

CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

Name or Subject

D. R. Francis

File No.

Regarding

Date

SEE

Name or Subject

File No.

Distinguished Persons, Letters of

File cross reference form under name or subject at top of the sheet and by the latest date of papers. Describe matter for identification purposes. The papers, themselves should be filed under name or subject after "SEE."



Cat. No. 30-5902

For use in all Filing Systems

CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

File No.

I. M. Francis

Name of Subject

Date

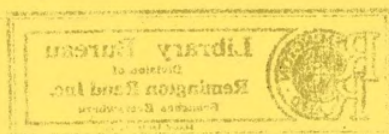
Regarding

SEE

File No.

Name of Subject

Distinguished Persons, Letters of



For use in all filing systems
Cat. No. 80-5002

The cross reference form under name of subject at top of the sheet and by the latest dated papers. Describe matter for identification purposes. The papers themselves should be filed under name of subject after "SEE".

7.14
DAVID R. FRANCIS

ST. LOUIS.

Personal

White Sulphur Springs, W.Va.
April 30th, 1919.

Bolshevism
Dr. Harry Pratt Judson, President,
The University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois.

My Dear President Judson:

Yours of April 28th just received.

I feel that I would be doing injustice to you if I failed to reply that I can't see how it is possible for me to be in Chicago June 10th. I did not realize what a shock the surgical operation had been to my nervous system until within the past two weeks. Have felt unusually well for 24 hours, but within 48 hours the wound has discharged water, notwithstanding the local Doctor examined it and pronounced it absolutely closed; he told me however that I should not be surprised or alarmed if it should reopen and remain open for several days. He furthermore said as Dr. Young told me that I would be at least six months regaining my strength and that the time therefor would be prolonged if I should undergo any exertion.

Have not yet visited my home city, St. Louis, and have planned to leave here May 11th for Washington where I shall spend two days and after remaining two days in New York shall go to my summer home at Rye Beach, N.H. where Mrs. Francis will join me - she has spent a month with me here but returned to St. Louis April 6th. I am still Ambassador to Russia absent on leave which will expire about May 1st when I shall report to the Department for duty and if not assigned any shall go to Rye Beach and await developments.

Much to my regret I feel compelled to decline your very complimentary invitation to deliver an address at the University of Chicago June 10th. Have read with interest your short article in the Review of Reviews. Fail to see how any patriotic American citizen can listen with patience to an address apologizing for Bolshevism. You have a "spell-binder" in Chicago who appears to be going over the country criticizing the Allied Governments for not making favorable response to communications of their representatives in Russia asking what aid the Allied Governments

DAVID M. FRANKS

ST. LOUIS.

White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.
April 30th, 1919.

Dr. Harry Pratt Judson, President,
The University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois.

My Dear President Judson:

Yours of April 28th just received.

I feel that I would be doing injustice to you if I failed to reply that I can't see how it is possible for me to be in Chicago June 10th. I did not realize what a shock the surgical operation had been to my nervous system until within the past two weeks. Have felt unusually well for 24 hours, but within 48 hours the wound has discharged water, notwithstanding the local Doctor examined it and pronounced it absolutely closed; he told me however that I should not be surprised or alarmed if it should reopen and remain open for several days. He furthermore said as Dr. Young told me that I would be at least six months regaining my strength and that the time therefore would be prolonged if I should undergo any exertion.

Have not yet visited my home city, St. Louis, and have planned to leave here May 11th for Washington where I shall spend two days and after remaining two days in New York shall go to my summer home at Rye Beach, W.H. where Mrs. Francis will join me - she has spent a month with me here but returned to St. Louis April 6th. I am still Ambassador to Russia and sent on leave which will expire about May 1st when I shall report to the Department for duty and if not assigned any shall go to Rye Beach and await developments.

Much to my regret I feel compelled to decline your very complimentary invitation to deliver an address at the University of Chicago June 10th. Have read with interest your short article in the Review of Reviews. Fail to see how any patriotic American citizen can listen with patience to an address apologizing for Bolshevism. You have a "spelli-binder" in Chicago who appears to be going over the country criticizing the Allied Governments for not making favorable response to communications of their representatives in Russia asking what aid the Allied Governments

DAVID R. FRANCIS

ST. LOUIS.

