

# WHEN FRENCH 'LISTEN TO REASON' U.S. IS READY TO AID

American Policy Is Now One of Watchful Waiting Until Invasion of Ruhr Has Either Proven a Success or Failure—Action Is Fraught With Danger.

By FRANK J. TAYLOR

Times Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Whenever the French government will listen to reason on reparations, the American government is ready to step in as mediary to end the French invasion of Germany.

Just as much as the United States could do, without actually suspending relations, has been done to avert the Franco-German crisis and seizure of the Ruhr valley, the President and his Cabinet advisers feel.

Though from now the American policy will be one of watchful

waiting until France has either succeeded or failed in collecting by force from Germany, American officials are not at rest. They look upon the Ruhr invasion as fraught with utmost danger for the world.

However, the United States will not attempt mediation unless the French acknowledge a willingness to accept a reparation sum which Germany can actually pay. Before the Ruhr invasion, American experts said Germany could possibly pay a sum approximating \$12,000,000,000. British and German economists concurred in this.

Now, however, serious doubt exists here as to the ability of the Germans to reorganize their production sufficiently to pay even \$12,000,000,000. The longer the French occupy the Ruhr, the less the Germans can pay eventually, American experts say.

## Ruhr Is Source of Wealth

The explanation of this lies in reports from the Ruhr, which indicate that the most delicate and intricate industrial and economic organization in the world, the Ruhr industrial district, has been out of gear by the French invasion. The Ruhr is Germany's greatest source of wealth, being her center of production, and the principal source of wealth with which to pay reparations.

Comments between the Ruhr and the rest of Germany has stopped, reports show. Officials here fear for the plight of the dense population of the Ruhr district, which produces but one-tenth of the food needed for inhabitants of the region. But one week's supply of food existed in the Ruhr when the French entered. Unless the French are able to feed the population, intense suffering will result, the American Government fears.

"At least 500 men and women have been told to 'light out for the hills,' and have been sent out of their valley to find shelter. The nearest neutral spot is Branson, just across the Mississippi line, forty miles through the mountains.

"The home of practically every striker along the 150 miles of the Missouri & North Arkansas Railroad have been entered and searched for evidence of depredations against the railroad."

Declaring an organization was performed a year ago to stamp opposition to the railroad "which has been practically crippled since June, 1922, when every union man walked out rather than take a decrease in pay amounting to 25 per cent," the Press account says:

## BRUHN ORDERED TO SUPPORT WIFE

## MILK PRODUCTS MERGER FORMED

Fred H. Bruhn, 570 E. Fall Creek Blvd., vice president of J. C. Perry & Co., wholesale grocers, was ordered to pay \$168 a month for the support of his wife, Elmire O. Bruhn, pending trial of his suit for divorce filed Dec. 14, 1922, in Superior Court, Room 2. He was ordered to pay her back bills.

Mrs. Bruhn petitioned for \$250 a month. She told the judge that the rent was several days behind and that she was being annoyed by notes and telephone calls concerning the payment. The judge said he thought \$68 for the rent and \$100 for other expenses, as there are no children, would be ample to support her until the trial in March.

Bruhn filed his suit two days after their separation in December. In his complaint he charges that Mrs. Bruhn "mugged, abused and cursed" him, said she "hated him" and that she made "life a burden."

## WIEN AND MOUNT WIN CONVICTIONS

Two convictions in four blind tiger cases in Criminal Court today were obtained on evidence furnished by Louis Wien and John Mount, special Federal prohibition officers. John Smith, R. R. E., Box 364, was fined \$100 and costs, and John H. Riley, R. R. M. box 273, was fined a like amount and sentenced to thirty days in jail.

Wien and Mount were transferred to Pittsburgh by Washington prohibition authorities early in the week after Sam Koby, saloon keeper, is said to have made an affidavit charging Wien with selling him liquor, which Wien vigorously denied.

