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Russian Terms Are Submitted; Teutons Now Considering Them

Peace Without Annexations and Without Indemnities Keynote of Bolsheviki Proposals; If Negotiations Succeed Kaiser May Try to Assemble All European Rulers in Peace Conference

Peace without annexations and without indemnities, the formula adopted by the German Reichstag in its peace resolution last July, is the keynote of the Russian peace terms now being discussed at Brest-Litovsk.

The Russian terms have been submitted to the representatives of the Central Powers, who have them under consideration. No compulsory annexation of territory seized during the war, and immediate evacuation of it and no contributions to be required from belligerent countries are proposed by Russia.

Germany scored a point in the selecting of Dr. Von Kuehnelmann, her foreign secretary, as permanent chairman of the conference. Emperor William, it is unofficially reported, intends to go to Brest-Litovsk, if the diplomats now there arrive at an agreement, to attempt to assemble all European rulers in a peace conference.

LOWER LIMIT OF AGE FOR MEN IN HIGH COMMANDS

New French Regulations Announced by Premier—System of Promotions Also Revised

Paris, Dec. 23.—Premier Clemenceau has sent a letter to General Pétain and all the army chiefs pointing out that the experience of three years of war has shown that existing age limits are too high and that with a few rare exceptions commands are not effectively exercised at over fifty-six years for a regiment, fifty-eight for a brigade, sixty for a division and sixty-two for an army corps.

The only exception will be general officers recommended to retain their commands on the personal responsibility of general commanding armies.

In the future, the premier declares, the promotions will be made to the rank of general of officers, who have served only a short time in the line. This policy will result in placing at the head of the fighting troops, he hopes, chiefs who know them well, and in whom the soldiers can have full confidence from having seen them at work.

CONSCRIPTION BEATEN; GOVERNMENT CHANGE MAY BE RESULT

Sydney, Australia, Dec. 24.—Further returns have increased the note against compulsory military service, and the defeat of the plan is now beyond doubt. The political situation is most uncertain.

The anti-conscriptors consider that voluntary enlistment will provide sufficient reinforcements, and they fear that conscription would interfere with agriculture and mining which are essential to the prosecution of the war.

GROW WHEAT ON LAND WON BACK FROM THE GERMANS IN FRANCE

Paris, Dec. 23.—The 825,000 acres of wheat land retaken from the enemy this year in Northern France may be made to produce enough wheat next year for one million men, according to the estimate of a mission appointed by the agricultural department which has been examining the liberated territory.

PROPOSED INCREASE IN FARES

Correspondent Dissects President Ross' Statements Regarding St. Railway

THE SEVEN CENT FARE

A Matter Which Affects All The Citizens—A Suggestion That The City Take Over The Whole Service—What a Working Man Said

To the Editor of the Times-Star: Sir,—I beg to offer for publication a simple statement of the street car fare question as I view it.

In the matter of the street car service, the electric light and power, also the supply of gas, were in the hands of the St. John Railway Company. Under an energetic and a skilful and industrious superintendent, they brought the service of the departments to a high degree of efficiency, giving the public every satisfaction.

Under the name of the New Brunswick Power Company, they bought out all the rights and assumed all the liabilities for public service as in the charter of the original company. Since taking hold, they have given every evidence of their satisfaction with the paying abilities of the property. In one branch—electric light—they have reduced the price to a half per cent one, the best in the market; and I know shrewd, hard-fisted men who bought stock, men who would take no one's word, but look closely in the matter and they felt assured it was a good paying proposition.

I wonder what all these think since the 30th day of November, for on that date the New Brunswick Power Company applied to the commissioners of public utilities asking their consent to raise the rate charged by them for gas.

SMALLPOX IN THE PROVINCE IS SPREADING

Northumberland and Kent Now Reported Badly Infected—Situation in Maine Serious

Fredericton, N. B., Dec. 24.—The cases of smallpox reported in the province of New Brunswick are more numerous than at any time since the outbreak. Fifty-four cases are reported by the provincial board of health.

The State of Maine is in a serious condition. It is reported that at Caribou three cases resulted fatally, but this is not confirmed. Thirteen cases occurred at Presque Isle and ten at Fort Fairfield since the health authorities made what was thought to be a successful effort to get control.

CONTRACT AWARDED. The contract for the building of the nurses' and doctors' residence in connection with the East St. John County Hospital has been let to R. A. Corbett of this city, his figures being the lowest.

New Swiss Loan. Bern, Dec. 23.—Switzerland will issue in January, a new loan of 150,000,000 francs at five per cent.

between the Ukraine Rada and the workmen and soldiers' delegates has been widened by the arrest of forty members of the Ukraine revolutionary staff at Petrograd.

Supplies Shut Off. New York, Dec. 24.—Discontinuance of the manufacture of rifles for Russia by the Westinghouse Electric and Mfg. Company has been ordered by the British government, who had supervision over the contract.

CHRISTMAS GREETING



The Same to You, and Many of Them.

Governor-General Sends Greetings To Our Troops

Ottawa, Dec. 24.—The following message has been sent by His Grace the Duke of Devonshire to the general officer commanding the Canadian forces in France:

"Please convey to the gallant troops under your command my most cordial good wishes for Christmas and congratulations on the ever increasing lustre which they continue to add to the glorious annals of the Canadian army. We at home are deeply sensible of their splendid devotion and heroism, and our heartfelt prayer is that the year about to open will see the conclusion of a victorious peace and the complete and final triumph of those principles which the empire and her brave Allies are so worthily maintaining."

BOLSHEVIKI AT PACIFIC PORT IN STATES; FRATERNIZING WITH INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF WORLD

A Pacific Port, Dec. 24.—It became known today that the Russian freighter, Shilka, Captain Boris Dogal, which, unheralded, slipped into the harbor here late on Friday night direct from Vladivostok, is under Bolsheviki control.

