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FOR MISSION COME OFFERERS?

Stockholm Reports Members Soon Home A WASHINGTON VETO

American Minister at Stockholm Ordered Not to Vise Passports Alleged Terms on Which Germany is Reported Willing to Discuss Peace

London, Dec. 29.—The Stockholm correspondent of the Daily Mail telegraphed yesterday, 1915.—The members of the Ford peace party received their coup de grace today and all hopes of settlement in the Hague were abandoned when Ira Nelson Morris, the American minister, announced the receipt of a cablegram from Washington forbidding him to vize the passport of the party, so as to enable the members to ask for permission from Germany to travel to Holland, by sea.

All efforts to secure passage on a steamer from Copenhagen or other Danish ports to Rotterdam have failed. Mr. Morris also will make it impossible for the delegates to wander on their own responsibility through belligerent countries. The mission will be kept together by Mr. Ford's managers and will be shipped from Copenhagen to New York by the Scandinavian-American line.

Rebuff for Hanna "A new version of the efforts of Governor Hanna and Frederick Clark to get an audience with the King of Norway leaked out today. "When Minister Schmedemann declined to assist according to this version, they brushed diplomatic etiquette aside and took a taxicab to the palace, where they met with a most uncompromising reception. Governor Hanna quite recently had been decorated with the Grand Cross of St. Olaf by the king, he left Norway in a huff. The party will prolong its visit here by one day and will leave on Thursday night. Four of the American newspapers, the Express, the Evening Post, the Star and the Sun, are expected to arrive here this afternoon and attend the peace conference which will be held.

German Peace Terms? Berlin, Dec. 29.—The Wolff bureau last night circulated among the German newspapers an exhaustive summary of an article from the New York Times, purporting to give in considerable detail the terms upon which, according to the newspaper, Germany is ready to consider peace. These correspond generally with the outline of the probable peace terms published in France, amounting to some 15,000,000,000 francs, and the payment, for a term of years, of an annual contribution by Belgium equal to the amount hitherto spent annually on the Belgian military estimate.

Whether the Belgian territory would be restored entirely is not specified in the newspaper, but it is stated that the country would be policed, that is, guarded, by Germany, until the payments of the contribution were ended, and that measures would be taken to prevent Belgium from making an Anglo-French alliance either by treaty arrangements, or perhaps through "pledges" turned over to Germany, the latter phrase apparently referring to the retention of the Meuse fortress.

The Wolff bureau is careful to disavow authoritatively that the article is interpretable as a German peace feeler.

DEATH OF CHILDREN DUE TO POISONED CANDY? Boston, Dec. 29.—The death of five children in the Brighton district and Cambridge within the last few days from what the death certificates describe as acidosis, is under investigation by Medical Examiner Macgrath today. Pending the result of an autopsy, Mr. Macgrath declined to give an opinion as to whether death might have resulted from eating poisoned candy as had been suggested by a physician. Several other children in the neighborhood are seriously ill.

FOUR NOW IN THE PARKS HOME There are now four soldiers in the Parks convalescent hospital Mount Pleasant. Corporal Smith of this city, who left here with the first contingent, and who returned home, wounded, is on duty as orderly assisting Dr. Logie and Miss Burns, nurse in charge, and three other soldiers are there convalescing. One of them, Lance Corporal Stewart, of Dalhousie, was wounded with the 15th Battalion, 1st C. E. F., in France; the other two, Private Scully and Private Tanner, were taken ill while on duty in Canada preparing to go overseas, and will join their battalions on Wednesday.

MORE SUCCESS OF THE CAZAR'S TROOPS

Russians Capture Important Town in Persia

HARD TIME FOR GERMANS Suffer From Poor Food and Bad Weather on Western Front—Shortage in Supplies For Field Hospitals

London, Dec. 29.—Russian troops have occupied the important Persian town of Kaban, and are marching toward Tadjik, according to the Tehran correspondent of Reuters Telegram Company.

