

THE BOLSHEVIKI ADVANCING WITH TWO ARMIES TOWARDS VILNA AND KOVNO PROVINCE

Germans Have Not Sufficient Forces to Cope With Invaders, and There is But Very Little Disposition Among the Troops to Put up a Defence — Ultimatum Presented to German Supreme Command.

London, Jan. 3.—Reports from German and Scandinavian sources of British naval and military activities in the Baltic provinces have created a demand by the British press for a statement of the government's policy regarding Russia. According to the Deutsche Tages Zeitung of Berlin, the British have presented an ultimatum to the German supreme command, that the German troops must not only prevent a further advance by the Bolsheviks, but must retake Volk and Venden. If this order is not carried out, the German papers say, the Entente will march into Germany. There is no confirmation of these reports from any official source. The Bolsheviks, the Tages Zeitung adds, are advancing with two armies, each with three divisions, towards Vilna and Kovno, while at present the Germans have at their disposal only three battalions which are absolutely reliable. The Red Flag, the Spartacist organ, says that Herr Wising, the German commissioner, informed the British representative that the Germans desired to continue their occupation of the Baltic provinces for a protection of the country and its German inhabitants, but that his endeavors had been hampered because of the refusal of the greater part of the German troops to do any more fighting, and their demand that they be returned home.

Bolshevik Well Equipped.

Copenhagen, Jan. 3.—A Riga despatch to the Vossische Zeitung of Berlin gives a very pessimistic account of the situation in the Baltic provinces. The Bolsheviks, it is said, are well equipped with guns, ammunition and food, while the forces opposing them are virtually without the very necessities of life. The German soldiers, the despatch continues, refuse to fight, and even those defending the railways are deserting their posts, making an orderly retreat of the German troops impossible. The correspondent says the Lithuanians appear more interested in creating a number of small and insignificant posts than in organizing a real defense against the invaders. It is reported in Berlin that ten thousand German volunteers, well supplied with war materials, are on their way to the Baltic provinces.

Germans Retreat.

Copenhagen, Jan. 3.—The German troops which were recently forced to evacuate the Russian Baltic port of Riga, have retreated a few miles from that city, according to Berlin advices today. They are occupying the heights in the region.

HUNGARY AFTER PRINCE LUDWIG

Said to Have Misappropriated Several Hundred Crowns While He Was Hungarian Food Controller.

Vienna, Jan. 3.—Reports received here from Budapest say the government has directed the commencement of criminal proceedings against Count Prince Ludwig Wittich-Graetz, and other persons, on a charge of having misappropriated several million crowns of the funds of the Hungarian Food Bureau under the charge of Ludwig Wittich-Graetz.

FOOD SITUATION BAD AT VIENNA

London, Jan. 3.—(Canadian Press Despatch from Reuters.)—Reuters is informed that the Allied Commission for re-occupying Austria has arrived at Vienna. It has been found that the food shortage in Austria, especially at Vienna, is very bad, and probably such more extensive arrangements than originally anticipated will have to be made for re-occupying the population.

CANADIAN HONORED

London, Jan. 3.—(Canadian Press Despatch from Reuters, Limited.)—Col. Geo. McLaren Brown, European agent for the Canadian Pacific Railway, has been appointed Knight Commander of the British Empire Order.

Remove War-Time Restrictions

Ottawa, Ont., Jan. 3.—It is probable that, before the end of the present month, most of the war-time restrictions upon trade and business will have been removed. It is the policy of the government to remove them just as rapidly as conditions will permit. Some have to be maintained, by reason of restrictions still in force in the United States and Great Britain, or by reason of the necessity for co-operation of Canadian officials with officials of those countries. It is thought that the operations of the Canada Food Board, and the War Trade Board will cease within the next two or three weeks.

SOLDIERS AT FOLKSTONE PROTEST DELAY IN DEMOBILIZATION

Several Thousand Marched in Body from Their Rest Camps to the Town Hall and Gave Vent to Their Feelings—Mayor Made Promises.

London, Jan. 3.—The Folkestone correspondent of the Evening News says that several thousand soldiers marched today in a body from their rest camps to the Folkestone Town Hall to protest against the delay in demobilization. They were addressed by command. The Mayor of Folkestone then appeared on the balcony of the Town Hall and announced that if the men would return to the camps they would hear some good news, whereupon the men merely sang "Tell Me The Old Story." The Mayor promised that men sent to industry should be released as soon as possible. The Commandant at Folkestone sent a message, saying that he would meet and address the men at the camps, which are occupied by troops destined to return to France.

FRIENDSHIP AND GOODWILL HOLD NATIONS TOGETHER

President Wilson in an Address Before the Italian Chamber of Deputies Says Friendship Not Only Binds Men Together, But It Also Binds Nations—Task at Paris is to See That All Moral Forces That Make for Right Are United; in Other Words Set up a New International Psychology.

