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DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY IS FEELING OF GERMAN PEOPLE

Austria's Peace Offer Really Represented German Mind --- It Came Earlier Than Many Thought It Would, But Was Not in Nature of Surprise.

(By H. W. Smith)
Special cable to the N. Y. Tribune and St. John Standard.
(Copyrighted, 1918, New York Tribune Inc.)

Rottterdam, Sept. 18.—With Hindenburg convinced even months ago of the possibility of a defensive war only and Ludendorff, his last bolt shot and himself discredited, and with the population of Germany a prey to physical miseries and mental depression, the quiet unexpected step for peace taken by Germany through her long-suffering ally, Austria, is not difficult to understand, though it comes before it was expected.

The peace overtures of the Central Powers caused a sensation here, though a few persons closely in touch with German feeling were less surprised than others. As my earlier program indicated, have the best reason for the belief that this feeling is one of unrelieved depression and anxiety.

It is not confined to the working class, who have suffered most, but is now generally extending to the intellectual and middle class.

The Imperial Government recently took measures to inform itself in detail of the morale among all classes. From all parts of the country replies were received that reflected the danger of a fast approaching crisis. The little published statements made to the Chancellor by the trade union delegation fully confirmed the picture.

To appreciate the present situation one must go back to the period immediately preceding the offensive of March 21. In reviewing the sequence of events in the intervening period, I have had the advantage of the views of a neutral who has been allowed to leave Germany, as he says, "Never to return," and who had many opportunities of learning a good deal of what was going on behind the scenes.

"You will remember," he said, "that the March offensive was unaccountably delayed, the Allies having expected it weeks earlier. The reason was that Ludendorff, who was absolutely confident of victory, had been temporarily overruled in order that time might be gained to produce a peace atmosphere which might lead to negotiations."

At the same time that Germany was expressing an agreement with Mr. Wilson's important note, Hindenburg and Ludendorff were sharply at variance, the former holding that no offensive would now produce results decisive or justifying the inevitable great loss of men. The peace effort failed Ludendorff's policy was the only one left, and the March offensive began.

It not only failed, but its failure was recognized by German headquarters. As soon as it was seen that the British left held firm in the subsequent offensive movements under taken mainly to prevent Marshal Foch from moving in force to help Haig, and so prevent an early British recovery and offensive, but also to bolster up public confidence in Germany, where the people had been promised a victorious peace as a reward for their efforts and sufferings, there was growing dissatisfaction throughout the country, which, my informant said, was shared by the highest quarters. But the fiction was maintained that things were going successfully, and it was not until after the failure of the third German attempt (that at Arras) that the press received orders to change their tune. Ludendorff himself appears for the first time to have begun to lose confidence at this period and his change of view was clearly reflected in, for instance, the "Kreuz Zeitung," which, against all its past, suddenly advocated the opening of peace negotiations, and in the "Vossische Zeitung," which earlier had denounced England as the only enemy and which now made the burden of its song one of "peace by understanding."

To all this, however, England turned a deaf ear, and something had to be done. The something was von Gumbelmann's speech, and though it may appear a bold assertion, my informant was positively assured that Gumbelmann's speech was the invention of Ludendorff, who, in danger of being discredited and shelved, decided to carry the war into the camp of his enemy, Hindenburg.

Kuhlmann declared that victory could no longer be hoped for by military means alone, and he had to go; but the belief that he allowed himself to be used by Ludendorff was strengthened by the announcement that he would shortly forthcoming that he would soon probably reappear in the diplomatic service with the consent of the order of the Red Eagle.

The newspapers which howled against Kuhlmann and brought about his downfall, believed they were serving Ludendorff by thrusting out the self-confessed defeatist. Now, one is tempted to wonder what Hindenburg thinks of the disastrous collapse.

My neutral informant was able to say that Hindenburg's intention in early spring was to make a gradual retirement from the Somme and other areas before winter. He is said to have declared that it would be impossible to expect troops to winter in such exposed and shattered areas. He knew only one soldier who would endure such hardships, and that was the British soldier.

FUNERALS.