HARD TIMES FOR GERMANS ON WEST Paris, Dec. 29.—Apart from receiving presents, the German soldiers in Flanders have little time for holiday festivities. The continuous rain necessitates their working day and night to make the trenches habitable and the soldiers are very despondent. The food is poor and the weather. Many are suffering from rheumatism. The food supplied to the western army has deteriorated lately, especially in the field hospitals, where there is a scarcity of milk and eggs. Although the hospitals are many men are sent to garbion before they are fit. This is one of the chief complaints.

A Turkish Report. Constantinople, Dec. 29.—The Turkish war office reports:—"Dardanelles front.—One of three enemy aeroplanes flying over Arbusun, was hit by our artillery fire and fell into the sea. Later it was towed by two vessels to the island of Imbros. "A vessel of the Agamenon class, (a British battleship with a displacement of 15,500 tons), protected by two cruisers, two monitors and eight torpedo boats, bombarded at intervals our positions. Our artillery replying, hit the Agamenon, and one of the cruisers with two shells. On the 27th a monitor posted behind the line of Merkez, fired eighty shells on the Anatolian coast narrow. Our Anatolian batteries repeatedly bombarded the landing places at Tekke Burnu and Schindler's beach, and destroyed enemy transport, sinking a boat near Tekkeburnu, and destroying a great ship. One of our aeroplanes successfully dropped four bombs on a tent camp."

THE FIGHTING IN BESSARABIA Berlin, Dec. 29.—The Csernovitz (Bukovina) correspondent of the Tagesspiegel writes:—"The fighting in Bessarabia has made eight attacks against the Austrians on the Bessarabian border since Christmas night. Despite a tremendous expenditure of ammunition and men, the attacking forces have not yet succeeded in breaking through the lines. Every time the weakened columns of the Russians succeeded in reaching the Austro-Hungarian lines, they were repulsed. The Russians maintained a gunfire for twenty-five hours which was audible in Csernovitz."

ITALIANS ADVANCE Paris, Dec. 29.—"Italian troops, which disembarked at Avlona, Albania, have reached the vicinity of the northern frontier of Epirus in some places, according to reports from voyagers arriving from Santi Quaranta, says the Athens correspondent of the Havas Agency. "Italian troops also have been seen near Tepeleni (Southern Albania)."

CLERK OF COMMERCE BANK IS ARRESTED Said to Have Gone to Chicago For "Splurge" Before Enlisting Chicago, Dec. 29.—Frederick J. Clarke, twenty-two years old, a clerk in the branch of the Canadian Bank, was arrested in Admiral, Sask., in under arrest here, on a charge of theft and forgery.

CAPT. G. A. MURRAY AND MISS MCINTOSH WED IN KINGS CLEAR Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 29.—The home of Mrs. James McIntosh, Kingsclear, was the scene of a happy event this afternoon, when her daughter, Miss B. was united in marriage to Capt. George Alexander Murray, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Murray of this city. Rev. Dr. Smith performed the ceremony in the presence of relatives and friends. The bride was given in marriage by her brother, John, and was attended by her sister, Miss Martha, of New York. The bride wore a yellow tulle and white lace trimmings, and carried a bouquet of yellow and cream roses. The bridesmaids wore blue chiffon with red roses. Out-of-town guests included Mr. and Mrs. Arthur McIntosh, of St. John, and Mrs. Coleman of Moncton. The bride's brothers and sisters presented her a chest of silverware, and the groom's present was a set of black fox furs. The bride is a niece of the late Col. John L. Marsh of this city, and a cousin of Col. H. H. McLean of St. John. She is a professional nurse, and was on active service in Cuba during the Spanish-American war. Mr. and Mrs. Murray will reside here.

War Budget 200 Or 250 Million Dollars

Daily Sitzings of Cabinet in Ottawa Next Week in Preparation For Opening of Parliament

Ottawa, Dec. 29.—Through the prime minister is back most of the cabinet ministers are out of town till after New Year's, and holiday quiet prevails. Starting on Monday, however, there will be daily sittings of the cabinet in preparation for the opening of parliament on January 12. Only two outstanding matters are included in the government's programme. The one to be taken up first is an address to the imperial house asking for a one-year extension of the term of the Canadian parliament.

