

## CABINET MAY TAKE ACTION ON GENOA AFFAIR

Final Consideration of Proposal to Accept Bid Scheduled.

## 2 POINTS UPPERMOST

Special to Indiana Daily Times and Philadelphia Public Ledger.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Today's meeting of the Cabinet is expected to give final consideration to the question of the Genoa conference. The conference is scheduled to open six weeks hence. If no final participation is agreed upon, preparation is short. The secret of an impending decision is hermetically kept. But the best-informed opinion in Washington is that acceptance is conditional mainly on two points:

1. Exclusion of soviet Russia from Genoa.

2. Achievement of definite results by the Washington conference.

### OTHER FACTORS ENTER SITUATION.

A variety of other factors enters into the United States Government's consideration of the Genoa invitation, but those are the chief ones. Opinion in Washington has crystallized along the line that the United States cannot consistently sit in conference with soviet Russia at Genoa. The United States, however, bridged or restricted the presence at the conference table of Lenin's delegation when the Red government of Moscow, It might be called de facto or de jure recognition or by some other name, but recognition, in American estimation, it would be. It could not be granted by the United States without stultification of the position laid down by Wilson's administration, which was strenuously maintained by the Harding administration. In no other domain of foreign policy with the exception of league mandates, has the attitude of Secretary Hughes so identically coincided with the attitude of Secretary Colby. Both put soviet Russia outside the pale, as far as the United States is concerned.

American statesmen see little virtue in amicable conditions upon soviet Russia for re-admission into the society of nations. They say there would be a yawning gulf between soviet agreement to conditions and soviet fulfillment of them. The Red record for kept pledges is, in America, estimated pitifully dark. So is their allurement to our authorities in the prospect of "trade" with the soviet Russia. Commercial intercourse with a Russia ruled by Lenin continues to be regarded by American economic leaders as the last word in impracticability. There is no basis upon it, but the economic situation is such that a ban when the State Department is consulted on the subject. The answer is that any American who wants to bargain or haggle with Red Russia must do so entirely at his own risk.

### LENIN SELLS

When Lloyd George and the others at Genoa were asked to sign the Genoa conference decided there could be no effective reconstruction of European economies without inviting soviet Russia. Lenin "sold" the idea he has long and persistently peddled through Europe and through the United States. That idea is that the Red regime now is so invincibly established that there is no longer rhyme or reason to the effort to keep it in the house in economic order without it. That may be Moscow's opinion. It is not the opinion held in official Washington.

American statesmen have other ideas about the Cannes-Genoa business. They see if one of the shrewdest, farthest-reaching plans of Lloyd George, who diplomatic the master of Genoa's strategy, has ever essayed. They discern in the conference project an attempt to recover for British statesmanship the world leadership which the Washington conference gave back to the United States. Great Britain took the baton after America had kept it still last summer. Then President Harding, with his call to the powers to discuss on American soil armament and Pacific questions, got the ball for the United States. France would rather America kept the ball than that it should pass to Great Britain. Hence, if Palmer's significant returns with regard to the Genoa conference, which seem to align him with American policy against soviet Russia. Forty-five nations are invited to Genoa. As host, Italy will be in nominal charge of proceedings.

### GREAT BRITAIN MAY ORGANIZE.

As actual originator of the conference, Great Britain probably would "organize" it. Her prominence in any event, unquestionably would be conspicuous, and possibly dominating. It would not be easy for America to take the ball at Genoa.

There is still another phase of British zeal in connection with the economic conference of diplomats. The Washington arc studies Great Britain's historic policy, since Peter the Great has been based on fear of Russia and the necessity of keeping her, by hook or by crook, weak. Thus, it is suggested, Mr. Lloyd George's purpose in promoting a policy designed to effect the recognition of soviet Russia may be to have and foment counter-efforts within or without Russia to destroy the Red regime. Hence, too, the argument proceeds, the British-German scheme to exploit Russia industrially.

In Washington at the present moment there is apparent evidence of the traditional British policy of maintaining a weakened Russia. The attitude of complete detachment toward Japanese occupation of Eastern Siberia, while British counter-efforts, consistent, proclaim it is interpreted as a political ploy of fixed, imperious British political strategy. A reconstituted Russia, shot off from the Pacific by Japan, suits the British book as completely as a Russia barred from Constantinople and the Dardanelles suits it.

### TRADE RELATIONS

BRITAIN'S DESIRE.

If Mr. Lloyd George had no other motive than faithfulness to the policy of his party, he would for two hundred years and more, these would, therefore, be explanation of his pro-soviet pronouncements. But there are reasons that fit in with his domestic political exigencies as well. Thanks primarily to astute pro-soviet propaganda there is an almost irresistible cry both among British capital and labor for "trade relations" with Russia. So in hallmarking Lenin as an uncompromising Genoa statesman like Hughes, Baldwin, and so on, Mr. Lloyd George is not only vindicating historic British political principle, but hawking to all the powerful element in British politics known, respected and feared as "the man in the street."

It is known all these considerations are being weighed, and carefully weighed at Washington. Much water has flowed under the bridges of the Potomac since we learned our diplomatic lesson in Versailles. This is not the hour when it is proposed to unlearn them—Copyright, 1922, by Public Ledger Company.

## MUSCLE SHOALS DEAL Ready for Signature

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—The contract between the Government and Henry Ford on Ford's offer for the Muscle Shoals (Ala.) power plant, has been completed and will be sent to Ford for signature late today. Secretary of War Weeks announced. The contract was drawn up by Ford's experts and the office of the Judge Advocate General.

## Leaders of Legion



## SHOWGIRL SAYS THREATS MADE BY ATTORNEYS

State Witness in Arbuckle Trial Reverses Part of Testimony.

