BRITISH WELCOME U. S. CO-OPERATION

Some Newspaper Comment, However, Shows Regret for Harvey's League Rejection

NATIONS TO ACT TOGETHER

By the Associated Press

London, May 20.—The London newspapers commented today at some length on Ambassador Harvey's speech last night in which he declared the United States would have nothing whatever to do with the League of Nations.

Three journals cordially welcomed the Ambassador's expressions of friendship and his frankness, and commended his address in general.

The Daily News, however, declared itself perplexed by America's repudiation of the League of Nations, that newspaper having been a whole-hearted champion of the League. It inferred from Mr. Harvey's address that the United States actually agrees with the objects of the League, but it exclaimed:

"Yet the United States will have nothing to do with the greatest organization ever created for the fulfillment of the league's high purposes, and this is not because America disapproves of any one of the objects of the League, but because her people at the last election gave a decisive vote against the party of one of the League's chief founders.

"Is this policy or politics? If the latter, is it domestic politics, or international?"

Co-operate With Harding

The Chronicle remarked:

"Nobody here has any desire to prescribe the channels in which America's good will may flow, and just as we gave Mr. Wilson straightforward co-operation in founding the League, so we will co-operate in the same spirit with Mr. Harding outside the League."

The Daily Express welcomed especially the Ambassador's pronouncement on the League of Nations, which it described as "the end of an expensive sham."

"The League, as an instrument of practical idealism," the newspaper added, "is dead, and it is best to wind up its affairs with as little cost as may be."

America Is Europe's Hope

The Express declared it saw in American co-operation the only hope for Europe's regeneration, remarking:

"There is new hope for old, war-battered Europe in the help of a younger soul. The League of Nations has found a firmer substitute."

The Times says that the Allied nations will wish to meet America more than half way, now that Mr. Harvey, like the President, has made it clear that American action will be inspired by the desire "helpfully to co-operate."

Concerning Mr. Harvey's statement on the League the Times says:

"That, at least, is clear. We know where we stand. The League has its own sphere of usefulness and, in working within it, we believe it will not estrange American feeling or lessen American respect for its endeavors. We hold that partisans of the League among the Allied nations should welcome unreservedly the precise and practical American co-operation now offered."

Adopt "American Child"

Declaring "we won't quarrel over it," the Westminster Gazette, in its editorial regarding the Ambassador's allusions to the League of Nations, refers to the League as of American origin.

"The sober minds of Europe in no wise repent having adopted this American child," it says, "and if the stepparent has ceased to feel affection for it they will, nevertheless, attempt to rear it so that it will be a credit to its original home."

This newspaper contends that the hard logic of events has shown that neither America nor England can live in splendid isolation and that "it is the master problem of the present time to make the British-American idea of an orderly world prevail against the idea of a fighting world which still dominates most of Europe * * * We shall not prevail unless we are able to show that our methods offer the fighting nations greater security than theirs. This Great Britain and America can do together, but neither alone."

Manchester, England, May 20.—(By A. P.)—Commenting on the speech of Ambassador Harvey last night, the Guardian, which is a stanch upholder of the League of Nations, takes the view that "Colonel Harvey's characteristically vigorous repudiation of the League is not so discouraging as it looks.

"We have heard that even President Harding favors an association of nations," continued the Guardian. "If we cannot gain the goal in one leap we must proceed little by little."

The League, the Guardian considers, must continue its labors until it becomes so effective as a recognized instrument for good that no great Power will desire to stay outside of it.

"On the whole," declares the Guardian, "we welcome Ambassador Harvey's words as quite comforting after the bleak reports of complete American isolation."

Ambassador Harvey's appointment to sit with the Supreme Council the newspaper considers as "an admission that the United States Government cannot cut itself off from the great world problems, and may perhaps in the long run carry the United States farther than President Harding at present contemplates."

Harvey Says U. S. Rejects All of League

Continued from Page One

into illusions, and illusions we have found to be both dangerous and profitless.

"We deceive ourselves occasionally. Even to this day at rare intervals an ebullient sopohomore seeks applause by shouting that 'we won the war.' Far more prevalent until recently was the impression that we went to war to rescue humanity from all kinds of menacing perils.

