

ARMS CONFERENCE DRAWS EYES OF ALL THE WORLD

Washington Filling Fast With Leading Foreign Statesmen



WASHINGTON, D. C., Saturday. IMMENSE as was the interest taken by the world in the congresses of Berlin and Vienna, where the diplomats and Prime Ministers of the great Powers of the world sat down to carve the world to suit themselves or their royal masters, this interest fades beside that with which the world now views Washington as the opening of the conference of limiting armaments approaches. The day of the opening is November 11, anniversary of Armistice Day, when the greatest war in the history of the world was ended.

Now not the rulers and the leading men of each nation involved, but the peoples of every civilized land, will watch anxiously the proceedings of the conference, for there is no citizen so small of repute but has at stake some vital interest. If it were a mere question of a reduction of taxes that would come up for discussion this would be of personal weight to every man in every country which now includes the civilized world. But things much higher in the scale of civilization are to be affected by what will be said and done in Washington, and the world waits breathlessly to learn how the important personages gathered in our national capital will focus their efforts to curtail war preparations and drive far away, if not entirely out of sight and mind, the dread of future wars.

On Armistice Day, November 11, 1918, this war weary world heaved a sigh of relief and murmured that modern strife on an ascending scale such as had been witnessed in the preceding four years was not longer to be thought of. But the wish to do away with armaments could not accomplish that miracle, and thoughtful and far-seeing men saw that the future was fraught with every sort of danger.

Europe Left Almost Helpless Economically and Spiritually

The countries of Europe were left after the war in almost a helpless state economically and spiritually. Civilization itself was on trial for its life. The balance of power had been disturbed by a huge vacuum, where Germany and Russia once had been, and into this vacuum world values which had resulted in chaos. In this disordered state of the world statesmen of other countries looked to America and they openly asserted that the help of this country was essential to the return of Europe to a normal state. The participation of the United States in the world war, coupled with the projection of our influence in the Far East, had, they stated, inescapably united the affairs of this nation with the affairs of other nations.

President Harding early in the summer by his issuance of a call for a conference on the question of limiting armaments revealed his appreciation of the poignancy of the situation and the willingness of America to meet and grapple with it. Both the President and Secretary of State Hughes recognized the gravity of the situation and the magnitude of the problem, and they took what action they could looking to a solution of these world problems to remove recurring possibilities of war.

The call issued to the nations by President Harding last July brings together an assemblage of international statesmen the like of which never before met on American soil. The conference will mark the abandonment of our attitude of "splendid isolation," occasioned by nothing but a desire to perform a world service, and the United States will heretofore be distinguished as host of the greatest world conference which has ever been held.

Secretary of State Hughes, in the call to the Powers to join in the conference, did not lose the opportunity to make clear what the American people want. They want not only limitation of armaments but also a solution of the Pacific and Far Eastern problems. The two are combined in the mind of the people and in that of their spokesmen, because they know that

they cannot have the first without the second.

Seeds of War Germinating In Far Distant Asia

It is no diplomatic secret that the seeds of war are germinating in Asia at present. They expect, with a certain right that grows out of common sense, that our delegates to the conference will seek to kill these seeds of war, not only that armaments may be reduced in fact and not merely on paper but that there need be no fighting in the Pacific. Thus it was specified in the call to the conference that without some definite understanding to be arrived at in the Pacific problems disarmament talk would amount to a merely academic discussion. It is acknowledged to be the aim of the conference to eliminate the danger now recognized as resting in the Pacific, to assure recognition of American rights in the Far East and to safeguard the "open door" policy in China.

President Harding's Address To Be Delivered Nov. 13

The conference, then, promises to be a second peace conference, of greater importance than that which was held at Versailles. Upon its success is expected to depend the future well being of the world. It may be asked why, with so many interests involved other than those just mentioned, interests peculiarly European, America should have taken the lead in this world movement. Those who ask this question have no doubt forgotten that the first suggestion that America was the greatest navy in the world was broached in 1916. The plea for the largest navy had weight then, and it still survives. At any rate, we set the pace then for naval rivalry. It was fitting, therefore, that this country should call the conference to limit navy competition. As the United States is least vulnerable from a naval standpoint and is the most self-contained and powerful of the three naval Powers, it is prepared to excel them in candor, trust and generosity in the present conference. The programme of the first day will be perfunctory only, merely getting into working order, for this day, November 11, will be marked by the impressive ceremonies at the burial of the Unknown Dead in Arlington Cemetery.

