

AMERICA FIRST TO RECOGNIZE THE NEW RUSSIA

Milukoff Expresses Pride at Fact When Ambassador Francis Calls on New Cabinet.

BRITAIN SENDS MESSAGE

Says Prussian Military Autoc- racy, Sole Barrier to Peace, Will Soon Fall.

EX-CZAR BACK AS CAPTIVE

Great Ovation to Freed Exiles from Siberia—Women to Vote for Constituent Assembly.

PETROGRAD, March 22.—The United States is the first nation to recognize formally the new Government of Russia.

Ambassador Francis made a preliminary call this morning on Foreign Minister Milukoff immediately upon the receipt of instructions from the State Department at Washington. This afternoon, accompanied by his staff, including the naval and military attachés, he went to the Marinsky Palace, where the Council of Ministers was assembled, and made the formal recognition and presented congratulations and felicitations on behalf of the United States. The naval and military attachés appeared in full uniform, while Ambassador Francis and the secretaries wore afternoon dress.

The ambassadorial party was received in the Council Chamber. All the Ministers were present, and stood in a row behind the semi-circular table. Ambassador Francis stepped from the group of Secretaries and addressed the Ministers, saying:

"I have the honor as the Ambassador and representative of the Government of the United States accredited to Russia to state, in accordance with instructions, that the Government of the United States has recognized the new Government of Russia, and I, as Ambassador of the United States, will be pleased to continue intercourse with Russia through the medium of the new Government.

"May the cordial relations existing between the two countries continue to obtain. May they prove mutually satisfactory and beneficial."

The Russian Foreign Minister, Dr. Paul Milukoff, replied for the Ministers. He said:

"Permit me, in the name of the Provisional Government, to answer the act of recognition by the United States. You have been able to follow for yourself the events which have established the new order of affairs for free Russia. I have been more than once in your country and may bear witness that the ideals which are represented by the Provisional Government are the same as underlie the existence of your own country. I hope that this great change which has come to Russia will do much to bring us closer together than we have ever been before.

"I must tell your Excellency that during the last few days I have received many congratulations from prominent men in your country, assuring me that the public opinion of the United States is in sympathy with us. Permit me to thank you. We are proud to be recognized first by a country whose ideals we cherish."

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—The State Department announced tonight that Ambassador Francis had formally extended to the new Russian Government the recognition of the United States. It is believed that this course will bear good fruit in the way of mutual understanding if war comes between the United States and Germany.

But almost more interest is felt in the probability that recognition of the new Russian Government probably opens up chances of the negotiations of a new treaty of commerce and amity between the United States and Russia. Ambassador Francis left here for his post several months ago with explicit instructions to work diligently to this end, but as long as the old régime remained in power he could do nothing.

The old treaty of commerce and amity dates back to 1830, and was denounced by President Taft, when it was evident that Congress was about to denounce it by joint resolution because of Russia's failure to give equal rights to American Jews of Russian birth who wished to return to Russia on visits.

COMMONS CHEER RUSSIA.

Adopt Resolution of Good-Will— Kind Words for Ex-Czar.

LONDON, March 22.—Premier David Lloyd George today telegraphed to the Russian Premier, saying he believed the revolution in Russia was the greatest service the Russians had yet rendered to the Allied cause, and that it was a sure promise that the Prussian military autocracy, the only barrier to peace, would soon be overthrown. The text of the telegram follows:

It is with sentiments of the most profound satisfaction that the peoples of Great Britain and the British dominions have learned that their great ally, Russia, now stands with the nations which base their institution upon responsible Government.

Much as we appreciate the loyal and steadfast co-operation which we have received from the late Emperor and the armies of Russia during the last two and one-half years, yet I believe that the revolution whereby the Russian people have based their destinies on a sure foundation of freedom is the greatest service which they have yet made to the cause for which the allied

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peoples have been fighting since August, 1914.

It reveals the fundamental truth that this war is at the bottom a struggle for popular Government and for liberty. It shows that through war the principle of liberty, which is the only sure safeguard to peace in the world, has already won one resounding victory. It is a sure promise that the Prussian military autocracy which began the war and which still is the only barrier to peace will itself before long be overthrown.

Freedom is a condition of peace, and I do not doubt that as the result of the establishment of a stable constitutional Government within their borders the Russian people will be strengthened in their resolve to prosecute this war until the last stronghold of tyranny on the Continent of Europe is destroyed and free peoples in all lands can unite to secure for themselves and their children the blessings of fraternity and peace.

Andrew Bonar Law, member of the British War Council, on moving in the House of Commons this afternoon a resolution of greeting to the Russian Duma, said:

"Events in Russia have been following one another with such startling rapidity in the last thirteen days that they have arrested the attention of the whole world even amid the greatest convulsion ever brought upon the earth by the action of man.

"What happened in Russia reminds us of the early days of the French Revolution. It is too soon to say all danger is over in Russia. It is too soon to feel confident that the new Government already has laid a foundation upon which, in the language of Burke, 'Liberty will have Wisdom and Justice for her companions, with Prosperity and Plenty in her train,' but it is not too soon for the Mother of Parliaments to send greetings to the Parliament of our allied country. It is not too soon to send a message of good-will to the new Government which is formed with the declared intention of carrying the war to a successful conclusion and which has undertaken the arduous task of driving out the foreign aggressor and establishing freedom and order at home.

"It is not for us to judge or condemn those who have taken part in the government of an allied country," continued Mr. Bonar Law, "but I may be permitted to express a feeling of compassion for the deposed Emperor, who for three years was our loyal ally and had laid upon him by birth a burden which was too heavy for him. We cannot forget that one of the great issues of this war is whether free institutions can survive against the onslaught of military despotism. We cannot but rejoice that in the final stages of the conflict all the allied countries will be under the direction of Governments representing the people."

Former Premier Asquith seconded the resolution, saying:

"Russia has taken her place by the side of the great democracies of the world. We here, in the first and original home of Parliamentary institutions, feel it our privilege to be among the first to rejoice in her emancipation, and welcome her into the fellowship of free peoples."

The resolution was carried amid loud cheers.

The Irish party gave its support to the Russian resolution in a speech by Joseph Devlin.

"The Irish party, said Mr. Devlin, "regards the Russian revolution—striking, noble, dramatic, well-nigh bloodless—as a message of hope to all oppressed peoples and all freedom-loving nations. But it is something more. It is also a warning and a portend of doom to autocracies and tyrannies everywhere.

"We might draw a moral therefrom, but we do not desire to avail ourselves of the opportunity, preferring to let the voice of Ireland join in the united harmony of rejoicing at Russia's emancipation."

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