Fought Solely to Save U. S.

"Not a few remain convinced that we sent our young soldiers across to save this kingdom, France and Italy. That is not the fact. We sent them solely to save the United States of America, and most reluctantly and laggardly at that.

"We were not too proud to fight, whatever that may mean. We were afraid not to fight. That is the real truth of the matter. So we came along toward the end and helped you and your allies shorten the war. That is all we did, and that is all we claim to have done."

Discussing what he called the "sentient, perilous present," Ambassador Harvey said:

"For years I have heard it proclaimed that war between Great Britain and America had ceased to be conceivable. Never have I known the declaration to be denied general approbation, yet it is clear that what is alleged to be a fact is no more than an assumption. No resumption of an armed conflict is unimaginable. Any day may witness a renewal of the War of the Roses, any day the clash of the Blue and the Gray in the swamps of Virginia.

"But so unlikely are such happenings that the suggestion, even though it incredibly were made, would evoke no more than a derisive smile. But it is one thing to stamp constantly upon an absurd notion and another thing never to think of it at all.

"Now the question rises, have not our countries reached a point with respect to the remotest possibility of a conflict that justifies our forgetting it as completely as the battles of Bosworth Field and Appomattox have faded from our recollection?"

"Such I am happy to report faithfully in the teeth of all the mischief-makers and scandal-mongers of both nations has become the settled conviction of our people, and I hope, and doubt not, of yours.

Must Now Face Realities

"We will get nowhere until we abruptly put aside academic discussion of theoretical proposals and manfully face, without mincing or wincing, the actual realities. We must realize the time has come to practice what we have been preaching and demonstrate our fidelity by our acts.

"That is the business primarily of governments and officials charged with public responsibilities. Very good. Our new Government, solid in all its branches in support of its leader, is both willing and ready."

Mr. Harvey cited the Washington Administration's proposal for a solution of the pacific communications problem, the American stand on reparations and the designation of American members for the allied councils as indications of this willingness and readiness.

Co-operation Pledge Kept

"And now in response to the request of your Prime Minister the President has designated representatives to serve on the Supreme Council, the Council of Ambassadors and the Commission on Reparations. Could better evidence be desired of our Government's disposition and alacrity to make good its pledge of hearty co-operation in all ways, not inconsistent with its own recognized policies, tending to re-establish peace and prosperity throughout the world and it will not. There it may not go so far as some of your statesmen might like. Our President is a prudent man by nature and rightly heedful of the fundamental law which he is sworn to observe, but when once having seen his way clear and he puts his hand to the plow, you may safely take my word that he is not one to turn back, and he has put his hand to the plow.

"'We must,' he declared, with characteristic positiveness to Congress last month, 'we must play our full part'—our full part in mind you—'in joining the peoples of the world in pursuit of peace.'

"Because the President has promptly exemplified his avowal of the obligation it must not be inferred that he proposes to become an international meddler. Nothing could be further from his intent or his ambition. He would be the last to intervene in or be drawn into any matter of no concern to his country, but also none realizes more clearly than he that the United States is of necessity deeply interested in the proper economic adjustments and just settlement of maters of world-wide importance under discussion and desires helpfully to co-operate.' What more in reason could be asked? What better in effect could be done?

Mandate of 7,000,000 Majority

"It is no part of my official task as, of course, you all know, to formulate policies. A Minister has to do only with interpretation, elucidation and application. Speaking well within that limitation, however, and in strict consonance with my profession of candor and truthfulness, I wish to make one point wholly clear. There still seems to linger in the minds of many here, as, indeed, of a few at home, the impression that in some way or other, by hook or by crook, unwittingly and surely unwillingly, the United States may be beguiled into the League of Nations.

"Now let me show you how utterly absurd any such notion is. I need not recall the long contest waged between the two branches of our Government over this proposal. I need hardly mention that the conflict became so sharp that even the treaty went by the board, to the end that today, paradoxically enough, America continues to be technically at war but actually at peace, while Europe is nominally at peace but, according to all reports, not wholly free from the clash of arms.

