

NO SNAG SEEN TO INTERFERE WITH PARLEY

Negotiations Are Going on
'Promisingly and
Steadily.'

'SNIPERS' DENOUNCED

Special to Indiana Daily Times
and Philadelphia Public Ledger.

By F. W. WILK.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—"Copperheads and snipers go to the contrary, notwithstanding, negotiations concerning the armaments conference are proceeding steadily, satisfactorily and promisingly. Such was the significant comment made to the Times correspondent in a high Administration quarter on the "parliamentary war" sent up from Democratic National headquarters in Washington. The "gas war" is deplored as bad Americanism and criticized as poor party politics, but it has neither disturbed nor unnerved these high officials of the Government who are exerting every power at the United States command to insure a successful issue from the conference. Meanwhile Richard Linticum, director of publicity for the Democratic National Committee, has taken prompt occasion to accuse the committee of responsibility for the split on the conference. The "Linticum manifesto," it appears, was concocted and sent broadcast to 1,000 Democratic daily newspapers throughout the country as a private journalistic "stunt" upon the publicity director's part. It was in no respect authorized by the committee and appears to have been issued wholly without its knowledge. Mr. Linticum, discussing the stern which has arisen around his head—emanating from Democratic as well as Republican quarters—explains that the acts as the Washington political correspondent of a thousand Democratic dailies and 5,000 Democratic weeklies which maintain no representative of their own at the national capital. To these journals he is accustomed to send out a weekly news letter, summarizing political events of the day from the Democratic standpoint. Mr. Linticum asserts that none of the statements in his article on the armaments conference goes beyond what has been published, commonly reported facts, though he concedes he may have laid himself open to censure by declaring the originally optimistic view of the conference "is rapidly changing to a state of pessimism and doubt."

WAR COLLEGE INSPIRATION.
Mr. Linticum adds that he was inspired to issue his bulletin on the conference by President Harding's speech at the Army War College Sept. 1.

"That speech seemed to me, as it seemed to thousands of others," the Democratic publicity director says, "to indicate that President Harding is back-pedaling on the disarmament proposition and knowing that the conference is likely to prove a fiasco, wants to get out from under in good time."

It is notorious that many Democratic leaders disapprove of the Linticum attack on the conference. Senator Underwood, Alabama, Democratic leader in the Senate, is not in Washington and neither is that other Democratic Senator, Pomeroy, Ohio, who also has been mentioned as the representative of the political opposition to be invited to sit on the President Harding's conference delegation. Senator Hitchcock, Nebraska, the ranking Democrat member of the Foreign Relations Committee, is in the Capital and had no hesitation in discussing the affair with the writer.

"This can by no possibility have been an official National Committee communication," said Senator Hitchcock, "because there has been no meeting of the committee which could have authorized or approved it. The general disposition among Democrats is to afford every opportunity for a successful outcome for the armaments conference."

As for the Administration standpoint regarding the conference, it can be asserted authoritatively that both the President and Secretary Hughes as they approach the contemplated parley with fortified hopes and confidence. Interchanges of view are proceeding under encouraging circumstances.

POST EXPECT.

MILLENNIUM ARRIVAL.

President Harding and Mr. Hughes never have imagined, nor ever meant to induce the country to fancy that the millennium would arrive Nov. 12, twenty-four hours after the conference assemblies. Certain inherent difficulties are bound to arise. Some of them will not be easy to circumvent. But to date, the writer is assured, not a single incident has manifested itself which reasonably can be termed a snag. The Administration is content to proceed along the even face of its way, doing the best it can, meeting conditions as they arise and solving every problem that is capable of solution. It is persuaded that when the conference adjourns it will be possible to point to substantial and worthwhile results and that any personal elements or political party sought to poison the atmosphere or prevent results will meet with commensurate rebuke at the hands of the American people.

Washington is gossiping over the possible effect of the Linticum attack upon the chances of Democratic representation on the American armaments delegation. If the attack turned out to be an official act of the Democratic party, doubt widely was expressed whether President Harding would be justified in inviting a member of the opposition to "sit in."—Copyright, 1921, by Public Ledger Company.

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