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Germans Agree to Release Ships

ARMISTICE AGREEMENT SETTLED AND FOOD WILL GO INTO GERMANY.
BRUSSELS, March 16.—The German delegates to the conference here regarding the taking over by the Allies of the German mercantile fleet and the provisioning of Germany have definitely accepted the conditions imposed by the Allies.
A monthly ration for Germany of 370,000 tons of foodstuffs was fixed by the Allied commission which was in this city to confer with a German delegation as to the turning over of German merchant shipping and German-owned securities in payment for food shipments.
The Germans observed that this ration was smaller than they had required and were pessimistic as to the arrangement of satisfactory financial terms.
The total ships made available to the Allies under the agreement numbered more than 700, approximating 1,500,000 tons.
The vessels going to the United States are passenger ships on account of the United States' desire to use them for the transport of troops. Those going to France and England immediately are cargo vessels in the neutral ports in south and central America and the Dutch East Indies. They will be permitted to leave the cargoes for Germany with German crews, but under allied flags. When the ships go out from German ports to be handed over they will be manned by Germans, but on arrival in allied ports the crews will be replaced by allied crews and the Germans returned.
Pork for Germans.
There is available in England for movement to Germany approximately 30,000 tons of pork products, 5,000 tons of beans, 5,000 tons of rice, and 15,000 tons of cereals.
The United States has in Rotterdam and on the way there approximately 75,000 tons of breadstuffs.
A summary of the agreement shows that payment by Germany will be made by freight hire accruing to the Germans for the use of the shipping and part from credits; part from German exports and part by the use of German gold.
The Germans agreed to place a deposit in the National Bank of Belgium at Brussels for use as collateral.
The United States will receive eight German ships which will be ready to go to sea within four days. The vessels are the Zeppelin of 15,200 tons; the Prinz Friedrich Wilhelm of 17,000 tons; the Graf Waldersee of 13,000 tons; the Patricia of 14,466 tons; the Cap Finisterre of 14,000; the Pretoria of 13,000 tons; the Cleveland of 16,900; and the Kaiserin Augusta Victoria. The giant Imperator of 52,000 tons also will go to the United States.
At the present time it is stuck in the mud and it is expected she can be floated in a few days.
A board of control for German exports will be established under the terms of the agreement and certain securities in exchange for food. This board will probably have its headquarters at Rotterdam.
The Germans will be permitted to buy fish from Norway and resume their own fishing in the North Sea.
The German representatives ask for a modification of the blockade, and while no promises were given them, steps in that direction, as a matter of fact, have already been taken.

NEWS IN BRIEF

A committee of the Alberta Legislature is investigating land sales to Mennonite communities throughout that Province.
The supreme war council has finally adopted the military terms of German disarmament. These provide for an army of 100,000 men enlisted for twelve years.
German forces have recaptured the towns of Laiden and Ichnuden, northeast of Libau, Courland, according to reports received. The Bolsheviks were driven back with heavy losses.
J. H. Lewis, sentenced to three years in prison for breach of censorship, has been released from Jail. The order was signed by Mr. Justice MacDonald.
The Nieuwe Courant of Hague, Holland, stated that Belgian authorities in Brussels and Antwerp have seized Dutch river vessels.
A British squadron has arrived at Libau, according to advice received. On board the warships are members of a British commission.
A white paper issued a few days ago showed the British national debt on March 31, 1918, was \$29,605,479,095 compared with \$3,530,770,550 at the corresponding date in 1914.
The frontier between German-Austria and Czechoslovakia was reopened at midnight Sunday, Vienna newspapers report. Railroad trains are again crossing the frontier.
Estimates so far received from Latin-American governments of damages incurred in the war indicate that the total bill for reparations from those countries will be approximately \$1,000,000,000.
A great airplane, a thousand horse power, has been put in commission at Paris. It is to be used as an ambulance conveying surgeons, hospital equipment and wounded men.

Lady Killed by Exposure Near Craven

Found Dead in Bluff Three-Quarters of a Mile from Home—Lost Way in Dark
Mrs. Elizabeth Bell, living on Section 34, Twp. 20, Rge. 21, about four miles north of Craven, was found frozen to death in a willow bluff about three-quarters of a mile from her home a few days ago, by a search party which had gone out in the morning to look for her.
On Wednesday, Mrs. Bell went into Craven to do some shopping, and started out for home in the evening. She was driven part of the way in a rig, and when near home thought she would walk the rest of the distance. It is now believed she lost her way and wandered around, finally tired herself out and sat down to rest.
Inspector Goldsmith of the provincial police, was notified and detailed one of his men to investigate. On his report will depend whether an inquest will be necessary. The body was examined yesterday but no trace of foul play was discovered.
The Bells are well known in the Craven district, where they have lived for some time, and have been respected citizens.

