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BRITISH ANSWER PACIFIC

Shows a Disposition on the Part of Britain to do Every thing in Reason to Avert Delays to American Shipping

WON'T PROTEST SHIP TRANSFERS

Americans Could Purchase Interned German Ships, but Money mustn't be Paid to Belligerents 'till End of War

London, Jan. 7.—The reply of Great Britain to the American note regarding interference with its shipping, it is said in well-informed quarters, is wholly conciliatory, and shows a disposition on the part of England to do everything within reason to avert delay to American shipping.

At a time when freight rates are high, and consequently loss of time is so costly to ship owners, England wishes to do everything in its power consistent with the proper safeguarding of the interests of the Allies, to facilitate world trade and stimulate commerce, paralyzed, as it is, by war conditions.

Won't Protest.

Consequently, it is declared, there is no disposition on the part of England to protest against the purchase of German vessels by Americans, where sales are genuine, and ships are not used so as to avoid what might reasonably be called the consequences of belligerency.

Use of transferred German ships in the cotton trade with Germany, probably would call forth objections from the Allies, although cotton is not contraband, because the Allies, it is said, would regard such use as a roundabout means of escaping the effects of the war. At any rate objection is not likely to be made until ships are actually transferred and their prospective use clearly indicated.

Must Hold Money.

It is possible that the Allies will take the position that sale money shall be held until the close of the war as a guarantee that it will not be of assistance to belligerents.

An assurance that a German ship, purchased by the United States Government or its citizens, would engage in South American trade only, probably would satisfy the Allies and prevent any formal objection, as a stimulation of trade with South America is greatly desired by the Allies.

While it is pointed out that the sale of German ships in New York Harbor to the American Government or its citizens would inevitably relieve German ships in New York harbor, and German citizens of the heavy expense of maintenance and insurance, undoubtedly consequences of war within the meaning of international practice, still England probably would be willing to waive objections on this point, were the vessels not permitted to enter trade in Norway, beneficial to Germany, Austria or Turkey.

FLANDERS FLOODED

And Troops March Ankle-deep in the Mud—Great German Activity Near Ypres

London, Jan. 8.—The Germans are continuing their attack to the south-east of Ypres where their heavy artillery has been steadily bombarding the Allied trenches.

There is a steady rainfall in most of Flanders and floods are increasing. In Dixmude area the German infantry reinforcements, in some places, are advancing ankle deep in mud.

Troops have been forced to sleep in the open for the last few days awaiting orders for the next counter attacks and they are suffering severely in health.

1915 Opens Auspiciously For Allied Forces In West Enemy Kept On Defensive

London, Jan. 7.—The New Year opened upon a more favorable situation for the Allies than any they had known since the commencement of the campaign," says a report made by a military observer attached to the British Army Headquarters at the front.

The report was made public today by the Official Information Bureau. It is dated Jan. 4th, and supplements similar narratives as given out at intervals during the progress of the war. "So far as the British are concerned," says the report, "the small expeditionary force of four divisions which took the field in August and which is steadily increasing in numbers and is becoming more and more battle-hardened, can look back on a record of hard fighting such as the British troops seldom have sustained in the past.

Marked Change.

"The struggle the last four months has entered upon its fourth phase. A slow, but none the less marked change which has taken place, resulting definitely in passing the initiative into the hands of the Allies.

"This not shown so much by material results obtained, although at some points of the Allied front ground has been gained, while in some places very marked progress has been made, resulting in the capture of guns and strongly entrenched positions; but our advantage lies in the fact that it is now the Allies, who for the past few weeks have assumed and maintained the offensive role, while the enemy has been acting on the defensive.

Allies Make Progress. "The fact that the enemy is acting on the defensive does not mean that he has given up attacking altogether, but his attacks have been in the nature of counter attacks, undertaken either in order to regain ground previously lost, or to relieve the pressure on some other part of the German line. It is only by analysing the total results of these attacks by both sides that a clear idea can be obtained of the really marked progress that has been achieved by the Allies."

After referring to the ultimate consequence of repeated small successes, the British observer adds: "Wearing-down Process. "It must not, however, be thought that this is other than very slow and laborious progress, or that the final result is within immediate reach. Yet every capture by the Allies in the field represents lost ground for which the enemy expends much blood and treasure, and is a step forward in the process of wearing-down, which eventually will bring the war to an end."

