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RUSSIAN EVACUATE BRAILA IN CENTRAL RUMANIA Important War Conference of Allies Meets in Rome

SENATE BACKS WILSON'S STEP TOWARD PEACE

Approves by Large Majority
Sending of Note to Belligerents.

U. S. MAY BE DRAWN IN
Speaker Says Country Will Stand for Injuries No Longer.

Washington, Jan. 5.—Approval of President Wilson's request for a statement of peace terms from the European belligerents was voted tonight by the senate at the conclusion of three days of stirring debate. Action came with dramatic suddenness, when Democratic leaders decided to accept a form of resolution that would not commit the senate to endorsement of the whole of the president's note, and ten Republicans of the Progressive group joined the majority in making the vote 45 to 11.

Discussion of the subject had reached a climax during the day with a sensational declaration by Senator Lewis, chief spokesman for the Democrats, replying to Republican criticism of the president's course. Without referring directly to the submarine controversy, the senator said the U. S. could not keep out of the war if it continued, and that America would not again accept misapprehension of orders or zeal of any officer as an excuse for an injury to a citizen or property.

The chief objection urged against the original resolution offered by Senator Hitchcock, was that it would endorse the president's offer to join in a movement to guarantee world-peace, and his declaration of the interests of the U. S. in small nations. Progressive Republicans joined Senator Lodge and others in this contention.

The resolution adopted was proposed by Senator Jones, Republican of Washington, and was accepted by Senator Hitchcock as a substitute for his own. It resolves:

"That the senate approves and strongly endorses the request by the president in the diplomatic notes of Dec. 18, to the nations now engaged in war, that those nations state the terms upon which peace might be discussed."

"Let me say on my own authority," said Senator Lewis in his remarkable speech, "that I agree with the sentiment expressed from any quarter, the secretary of state or anyone else (referring to Secretary Lansing's first explanation of the president's note to the powers)." (Concluded on Page 11, Column 1).

EARTHQUAKE TREMORS STARKLE NORTH BAY

Shocks Lasting From Thirty to Forty Seconds Are Felt.

North Bay, Jan. 5.—The sole topic of conversation on the street today is earthquakes from which North Bay received rather a severe jolt about a quarter to eleven last night. The rumbling noises were at first thought to be a collision of trains in the vicinity, but the earth continued to quake and many were brought from their houses. The shocks lasted from thirty to forty seconds. No damage has been reported up to noon today. The shock was also felt in the northern and western districts.

AMERICAN DESERTER ASKS TO BE PUNISHED

Walks Into Windsor Offices—Wants to Go Overseas With Clean Slate.

Windsor, Jan. 5.—James Dawson, a young man of military bearing, today stepped off a ferry boat from Detroit, walked into the immigration offices and demanded to be placed under arrest. He confessed to being a deserter from the 213th Battalion and said he wanted to return to his unit, but desired to be punished first; that he might go overseas with a clean slate. Christmas Day, he said, he was granted a pass from the camp at St. Catharines and went to Buffalo. He remembered landing in Buffalo, but recalled nothing else until yesterday, when he discovered he had been transported to Detroit by unknown means. He proved his identity by tattooing on his arms. Dawson was handed over to an escort and sent back to St. Catharines this afternoon.

LETTERS PESTERED PASTOR RESIGNED

Startling Statement Made at St. James' Square Presbyterian Meeting.

That Dr. Andrew Robertson, D.D., tendered his resignation as pastor of St. James' Square Presbyterian Church because he was "persecuted" and "pestered" by letters received by him from one or more members of his congregation in which his policy toward church union was criticized, was the startling statement made by J. W. Grigor at the meeting of the congregation in the church last night.

DEEPLY REGRETTED

Majority of Congregation Feel Sincerely Loss of Dr. Robertson.

The meeting was called to take action in regard to the resignation which will be submitted to the regular presbytery session at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning in that church. The congregation, after hearing a number of addresses in which Dr. Robertson was lauded and praised and hearing explanation for his resignation, adopted a resolution acquiescing in his decision, accepting the resignation of the session in which the resignation was profoundly regretted and endorsing the board of managers' action in granting the pastor three months' extra salary.

URGUE HIGHER TAX ON NICKEL TRUST

Rowell and Bowman Address Liberal Rally at Colingwood.

Several Live Issues
Assertion That Machine Gun Fund Was Misspent is Repeated.

WAR SUMMARY

THE DAY'S EVENTS REVIEWED

ACCORDING to a German official communication issued at Berlin last night all of the Rumanian Province of the Dobruja has been occupied by the Teutons and Braila has also fallen. Braila is an important Rumanian Danube port and it formerly was the seat of great storehouses for grain. Since the allies have removed all the grain in preparation for the evacuation of the town the advantages of holding it by the enemy are nugatory. The Russian lines along the Buzeu River, which covered this town, formed an awkward salient and the bombardment of Braila was bound to cause devastation, so the allies obtained obvious military advantages by evacuating it, especially if they desired to fight a defensive campaign.

The whole damage was done to Rumania by the embarking on a faulty campaign. When it was perceived that the plans for this military effort were defective the allied general staffs, who had taken over the direction of military affairs, decided to withdraw the Rumanian army altogether, reorganize it, and take the offensive when the defects of the old plan had been repaired by a new scheme. As regards the immediate future, it is doubtless intended to seek the shortest lines possible in Rumania, or else to continue this mobile, retreating form of warfare until the allies have completed adequate preparations to assume the offensive. The lack of prisoners claimed by the Germans last night and the small number claimed yesterday

ALLE'S CHIEFS MEET IN WAR COUNCIL AGAIN

Important Conference Assembles at Rome Today to Debate Plans.

