

THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE.

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To-Day's Cables

Another Warning About Raider

Labour Leaders Declare Peace Must Come On Terms Laid Down by Asquith and Lloyd George.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—Another warning to shipping of the Entente Allies to be on guard against German raider this of the Atlantic sent out tonight by a British cruiser off Sandy Hook. The wireless message is very largely a repetition of the one flashed a week ago, and continued no new information as to the character or location of the supposed raider.

It is considered in marine circles to be in the nature of a precaution.

LABOUR LEADERS AND PEACE PROPOSALS

LONDON, Dec. 18.—Lloyd's Weekly News has published specially written statements on the subject of the German peace offer by four representative Labour leaders, Stephen Walsh, M.P., James O'Grady, chairman of the General Federation Trades Union, C. B. Stanton, M.P., and Lt.-Col. John Ward, Commander of Navvies' Battalion. All declare that the war must continue until the conditions laid down by Premier Asquith and Lloyd George are achieved, but Walsh, in addition, contends that the Allies should take the opportunity to make our position clear before the world.

LONDON IN PERPETUAL NIGHT

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The fog which settled over London yesterday is described as being the most dense for fifty years. From early morning until late at night London has been a city of perpetual night, the inconveniences being greatest in the evening owing to the light restrictions. Omnibuses stopped running, taxi-cabs disappeared from streets, people in streets carried lighted torches in Strand. The soldiers now in metropolises said they had to be led about like blinded men.

GERMAN ESCAPES FROM BLOCKADE

BERLIN, Dec. 18.—The German steamer "Prinz Frederich Wilhelm," 17,072 tons, which has been at anchor at Odde, near Bergen, Norway, since the beginning of the war, arrived at Stavanger, according to a despatch from Kristiana to Frankfurter Zeitung, after having broken through the British blockade.

Outside Bergen a line of two British destroyers and three torpedo boats, the message adds, was crossed by the German steamer.

GERMANY WANTS HAGUE CONFERENCE

LONDON, Dec. 18.—Telegraphing from Copenhagen the correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Co. quotes Frankfurter Zeitung as saying Germany does not want cessation of fighting, but merely a conference on which all belligerents shall openly state their peace proposals. The conference is to be held at Hague about January 16th. While conference is in session all belligerents are to be allowed to continue military operations.

VERDUN REGION

BERLIN, Dec. 18.—There has been a renewal of infantry fighting in the Verdun region today, the War Office announces to-night in a supplementary statement.

STORMY WEATHER CASUALTIES

LONDON, Dec. 18.—Numerous shipping accidents are reported owing to Saturday's heavy fog. The crew of the English and Welsh ground lightship have been landed at Barry and report that their lightship sank in collision with the steamer Welshman.

The Norwegian steamer Annavore collided with the Belgian relief steamer Vightstroom lying at anchor in the Thames. Annavore went ashore in a sinking condition. The stern of the Vightstroom was damaged.

The steamer Royal Transport collided in Barry Roads with an unidentified vessel and is compelled to dry-dock.

The steamer "Noral" Elsmic was towed into Portsmouth harbor after a collision with the steamer Chloris and tug Morena, from Buenos Ayres, and was stranded off Chichester harbour.

PORTUGUESE TROOPS TO ASSIST FRENCH

PARIS, Dec. 18.—Portuguese troops intended for service, with French troops in France, according to a quotation in La Patrie from Portuguese official Journal. They are to be called Portuguese Expeditionary Corps, and will be under command of General S. Tamaquins and Ameid Deca. The latter, as former Governor of Angola, is reputed to be an able strategist.

AUSTRO-GERMANS SEIZE GRAIN

LONDON, Dec. 18.—Adolp von Batocki, President of the German Food Regulation Board, arrived at Budapest to attend the Austro-Hungarian conference, says a despatch from Copenhagen Exchange Telegraph to Herr von Batocki. He is quoted as declaring that the Austro-Germans seized sixty million bushels of grain maize in Roumania, insuring the Central Powers sufficient supplies until next harvest.