Two Japanese Companies Wiped Out by Bolsheviki

VLADIVOSTOK, March, March 15.—Two companies of Japanese troops were virtually wiped out by the Bolsheviki, in fighting near Stramskoie, fifty miles northeast of Blagoviestchensk, February 26. Two hundred and fifty men were engaged. Major Tanaka, commanding the Japanese, was killed.
In a second battle, March 3, at Pralovka, thirty miles to the north, the Japanese suffered ninety casualties. In the two engagements the Bolsheviki left six hundred dead on the field.
The campaign against the Bolsheviki has gathered in force. It began early in February, with a battle near Pochkaleo. The enemy then moved north through Alexiev and rallied at Stramsko. Though greatly outnumbered, two Japanese companies of peace strength engaged the Bolsheviki but were defeated.
The enemy afterwards moved southeast to a point ten miles east of where the first engagement occurred. Here he was again attacked by a reinforced Japanese column. The operation is continuing with the enemy moving southeast, pursued.

FIGHTING STILL GOING ON IN BERLIN

TERRIBLE DEEDS COMMITTED BY SPARTACANS
BERLIN, Mar. 14.—A story of wholesale coldblooded murders, including the shooting of some sixty detectives by the Spartacans forces, was told yesterday under oath by a government soldier who had been captured by the insurgents but managed to escape. He and eighteen other soldiers had been captured in the vicinity of Warschaustrasse, in the eastern part of the city, and were taken into a court back of a group of buildings occupied by the Spartacans.
The prisoners, the soldier asserts, were compelled, one by one, to climb into a wagon where they were shot down by the insurgents. When the wagon became full of bodies it was taken away and another brought forward.
While this was going on a band of Spartacans brought in sixty detectives who had been captured in the attack on the Lichtenberg police station. The detectives were killed with revolver shots between the eyes at close quarters. Those who resisted were held by other Spartacans while the executioner fired the shot. A government bicycle courier who was brought in about the same time was held by the hands and feet and tortured before being shot.
A woman soldier in the Spartacans ranks who was captured by the government troops, is declared to have confessed participation in more than twenty killings. The Spartacans also are accused of using airplanes for attacks on peaceable citizens.
The bomb which was dropped on a crowd in Bulowplatz, is said to have been thrown by a Spartacan aviator.
Murders, fighting and plundering continued throughout Sunday, March 9. There was much sniping from roofs. Many Spartacans were made prisoner during the forenoon and summary executions began in the afternoon, following the appearance of the order of Herr Noske, secretary of military affairs.
Three looters caught in the act were the first to be executed.
More than 250 wounded persons were taken to various hospitals Sunday, including many women and children. Many bodies of the dead also were taken to the morgue. The Spartacans removed a large number of their own victims.
The reports estimate the loss in Berlin from pillage alone at \$50,000,000 marks. Frankfurter Strasse, a well-known Jewish business section, suffered heavily.
The Spartacans have been obliged to evacuate the police headquarters and the post office at Lichtenberg.
Hostilities continue in the northern and northeastern sections of Berlin and the government troops are killing all prisoners who fall into their hands.
The first break in the general strike in Berlin occurred on Tuesday evening when the subway and telephone services and water and gas plants resumed. This was the result of a resolution adopted by the Berlin Federation of Labor, demanding that the strike be called off.
Reports of Spartacan atrocities continue to pour in and resulted today in the issuance of an order by Herr Noske, the minister of defense, that all found opposing the government troops with weapons would be shot immediately. Many Spartacans were taken prisoner during the forenoon and summary executions began at once, the order of Herr Noske being welcomed by the embittered government forces.

POLISH DIVISION CUTS INTO GERMANY

PARIS, March 16.—The report of the Polish commission on the eastern boundary, which is on Monday's business before the council, proposes to give Germany direct land communication across the corridor to the Baltic which has been accorded to Poland and which cuts off part of east Prussia from the rest of Germany. The report suggests that for Poland's security, the German territory to the east of the corridor be demilitarized.
It is also proposed by the commission that the 600,000 Protestant Poles in the Mazurian lake region be allowed to determine, by plebiscite, whether they shall join Catholic Poland or remain German.

Bolsheviki Defeated Near Libau

STOCKHOLM, March 15.—Let-tish troops captured Frauburg, northeast of Libau, from the Bolsheviki on Monday and took a great quantity of war material, a large number of machine guns and many prisoners, a despatch from Libau says. The Bolsheviki retired in the direction of Mitau. The Letts also advanced west of Frauburg and drove the Bolsheviki in the region of the Baltic port of Windau.

GERMAN SUBMARINE IS SUNK WHILE ATTEMPTING ESCAPE

PARIS, March 15.—The German submarine, U-48, while attempting to escape from Ferrol, late last night, was chased by a destroyer and sunk, according to a Havas Agency despatch from Madrid.
The U-48 took refuge at Ferrol in March 1918, and was interned. The attempted flight of the submarine was observed and the torpedo boat destroyer Antelope sank her.
The submarine was sunk outside Ferrol. The crew was saved.

Prussian President

PARIS, March 15.—Herr Leinert, Majority Socialist, has been elected president of the Prussian assembly which is meeting in Berlin, a despatch from the German capital says. Herr Perse, also a Majority Socialist, and Herr Frenzel, a Democrat, were elected vice-presidents.
Herr Leinert formerly was a member of the Prussian diet and was chairman of the workmen's and soldiers' congress in Berlin last December.