"Finally, as you know, the question of America's participation in the League came before people and the people decided against it by a majority of 7,000,000 out of a total vote of 25,000,000. Prior to that election there had been much discussion of the real meaning of the word mandate. There has been little since a single example provided the definition. A majority of 7,000,000 clearly conveyed a mandate that could neither be misunderstood nor disregarded.

Rejects League Entirely

"Anybody could see that it follows then inevitably and irresistibly that our present Government could not without betrayal of its creators and masters and will not, I can assure you, have anything whatsoever to do with the League or with any commission or committee appointed by it or responsible to it, directly or indirectly, openly or furtively.

"I raise no question as to the merits or demerits of the proposition. I simply state the fact as such in compliance with what I have indicated as the paramount necessity of squarely facing living realities and shaping our course accordingly. I need hardly add that my Government would not dream of criticizing, much less of objecting to, the League as now constituted of other nations. I wish only to dispose definitely and finally of the strangely prevalent and utterly baseless opposition respecting the attitude of the United States of America."

"But enough of public affairs. Perhaps I have gone too far along that line already, but if so I must ask you to attribute the overstepping to the self-bestowed prerogatives of a novice. You see I have never been an Ambassador before. Yet I quite proudly deny any suspicion of unawareness that suitable acknowledgment of this most cordial greeting is all that is expected or probably desired of me upon this occasion."

The time was, said the Ambassador, when John Bull appeared to Americans as a trifle arrogant; simultaneously Uncle Sam was regrded by Britons as "a whittling vulgarian," but, he concluded, "In their places now gleam in personification of our splendid nations the beautiful ngures of Britannia and Columbia, hand in hand, side by side, erect and glorious upon a plane of perfect equality in the eyes of each other and the world."

Believes in Friendship

The Duke of Connaught, in proposing the Ambassador's health, said that Mr. Harvey was a man who believed in the closest friendship between his country and Great Britain for the benefit and peace of the world.

"Mr. Harvey is no stranger to England," added the Duke. "This is his thirty-seventh passage across the Atlantic. His knowledge of England and his knowledge of Europe will be of the greatest help to him in the high position he now occupies.

"You will all agree that we would all wish that America and the British Empire should walk hand in hand through the many difficulties that beset us in this world for the benefit of the peace of the world in general. The King has warm feelings of friendship and regard for the United States, and he more than anybody else would welcome an extension of the friendly feeling which I believe exists now and which really never ceased to exist between the two countries."

Honored by United States, Premier Says

Premier Lloyd George, in seconding the Duke of Connaught, said:

"The United States has honored us greatly by sending us a succession of distinguished men as Ambassadors who had already won great fame before they reached our shores. The fame of our guest has traveled long ago to this country. His championship of the cause of the Allies was well known and fully recognized. He is a man of our race.

"The war has taught us in this country many lessons. One of these lessons is that the immense population of the United States is not of Anglo-Saxon origin nor even of Anglo-Celtic origin. In the United States there are men of every race under the sun. Nevertheless, it is a source of pride in these islands that in the great events which have determined the life and history of America the directing minds have been Anglo-Celtic. The great literature of America is ours; the great literature of Britain is theirs. We speak the same tongue; we worship the same great men. That produces a sympathy and community that nothing can break.

"We never can regard citizens of the United States as foreigners; therefore, in the new Ambassador, we welcome a brilliant kinsman. The future well-being of the world depends more upon the good will, the good understanding and co-operation between these two great English-speaking peoples than upon any other one fact. It is the best, it is the surest, guarantee of world peace.

European Diplomacy Entangled

"I am glad, then, that the Ambassador's appointment coincides with the decision of the United States to be represented adequately in the councils of the nations. I am glad that the new Ambassador has been chosen as the representative of the United States and that he will be present at the coming meeting. It is essential for the peace of the world that America should be in.

"European diplomacy works always in the dense thicket of ancient feuds, rooted, entangled and entwined. It is difficult to see the path; it is not always possible to see the light of day. I did not realize it all until the Peace Conference, I did not realize how deep the roots are.

