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WEATHER—FAIR

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ANOTHER BIG OFFENSIVE BY ENTENTE ALLIES POSSIBLE

MILITARY COUNCIL HELD IN LONDON

David Lloyd George and His War Cabinet Confer With British and French Commanders in Chief on Situation--Secret Meeting Declared to Have Been "Important" by Official.

LITTLE FIGHTING EXCEPT IN ROUMANIA, WHERE RUSSIANS SUFFERED HEAVY CASUALTIES IN TWO ATTACKS DELIVERED AGAINST GERMAN LINE, ACCORDING TO BERLIN—FRENCH AND BRITISH SUCCESSFUL IN FRANCE.

There is a possibility that another big offensive by the Entente Allies in Belgium and France is in contemplation. A two days' conference has been held in London between Premier Lloyd George and his war council and the British and French commanders-in-chief. While nothing has been made public concerning the conference from official sources, except that it is described as "important," an official asserts that it differed from the conference recently held in Rome in that military instead of diplomatic questions took precedence.

CONFINED TO ROUMANIA.

Aside from Roumania, quiet continues to prevail on all other fronts, where there have been only bombardments and operations by small detachments. No mention is made by either Berlin or Petrograd of the battle begun last week in the Riga region, and which for several days had seemed to be decreasing in intensity. Berlin reports engagements south of Smorgon, which lies between Vilna and Minsk.

Hard fighting continues in the region of Vadenia, southwest of Galatz, in the Roumanian theatre. The line on both sides of Pudent suffered heavy casualties in two attacks delivered against the German line, according to Berlin. In one of the attacks Russian detachments entered German trenches, but later were expelled. Another Russian attack was delivered against the Teutonic Allies between the Kaschub and Schitzka valleys. It also was repulsed, the Teutons taking two hundred men prisoner.

Swedish Situation.

The King of Sweden, addressing the Riksdag said Sweden had been able thus far to avoid being drawn into the war, but that the Swedish people could not shut their eyes to the profound gravity of the present hour. He asked the Riksdag to collaborate with the government for the strengthening of the national defence.

The Swiss federal council has ordered the mobilization, January 24, of the Swiss second division and contingents of other divisions. The announcement says Switzerland recently had been able to reduce considerably its forces on the frontier, but that now it was considered necessary to take more extensive measures of precaution.

German Repulsed.

London, Jan. 17.—The official statement from British headquarters in France, issued last night, reads: "A rather spirited artillery action took place on the Somme front, northeast of Verdun, and in Lorraine. A surprise attack carried out by us against the enemy trenches east of Vic-Sur-Aisne was completely successful."

French Successful.

Paris, Jan. 16.—The communication issued by the war office tonight reads: "A rather spirited artillery action took place on the Somme front, northeast of Verdun, and in Lorraine. A surprise attack carried out by us against the enemy trenches east of Vic-Sur-Aisne was completely successful."

The Belgian communication: "There was slight artillery activity around Dixmude and Steenstraete; quite intense in the direction of Het Sas."

Berlin, Jan. 16, via Sayville.—The war office announced tonight that engagements were in progress south of Smorgon on the Russian front. The statement says: "On the western front there was no important action. On the eastern front engagements developed south of Smorgon."

TWENTY C. G. R. TRAIN CREWS WANTED FOR DUTY IN FRANCE

Moncton, N. B., Jan. 16.—Twenty train crews of the C. G. R. to volunteer for service on the new military road in France are called for by an official circular issued today from the office of the general manager here. The circular, No. 35, which is self-explanatory, follows: "These railways are sending three hundred miles of rails and twelve hundred switches to the front to be used in the construction of a railway and the necessary terminals for the handling of supplies, munition and men between the rear and the war zone. This railway is being built by and under the supervision of the Canadian Railway Construction Corps, and sufficient engines and cars are being sent from this side to equip same."

Twenty Full Crews. "The army council have asked for the assistance of the Dominion government in manning this new military road in France, and the Canadian Government Railways are asked to supply twenty full crews, each crew to be composed of one engineer, one fireman, one conductor and two brakemen. "In order that each superintendent's

district may be represented, I am asking the officers on each district to arrange for the recruiting of two crews. These men, of course, will be volunteers between the age of twenty-one and forty-five.

Enlist as Soldiers. "They will enlist as soldiers and undergo a brief period of military training, with the understanding that their employment will be the railway work above outlined, and with the further understanding that they will receive wages made up of military pay, supplemented by railway pay equal to their present pay, determined on the basis of one hundred miles or ten hours for each day that they are in military service; also that their seniority, provident fund and insurance association standing on these railways will be maintained during their leave of absence on this most important work in which the road employees on these railways can render so great assistance to the Empire, and who will, I hope, form a body of men of which all employees on these railways will be justly proud."

"(Signed) F. P. GUTELIUS." The number of volunteers is expected to far exceed the demand for men for this work.