The transfer was suspended until Wien and Mount complete their work in pending liquor cases, when Prosecutor William P. Evans protested in their behalf to Washington.

## STUTZ GETS BIG ORDER

The Stutz Motor Fire Engine Company today received a contract for seventeen pieces of fire apparatus for the city of Seattle, Wash. The apparatus will completely motorize the fire department in Seattle.

## HIGH POWERED HOOCH

Quart of Liquid Defies Efforts at Classification.

## AUDITOR DISALLOWS BILL

A reception in honor of Dr. L. C. Trent, recently appointed pastor of the Woodruff Place Baptist Church, will be held Monday evening in the church. Short address will be made by C. S. Dearborn, S. W. Hayward, the Rev. Frank E. Davidson, pastor of the Englewood Christian Church, and Mrs. C. W. Craig. Dr. Trent came to the Woodruff Place Church from Kiowa, Ill.

## Lady Nicotine Has Enemy in Bricklayer



## EIGHT PERISH IN TENEMENT FIRE

By United Press

LAWRENCE, Mass., Jan. 20.—Eight persons perished in a tenement house fire here early today.

Two were injured, one seriously.

The flames swept through a three-and-a-half-story tenement on Elm St.

The dead are: Mrs. Angelo DeGloria and her four children, Rose, 10; Joseph, 8; Angelina, 7, and Mary, 3.

Isaac Reysha, 70.

Romano Reysha, 25.

Mrs. Mary S. Kalid, 55.

The injured are: Angelo DeGloria, broken back, and Joseph Garvey, fireman, broken wrist.

Mrs. DeGloria was carried to safety by firemen but eluded her rescuers and plunged back into the burning building to save her children.

She apparently found the little ones

and attempted to lead them to safety but became lost in the smoke-filled halls. Firemen later found her body with those of the children grouped about her.

DeGloria, trapped on the third floor, leaped from the window. He landed on his back and was rushed to the hospital in a dying condition.

Snow delayed the arrival of the fire department and the building was a mass of flames when it arrived.

The blaze started in a coffee house on the ground floor, cutting off all avenues of escape.

Fifty persons were in the burning tenement. Many of them were crouched in corners awaiting death when the firemen rescuers arrived.

They were led to safety through the smoke-filled halls.

## MORE ON LLOYD GEORGE'S VIEWS

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to adapt his budget to a currency which, while he is sitting down to pen his proposals, has disappeared beyond the horizon before he has risen from his desk.

If the mere threat of force has produced such a panic, what will be the effect of the actual measures? It is safe to predict that the advance of French troops into Germany won't restore the composure of the frightened mark and arrest its flight.

What, then, becomes of the hope of renewed payments of the annuity? At best Germany could only be expected to pay when her foreign trade was so improved that she could provide a margin out of her exports to pay her annuities. Her foreign trade is largely dependent on her foreign exchanges. These are now destroyed beyond prospect of recovery for years.

Britain proposed a voluntary moratorium for a short term of years in order to place Germany in a position where she could at the end of that term pay a reasonable annuity. The French government has in effect substituted a compulsory moratorium for an indefinite period with no prospect of payment in sight.

The only chance of securing an early installment of reparation payments was by pressing Germany to put her finances in order and giving her fair time in which to do so. The only chance of negotiating a loan on German security to assist France to pay for the repair of her devastated provinces and enable her to put her finances in order was by restoring the stability of German currency.

## FRENCH STATEMEN DELIBERATELY HAVE THROWN AWAY BOTH OPPORTUNITIES.

French statesmen have deliberately thrown both these chances away. The effect on the value of their own currency must be grave, and Frenchmen will have to pay an increased cost of living for the venture dictated by shortsighted and short-tempered statesmanship.

When one thinks of the consequences one is driven to ask whether French politicians are really seeking reparations or are pursuing another purpose quite incompatible with the recovery of money payments under the treaty.

This is the wrong road toward reparations. It leads in exactly the opposite direction.

