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Would Consent To Limited Disarmament

Official Announcement By Germans In Washington

Wilson Will Take No Action Until Lloyd George Has Spoken In Commons—Pope to Address Christmas Proclamations to All Belligerents

Washington, Dec. 15.—The German embassy last night authorized the statement that it was certain, should representatives of the belligerents meet to discuss peace terms, that one of the most important conditions for discussion would be that of limited universal disarmament. The German view is said to be that any peace would be worthless which did not necessarily have the effect of bringing about a limited disarmament.

The German chancellor has said Germany would be glad to enter a league to prevent war. The German view further is indicated as being generally opposed to international conditions, as they have existed in the past, on the ground that such conditions are opposed to the maintenance of peace rather than conducive of it.

Japan Firm New York, Dec. 15.—A Herald despatch from Tokyo, under Thursday's date, says: "I have it on the highest authority that Japan will not entertain thought of peace so long as restoration of the ante bellum status is insisted upon by the Berlin government as a basis of settlement. Japan will stand staunchly on her allies in their determination to continue the war until the main purpose of overthrowing the Prussian militarism is accomplished. Japanese statesmen smile when Germany's demands for the restoration of the colonies is mentioned. They regard the restoration of Kiao-Chow is not considered a possibility in this country, and Kiao-Chow was the colony of which Germany boasted most. Public sentiment in this country is against the return to Japan of that portion of the Pacific. Japanese bankers provided strong arguments favorable to Japanese trade and enterprise can be made, but never would approve its again becoming a German colony."

Wait to Hear Lloyd-George Washington, Dec. 15.—President Wilson probably will not finally determine a any formal steps in connection with the peace proposals as a basis of settlement until he has heard the British prime minister has spoken in the House of Commons Tuesday.

London, Dec. 15.—A Zurich despatch of the Tagblatt of Berlin says that the hope in a few days will issue a Christian proclamation to all the belligerents, and to the neutral nations.

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London, Dec. 15.—Commenting upon a brief statement made yesterday, Andrew Bonar Law, regarding Germany's peace offer, the Manchester Guardian says: "Two things appear to emerge from his brief and dignified statement—first, that the government will not refuse to consider, on their merits, any proposals that may be made to them; secondly, that it will not allow the general character of the terms on which alone they will consent to conclude peace to remain for a moment in doubt. That is as it should be."

Roumanian Premier Resigns London, Dec. 15.—The resignation of Count Tarnowski of Roumania is reported. A recent despatch from Jassy said the Roumanian cabinet had resigned with the exception of the premier.

Germany, Choking, Tries To Get Breath

Representative Gardner of Massachusetts Takes Stand Against Unjust Peace

New York, Dec. 15.—A Herald despatch from Washington says: Representative A. P. Gardner of Massachusetts, yesterday, introduced in the House a resolution through which he seeks to put Congress on record against any move on the part of the United States "to participate in promoting an unjust peace in Europe as a result of Germany's peace proposal. He declared that Germany is suing for peace with the hope that the United States will offer mediation, and add: "God help us if autocracy wins. The timid sentimentalist wants to give Germany a truce in which to catch her breath, for choking the surely is, or she would not be suing for peace. Whoever least of the winners in a fight, crying 'enough!' It is only when he feels that his strength is spent that the brave man asks for a truce, and who is there who can deny the bravery of Germany? Would Germany, think you, forego the execution of her threat to destroy England's power if German leaders saw victory within her grasp?"

WHEAT AWAY DOWN AGAIN Drop of More Than Eight Cents—German Disarmament Announcement One of Causes

Chicago, Dec. 15.—Wheat crashed down today on account of peace reports. First sales in some cases showed a fall-off of 8-9 cents a bushel. May touch \$1.28, at against \$1.36 1/4 to \$1.36 5/8 at yesterday's finish. Prices varied as much as five cents at the same instant in different parts of the pit. Waves of selling accompanied the exciting break in values. What chiefly sent prices whirling downward was the authorized statement that one of the most important subjects for discussion at a peace party would be universal disarmament.

HON. RUPERT GUINNESS IN FREDERICTON TODAY

Twelve Below Zero in Capital—Increase Pay at Cotton Mills

Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 15.—Hon. Rupert and Lady Gwendolen Guinness who are to address a meeting at the Opera House this evening arrived here at noon. This evening they will be entertained at dinner by Lord and Lady Ashburnham.