"In Central Europe there are blood feuds all thought had been dead and buried for centuries, which have been resurrected into full and vigorous life. Repression and repose for centuries have given them new strength. It is difficult to walk wisely or well amid all these ancient conflicts—the memories are so great, so continuous, so intense, the momentum of revenge increases at each succeeding stroke.

"If this war isn't the last war, the next will leave Europe in ashes. It is essential we should find some means of dragging the nations out of this labyrinth of hatred, this degradation, for our own safety."

Premier Welcome America

Referring to America, Mr. Lloyd George said: "We welcome this new Power, vigorous, strong, clear-headed, untrammeled with these old quarrels.

He concluded:

"We are delighted to see the United States coming, not because we want to drag America into these quarrels. That would only make it worse and aggravate things. We want America to help us out, not to help us in. We appeal to America not merely as a Nation of high ideals. We know that it is not a country that will say, 'Am I my brother's keeper?'

"The world has become more interdependent than it has ever been before. What has happened, even in trade, during the last few months shows how dependent not merely one nation in Europe is on the other, but how dependent one continent is on another. Therefore, this decision excites hopes in our breasts. We rejoice in it and we rejoice in the selection which has been made of a man who knows Europe, who understands Europe, who is a whole-hearted American—an American patriot.

"When I propose his health I acclaim not only the new Ambassador to the Court of St. James, but the representative of the great democracy of the West in the councils of the nations of the world."

Telegraph Pole Burns

The top of a telegraph pole in front of 717 South Sheridan street burned away when a crossed wire started a blaze shortly before 1 o'clock this morning. Firemen soon extinguished the fire. The loss was trifling.

ATTACK ON BRIAND IS MERE LULLABY

Premier Nods, Deputies Drowse and Spectators Turn to Gossip

SILESIA IN NEED OF FOOD

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Paris, May 20.—Parliamentary experts forecast a big vote of confidence in Premier Briand when the Premier outlines his foreign policy, following M. Fogeot's interpelations today.

The expected hostile attitude in the Chamber of Deputies failed to materialize yesterday afternoon, it being lulled into drowsiness by Andre Tardieu's long harangue bristling with figures wherein gold and paper francs and marks were intermingled so confusingly that M. Loucheur stopped taking notes, M. Briand nodded in his seat, the deputies drowsed, and the spectators in the galleries fanned themselves and conversed on other subjects.

It was known that if M. Tardieu opened the debate it would end in M. Briand's triumph, as Clemenceau's lieutenant and former high commissioner to the United States is cordially disliked by his colleagues.

After the recess following M. Tardieu's speech only a handful of Deputies returned to listen to the Marquis de Baudry Dasson. The spectators, including Miss Anne Morgan, Colonel House, Ambassador Wallace, Lord Derby, Cecile Sorel and Elsie Janis, left the chamber.

Quai d'Orsay announces that M. Briand has refused to tell Prime Minister Lloyd George whether France will occupy the Ruhr basin if German troops enter Upper Silesia before Monday.

In the absence of Lord Hardinge, the British Charge d'Affaires carried a message from Earl Curzon to M. Berthelot at the Foreign Office reminding the French Government of M. Millerand's promise at San Remo last April following the isolated French occupation of Frankfort, that thereafter no ally would take independent military measures against Germany.

Great Britain demanded to know whether France contemplated seizing the Ruhr basin alone if German reichswehr sought to protect German nationals against the Polish insurgents.

M. Berthelot replied he could not answer such a hypothetical question offhand. When an answer was insisted on he said Premier Briand could not commit himself until the Chamber had given him a vote of confidence. M. Berthelot postponed giving a reply until Monday. It is expected the French will delay again on Monday, promising a reply at the next meeting of the Supreme Council before June 1.

Afterward German Ambassador Mayer called on Premier Briand, discussing with him the entire Upper Silesian problem. Dr. Mayer gave assurances on behalf of the German Government that no reichswehr troops would enter Upper Silesia.