On the second day the conference will begin in earnest to determine whether the nations can in the future live without the prodigious armaments which are to-day thought necessary. Thus on November 12 President Harding in Continental Hall of the D. A. R. Building will deliver the keynote address. It is not known which of the delegates will follow the President. Very likely it will be a member of the British delegation, and if Lloyd George be here the second speaker will no doubt be the famous British Premier.

Although there has been no official announcement, it is believed that presiding over the conference will be Charles Evans Hughes, Secretary of State and head of the American delegation. The third and following days of the conference will see the delegates assembled in the Hall of the Americas in the Pan-American Building.

Occasionally, however, to satisfy public curiosity other semi-official meetings will take place in the D. A. R. Building, but these will be formal only and the real work of the conference will be done behind closed doors, in the committee rooms, in drawing rooms of fashionable Washington houses, in hotel apartments and a hundred and one other places where the world delegates will gather.

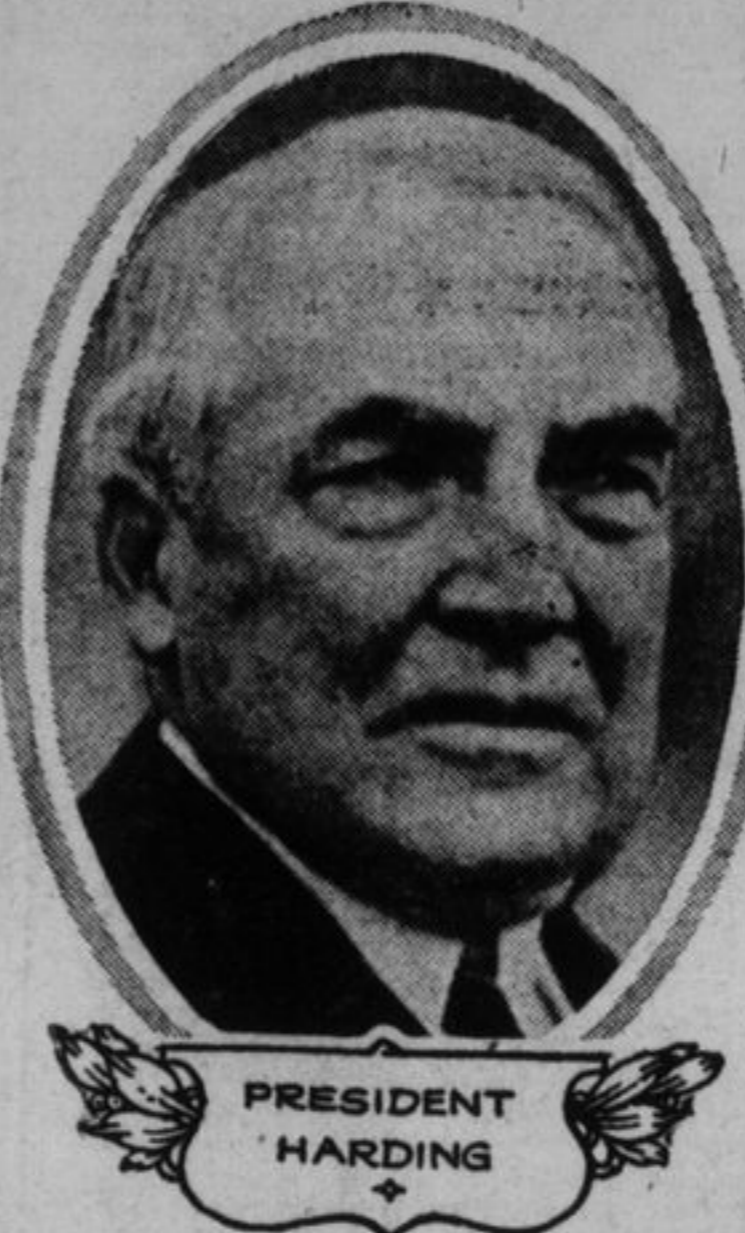
The number of countries bidden to the conference on limitation of armaments and Far Eastern questions is fixed, of course, but these delegates do not, by dozens, complete the number of assistant delegates, so to speak, who are in Washington or on the way there. Already so many assistants and experts have arrived as to cramp the resources of Washington hotels, lodging houses and apartments.