To Socialize Factories

COPENHAGEN, March 16.—The German national assembly on Thursday, according to advices from Weimar, adopted a bill concerning socialization of factories. It also passed a measure regulating the coal industry.

German Authorities Seizing Cattle

WASHINGTON, March 16.—The German authorities are issuing orders for the seizure, beginning today, of all cattle in the province of Schleswig, according to advices from Copenhagen.

Leipzig Captured by Loyal Troops

ZURICH, March 14.—Leipzig, has been captured by the government troops, which inflicted a severe defeat on the Spartacans, it was reported in a despatch received from Berlin today.

Bremen City Vote

AMSTERDAM, March 14.—In the Bremen city elections for the state assembly, the following votes have been polled:
Majority Socialists, 45,367; Independent Socialists, 24,873; Spartacans, 10,739; Democrats, 24,774; other bourgeoisie parties together, 26,500.

WHOLESALE EXECUTION IN RUSSIA

STOCKHOLM, March 13.—All the relatives of officers of the eighth-sixth Russian regiment, which went over to the White Guards as against the Soviet government, have been executed, according to despatches from Petrograd. The executions were ordered by the military revolutionary committee of Petrograd. A number of well-known Russian officers, it is added, also have been executed, after being convicted of charges of having spread false rumors regarding the Soviet government.

Dominion Parliament

Discussion re G.T.P. of Interest to House—Debate Closed Owing to Lack of Attendance on Part of Members—Debate in Reply to Speech From the Throne Resumed—J. Archambault, Quebec Liberal, Delivered Witty Address, Discussing Prohibition, and Attacking Hon. J. Calder and Sir G. E. Foster—Hon. W. S. Fielding Dealt With Present-Day Issues in Truly Remarkable Manner—Col. Peck Replied to Sir S. Hughes' Attacks on General Sir A. Currie.
Parliament started off last week's work with an unusually busy day on Monday, March 10. The proceedings were marked by ministerial announcements and explanations of more than ordinary importance, and the continued debate on the address included an interesting speech by Major-General S. C. Newburn, minister of militia, and some spirited attacks by Major R. C. Cooper, of Vancouver south, on Sir Sam Hughes in reply to the ex-minister's recent criticism of the overseas military authorities.
Chief interest, however, centred in Sir Thomas White's explanation of the government's action in appointing a receiver under the provisions of the War Measures act, to operate the Grand Trunk Pacific. "Under existing legislation," said the acting premier, "it is not possible, excepting under proceedings for foreclosure for sale, to have a receiver appointed for a system such as the Grand Trunk Pacific. The government, therefore was confronted with what we regarded as the imperative necessity in the national interest of providing for the uninterrupted operation of the system. It was found that the War Measures act gave the government a complete jurisdiction for the action which it took."
R. L. Richardson, Springfield, asserted on Tuesday, February 11, that while the Union government would not live for ever, a strong party would be evolved out of it. Mr. Richardson declared that the west is desperately in earnest about the tariff. If the government does not deal with the representatives of the west, it must deal with the people of the west, he declared.
F. J. Pelletier, Matane, who followed, pleaded for amnesty for young farmers who were defaulters under the M.S.A.

Dominion Parliament Listened to John A. Maharg, President of Sask. Grain Growers' Association.

PRESENTED POLITICAL VIEWS OF WESTERN CANADA AND GREATED DEEP IMPRESSION
Last Monday Mr. Maharg, member for Maple Creek, spoke in the Dominion House.
The head of the Saskatchewan grain growers is not an orator but his efforts are made the more impressive because his ideas are not submerged in empty phrases and platitudes. He hit out square from the shoulder expressing, as it never has been expressed before this session, the view of the west in relation to fiscal policy. There was nothing half-hearted, no halting, timorous uttering, nor was the speech spoiled by bitterness or acrimony. It was just a quiet, impressive enunciation of the western viewpoint and salutary warning of what to expect if the exhausted patience of the prairie people is further imposed upon.
Mr. Maharg was not aggressive or declamatory or menacing, but he gave a clear cut intimation that the west means business and intends to insist upon its rights. He spoke to a full house and full press gallery. It was noted that Sir Thomas White, who was up in the loft, hurried down to the chamber and seemed to imbibe to the full what was said.
Maharg made it clear that the western farmers are not going to accept the counsel of Fielding and tie themselves to one party or another, that they are not even linked up with any permanency to the Unionist party, but rather are out in pursuit of their ideals and determined upon absolute freedom of action.
He told the Federal Government that the west was in no temper for more fooling upon the tariff question and would retaliate if justice were not granted to the farmers. (Editor's Note:—In our next issue we shall bring a more detailed report of Mr. Maharg's speech.)

ARE SELLING OUT GERMAN SUBMARINES

LONDON, March 15.—More German submarines will be sold and the money realized distributed among the allies on a scale to be adopted by the supreme council, T. J. MacNamara, parliamentary secretary to the admiralty announced in the house of commons today.
Mr. MacNamara stated that already 54 German submarines had been sold. He also said the supreme council had not yet decided what was to be done with the other German ships.