

## REPARATION FOR THE PAST, SECURITY FOR THE FUTURE

### All Unite in Support of Premier's Statement in House of Commons

#### THOUGHTS AND WISHES OF THE BRITISH NATION WERE EXPRESSED BY LLOYD GEORGE

English Press is Unanimous in Declaring For Hearty Support of the Platform Laid Down in the House of Commons by the Premier

#### IS NO OBSTACLE TO PEACE

American Press, Exclusive of the Rabid Pro-German Journals, Approves Attitude of Lloyd George

By Courier Leased Wire

London, Dec. 20.—The bulk of the morning papers agree that Premier Lloyd George expressed the views of the British nation in his speech in the House of Commons dealing with Germany's peace proposal.

"Premier Lloyd George," says the Times, "expressed the thoughts and wishes of the nation and laid down a programme which will command its hearty support." This is the tone of the comment in most of the other papers which hold that the Premier's answer and also Lord Curzon's speech in the House of Lords are moderate in phrase, firm and unanswerable in substance.

The papers declare that the nation is prepared and will willingly undertake all the sacrifices foreshadowed and will face greater privations if necessary to ensure those ends of reparation and security which the Allies demand from the Central Powers. There is nowhere any hostile criticism of the government's declaration, but The Daily News contends that the forecast of the measures for organizing the nation do little more than indicate that the policy of the late government will be continued and extended.

It says that if the new government succeeds as well as its predecessor, the nation will be grateful and that if it succeeds better the nation will be more than grateful. At the same time a newspaper comments point out the possibilities of negotiations being undertaken notwithstanding the strong statements of the Premier and Lord Curzon and their endorsement by members of the late government. Thus The Daily News says that the door is not necessarily banged and bolted and that the Allies' flat refusal of Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg's offer is not meant to indicate that the Allies do not wish peace, but that Germany must ask it in the role of the vanquished and not the victor. The News expresses the hope that the Allies will speedily agree on precise terms on which they will be willing to negotiate.

Peace Possible  
There is no obstacle whatever to peace if Germany really wants it. She has merely to withdraw from the occupied countries and we are willing enough to discuss reparation and guarantees for the future."

The Chronicle remarks:  
"The Prime Minister's dramatic announcement of the adoption of the principle of universal national service has been welcomed on all sides. A bill will be necessary to give effect to the government's proposals. The object of which is the methodical mobilization of labor so that it may be available in trades and industries, which need it most in the interest of the nation. The scheme is, therefore, essentially an industrial scheme, though not confined to the industrial classes. It is understood that the Prime Minister has already consulted the leaders of the principal trade unions in the country and obtained their support."

Simple, Straightforward  
New York, Dec. 20.—Editorial comment on the speech of Premier

#### Weather Bulletin

Toronto, Dec. 20.—The disturbance, which was off the coast of Nova Scotia yesterday has moved eastward toward Newfoundland and a shallow trough of low pressure is moving slowly across the great lakes while an area of high pressure and very cold weather covers the western provinces. Light snow has fallen in the Maritime provinces and in western Ontario.

Forecasts.  
Light snow falls today; Thursday—North and northwest winds and becoming colder.

#### MUST CONTEST AIR SUPREMACY

Von Hindenburg Orders German Aviators to Greater Exploits

#### PEACE TALK

Has Not Reached Huns Up on the Western Front

By Courier Leased Wire.

With the British Armies in France, Dec. 19, via London, Dec. 20.—Out of a group of German prisoners taken on one section of the British front on Sunday, only a non-commissioned officer had heard anything of the German emperor's peace proposal. This, coupled with the fact that there have been absolutely no demonstrations from any part of the German trenches, caused much speculation among the British officers as to whether, despite the emperor's address to his troops, the new peace overtures have been permitted to reach the men actually engaged on the fighting line.

Documents secured within the last few days, reportedly mentioned the audacity and initiative of the allied airmen, and Field Marshal von Hindenburg is quoted as having issued orders that the supremacy of the air must be sharply contested. According to these documents, the German chief of staff has ordered that where the German lines are broken by hostile aviators, German machines must penetrate an equal distance over the Allied lines. There has been only a comparatively few hours of good flying weather in the last week, but numerous combats have taken place, twenty being fought on one front on a certain sector.