The British observer states that he is able to confirm the reports that there is considerable sickness in the German lines. He says for some time past there has been a good deal of typhoid, and that some German units have even been withdrawn temporarily on this account.

Alsace Scene Of Big Fights

French Are Steadily Advancing Despite Desperate German Resistance

Geneva, Jan. 8.—Fighting in Lower Alsace is daily growing in intensity around Steinbach, Gerney and Thann. Villages, houses and trenches are taken and retaken at the point of the bayonet and the casualties on both sides have been extremely heavy.

It is stated that about 250,000 men in all are engaged and that both sides are using heavy guns. The Germans are continuously hurrying reinforcements from the Rhine Ports.

General Pau, it is stated, is in command of the French forces, which have made progress despite the fierce resistance of the Germans.

Canned Rabbit Is Now Supplied To The Warships

Australian Article Supplied to Men on Canadian Warships—Is Much Appreciated

Ottawa, Jan. 6.—A new dish has been added to the menu on board the Canadian navy. It comes from Australia, where they have made some progress in naval matters. The Australian navy, which has done such good work in the war, is British built and manned, but the Australian rabbit is a native product.

After being caught, skinned, boned and cooked, it is put up in tins, and the Naval Service Department has purchased a large consignment of these tins for consumption on the Niobe, the Rainbow and the two submarines.

Fresh meat being scarce on the high seas, and there being a certain monotony in canned corned beef, the store of the navy have taken with enthusiasm to the Antipodean rabbit. They are asking for more.

GERMANS DENY STORY OF ARREST OF ARCHBISHOP

London, Jan. 7.—The German Military Governor of Belgium has issued an official denial of the report that Cardinal Mercier had been arrested by German authorities.

The Prospero left Wesleyville last evening, going north.

ROUMANIA WILL HELP THE ALLIES

Credible Story Says That the United States Has Been Asked to Look After Rumanian Interests in Berlin

HAS 500,000 MEN READY FOR FIELD

People Have Made Up Their Minds and Public Men Think That the Time is Now Opportune

Paris, Jan. 8.—It is learned from a source worthy of credence, that arrangements whereby the interests of Roumania in Berlin and Vienna will be attended to by the United States Diplomatic Service have been definitely made.

This can mean but one thing in the opinion of Roumanian Legation here—that Roumania would prefer to wait until Russian operations through Bukovina had further developed across the Carpathians.

Roumania, although ready to place 500,000 troops in the firing line immediately, is not wealthy enough to face unmoved the prospect of a long war. Every month that has been passing, has been reducing the period of Roumania's inevitable co-operation with the Allies. Only cold, practical facts have kept Roumania aloof so far.

Have Made Decision.

London, Jan. 8.—The Morning Post's correspondent in Paris declares that Roumania has decided to throw in her lot with the Allies.

He telegraphs a statement by Mr. Diamandy to the effect that the Roumanian people have made up their minds and that active participation by the Roumanian army against Germany and Austria-Hungary is assured.

Schr. Robert E. Dale, which arrived Wednesday from Lunenburg with her bow sprit carried away is now having a new one put in by Mr. John Taylor.

Rapid Advance of Russians Stirs Military Observers Turk Offensive is Smashed

London, Jan. 8.—A complete change in the situation in the near East may be brought about by the Russian victory over the Turks in the Caucasus. If the Turkish defeat is as sweeping as has been officially reported, resulting in the virtual destruction of two and the repulse of a third Turkish Army Corps, the Turkish menace against the Russians in Trans-Caucasia has been removed.

The loss of so many of their best trained officers and men it is believed here, will compel the Turks to give up any ambition they had of invading their enemy's territories and concentrate on the defence of their own country.

Gigantic Operations.

Military men, however, are taking even greater interest in the Russian invasion of Hungary thro' the Uzesok Pass of the Carpathians and their rapid advance on Transylvania thro' Bukovina, simultaneously with their movement toward Cracow. These combined operations are the most gigantic undertaken in the war.

Meantime the Russians are held by the Austro-Germans in Western Galicia. Field Marshal Von Hindenburg, the German Commander in Northern Poland, can move but slowly, because of the mud, in his offensive operations against Cracow.

