

The Evening Times Star

VOL. XV, No. 93. PAGES ONE TO EIGHT.

ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 1919

SIXTEEN PAGES—ONE CENT.

Ebert Government Turned Out; Spartacans In Control

Extremists Gain Upper Hand In Berlin, Say Latest Reports

New Revolutionary Government Proclaimed; General Strike Declared Ordered for January 19; Intention of Preventing Elections to National Assembly

Paris, Jan. 9.—(Havas Agency)—The Ebert-Scheidemann government in Germany has been overthrown, the extremists having gained the upper hand in Berlin, after sanguinary fighting, according to the latest German advices received here.

A new revolutionary government has been proclaimed, composed of Independent Socialists.

Some of the government troops are reported to have gone over to the rebels, and the Spartacans now hold the principal points in Berlin.

London, Jan. 8.—Negotiations between the government and the revolting elements in Berlin were in progress all day long on Tuesday, according to Copenhagen and Amsterdam dispatches received here tonight, but no definite result was apparent.

The Spartacus group, the dispatches show, have proclaimed a general strike for January 19. The Spartacans declare they will prevent the elections to the national assembly by all possible means.

Paris, Jan. 9.—(Havas Agency)—A general strike has been declared by the Spartacans in the workshops at Berlin, according to advices received here. The strikers are reported to have smashed the public buildings there.

Paris, Jan. 9.—(Havas Agency)—The German government has ordered the arrest of the Spartacans, who have invaded the provinces of Posen, according to the Reuters Gazette, which says that there is hope that an understanding that will end the fighting will be reached.

Civil War Spreading. Paris, Jan. 9.—Civil war is spreading to other parts of Germany and parts of the Polish provinces and Bavaria are now reported to be involved. It is reported that Gustav Noske, the former minister in chief of the German government, will lead new forces against the Spartacans in an attempt to regain control of it. A desperate reaction by the more conservative elements is expected.

The casualties in the Berlin fighting are reported to have been heavy. The Independent Socialists said to be at the head of the new government are George Ledebour, Herr Liebknecht and Herr Tiek.

Dr. Karl Liebknecht, the leader of the Spartacans, is continuing his activities (presumably in an effort to form a government of his choosing) in Berlin.

Paris, Jan. 8.—Series of demonstrations in sympathy with the Liebknecht movement in Berlin have taken place in Brunswick and Munich. In the Bavarian capital several persons were killed and wounded in street riots.

Amsterdam, Jan. 9.—Severe fighting in which artillery was employed took place in Berlin yesterday. The Spartacans renewed their attempts to seize the chancellor's palace, but were driven back with the loss of thirty killed and forty-five wounded.

London, Jan. 9.—New light is thrown on the situation in Berlin in a dispatch to the Daily Telegraph from its Berlin correspondent who says he hears that the confusion in the capital and plans for a Bolshevik coup are being carried out in other parts of Germany, were carefully pre-arranged.

His information is that, while many of the soldiers' councils in Berlin were declaring their allegiance to the Ebert government, they were at the same time putting in motion a revolutionary movement to put in motion whenever military forces strong enough for their purposes might be available.

This is solely what occurred and it was brought about in great measure by the method employed in the demobilization of German armies. This operation was so conducted, the correspondent says, that troops who left the colors consisted exclusively of those who were not affected to any extent by the revolutionary spirit, while the bulk of those not yet demobilized are revolutionists and are now adherents either of the Spartacus League or of the Independent Socialists. So what remains of the German army is largely a red army.

The manoeuvre had special success in Brunswick, where the soldiers' and workmen's council is wholly Spartacans in composition. It holds the reins of power, and has declared its intention to ignore the national assembly. The correspondent says he has reason to believe that this machievellian scheme has worked in the organization of the Berlin coup.

Loosen Blockade To Get Relief To Czechs, Poles and Russians

Paris, Jan. 9.—The representatives of the Allied nations here intend to give immediate consideration to the question of mitigating the severity of the blockade of the Central Powers, according to indications today. Such mitigation, it is pointed out, would be granted to admit of the passing of food supplies for Czechoslovakia, Poland and sections of Russia and other territory which it is desired to reach, and which cannot be reached except through territory which the Central Powers are holding.

Shipping At New York In Grip of Strike

Leaders Say 70,000 Longshoremen Will be Called Out If Necessary—Halifax Looking for Benefit to That Port

PEACE TREATIES LAST ITEM ON THE SCHEDULE

Outline of Procedure Now Being Discussed in Paris

CONFERENCE TODAY POSTPONED

Lloyd George Held in England by Cabinet Re-construction—Informal Meeting to Clear up Some Matters Takes Its Place

Paris, Jan. 9.—(By the Associated Press)—Premier Wilson's conference with the premiers of Great Britain, France and Italy, which were to open today, have been delayed and will probably not begin before early next week.

