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FAIR AND COLD

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STRENGTH AND PRESTIGE OF THE BOLSHIEVSKI GOVT HAS WEAKENED IN RUSSIAN TERRITORY

Recent Developments in Russia Show Their Power to be Slipping Somewhat Although Lenine and Associates Have Gained Considerable Military Success in Western Russia and Maintain Control of Their Armies—Defeated at Archangel and on the South and Eastern Fronts.

Paris, Jan. 20.—Authentic information received here, concerning recent developments in Russia, indicates that the strength and prestige of the Bolshievski government at home has weakened somewhat in the last few months, although Premier Lenine and his associates have succeeded in strengthening their armies, and gaining considerable military success in western Russia.

Premier Lenine, apprehensive of political developments and the possibility of a vigorous Allied intervention, is reported to have proposed to the Executive Committee of the Soviet congress that the Bolshievski surrender. Trotsky, Karl Radek and Foreign Minister Tchitcherine opposed the proposal vigorously. However, Lenine's proposal was defeated by a majority of only twelve votes out of 200 cast.

The prospect of foreign intervention however, it is said, has brought to the Bolshievski support from certain elements which dislike intervention, and who fear that intervention might result in a counter-revolution and the restoration of the monarchy. The Bolshievski army is estimated to number 300,000 men. It is said to be well equipped, and under complete control of its leaders. The high pay offered by the Bolshievski, who also control the food supplies, has enabled the leaders to maintain discipline and to attract recruits.

It is believed here that no revolt by the unarmed masses of northern and northwestern Russia will have much chance of success, while the Bolshievski maintain control of their army. The withdrawal of the Germans is aided by the military progress of the Bolshievski in the west, where they are concentrating their greatest efforts. Bolshievski vanguards are operating without serious military opposition and are reported to be within 150 miles of Warsaw. They are expected to capture considerable parts of Lithuania and the Baltic provinces. This concentration in the west has resulted in some serious reverses on other fronts, notably the recapture of Perm by Siberian troops, and the defeat of the Bolshievski at Archangel and on the south and eastern fronts.

An expedition of 20,000 Allied and Russian troops has been unable to establish contact with 5,000 Czech-

Slovaks on the Perm-Ufa front, although the respective successes on the Dvina and at Perm promise to lighten this problem. In addition to the Perm and Ufa armies there are also anti-Bolshievski forces in the Omsk region of Siberia, and in the Kuban region, while small allied forces are stationed at Baku, Odessa and Sebastopol.

Representatives of the various Russian Governments, with the exception of the Bolshievski, are now at Paris on their way here to advocate their claims before the Peace Congress. The Northern Republic; ex-Premier Sergius Sazonov, the former Foreign Minister in the old regime, now representing the Kuban and Omsk Governments; M. Tchichkovsky, President of the Northern Republic; ex-Premier Lvoff, and Boris Bakhmeteff and other ambassadors of the Kerensky Government, are among the prominent emissaries to the conference. But thus far no Russian Government has been recognized.

There are three main proposals before the conference regarding the Russian policy. The first advocates vigorous intervention and the overthrow of the Bolshievski.

The second advocates by every other means, than the despatch of troops, assistance to the elements in Russia fighting for democracy and order against the Bolshievski, with the object of contributing to the restoration of normal conditions in the peripheral regions of Russia and to encourage the populations of the central regions still under Bolshievski domination to an effort to obtain similar conditions.

The third involves the cessation of opposition to the Bolshievski Government, the withdrawal of the associated and allied troops, and an attempt to reach a working arrangement to assist Russia out of her troubles, though the formal recognition of the Bolshievski is not necessary.

Under the third proposal, the associated powers would attempt to supply Russia with food and other urgent necessities, and assist in the reorganization of transportation, industry and commerce, provided the Bolshievski would guarantee to discontinue their attacks on their neighbors, refrain from molesting Allied sympathizers and cease terrorism.

