

BELGIUM FEELS SLIGHTED.

Malmédy Only Territorial Claim Mentioned in Treaty.

Paris, May 2.—The Belgian delegation to the peace conference is expressing dissatisfaction over the terms of the preliminaries for peace as they affect Belgium. None of the territorial claims of Belgium have been granted, except that for Malmédy, in Rhenish Prussia, a short distance south of Aix La Chapelle, the population of which before the war was largely Walloon. Malmédy will revert to Belgium. The territory on the left bank of the Scheldt river and Maastricht and the Limbourg peninsula are not mentioned in the terms.

Of the \$500,000,000 already mentioned as an immediate financial indemnity for Belgium, more than half of the amount has merely been placed to Belgium's credit in allied countries as part payment of war loans. No provision has been made for the recall by Germany of the six billion marks which were left in Belgium, and now are lying in Belgian banks and vaults, bearing no interest and unproductive, as the circulation of the mark in Belgium is not permitted. "The amount of six billion marks represents virtually the total Belgian liquid wealth assets," said a member of the Belgian delegation today. M. Delcroix, the Belgian premier, arrived in Paris this morning, bringing a message of protest from the Belgian senate. He conferred with M. Hymans, of the Belgian peace delegation, who is expected to appear before the council of three to make representations concerning the terms granted Belgium.

Belgium later agreed to the terms stipulated and will sign the peace treaty.

Drink Cures to Discontinue.

Chicago, May 2.—Plans are being made by owners of more than 200 drink cure institutions to discontinue business with the coming of national prohibition, according to officials of institutions here. A few of the places may continue indefinitely as drug cure sanitariums, but a large majority is expected to close within a year. James E. Bruce, an official of a drink cure corporation that advertises it has cured more than 500,000 victims of alcohol, said the prohibition wave had for some time caused decreased business.

"We figure there will be no need for our institutions after the country goes dry," he said. "However, we expect business to increase for a few months right after prohibition becomes effective. But after that it will rapidly decrease.

"A few years ago we had 60 branches in operation throughout the country. Today we have 26. Drug cases constitute about 25 per cent. of our business, the number being about the same as before the Harrison anti-drug law went into effect five years ago. But we do not think it would pay to continue treating drug cases alone.

"Adoption of bone dry prohibition by a number of States has decreased business in many sections. Business also fell off during the war, but last fall it picked up again at about the time of the influenza epidemic and has been fairly good ever since."

An official of one of the oldest chains of drink cures in the country expressed the view their institutions would remain open for at least a year after the coming of national prohibition. He admitted that beyond that the future was uncertain. Two years ago this concern operated 50 branches. Today the number has been reduced to fewer than 20. He said a few of the branches might be continued permanently for drug users who, since the passing of the Harrison anti-law, "are confined largely to the wealthy class and residents of the underworld."

Model Service.

Bishop Patridge is a collector of anecdotes about ministers, and in an anecdotal mood he said the other day:

"I once asked a minister how he had got through a certain service. He answered grimly:

"Well, bishop, the service was soothing, moving, and satisfactory."

"Yes, I said a little puzzled.

"Yes, exactly," said he. "It was soothing because over half the congregation went to sleep. It was moving because half of the other half left before it was through. And it must have been satisfactory, inasmuch as I wasn't asked to come again."—Los Angeles Times.

Too Cruel.

Mr. F. M. B. Fisher reports that in New Zealand some convicts recently went on hunger strike because a band played outside the prison. It seems that their ground of complaint was that this was not included in the sentence.—Punch.

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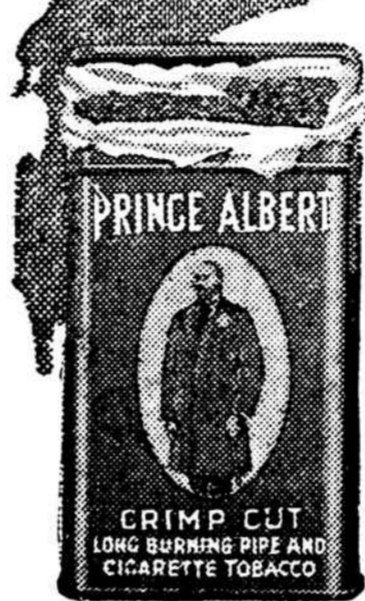
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