How much of the real work of the delegates will be made public as it proceeds is not to be arrived at by guessing. Very little, it is said by those who know something of the ways of world diplomatists, but they say also that the great demand of the public for open discussion may have

Armistice Day Marks Opening of Momentous Gathering of Keenest Minds From All Quarters of the Globe Called by President Harding to Aid Permanent Peace—Pacific Question to Get First Consideration Because of Its Menace—Thumbnail Sketches of Leading Delegates—Meetings in D. A. R. and Pan-American Buildings

PRESIDENT HARDING'S CALL

The President, in view of the far-reaching importance of the question of limitation of armament, has approached with informal but definite inquiries the group of Powers heretofore known as the Principal Allied and Associated Powers, that is, Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan, to ascertain whether it would be agreeable to them to take part in a conference on this subject, to be held in Washington at a time to be mutually agreed upon. If the proposal is found to be acceptable, formal invitations for such a conference will be issued. It is manifest that the question



PRESIDENT HARDING

of limitation of armament has a close relation to Pacific and Far Eastern problems, and the President has suggested that the Powers especially interested in these problems should undertake in connection with this conference the consideration of all matters bearing upon their solution with a view to reaching a common understanding with respect to principles and policies in the Far East. This has been communicated to the Powers concerned, and China has also been invited to take part in the discussion relating to Far Eastern problems. Washington, D. C., July 10, 1921.

weight. The United States as host to the Powers cannot lay down the rules. Perhaps on the second or third day of the conference it will be decided what to give out and what to keep en camera.

Secretary Hughes, however, has expressed his purpose privately to give out from time to time statements setting forth the attitude of the United States as the parleys proceed.

There are many details concerning the parleys yet to be announced. The names of the advisory committee of fifteen, two of them to be women, who are to assist the four American delegates in every way possible, have not been given out by President Harding. Some foreign delegations have even larger entourages, while others have none at all.

The agenda of the conference has already reached the public, but no announcement has been made whether the Far Eastern question will come up first or follow the disarmament question; the feeling is, though, that these will proceed concurrently. In the settlement of the Far Eastern question is bound up the Chinese question. The Chinese problem, it is thought, is one of the most menacing.

China is to be represented by a divided delegation, representing respectively the north and south Chinese republics. Minor discords, especially those relating to the Anglo-Japanese treaty, will be solved, it is hoped, without injury to the feelings of either the Japanese or the British.

In September President Harding announced the appointment of the completed American delegation to the conference. In his letter the full title of the conference was given. It is "The International Conference at Washington to Discuss Armaments and the Far Eastern Problem."

The American delegates are Secretary of State Hughes, Senator Henry Cabot Lodge (Mass.), Elihu Root, former Secretary of State, and Senator Oscar W. Underwood (Ala.), Democratic leader of the Senate. These delegates are not plenipotentiaries, but will serve in Washington under the personal direction of the President. A brief resume of their career is interesting on the eve of a new adventure.

Secretary of State Hughes resigned the Governorship of New York to accept a place on the Supreme bench and resigned the judgeship to take the nomination for President of the United States on the Republican ticket. He was defeated by Woodrow Wilson and was appointed by Wilson's successor to his present office. He was born in Glens Falls, N. Y., April 11, 1862, and admitted to the bar in New York, 1884.

Elihu Root is a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague; president of the American Society of International Law; member of commission to draw up plans for a permanent world court. He was born in Clinton, N. Y., February 15, 1848; Secretary of War in McKinley's Cabinet, 1898-1904; Secretary of State in Roosevelt's Cabinet, 1905-09; Senator from New York, 1909-15.

Oscar W. Underwood, United States Senator since 1915, was born in Louisville, Ky., May 6, 1862. He was admitted to the bar in 1884 and was a member of the Fifty-fourth to Sixty-third Congresses, 1895-1915; chairman of Ways and Means Committee Sixty-third Congress.

Henry Cabot Lodge, Republican leader

in the Senate, was born in Boston, May 12, 1850. He was editor of the *North American Review*, 1873-76; member of Fiftieth to Fifty-third Congresses, 1887-93; Senator since 1893.

Leading Foreign Statesmen Will Appear As Delegates

The following are the members of the delegations of the various countries to the conference so far as they have been officially designated. In certain instances, as of Lloyd George and in the case of Italy, alternates have been named if the Premiers of those countries find it impossible to attend. Two delegates will represent the conservative element of Russia. One delegate comes from Portugal. The delegation from China is complete.