STRIKE HURTING BUENOS AIRES

Great Amount of Tonnage Being Diverted Because of Port Tie-up.

Buenos Ayres, Jan. 20.—No evidence of a settlement of the strike of port workers, which has been in progress for several days, is in sight. Eleven British steamers, totalling 24,000 tons, will be ordered to the roadside to await orders if the strike is not settled by tonight.

The newspapers express the fear of a cessation of commercial relations with Great Britain as a result of the strike. La Razon publishes a list of shipping aggregating 200,000 tons, which have been ordered to other ports after starting for Buenos Ayres, owing to the port strike.

The British minister, commenting on the situation, said: "It is not to be expected that British shipping will be able to pay high port dues indefinitely while the strike in part by the strike. If ships are unable to unload here they must look elsewhere."

WOMEN VOTERS OF MANITOBA

Ask Certain Sweeping Reforms in the Laws Affecting Legal Status of Women and Children.

Winnipeg, Man., Jan. 20.—Sixty women, representing the women voters of Manitoba, waited on the Provincial Government today, and asked for certain sweeping reforms in the laws affecting the legal status of women and children. They were promised that their requests would receive every consideration by the legislature. It was asked that every wife be granted a third interest in her husband's possessions, with legal right to will it away; that mothers be granted equal guardianship with the father of her children; that illegitimate and foster children be given equality with legitimate children under the Wills Act; in the devolution of estates; that certain changes be made in the Vital Statistics Act, so far as the Act related to the paternity of illegitimate children.

LABOR LEADERS CAN'T AGREE

Gompers in London in Consultation With British Labor Officials.

London, Jan. 20.—The delegation headed by Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, which is here on its way to Paris to attend the international Labor Congress, met the British parliamentary committees of the Trades Union Congress today. The conference, which lasted three hours, failed to reach an agreement on a proposal by Mr. Gompers that a purely trades union international conference be convened currently with the peace conference. Another meeting will be held tomorrow.

INCENDIARY CASE MORE EVIDENT

Investigations into Montreal Fire Confirm First Opinion.

Montreal, Que., Jan. 20.—At the resumed enquiry today into the fire which, on Sunday, January 12, destroyed the automobile manufacturing and repairing plant of Jennings and Company, corner Wellington and Grey Nun streets, more testimony was forthcoming in support of the suggestion that there was an element of revenge in the occurrence. Both the proprietors of the plant said an employee related happenings and conversations, which seemed, in their minds, to point in this direction. On the other hand there was strong refutation of this suspicion from a witness who had held a responsible position in the business, and who repudiated the general innuendoes which had arisen in the course of the enquiry. Commissioner Ritchie presided.

ROYALIST REVOLT IN PORTUGAL

London, Jan. 20.—A Royalist revolution has broken out in Portugal, according to a wireless despatch from Lisbon. Fátima Condeiro has placed himself at the head of the Royalist revolt at Oporto, Braga, and Viseu and has proclaimed former King Manuel, King of Portugal. Government troops are on their way to suppress the conspiracy. The wireless despatch adds that former King Manuel has sent a telegram to the Portuguese government reproving the attempt in his behalf.

Foch's Demand For Rhine Barrier Most Significant Forward Step Toward Peace

Significant That France Should Have Chosen Her Great Military Leader to Make Public the Declaration—British and American Gov'ts Agree That it is Better to Secure a Formal Declaration of Peace and Proceed With Demobilization of Armies Before Taking up Other Discussions.

(Special Cable to the N. Y. Tribune and The St. John Standard.)

By Ralph Courtney.