Rome, Jan. 3.—President Wilson arrived in Rome at 10:25 o'clock this morning. He was received at the station by King Victor Emmanuel and Queen Helena, members of the government and representatives of the local authority. An immense crowd welcomed the President with the greatest enthusiasm. Newspapers here unite in their welcome.

President Wilson delivered the following address in the Chamber of Deputies today: "Your Majesty and Mr. President of the Chamber."

"You are bestowing upon me an unprecedented honor, which I accept because I believe that it is extended to me as the representative of the great people for whom I speak. And I am going to take this first opportunity to say how entirely the heart of the American people has been with the great people of Italy."

"Then have some no doubt, indifferent at times to look from a great distance, but our hearts have never been far away. All sorts of ties have long bound the people of our America to the people of Italy, and when the people of the United States, knowing this people, have witnessed its sufferings, its sacrifices, its heroic actions upon the battlefields and its heroic endurance at home, its steadfast endurance at home touching us more nearly to the quick even than its heroic action on the battlefields, we have been bound by a new tie of profound admiration."

"All that an obstacle can do with brave men is, not to frighten them, but to challenge them, so that it ought not to be feared, but to overcome every thing that stands in the way. We know that there cannot be another balance of power. That has been tried and it has failed. The balance of power, that it does not stay balanced inside itself, and a weight which does not hold together cannot constitute a makeweight in the affairs of men."

"Therefore there must be something substituted for the balance of power, and I am happy to find everywhere the feeling of these great nations, the feeling that that thing must be a thoroughly united league of nations. What men agree to consider, they will do. And the thing that is to be practical and necessary. We stand at the opening of a new age when a new statesmanship will, I feel, be expressed in the language of applause, and when he ended he was accorded an ovation which lasted until he passed through the exit of the hall. The President, in the street took up the demonstrators which continued until the doors of the Quirinal closed behind him. The weather was not more balmy than the presidential party has experienced in France and England. During the day King Victor Emmanuel presented the President with a magnificent achievement of his army. The President, however, regretted that he was unable to visit the Italian battle front, owing to lack of time and the necessity of returning to Paris as soon as possible for the work of the peace conference."

"It is for that reason, that it seems to me, you will forgive me if I lay some of the elements of the new situation before you for a moment. The distinguishing fact of this war is that great empires have gone to pieces. And the character of those who were pressed are that they hold different people reluctantly together under the coercion of force, and the guidance of intrigue."

"The great difficulty among such states as those of the Balkans has always been that they were always accessible to secret influences, and those influences have always been penetrated by intrigue of some sort or another; that north of them lay disturbed populations which were held together not by sympathy and friendship but by the coercive force of a military power."

"Now the intrigue is checked and the hands are broken, and those who are going to provide a new cement to hold the people together. They will be able to do so."

TO BOYCOTT SAVINGS STAMPS

Quebec, Jan. 2.—The Catholic Club of Travelling Salesmen of Quebec district passed a resolution at their last meeting, boycotting the Canadian war savings stamps until such a time when the Federal Government prints said stamps both in French and English. The organization is quite influential, numbering hundreds of travelling salesmen, who visit every nook and crook of the country.

SEQUEL TO BIG RUM SEIZURE

Special to The Standard. Halifax, Jan. 3.—A sequel to the seizure of 140 gallons of overproof rum, and the connection of Sam Udolf on his plea of guilty came today when Udolf made an affidavit that he was not guilty and appealed for a new trial before the county court judge. The appeal was granted, and Udolf was released on \$600 bail, himself in \$200 and two others in \$200 each. This gives him 15 days in which to come before the court.

SINN FEINERS TO ASSEMBLE

Dublin, Jan. 3. (By The Associated Press.)—The Sinn Feiners will assemble here, probably next week, for what they describe as the "first parliament of the Irish republic."

They will declare, it is asserted, that the recent elections show Ireland's self-determination as an independent republic and demand that Ireland's case be heard at the peace conference.

INVESTIGATION OF NORTHLAND CHARGES REVEAL SOLDIERS WERE FLEECE BY STEWARDS

Daily Rations Were Not Well Cooked or Served and to Get a Satisfying Meal Men Were Obligated to Purchase of Stewards According to Price List — Bunking Facilities Wretched.

Ottawa, Jan. 3.—Practically the whole of today's sitting of the Northland inquiry was devoted to the soldiers' version. Generally speaking, there was not the strength of complaint in regard to the quality of the food served as regards its insalubrity and the method in which it was served. Bunking accommodation, it was claimed, was inadequate. "The dining accommodation was bad," declared Corporal Higgins of Stratford. "The men hadn't room to dress or undress, and the floor was covered with sometimes an inch of water."

Just before adjournment in the afternoon there was evidence of stewards selling food to the men, contrary to regulations. The stewards had their price list, according to Private W. A. Head, Toronto soldier. It would be a couple of shillings for steak and chips, bread and butter and tea, or for four shillings, one might have chicken. He had not seen the price list but knew what it was, and during the trip he paid probably two shillings a day to the stewards for food.

