

SEVERAL COUNTRIES NAME DELEGATES TO PEACE CONGRESS

Lloyd George, Law, Balfour and Barnes Will Represent Great Britain

CANADA REPRESENTED

Paris, Dec. 27.—The personnel of the Peace Congress is gradually taking form, so that the American delegates express the hope that the delegations of the various countries will be announced and the delegates will arrive for the actual commencement of the negotiations soon after the opening of the year.

A number of the main details of the composition of the congress are now fairly settled as a result of the recent conferences. These indicate that the total membership of the congress will be between 100 and 120. There will be 27 countries represented by delegations, including those which declared war and a number which have come into existence as a result of the war.

The great powers, Great Britain, France, United States and Italy, each have allotted five delegates, while the other delegations will vary from one to four members, according to the size of the country and the interests involved.

Non-arrival Causes Surprise

Word has been received that the Belgian and Portuguese delegations soon will join the representatives of the United States, who thus far are the only members of the peace congress to arrive. The non-arrival of the others has been the subject of considerable surprise and adverse comment, the Americans taking the ground that they are here ready to proceed to business but with the personnel of the congress not yet announced. It is understood that President Wilson's visit to England is likely to result in conveying quite definitely the view that it is highly desirable that the congress should be put into motion with the least possible delay.

Probable Representation

While the personnel of few delegations have been announced, unofficial advice indicates that most of them will be formed substantially as follows:

Belgium—Paul Hymans, Foreign Minister; Emile Van Dervelde, Minister of Agriculture; Baron Van Den Haeghe, Minister of the Interior.

Portugal—Senhor Eneas Moniz, Foreign Minister; Senhor Espirito Santo Lima, Senhor Freres de Andrade, Senhor Santos Viegas and Augusto Vasconcellos, Minister of Colonies.

Brazil—Nilo Peçanha, Foreign Minister; Ruy Barbosa, Admiral Bacellar, and General Thomazowicz.

Japan—Viscount Chinda, ambassador to Great Britain; Baron Matsui, ambassador to France, and two other delegates now on their way to Paris.

Serbia—Nikola Pachitch, Premier; Dr. M. R. Vemitch and Dr. Cumbitch.

Greece—Premier Venizelos and M. Politis, Foreign Minister.

Italy—Premier Orlando, Baron Sonnino, Foreign Minister; Leonida Bisolati-Bergamaschi, Minister of Military Aid and War Pensions; Gen. Diaz, Commander-in-Chief of the Italian army and Admiral Paolo Thaon di Revel, former chief of the naval staff.

British Colonies May Be Represented

Great Britain—David Lloyd George, Prime Minister; Arthur J. Balfour, Foreign Secretary; Andrew Bonar Law, Chancellor of the Exchequer and George Nicoll Barnes, Labor member of the cabinet and one other delegate, who has not yet been designated.

Leut. Gen. Smuts and General Botha, representing South Africa, are expected to accompany the British delegation, in which probably also will be representatives of Canada, Australia and India.

France—M. Clemenceau, Premier; Stephen Pichon, Foreign Minister and three others who have not yet been announced, although the names of those mentioned as probable members include: Leon Burgeois, former Premier; Jules Cambon, General Secretary to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Captain Andre Tardieu, head of the general commission for Franco-American war matters, or former Premier Briand.

China To Have Delegate

The foregoing delegations comprise those of virtually all the European countries which have taken part in the war, except Roumania and the four enemy countries, whose delegates have not yet been announced. China will be represented by one delegate, probably the ambassador to France. Siam and Cuba and a number of South and Central American republics have not been heard from.

On the whole the lists given above though unofficial and subject to change, indicate that the delegations have been virtually formed and that they soon will be in a position to take up the work of the congress.

FRENCH GENERAL IS RECALLED TO PARIS FROM MACEDONIA

Allied Occupation Creates New Problems in East—To Hold Conference

Paris, Dec. 27.—New problems having arisen in the East, following the Allied occupation of parts of Hungary, Turkey, Russia and Bulgaria, the French Government has summoned General Louis Franchet D'Esperey, commander of the Allied forces in Macedonia, to Paris for a conference, says the Echo de Paris. The general is expected to arrive in Paris in a few days.