Paris, Jan. 20.—Marshal Foch's interview with the American and British correspondents at Tignes, marks the most significant advance in the peace negotiations. His speech stands out in importance above the mere spectacular opening of the Peace Congress and all minor discussions now taking place. It ranks beside the famous declaration of Arthur Balfour in England, that the German colonies must be returned to Germany, Foch says, according to one report. "The Rhine is the guarantee of peace for all the nations who have shed their blood in the cause of liberty. Then let us watch the Rhine. We have no idea of attacking Germany, or of recommencing the war. Democracies, such as ours, never attack, they ask but to live in peace and grow in peace. But who can say that Germany, where Democratic ideals are so recent, and perhaps so very superficial, will not quickly see from its defeat, within a very few years, attempt a second time to crush us?"

"It is a long way to go, but we must prepare to obtain the peace of the future. The armistice is signed, but peace is not yet concluded. Let us watch the fruits, so that we will not lose the results of our common victory. Let us remain united as we were in battle."

It is of great significance that France should have chosen her great military chief to make, publicly, this declaration, from which may be gathered one angle of France's peace programme. Marshal Foch declares that France desires to have a mandate from the peace conference to regard, along with the British, the interests of mankind. "The demand has been, or no doubt will be, formally made by France at the conference now taking place," he says. "The public has received no official statement regarding President Wilson's reply to such an offer."

Among the interesting opinions on the peace conference are the following: "The Paris edition of the 'Daily Mail,' by one of its conference correspondents:

"For this great assembly there are three orders of pressing importance, which must be settled before peace is declared. They are in order, first, the Russian situation; secondly, allocation of territory and indemnities; thirdly, measures for the economic reconstruction of Germany."

"Memoranda, which has been presented by the British and American governments, agree, in effect, that it is better to secure a formal declaration of peace and proceed with the demobilization of the armies, the proceeding with the discussion of such intricate subjects as the allocation of conquered territories, the league of nations, the abolition of conscription, etc. which can be very well allocated for discussion by committees prior to formal decision by the conference.

"The Americans, however, make a reservation to the effect that, as it is probable that difficulties will arise as to the final retention of conquered territories, it is inevitable, certain, that the small powers will clash, and arbitration becomes necessary. What would be more normal than arbitration by an ensemble of twenty-five delegates nominated by the five great powers, which participated in the war? It is seen that by this method there will be few plenary meetings, that is to say, meetings like today's, where all the delegates are assembled."

"The plenary sittings have no value except when the question is of ratifying a whole series of decisions which interest the ensemble of states, and about which there is question of speaking about the future organization of the world, about the League of Nations."

FORMER STENOGRAPHER INDICTED FOR TREASONABLE ACTS IN 1917

Accused of Carrying Messages from Conspirators in America to German Agents in Holland — Correspondence in Invisible Ink Were Taken from the Stenographer on One of His Return Trips.

New York, Jan. 20.—J. Willard Robinson, formerly a stenographer in the office of Jeremiah A. O'Leary, is accused of carrying messages between O'Leary and German agents in Holland in 1917, in an indictment for treason returned here today by the federal grand jury.

Robinson, the indictment states, went to Rotterdam on an American tank steamer in April, 1917, and delivered to Frank Richards, alleged to be a German agent, correspondence from O'Leary and from Madame Marie deVictoria, John T. Ryan and Herman Wessels, who, with Leary were indicted for treason.

The messages, the indictment states, were in invisible ink, and one from O'Leary and Ryan asked the German government what assistance it could give in the fight for freedom for Ireland. The reply to this inquiry, according to the indictment, was that

lands, especially along the Adriatic coast, consideration of the problem connected with the League of Nations must be pushed forward in order that the authority of such a league may be given to any majority decision of the conference to which any individual power may dissent.

"With regard to the three problems outlined above, the five great powers, Great Britain, France, and the United States, Italy and Japan have agreed, in effect, that representation by any Russian element is at the moment impossible. This decision causes much disappointment to the Russians, who, like Prince Lvoff, are in Paris ready to take an active part in the discussions. But Lord George agrees with Clemenceau that, at the moment, if any representation were given to any of the old elements of the Russian government, the Bolshievski would declare that the European Powers were thereby supporting the old monarchial regime, and would add additional strength for their revolutionary doctrine."

