

## HARDING WILL PROTECT U. S. IN DEALINGS

Assurance Given His Negotiations Will Be Marked by America First Policy.

### CASES INVOLVED CITED

WASHINGTON, March 12.—Definite assurance that the Harding administration will insist on American rights is growing out of the war and peace settlements given in high official quarters today.

This was the first authoritative statement of the policy of the Harding administration touching foreign affairs. It came from the highest possible source.

The policy will be applied to all questions in which the United States now has a voice and in all cases where it is in the American interest will be affected. Specific questions in which the new administration will maintain this policy are:

The Mesopotamian oil question in which the United States is insisting on equal rights,

The controversy with Japan in which the country opposed the Japanese mandate.

The negotiations for disposition of former German cables which have been at virtual deadlock in Washington for weeks with the United States insisting upon an equitable division of these cables.

The fact that the Harding administration would uphold essential points of the Wilson administration's contentions in these matters has been predicted. The statement today, however, was the first formal assurance that this was to be the policy.

It closely follows the development that the United States will be careful in dealing with the allied oil to be put in a position to insist on this.

No decision has yet been reached on the invitation of the council of the League of Nations that the United States send a representative to the next meeting of the council when mandate forms for Mesopotamia and other enemy territory will be considered.

## GERMANS MAY RATIFY STAND ON WAR DEBT

(Continued From Page One.)

Premier Aristide Briand today, "We are not resolved to recede from the line we have chosen."

Referring to criticism that the military and economic penalties against Germany will prove ineffective, the premier said: "They will soon show their efficiency."

The results of the London conference were discussed at a Cabinet meeting this morning when the premier made a report to his colleagues.

The outcome of the London conference is accepted as a big victory for France and for the French policy toward Germany.

Stephen Lauzanne, editor of the *Matin*, pointed out that the amount gained from the seizure of German customs houses and the establishment of a customs frontier along the Rhine will not exceed \$10,000,000, good money (\$20,000,000) and another.

It suggests that the allies extend their sanctions or penalties to include seizure of the coal mines in the Ruhr basin and the great Rhine and forests which are the property of the German government.

It was estimated that not only would the new duties increase the French customs levy to \$50,000,000 gold marks annually, but said that "the moral effect of separating Germany from her richest province would be enormous."

### ALL PEACEFUL IN OCCUPIED CITIES

FRENCH MILITARY HEADQUARTERS, NEUSS, March 12.—Allied military leaders expressed gratification today over the success of their measures to force German obedience to the entente's indemnities decisions.

There has been neither fighting nor firing in the occupied cities of Dusseldorf, Duesseldorf, and Ruhrort, the three German cities that were occupied.

The workers are pursuing their usual routine which was not interrupted by the entrance of allied troops.

### Shamrocks to Be Worn in Irish Relief Work

St. Patrick and the festive celebrations about his natal day will be asked to help in the collection of funds in Indiana for Irish relief.

The Indiana committee, under the direction of J. F. Lucey, national director of the American committee for the relief in Ireland, is sending to all the workers in Indiana and in the State the suggestion of inaugurating a tag day, using as tags green cardboards, cut in the shape of a shamrock, with some old Irish slogan printed on one side and the other.

In all the Catholic churches of Indiana, tomorrow, in the diocese of Indianapolis and Ft. Wayne, an appeal, already received by Bishop Chartland of Indianapolis and Bishop Allender of Ft. Wayne, will be ready, asking Catholics of whatever racial descent to give liberally to the Irish.

### City Buys Oil Close to Pre-War Quotation

The high cost of motor oil will not be quite so high for the city of Indianapolis for the next few months. City Purchasing Agent Dwight S. Ritter announced to day.

An agreement has been effected with a manufacturer of automobile lubricating oil whereby the city will buy from time to time as much as approximately one car load of oil at from 40 to 45 cents per gallon. In December the purchasing department received a quotation of from 70 to 75 cents from the same company, but was able to buy at from 50 to 55 cents elsewhere.

The new price is getting close to the pre-war figure, the purchasing agent stated.

### Rats Used Bankroll to Feather Nest

INDIANA HARBOR, Ind., March 11.—Mysterious robberies in Anthony McQuilkin's soft drink parlor were solved recently when police found a rat nest made of \$103 worth of coins.

McQuilkin had just placed \$92 in a cigar box when he turned to make change for a customer. When he came back the money was gone. Policeman John Bereska lined up everyone in the parlor and searched them. None had even \$20, however. Then a search was made of the entire store, its cellar and garret. The searchers were about to give up when a squeak from a rat was heard. Twelve baby rats were nibbling at the edges of McQuilkin's \$92 roll. They had eaten \$1.67 worth before he rescued it.

ANNOUNCES CARD CARTY.

The Trubadore Club will give a public card party in Musicians' Hall tomorrow afternoon.

## INDIAN ADONIS IS LOVE THIEF, CHARGES BANKER

Named as Co-respondent in Canadian Wilds of Mrs. James A. Stillman.

NEW YORK, March 12.—Photographs and letters seized by armed raiders at Mrs. James A. Stillman's summer camp near Ulman, Quebec, are expected to play an important part when the divorce suit of Mr. Stillman, multimillionaire president of the National City Bank, one of the biggest in America, comes to trial.

Details of the spectacular raid upon Mrs. Stillman's summer camp came to light today following the revelation that the raiding party was made up of armed men from the city. The defendants in the case were residents of the nearby town, where Mrs. Stillman employed, when she learned that her husband had employed a detective agency to gather evidence for his divorce suit.

The exact nature of the photos and letters is a secret and a matter of considerable speculation. Mrs. Stillman was known among her friends as an enthusiastic amateur photographer and frequently took her Juniors about the Canadian camp.

The camp lodge is situated in the heart of a dense wood and its front approach is cross-cut by a small stream which the raiding party had to ford in its secret advance upon the place.

A central heating plant.

The board at the meeting Friday afternoon decided to follow a set of recommendations for sewage disposal plant work to be started next Monday, as outlined by Charles H. Hurd, consulting engineer, former engineer for the Indianapolis Water Company.

Mr. Hurd's recommendations are as follows:

Referring to the building program for the present year which has been discussed in detail from time to time and included in its recommendations, the completion of the entire plant for a period of at least thirty days has been set for August 15.

This is the time of the year when the plant that the excavation of roads through the plant, the removal of work and flood protection along Eagle Creek and the pumping station will be completed.

On the other hand, lead every possible and immediate assistance to duly constituted authorities that no draft dodger or slacker will follow in the steps of Bergold. We want all men guilty of evasion of military duty behind the bars twenty-four hours after their names are announced.

The private collection of garbage best for products, grease and tankage, described in the report for 1919 has increased the receipts of the garbage plant.

The mixing of corncocks and husks with the grease product is the best way to increase the amount of grease.

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