

GERMANS HIDING BEHIND U. S. SENATE'S FAILURE TO RATIFY PEACE TREATY

Text of Supreme Council's Reply to Germans, Who Demanded Modification of Treaty, Given Out by Washington Officials.

THEIR DEMANDS TREATED AS ABSURD

The Council Considers Only the Objections Presented to the Demand for Compensation for Scapa Flow Fleet, Destroyed.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 9.—The State Department today made public the text of the Supreme Council's reply to the German demands for modification of the Peace Treaty which were delivered at Paris yesterday by Baron Von Lersner, head of the German delegation, and a summary of which was contained in press despatches last night from Paris.

In denying the German demands for modification of the Treaty on the surrender of Germany charged with crimes against international law, and the return of prisoners in compensation for the absence of American delegations on the commissions until the ratification of the Treaty by the United States, the Council in its first note warned Germany "for the last time" that until the Treaty came into force, a denunciation of the armistice would be sufficient for the Allies to have recourse to military measures against Germany.

Absurd Modifications. "The suggestion," said the note, "concerning alleged rights of Germany to request (in compensation for the absence of American delegations) the suspension of the Treaty until the ratification of the Treaty by the United States) a modification of the clauses of the Treaty concerning the delivery of the guilty and the return of the prisoners on a basis. Under the terms of the final clauses of the Treaty, that instrument must enter into force as soon as Germany and three of the Allied and Associated Powers have ratified it. It would be in vain for Germany to endeavor to substitute the entry into force of a new condition on the presence of American delegates on the commissions."

The Supreme Council is of the opinion that Article 231 of the Peace Treaty (relative to the return of prisoners of war) is perfectly explicit and needs no addition.

"The Council considers only the objections presented to the demand for compensation for the destruction of the German fleet at Scapa Flow, and to the provision of eventual measures of military coercion formulated by the Allied note of November first.

Compensation For Fleet. "Before making their demands the Allied and Associated Powers examined this question. They do not share the apprehension of the German government as regards the economic effect upon the German ports. They maintain the protocol as it has been drafted. After having received a complete report on all floating docks, floating cranes, tugs and dredges demanded by the protocol, the Allied and Associated Powers will make known their choice, taking into account the general economic situation of Germany. Then, if the German government can show that any of the said demands are of a nature to prejudice the economic recovery of Germany to satisfy her legitimate requirements for the maintenance of inland navigation, or to other vital interests of Germany, the Allied and Associated Powers will be ready to examine them in a spirit of equity after hearing the reparations committee.

"As regards the last paragraph of the protocol of November first the Supreme Council is of the opinion that the signing of the protocol and deposit of ratifications will determine the coming into force of the treaty and consequently the state of peace."

The second note dealt with the destruction of the German fleet at Scapa Flow. It recalls that in an earlier note Germany had observed that the admiral in charge of the fleet had in no way "the intention of violating the obligations of the German government as assumed," and that it also had recognized that in destroying the fleet, the admiral commanding had acted according to a general order.

"Under the conditions," said the note, "the principal Allied and Associated Powers consider that the German government cannot repudiate to-day the responsibility incumbent upon it or seek through arbitration a solution for acts of war, the settlement of which belongs to the said powers."

Britons Subscribe To Fund To Aid Soviet Propaganda In Great Britain

London, Dec. 9.—John L. Baird, Unionist member of parliament from Warwickshire, announced in the chamber today, on behalf of the home secretary, that the government was aware that certain persons, some of them of foreign origin, were carrying on revolutionary propaganda in Great Britain with the object of abolishing parliamentary government and substituting therefor government on the lines of the Soviet system in Russia. Mr. Baird added that it was known that money had been brought from abroad for this purpose. The total probably was small, but Britons also had subscribed to the fund. Information on this point, he said, was incomplete.

CONCILIATION BOARD MEETS AT SYDNEY TO ADJUST DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MINERS AND OPERATORS

Under the Advice of Dr. Mackinnon, President of the Board, Both Parties to Dispute Hold Conference in Effort to Settle Some Matters in Controversy—Official of U. M. W. Thinks Amicable Adjustment Will be Reached.

Sydney, N. S. Dec. 9.—"We had a splendid meeting, the utmost harmony prevailed, and, as far as I can see, there will be an amicable adjustment of the wage differences between the United Mine Workers of America and the Dominion Coal Company," said a U. M. W. official at the close of this afternoon's conference at which the standardization of wages for the miners of Nova Scotia was discussed. This morning the conciliation board, composed of Dr. Clarence Mackinnon, of Pine Hill College, as chairman; Colonel W. B. Thompson, of Halifax, representing the company, and J. C. Watters, representing the miners, held its first session. As soon as the representatives of the men and the company assembled at the court house the members of the board held a short meeting behind closed doors. When the various representatives were admitted Dr. Mackinnon announced that the members were anxious to act as the servants of the two parties, and had no desire to be a means whereby a settlement of the difficulties might be arrived at.

Good Advice. "Before we continue our session," said Dr. Mackinnon, "let me say that the members of the board feel that an effort should be made by the miners and the company to affect a settlement among themselves. I therefore, throw out the suggestion that you should meet together, discuss the situation thoroughly and you will be surprised at the easy manner in which you will arrive at the settlement of certain phases of the dispute. I know there are other points that will be clothed with difficulties, and it is that the board will be anxious to assist you if, at any time during your negotiations, you need the assistance of the members of the board, remember we are always at your service. This is a board of conciliation and investigation. We are here to afford the facilities for conciliation and to try and bring about a settlement. I know, as the other members of the board know, that there is an earnest desire on the part of both the miners and the employer to bring about a settlement of this dispute. The coal industry is vital to the welfare of

Canada, and anything we may do here in the way of settlement will be used as a standard in similar disputes through the provinces.

