

NORTH SLESVIG DEMANDS TO BE RETURNED TO THE MOTHERLAND.

(Efter „Nordlyset.“)

We have from a responsible side received the following article:

A good many American newspapers recently printed a telegram from Holland to the effect, that Denmark had presented a note to Germany, demanding a settlement of the Slesvig question along the lines of the treaty of Prague.

This telegram had no foundation in fact. The Danish Government has sent no such note to Germany for the simple reason that the treaty of Prague gave no claim to Denmark directly. The treaty contained the provision, that the Northern districts of Slesvig should have the right to determine, whether they wished to belong to Denmark or to Germany. In other words: Germany conceded certain rights to the North Slesvigers, not to Denmark.

For this reason Denmark was prevented from protesting against the nonfulfillment of the Prague treaty, but the North Slesvigers never gave up their rights. Through more than fifty long and weary years they fought what often seemed a lost and hopeless fight for their Danish nationality and their Danish mother tongue.

It was therefore altogether right and fitting, that—when a few weeks ago the new Germany recognized the principles of national self-determination—not the Danish Government, but the representative of the North Slesvigers themselves in the German Reichstag demanded the execution of the Prague treaty and the final settlement of the North Slesvig question on the basis of the right of the people to determine their own allegiance. Through him spoke the people of North Slesvig, whose voice and whose voice alone should be heeded.

While Denmark can lay no claim to North Slesvig in a strictly legal sense, it has of course a moral right that in these days will weigh just as heavily. This found expression in the recent secret session in the Danish Parliament, when both chambers after a speech by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Scavenius, unanimously affirmed the declaration, that the national hopes of Denmark are indissolubly bound up with the realization of the principles of national self-determination.

For more than half a century Denmark has looked forward to the day, when her lost province should be returned to the motherland. But the Danish nation does not expect or want more than that part of Slesvig, which is absolutely Danish in language and sympathies.

Through the foreign Press certain voices have given expression to various projects, such for instance as the granting to Denmark of more than the Danish parts of Slesvig or the establishment of a Buffer State either in personal union with Denmark or ruled by a Danish prince. The reasons why Denmark would feel bound to oppose such plans are the following:

a. It would mean the denial of the ideal foundation which has formed the basis for the national claim of Slesvig's inhabitants, as well as those of Denmark, during the last fifty years.

b. It would, furthermore, result in an unjust arrangement with regard to the German part of the population and thus be apt to lay a foundation for bitterness and future thoughts of revenge in Germany.

c. A German population within Denmark's boundaries would mean constant temptation to interfere on the part of Germany, the danger of which would be the greater the more numerous the German population within Danish territory.

d. Again this condition might result in a closer cultural connection with Germany than desirable for the maintenance of the independence and characteristics of the Danish nationality. The idea of a personal union, which has come up from time to time in Denmark too, has been rejected as more apt to draw Denmark to Germany than the duchies to Denmark.

e. Also from the point-of-view of the Allies and America a solution along these lines would seem less desirable. It would not be possible to bring such a solution in accord with the principles of self-determination and it would result in continuous cause for dispute between Denmark and Germany.

f. A territorial arrangement which was not unreservedly and honestly accepted by Germany would have to be constantly maintained diplomatically and, on occasion it is to be feared, militarily, as human nature is slow to change and disputes will arise.

g. As Denmark, even thus enlarged, would always be in the position of the weaker as compared with Germany, there would rest upon the Allies and the UNITED STATES the care and responsibility of maintaining such an arrangement. In other words, Denmark would be in the regrettable position of being compelled to look for assistance from outside, while the political constellations might be constantly changing.

Historic examples and experiences warn against arrangements of this nature, and this warning it might be well for all parties to recognize. To refer to a league of nations would not give satisfaction, because the very principle on which a league of nations rests, would have been violated, should Denmark receive within its territory a German population.

The whole question is a very difficult one indeed and has, unfortunately, far too often been obscured in the international discussion because of, no doubt, well intentioned but politically not fully competent people's actions and propaganda.