"And was there a good, rushing business done in that way?" variously asked the commissioner, Judge Hodgins. "Oh yes, at certain times," he replied simply. He knew it was unfair that the men should have to pay for food, but he did not mind. He knew it could not last for long and he wanted to get home.

"You were philosophic enough to look at it in that light," was the commissioner's comment. He added the following as an instance of supper: One half tablospoonful of salmon six pickles, a tablospoonful of jam, a slice of bread, about a half pint of tea or coffee. For Christmas dinner, said another witness, they had one fat pork chop and Christmas pudding served out by hand instead of on dishes. "There were also charges made that fresh water was not available for washing or shaving."

When the Northland enquiry was resumed this afternoon Lieut.-Commandant George Williams, R. N. C. V. R., Naval Service Department, appears as representing the Admiralty.

TURK CRUELTY TO PRISONERS

Harrowing Details of Treatment Accorded Captives Told by a British Officer Who Was a Prisoner in Turkey.

London, June 3.—A British officer, who was a prisoner in Turkey, gave an account today of the terrible hardships and cruelty inflicted upon British prisoners by the Turks. Describing the march from Kut-el-Amara to Baghdad, the officer says the prisoners were driven like sheep along the desert ways. They were denied food, were short of water, and the Turks refused to allow them to rest. They were bayoneted or clubbed if they stopped, and were struck with rattlesnake whips when they faltered. Roughly speaking, according to the officer, from 75 to 85 per cent of the British rank and file in Turkey died. One battery surrendered at Kut-el-Amara 117 strong, 11 are now alive. Other batteries are almost in the same condition. One regiment marched out of Kut-el-Amara 300 strong, of whom only 53 are now living.

The British consular guard at Baghdad, before the war consisted of two Indian officers and 35 men. When the war broke out they were interned in perfect physical condition. All of them are dead.

FIRE DESTROYS EUCLID BUILDING

Cleveland, O., Jan. 3.—With two-thirds of Cleveland's firemen absent from the stations, in their effort to enforce the eight-hour day, fire broke out in the four-story Euclid building, in the heart of the downtown section, late this afternoon. A general alarm brought twelve fire companies to the scene. With the arrival of fifty firemen, who were off duty, including several engineers who manned idle engines, an hour or more later, the fire was brought under control. The Euclid building was entirely destroyed. Fire Chief Wallace estimated the loss at \$100,000.

U. S. TO HAVE ARMY

Washington, Jan. 3.—Secretary of War Baker gave notice that a bill authorizing a regular army of 500,000 men to be raised by voluntary enlistment, would be submitted shortly to congress, together with estimates for appropriations. This army, he said, was in the nature of a temporary military establishment, described as a "stop gap army," which would tide over the period until peace is re-established.

SENDS MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY

Ottawa, Ont., Jan. 3.—Sir Thos. White, acting prime minister, has sent a telegram to the next of kin of Corporal Smith, Corporal Stagg, and Lance Corporal Johnson, expressing, on behalf of himself and the other members of the government the deepest sympathy in the great sorrow caused by the death of these Toronto soldiers, through the lamentable accident of the military train at Etobicoke, N.B., conveying them and their comrades home from overseas service.

SUCCESSOR NOT NAMED

Ottawa, Jan. 3.—It was stated at the militia department tonight that the official step had been taken with a view to General Watson succeeding General Wilson in the Montreal command.

MARSHAL FOCH TO TAKE PART IN THE PEACE CONFERENCE

Paris, Jan. 3.—The French delegates to the peace congress, in addition to Premier Clemenceau and Stephen Pichon, the foreign minister, are likely to be Louis Klotz, minister of finance, Leon Bourgeois, president of the French society for a League of Nations, and Captain Andre Tardieu, head of the general commission for Franco-American war matters. It was reported today that M. Klotz, M. Bourgeois and Captain Tardieu will, it is considered probable, represent France in the League of Nations and commercial matters.

DUBLIN WANTS WILSON

Dublin, Jan. 3.—The Dublin corporation has decided to confer the freedom of the city on President Wilson upon his return.

Well Supplied With Food

American Army of Occupation Thursday, Jan. 2.—(By The Associated Press.)—According to estimates made by intelligence officers of the American Third Army, after an investigation, it appears that in the area occupied by the American troops, the cities and towns have enough of most foods to last during the winter, and the country districts have enough to carry them through the spring. The most critical shortage is in fats and milk. Sugar has been ample until recently, but fresh supplies are not in sight, and the stock on hand will be exhausted in about six weeks.

WILL DOCK AT HALIFAX WITH 767 PATIENTS ABOARD

Halifax, Jan. 3.—The hospital ship Arcturion docked at this port, and, according to latest advices, will arrive Monday, bringing 767 patients made up of fifty-two officers, eight nursing sisters and 707 other ranks. The amputation cases number one officer and fifty-nine other ranks, the rest are non-amputees. The details of military districts follow:

Table with 3 columns: Military District, Nursing Sisters, Other Ranks. Totals: 8, 52, 707.