German artillery has recently been quite active, and has responded more freely to the continuous British fire. According to prisoners, the preponderance of British shells had depressed the German troops in the trenches who thought that their own artillery was not supporting them with the same vigor as the support the English gave to their men.

#### GERMANS TAKE SEAMEN PRISONERS

Captain and Engineer of Torpedoed British Vessel Captured

By Courier Leased Wire.

Brest, Dec. 20.—The British Steamship Finlston has been sunk by a submarine. Her captain and first engineer were taken prisoner. The others of the crew were rescued. The Finlston, 3,492 tons net, was last reported on her departure from Buenos Aires on November 18, for London.

#### SCANDINAVIAN VESSELS SUFFER

Norwegian, Danish and Swedish Ships Sunk by Submarines

By Courier Leased Wire.

London, Dec. 20.—The Norwegian Steamer Sjofoa of 527 tons net and the Swedish schooner Njord have been sunk. The Danish barkentine Jorgen Larsen, is believed to have been sunk.

LIGHTNING FLYER SLEIGHS  
Boy's Lightning Flyer Sleigh—medium and large sizes; price 25c and 50c. E. B. Crompton and Co., Limited.

Mr. W. L. Hughes is a business visitor in Toronto to-day.

White, mother or sister, would appreciate a pair of high-cut two-tone or black shoes from Coles' Shoe Co., 122 Colborne St.

#### BRIAND SPEAKS TO HIS CRITICS

French Premier Carries Applause of Chamber of Deputies

By Courier Leased Wire.

Paris, Dec. 20.—Premier Briand met his critics in the Senate yesterday and carried with him the applause of quite two thirds of the chamber. A vote of confidence was not taken, because none will be proposed until after the secret sessions, the first of which began after the Premier had replied to a series of accusations by Senator Berenger of Guadeloupe.

Premier Briand reproached parliament for making it difficult for the ministers to do their work in the present grave period and said that as for himself he was ready to transfer his responsibilities at any time. He took occasion to announce that the reply of the Entente allies to the Teutonic peace proposal would be handed over for transmission by neutral powers tomorrow. The galleries were so crowded that members complained of the efforts of the belated detractors to gain access to the chamber. The secret sessions may continue for two or three days.

#### "REPARATION FOR THE PAST, SECURITY FOR THE FUTURE"—PREMIER LLOYD GEORGE

#### RICH GERMAN LANDOWNER DEAD

Prince Henckel von Donnersmarch Was Successful in Many Branches of Trade

By Courier Leased Wire.

Amsterdam, via London, Dec. 20. Advice received here from Berlin says that Prince Henckel von Donnersmarch, one of the German industrial leaders and reputed one of the richest land owners in Germany is dead. He was eighty-seven years old. The Prince was successful in many branches of trade, including the armament, paper-making, coal and iron industries and also in colonial enterprises.

Children's Leggings, Rubbers, etc. are in order for gift-giving. Get them at Coles' Shoe Co., 122 Colborne St.

#### A VOICE FROM THE TRENCHES



"Cease firing! It is der Anchel of Peace dot is speaking."

#### What About the Navy? Asked Hedworth Meux

Appearance of Lloyd George in British House of Commons Was One of Intense Dramatic Interest

By Courier Leased Wire.

London, Dec. 20.—Parliamentary observers who heard Premier Lloyd George's speech yesterday agree that no platform so ambitious, so far-reaching and so crowded with vital innovations has ever been proposed to the British nation by any previous prime minister in its history. Mr. Lloyd George was guilty of one oversight, however. He had pronounced glowing eulogies of the army and had almost finished his speech when Admiral Sir Hedworth Meux, who was seated in uniform a few rows behind the speaker, called out:

"What about the navy?"

The Premier was visibly embarrassed as he atoned for his neglect by a sketch of what the senior service had done in keeping open communications on the sea and remarked that the Germans had seldom given the British sailors the luxury of a stand-up fight.