It can therefore not be emphasized strongly enough that Denmark wishes for a solution along purely national lines, not only because this is in accord with its own real feelings and best interests, but because it conforms with the often expressed principles of the Allies and America, that the new national settlements must be just and final.

The Danish nation wants returned to Denmark the Danish parts of Slesvig in such a way as not to give cause for future misunderstandings. This stand is in fact only a continuation of Denmark's neutral policy, maintained during the war with equal loyalty to both sides.

Sønderjylland. XXVII.

En virkelig Øvelse.

Det var i fir' og treds, de tykke hære drog plynrende ind over Danmarks Land.

Der var iblandt dem en, jeg højt vil ære,

Et Minde rejste, alt som bedst jeg fan.

At han mod os og Sværdet maatte bære,

Det siden bragte ham til Banvids Mand.

Ung den Gang han var og slog som de andre,

Han tænkte: den Sag kan vist ej sig forandre.

Vi gif tilbage Lomme efter Lomme,

Mens Lyffen som en Stormflod bruste frem,

Dg knust tilfidsit var alle Forsvars-bomme.

Vi tappert stred, skønt een vi var mod fem.

Dg da i Danmark Krigens Tid var omme,

Han som tilbage til sit Land, sit Hjem, Der lod det: „taaf og til!“ det var Parolen For Folket i det undertvungne Polen.

Da blev af Sorg hans Hjerte tungt i Brystet Ved Tanken paa hans Land og vort, de to.

Han blev af Smerte saadan gennem-rystet,

Han aldrig tro'de mer at finde No. Forgæves ham hans fære Hustru trosted'

Han vanted' fredløs i sit eget No. Han græd i Rætter, dg han græd i Dage,

Dg med ham græd hans Vorn, hans gode Mage.

Da det gif op for ham, det var for-jilde,

At Laarebrød hans Sjæl var bleven mæt.

Vort lille Land, som ingen Uret vilde,

Men bare værre om sin egen Ret, Det blev for ham en stadig Emer-tens Kilde.

Tilfidsit han maatte bort fra denne Klet.

Han rejste bort, da alt var solgt derhjemme,

Men Danmark har han aldrig fun-net glemme.

Tilfidsit i Orienten Manden lauder, Tidned fra Polens Jord han søgte Ny.

Til nyttig Virksomhed han sig op-maander,

Dg her begyndte Livet han paany. Hans Gerning blev en Stationsfor-stander.

Ej langt fra By samt i en liden By.

Dermede leved' han sit Liv i Stil-hed.

Dg effekt blev han for sin store Midhed.

I mange Aar han virkede dernebe, Han aabnede for Kærlighedens Ræd.

Dg naar en rejfende, der kom til Stede,

Fra Danmarks Land, han saa det som et Hæd.

Som Gæst han vil da til sit Hjem ham bede,

Det var som Afbetaling paa en Gæld. —

Dg da med et tilvejs han Flaget sendte,

Hans store Sorg i Byen grant man kendte.

Dg Byen ved, hvad Flaget aaben-barer,

Der vajer stoft i Solskin og i Blæst,

Dg mange Borgere med Flaget spær-er;

De ved en Danffer nu er Byens Gæst.

En Mand's Indflydelse det aaben-barer,

For han vil Byen klædes skal til Fæst.

Som fyrste Byen Danfferne mod-tager,

Indtil de atter bort fra Byen drager.

Vi var paa Rejfen ned til Orienten. Vi fonderferede med muntert Sind. Snart over Stetter, snart langs Bjergskrænter

Sig Toget bugted' som en Slange trind.

Da i Sofia under Togets Venten En Herre ung i vor Kupe steg ind, Han hilste os, da fjernet var hans Gandske

Dg sa' paa Tyf: „Er ej de Herrer Danffe.“

Dg ned hos os han satte sig paa Stolen.