## MEMORY LAPSE NOTED

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 20.—What effect has the startling lapse of memory of the State's two star witnesses had on the jury now hearing the evidence in the second trial for manslaughter of Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle?

This question was uppermost in the minds of attorneys for both sides today as court convened for the fourth day of evidence taking. Alice Blake, the first witness, was forgetful, but when her memory was refreshed, gave for the State substantially the same testimony she had given at the first trial. However, Zeke Pfeifer, not only forgetful, but actually reversed certain portions of her testimony in addition to being frankly hostile to the State attorneys.

So marked was her amnesia and so persistent her lapse of memory that the State finally sought to have her declared a "hostile surprise" witness, that they might question her under the rough and ready rules of cross-examination. This move failed and the witness was forced to state a statement under duress, that she was threatened while under custody of the District Attorney's office and that she remained in this custody because she was threatened with jail if she did not.

The District Attorney was unable to shake these declarations and he directed that she be held under subpoena, so that it was necessary to call to controvert her statements in the courtroom.

Court opened with a battle over the testimony of Josephine Keza, hotel maid, who told of hearing a woman scream "No, no, my God, no" in room 1219 on the afternoon of the hotel party at which Virginia Rappe became ill, and a man's voice reply, "Shut up." The defense today sought to impeach her testimony through the introduction of a statement made by her before the grand jury, in which she had admitted that, after her testimony fixing the time of the screams at between 2 and 3:30 p.m., a time the defense contends Arbuckle was not even in 1219.

E. Helmrich was expected to testify as the State's finger print expert during which testimony regarding the door of room 1219 with its alleged finger prints will be introduced.

## Woman Fined \$100 for Dry Law Violation

Kate Gibson, 23 Madison avenue, was fined \$100 and costs on the charge of violating the prohibition laws by Judge Delbert O. Wilmett in court today.

Evidence showed that the Gibson woman had sixty-five quarts of home-made beer. It was alleged she had it hidden in a secret compartment.

When police raided the Gibson home, they found two men, one of whom had two cans of beer in his hands. He said the beer had been given to him to take to a sick woman.

A test of the beer at the city chemist's showed it contained nearly 2 percent of alcohol. The maximum allowed by the law is one-half of 1 percent.

The hearings were adjourned to next Wednesday.

## GIRL WITNESS WEEPS AS SHE TELLS OF FIRE

Miss Rae Tatman Testifies Against Negroes Held for Costly Blaze.

Moved to tears as she related the story of a fire which destroyed the home, barn and other property of her father, Miss Rae Tatman presented a dramatic picture in Criminal Court today during the trial of John Whitney, Gust Steets and John Hall, accused of setting fire to a barn under indictment charging them with shooting into a barn while hunting rabbits on the farm of Frank Tatman, 3309 Emerson avenue on Nov. 3, 1921.

Miss Tatman testified the negroes on trial and three others appeared at her home before noon on the day of the fire. She said they had ordered them from the gunner fired hay in a barn which her. She admitted drawing a revolver on the men because she was alone and was afraid.

The theory of the State is the shots from the gunner had hit a barn which spread fire to the house, causing a complete loss. The damage was estimated at about \$20,000.

The men under indictment insisted they were a considerable distance from the barn. They admitted shooting at rabbits, but denied threatening Miss Tatman.

Miss Tatman, on rebuttal, testified she was slightly injured in the left arm when one of the men fired a shotgun.

The case was continued until Feb. 3 to enable both the State and the defense to produce additional witnesses.

## U.S. OFFICIALS SCENT SWINDLE

### Arrest Leaders of Alleged Half Million Mail Fraud.

CHICAGO, Jan. 20.—What Federal officials believe is a half million dollar mail fraud was uncovered by Government agents today with the arrest of three of the alleged ringleaders—Armond H. Rose, Harry Lauter and his brother, Otto Lauter.

The three, according to Government in-spectors, operated as the United Supply Company. Their alleged operations extended, it is alleged, into Detroit, Mich., Omaha, Neb., Tulsa, Okla., San Antonio, and Houston.

Frank W. Hill of the Chicago Association of Credit Managers, supplied the information which resulted in the arrests. He charged the prisoners used names of various reputable firms, established stores in many cities and obtained hundreds of thousands of dollars on fictitious credit.

Chief Postal Inspector A. E. Germer said he already had accounted for \$900,000 worth of merchandise.

"It is one of the biggest mail fraud schemes uncovered in years," he declared.

The hearings were adjourned to next Wednesday.

## King of Sweden Influenza Victim

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 20.—King Gustave of Sweden is ill from influenza, it was officially announced today.

The King had a slight fever and was being administered to by royal physicians.

FIELD EXAMINER ILL.

LOGANSPORT, Ind., Jan. 20.—John H. O'Neal, Washington, Ind., is ill at St. Joseph's hospital here with blood poisoning in his arm, it was reported today.

O'Neal is field examiner of the State board of accounts.

The King, which came as a shock today to Indianapolis friends and relatives, that of Mrs. Harry C. and Bond of Indianapolis, which occurred at 1 o'clock this morning, took place here Sept. 14, 1915. Mrs. Bentley was Miss Marie Lieber, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Lieber, 1530 Park avenue. Announcement of the funeral arrangements will be made later.

Mrs. Bentley's Death Shock to Friends

A death which came as a shock today to Indianapolis friends and relatives, that of Mrs. Harry C. and Bond of Indianapolis, which occurred at 1 o'clock this morning, took place here Sept. 14, 1915. Mrs. Bentley was Miss Marie Lieber, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Lieber, 1530 Park avenue. Announcement of the funeral arrangements will be made later.

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