Slipping Effect  
The most skilful theatrical producer could hardly have staged a more moving act than that offered

by the externals of this historical passage in the House of Commons. The churchly character of the chamber itself was emphasized by the solemnity which rested on the scores of world known statesmen, generals and diplomats who filled the floor and galleries. Before the gowned and wigged speaker stretched a long table on which lay the famous mace. To the speaker's right were the members of the new cabinet with A. Bonar Law and Sir Edward Carson. At the foot opposite them were seater the members of the former ministry with Reginald McKenna, Walter Runciman and Herbert Samuel at the end.

Colonel Winston Spencer Churchill, a figure always bound to arouse interest if not at the present moment a popular one, sat next. The Peers, gallery was filled with lords, who found their lower chamber more engrossing than their own, and the bulky form of the chief of staff, General Sir William Robertson, dressed in khaki, faced the speaker.

Keynotes of Premier's Address in the House of Commons—His Reply an Appreciable Step Forward if Germany is Sincere in Desire for Peace

#### THIS IS LLOYD GEORGE'S DAY

#### New Premier Completely Dominates the Situation, Equally Capable as Warmaker or Peacemaker

By Courier Leased Wire

New York, Dec. 20.—Cabling from London last night, Arthur S. Draper, correspondent of The Tribune says:

"Reparation for the past and security for the future—these were the keynotes of the reply made by Premier Lloyd George in the House of Commons to-day on behalf of Great Britain and her allies to Germany's peace proposals.

"If Germany is honest and sincere in her desire for peace, then Lloyd George's reply must be interpreted as an appreciably forward step, a distinct advance over the position which faced the warring nations a week ago.

"This is Lloyd George's day. He completely dominates the situation. To-night he is saying that while he was selected for premier as a war-maker, he is just as capable as a peacemaker. His first speech as premier showed broadness of mind, keen vision and skilful diplomacy.

"If Germany intended her offer as an embarrassment to the Allies then the Kaiser and Bethmann-Hollweg have been out-pointed in their first duel with the leader of the new government.

"Germany must try again, but must come in a different frame of mind: but if reports of the feeling and conditions within the Central Powers are any criterion of the true situation, a second peace offer will not be long in coming.

"The Dominions. Then he announced that henceforth the Dominions are to play a bigger part in the war and that an inter-empire conference will be summoned soon. This is undoubtedly welcome news to Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

Great Sacrifices  
The Premier did not minimize in the least the sacrifices which Britain and her people must pay for final victory, the seriousness of the present situation here, the military and economic problems, which are to be faced or the effect of the Roumanian disaster on the length of the war. But after weighing the handicaps, hardships, resources and reserves, he declared with the greatest confidence that Britain and her allies will be able to carry on the war till a reasonable peace is possible.

"For nearly two hours the Premier spoke, every word being clearly heard all over the House. And when he finished, his audience knew that the Allies had begun a new epoch and had reached the turning point of the war."

Another Hun General Dead  
Von Zieten, Commander of 17th Reserve Division, Succumbs to Operation

By Courier Leased Wire.  
Amsterdam, via London, Dec. 20.—The Berlin Lokal Anzeiger announces the death of Major-General Ernst von Zieten, commander of the Seventeenth Reserve Division, General von Zieten died at Danzig as the result of an operation.

Heavy Fighting is Continued  
Artillery Activity by French Upon the Verdun Front

By Courier Leased Wire.  
Paris, Dec. 20.—12.30 p.m.—Heavy artillery fighting continues on the Verdun front; the war office announced this afternoon. During the night the engagements were most spirited in the vicinity of Louvemont and Chambrettes.

Men's Rompers, Opera and Felt Slippers for dad—Coles' Shoe Co., 122 Colborne St.

### BRANT THEATRE

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Samson and Douglas  
In a Nonsensical Novelty  
Fern Richliev and Fern  
Sensational Club Manipulators.  
**Thurs., Fri., and Sat.**  
George Behan  
America's Greatest Character Actor In  
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A tremendously thrilling and Sensational Photo Play Masterpieces in 8 Acts.  
**THE PLAY THAT TOOK NEW YORK BY STORM**  
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