German Artillery Stuck. A despatch from Petrograd says that the aviators observed German artillery at their frontier railway stations

which cannot be moved on account of the softness of the roads. It has been suggested that the Germans intended to use the Vistula for the transport of their guns but, with the Russians in possession of the Northern bank, this obviously would be impossible.

Although fighting has been intense at many points on the Western front there is little or no change in Flanders where the fields and roads are under several feet of water. In that territory only artillery has been able to work but in Northern France, between Lille and Arras, there has been some hard fighting in which trenches have changed hands more than once.

Hard fighting, too, continues in Alsace, where the French claim they have advanced a little toward Altkirch. They have apparently got no further along the Cernay road from Steinbach.

Warned Other Ships Off.

The British Admiralty is now convinced that the battleship Formidable was destroyed by a German submarine. Making this announcement in the House of Lords, Earl Crewe divulged the information that the spartan rule which the Admiralty promulgated after the loss of the cruisers Aboukir, Cressy and Hogue, that no ships should go to the assistance of another for fear she, too, might be torpedoed had been carried out. The Captain of the Formidable, although he knew his ship was doomed, signalled the other ships not to stand by.

DOUBLE FUNERAL HELD ON SUNDAY

The funerals of the late Mrs. J. M. Dooley and her daughter Mary, takes place Sunday afternoon. They have been delayed until then to give Mr. Dooley, who is steward on the Glenoece time to reach the city before interment.

The Portia arrived at Bonne Bay at 7 last evening and left at five this a.m.

Servians Win Another Battle

Their Latest Victory Occured on the Frontier, Near Belgrade.

Paris, Fighting has been resumed on the Servian front, according to an official communication issued at Nish, Servia.

The fighting, in which the Servians were victorious, according to the statement, occurred near Belgrade.

Police Recruits

Three new policemen have joined the force since the New Year, and are now being instructed by Sergt. Savage. They are Messrs. Herbert, Whalen and Snow.

French Troops' Steady Advance Toward Altkirch

German Aviators Making Attempt On Dunkirk Put To Flight—French Artillery Gains

Paris, Jan. 7.—French troops are now only two and a half miles from Altkirch, in Upper Alsace, taking up their position in a forest near the town.

German aviators, attempting to attack Dunkirk, were put to flight by the French batteries.

Fighting in Flanders is confined to artillery conflicts, in which the French have gained the advantage over the Germans.

Pestilence Smites City of Przemysl

Lemberg, Galicia, via Petrograd, Jan. 6.—It is reported here that pestilence is spreading in the city and among the garrison of Przemysl, which is now almost without provisions. Ineffectual sorties still continue from Przemysl, but they are less vigorously pushed. This is due, it is thought, to the garrison's knowledge of the failure of the Austrian relief forces to break through the Russian lines.

Match Postponed

The curling match for the President and Vice-President's prizes had to be postponed yesterday on account of the mild weather.

BATTLE BEGINS AROUND MLAWA

Petrograd, Jan. 7.—Another battle or the possession of Mlawa is developing. The Russians are sending reinforcements to strengthen their army, now facing the German.

Municipal Meeting

The weekly meeting of the members of the Civic Commission takes place this evening.

William Dawson Drowned In Bay Roberts Harbour In Sight Of His 2 Children

To-day we record details of an extremely sad accident which occurred at Bay Roberts, yesterday, whereby William Dawson lost his life before the eyes of his two eldest children, aged 12 and 10 years, and a companion named Connell was within an ace of death.

The men had been out bird shooting in a flat bottom boat several hours, and were returning, being little more than a hundred yards from the beach, when Mr. Dawson fired at a bird.

With the recoil of the gun he was over-balanced and fell in the water. His companion was on the other side of the boat and when Mr. Dawson fell over, Connell's weight toppled the boat over, and he too was thrown in the icy water.

Only Children Saw

It happened shortly after 2 o'clock, when the men of the town were at work, and the only eye-witnesses of the tragedy were the two children who were awaiting their father's return.

Dawson must have become unconscious as he made no effort to catch the boat or save himself.

Connell was more fortunate as he caught hold of the boat but was unable to right it or make an attempt to assist his friend.