There remains the question of Allied intervention in Russia, which is the most difficult question before the conference. All the great powers are said to be against active intervention by their armies in Russian affairs, but differences arise as to the extent of the assistance to be given Poland against the Bolshievski menace.

"The situation changes daily, according to the stability of the Polish Government, but the Poles have declared to the conference in Paris that they are prepared to deal with the Bolshievski invasion, if they have assistance and munitions from the Allies. They would be glad to have Allied forces sent via Germany, but do not feel themselves dependent on the same. Guns and shells and trained instructors they must have, however, happily the whole situation has been cleared up by the unqualified defeat of the Bolshievski in Germany."

Describing the machinery of the peace conference for dealing with the whole series of territorial, financial and conscription matters, the 'Matin' says: "The procedure will be as follows:

"Questions to be considered are first: 'submitted to the national delegations. Each delegation registers its opinion by memorandums submitted to the general secretaries, then the five great powers, that is to say, the organizers of the conference, deliberate upon the memorandums. Either they will make immediate decisions, or they will convene for discussion with themselves the countries whose interests are touched upon by each question as it arises.'"

"This method may appear at first a little tedious, but it is inevitable, certain, that the small powers will clash, and arbitration becomes necessary. What would be more normal than arbitration by an ensemble of twenty-five delegates nominated by the five great powers, which participated in the war? It is seen that by this method there will be few plenary meetings, that is to say, meetings like today's, where all the delegates are assembled."

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HERMAN WHITAKER DIED YESTERDAY

Noted Author and a Leading War Correspondent—Served With British Army.

New York, Jan. 20.—Herman Whitaker, author and war correspondent, of Piedmont, California, died here today, aged 52 years. Born in England, Mr. Whitaker served with the British army, resigned to become identified with the development of the Hudson Bay Territory, and moved to California to take up literary work. He was in Europe as a correspondent during the war.

PRESIDENT ADOR OF SWITZERLAND

Visits Paris to Present Difficulties of His Country to Supreme Council.

Geneva, Jan. 21.—It is expected in official circles here that President Ador, on his arrival in Paris, will visit Premier Clemenceau, Mr. Lloyd George, and President Wilson, to explain the financial and economic difficulties which Switzerland has encountered since the signing of the armistice, owing to the restrictions which have resulted. It is pointed out that President Ador, in visiting Paris, will break the same traditions as did President Wilson when he left the United States.

KING ALBERT VISITS TROOPS

Paris, Jan. 20.—King Albert, who has been visiting the Belgian army of occupation, inspected the billets of the troops at Gladbach, 12 miles northwest of Cologne on Friday. At the conclusion of his visit King Albert was taken by airplane to Duisburg, on the left bank of the Rhine, fifteen miles north of Dusseldorf.

Enemies Cannot Be Permitted To League of Nations at Present Time

Paris, Jan. 20.—Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey cannot be admitted to the League of Nations at the present time, but they should be allowed to join as soon as the League is satisfied that they are entitled to be ranked among the trustworthy nations of the world.

This is the opinion expressed by Lord Robert Cecil, who has just turned over to the printer the British plan for the League of Nations, which will be submitted to the peace congress. Lord Robert made this statement to the Associated Press tonight.

"The League should be all embracing, for all trustworthy nations, since it is for the good of humanity," he said.

Asked for a definition of "trustworthy" Lord Robert replied that in the German one criterion would be in the establishment of a government free from military dominance. This would be a guarantee of trustworthiness. It was obvious, he pointed out, that Germany should not be admitted until she had been brought order out of the present chaos and the complexion of the new government was seen.

WHITE RUSSIA WITH SOVIETS

White Russians Number About Five Million and Live in Lithuania.

Zurich, Jan. 20.—(Havas Agency)—White Russia has proclaimed its union with the Russian Soviet Republic, according to a despatch from Kiev.