REMARKABLE DEMONSTRATION FOR VENIZELOS PTE. McCOLLOM IS IN HOSPITAL IN HAVRE, FRANCE Athens, Dec. 29.—Thousands of Greeks of all classes, beginning with the residence of Eleutherios Venizelos, former prime minister, this morning on the occasion of his Saint's Day gave him an extraordinary greeting.

THE UNBORN SERBIAN Paris, Dec. 29.—"According to reliable information there are 75,000 Serbian troops at Scutari and Elbasan, Albania, suffering from the effects of a gas attack. The parcel was returned saying that the soldier could not be found. A letter was recently received from him saying he was in hospital. "Naturally, worried over the matter Mr. McCollum telegraphed Ottawa for information and today received the reply that his brother was in hospital at Scutari, suffering from the effects of a gas attack. He was admitted to hospital on November 5. Private McCollum has not been permitted to draw to any extent and which will not be needed for ordinary purposes, so far as is known. With this resource at their command the mayor felt that there need be no alarm regarding the financing of any additional grants if they are found necessary during the year."

PLAN TO PROVIDE FOR THE RUSH TO CANADA AFTER WAR Ottawa, Dec. 29.—Big problems affecting conditions of immigration to Canada after the war are to be made the subject of special study when the economic and development commission meets here on January 24. Arrangements for the thousands of people who will head for this country when the war is concluded, form one of the main questions, and evidence will be taken as to available land, new homestead regulations, adapted to the new conditions, and generally as to steps required to meet the coming extraordinary situation. The investigation is likely to be protracted.

PARIS MAY PUT GLOOM ASIDE AND LIGHT CITY Paris, Dec. 29.—General Michael Joseph Maunoury, military governor of Paris, expresses the opinion that the capital might be more brilliantly lighted without the risk of air raids. He said he was inquiring into the question and if the results bore out his belief, a return would be made to almost normal lighting.

CHIGNECTO IN PORT The Royal Mail Steam Packet Liner Chignecto arrived in port this morning from Bermuda and the West Indies. Captain Adams reports a rough trip, heavy seas and strong head winds after leaving Bermuda. The steamer was due yesterday but owing to weather conditions was behind time. One hundred and twenty-three passengers arrived on the steamer. The majority of these were sailors of the British navy. She also had 4,000 tons of freight, chiefly sugar, for the Atlantic refiners and western points. Christmas was celebrated on board. A programme was arranged among the passengers and a most enjoyable time was spent by all.

NEW LANCE CORPORAL A letter received by Geo. M. Brown, Brookville, today from Francis said that his step-son, James W. McIntire, 20th battalion, had been given a step up, and was now a lance corporal. His friends will be pleased to hear of it.

HERE FOR HOLIDAYS C. J. Driscoll, head of the traffic department of the Steel Company of Canada, Ltd., is in the city from Montreal for his holidays and is being warmly greeted by old friends. He is also receiving hearty congratulations upon his marriage a few months ago, this being his first visit home since then, and he has brought his bride with him. Mr. and Mrs. Driscoll will return to their home in Montreal after New Year's.

RE-OPEN GLASS WORKS Brussa, Dec. 29.—The glass works at Marmonville, Jenepes and Dampreny, which were closed since the outbreak of the war, are to be re-opened on full time on January 3. A large number of workmen will be employed.

WEATHER BULLETIN Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. P. Stuart, director of meteorological service.

Synopsis.—The depression which was over the Gulf of Mexico yesterday is expected to approach the Great Lakes with increasing energy, while a marked cold wave is spreading over the western provinces from the northward. Snow has fallen from Alberta to Lake Superior. The outlook is stormy from Ontario eastward.

Gales, Snow, Sleet or Rain. Maritime—Fair and cold today, then strong winds and gales northeast and east with snow, turning in some localities to sleet or rain.

