

LABOR PARLEY IN NEW EPOCH

American Labor Magazine Sees Big Gain in Workers' Legislation

New York, Dec. 22. — That the conclusion reached by the first International Labor Conference of the League of Nations, which recently ended its sessions at Washington, point to a new epoch in legislation for the protection of workers, despite the inaction of the United States to participate officially this year, is the declaration made in the current number of the "American Labor Legislation Review," issued to-day.

"We must always regret," writes Secretary John B. Andrews, of the Association For Labor Legislation, who has served in London and Washington as technical adviser to the organizing committee of the conference, "that the failure of the United States Senate to reach an agreement upon the Treaty prevented our country from having any official part in this first world conference, the importance of which will be more generally appreciated at some later date when, it is hoped, intelligent action in the interest of the general welfare will not be prohibited by America's insularity in world co-operation."

Peace Delegates Polk Bliss, White, Back From France

New York, Dec. 22.—Frank L. Polk, Assistant Secretary of State; General Tasker H. Bliss and Henry White of the American delegation to the Peace Conference, landed in this city Saturday night from France. They will go to Washington later to present their reports.

"I shall be most happy to talk when I reach Washington, but you can appreciate the fact that I cannot say much now. We were treated with the utmost kindness and consideration at the Peace Conference, and we come back home bringing many happy remembrances of our stay in France."

"True, at times the work was most heart-breaking, but that was to be expected. As for myself, I did not come so much in contact with the civilian members of the Peace Conference because my duties kept me in constant touch with the military advisers."

"General Foch came to the train personally to bid us bon voyage. He informed me that he looked forward with the greatest pleasure to coming to the United States, but did not know when he would come. I assured him that America would surely 'bust' itself when he came and he would get a grand reception."

Japan Holding Up Finance For China

Washington, Dec. 22. — Unless either the United States or Japan yields ground, the proposed four-power consortium for extending loans to China probably will fail. The deadlock between the American and Japanese governments over the question of Japan's position in South Manchuria and Eastern Inner Mongolia, in which territories Japan has acquired special rights through treaties with China, has prevented the formation of the consortium, which the United States proposed more than a year ago.

The American Government is understood to be prepared to lend diplomatic support to private American financial interests if the latter should elect to enter the Chinese loan field independently of international groups of other countries. International competition, however, it is feared, would defeat one of the objects of the consortium—the removal of temptation to the powers to obtain, through financial privilege and new spheres in China, the British Government is using its good offices as an ally with Japan and a view to the signing of an agreement with America. The tenor of the Japanese press and the tenor of statements published by prominent persons in Japan indicate, on the other hand, that Japan feels she cannot admit South Manchuria to enter into the purview of the consortium.

Attack Burleson's P. O. Order Policy

Washington, Dec. 22.—An attack on Postmaster General Burleson's money order system was made Saturday by Chairman Steenerson of the House Post Office and Post Roads Committee. Considerable comment has been made on that portion of the Postmaster General's report showing a net gain of more than \$5,000,000 from the system. Many people sending money abroad are said to have suffered losses.

"The reason given by the officials of the Post Office Department for continuing to sell money orders on foreign countries at the pre-war rate of exchange, as I understand them," Mr. Steenerson said, "is that they are required to do so by treaty provisions. I have examined the treaty with France of Dec. 29, 1879, and I am unable to find anything therein to justify that contention."

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