

appealing nation for their decision before war is actually declared. Courts of first instance shall be constituted as follows: Upon notice of resort to arbitration by either party to a dispute, the members of the highest court of each power concerned shall name two of their own number, or any other two persons whom they consider competent, as judges. These shall each name a member of The Hague tribunal, and the last member of the court shall be chosen by lot from those so named, and he shall be the presiding judge, unless he requests that some one else be elected presiding judge. But by mutual consent of all the designated judges the presiding judge may be chosen by them. In such case he need not be a member of The Hague tribunal. There must be an appeal to the high court of The Hague before exercise of the right to resort to arms, for such right shall hereafter be exercised only after a decision by a high court of The Hague tribunal, either upon original hearing of a controversy, or upon an appeal from a commission of inquiry or from a court of first instance constituted as provided herein. Nothing herein shall prevent entire freedom of action by all signatory Powers in a matter which concerns a Power not signatory hereto.

The American plan as a whole comprises, in addition to the foregoing judicial features, provisions for international legislative and executive functions. Congressman Bartholdt, on behalf of the American delegates, brought this part of the plan before the body on the 28th in the form of the following resolutions:

Whereas, The President of the United States, in response to the request of the Interparliamentary Union, has called a second conference of nations to meet at The Hague; and, whereas, the resolution of said Union upon which such action was secured cites among other questions to be considered by said conference "the advisability of establishing an international congress to meet periodically for the discussion of international questions;" therefore be it—

Resolved, that we reaffirm our belief in the wisdom and practicability of said proposition and urgently recommend the same to the said conference of nations for adoption in order that the international judiciary, now existing at The Hague, be supplemented by an international legislature in the interest of justice and permanent peace; and

Resolved, further, that we recommend the following to the consideration of said conference as a basis of organization for and representation in such an international congress, to wit:

An international congress of two houses, a senate and a house of deputies; each nation to have two representatives in the senate and representation in the house of deputies proportionate to its international commerce; each nation to choose and maintain its own representatives in the international congress and to have power of recalling them at any time, the term of office to be eight years unless otherwise fixed by each nation for its own representatives; each member to have one vote; majority to rule in all matters, and concurrence of both houses necessary; each nation to have the right to withdraw at any time from the congress; the territorial and political integrity of each nation represented in the congress to be respected by all nations represented; deliberations of the congress to be confined to matters which directly affect intercourse between nations, and its resolutions limited to the declaration of general rules or principles for the conduct of such intercourse, and these resolutions to be recognized as law by the nations unless they are vetoed by an agreed number of national parliaments; each nation to treat all other nations on equal terms in matters of commerce, whether they be or be not represented in the international congress, except that any nation can raise a commercial barrier against any other nation equivalent to such other nation's tariff wall; while remaining in the congress each nation to have the right to arm itself according to its own judgment; war to remain a lawful mode of action in any dispute, except as the several nations agree to refer controversies to arbitration by special or general treaties of arbitration; the armed forces of all the nations represented to be at the service of the congress for enforcement of any decree rendered by The Hague court according to treaties of arbitration.

After extended discussion, and on motion of Count Albert Apponyi, leader of the Opposition in the Diet of Hungary, Congressman Bartholdt acquiescing, the entire American plan was referred on the 29th to a committee of specialists from the parliaments of the various nations, with instructions to report in three months.

The Norway and Sweden joint commission.

It was announced from Stockholm on the 26th that the following joint commission to negotiate with regard to the dissolution of the Sweden-Norway union (p. 327) had been appointed:

For Sweden—Christian Lundeberg, the premier; Count A. F. Wachtmeis-

ter, minister of foreign affairs; Mr. Staafl, member of the cabinet without portfolio, and Mr. Hammarskjold, minister of education and ecclesiastical affairs.

For Norway—Mr. Michelsen, the premier; Mr. Loevland, foreign minister; C. C. Berner, president of the Storting, and Mr. Vogt, former minister of the interior.

The commissioners were to hold their first meeting at Carlsbad August 31.

Philippine independence.

Renewed evidence of dissatisfaction in the Philippines with American government there (p. 310), came from Washington on the 29th in the form of the annual report of Brig. Gen. W. H. Carter, commanding the Department of the Visayas. Gen. Carter's report is emphatic in its assurance that the islands under his command (lying south of Luzon and north of Mindanao), are still resisting. American papers printed in the Philippines as late as July 29th and just received at the War Department in Washington, tend to confirm Gen. Carter's report. One of them prints an editorial in double column devoted to an argument showing that Gen. Smith's contention that the Philippines were still to be conquered and could be conquered only by the severest methods (vol. v, pp. 227, 232) was and is still correct.

That Filipino sentiment for independence (p. 310) is still strong was evident on the 29th at Manila, when, according to Associated Press reports, "the marble hall of the municipal building was crowded all day with followers of the professional agitators for the independence of the Philippines. They had been invited by Governor General Wright to appear before the visiting Congressmen who accompany Secretary Taft (p. 310). The meeting was called to order and presided over by Senator Scott of West Virginia. The speakers urged the immediate independence of the islands. One speaker, until lately a member of the Hong-Kong junta, maintained that the Filipinos were better fitted for self government than the Greeks, Bulgarians or Peruvians, and would be willing to accept independence under an American protectorate, or a system of perpetual neutrality arranged by the

United States with the leading Powers which would guarantee non-interference on the part of ambitious Powers.

