

Government Outlines Aims for Russia

The statement by the government as to its purposes and aims in extending military and economic aid to Russia, issued August 3 in the form of a "statement to the press on the Anglo-Japanese action in Siberia" from the acting secretary of state, follows:

"In the judgment of the government of the United States — a judgment arrived at after repeated and very searching considerations of the whole situation — military intervention in Russia would be more likely to add to the present sad confusion there than to cure it and would injure Russia rather than help her out of her distresses.

"Such military intervention as has been most frequently proposed, even supposing it to be efficacious in its immediate object of delivering an attack upon Germany from the east, would, in its judgment, be more likely to turn out to be merely a method of making use of Russia than to be a method of serving her.

"Her people, if they profited by it at all, could not profit by it in time to deliver them from their present desperate difficulties and their substance would meantime be used to maintain foreign armies, not to reconstitute their own or to feed their own men, women and children.

CONCENTRATED ON WESTERN FRONT

"We are bending all our energies now to the purpose, the resolute and confident purpose, of winning on the western front, and it would, in the judgment of the government of the United States, be most unwise to divide or dissipate our forces.

"As the government of the United States sees the present circumstances, therefore, military action is admissible in Russia, not only to render such protection and help as is possible to the Czecho-Slovaks against the armed Austrian and German prisoners who are attacking them and to steady any efforts at self-government or self-defense in which the Russians themselves may be willing to accept assistance.

"Whether from Vladivostok or from Murmansk and Archangel, the only present object for which American troops will be employed will be to guard military stores which may subsequently be needed by Russian forces and to render such aid as may be acceptable to the Russians in the organization of their own self-defense.

"With such objects in view the government of the United States is now co-operating with the governments of France and Great Britain in the neighborhood of Murmansk and Archangel.

"The United States and Japan are the only powers just now in a position to act in Siberia in sufficient force to accomplish even such modest objects as those that have been outlined.

"The government of the United States has, therefore, proposed to the Government of Japan that each of the two governments send a force of a few thousand men to Vladivostok with the purpose of co-operating as a single force in the occupation of Vladivostok and in safeguarding, so far as it may, the country to the rear of the westward moving Czecho-Slovaks, and the Japanese government has consented.

"In taking this action the government of the United States wishes to announce to the people of Russia in the most public and solemn manner that it contemplates no interference with the political sovereignty of Russia, no intervention of her internal affairs — not even in the local affairs of the limited areas which her military force may be obliged to occupy — and no impairment of her territorial integrity either now or hereafter.

ONLY PURPOSE TO HELP PEOPLE

"What we are about to do has as its single and only object the rendering of such aid as shall be acceptable to the Russian people themselves in their endeavors to regain control of their own affairs, their own territory and their own destiny. The Japanese government, it is understood, will issue a similar assurance.

"These plans and purposes of the government of the United States have been communicated to the governments of Great Britain, France and Italy, and those governments have advised the Department of State that they assent to them in principle.

"No conclusion the government of the United States has arrived at in this important matter is intended, however, as an effort to restrict the

actions or interfere with the independent judgment of the governments with which we are now associated in the war.

"It is also the hope and purpose of the government of the United States to take advantage of the earliest opportunity to send to Siberia a commission of merchants, agricultural experts, labor advisers, Red Cross representatives and agents of the Young Mens' Christian Association accustomed to organizing the best methods of spreading useful information and rendering educational help of a modest kind.

"The purpose is in some systematic way to relieve the immediate economic necessities of the people there in every way for which an opportunity may open. The execution of this plan will follow, and will not be permitted to embarrass the military assistance rendered to the Czecho-Slovaks.

"It is the hope and expectation of the government of the United States that the governments with which it is associated will, wherever possible, lend their active aid in the execution of these military and economic plans."

DRYS GAIN IN ILLINOIS

(From the Chicago Tribune, Sept. 14.)

Illinois drys yesterday claimed an easy working majority of the next Illinois house of representatives on the issue of ratification of the federal constitutional amendment on prohibition. Late returns indicated that their claim is well founded and that at least eighty drys will sit in the house, Republican and Democratic.

Whether the dry forces will attempt to precipitate a fight on the speakership through an amalgamation of the dry Republicans and Democrats is still to be determined. It is well understood on the inside that Speaker David E. Shanahan will be a candidate for re-election and that he will have the unequivocal support of the state administration and of the State Council of Defense, of which he is a member. The drys, upon a straightaway proposition, may determine to oppose him with Homer J. Tice, who has been nominated in the Thirtieth district, and who is certain of election. If this develops, it is certain that one of the tightest speakership contests ever staged at Springfield will be started without delay and the first blows are likely to be struck at the state convention at Springfield next week.