New England forecasts.—Rain or sleet this afternoon and tonight; Thursday, fair, easterly gales.

NORTHLIFFE SCHEME FAILS

AVERAGE OF A STEAMER A DAY FROM THIS PORT

That Was Busy Record of December—Big Amount of Business Handled

An average of a sailing of a steamer each day with practically no congestion is the new record for the port of St. John and this is what the harbor department reports for December. Throughout the month every berth has been occupied almost every day, an immense amount of business has been handled and the only delay which has occurred was with one steamer which remained in the straggle for a day or two waiting for a certain berth.

THE EXTRA BUSINESS WHICH THE WHARF has brought to the port in addition to the regular traffic has demonstrated the ability of the harbor facilities to handle more business than ever before and the harbor commissioner is well satisfied with the showing which the records for this month will make.

MAYOR SPEAKS OF PROPOSED INCREASE IN THE TAX BILLS

Discussing the proposal to seek legislation to authorize the addition of ten per cent to the tax bills for patriotic and charitable purposes, Mayor Frank Leonard today in a speech to the city council pointed out this morning that the estimates must be completed by January 15; that the assessment must be made before the date on which the legislature will be expected to meet and the tax bills should be out by the time a bill is passed through the house. Under the circumstances, he did not see how it would be possible to secure additional legislation to affect this year's assessment plan.

His Worship also said that he had understood that, with the pledges already in hand and the prospects for the future, the Patriotic Fund committee was not at all alarmed regarding the members of parliament, but as the Daily Telegraph phrases it, by the whole people of Great Britain, who will do nothing to prevent the passage of the bill. "There is only one hitch, and that is the proposal that Ireland be excluded from the act in response to the plea of Mr. Redmond, which the general public has denuded of men, many thousands of whom are with the colors, and that would mean that the program is finally resolved upon will be supported not only by the great majority of the members of parliament, but also by the people of Great Britain, who will do nothing to prevent the passage of the bill. "There is only one hitch, and that is the proposal that Ireland be excluded from the act in response to the plea of Mr. Redmond, which the general public has denuded of men, many thousands of whom are with the colors, and that would mean that the program is finally resolved upon will be supported not only by the great majority of the members of parliament, but also by the people of Great Britain, who will do nothing to prevent the passage of the bill."

ANNOUNCEMENT WEDNESDAY "The belief is that on next Wednesday Mr. Asquith will make a declaration of policy in the House of Commons on behalf of the government. He will announce that a bill will be introduced without delay, making service in the army obligatory on unmarried men of military age who are not attested under the Derby scheme.

"It may be the mere threat of the introduction of the bill which will serve to bring the laggards up to the scratch but, there is no longer any opportunity of attestation under the group system, presumably the men who now wish to join the army will be able to do so only in terms of enlistment.

"Newspaper stories that the prime minister was coerced into an unyielding attitude by the threat of resignation from Lloyd George, are pure fiction. The fact is that Mr. Asquith from the outset was determined to fulfill his pledge, in spirit as well as in letter. His own interpretation of it is far more rigorous than that placed upon it by some of his colleagues in the cabinet. I believe the Asquith pledge of priority for unmarried men was given without previous consultation with the cabinet. Washington Watching.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Great Britain's effort to carry on the war without conscription is being anxiously watched by the American war department, because army officers say the United Kingdom's situation touches at the roots of conditions the United States faces in carrying out the administration's programme for increasing the army.

If Great Britain decides for conscription, high officials said today, a long step will have been taken toward the time when universal service will be generally accepted in the United States as a (Continued on page 2, sixth column)

Great Wave Carries Captain To His Death

New York, Dec. 29.—The steamer Escalona arrived in New York today from Liverpool with a tale of tragedy at sea, as illustrated to her from the British steamer Cheviot Range, bound from Fowey, England, to Philadelphia. During a hurricane on December 22, so the Cheviot Range reported, the skipper, Captain Fell, was washed overboard and drowned. Great seas boarding the ship smashed bridges and did other damage. No assistance was asked.