BRITAIN CALLS MORE MEN TO JOIN COLORS

London, Jan. 17.—Important measures for augmenting the British military strength are announced. Half the men under the age of 26 who are now employed in agricultural work are to join the colors. A number of men under thirty years of age, who are engaged in shoemaking, also have been summoned.

The official announcement of the call of the men promises farmers that arrangements will be made, as quickly as possible to supply them with several thousand men from the exempt military class to replace their farm hands, and appeals to them, in the national interest, to carry on their work meanwhile as best they can.

CONSCRIPTION NOT IDEA OF GOVERNMENT

Sir Robert Borden Makes Important Statement to Trades and Labor Delegation.

Ottawa, Jan. 16.—That industrial conscription was not the purpose of the government, but that national service was based on willing co-operative efforts was the important statement made to the delegation of the Trades and Labor Congress today by Sir Robert Borden. Men were free to engage in munitions work if they saw fit to enter national service, but there was to be no compulsion.

GEN. VON FALKENHAYN ARRIVES IN GREECE

London, Jan. 17.—That General Von Falkenhayn is on a mission to Greece is confirmed by the British accredited correspondent at Saloniki. The despatch adds that the Greek troops, which the Greek government promised to withdraw into Peloponnesus, are moving northward, violating the neutral zone where French and British detachments have for some time been keeping the peace between Royalist and Venizelist troops.

WILL PROBE METHODS OF WALL STREET

Peace Note Leak Hearing Subpoenas J. P. Morgan and Other Masters of High Finance.

GEN. STOCK MARKET ENQUIRY IS PROBABLE

Thomas W. Lawson Tells What Mrs. Visconti Said About Secretary Tumulty and \$5,000.

Washington, Jan. 16.—Spreading a dragnet over the financial district of New York the House Rules Committee today extended the peace note leak investigation to a general inquiry into the stock market. At an executive meeting the committee considered the advisability of employing expert counsel familiar with financial affairs to conduct the examination of witnesses.

It also planned to ask congress tomorrow for an extension of time to report. As the first step in enlarging the scope of the hearings, the committee subpoenaed J. P. Morgan, H. P. Davison, F. A. Vanderlip, Arthur Lipper, Sol C. Wexler and J. S. Bachs, New York financiers.

Tom Lawson Resumes. Thomas W. Lawson testified today that Mrs. Ruth Thompson Visconti, who wrote him a letter and later made a statement in the presence of her attorney, declared William W. Price, the White House correspondent, who she said acted as a go-between for Secretary Tumulty and others stated that Price "received \$5,000 cash and that Tumulty received a much larger sum."

"I think that is substantially a correct statement of her report to me," said Lawson. When Lawson was cross-examined he declared the impression that Chairman Henry had mentioned Secretary McAdoo in connection with the alleged leak was erroneous. That information, he declared, came from entirely another source.

Count Bernstorff. Again repeating in his testimony what he alleged Henry said to him about Secretary Lansing and German Ambassador Bernstorff, Lawson added that upon repeating the rumor about the ambassador, Henry had said: "Do you think that is possible?"

Representative Foster questioned Lawson closely about the letter he produced yesterday from Mrs. Visconti, who offered to give him information about "a White House official," in connection with the alleged leak. "My only reason for putting in that letter," Lawson said, "was because I was asked flatly if I had any other information that had been referred to in questions asked me at the previous hearings."

"Being under oath and having the letter, I produced it. I had no intention of using it, and would not have used it had I not been asked that direct question. I almost regretted that I had the letter with me." Representative Patten asked Lawson if at his conference with Congressman Henry the latter volunteered to mention the name of Ambassador Von Bernstorff.

"Yes, he volunteered it," said Lawson. "I didn't ask him for it." Washington, Jan. 16.—Mrs. Ruth Thompson Visconti, missing witness in the leak investigation, returned to her apartment here tonight and was subpoenaed by a house deputy sergeant-at-arms to appear tomorrow before the rules committee.

DEUTSCHLAND SAILS TODAY. Bremen, Jan. 16, via Berlin to London, Jan. 17.—Preparations have been made for the sailing today for an American port of the merchant submarine Deutschland.

ADMIRAL GEORGE DEWEY IS DEAD

Hero of Battle of Manila Bay, Which Transferred the Philippine Archipelago From the "Saffron-Hued Banner of Old Castile" to Stars and Stripes, Passed Away at Washington.

PREMIER MAY NOT GO TO CONFERENCE

If Critics Intend to Have "Fighting Session" in War Time He Will Stay Home Probably.

Ottawa, Jan. 16.—The Prime Minister has not decided yet that he will attend the imperial conference. It has been taken for granted by a section of the press that he will go to England, but there is no authority for the supposition.

Much will depend upon the date of the conference. When it will meet is not known here and Sir Robert Borden has cabled for this information, but up to tonight he had not received any reply. It is hardly likely in view of the report that the opposition members are going to make a "fighting session" of it that he will feel free to go, in which case he will probably be represented by Sir George Foster or Sir George Perley.