Whither, then, does it lead? There is no doubt its effect will be ruinous so far as German industry is concerned. I have already dealt with its disastrous influence on German currency and with the indirect effect of a rapidly depreciating currency upon German foreign trade. Seizure of the Ruhr mines will have another serious effect.

Even now the result of the compulsory alienation of so much of Germany's coal supply in the Ruhr, in Silesia and the Saar from German industry is diminished German productiveness. The fuel deficiency thereby created inside Germany has been partially supplied by purchases of coal from outside sources. The necessity for providing gold to pay for foreign coal has added considerably to Germany's financial difficulties.

## WILL GERMAN MINERS WORK REGULARLY AND EFFICIENTLY FOR FOREIGN MASTER?

A still larger foreign purchase will be the inevitable result of forcible diversion of large quantities of Ruhr coal to France and Italy, with further financial embarrassments as a consequence.

That is bad enough. But I fear worse. Will the German miners work with the same regularity and efficiency for a foreign master as he does for a German employer? Is there the least possibility of the production being maintained at its present level?

The influence of this added muddle on world trade is incalculable. Nobody gains; everybody is a loser by the move. How is a Germany whose embarrassed finances are made still more involved—how is a Germany whose industry becomes more and more difficult—how is a Germany reduced to despair to be of the slightest use to France, Belgium, Italy or anybody else?

The feather-headed scribes who have advocated this rash policy assume France will be helped because Germany will thus be reduced to impotence. For how long? **DISINTEGRATION OF GERMANY IS NOT AN UNLIKELY CONSEQUENCE OF THIS MOVE.**

I know that it is the expectation. Frenchmen still hanker after the days when the Saxons and Bavarians and Wurtembergers were allies and almost vassals of France against Prussia. **THAT WAS THE LURE THAT LED THE THIRD NAPOLEON TO HIS RUIN. IT IS THE ATTRACTION WHICH IS NOW DRAWING FRANCE ONCE MORE TOWARD A SURE DOOM.**

## HOPELESS TASK TO ATTEMPT RECOVERY OF REPARATIONS FROM DIVIDED STATES

The policy will bring no security to France in the future. It deprives her of all hope of reparations in the immediate present. There will be no longer a German to pay. It would be too hopeless a task to attempt recovery from each of the severed states.

**BUT WHAT OF THE INCREASED SECURITY? NOTHING CAN KEEP GERMANS PERMANENTLY APART. THEY WILL AT THE SUITABLE MOMENT RE-UNITE UNDER MORE FAVORABLE CONDITIONS, FREE FROM EXTERNAL AS WELL AS INTERNAL DEBT. FRANCE WILL HAVE LOST HER REPARATIONS AND ONLY RETAINED THE HATRED OF AN IMPLACABLE FOE WHO HAS BECOME MORE REDOUTABLE THAN EVER.**

How would Europe have fared in the interval whilst France was learning from events what every other country can see now?

## MAN AND WOMAN HELD WHEN WIFE MAKES ENTRANCE

Philadelphiaans Involved in Love Triangle in Court

Here.

"I would marry him tomorrow if he were divorced," declared pretty Mrs. Gretchen Rapp, 25, of Philadelphia today as she walked into the city court room. "But what do I want of a married man?"

Mrs. Rapp was arrested in company with Thomas R. Blensinger, 28, a business man of Philadelphia, at 1 p.m. Friday. Both were fined \$15 and costs in city court on the statutory charge. The additional charges of contributing to child neglect will be placed against Mrs. Rapp, and child neglect against Blensinger in juvenile court, authorities said. However, no affidavits had been filed.

Mrs. Rapp was arrested in company with Thomas R. Blensinger, 28, a business man of Philadelphia, at 1 p.m. Friday. Both were fined \$15 and costs in city court on the statutory charge. The additional charges of contributing to child neglect will be placed against Mrs. Rapp, and child neglect against Blensinger in juvenile court, authorities said. However, no affidavits had been filed.

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