London, May 20.—(By A. P.)—The food shortage in Upper Silesia has reached a magnitude likely to cause further disorders unless it is relieved shortly. Interchanges are proceeding among the Allied Governments in an attempt to relieve the situation before the meeting of the Supreme Council which is to take up the Silesian question.

It is considered probable that representations will be made to Germany that the payment of the workmen in Upper Silesia, held up by the refusal of German interests to transmit funds into the district, be begun immediately in an effort to stabilize conditions there. The date for the Supreme Council meeting has not yet been fixed.

Paris, May 20.—(By A. P.)—Premier Briand of France is opposed to a meeting of the Supreme Allied Council to discuss the Silesian question until the Inter-Allied Commission in Silesia has reached an agreement and submitted a report.

Some of this morning's newspapers declared that M. Briand and Prime Minister Lloyd George of Great Britain were likely to meet at Boulogne either tomorrow or Sunday.

It would appear, however, that M. Briand will not confer with the British Prime Minister until after interpellations of the Government in the Chamber of Deputies are completed, and he has secured a vote of confidence.

Assurances that Germany would avoid interference in the Silesian plebiscite area, and that shipments of arms and ammunition across the Silesian frontier would be stopped, given to the Spanish Ambassador at Berlin by Joseph Wirth, the German Chancellor, yesterday, served to decrease the tension over the Silesian situation here today.

Announcement is made by the ministry of liberated regions that Germany will soon begin the delivery of wooden houses to be erected in the devastated zone of Northern France. Germany will furnish 25,000 of these houses, which will be somewhat similar to the portable houses seen in American beach colonies, but built more solidly and constructed so that they will be waterproof.

Col. Harvey Gave Views of Harding

Continued from Page One

ficient supply of coal left her upon which to found her economic recovery and her capacity to pay reparations to the Allies.

May Force Hand on Silesia

The Polish-French policy of depriving Germany of the Silesian coal was nearly the reverse side of the French policy of taking away the Ruhr coal. Interpreting our interests in Europe broadly as economic concern with Europe's capacity to produce and to buy, as Mr. Hughes does, it was difficult to see how Silesia would be a purely European question, and it is now expected that Silesia may concern us and that we may be forced by circumstances to take part in it, arraying ourselves with England and Italy against France.

There can hardly be said to be any American international policy. Mr. Harding and Mr. Hughes have not gone further than to decide that America's interest require this country to take part in clearing up the muddle left by the war. Mr. Harvey is in Europe to look after American interests.

To this pursuit of interests, to this participation internationally, Mr. Harding has set one limit and Mr. Hughes agrees with him. In no case shall we go so far as to enter the League of Nations. No matter where logic leads or what the discovery of interest reveals, in no case will this country enter the league. Thus the policy of Hughes and Harding is that we shall protect our nation by international participation.

That is the positive side of it. But we shall stop short of entering the League of Nations. That is the negative side of it. All the rest of it is unexplored territory.

Hughes May Succeed White

It is a large field and will hardly be explored by next fall when, according to reports today, the President hopes to have his foreign policy sufficiently developed to spare Mr. Hughes from his present post so as to name him as successor of Chief Justice White. The international policy will still be in the making next fall. As to Mr. Harding's attitude toward Mr. Hughes, his friends say that he constantly speaks with pride of his "two strong advisers, Hughes and Hoover."

Politically, entrance into the League of Nations, even with reservations and acceptance of the Versailles Treaty with reservations, becomes steadily more impossible. The Senate started out with a positive program of dominating this country's foreign policy. It has been forced to abandon that hope, but it clings all the more obstinately in its disappointment to the negative program of defeating, if necessary, the League of Nations and the Versailles Treaty.

If the President were to ask for the ratification of the Wilson treaty, except as greatly modified by a supplementary treaty, and for the acceptance of the Wilson league under its present name, even with the covenant greatly changed, he would have a more serious revolt on his hands than Wilson had last winter. He would wreck his party. He knows this.

Colonel Harvey's speech is a notice to Europe that it must not build too much upon our participation in the Supreme Council. It must not expect the impossible.

McGinn Witness Told to Keep Still

Continued from Page One

man Murrano jumped on the table. I know it was he, because when he jumped the handkerchief he had tied about his face fell down.