TORONTO POLICE ARREST

A WOULD-BE BANK THIEF Toronto, Dec. 27.—Following a struggle with a bank messenger and a chase that lasted for over two blocks, William Smith, who gave a wrong address to the police, was arrested Thursday, charged with assault, attempted robbery and with carrying firearms. Wearing a mask over his eyes and carrying a long rope with a noose made in it, and a loaded .32 calibre revolver in his pocket, Smith attacked a messenger for the Bank of Montreal branch office at Queen and Yonge streets, and after assaulting him, attempted to escape.

HUNS WANT BRITISH TO RESTORE PEACE IN CITY OF BERLIN

Foreign Troops Would be Gladly Welcomed by the Lower Classes

ATTACK ON SAILORS

Members of Government Disclaim Responsibility—Premier Gave Orders

London, Dec. 27.—"We shall not have peace here until the English and American troops come to keep order," is a statement attributed to one of the riotous German sailors in Berlin. The correspondent talked with a dozen other men, who expressed themselves similarly, some of them adding: "Don't let them send French troops, we will be more fighting."

All the lower classes in Berlin are willing to see foreign troops in the capital, feeling they have nothing to lose and perhaps something to gain by the presence of outsiders.

Richard Barth is quoted as saying he and his fellow cabinet members, Hugo Haase and Wilhelm Gittmann, would not accept the responsibility of ordering the attack on the sailors. Instructions for the attack were given by Premier Ebert, Philip Scheidemann and Herr Landsberg, Barth said. He intended to consult his colleagues and might leave the government immediately.

One of the most disquieting factors in the situation is the part played by the sailors' wives and sweethearts, some of whom participated in the fighting.

BRITISH NAVY TO SINK VESSELS THAT FLY THE RED FLAG

Execution of Crews of Hun Battleships That Spread Bolshevism

Amsterdam, Dec. 27.—The British Admiralty is prepared to take drastic measures against the propagation of Bolshevism in that part of the German fleet remaining in German hands, according to a Berlin dispatch today. The sinking of vessels, displaying the red flag and the execution of the crews infected with Bolshevism is threatened, it is declared.

The text of an order attributed to the British Admiralty in the message reads:

"Vessels under the red flag will be sunk without warning. Vessels without officers, will be dealt with in accordance with the laws of war. If a single man is caught propagating Bolshevism, the entire crew of the vessels in question will be shot."

REPORTS THAT 'BILL' IS ASSASSINATED NOT CONFIRMED

Paris, Dec. 27.—Rumors that the former Emperor of Germany had been assassinated, became current in Paris, notably in the Chamber of Deputies, last evening. There is not the slightest confirmation of the report up to the present.

STRATFORD MEN THREATEN GENERAL STRIKE IN ONTARIO

Unless Man in Custody For Having Objectionable Matter Is Released

BAIL ASKED FOR

Stratford Trades Council Threaten to Call Out All Ontario Labor Men

Stratford, Ont., Dec. 27.—Late last night the local Trades and Labor Council passed a resolution demanding the release of Arthur Skidmore, or if that is not done within a reasonable time, threatening to call a general strike throughout Ontario. The end of the week seems to be looked on as a reasonable time.

A request was made by counsel for bail until action for a motion to quash the conviction can be heard. Skidmore's offense was that of "having objectionable matter in his possession," namely some copies of "Canada Forward," a Socialistic paper.

TRAVELLER SAYS RUSSIAN EX-CZAR IS STILL LIVING

Also All the Members of the Family—Are Safe in a Neutral Country

ALLIED GOVTS. KNOW

Story of Murder of Former Russian Ruler Said to Have Been Manufactured

Warsaw, Dec. 27.—"There is no doubt that the Czar and his entire family are alive. I am positive of this," was the declaration made today by Michael De Tchitchatch, a nephew of General Skoropatski, and who has just escaped from the Ukraine after a recent trip to Petrograd, Divinsk, Vilna and Rowno.

"I cannot reveal where the Czar is, because he does not wish it," he added. "He does not care to be bothered and he wants to be left alone. His whereabouts is known to the Allied Government. It is in a neutral country. Accounts of his murder at Ekaterinburg were manufactured by Trotsky and Lenin for propaganda purposes."

165,000 BUSHELS GRAIN DESTROYED BY FIRE AT PORTAGE

Damage to Extent of \$450,000 Wrought by Blaze on Christmas Day

Portage la Prairie, Dec. 27.—One hundred and sixty-five thousand bushels of grain were destroyed by a fire which broke out in the Woodward & Co.'s elevator here on Christmas morning. The elevator and an adjoining office building was burnt to the ground and the total damage is estimated at about \$450,000. The loss is said to be covered by insurance.