The delegations are as follows: FRANCE—Aristide Briand, the present Premier, was Minister of Justice, 1914-15. He was born in Nantes, 1863, and educated at St. Nazaire. In 1902 elected to the Chamber of Deputies for the first time. In 1904 he became Minister of Public Instruction and Worship. Has served as Premier in 1909, in 1913 and in 1916. His home district is the Loire, and at the commencement of his parliamentary career he was numbered among the Socialists party, along with Millerand. He aided in bringing about the separation of Church and State, but as Premier of the present time he has conciliated the Pope, and France and the Vatican now exchange Ambassadors.

Rene Viviani, former Premier; Envoy Extraordinary to United States in 1921; at present Minister of Foreign Affairs; Minister of Justice and Public Works in 1917; Minister of Public Instruction in 1914; came first to America with Marshal Joffre in 1917.

Louis Loucheur, Minister of the Liberated Regions; a railroad man in 1899; formed contracting firm for utilizing water power of Prusse; Assistant Minister of Munitions during war and then Minister of Munitions under Clemenceau.

GREAT BRITAIN—Right Honorable Andrew Bonar Law, born New Brunawick September 16; Chancellor of the Exchequer and leader of the House of Commons since 1916; a member of the coalition war Cabinet; formerly an iron merchant; Parliamentary secretary of the Board of Trade 1902-06; Secretary of State for the Colonies 1915-16; leader of Opposition in House of Commons 1911-15.

Right Honorable Winston Churchill, Secretary of State for War since 1913; Minister of Munitions in 1917; born November 30, 1874, son of late Lord Randolph Churchill. Member of Parliament from Dundee since 1906; served in India; Home Secretary 1910-11; First Lord of the Admiralty 1911-15; National Liberal in politics.

Sir Arthur (Hamilton) Lee of Fareham, Minister Board of Agriculture and Fisheries since August, 1918, with seat in Cabinet; M. P. from south of Fareham, Division of Hampshire, 1906; Director-General of Food Production from February, 1917; born November 8, 1863; married Ruth, daughter of J. G. Moore of New York; British Military Attache with the United States Army during Spanish-American war; Military Attache, Washington, 1899.

Right Honorable Herbert Albert Lau-



rens Fisher, F. R. S., 1820; President of Board of Education since 1916; M. P. Sheffield, from 1916-18; M. P. from English universities since 1918; born London, March 21, 1865.

Right Honorable David Lloyd George, Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury since 1916; Member of Parliament from Carnarvon since 1890; Liberal, born Manchester; President of the Board of Trade, 1905-8; Chancellor of Exchequer, 1908-15; Minister of Munitions, 1915-16; Secretary of State, 1916.

ITALY—Senator Albertini, editor of *Corriere della Sera* of Milan. A supporter of Gen. Cadorna and a promoter of that Congress in Rome of Nationalities forming the Austro-Hungarian Empire, which aimed at the dismemberment of that country. He is accompanied by his son, who will act as secretary. He is 50 years old.

Tommaso Tittoni, President of the Senate, 1920; delegate to the League of Nations since 1920; born Rome, 1855; Senator since 1902; Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, 1903-8; Ambassador to England, 1908; member of Court of Arbitration at The Hague since 1912; Ambassador to France, 1910-16; Minister of State, 1916. Viterio Scialoja, Minister of Foreign Affairs since 1919; Minister without portfolio in Italian Cabinet, 1917.

Premier Bonomi; Premier in 1921; formed new Cabinet in July; held portfolio of Ministry of Foreign Affairs. JAPAN—Takaashi Hara, Premier; educated Imperial University of Tokio; opposed to military clique; first commoner and business man to hold office of Premier.

Prince Tokugawa; visited America in 1910; deprived of succession to Shogunate by revolution of 1868; President of House of Peers in Japan; born 1863; studied in England from 1877-1882; Chamberlain of Imperial Court, 1882; visited America, on way to England, in 1877; will be chief of delegation to Washington; his appointment constitutes recognition of the Diet.

Vice-Admiral Tomosaburo Kato, Minister of Marine and Navy.

Baron Kijuro Shidehara, Japanese Ambassador to United States since 1919; before that Vice Foreign Minister in Japan; born at Osaka in Kawachi; graduate, 1895, College of Law in Imperial University; Consul at London and Antwerp; counsellor of embassy at Washington, 1912; Minister at The Hague; Vice Foreign Minister from outbreak of war till 1919.

RUSSIA—Anti-Bolshevik representatives from Russia: Nicolai Arvenskieloff, President of Constituent Assembly before revolution; Prof. Paul Milukoff.