Lloyd George is detained in London by the reconstruction of his cabinet. Premier Orlando of Italy will probably return to Rome, where his presence for forty-eight hours is necessary because of matters under consideration by the Italian parliament.

There will, however, be a meeting today at the office of Foreign Minister Pichon, attended by Mr. Wilson, Premier Orlando and Japanese representatives, but it will be informal because of the absence of Lloyd George, although British representatives will probably be present.

It was considered best to hold the meeting and clear up some preliminary points, and it is believed important details of procedure will be settled. If this is done the delegates will probably be in position when Lloyd George arrives, to complete the preliminary work rapidly and clear up matters for the opening conference on Monday and Tuesday.

At a meeting of the French cabinet today it is probable that President Poincaré will nominate the French delegates to the peace congress.

The procedure now being discussed is roughly as follows: First—a general agreement between the United States and the British delegates for the creation of a league of nations, or similarly machinery to enforce the terms of peace and preserve it.

Second—The setting up of new independent states growing out of the war.

Third—The assessment of damages and indemnities and the manner of their payment.

Fourth—The conclusion of peace treaties with the Central Powers.

The peace treaties may be left to the last because none of the agreements can bind the Central Powers, unless, in the meantime, they have established governments which satisfy the peace congress as to their stability and purpose of carrying out the treaties made.

French Delegates. Paris, Jan. 9.—The French delegates to the peace congress, it is understood, will be Premier Clemenceau, Foreign Minister Pichon, Finance Minister Ribot, Colonial Minister Simon and Andre Tardieu, French high commissioner to the United States. The technical representatives will include Marshal Poch for military matters, and Leon Bourgeois for the subject of the society of nations.

LORD CECIL TO WASHINGTON?

Said He Will be Successor To Earl of Reading

Paris, Jan. 9.—The Earl of Reading was not expected to Washington as British high commissioner to the United States, according to a London dispatch to the Echo de Paris. It is said that Lord Robert Cecil will succeed him.

CALL FOR HELPERS IN SPHAGNUM MOSS WORK.

The Red Cross Sphagnum Committee need at least 1,000 persons to help with the preparation of sphagnum moss for surgical dressings. Thousands of badly wounded soldiers are in the British hospitals at present, and many of them will be there for months. The moss dressings are cooler, more absorbent and much more comfortable than the cotton dressings, and the British authorities have asked for far greater quantities than we can possibly send. Every woman and girl who can give an hour or two should help. Go to 72 Union street any time from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., and you will be shown what to do.

MUST KEEP A STRONG ARMY ON THE RHINE

LAND AND SEA FORCES

Official British Statements On Demobilization

“War Not Over and no One Can Tell What Germans Will do Nor Whether They Will Agree to the Peace Terms to be Imposed”

London, Jan. 9.—The following is the text of an official statement issued last night regarding demobilization:—

“The prime minister has been giving careful personal attention to the speed at which the process of demobilizing the army is maintained. He considers that his first duty is to make sure that the fruits of victory which have been won by the sacrifice of so many lives and by so many hardships are not jeopardized by any apparent weakness on the part of Great Britain during the critical months of the peace negotiations.

“For this purpose it is imperative that we should maintain a strong army on the Rhine, and, of course, necessary services behind the front both in France and at home.

“Although the fighting has stopped, the war is not over. The German arm will be strong and unless in order that a firm settlement may be made with the enemy and that our country may exert its proper influence among other nations at the peace conference.

“Demobilization cannot be carried out in any way that would undermine the military strength of Great Britain until the government is satisfied that the peace is permanent and that the terms of the peace are such as to be in the interests of the world and of the peace of Europe.

“Everything possible will be done to remedy individual grievances when presented by the authorities in order that the men who have fought and shed their blood in this war will rightly hold the government in respect. If, after all possible work they have done, it allowed the result to be frittered away. And the nation as a whole has unmitigably expressed its sentiments on this point.”

The Navy. Paris, Jan. 9.—The admiralty announces that it cannot be expected that complete demobilization of the navy and the army will be completed by the end of the year. It is said more than 1,000 tons of dynamite blew up. No details are available.

THOUSAND POUNDS OF DYNAMITE BLOWS UP; PLANT WRECKED

Johnston, Pa., Jan. 8.—Five, followed by several, destroyed the plant of the G. R. McAbee Oil and Powder Company at Johnston, Pa., last night, according to reports received here. It is said more than 1,000 pounds of dynamite blew up. No details are available.

WAR LOAN CERTIFICATES STOLEN FROM THE FRENCH MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Paris, Jan. 8.—The newspaper report theft, from the ministry of finance, of several provisional certificates of the last loan which had been converted into definite scrip and the first coupons cashed. The theft amounts to tens of millions of francs of scrip, according to L'Intransigeant.

MOTHER AND BABE IN CHELSEA MURDERED

Chelsea, Mass., Jan. 9.—Mrs. Alice Smith and her year-old son were found dead from knife wounds in their home yesterday. Vesta Clark, a merchant seaman, was arrested, charged with their murder. He had attempted suicide by shooting.