KINDERGARTEN CLOSING The kindergarten conducted at 227 King street east by Miss Edna Colman and Miss Lily Fraser closed today for the Christmas holidays with public exercises which were attended by relatives and other friends of the children. The little tots made an excellent showing in the various demonstrations of the work and reflected great credit on their teachers. A feature was the exchanging of Christmas presents displayed on a gaily decorated tree, the gifts including little articles made by the tiny pupils for each other.

He Wrote "Hot Time" Song Santa Rosa, Calif., Dec. 15.—Joseph T. Miles, author of the song "There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight," died here last night. Mr. Miles, who was a veteran actor, was known on the stage as "Joe Hayden." He was 70 years old.

American Submarine in Trouble Eureka, Cal., Dec. 15.—The American submarine H-3, in which twenty-five men and two officers were imprisoned for several hours yesterday, while she pounded, disabled in a heavy surf on the beach near the Eureka harbor entrance, was still intact early today. Hope was expressed that she would be saved.

PROPERTY SALE W. Malcolm Mackay has sold his residence fronting in Orange street and running through to Princess street. It is understood that the purchaser, who is a local man, intends to make some extensive alterations in the property.

CALENDAR RECEIVED A handsome 1917 wall calendar has been received from the North American Life Insurance Company. It bears a spirited portrayal in colors of the "Indian Hunter," by Arthur H. Hider, a Canadian artist.

While it is practically settled that no safe conduct will be issued by the Allies to Count Tarnowski, newly appointed Austrian ambassador to the United States, it is expected he will be permitted to pass through the blockade lines, like other civilian passengers on a Danish steamship on which he will sail from Copenhagen for New York on next Saturday.

FIFTY HOURS IN WATER KEEPING THE GRILSE GOING

Gallant Officers and Crew True to Tradition of British Navy—Thrilling Tale of Battle With High Seas

(Special to Times.) Shelburne, Dec. 15.—As one hears of the heroic work of the band of British sailors who manned the little Grilse, which put in here last night, one cannot but feel pride that he is of the same race. While there is no disposition on the part of the men to boast of their own work, all tell of gallant work of their comrades and the captain is spoken of as being the best in the world. "After trouble struck us," said one, "we were all as brothers, men were in and out of the officers' quarters and officers were in the men's quarters. There was not the least disorder. Every man did his duty. It was about three o'clock on Tuesday afternoon when, on the edge of the Gulf Stream, about 300 miles from Shelburne, she was turned about for this port on account of heavy weather which had sprung up. She soon began to ship big seas and between seven and eight the evening went over on her beam ends, her funnels taking in water. "She righted herself and was again thrown over. Seas smashed her hatches in and water flooded every part of the vessel. The engine room was soon flooded and for nineteen hours the engine was run under water. Neck Deep in Water. For fifty hours the second engineer stood neck deep in water and kept the vessel going. "Several of the crew declare that once, when the vessel went over on her beam ends, the chief engineer shouted 'It's all over boys, good bye,' and leaped overboard. This was the last seen of him. Others say he was snatched over the side by a sea. The boatswain was lost while endeavoring to get one of the boats clear. "The vessel sprang a leak and made water fast, necessitating continual work at the pumps. Two of the three boats were carried away and one of the two life rafts, Clements, wireless operator, was knocked overboard by a falling mast when he and Lean, another operator, were making desperate efforts to erect an aerial after one was carried away. The chief quartermaster did heroic work at the wheel, standing there for fifty hours, all this time without water or food. As for the captain, his praises were heaped upon him by the entire crew. Your correspondent is informed that he left the bridge only once after the vessel was turned for Shelburne and then to speak to the second engineer, and to ask him if he could keep her going another hour. "I don't know, Sir," was the reply, "but I'll be here as long as she will go." Every part of the boat was soaked with water and oil and there were no lights. The report says that no dry place could be found for Sub-Lieut. Fry, whose leg was broken and who was otherwise injured. On Wednesday night the Grilse signaled two vessels, but neither paid any attention other than that she put out all lights and disappeared rapidly from view. One other thing should be mentioned that is heroic work on the part of three firemen whose names have not been learned. After the vessel was thrown over once they stuck their heads up through one of the hatches and told their comrades to screw the hatch down and they went back and stuck to their posts.