The bulk of the White Russians, who number about five million, live in Lithuania, which, recently, was invaded by the Bolshievski.

A despatch from Geneva, Sunday, reported that word had been received from Prague that Kiev was in the hands of the Bolshievski who had overthrown the Ukrainian government.

800 AMERICANS ARE ON BOARD

S. S. Rochambeau Put Into Halifax Monday Short of Coal — On Way to New York.

Halifax, Jan. 20.—The S. S. Rochambeau, of the French line, which put in today short of coal, left Bordeaux on January 9th. She has 800 American troops on board, mostly artillery, and representing most of the United States, but there are details from all over the United States. There are also a number of Red Cross workers, Y. M. C. A. officers and Knights of Columbus men on board. She will be here for three days taking on 500 tons of coal, and will then proceed for New York.

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"BRITAIN MUST MAINTAIN HER FLEET TO RESIST AGGRESSION OTHERWISE SHE WOULD STARVE"

England's Supremacy of the Seas Has Always Meant Equality to All in Peace Time.

THE QUESTION OF DISARMAMENTS

Must Depend Upon League of Nations to Assure Protection Now Afforded by Armies and Navies.

ARBITRATION CAN BE PRACTICAL

The Relations of United States and Canada for Many Years Have Proven it.

Toronto, Ont., Jan. 20.—"England's supremacy of the seas in time of peace has always meant equality for all nations and, in times of war, Britain must maintain her fleet to resist unjust aggression. If she did not she would starve in a week."

So declared Hon. William Howard Taft, former President of the United States, in a vigorous and studied speech before the Empire Club in the King Edward Hotel this afternoon.

"The question of disarmament," concluded Mr. Taft, in ringing tones, "must depend upon the success of the League of Nations, and its demonstration that it can furnish that insurance which nations can now secure by navies and armies for their self-protection."

Mr. Taft was repeatedly cheered during his address.

"Our two countries are an example to the world," he said, "of what can be done towards the maintenance of peace. One hundred years of peace is something the world ought to cherish, and it is something that can be done towards peaceful international relations. The American people have learned that arbitration can be made a practical thing through her relations with you."

GREAT BRITAIN BEHIND WILSON

British Labor Leader Declares a Workable and Feasible League of Nations Must Follow.

Berne, Switzerland, Jan. 20.—"President Wilson will achieve a workable and feasible League of Nations, and will have the full strength and influence of Great Britain solidly behind him," Arthur Henderson, British Labor leader, declared to the Associated Press today. Mr. Henderson is in Berne to arrange the preliminaries for an international Labor Conference here on January 27. The British labor leader said he was disappointed that Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor, who had been elected to the committee which is to meet here, had formed another trade union conference, Germans and Austrians, as well as Dutch and Swedish labor leaders, Mr. Henderson said, he understood would participate.

The conference here, if it is held, will be the first official meeting between Allied and enemy labor leaders since the beginning of the war.

OTTAWA OBJECTS TO AMALGAMATION

Merchants to Put up Big Protest to Union of Bank of Ottawa With Bank of Nova Scotia.

Ottawa, Jan. 20.—Merchants, manufacturers, wholesalers and prominent business men will meet here tomorrow morning to protest against consummation of the deal by which the Bank of Ottawa is to be absorbed by the Bank of Nova Scotia. Widespread protest and indignation is being expressed throughout the city by leaders in industrial and mercantile life, who feel that in the proposed merger and consequent disappearance from the financial world of the Bank of Ottawa, a distinct loss to the capital, and that it should not have been assented to by the Minister of Finance.

BOOTLEGGERS DO THE TRICK

Halifax, Jan. 20.—When the Olympic arrived last week the men for the Nova Scotia district were sent to the armories and their friends allowed at once to see them. It appears that this caused delay and confusion in getting the men to their homes and contributing to this was the work of bootleggers who got in with the friends and made matters bad. The public will not be allowed in to see the men of the Empress of Britain, which is expected on Thursday morning.