Saaledes melder mig min Hjemmels-mand Hans Ansigt mod os skinnede som Solen,

At møde os, var paa hans Mølle Vand.

„Jeg er ej danff, er barnefødt i Polen, Men jeg har rejst en Del i Deres Land.

Jeg kender lidt til Folk og Sprog og Sæder,

At møde Danffe højt mit Hjerte glæder.“

Den unge Mand, hvis Ansigt mod os glæder,

Var Son af Manden, som jeg stildret har.

Han bad os hjem, han tigger og han møder

Thi det saa meget glæde vil hans Far.

„Kun sjælden her,“ han sa', „vi Danffe møder,

Derfor I smukt en lille Ferie ta'er, Det vil ham glæde gennem mange Dage.“

Til fligt et Venstab let ei findes Mage.

Vi funde ej, vor Plan os ej tilfod det.

Men dette Møde gjorde Hjertet glad.

Ser mødte vi, saaledes vi forstod det,

En Kærlighed, der sluffer Hævn og Gæd,

En Kærlighed, der styrker Gaabet, Modet.

Dg da i Byrans, før vi skiftes ad, Vi sølte klart, hvorledes Hjertet brændte,

En Hilsen varm de Danffes Ben vi sendte.

Historien er romantisk, er fra Østen, Midt i en Verden fuld af Mord og Ran.

Kan til forfagte Sjæl den tale Trøst-ten,

Jeg da realiseret har min Plan. Nu er der saad' med Blod, nu kom-mer Østen,

Forbi er Krigens voldsomme Orkan. Det blev saa stille efter den Ra-balber,

Nu kongetroner, kejsertroner fal-der. — J. C. Gundesen.

Rvitteringer.

Japanmissionen:

Table listing donors and amounts for the Japan Mission, including names like Jør kvitteret, Somers, Wis., Chicago, Ill., etc.

Indianermissionen:

Table listing donors and amounts for the Indian Mission, including names like Jør kvitteret, Somers, Wis., Chicago, Ill., etc.

Table listing donors and amounts for Northfield, Minn., C. M. Olsen, including Tilsammen \$981.80 and Udbetalt til Dato 1235.98.

Indremissionen:

Table listing donors and amounts for the Indremission, including names like Jør kvitteret, Somers, Wis., etc.

Utahmissionen:

Table listing donors and amounts for the Utah Mission, including names like Jør kvitteret, Minneapolis, Minn., etc.

Solekassen:

Table listing donors and amounts for the Solekassen, including names like Jør kvitteret, Somers, Wis., etc.

Til Japan-Børnernes Juletræ i Japan.

Table listing donors and amounts for the Christmas tree in Japan, including names like Jør kvitteret, Somers, Wis., etc.

Til Juletræ ved Indianermissionen i Daks, Oka.

Table listing donors and amounts for the Christmas tree in Daks, Oka, including names like Jør kvitteret, Somers, Wis., etc.

Reformationsgaven.

Table listing donors and amounts for the Reformation gift, including names like Jør kvitteret, Racine, Wis., etc.

Til en Kirke i Sida, Japan.

Table listing donors and amounts for the church in Sida, Japan, including names like Jør kvitteret, Somers, Wis., etc.

Til et Jordstykke i Moie, Japan.

Table listing donors and amounts for the land in Moie, Japan, including names like Jør kvitteret, Cedar Falls, Ia., etc.

Til køb af mere Land ved Stolen.

Table listing donors and amounts for land purchase, including names like Jør kvitteret, Standard, Alta, Can., etc.

Til en Kirke i Pocatello, Idaho.

Table listing donors and amounts for the church in Pocatello, Idaho, including names like Jør kvitteret, Best Omaha, Neb., etc.

Til Raskinfuset.

Table listing donors and amounts for Raskinfuset, including names like Jør kvitteret, Falmouth, Me., etc.

Med Tak modtaget. Otto Hansen, Kæst. f. d. fore. d. ev. luth. Kirke i Amerika.