AUSTRALIA—Hon. George Foster Pearce, Acting Prime Minister in 1916; Member Commonwealth Parliament of Australia since 1901; Minister for Defence, 1908-9, also 1910-13 and since 1914; born Mount Barker, South Australia, January 14, 1870; began life as carpenter; began public life organizing trade unions and political societies; president Trade Labor Union Congress, 1899; member Imperial Conference, 1911.

PORTUGAL—Mildo Barretto. CHINA—Dr. W. W. Yen, Foreign Minister.

Dr. V. K. Wellington Koo, Minister Plenipotentiary to London; graduate Columbia University; formerly Ambassador to Washington; president of the Council of the League of Nations; is 34 years old; was English secretary to President Yuan Shih-Kai.

Dr. C. T. Wang, graduate of Yale, 1910; held out against signing Versailles treaty in May, 1918.

Scene of the Conference Has Picturesque Setting

Dr. Sao-Ke Alfred Sse, Ambassador to United States; formerly Ambassador to Great Britain; graduate Cornell University; director of Northern Railways in China in 1906; formerly Minister of Posts and Communications, and Acting Minister of Finance in first Cabinet of Chinese Republic.

The conference will be held in the Hall of the Americas of the Pan American Union Building in Washington. It is at Seventeenth and B streets, northwest, three blocks south of the State Department Building, and stands in the midst of a group which will also be utilized in connection with the Washington conference.

Across B street is the great cement structure built during the war for the War and Navy departments, in which there is now much surplus space. This building will be partly used as offices for sections of the British, French, Italian, Japanese and Chinese delegations to the conference. Immediately north of the Pan American Building, on Seventeenth street, stands the white marble hall of the Daughters of the American Revolution, with an auditorium that will seat more than 2,000 persons. This will also be made available for any large meetings. Also on Seventeenth street, adjoining the D. A. R. Building, is the white marble home of the American Red Cross, which has quarters that may also be utilized for smaller sectional meetings. Next to that, also on Seventeenth street, is the Corcoran Gallery of Art, with a large hemi-cycle which can also be used for meetings.

Well considered plans are being made for the entertainment of the visitors from overseas, and the powers that be at the State Department are already immersed in preparations. The Japanese delegation will be exceedingly active socially. The Japanese are one of the few nations not particularly hard hit by the war. The supposition that they will do a lot of entertaining is borne out by the fact that the Japanese Embassy has leased the residence 2090 Massachusetts avenue for the conference. It is to be used for offices to relieve the pressure on the chancellery in N street and probably for the more official entertaining. The Ambassador will continue to live at the big house in K street which has been occupied by several of Japan's envoys. From all over the country, all over the world in fact, are coming men and women who want to keep a finger on the pulse of events. Consequently houses are at a premium and wisecracks are predicting the gayest as well as the most stimulating winter Washington has ever had.

Many things will combine to bring this about. The Republicans are again in the saddle after eight years; they have money, many of them, and they are making preparations for a social campaign which will take one back to the good old days of the Taft and Roosevelt administrations. Moreover, the President and Mrs. Harding seem to have a genius for hospitality. They are mapping out a full and varied social programme which will include many dinners and receptions.

While no definite information can yet be obtained about the entertaining for the delegates to the conference, it is safe to prophesy that there will be one big formal party at the White House, probably a reception in their honor, and another at the Pan-American Union. Then there will be, of course, a great dinner parties given by and for the visitors from overseas and a round of balls at the embassies and legations of the countries represented will contribute to the season's gaiety.

The liquor floodgates are down, and choice brands of all grades of fine imported liquors are entering American ports in heavy volume to supply the refreshment needs of the delegates and their guests and friends. Washington at the start of the arms parley and as long as it continues will be distinctly wet. Washington's distinguished guests will enjoy all of the immunity which clothes a foreign diplomat and shields him from molestation by dry law agents or other police officers.

It is estimated that the international gathering will cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$3,000,000. This is based on the approximate estimate of an expenditure of \$1,000,000 for each of the larger countries, with a smaller sum for the more unimportant participants.

The cost to the United States will be less than that of the visiting Powers in spite of the fact this Government is in the position of host. An appropriation of \$200,000 has already been made to cover the expenses, but this will not represent the total cost to this Government. Contingent funds of the various departments will be drawn upon, while much of the work of the conference will be done by departments whose overhead expense would go on just the same if the conference were not held.