TWO PEERAGES

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The King has conferred a peerage on Sir Wm. Maxwell Aitken and Right Hon. Charles B. Stuart-Wortley, members of Parliament, thus two Unionist seats in the House are vacant for members of the new Cabinet. Sir William Aitken, formerly official eye-witness with the Canadian troops, was born in Canada, and knighted in 1912.

CONSCRIPTION OF SCHOOL BOYS

LONDON, Dec. 18.—A Reuter despatch from Copenhagen says that the Government of Schleswig, Prussia, has proclaimed the civil conscription of school boys. They will be used for railroad work, loading, and unloading trucks, of which there is a shortage.

VESSELS SUNK

LONDON, Dec. 18.—Lloyds announces the sinking of the Danish steamer Michael Outchoukoff, 2,118 tons, and the British schooner Constance Mary, 176 tons.

ENGLAND ORGANIZED FOR FIGHTING

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—War preparations and conversion of industrial plants into munitions factories by no means crippled the steel industry England, according to Dr. Shellito, of the International Steel Corporation, who returned by the Noordam to-day from a six months trip to England and France. He said almost the normal quantity of manufactured steel products are being turned out and that new industries are being established in France. Dr. Shellito said, "I found people anything but discouraged over the prospect for victory, the nation is organized as a fighting unit and munitions are being produced at an astounding rate. I visited one factory where 8,000 women, 1,600 men are turning out between fifty and seventy-five thousand shells daily.

ROUMANIAN PARLIAMENT AT PETROGRAD

BERLIN, Dec. 18.—A correspondent of the Stockholm Lokal Anzeiger telegraphs, saying that during the meeting of the last Rumanian Crown Council it was resolved that the Rumanian Foreign Office should be transported to Petrograd, other ministries for present being established at Kiev. Rumanian Parliament, it is reported, will meet at Petrograd. King Ferdinand is said to have declared that he would stay one week in Russia, then go to England. The correspondent quotes a Russian newspaper from Jassy on the Russo-Rumanian towns Braila and Galatz Danube in southeastern Moldavia, have been evacuated by the Rumanians.

FRENCH COMMANDER IS ASSURED

PARIS, Dec. 18.—General Nivelle, recently appointed Commander of armies northeast, was present with General Petain, Commander of French armies during Soissons Verdun sector's successful operations on December 15th, in north Verdun, both having collaborated on its preparation.

Upon leaving Verdun for new headquarters, General Nivelle taking leave his staff spoke as follows: "The test is conclusive. Our method has proved sound once more, the second army has just asserted in the highest degree its morale and its material ascendancy over the enemy. Victory is certain. I give you assurance that Germany will learn it to her cost."

BRITISH ADVANCE

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The British army on Tigris front which assumed the offensive Wednesday has made a further advance. The official statement given out here to-day says that the British are now within three quarters mile of the Tigris, opposite Kut-el-Amara. During Thursday the advance secured by the operations the previous night was steadily improved. Statement says that our forces are advancing northwards, by both banks of Hail River, British outpost being established within three quarters mile of Tigris south of Kut-el-Amara. During Thursday night aeroplanes flying by moonlight successfully attacked ponton bridges on the Tigris which enemy had removed from their sides and were towing up stream, the material being broken up and scattered.

"NAIAD" SUN K

LONDON, Dec. 18.—Lloyds Agency has announced the British ship Naiad sunk; crew saved.

French Continue Great Offensive Make Many Gains

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The French continue their great offensive on the Meuse sector on the Verdun front, and have made further gains. The British also made progress and succeeded in Saturday night's engagements in raiding enemy's trenches near Ransart and south of Wyttschaete gaining a foothold in both cases. German War Office admits the loss to the French of the village of Bezon and Vaux Wood, west of that place, but asserts that the French thrust further northward broke down before the German fire on the height north of Bezonvaux. The new French lines in Vacheranville and Bezonvaux and the Chambrette Farm region have been heavily bombarded by German guns. North of the Ancre River, in the Somme sector, British detachments attempted to enter German trenches, but were repulsed.