"One of the hold-up men was not masked and seemed to hold back. Murrano said to him: 'Don't dog it now. Come on or I'll blaze at you.'

"I had a good view of everything that happened. I saw McGinn come in the room and two of the bandits fired. Murrano was one of them. I don't know whether it was his shot that hit McGinn or not."

The shooting immediately became general, the witness said. The lights were put out and every one ducked for cover. He hid behind a big ice chest.

"I could see a little by the flashes of the guns," explained the witness, "and I saw Michael Selvatio, whom we called 'Plug Ugly,' grapple with Murrano when he dove under a table. 'Plug Ugly' took Murrano's gun away from him and I saw him fire. I don't know whether it was Selvatio's shot that hit Murrano, because the firing was general at the time."

William Belshaw, head of the murder squad, followed Smith on the witness stand.

Two patrolmen took the witness stand at the end of the morning session and testified that Murrano, in the Pennsylvania Hospital, had told Captain of Police Noon he had shot McGinn.

Ambrose Lakjer testified after Captain Noon had questioned Murrano, lying shot on a cot in the Pennsylvania Hospital most of the day, the wounded man said, "I killed him; now let me alone."

"Captain Noon said to him, 'If I give you a drink, will you tell me who killed McGinn?' and that the prisoner had answered, 'Yes, give me water and I will tell you I shot him, then you go away.'"

Cut in Gas Income of City Considered

Continued from Page One

the handling of the city's income is suggestive. By all means let the light be thrown on every angle."

The suggestion that the city should reduce the amount of its collections was discussed by J. W. Follin, engineer of the Bureau of Municipal Research.

"This raises the point as to what should be the policy of the city when the time comes to frame or draft a new lease," said Mr. Follin. "That is, whether the city should receive an income or whether the income should be diverted, either to reducing the price of gas or of keeping it at it sprent level.

"In other words, it must be decided whether the money the city makes is to go directly to the consumer in the shape of a reduction in the gas rate or indirectly to the consumer by applying either a part or the whole of the income now received by the city to the purpose of the company.

"It would appear that at this time the question is not one that has to be decided, as the Commission has not suggested an immediate change in the rate for gas. It would seem that this question could be handled, once the policy of the city is decided, by the proposed gas commission which, in a sense, would be a regulatory body.

"For example, the city's policy as to income to the city having been adopted, then the proposed gas commission could apply that policy to the solving of the rate problem. The question raised is a very big one, involving as it does the great economic question of direct or indirect taxation. There are various views on this question.

"It is a wise thing to raise this point so it may be carefully studied by civic agencies, city officials and Councilmen to the end that the new gas lease may be in form with the best possible data."

Council yesterday received from the Mayor the report of his special gas commission which recommends a new lease with the U. G. I. and a probable increase in the price of gas to enable the financing of a new $12,000,000 plant.

The report's general suggestions, which Samuel T. Bodine, president of the U. G. I. later declared were fairly acceptable to the company, have as their high spots the suggestion that a new lease be entered into and that until its completion the present rate of $1 for each 1000 cubic feet of gas be continued in effect.

"A fair rate," the report adds, "with the quality of gas now being supplied will probably fall between $1.05 and $1.10."

The erection of a modern plant at once is declared imperative. For this $6,000,000 will be needed within the next fifteen months and from $10,000,000 to $15,000,000 inside of the following five years.

The appointment of a regulatory municipal body with powers over gas rates and to regulate service also is suggested as well as the retention of the British thermal unit instead of the old candlepower system.

All these suggestions will be taken up by Council's Transportation and Public Utilities Committee next week when formal hearings are expected to be ordered.

TWO GREAT NEWS ITEMS WERE TOLD EXCLUSIVELY

in Thursday morning's Public Ledger. The Public Ledger was the only Philadelphia morning newspaper to announce the death of Chief Justice White. The passing of the great jurist was related in its final edition. Also, Japan's refusal to accede to the proposal of the League of Nations to limit armaments appeared only in the

PUBLIC LEDGER

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