Some of the Shilka's sailors were fraternizing on the docks today with a party of alleged Industrial Workers of the World, twenty-one of whom were arrested by federal officials and held for investigation. Among those taken into custody were thirteen Russians. None of the sailors prepared to speak, but they changed their minds. It is said that before the real identity of the ship was learned members of the crew attended I. W. W. meetings here.

The immigration authorities probably will take charge of the ship.

WITH THE AIRMEN. London, Dec. 24.—The admiralty issued the following statement on aerial activities tonight: Naval aircraft Saturday night successfully bombed enemy aerodromes at St. Denis, Westrem, Mariakerke and Oesterkerke, dropping six tons of bombs with good results. All the aircraft returned safely.

London, Dec. 23.—Four German airplanes were brought down by British army aviators on Saturday, according to the statement on aviation activities issued tonight by the war office. The British lost none.

London, Dec. 23.—Intense aerial activity is reported by the war office. In the course of 100 combats in the air during the last few days the French brought down eight German machines.

VORWAERTS, SUSPENDED, COMES TO LIFE AGAIN. Amsterdam, Dec. 24.—The Vorwaerts, the Socialist organ, reported to have been ordered to suspend publication for three days, appeared unexpectedly on Sunday. It says its suspension was due to criticism of the provisioning of war invalids under the heading: "Let them go."

The Vorwaerts prints prominently a defence of Herr Von Waldow, the food controller. It quotes him as denying having excused or tolerated certain conditions alleged, but as admitting that illicit trading has assumed proportions which threaten to endanger the food supply.

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THE SAVIOUR'S BIRTHPLACE IS NOW IN BRITISH HANDS

Mount of Olives Is An Observation Post; Showing the Garden and the Dead Sea, Advance on the Plain of Sharon

London, Dec. 24.—Since the Turks were driven out of Jerusalem they have been conducting guerrilla warfare to the north and east of the city, splitting up into numerous small bodies to attack British outposts, to snipe patrols, and generally to make themselves unpleasant, says Reuter's correspondent at Jerusalem telegraphing under date of Dec. 15.

"Such tactics," the correspondent continues, "are greatly facilitated by the fact that the country is so hilly and intersected by so many ravines and small rivers. To improve the British position that taking of certain ridges has been ordered so that there may be a wider range of defense. All these moves have been successfully carried out.

Keirstead, Prisoner In Murder Case, Escapes. Makes Break For Woods as Constable Is Taking Him to Gagetown; Sheriff Starts After Him

Robert Keirstead, who is accused of brutally murdering his wife in their home in Salmon Creek, on Saturday night, escaped from custody this morning, and up to the time of going to press he was still at large. A constable at Annapolis started to take the prisoner to Gagetown, and while en route he got away. It is said that the constable was going to handcuff him, but upon the prisoner's request and promise to go quietly, he did not do so.

Coroner S. C. Perry went to Salmon Creek this morning to hold an inquest; but as there are no telephone connections there, it was impossible to learn particulars about it.

THE HALIFAX DEAD. Halifax, N. S., Dec. 24.—All bodies snowed at the Chieftain mortuary will be buried today. Of those, twenty-one are unidentified and there are the charred remains of thirty others. The identified dead number 854, and the unidentified 804, making a total of 1,658 bodies recovered.

ENEMY DRIVEN BACK ACROSS THE PIAVE. Rome, Dec. 24.—Enemy forces who had crossed the Piave river at Piave Vecchia have been driven back over the river, the war office announces today.

NO TIMES TOMORROW. On tomorrow, Christmas Day, the Evening Times will not be published.

Italians Hear of German Peace Move. Rome, Dec. 24.—The report that a new German peace move is at hand is supported by apparently reliable information which has reached high quarters here.

"CARRYING ON," SAYS BAKER. Washington, Dec. 24.—Germany's newest peace propaganda, viewed as a forerunner to an offensive in the west unless a German-made peace is accepted by the Allies and the United States, should not for a moment induce us to slacken our preparations for war," says Secretary of War Baker in his weekly review of the military situation.

The review points out that the fighting morale of Italy may be relied upon no matter how intensive the German peace campaign becomes.

MANY LIQUOR CASES IN COURT CHRISTMAS EVE. For the day before Christmas, the police court sheet this morning was a large one. "Spirits" seemed to have been much in evidence last night in spite of the prohibition act, and four persons charged with being intoxicated were haled before Magistrate Ritchie. Sergeant Rankin and Policeman Keirstead arrested one man in Main street. He pleaded guilty. Another pleaded guilty to being drunk in a shipyard and drinking in public. He was arrested by Policemen Smith and Jones. Frank Williams was given in charge by his father on charges of being drunk and creating a disturbance at his home on Spar Cove Road. The father refused to testify against his son and the magistrate ordered him off the stand. Still another prisoner pleaded guilty to being drunk in Main street last night.

Patrick O'Keefe pleaded not guilty to a charge of having liquor in his barn in Elliott row. Inspectors Crawford and Barrett said they had gone to the prisoner's house and as they were walking up the stairs O'Keefe came out of the door and gave them a bottle of liquor, saying, "There, take that and get out. You've caught me. I'll be in court Monday morning."

His Honor remarked that the bottle was not corked. "If there is any good in it, it will be lost without me," said he. Thereupon the matter was attended to.

O'Keefe said the stairs were inside his house and therefore he had not broken the law. The magistrate ordered him to jail until further witnesses could be got. "No," said O'Keefe, "I'm not just sure what I'm charged with, but I'll plead guilty because I don't want to be in jail tomorrow." A fine of \$200 was struck against him and this he arranged for.