

# JUGOSLAVS SEEK WILSON AS ARBITER

Ask Him to Pass on Territorial  
Dispute with Italy on  
the Adriatic.

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## ITALY'S NEW ASIATIC MOVE

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Plans to Occupy the Smyrna Region,  
England, France, and Greece  
Consenting.

PARIS, Feb. 11, (Associated Press.)—President Wilson received tonight a note signed by N. P. Pachitch, the former Serbian Premier; M. Trumbitch, President of the Yugoslav Committee in Paris, and Dr. M. R. Vesnitch, Serbian Minister to France, the three Yugoslav delegates to the Peace Conference, asking him to act as arbitrator in their differences with Italy regarding the frontier along Istria and the Adriatic.

This is in consequence of the President's last interview on this question with M. Trumbitch and Premier Orlando of Italy. M. Trumbitch claimed for Serbia all of Istria, Fiume, and Dalmatia.

President Wilson expressed to Premier Orlando the opinion that an agreement might be reached giving to the Jugoslavs Dalmatia and the eastern part of the peninsula of Istria and by making Fiume a free city. Premier Orlando answered that Italy could not possibly renounce its claims to Fiume without the risk of very grave trouble.

President Wilson, not wishing the Peace Conference to be confronted with the necessity of making a decision that might deeply wound either side, suggested that the Italians and the Jugoslavs discuss their differences and, if they could not agree, that they submit the disputed points to arbitration.

Premier Orlando answered that he thought arbitration was the proper thing before the war, but not after the long conflict that had ended with the defeat of the enemy and the occupation of the territories claimed. He added that he would consider the suggestion and discuss it with his colleagues on the Italian delegation.

No decision is expected from the Italians until after President Wilson returns from America, as Premier Orlando, Baron Salandra, and Signor Barzilai will start for Italy Thursday to attend the reopening of Parliament.

Meanwhile another Italian territorial question has arisen. Italy, at the suggestion of England and in accord with France, has decided to occupy with military forces Adalia and Konieh, in the Vilayet of Konieh, in Asia Minor, south of the territory claimed by Greece, having Smyrna as its centre.

The Greek Premier, M. Venizelos, also looks with favor upon the presence of the Italians in Asia Minor on condition that the islands of the Dodecanesus (Sporades) be transferred to Greece, excepting, perhaps, Stampalia, the smallest of the group, which Italy may keep as a naval station.

Two Italian divisions have been ordered to Rhodes to join another division already there, and the whole force will cross to Adalia as soon as the formalities with Great Britain are completed.

Italian troops are to occupy Baku and Batoum, on the Black Sea, also. Italy will ask for a concession of the mines of Heracleum, the largest in the Near East, located in the Vilayet of Costamuni, on the Black Sea, which are now exploited by French, Russian, and German companies.

The occupation of these points was suggested in order that Italy should be interested in a mandate in Asia Minor.

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