NOTABLES PRESENT
Lord Milner and Premier Lloyd George Represent Great Britain.

London, Jan. 5.—Premier Lloyd George and Viscount Milner, a member of the British war council, with their official advisers, have arrived in Rome, says an official statement issued tonight, to participate with the French and Italian Governments in an exchange of views on the general situation.

SEEKING A NEW POSITION ON THE POLISH FRONT



The photograph shows a Siberian artillery company on the march behind the Russian lines on the Polish front.

"HOLD MACAULEY," SAYS INSPECTOR

New York Police Official Claims Toronto Man is Wanted

IS RELEASED ON BAIL

Macauley Insists That His Arrest is a Bad Mistake.

St. Louis, Jan. 5.—A. P. Macauley, of Toronto, arrested here two days ago suspected of being "Christmas" Knough, notorious forger, was released on \$10,000 bond today. He insisted the arrest was a mistake.

TO LESSEN GERMAN SWAY OVER CABINET OF HUNGARY

London, Jan. 5.—King Charles is expected to visit Budapest next week to meet the leaders of all Hungarian parties in a special audience for the purpose of forming a Hungarian cabinet in which German influence will be lessened, says a Budapest despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Co. forwarded by way of Amsterdam. The new plan includes the retirement of Premier Tisza, says the despatch.

SEVERAL LIVE ISSUES

Assertion That Machine Gun Fund Was Misspent is Repeated.

Special to The Toronto World.
Collegewood, Ont., Jan. 5.—Agricultural needs, the nickel question, hydro and the machine gun purchase seemed to be the leading issues developed tonight at the opening meeting of the campaign in support of Isaac Scott in the West Simcoe by-election. Public interest in the contest is shown by the fact that the opera house was crowded to the doors, with as many standing as could be accommodated. The candidate himself, N. W. Rowell, K.C., and C. M. Bowman, M.L.A., were the chief speakers. Mr. Scott and John Birnie, K.C., referred in scathing terms to what they called the disgraceful article appearing in this week's local Conservative paper, making various charges against the Liberals.

VILLA MEETS HEAVY REVERSE

Two of His Generals Slain

Chihuahua, Mex., Jan. 5.—Villa was defeated at Jimenez yesterday by Gen. Francisco Murgu with a loss of 1,500 rebel dead, wounded and captured. The rebel leader, Martin Lopez, and another Villa general are among the slain.

WILL VISIT FRONT

London, Jan. 5.—General Turner, Sir George Fether, Colonel McCrae and F. H. McCurdy, M.P., are going to France. Lieut. J. B. Ellis, shot in thigh and right knee, is at Camiers; Lieut. A. McNulty, shot in head, serious, is at Le Treport; Lieut. A. B. McCormick, shot in leg and lower body, and Lieut. R. G. Lefebvre, shot in face, are at clearing stations.

ITALIANS CAPTURE LINE UPON CARSO PLATEAU

Make Advance of Four Hundred Yards in Fair Area by Successful Attack.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
Rome, Jan. 5.—For the first time in several weeks the Italians made another advance in the Carso plateau by moving forward about 200 yards in the fair area in a successful attack, and establishing themselves in new positions.

YEAR OF VICTORY BEGUN

GEN. NIVELLE CONFIDENT

In Order to French Troops He Praises British Valor and Declares Tactical Superiority Will Continue to Improve.

Paris, Jan. 5.—The following general order to the troops has been issued by Gen. Nivelle:

"At a time when another year of the war is ending you can be proud of the work accomplished. At Germany ever attack against any of her adversaries, during a long series of attacks you have given proof of a tactical superiority which will continue to improve. Never has our army been better trained or more brave or possessed of more powerful means."

FIGHTING REVIVES NEAR RIGA'S GULF

U.S. NOT PREPARING SECOND PEACE NOTE

Washington, Jan. 5.—Following the cabinet meeting today Secretary of State Lansing announced that President Wilson had authorized him to say that the American Government had no other note in contemplation and that such information was being sent to all American diplomatic representatives abroad.

GERMANS START SHARP ENGAGEMENT BY SEIZING ISLAND IN DWINA

Wilson Instructing Diplomatic Representatives Abroad to This Effect.

Washington, Jan. 5.—The formal statement read: "The report that the president is preparing to send a new note to the belligerent powers is false and without any foundation. The president has no second note in contemplation."

GERMANS CLAIM OCCUPATION OF RUMANIAN TOWN AND OF DOBRUDJA

LOSE IN CARPATHIANS

Teutons Fail to Carry Allied Positions—Suffer Great Losses.

Special Cable to The Toronto World.
London, Jan. 5.—The only news that Braila has been evacuated comes from German sources and it is contained in a German official communication issued at Berlin tonight.

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SATURDAY NIGHT BARGAINS

DINEEN'S FURS AND MILLINERY.

Dineen's will be open until 10 o'clock tonight for the display of fur garments and sets offering at greatly reduced prices during the present clearing sale of 1917 furs. The inducements are most particularly inviting in fox and mink sets and furs for misses and children. All millinery reduced to half price, including feather boas. Dineen's, 140 Yonge street, cor. Temperance street.