Australian Labor party conference.

From Australia (p. 307) have come more or less unintelligible dispatches regarding the regular conference of the Labor party of that Commonwealth, which met at Melbourne in July. Reports of the local press are now available by mail. At this conference strong efforts appear to have been made to inject into the platform a protection plank, but they failed. It was decided, however, to take a referendum vote of the party on the question of making protection a party doctrine. The most important thing about the conference was its dubious attitude toward socialism. Its "objective" had previously been stated to be "the nationalization of the means of production, distribution and exchange." For this familiar socialist formula, the conference substituted a demand for "the securing of the full results of their industry to all producers, by the collective ownership of monopolies and the extension of the industrial and economic functions of the State and municipality." This clause might be interpreted to refer only to public monopolies, or to include competitive industry, according to the interpreter's attitude toward socialism; but a resolution which the conference adopted, by a vote of nearly two to one, indicates that probably no reaction from or concealing of the socialistic purpose of the party was intended. The resolution was proposed by Mr. Watson, the party leader and recently the prime minister (p. 307), and was as follows:

That the Australian movement be brought into organized relationship with the international movement, and that, with that object in view, steps be taken to secure Australian direct representation at the next international conference.

It is not easy to understand the allusion in the above resolution unless the international socialist movement was meant. And yet Mr. Watson in his speech on the resolution seems to have limited his advocacy of socialism to monopolies; and other important speakers in support of the resolution agreed with him. One of these

was Senator De Largie, from West Australia, who argued that the nationalization of monopolies only, is the practicable policy; and another, Senator McGregor from South Australia, is reported to have —

found it difficult to approach the question coolly. Members were not here to represent the socialist society of Sydney, but the Labor party. They had only been called socialists two years ago, and they had nothing to do with the international socialist movement, but with the Australian labor movement. The true interests of the workers would be advanced by the nationalization of monopolies, and the extension of State or municipal functions.

Not alone were these speeches against the socialist programme, but a plank suggested by the Melbourne branch of the party, which recited that "capitalism is the enemy and destroyer of essential private property," and affirmed "fidelity to the principles of international socialism, as embodied in the united thought and action of socialists of all nations," received no support from the delegates, not a single vote being recorded in its favor.

The platform as finally adopted declared the following "objective":

1. The cultivation of an Australian sentiment, based upon the maintenance of racial purity, and the development in Australia of an enlightened and self-reliant community.

2. The securing of the full results of their industry to all producers by the collective ownership of monopolies, and the extension of the industrial and economic functions of the State and municipality.

The "fighting platform" declares for—

(1) Maintenance of a White Australia; (2) nationalization of monopolies; (3) old-age pensions; (4) tariff referendum; (5) progressive tax on unimproved land values; (6) restriction of public borrowing; (7) navigation laws; (8) citizens defense force; (9) arbitration act amendment.

The "general platform" advocates

(1) Maintenance of a white Australia; (2) nationalization of monopolies (if necessary, amendment of constitution to provide for same); (3) old-age pensions; (4) referendum of Commonwealth electors on the tariff question when the report of Tariff Commission has been completed. Parliament to give legislative effect to the

decision of the referendum vote; (5) progressive tax on unimproved land values; (6) restriction of public borrowing; (7) navigation laws to provide (a) for the protection of Australian shipping against unfair competition; (b) registration of all vessels engaged in the coastal trade; (c) the efficient manning of vessels; (d) the proper supply of live-saving and other equipment; (e) the regulation of hours and conditions of work; (f) proper accommodation for passengers and seamen; (g) proper loading gear and inspection of same; (h) compulsory insurance of crews by ship-owners against accident or death; (8) citizen defence force and Australian-owned navy; (9) amendment of Commonwealth Arbitration Act to provide for preference to unionists and exclusion of the legal profession; (10) Commonwealth Bank of Deposit and Issue and Life and Fire Insurance department, the management of each to be free from political influence; (11) uniform industrial legislation, amendment of constitution to provide for same; (12) civil equality of men and women.

The following independent resolutions, in addition to those already quoted, were adopted:

That this Conference favors the abolition of the maximum age limit of applicants for government employment where ability to do the work in question is shown by the applicant.

That the Conference requests the Federal Labor members to urge the Federal ministry to nationalize the iron industry instead of granting bonuses, as we consider the nationalization of such industry would be to the best interests of the Commonwealth.

That this Conference repudiates with indignation the charges leveled against the Australian labor movement of endeavoring to weaken the sanctity of the marriage tie, and to sap the foundations of religious belief; and we furthermore declare our firm conviction that the success of our efforts to improve the material condition of the community would result in the elevation and not the degradation of marriage, and would enable the sublime teachings of the Founder of Christianity to be brought home as a living reality to those members to whom, owing to the misery and privation in which society, as now constituted, has engulfed them, they remain but a mere abstraction.

That this Conference urge, through their organizations, the support of Australian productions by our own workmen, and that our various governments and municipalities be urged to give preference to the products of the Commonwealth.

The next conference of the party is to be held at Brisbane in 1908.