HPJ -2-

would extend to the Soviet Government in Russia in the event it should refuse to ratify the disgraceful Brest Litovsk peace. President Wilson in his telegraphic message to the All Russian Soviet Congress which met at Moscow March 12th, 1918, stated that the American Government and the American people sympathized sincerely with the Russian people and while they could not spare any men from the Western front at that time, would render all of the assistance in their power to any organized force that would resist the German advance into Russia. I furthermore authorized this nominal Red Cross representative to say to Lenin that I would recommend to my Government to extend assistance in the shape of munitions, credits, etc. to any organized opposition to the encroachments of the German army. I felt at that time and am not changed since, that Lenin was an Agent of Germany - in fact I did not hesitate after the Brest Litovsk treaty was ratified to make this charge openly and subsequent revelations have confirmed my conviction. Your representative above alluded to has stated with solemnity in all of his addresses that the Soviet Government never lied to him nor broke a promise made to him; which statement neither my experience nor that of the American Consul General at Moscow will endorse. Am pleased to see that according to newspaper reports the Soviet Government in Russia is tottering and I hope the fall will soon occur.

In addition to the above reasons why I cannot comply with your request, I think the time inopportune for anyone connected with the Government, especially with the Diplomatic Service and particularly for one accredited to Russia, to make any public utterance. The Peace Conference has not yet solved the Russian problem nor taken it up; press reports a few days ago were to the effect that the Allied Governments were considering favorably the recognition of the Kolchak Government at Omsk but the Italian controversy coming on soon thereafter and now the League of Nations question, seem to have overshadowed the Russian problem, which will be reached by the Peace Conference probably very soon; and a public utterance by myself previous thereto might complicate the situation or at least embarrass our delegates in the Conference. I have said frequently, and now repeat it, that European peace is impossible with chaos prevailing in Russia. In fact, I do not see how European Peace can be brought about without the recognition of a well established Government in Russia, which has been a menace for generations past; Russia's inertia has been feared by diplomats and governments in Europe for 50 years; Russia has suffered defeat

ST. LOUIS.

DAVID R. FRANCIS

ST. LOUIS.

HPJ -3-

has suffered defeat in every war in which she has engaged for sixty years or more with the exception of the Turkish war in 1877, but her immense population, her enormous area and her immeasurable resources have enabled her to withstand all the defeats she has encountered, and have caused her to be reckoned with before any agreements concerning the balance of power have been entered into. I have read somewhere that General von Moltke said upon one occasion: "Russia always arrives too late, and is in too great numbers when she does arrive" - or words to that effect; the epithet of a "steam-roller" has been aptly applied by someone in European Politics. At the same time, I have not despaired of Russia. I think the workmen and uneducated peasantry of that afflicted country are tiring of Bolshevism, which they followed when they were wearied of war and desired peace, and were enticed by false promises of bread and peace, and cessation of work and in fact luxuries extended to them by the Bolsheviks. The Slavs are not a cruel race and the women especially have kind hearts and keen perception but they were misled by false promises, which should not surprise us as they had been under an autocratic rule for centuries and 90% of the one hundred and eighty million people were uneducated, had seen their sons and husbands lead to slaughter without arms or ammunition and were told the sacrifices they were called on to make were for territorial conquest to the end that the Czar might have greater area to rule over and greater money at his command in order to confer more favors on the nobility.

I feel that my task in Russia has not been completed and that I would be derelict if not cowardly to refuse to return there if there is possibility for a constituent assembly which will select a form of government preferred by the Russian people and Kolchak has stated and reiterated that that is the sole object of his efforts. As I testified before the Overman Committee of the Senate, in my judgment, not ten per cent of the people of Russia favor the Soviet Government which maintains itself in power by a reign of terror.