FULL FARE FOR SOLDIERS ON TRAINS AFTER JAN. 10

G. W. V. A. To Take up Matter in Regina. Regina, Jan. 9.—Soldiers in uniform will have to pay full railway fare after January 10, according to information given out by the ticket agents here today. No reason is given for the change and the G. W. V. A. state that an inquiry will be asked.

MOTION PICTURE BASED ON WHAT CANADA DID IN THE WAR

Toronto, Jan. 9.—Recent agitation all over Canada for more Canadian motion pictures and less glorification of other nations and their doings appears to be bearing fruit.

It is announced here today that a big production costing a small fortune to organize and film, and based entirely on Canada's achievements in the great war, is soon to appear in Canadian cities and towns. The assurance is given that this is but the first of a series of new pictures bearing upon Canadian subjects.

FERRY RUN WITHIN THE APPROPRIATION; SMALLER ESTIMATES FOR NEW YEAR

Figures Submitted by Commissioner Bullock Today; Provision Made for Increases in Salaries; Committee of Ladies to be Heard

In spite of increased costs of operation and maintenance the ferry department closed the year 1918 within its appropriation, and the 1919 estimates will require an appropriation of \$2,000 less than last year.

Estimated figures were presented by Commissioner Bullock in submitting his estimates to the common council in committee this morning.

The 1919 estimates include a substantial addition for increased salaries which received tentative approval by the committee this morning. The estimates were approved for presentation to council with the understanding that the figures for all the departments should be completed before the council would pass finally on any of them.

Mayor Howe presided and Commissioners Fisher, Bullock, Jones and Thomson and the common clerk were present.

In order to clear up the way for the completion of the ferry estimates, Mr. Bullock brought up the petition of ferry employees for increases in wages averaging \$20 a month. He recommended an increase of \$10 each, making the total increase in the year's budget \$3,386.

Mr. Fisher suggested delay until the whole budget was presented and Mr. Bullock took up his estimates.

This is the first time, in many years, that the commissioner says in which the department could report all bills paid when the books closed for the year, with the exception of one \$4 item. This was accomplished in spite of \$25,556 expended for extra and unforeseen costs during the year.

The running expenses for the ferry department in 1918 were \$20,272.22. For 1919, owing to increased cost of labor, material, etc., the estimated expenses would be about \$100,000. He had wished to include the charge of \$11,200 for interest and sinking funds, but the controller he advised against this, as he hoped, however, to do so in 1920. The estimates follow:

Ludlow Estimates	
Propeller, steel	250.00
Hotwell steel plate	400.00
Tail shaft	700.00
Painting top work, cabins, hull and decking	3,000.00
Cleaning boilers and overhaul machinery	6,000.00
Governor Carlson	700.00
Tail shaft	100.00
Two ventilators for engine room	100.00
Painting top work, cabins, hull and decking	1,500.00
New deck where needed and sheathing	1,500.00
New gear to fit up life boat	100.00
New steel fresh water tanks	1,500.00
Cleaning boilers and overhaul machinery	3,000.00
Heater in pilot house, brass pipe	200.00
Heater in cabins, iron pipe, etc.	300.00
East Toll House	300.00
Changing street entrances	400.00
New gravel road and repairing slates	600.00
Cleaning and painting, etc.	400.00
West Toll House	300.00
Cleaning and painting, etc.	200.00
Painting west side	2,500.00
New boat, oars, etc. for use around boats, etc.	75.00
Gear to hold steamers to the boats	300.00
Taking out and fitting circle float, east side	700.00
Taking out and fitting circle float, west side	700.00
Planning for east and west floats, 20,000 lbs.	7,500.00
Uniforms and caps for employees	

WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stewart, director of meteorological service.

Synopsis.—The area of low pressure which was near Lake Superior yesterday has passed to Quebec and a moderate cold wave has come into Ontario from the north. The weather continues mild to the westward of Montreal.

Colder. Maritime.—Fresh to strong southwesterly winds, cloudy and mild with local rain; Friday, westerly winds, fair and cooler; New England.—Snow flurries this afternoon and tonight, colder tonight; Friday fair and colder; cold wave; strong southwesterly winds, shifting to northerly gales.

Proprietor: J. FRANKLIN BELL. Major General J. Franklin Bell, commander of the department of the east, died last night of heart disease. He was sixty-three years old.

Phenix and Phordhead WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stewart, director of meteorological service.

Synopsis.—The area of low pressure which was near Lake Superior yesterday has passed to Quebec and a moderate cold wave has come into Ontario from the north. The weather continues mild to the westward of Montreal.

Colder. Maritime.—Fresh to strong southwesterly winds, cloudy and mild with local rain; Friday, westerly winds, fair and cooler; New England.—Snow flurries this afternoon and tonight, colder tonight; Friday fair and colder; cold wave; strong southwesterly winds, shifting to northerly gales.