The presumption has been that the imperial conference would take place about the end of February. This would seem to preclude the possibility of Sir Robert Borden being able to be present. Similar difficulties confront Premier Hughes of Australia and Premier Botha of South Africa who are unable to attend.

CANADIAN WOMEN ARE NOT WANTED

Sixty Thousand Relatives of Soldiers in England Create Serious Problem and May Be Sent Home.

Toronto, Jan. 16.—The Evening Telegram tonight publishes the following cable from its special correspondent in London:

"Canadian authorities here are seriously contemplating the advisability of ordering Canadian wives and women relatives of soldiers to return to Canada to help the food situation here and avoid the possibility of future shortage. Lord Shaughnessy, who is strongly in favor of such action, has been in conference in this connection with a very high personage here."

"It is estimated there are sixty thousand wives and other relatives of Canadian officers and men living here, and all thinking Canadians deplore this state of affairs, which puts an extra and often needless tax on the food resources of this country at a critical time, and generally makes it harder for the wives of British soldiers."

"Colonel Herbert Bruce, though resigned from the C. A. M. S., will not return to Canada. He will be in charge of the surgery of twelve large British hospitals in France."

WAS BORN IN MONTPELIER, VERMONT, IN 1837, AND SERVED IN CIVIL WAR—HOW HE BECAME FAMOUS ON THE RENOWNED MAY DAY OF 1898—ALMOST GOT HIS COUNTRY INTO TROUBLE WITH GERMANY.

Washington, Jan. 16.—Admiral Dewey, hero of Manila, and by priority the ranking naval officer of the world, died at his home here at 5.56 p. m. today in his 80th year.

Death was due to a general breakdown, accompanied by arterio sclerosis. He had been in a semi-conscious condition for two days.

WAS IN CIVIL WAR. Admiral Dewey was born in the city of Montpelier, Vt., the capital of the Green Mountain state, in 1837. He was graduated at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md., in 1858, and was commissioned as a lieutenant in April, 1861. During the civil war he served on the steam sloop Mississippi in the West Gulf of Mexico blockading squadron (1861-63), and on the steam gunboat Agawam in the North Atlantic blockading squadron (1864-65) taking part under Rear Admiral Farragut in the capture of New Orleans in April, 1862, and in the capture of Port Hudson in March, 1863.

He was in engagements with the Confederates below Donaldsonville, La., in March, 1863, and in the attacks of December, 1864, and January, 1865, on Fort Fisher. In March, 1865, he became a lieutenant commander and in April, 1872, a commander.

After the War. He commanded the Narragansett in the Pacific survey from 1872 to 1875 and was lighthouse inspector from 1876 to 1877. In the latter year he became secretary of the lighthouse board and after commanding the Juanita on the Asiatic station from 1882 to 1883 was commissioned captain in 1884. He commanded the Pensacola on the European station from 1885 to 1888.

From 1888 to 1893 he was chief of the bureau of equipment at Washington and was a member of the lighthouse board from 1893 to 1896. In February, 1896, he was commissioned commodore and from 1896 to 1898 was president of the board of inspection and survey.

SENSATION IN SUPREME COURT OF P. E. ISLAND

Proceedings Adjourned Because Juror Intoxicated—Chief Justice Sullivan Scathingly Denounces Non-Enforcement of Prohibitory Law—Scores Authorities.

Charlottetown, P. E. I., Jan. 16.—The supreme court which met this morning had to be adjourned till this afternoon as one of the jurymen had become drunk and incapable when the court met in the afternoon. Chief Justice Sullivan read a certificate from a doctor stating that the juror was suffering from acute indisposition. This would prevent his attendance at court for two days.

The judge made very caustic comments on the non-enforcement of the prohibition law and urged public action to drive out of existence those responsible for the outrageous condition of affairs. It was absolutely a disgrace to this prohibition province, he said, that the administration of justice is interfered with and the court has to be adjourned to accommodate the worthless drunken fellows.

He also scored the authorities for bringing the law in to disrepute by letting prohibition violators out of jail before their sentence expired and for appointing violators to public offices. "The doctor who certified as to the juror's illness also came in for severe criticism. A new jury was appointed and the case, which had made some progress, was started all over again."

ELEVEN CASES OF SMALLPOX ON ISLAND

Charlottetown, P. E. I., Jan. 16.—Smallpox has broken out at Bungay near Wheatley River. It was brought from Maine by a man named Waye. Eleven cases have developed, some of them severe.

A strict quarantine is being maintained. **Died in Hospital.** Robert Tinker of Charlottetown, who was admitted to the General Public Hospital on the 11th inst with pneumonia, passed away in that institution yesterday afternoon. He was employed on the S. S. Aberdeen.

UNITED STATES WILL STRENGTHEN ITS NAVY.

Washington, Jan. 16.—Secretary of the Navy Daniels laid before the house naval committee today his tentative plan for spending \$18,000,000 to equip government yards for shipbuilding, to hasten the strengthening of the navy. He already has \$6,000,000 for the purpose, and has asked for an additional \$12,000,000.

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