The elevator had been closed down the night before to allow the night crew to enjoy Christmas at home. There was no fire in the building when the men left and the cause of the conflagration is a mystery. The building is situated on the city's outskirts where there is no water available, and the fire brigade successfully devoted its efforts to saving the Forsythe elevator, adjoining, with the exception of the office building of the latter firm which was destroyed.

Sixteen freight cars, nine of them loaded with grain, were burned, and the heat from the fire twisted the railroad tracks into all shapes.

The work of salvage has been started, and it is thought that a large quantity of grain can be saved in this way. Until this work is completed it will be impossible to estimate the loss.

At first it looked as if both elevators would be consumed, but a shift of the wind saved the Forsythe building.

It was the most spectacular fire that Portage has ever witnessed, and although it took place at three o'clock in the morning there was a large number of citizens who tramped West of the city to watch it and to render the firemen assistance, the brigades being badly crippled by the prevalence of flu among the members.

GERMAN WAR PROFITEERS REMOVE THEIR GAINS TO SWITZERLAND BY AIRPLANE

Munich, Dec. 27.—The Munich Post prints a startling charge that German war profiteers, unable otherwise to get out of the country, have resorted to the use of airplanes. According to the newspaper, several airplanes have taken quantities of enormous value from Frankfurt to Switzerland. The Post urges the government to seize capital where it is available, especially in the banks.

BRANDON'S NEEDS AND ASPIRATIONS PLAINLY STATED

Six Delegates to Visit Ottawa and Urge Brandon's Just Claims

SEND THE BEST MEN

City Council, Board of Trade, and Hospital Board to Bear the Expense

"No one was more surprised than myself at the dispatch from Ottawa that the headquarters of the Mounted Police will be located in Winnipeg," declared Premier Norris.

The Hon. Premier T. C. Norris was besieged with queries regarding the message he conveyed to Alderman-elect A. L. Hall that the Mounties would have their headquarters in Brandon in view of the later announcement that it would be established in Winnipeg.

The Premier stated that he had a letter from the Hon. N. W. Rowell explicitly stating that the headquarters of the new force of 200 Mounted Police would be in Brandon and that no one was more surprised than himself at the subsequent announcement that they would be located in Winnipeg.

The evident change of front of the authorities has taken everybody by surprise and there is much bitter complaint that the Dominion Government also appears to be influenced by certain interests that are bent on centralizing every possible institution in the city of Winnipeg.

That the citizens of Brandon will not sit still under the latest affront, was made manifest at the meeting on Thursday afternoon. The strong delegation that goes to Ottawa early in the New Year will insist that the claims of this city in this and other respects shall not be ignored.

For a Military Hospital

This was the attitude taken at the meeting held in the City Hall on Thursday afternoon. The meeting was a joint gathering of the City Council, Hospital Board and the Board of Trade, and was the outcome of a resolution passed by the Hospital Board, requesting the co-operation of the other civic organizations to press the claims in favor of a Military Hospital, being established in Brandon.

The following letter received by S. E. Clement, M.P.P., from the Hon. N. W. Rowell, was read:

"It is proposed to erect Military Hospital in Brandon. I have taken this matter up with General Newburn and presented to him Brandon's claims, as they were set forth to me when I was there and as covered by your telegram."

"General Newburn states that the plans of his department provide for all necessary hospital accommodation in Winnipeg and that he could not justify an expenditure of the additional money involved in creating a separate hospital established at Brandon. He insists that in the public interests, both from the standpoint of efficiency and economy, this department plans should not be changed."

"Brandon has been chosen as the headquarters of one of the dispersal areas for demobilization purposes."

Centralize Everything

Dr. Whidden stated that early in the summer it had been arranged that General Newburn should visit Western Canada, and the projected visit fell through and it was about that time that it was decided to centralize all military hospitals in Winnipeg for this province.

Premier Norris remarked that while at Ottawa he had made strong representations that a military hospital should be established in Brandon, but apparently to no avail.

Mr. J. D. Kennedy urged that a good live delegation be sent to Ottawa that could bring all the influence that could possibly be brought to bear against the Government. There was no reason to believe that the plans would not be changed when the full facts were placed in the proper quarters.

