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FRIDAY, 4TH JULY.

[1919.]

THE following cablegrams, which have passed between the Secretary of State for the Colonies and His Excellency the Governor-General in connexion with the signing of the Peace Treaty and the celebration of Peace, are published for general information.

W. A. WATT,  
Acting Prime Minister.

*Cablegram from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated London, 28th June, 1919, 6.50 p.m.*

"28th June.—Peace Treaty with Germany signed by representatives of Allied and Associated Powers and by representatives of Germany to-day at 4 o'clock. Concluding Article of Treaty provides that first *proces verbal* of deposit of ratification will be drawn up as soon as Treaty has been ratified by Germany on one hand and by three of principal Allied and Associated Powers on the other hand, that from date of this first *proces verbal* Treaty will come into force between high contracting parties who have ratified it, that for determination of all periods of time as provided for in Treaty this date will be date of coming into force of Treaty, and that in all other respects Treaty will enter into force for each Power at date of deposit of its ratification. Date of ratification, *i.e.*, of coming into force of Peace Treaty, cannot be stated yet."

*Cablegram sent to His Majesty the King, through the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated 30th June, 1919.*

"Sir Ronald Ferguson with humble duty begs to offer hearty congratulations on the signature of Peace. Your Majesty's gracious message was published, and salutes fired by Your Majesty's ships in Australian waters, under direction, in Sydney, of the Victor of Jutland. Whole people of Commonwealth rejoice in the event, which confirms the victory of Your Majesty's arms, and brings peace and renewed prosperity to the Empire."

*Cablegram from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated London, 1st July, 1919.*

"With reference to my telegram 28th June, Peace Treaty, following Proclamation issued here to-day :—

BY THE KING.—A PROCLAMATION.

GEORGE R.I.

WHEREAS a definite Treaty of Peace between us and the Associated Governments and the German Government was concluded at Versailles on the 28th day of June last :

IN CONFORMITY THEREUNTO we have thought fit hereby to command that the same be published in due course throughout all our Dominions :

AND WE DO DECLARE to all our loving subjects our will and pleasure that upon the exchange of the ratification thereof the said Treaty of Peace be observed inviolably as well by sea as by land and in all places whatsoever :

Strictly charging and commanding all our loving subjects to take notice hereof and to conform themselves hereunto accordingly.

Given at Our Court at Buckingham Palace this first day of July, in the year of Our Lord One thousand nine hundred and nineteen, and in the tenth year of Our Reign.

GOD SAVE THE KING !

*Cablegram from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated 1st July, 1919, 12.35 a.m.*

“ My telegrams June 18th, June 28th, Peace Celebrations, following Proclamation has been issued to-day :—

BY THE KING.—A PROCLAMATION.

GEORGE R.I.

WHEREAS it has pleased Almighty God to bring to a close the late widespread and sanguinary war in which we were engaged against Germany and her Allies :

WE THEREFORE, adoring the Divine goodness, and duly considering that the great and general blessings of peace do call for public and solemn acknowledgment, have thought fit, by and with the advice of Our Privy Council, to issue this Our Royal Proclamation, hereby appointing and commanding that a general thanksgiving to Almighty God for these his manifold and great mercies be observed throughout our Dominions on Sunday, the 6th day of July :

AND for the better and more devout solemnization of the same we have given directions to the Most Reverend the Archbishops and the Right Reverend the Bishops of England to compose a form of prayer suitable to this occasion to be used in all churches and chapels, and to take care for the timely dispersing of same throughout their respective dioceses :

AND to the same end WE DO FURTHER ADVERTISE and exhort the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and all spiritual authorities and ministers of religion in their respective churches and other places of public worship throughout our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and in all quarters of our Dominions beyond the Seas, to take part as it may properly behove them to do in this great and common act of worship.

AND WE DO STRICTLY CHARGE AND COMMAND that the said public day of thanksgiving be religiously observed by all as they tender the favour of Almighty God and have the sense of His benefits.

Given at our Court at Buckingham Palace, this first day of July, in the year of Our Lord One thousand nine hundred and nineteen, and in the tenth year of Our Reign.

GOD SAVE THE KING !

Please arrange for publication at once. It is the wish of His Majesty that all parts of the Empire should, as far as possible, unite in observing 6th July as a day of thanksgiving. Reason for alteration of date from that previously proposed is to approximate day of general thanksgiving as nearly as possible to date of signatures of Peace with Germany.”

*Cablegram from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated London, 1st July, 1919.*

“ With reference to my telegram 1st July, Proclamation general thanksgiving, as date of religious ceremony put forward, thought desirable fix earlier date Peace Celebration generally, and accordingly decided with His Majesty's sanction hold celebrations United Kingdom, Saturday, 19th July, and to have all celebrations on one day.

Hoped that all parts of the Empire will join as far as possible in celebrating Peace on that day, but it is realized of course that this may not be possible in all cases for various local reasons. Much regret that it has been impossible to communicate to you alteration in plans sooner, but decision of His Majesty's Government only reached to-day. General opinion here strongly in favour of earlier date.”