MR. BRYAN IN SAN FRANCISCO

Introducing Hon. William Jennings Bryan at the San Francisco Ad Club, Mr. Gavin McNab said, "Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: In the progress of human affairs, men have risen, whose character, wisdom and personality have enabled them to exercise vast powers without occupying the chair of authority. Such were the prophets of Israel, who foretold better things for this world, and brighter world to come.

"Our distinguished guest should have no regrets.

"He sought the Presidency, that he might serve humanity. He lost the Presidency but performed the service. He aimed to make a better world for mankind that a better mankind might make a better world.

"Without exercising other powers than God gave him, he has lived to see his advocacy become achievement, his theories become laws and rules of action. Few men of our times have accomplished so much for humanity.

"I have the honor to present the guest of this occasion, Hon. William Jennings Bryan."

The mystery as to why Kansas has more high grade newspaper editors than Nebraska is made clear by an inspection of the late primary returns. The Kansas voters nominated an editor for senator and another editor for governor. The Nebraska voters defeated the editors who were running for governor and senator.

A South Dakota man was jailed because he waved a German flag and declared that this is a rich man's war. He was a plain fool and traitor. The man who waves the American flag with one hand while he is raking in riches with the other is a traitor, but it would be difficult to prove him a fool.

Having perfected a device that enables the submarine chasers to determine the presence and location of an undersea enemy boat, Mr. Edison would be living up to his ancient fame if he would invent something that would enable the bread chasers to locate the profiteer and instantaneously discharge a depth bomb over him.

DEMOCRACY WILL SURELY WIN

The Indianapolis Sentinel of August 27 printed the following:

"Pledging the unified support of America to her soldiers on the battle field, William Jennings Bryan received an ovation in his address to the soldiers of Fort Benjamin Harrison last night when he stopped to speak under the auspices of the War Camp Community Service on his way to Tipton, Ind., to fill an engagement there.

"We not only must win this war for ourselves, the allies and the world of today, but for the world of tomorrow," Mr. Bryan said to the soldiers. "And as it is the duty of the whole people to stand as one man behind your every move, I am glad to say I believe that every day we at home are becoming cemented more closely together."

"Mr. Bryan said that America is putting on the battle field the greatest soldier the world has ever known and a set of the cleanest men ever gathered together."

POWER OF DOLLAR SHRINKING

A Washington dispatch, dated August 29, says: Comparison of food prices prevailing now with those of five years ago show that the purchasing power of a dollar bill has shrunk to 54 cents in Washington and Baltimore; 75 cents in Philadelphia; 59 cents in New York and Chicago; and 63 cents in San Francisco, according to a statement today by the department of labor.

Food which could be bought for \$1.00 in July, 1913, now costs \$1.85 in Washington; \$1.84 in Baltimore; \$1.77 in Philadelphia; \$1.68 in New York; \$1.69 in Chicago and \$1.58 in San Francisco.

In the one year period from July 1917 to July 1918 food prices advanced 22 per cent in San Francisco; 20 per cent in Washington and Philadelphia; 20 per cent in Baltimore, 17 per cent in New York and 11 per cent in Chicago.

AMERICANS SET WORLD HEALTH RECORD

A Washington dispatch, dated August 14, says: American troops at home and overseas are setting world's records for health and low death rates. In announcing today that deaths from disease among the soldiers for the week ending July 26 were at the rate of 1.9 per 1,000 a year, Surgeon General Gorgas said such a record never has been surpassed by any military establishment.

In past wars the best rate was 20 per 1,000 during the Russo-Japanese war, showing the tremendous progress made in military sanitation. Attention was called to the fact that the annual death rate among civilians of military age is 6.7 per 1,000.

German newspapers express considerable surprise because they find so many Yankees opposing them who bear good old German names. It may be that this is the basis for their claim that not very many Americans have yet gone into battle in France. One of the best answers that have yet been given to those 101 per cent patriots who have been so quick to leap to the conclusion that because an American citizen bore a German name he couldn't be loyal to the flag is the number of boys of Teutonic origin whose names have appeared on the casualty lists.

The American soldiers in France are living up to all of the valorous traditions of the service. In gallantry, grimness, steadiness under fire, eagerness to come to grips with the enemy, they are valorous sons of a glorious soldiery. America knew what the boys would do when they got across, but it is none the less gratifying to read the measureless praise they have won from men who know a good fighter when they see one.

While the republicans, if we may judge from the various state platforms so far adopted, are still convinced that the democrats cannot safely be trusted with the government at all times, they are willing to admit they know how to run a war. Democrats have had so much experience in fighting in the last fifty years that it would be strange if they did not know how to conduct a great conflict.

Instead of sending long distance dispatches from the front stating the exact gains of territory from the Germans each day, General Pershing might say it all in one sentence: "Business as usual."