

THE LITERARY DIGEST

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A NEW FOREIGN POLICY FOR FRANCE—America's "actual" abandonment of the Treaty of Versailles is counted as a contributory cause in some quarters for the "visit of courtesy" of Mr. René Viviani to Washington, and certain French editors appear as a kind of salvage corps with suggestions about a new foreign policy for France. Among the most definite proposals is that France should be the link between the democracy of Great Britain and that of the United States, as is outlined in the *Paris Matin*, where the hope is expressed that the journey of Mr. Viviani will prove to be the first manifestation of the new policy. Instead of setting things forward, we are told, the Treaty of Versailles has put them back, and it is recalled that on the morrow of the armistice France had a choice of two foreign policies. She could have taken her guaranties in Germany, namely, the reorganization of the Empire, the autonomy of the Rhineland, general disarmament, money guaranties, duties, railroads, etc. Or she might have the joint guaranty of her Allies for indispensable reparations and the defense of her frontier. "Of the two policies, I chose the second," declared Mr. Clemenceau with confidence, and "I am sure of the entire cooperation of our Allies." As a matter of fact, France has got nothing "one way or the other"; but to concern itself only with the immediate present, this Paris daily proceeds:

"Now that the work of Versailles is finally repudiated in America, we must get back to reality and reason. It is useless to count upon an alliance, so let us endeavor to organize cooperation. Between the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon family, which are separated by so many interests, France should form the connecting link. Our common claims against Germany will oblige us to maintain in the coming year a closer and closer alliance with England. Such a policy would not perhaps be without danger for us and for the peace of the world if at the same time we were not assured of a close understanding with the United States. France alone, through the warmth of her feeling and her unselfishness, can bring about this association of the three great democracies of the world."

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