, Says
American Expert

PAPER READ AT FORUM

It is not England that is tightening the economic thumb-screws upon agonized Germany at the present time; it is, and has been, France, still vengeful with the unshedding passions of the war, and deaf to all cries of mercy and even devoid of some realization of her own interests in this matter.

This, at least, was the message delivered last night at the weekly session of the Plainfield *Ledger* forum on the Peace Conference in the foyer of the Academy of Music. The writer of the paper was Dr. Allyn A. Young, economist, advisor to the American Commission. Dr. Young was slightly ill yesterday day and could not be present, but his paper was read by Roland S. Morris, ambassador to Japan. The substitute received a most flattering ovation and his spirited and eloquent interpretation of the paper, energized by a personality that carried conviction with every sentence he uttered, one of the bright spots of the series of meetings.

In viewing made it clear that President Wilson and the American delegates to Paris achieved more in the economic provisions of the treaty than has generally been credited to them. They were forced to call a truce, admitted, "I do not want you to infer that there was any serious difference of opinion as to what American policy ought to be. The President had made up his mind to call a truce. In the actual work of framing the treaty there was never any doubt as to just what these principles, the American attitude should be."

Left to themselves, with the firm, persistent, steady pressure from America withdrawn, the various conflicting forces at Paris could have declared only a treaty that would have delivered the world to militarism, imperialism and economic suicide.

On the other hand, peace terms dictated by our Allies might have been signed, but would not have been accepted. Either course would have meant prolonged bitterness and misunderstanding, new dissensions in Europe, the overturning of governments and a clear field for intervention—if worse.

French Attitude Bitter

"What was the French attitude? At its best it was the attitude of Clemenceau and his adherents. France could not be expected to accept the peace terms of another unprovoked attack like that of '94. In some way, however, France had to be prepared against that danger."

At its worst, the French attitude was that of a few men who seemed to be less interested in the ultimate effects of the economic provisions of the treaty than in its immediate use as an instrument of painful humiliation. They would have filled the treaty full of little proposals that would have been adopted, but could not have advanced the interests of France, and would very certainly have tended to reduce the dignity of her moral advantage over Germany. Very few of these unfortunate proposals got into the treaty, getting rid of them took a good deal of time and effort on the part of both French and American delegations.

Occupying yet another position were those Frenchmen who could see safety in nothing short of her complete supremacy in Europe. Economic supremacy was to be attained by pressing the trade and industry of the enemy states by sapping the roots of their economic life.

Under such a purpose none tragically blind. No nation can gather strength from the weakness of other nations or reap prosperity from their misery.

Saving France From Suicide

"The core of French interests in the economic sections of the treaty was assigned to different ministries in Paris. Their more important proposals, taken as a whole, seemed to embody the extreme and suicidal economy of which we have described."

Fortunately when they were coupled with other French proposals it was easy to read into them a purpose to destroy the foundations of the economic life of the central powers, and of Germany in particular. Militarist and economic policy seemed to have joined in the same.

"I do not pretend to know a knowledge of the intricacies of French politics, but from this distance it appears that the radicals, that have been set up in France since the Peace Conference have been following the same uncompromising course. The situation as a whole remains lost in the illusions, the expectations and the state of mind created by the war."

The economic preparations already made with England a few weeks ago are much more exacting than the original clauses of the Treaty of Versailles. I cannot explain them except in terms of political exigencies in France, with Lloyd George assisting in some despicable reasons of his."

"Even with the best will in the world, and that not reasonably to be expected, Germany could not meet the demands demanded by her. Content French and British experts must know that such is the case."

Reparation Will Be Small

"There has been measurable economic progress in France since the war, but any substantial recovery must probably wait until the French people have told the whole truth about the position of the nation's finances, and the corrective measures that will be necessary to balance the budget, and restore currency to a position where industry and foreign trade will be on a dependable basis, and about the dispossessing small sum that can be obtained from Germany by way of reparation."

Throughout his paper Dr. Young paid glowing tributes to President Wilson, and on concluding the reading Mr. Morris said:

"If I had picked out something to say on the man whom, for the last three years, I have had the pleasure of meeting in the Far East, I could not have said it better than has Dr. Young. He seems to have had the opportunity to read those things about him. If you could only know him, he is so open to suggestion, so sympathetic, so genial to the men with whom his instruments. Never once, over so many disappointments, has he blamed the instruments; he has taken the blame upon himself."



GARAGE WHERE FORTY CARS WERE BURNED

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EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER—PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1921

WITNESS SAW MOB PURSUE DETECTIVE

Several of Matewan Defendants in Party—Feits Sympathizers Threatened

COLORED WOMAN RECALLED

By the Associated Press

Williamson, W. Va., Feb. 19.—The prosecution in the Matewan rifle and pistol fight trial today continued its effort to establish how and when J. W. Ferguson, a Baldwin-Feits detective, was killed. The charge on which nineteen men are being tried is the death of Albert E. Feits, who last May led a party which fired rifles from a porch in the Stone Mountain Coal Co. Ferguson was killed two of the three blocks from where six others of the party met death.

Thomas Chaffin, of Matewan, was the first witness today. He told the jury he saw a party of men, including some of the Baldwin-Feits gang, in the direction of the house where Ferguson was shot. The body of Gray was found yesterday. The body was discovered under a sheet on the body, but physicians say there give indications of having been made after death. A revolver lay near the body, but did not appear to have been used.

Bentley Gray's mail at the Woodbury Heights Postoffice has not been called for since Newton died. She knew him between \$20,000 and \$30,000, and the \$250 for which he is being held was given to her as a gift, with no thought of having it returned, she said.

Dr. Moore was released yesterday in the Battling city court, and in his testimony Mrs. Newton declared Dr. Moore spent as much as possible with her, but was not really responsible for separating her from her husband, but at different periods supplied her with heroin, morphine and strychnine.

She declared in testimony the physician gave her the money with no thought of it being returned. She said she did sign papers describing as presents the gifts given to her by Dr. Moore, but her husband was not present when he told her, "These gifts are made out to my bank account in a wealthy sister, and I want to keep in her good graces." He told me I would never have to return the money, she said.

ENDS LIFE WITH RAZOR

New York Man Visiting Brother Here Slashes His Throat

Frederick M. Carey, fifty-four years old, committed suicide today, the morning he came to visit his brother yesterday.

Carey, whose home was in New York, came to visit his brother yesterday afternoon according to recent news. Monday and last night he was at Little Falls. They were caught after a gun fight in which one was wounded.

The man arrested gave the names of Buck Allen and Bob Ford and said they were from Minneapolis. Deputy Sheriff Hale Friesinger was shot in the left hand and Ford in the arm. Neither is seriously hurt.

C. E. Strong, fifty-two years old, of Minneapolis, a veteran in the railway mail service, was shot three times when he attempted to frustrate the robbery by throwing an iron bar at the bandit. His condition today was said to be critical, with but little chance of recovery.

The bandit bounded the train at St. Cloud, Minn., the last stop before reaching Minneapolis, sixty-five miles away.

He presented a pass believed to have been forged, and entered the mail service, shot three times when he attempted to frustrate the robbery by throwing an iron bar at the bandit. His condition today was said to be critical, with but little chance of recovery.

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