Mr. J. F. Kilgour said that it was simply a question of expediency as to whether the delegation should be sent to Ottawa. The expenditure of money for such a purpose was fully justifiable on public grounds. The question was as to how such a committee should be appointed. He thought that a committee should be selected to carefully canvass the situation and to choose a delegation of the strongest men that the city could send.

Reason Given Unsatisfactory

Dr. Howard P. Whidden, M.P., said that he did not think that the reason given for not building a military hospital in Brandon was satisfactory. He had advised long ago that a delegation be sent to Ottawa. Whenever this sort of thing was put through it had been influenced by delegations. Even if they did not get a military hospital, it was for Brandon's delegation to insist on a vocational training institute. He did not think that it had been definitely and finally settled that Brandon should not have a military hospital.

With regard to the post office, Dr. Whidden did not think that they were all aware of the disastrous building they had on their hands.

Mayor Cater suggested that the delegation should take up such matters as the military hospital, the location of the mounted troops, and the post office building.

Dr. Whidden remarked that the best time to send the delegation to Ottawa would be as early as possible in the new year.

Mr. J. S. Gibson learned that the G. T. F. had been given three years from May, 1917, to construct the line from Harte into Brandon.

A Supporting Delegation

Mr. A. L. Hall said that if this matter was pressed by representatives from neighboring districts, it would add force to the views submitted by the delegation.

Mr. S. E. Clement supported the view that a committee be named to choose the personnel of the delegation.

Mr. G. R. Coldwell said it was always an assistance to a member to have a delegation from his community. He moved that a delegation, as suggested, be sent.

Mr. L. S. Willmott seconded. He urged that the best delegation possible be chosen.

The motion was unanimously agreed to.

The following were appointed a committee to name the members of the delegation: R. Darrach, G. B. Coleman, A. Shewan, Dr. Whidden and S. E. Clement.

Send the Best Men

Mr. Kilgour then submitted: "That there be no restriction placed on the committee in its choice of personnel on the delegation, but that the expenses of two delegates each be paid by the City Council, Board of Trade and the Hospital Board respectively."

Mayor Cater contended that the City Council and the other organizations named should choose their own delegates.

Mr. Kilgour held that the very strongest possible delegation should be sent, and that it did not necessarily mean that the strongest men in the city belonged to the City Council.

Help General Hospital

Mr. G. R. Coldwell mentioned that as Premier Norris was present, he wished to draw attention to the fact that the Brandon General Hospital was considerably overcrowded. They had reached the stage that they were up against it and something had to be done. He mentioned that the city had

endorsed bonds to the extent of \$100,000 for building an extension to the present building. This was a few years ago and in the meantime it had been found necessary to use the sum of \$25,000. He suggested that if the Provincial Government make a grant of \$25,000 they could proceed with the original plan. He pointed out that the Brandon hospital held the same position to Western Manitoba as the Winnipeg hospital did to the rest of the province.

Mr. Coldwell reminded Premier Norris that the Brandon hospital was the only institution of the kind in the province that is paying its way. But the need of more accommodation was very acute indeed. In fact some of the medical men had undertaken to provide local hospitals of their own.

Necessity For Increase

Mr. R. Darrach, also addressing the Premier, said that though he could heartily endorse everything that was said by Mr. Coldwell, that Mr. Coldwell was far too modest in his estimate of what is required in the way of funds to meet the situation. People were every day going from here to Winnipeg, though they would be quite as well satisfied to be treated in Brandon. The necessity of increased hospital accommodation was becoming a more crying need every day.

Premier Norris asked if it was intended to proceed with the building of the desired additions during the coming year?

Mr. Coldwell replying said they would build as soon as they could sell their debenture bonds to advantage.

Mayor Cater and Mr. S. E. Clement also endorsed what had been said by Mr. Coldwell. The latter paid a high tribute to the highly qualified medical men now in Brandon. They would shortly be strengthened by Dr. J. S. Matheson, of whom there is no more highly skilled surgeon in the whole of Canada.

What About Power?

Ald. McKenzie asked Premier Norris what is being done with regard to the power question.

In reply, Premier Norris said that with regard to power the Government had under consideration the feasibility of a plan to construct a transmission line from Winnipeg to Portage la Prairie and thence to Brandon. The experts were now securing data as to costs, etc. By the time they met in January, it is hoped that some definite plan would be submitted to the Legislature.