The Teutonic armies, under Field Marshal von Mackensen, in Eastern Wallachia, have crossed at Buzen, on the Lower Calmuidi River, and in addition to taking 1,150 prisoners captured great quantities of rolling stock with innumerable vehicles of other kinds. The pursuit of the Russian and Rumanian troops in Dobrudja continues. The Teutonic forces are now close to the forest district in the north, where it is expected the Russo-Rumanian armies will still offer resistance. Petrograd admits the capture by the German and Bulgarian forces of the village of Testemele, in Dobrudja.

Desperate encounters marked the fighting in Volhynia, where the forces of Prince Leopold is declared by the Berlin War Office, to have stormed Russian positions on a front of six hundred yards, north of the railroad between Kovel and Lutsk, capturing five officers, three hundred men, several machine guns and mine throwers. The thrust by the Russians, near Illukst was repulsed, this result being accomplished only after three desperate attacks. According to Petrograd, south-west of Valeputna, in the wooded Carpathians, the Russians, after repelling an attack by large German forces at the point of the bayonet, captured a height.

More active artillery bombardments have marked the fighting in the Austro-Italian theatre. These and patrol engagements are the only events announced from this sector.

The London "Observer," commenting on the German peace offer, says it is dominated with a completeness for which the pan-Germans, even in their wildest dreams, scarcely dared to hope. The magnificent Middle Empire for an International Federation under German leadership, which practically exists, comprises at least 160,000,000 persons. This is a position Germany has achieved by arms, and would like to secure permanently by peace negotiations. The present manoeuvre has no other object. With such a position and prospect, Germany could well afford to retire from France and Belgium, and even pay an indemnity to the latter. In such circumstances peace by negotiation could be a betrayal of the Allies' cause. The Allies cannot secure a right peace or safe settlement until they have overthrown the Central League by force of arms. If the Allies are wise they will keep to the whole height and breadth of their original aims. They will declare they are resolved to establish a just and staple system of international peace as was Lincoln to maintain the Union and as resolved to smash German militarism and domination as was Lincoln to smash slavery.

WOMEN WANT PEACE

LONDON, Dec. 18.—Sylvia Pankhurst, militant suffragette, with a number of sympathizers, endeavored to hold a demonstration at the East India dock gates this afternoon to demand peace. The big crowd assembled mobbed the speaker. The police interfered and rushed Miss Pankhurst and her friends to the police station, followed by a demonstrative crowd. The prisoners were held under bail, pending examination before the magistrate.

ADVERTISE IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

Last Night's Cables Big French Gains on Meuse River

BRITISH RAID

LONDON, Dec. 18.—Official report from British Headquarters in France issued to-night reads:—"Last night a party of our troops successfully raided enemy's trenches near Ransart and inflicted a number of casualties, bombing his dug-outs, also entered enemy's trenches south-west of Wyttschaete, where we destroyed machine gun emplacements. Enemy blew up Camouflet this morning east of Ypres."

INCENDIARISM

CHARLOTTETOWN, Dec. 18.—Another fire occurred at Summerside last night, causing \$12,000 worth of damage. Three men arrived, charged with incendiarism.

BARQUE LOST

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—The Brazilian barque "Nethis," with 12 men on board, was lost during a snow storm on Friday night off Barnaget, New Jersey coast.

Huns Stopped By the British

LONDON, Dec. 17.—A small party of the enemy attempted to raid the British trenches near Hill 60 last night but was caught by barrage fire. Our artillery are bombarding the enemy trenches north of Halleck and east of Neuve Chapelle. A squadron of seaplanes have bombarded Racioiki, forty miles from Istip; the bombs dropped had a good effect.

Italy's Food Restrictions

ROME, Dec. 17.—A decree has been issued forbidding, for two weeks, the manufacture of candies or cake or its transmission by post or railways. The decree further forbids hotels to serve meals containing more than one meat course.