LIEUTENANT STANLEY McDONALD WOUNDED

Moncton, N. B., Dec. 15.—Daniel McDonald of Moncton, today received a telegram from Ottawa stating that his son, Lieut. Stanley McDonald, was wounded on December 11. Lieut. McDonald enlisted in St. John, where he was employed in the Bank of Nova Scotia. Robert T. Donahue of Fredericton, arrested here on Tuesday on charge of obtaining money by false pretenses, was today given two months in jail.

DANISH PEOPLE VOTE TO SELL ISLANDS TO UNITED STATES

Copenhagen, Dec. 15.—A plebiscite held yesterday on the question of the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States resulted in 288,000 votes being cast in favor of the sale and 157,000 against such action. The result means that the matter will now be taken up by the Danish parliament. A treaty for the sale of the islands was concluded between the United States and Denmark in New York on August 5 of this year, the purchase price being fixed at \$25,000,000.

IN GREECE The funeral of John Parker Williams took place this afternoon from his late residence, 185 King street east. Services were conducted by Rev. W. H. Barraclough and interment was made in Fernhill. Mr. Williams was born at Williams' Wharf, on the St. John river, but came to St. John at an early age and for a great number of years was engaged in the retail grocery business in Adelaide street. His wife died about eight years ago and Mr. Williams is survived by one daughter, Mrs. W. F. Pierce, and four sons, Frank E. and James C. of the F. Williams Company; George W., residing in the city, and Samuel, living in Boston. The funeral of Miss Mary C. Henderson took place this afternoon from her late residence, 185 King street east. Services were conducted by Rev. J. A. MacKellan and interment was made in Fernhill.

PLEASED TO SEE HIM Douglas McRobbie, Canadian representative of the George E. Keith & Company, arrived in the city today at noon. Mr. McRobbie left St. John about seven years ago and became associated with his brother in Vancouver in the shoe business. Later he secured his present position. Talking of business conditions he said that he never found them better and reports from all sections of the country were the same. Mr. McRobbie will be here some little time.

CASUALTY LIST Ottawa, Dec. 14.—Casualties: INFANTRY Previously Reported Wounded, now Officially Prisoner of War Angus McAskill, Big Bras' D'or, N.S. Seriously Ill G. G. Delaney, Roundhill, N.S. Wounded Israel Barrett, Bishop's Cove, Conception Bay, Nfld.

The War News The only war news received today was a report from Berlin relative to the situation on the various fronts.

WEATHER REPORT Issued by Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meteorological service

Synopsis.—The low area which was over Northern Manitoba is now centered over Lake Superior and another of more importance appears to be developing in the middle Atlantic coast. Snow was cold from Manitoba eastward with snow in many places, while in Saskatchewan and Alberta it was turned milder. Ottawa Valley.—Cold today and on Saturday, with local snow falls.

Clearing Maritime.—Winds increasing to gales from east and southeast tonight. Snow and rain. Saturday, strong westerly winds, clearing. New England.—Snow tonight, Saturday party cloudy and colder, east and northeast wind is becoming strong, shifting to the west by Sat. day.

Ruthaway Engine Hits Street Car of Fairville Line

C.P.R. Locomotive Starts of Itself From Round House at Bay Shore—Captured at Grand Bay—Street Railway Men's Narrow Escape

It is not uncommon to see a runaway engine depicted on a motion picture screen or to hear tell of one getting beyond the control of a man at the throttle on a steep grade, but it is unusual to see one start on a level stretch of track without a soul in the cab. Such was the case this morning. At 6:00 a.m. engine No. 48 was brought out of the C. P. R. roundhouse at Bay Shore and was left standing outside until the arrival of the engineer, who was to take it to the Shore Line station in West St. John. It had been standing only a few minutes when it suddenly started away, and as it disappeared in the distance it was traveling at a high rate of speed. As it proceeded it picked up speed and when it reached the crossing at Fairville it was going at about a thirty-five mile clip. While crossing there it crashed into a street railway car and continued on, jumping a switch and running on the main line. Another C. P. R. engine was at Fairville at the time and it was immediately dispatched after the runaway. It came up with No. 48 at Ketepec and brought it back to the roundhouse where it was repaired. An examination of the engine failed to show anything wrong with the mechanism and the accident was attributed to the man who brought the engine from the roundhouse, who, it was said, did not leave the throttle properly secured, and it worked open. Fortunately there was no other train on the main line at the time and, barring the collision, no damage was done and nobody injured.