Winnipeg Hospital Had Grant

Referring to the hospital question, Mr. Norris said that he was not prejudiced as to the location, but he was sure that the construction of the Brandon hospital was so bad as it now was shown to be by the various speakers. He was quite satisfied that as good medical service was obtainable in Brandon as in the city of Winnipeg. The Government had made a substantial grant to the General Hospital in Winnipeg, and as far as he personally was concerned, he thought substantial financial assistance should be given to the Brandon institution. He assured them that if representations would be made by a delegation from Brandon at the next session of the Legislature, he would accord the application his very cordial support, and he believed that they could receive generous consideration from the Government if the matter was properly placed before them. He anticipated that though the population of the province had increased by 60,000 last year, it would increase much faster in the future years than it had in the past. Canada was never better advertised than now, and is more spoken of in Great Britain and the United States than ever before. He remarked that the best argument that could be advanced in favor of the establishment of a military hospital in Brandon, was the fact that it would serve that great area of territory comprising Western Manitoba. With regard to the Post Office, it seemed that the Dominion Government had allocated the amount but that the expenditure had been held over for a time on account of the war.

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MANNHEIM OCCUPIED BY ALLIED BATTALION PROTECT PRISONERS

Ten Thousand Allied Soldiers Still Held in Prison Camps There

Zurich, Dec. 27.—A battalion of infantry have occupied Mannheim by order of Marshal Foch in order to watch the prison camp near there where 10,000 Allied prisoners await liberation, according to the Badische Landes Zeitung. The paper adds that this step was taken because of the bad treatment of prisoners, several of whom were murdered.

Mannheim is on the East bank of the Rhine, South of Mayence. It is within the neutral zone East of the Rhine outlined by the terms of the armistice.

BOLSHEVSKI AGAIN MAKE OVERTURES FOR PEACE TERMS

Allied Governments Decline to Recognize Government of Russian Reactionaries

London, Dec. 27.—The Allied Governments, since Christmas, have again been approached by the Bolshevik Government of Russia regarding terms of peace. These differ in no respect from those put forward by M. Litvinoff, former Bolshevik ambassador at London, through the Norwegian Government in November.

The pleas have met with no result as they emanate from a government which is not recognized by the Allies. The whole Russian question is at present under discussion among the Allied Governments.

WILSON'S FIRST DAY IN ENGLAND WAS REAL BUSY ONE

Faced Multitude From Balcony of Buckingham Palace Beside the King

London, Dec. 27.—The greatest moment of President Wilson's first day in England was when he stood with the King and Queen and Mrs. Wilson on the balcony of Buckingham Palace facing a multitude which stretched clear down the Mall to the Admiralty, half a mile distant, and overflowed St. James' Park on one side and Green Park on the other.

Only a corporal's guard could hear the President's brief speech, but the people demanded that he show himself, and gave him a greeting more clamorous than any other guest of the nation has commanded within the memory of the oldest Londoners.

The day's events constituted a tribute to the President. The official ceremonies—a reception by the Dover Corporation and the navy; the welcome at the station by the royal family and the chief officials of the empire; the state passage through the heart of London—were colored with touches of medieval pageantry, even to the crimson-coated Beefeaters from the Tower bearing halberds, which the British people cherish.

That the central figure of the royal procession in gaudy state carriages, attended by military escort and household officials, should be a civilian wearing a black coat and still hat, gave a flavor of novelty to the scene.

FRENCH LOSSES TO NOVEMBER 1ST

Paris, Dec. 27.—Announcement has been made in the Chamber of Deputies by M. Abraz, under-Secretary of State, that France's losses in officers and men killed up to Nov. 1st of the present year, aggregated 1,011,300, divided as follows: Officers, 31,300; men 1,040,000.

The number of dead, prisoners of war and missing was given at 42,600 officers and 1,789,000 men.

The men missing aggregate 3,000 officers and 311,000 men.

The prisoners still living total 8,300 officers and 438,000 men.

EIGHT THOUSAND U. S. SOLDIERS HOME FROM WAR BY DECEMBER 21

Washington, Dec. 27.—Eight thousand and American soldiers have been returned from overseas on December 21st, and slightly more than 500,000 in this country had been mustered out of the service, the members of the House Military Committee were told today at their weekly conference at the War Department.

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