The children raised an alarm and a number of men were soon on the beach, but a boat was not available. They searched everywhere, but

could find nothing with which to put off to the drowning man. The searchers had to go a considerable distance beyond the pond before they could find a boat and when they discovered one it was frozen in the ice and had to be cut out.

A row of quarter of a mile was then necessary before they arrived at the scene.

Both were quickly taken on board and hurried to the shore. Dawson was found in eight feet of water and when landed was apparently lifeless.

Connell, who had not gone under, was conscious, but in a very weak state from cold and exposure. He was conveyed home immediately and was given hot stimulants and wrapped in warm blankets.

Mr. Dawson was laid on the beach and M. Tobin, of P. F. Moore's employ who had been at work installing the plumbing into the cable office spent fifteen minutes applying first aid, but with very little success.

Some difficulty was experienced in getting a doctor, but after a half hour Dr. McLeod was found and he lost no time in responding.

The doctor gave the patient some whisky and wrapping him in rugs drove him home where he did all in his power to resuscitate the body.

In the meantime Rev. Fr. Walker, who was at the station en route to Hr. Grace was acquainted and he visited the home and broke the news to the wife and children.

Tried to Revive Him.

For an hour the doctor labored assiduously to sustain life, but to no purpose, and at 4.30 the man died.

Had the unfortunate man been placed in warm blankets when first brought ashore he might have recovered, but with the chill of the water and lying on the cold beach his vitality became so lessened that when the doctor learned the facts he held out very little hope of recovery though he availed of every means to sustain the life that was quickly ebbing out.

Great sympathy is expressed with the widow and orphans; there are six children, the oldest being only 12.

Last evening Mr. Connell was very low but this morning he was somewhat improved, and it is believed he will recover.

Mr. Dawson was a cousin of the Newfoundland survivor who is still undergoing treatment at the hospital.

U.S. ASKS INDEMNITY OF BRITAIN

Sends Formal Request For Punishment of Canadians Who Shot and Killed Canadian Citizen

ASKS DAMAGES FOR INJURED MAN

And a Grant to Family of Man Who Was Killed—Authorities Will Likely Comply With the Request

Washington, Jan. 8.—The United States Government has sent a formal Note to Great Britain requesting punishment of those guilty of the killing of Walter Smith and the wounding of Charles Dorsch, two American citizens who were shot by Canadian Militiamen at Fort Erie, Ontario while hunting ducks, in alleged violation of the Canadian Game Laws.

The communication, which was of a friendly character, pointed out that not only did the United States Government expect the offenders to be duly punished, but that adequate compensation should be given the families of the victims.

Coincidentally with the sending of the Note, Sergt. Bryan received a personal memorandum from the British Ambassador here, after which the Sergt. said the British Government, without deciding the question of liability will consider the payment of damages to the injured man and the family of the deceased.

From this statement the officials took it for granted that damages would be paid after the Dominion authorities had completed their inquiry.

S.S. Mongolian left Liverpool at noon Saturday. She is due early next week.

Belgian Family Murder Victims In Canadian City

Mrs. Van Looy, With Her Three Children Found Strangled in Their Home in Montreal.

Montreal, Jan. 7.—Mrs. Van Looy, wife of a Belgian soldier, now fighting against the Germans, and her three children, aged eight and five years and ten months, were murdered in their home.

The discovery of the crime was made this afternoon. The dead mother and her children were lying in bed, apparently having been strangled.

BROTHER SHOT HER

Belgian Woman and Family Killed by Own Kinsman Who, Later, Committed Suicide

Montreal, Jan. 8.—One of the most shocking crimes that ever occurred in Montreal was discovered yesterday when it was two days old. It was the murder on Tuesday morning, of Mrs. Robert Van Looy, wife of a Belgian reservist who left about three weeks ago to fight for his native land, and her three children, and the suicide on Tuesday night in Cartierville of the murderer Jean Moons, brother of Mrs. Van Looy.

The dead bodies of the mother and children found in one bed in their home was evidence that the four had been strangled to death and placed in one bed by the murderer.

Jean Moons, the undoubted slayer of his sister and her family, was seen leaving the house at eleven o'clock on Tuesday morning supposedly about two hours after the tragedy.

Although Moons shot himself to death in Cartierville on Tuesday night his identity was not revealed until yesterday afternoon when the detectives were looking for the wholesale murderer in the Van Looy home.