I did not intend to write to you thus much when beginning this letter but as I cannot accept your invitation, thought would give you some of my views on the Russian situation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "David R. Francis". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "David R. Francis".

DAVID M. FRANCIS

SECRET

BT - 2

has suffered defeat in every war in which she has engaged for thirty years or more with the exception of the Russian war in 1877, but her immense population, her enormous area and her immeasurable resources have enabled her to withstand all the reverses she has encountered, and have caused her to be reckoned with before any other power concerning the balance of power have been defeated. I have read somewhere that General von Moltke said upon one occasion: "Russia always arrives too late, and is in too great numbers when she does arrive" - a words to that effect; the opposite of a "steam-roller" has been aptly applied by someone to European politics. At the same time, I have not despaired of Russia. I think the workmen and uneducated peasantry of that afflicted country are stirring to Bolshevism, which they followed when they were misled of war and peace, and were enticed by false promises of bread and peace, and cessation of work and in fact, a further extension of their toils. The slaves are not a cruel race and the women especially have kind hearts and a deep perception but they were misled by false promises, and should not be misled again. I think the Russian revolution is a great rule for our times and that of the future. It has led to people were weakened, and seen their home and had the conditions slaughter without any compensation and were told the revolution they were called on to make were for territorial conquest to the end that the East might have greater access to rifle over and over money at the cost and in order to conquer more favor on the nobility.

I feel that my task in Russia has not been completed and I would be delighted if I could go back to Russia to continue my work. It is possible for a commitment essentially which will allow a man to government preference by the Russian people and I think that I feel that I have been able to do the whole of this effort. As I feel that before the German Committee of the Senate, in my judgment, not only per cent of the people of Russia favor the Soviet Government which maintains itself in power by a reign of terror.

I did not intend to write to you this morning when beginning this letter but as I cannot accept your invitation, I thought I would give you some of my views on the Russian situation.

Yours sincerely,



Chicago, May 5, 1919

My dear Mr. Ambassador:

Your favor of the 30th of April was duly received. Of course I fully appreciate the situation, and shall reluctantly turn somewhere else for our address. I see that it would not be advisable for you at this time to speak on Russian matters. We have a person in this city (don't regard him as a representative of Chicago or anybody in Chicago) who is conducting a Bolshevist propaganda on the pretense of its being something else. It is partly for that reason that I was anxious to have here in Chicago an authoritative statement from somebody of weight which would cover the ground. I sincerely trust that these criminals will be driven out of Russia this year. If we are correctly informed, the Siberian troops are making progress, and I hope that the

Chicago, May 8, 1919

My dear Mr. Ambassador:

Your favor of the 30th of April

was duly received. Of course I fully appreciate the situation, and shall reluctantly turn somewhere else for our address. I see that it would not be advisable for you at this time to speak on Russian matters. We have a person in this city (don't regard him as a representative of Chicago or anybody in Chicago) who is conducting a Bolshevik propaganda on the pretense of its being something else. It is partly for that reason that I was anxious to have here in Chicago an authoritative statement from somebody of weight which would cover the ground. I sincerely trust that these criminals will be driven out of Russia this year. If we are correctly informed, the Siberian troops are making progress, and I hope that the

the French and British will continue supplying those troops as well as all others operating against the Bolsheviks the material needed for a successful campaign. Until Bolshevism is overthrown in Russia there will continue to be a serious menace to peace and order through the rest of the world. I hope that your health will allow you to return to Russia when a stable government is established there, so that you may finish your task on behalf of our Republic.

With cordial regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

H.P.J. - L.

Hon. David R. Francis
White Sulphur Springs
West Virginia

the French and British will continue supplying those
troops as well as all others operating against the
Bolsheviks the material needed for a successful campaign.
Until Bolshevism is overthrown in Russia there will continue
to be a serious menace to peace and order through the rest
of the world. I hope that your health will allow you to
return to Russia when a stable Government is established
there, so that you may finish your task on behalf of our
Republic.

With cordial regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

H.P.L. - L.

Hon. David R. Francis
White Sulphur Springs
West Virginia