The funeral of William Hazen Baraby took place yesterday afternoon at 3.30 o'clock from his city residence, 297 Princess Street, following service conducted by Rev. S. S. Poole, pastor of German Street Baptist Church. The funeral procession was a lengthy one and contained many long standing friends of the deceased merchant, who for so many years had taken an active part in mercantile and social phases of city life. Members of Albia Lodge, No. 1, F. and A. M., walked without regalia, and there were delegations present from sister lodges as well as members of the South Branch Fishing Club, of which the deceased had been vice-president. Officials and staff of M. R. A. Ltd., attended the funeral, and the large establishment was closed from 2.30 o'clock until 2.50, as a tribute to a man who had so much to do with its success.

The pall-bearers were Judge J. Gordon Forbes, Harry C. Rankine, George B. Hegan, Charles E. Scammell, C. W. deForest, Dr. Thomas Walker. Interment was made in Fernhill. There were no flowers, by request. The funeral of Mrs. W. O. Dunham took place yesterday afternoon at 2.30 o'clock from her residence, 9 Dufferin Row, to St. Jude's Church, where burial service was held by Rev. Mr. Holmes. Interment was made at Cedar Hill Cemetery.

VISITING WORKMEN UNABLE TO PROCURE LIVING APARTMENTS

State Plenty of Work But No Place For Families To Reside—Will Be Forced To Leave City.

Two gentlemen, who lately reached the city, and gained lucrative positions, were interviewed last evening by "The Standard" in regard to the "Housing Accommodation" in this city, as a report existed that they were unable to procure tenements, and that in the course of a few days their families were coming to the city. One of the gentlemen compared St. John at the present day with other centres in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and formed an opinion that St. John is far behind the times in this respect, as those coming into the city were unable to procure tenements, and eventually would return to their former homes unless the tenements were procurable. A companion, who came along when the first gentleman was interviewed, had procured his wife, believing he had acquired the necessary quarters, came to the city, as those coming into the city were unable to procure tenements, and eventually would return to their former homes unless the tenements were procurable. A companion, who came along when the first gentleman was interviewed, had procured his wife, believing he had acquired the necessary quarters, came to the city, as those coming into the city were unable to procure tenements, and eventually would return to their former homes unless the tenements were procurable.

Both gentlemen asked what allied real estate, and believed that the situation could be bettered by some live real estate men, who would reap good benefits by a little outlay at the commencement. One quoted figures asked on flats or furnished rooms in the city (his own experience when he advanced to the owners, regarding rental). Thirty-three dollars for a three-room flat, when furnished; two rooms only at seven dollars per week, and others ranging at high rentals, but in undesirable localities, being too far from his employment, and also that the owner of a house having four rooms or more to rent would not himself out to boost the town he would make arrangements that others might be sheltered, and that the owner would not object to paying any reasonable rental for a flat with four rooms, considering it was near the car line.

The other gentleman believed as did his friend, that room for improvement existed regarding houses, or furnished rooms to let. They alluded to a house on Brussels Street, which contained a flat of four unfurnished rooms to let, but said the house was vacant for the past month. On asking the owners why this flat was vacant, they gave a poor explanation; also a flat of three rooms on the same street, where there were good reasons for the Board of Health officers to investigate. Both men will return home in a few days, unless they can procure quarters suitable for their families to dwell in.

A hotel man approached afterwards on the above, stated that it was a crying shame that outsiders who came here to work were forced to leave again for the reasons as stated above, and concluded by saying:

"What opinion will they form of the Loyalist city of St. John? Is it not time for action at once, so as to benefit the situation?"

He advocated the different firms giving employment to construct dwelling places themselves, as the floating population of the city now, always warranted quarters to meet the ever-increasing demands.

"In the Ring of Death," Cody's new Serial Story, starts in September Canadian Boy.

TRIED AND EXECUTED ALL IN THE SAME DAY

Minister of War in Russian Imperial Cabinet Executed By Bolshevik Orders—Found Guilty of Treason.

London, Sept. 18.—General Soukhomlinoff, minister of war in the Russian imperial cabinet from 1909 to 1915, was court-martialed on September 8 and shot on the same day, according to a Petrograd despatch printed in the newspapers of Vienna and transmitted here by the Amsterdam correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company.

General Soukhomlinoff on September 28, 1917, was sentenced by a Petrograd court to hard labor for life after his conviction on the charge of high treason, abuse of confidence and fraud. M. Soukhomlinoff, the general's wife, was acquitted.