The Collision The accident to the Fairville car occurred at ten minutes to seven when car No. 69 was about crossing the track on its way up Fairville in charge of Conductor John Sommerville and Motorman Charles Parker. There was only one other person on board, George King of Fairville, a conductor on the street railway who was returning home after taking out a special from Fairville to West End. Just before they reached the crossing the conductor asked King to look and see how many notches of heat were on. King stepped behind the motorman, turned around with one step on the car floor, to see above and struck a match. At that moment with a terrific crash the runaway engine struck the street car vestibule, tore off the side, whirled the car almost completely round, so that the car front instead of facing up Fairville was towards the Simms' factory. The three men, badly shaken up and wondering what had struck them, alighted from the car and gazed up the track. All they could see was a white streak of steam flying past the Fairville station. The escape of the street car men is almost miraculous. The windows, front and greater part of the floor of the vestibule on the side next the runaway train were all torn off. The controller fell out of the front of the car. The motorman was thrown up against the brake and has been home since with a sore side, but his injuries are thought to be comparatively light. King got a pretty bad bump on the head as he was hurled towards the front of the car. Sommerville was in the rear vestibule and apart from shock was uninjured. He remained at work today. Another half second ago the street car would have been fairly over the track and in that event nothing could have saved the men in the front vestibule.

SWISS NOT DUPED BY GERMAN SHIFT OF WAR RESPONSIBILITY

Geneva, Dec. 15.—The South German press attaches great importance to flying visit paid by the Emperor to Munich, where he held a council with the king and Bavarian ministers. Both peace and military matters were discussed. The emperor remarked on the absence of young soldiers in the streets. He visited the Princess Arnulf, whose son, a member of the king, was killed in Roumania. The King of Deuene says: "Germany will make the Germans believe that the neutrals will be morally responsible for the continuation of the war. Perhaps the Germans will believe this, but neutrals will not be duped; anyhow, not the Swiss."

UNDER-SECRETARIES FOR FRANCE APPOINTED Paris, Dec. 15.—At a cabinet meeting last night President Poincare signed decrees appointing the following under-secretaries of state: Agriculture, Justin Godart; public works, transport and subsistence, Albert Clavelle; mercantile marine, Louis Nall; commerce, industry, agriculture and labor, M. Roden; munitions, in charge of the section concerned with inventions for national defence, Jules Louis Breton; munitions, charge of the manufacturing section, Louis Loucheur; fine arts, Albert Dalimier; foreign office, in charge of blockade questions, Baron Denys Cochin.

DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY CAUSED GOVERNMENT SMASH Berlin, via London, Dec. 15.—The Tagblatt, in discussing the change in the Austrian government, comes to the conclusion that the fall of the ministry of Dr. Von Koerber was due to a disagreement over the Ausgleich, an agreement between Austria and Hungary signed in 1867 concerning commercial and customs relations. The newspapers say that Alexander Spitzmuller, who has been asked to form a new ministry, as minister of commerce in the Stuerzger cabinet, worked out the details of a new Ausgleich, which Dr. Von Koerber regarded as too favorable to Hungary and hence excluded him from the cabinet.

ALLES GRANT SAFE CONDUCT TO NEW AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR London, Dec. 15.—The Entente Powers have decided to grant safe conduct to Count Tarnowski, Von Tarnow, new Austro-Hungarian ambassador to the United States. The foreign office made this announcement today, saying the Entente had decided to grant the safe conduct in consideration of the representations made by the American government.

SENTENCE CONFIRMED Ottawa, Dec. 15.—The cabinet council yesterday confirmed a sentence of six months imprisonment imposed by court-martial in Montreal upon Col. Tancrede Pagnuelo.

CITY FIRE INSURANCE The city commissioners are overhauling the fire insurance schedule for the coming year and considerable equipment, preparatory to their renewals. In the course of his investigations, Commissioner Fisher found some buildings and considerable equipment which have not been covered at all and other property which was included at a low valuation. He will recommend increases in the schedule for his department.