FRENCH GAINS AT VERDUN

LONDON, December 16.—The French troops again made effective thrust in Verdun region, striking German positions between Meuse and Woivre Rivers, north Douaumont, N. E. fortress along front 6 miles French forced back soldiers of German Crown Prince for a distance of almost two miles, more than 7,500 prisoners and numerous guns taken from Germans. Paris announces in its latest communication German War Office admitted "advantages" had been obtained in this region by attackers.

Buzen, an important railroad centre N.E. Bucharest, and excellent base from which to begin operations on Moldavia, has been captured by Austro-Germans. Retreating Russians and Rumanians are reported to be burning villages behind them. Four thousand additional prisoners Mackensen's army. Simultaneously have been taken by Field Marshal with taking Buzen, Austro-German-Bulgarians began an offensive on Dobrudja. Russians and Rumanians, Berlin states, evacuated positions under pressure exerted by advance great Wallachia.

Greek Government accepted demands Entente Allies contained in ultimatum presented to Athens Government Thursday. It is reported officially that Greek troops are to be withdrawn from Thessaly, only certain number are to be stationed in Peloponnesus, it is said.

9000 Huns Surrenders With 250 Officers--Violent German Attack Brought Up Short by French Fire

PARIS, Dec. 17.—A bulletin by the War Office tonight reads:—"On the right bank of the Meuse our troops continued their success and progressed in Courieres Wood, and also captured the Village of Bezonvaux yesterday. At the close of the day a violent German attack directed against our positions at Cote du Poivre, "Pepper Hill," was brought up short by our fire. We have maintained in its entirety our new front. Prisoners continue to be brought back, the number exceeding 9000, of which 250 are officers. Enumeration of the material which has fallen into our hands not yet completed, but computation up to the present shows 81 guns taken or destroyed.

Constantine Backs Down Wants Allies Confidence

Greece Replies to Allies Ultimatum and Accept Demands of Entente Powers--Assures Them Friendship

LONDON, Dec. 17.—According to an Athens despatch to Reuter's Greece has replied to the Allies' ultimatum by saying that it accepts the demands made on it as desirous of giving another manifest proof of the sincerely friendly sentiments which have always animated it towards Entente. The reply says that no hostile movements of troops have ever taken place or been projected, and that the transfer of material northwards will immediately cease. Orders have already been given, it is said, regarding the movements of troops and all material, and will be carried out as rapidly as possible. In respect to the attack on British and French marines in Athens on December 1st, the Government declares that it desires to give every legitimate satisfaction and refers to its proposals to arbitrate. It expresses the hope that the Allied Powers will reconsider their decision to continue blockade, which, it says, is straining relations and impressing public opinion. The reply concludes with the expression of the desire of the Government and people of Greece for a resumption of the excellent traditional confidence which previously existed between Greece and the Entente Nations.

Crushing Victory For the French at Verdun

Gen. Nivelles Smashes Huns at Verdun--Advances Two Miles and Captures 80 Guns--Enthusiasm at Paris

PARIS, Dec. 18.—The official telegram announcing that Greece had accepted unreservedly the conditions of the Allies was received at the Foreign Office at midnight, according to the Petit Journal.

The number of guns captured from the Germans in General Nivelle's victory on the Verdun front, as counted up to the present, is eighty, according to latest reports reaching Paris. Nivelle's victory have advanced the French positions two miles, and they are now within a short distance of where the Germans stood at the outset of the great Verdun drive. Military authorities declare the victory as a complete and crushing one, and carried out without a hitch. The news of the victory was received in Paris with enthusiasm as a welcome relief to the gloomy tidings from Roumania. Nivelle is the man of the hour, and his latest achievement justifies his choice as Commander-in-Chief, and augurs well for the future.

Huns Confession of Weakness

LONDON, Dec. 17.—The Economist team of Allies together and in fighting says it believes Germany's cry for ing trim.