OBITUARY

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Nichols, of 300 King Street, East, will have the sympathy of their friends in the loss of their infant son, Samuel Burton, whose death occurred yesterday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. William Morrison, of Prospect Point, Douglas Avenue, have been bereaved by the death of their youngest child, Thelma Elizabeth, aged five months, who died yesterday morning.

MORE RECRUITS ARRIVE. Eighteen men reached the city yesterday on the Montreal train, en route to Camp Fort Edward. An additional nineteen arrived on the late St. John Express. Many of the recruits were colored boys, the remainder were Jewish Legionnaires. A committee met the Jewish recruits at the station, and treated them to a light lunch, consisting of tea, sandwiches, etc.

PREMIER FOSTER'S LETTER TO COUNCIL

Memorials From City Fathers Considered and Not Granted—Matters Stand As They Were.

Following is the text of the reply submitted by Premier Foster to the memorials submitted to the provincial government by the city council.

St. John, N. B., Sept. 9, 1918. To His Worship the Mayor, St. John, N. B.: Dear Sir,—Agreeable to your request when considering certain memorials presented by you, afford an opportunity for your commissioners to be heard relative to a special meeting for that purpose was held in St. John on Wednesday evening, the 4th inst., your council being represented by Commissioners Fisher and Hilyard.

The memorials presented and considered were as follows: First: A memorial praying that a portion of the old agreement made between His Majesty the King and the St. John Railway Company be rescinded. Since the presentation of this memorial to the government, and through the writer, interviewed some of the directors of the New Brunswick Power Company (the successors of the St. John Railway Company), with the object of ascertaining if the rescinding of that portion of the agreement referred to would be met by any objection on their part. I am pleased to say that the directors interviewed were agreeable to a new arrangement being entered into with the department of public works, embracing only that portion relating to the rental to be paid for running rights across the bridge at the reversing falls and eliminating that portion of the old agreement relating to rates of fare and taxation.

Second: A memorial praying that the city of St. John should be given a share of the fines collected in the said city under the Intoxicating Liquors Act of 1916.

Owing to the absence of yourself and some of the commissioners, no arguments were advanced nor any reasons given why your petition should be granted but in opposition to your memorial there appeared a telegram from the New Brunswick Temperance Alliance, who offered the following resolution:

"Having come to the attention of the council of the New Brunswick Temperance Alliance that the St. John city council is asking for a division of the fines collected under the law the provincial government, and present our claims in opposition to the request of the St. John city council."

Therefore resolved, that this council lace itself on record as unalterably opposed to any division of the fines, and that a committee be appointed to see that the government law the province has lost a large amount of revenue, and as, under the new act, the full responsibility and expense of enforcing the same devolves upon the government, we are unable to see why any portion of the revenue arising therefrom should be shared with any municipality.

Third: A memorial praying that the Loyalist city of St. John be retained in the hands of the government to show that the administration of justice in the police court is not an unsatisfactory condition, although the government understands that charges of this nature were brought to the attention of the preceding government, which appointed John R. Armstrong (now Judge Armstrong) royal commissioner, and as counsel J. A. Barry, to investigate same. Whether such charges were proven or not the government has no record, as the report submitted (if any was made) does not appear to be upon the files of the department. At all events if it is considered by the government that apparently was not acted upon, whether from lack of courage or because the charges were not proven, I am unable to say. Conditions, during the short time that has elapsed since the investigation referred to, however, cannot have very materially changed, and we can come to no other conclusion than that the influence that were detrimental, bringing about a change at that time apparently were unable to convince the government of the day of the wisdom of doing so.

Permit me to suggest that your body might bring about an amicable adjustment of the matter, and I am informed that the magistrate is willing to tender his resignation upon receiving a retiring allowance, or pension, that might be mutually agreed upon.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) W. E. FOSTER

PTE. J. H. RUPERT GIVES HIS LIFE

Pays Supreme Sacrifice on Battlefield of France—Enlisted At Age of Seventeen.

Special to The Standard.—Hampton, Sept. 18.—Mrs. John Rupert received yesterday a notification that her son, Pte. J. H. Rupert, had been killed in action. Pte. Rupert was twenty years of age. He enlisted at the age of seventeen, leaving school to join the 10th under Lieut.-Col. Fowler, and crossed to England with that unit. Shortly after his arrival in England he was transferred to the New Brunswick Battalion, and did splendid service with that battalion, until the Hun "got him" a few days ago.

The young hero was the youngest son of Emma and the late John Rupert, and is survived by his mother and one brother, William, at home.

J. W. PATTERSON AND PTE. THOMAS BRADLEY KILLED IN ACTION

Three Other St. John Soldiers Reported Wounded—Casualty List Grows Daily.

Pte. Thomas Bradley.

Miss I. Pemberton, 102 Winter Street, was notified yesterday that Pte. Thomas Bradley had been killed in action, on August 28. Pte. Bradley was an Englishman, but had made his home in St. John for some time prior to the war. He enlisted with the 56th, being later transferred to another unit.

Pte. J. W. Patterson. That her husband, Pte. John W. Patterson, had been killed in action on the third of September last, was the sad news received by Mrs. Patterson yesterday, at her home, 16 Frederick Street. Pte. Patterson crossed with the 115th. He leaves a wife and young son, John D. W. Patterson, mother, Mrs. Mary Patterson, two brothers, Joshua and James, of this city, and one sister, Mrs. Herbert Jones, of Norton.

Pte. Robert K. Wills. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wills, 110 St. James Street, were officially notified yesterday that their son, Pte. R. K. Wills had been admitted to hospital at Boulogne, on September 10, suffering from gunshot wounds in the neck. Pte. Wills crossed over last December with a draft from the 9th Seige Battery. When wounded he was acting as range finder.

Pte. Eldon T. Webb. That Pte. Eldon T. Webb had been admitted to hospital on September 5, with gunshot wounds in the left hand, was the word received yesterday by Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Webb, 34 Adelaide Street. Pte. Webb crossed with a draft from the 1st Depot Battalion, and had only been in France a short time.

Pte. James S. Burnett. James E. Burnett, 115 Leinster Street, was notified yesterday that his son, Pte. James S. Burnett, who was wounded about three weeks ago, was improving in a satisfactory manner.

DISMISSED POLICE HELD A MEETING

Telegram From Minister of Labor Explained—Take Exception To Remarks Made At Council—Labor Mass Meeting Tonight.

The dismissed men of the local police force held a meeting yesterday afternoon when the telegram from the minister of labor was discussed. The wire stated that he did not refuse a board of conciliation, but told the men to get the city to agree to a board and in the meantime to have the men return to their work. It was shown that the minister was of opinion that the men were out on strike and not dismissed.

The remarks of Commissioner Hilyard regarding his belief that German money was behind these union strikes were discussed, and it was said that those remarks were unwarranted. It was further stated that before the election Commissioner Hilyard wished to become a member of the Street Railway Men's Union, but it was thought best that he should not become a member. The members took exception to his remarks made at the council meeting, and stated that it reflected on returned soldiers who are members of unions, and thought that the commissioner could prove his statement he should at once inform the military authorities.

A vote was taken that no man who has been dismissed from the force wishes to go back under the present conditions, and Commissioner McEldon had no reason for making such a statement.

A mass meeting of the members of the different unions in the city is called for tonight when matters regarding the present difficulty will be discussed.



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MARRIED.

GARD-NOBLE—In this city, on Wednesday, Sept. 18th, by the Rev. J. A. MacKeigan, Louis Tremaine Gard to Ethel May Noble, both of this city.

MARR-Lewis—Married at St. John on Tuesday, September 17, 1918, by Rev. S. S. Poole, John Henry Marr, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry G. Marr, to Edna Irene, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Lewis.

DIED.

DALEY—Killed in action, August 28, Pte. Christopher J. Daley, son of John and the late Mary Daley, aged 23 years, leaving his father and three brothers to mourn: Joseph P. Daley, in France; John J. Daley, of Boston; Wm. G. Daley, of this city.

STEIPER—At Boston, September 26, Walter J., youngest son of Mrs. J. Steiper, aged 42 years. Funeral from the residence of W. A. Steiper, 26 Paradise Row, Friday, 2.30 p. m.

RUPERT—Killed in action, Pte. J. Hedley Rupert, youngest son of Emma and the late John Rupert, of Hampton, leaving his mother and one brother, William, to mourn.



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