The Dominion Coal Company is in the forefront among the coal companies of the country, so, therefore, there is an added importance to the duties we are called upon to perform. I would suggest that you, men, representing two parties, meet among yourselves now and the board will endeavor pending your decision."

Immediately following this suggestion by Dr. Mackinnon, H. J. McCann, assistant to President Mark Workman, of the Dominion Coal Company, arose and declared that, on behalf of the company he was willing and would be pleased to accept the suggestion of Dr. Mackinnon, and Mr. McCann, declared that the men had in the past been anxious to discuss their differences with the officials and would be pleased to accept this suggestion for a further conference.

The representatives of the company and the men then left the meeting of the board and, after a short conference, returned and Mr. McCann explained to Dr. Mackinnon that a further meeting of the two parties would be held this afternoon, and asked that the board adjourn its sitting until Wednesday morning. The chairman then adjourned the board as requested.

TURKISH POLICE BLIND TO SCENES OF PLUNDERING

Constantinople Presents a Spectacle of Chaos Run Riot With Everybody Robbing Everybody Else.

THEIEVRY OF EVERY SORT AND DESCRIPTION

The City Nightly Full of Fighting Soldiers and Sailors of All Nationalities Shooting off Firearms.

Constantinople, Dec. 9.—(By the Associated Press.)—Constantinople is credited here with being the worst governed and highest priced city in the world. It presents a spectacle of chaos run riot. Everybody is robbing everybody else. Blackhanders among the shipping agents and the longshoremen are responsible for the fact that it costs more to get freight from a ship to shore than to transport it from New York to Constantinople. All available dock space has been commandeered by the British, Americans and citizens of other countries, who are shut out, are paying \$35 a ton to get goods from a ship through the customs.

The streets swarm with pickpockets with the Turkish police claiming to be helpless because of the interlarded Turkish capital. The Turkish government claims it is helpless to conduct affairs for the same reason—that it has too many bosses.

The Turkish officials say they are mortally afraid of the ultimate attitude of Great Britain, although recent speeches in the British House of Commons have reawakened their hopes that Turkey will not be partitioned.

The only vote taken was upon the posting of speeches, in which the Socialists were crushed.

M. Clemenceau's speech was very brief. "We must rebuild France, let us hasten to commence; we must work and forget party politics," was the substance of his plea.

While M. Thomas was speaking Marshal Kozlov rose from his seat in the balcony and left the chamber, General Denikine Reports Successes On The Southwest Front

Bolshevik Also Claim Successes on the Don Front and Persian Border.

London, Dec. 9.—An official statement, issued by General Denikine, the anti-Bolshevik leader on the Russian Southwest front, reports fierce fighting in the Kamysheh, Kursk, Kiev and Tserayin regions. The fighting, the statement claims, generally was favorable to Denikine's forces, who captured 1,300 prisoners at Tserayin on December 4.

The Bolshevik statement on operations, received from Moscow today, also reports successes on the Don front and on the Persian border, where, after several fighting, the Reds occupied Kazandzhik, taking 1,500 prisoners and much booty.

A further Bolshevik communication admits the abandonment of Berdechev, southwest of Kiev, but declares that the Reds have started another offensive as a result of which heavy street fighting is proceeding in Berdechev.

Another message says the Bolsheviks have occupied Biograd, on the Donetz, 75 miles south of Kursk.

AM. SCHOONER ABANDONED AT SEA Ship Had a Cargo of Mahogany Logs from West African Port for New York.

New York, N. Y., Dec. 9.—The American schooner Orlando V. Wooten, 677 tons, from West African ports for New York, has been abandoned at sea, according to a report received here today by insurance underwriters. The report came from Bermuda and stated that word of the schooner's plight had been received there by wireless from an unidentified source.

The Orlando V. Wooten is owned by the Astoria Veneer Mills and Dock Company and was built in 1901. The owners said they had been unable to verify the report. The ship has a cargo of mahogany logs.

Miners In Session Failed To Reach Agreement On Wilson's Proposal

Washington, D. C., Dec. 9.—A telegram from Attorney-General Palmer at Indianapolis received today at the White House, saying the miners certainly would accept President Wilson's plan for a settlement of the strike was misinterpreted by officials there as saying the miners had accepted the plan and led to such an announcement. A correction was made immediately afterward.

The general committee of the United Mine Workers of America, meeting to consider President Wilson's proposal for ending the strike of bituminous coal miners, adjourned tonight at 6.30 o'clock without reaching an agreement. The committee will meet again tomorrow morning at nine o'clock.

The miners had been in continuous session since two o'clock this afternoon when John L. Lewis, acting president of the Mine Workers Organization presented the proposal of President Wilson to end the strike, which began more than five weeks ago.

M. CLEMENCEAU PLEADS FOR UNITY AMONG FRENCHMEN FOR THE WORK OF REBUILDING BELOVED FRANCE

The Opening of the Chamber of Deputies Was Attended With Tempestuous Scenes When Socialists Attempted to Read Their Political Party Declaration—Socialists "Booted" by Deputies and Spectators Alike.

Paris, Dec. 9.—The love feast, scheduled to welcome the return of deputies from Alsace and Lorraine to the Chamber of Deputies, yesterday, at the first session of the newly elected Chamber, turned into a vocal pitched battle, when the Socialists attempted to read their political party declaration. This came after the speeches of Premier Clemenceau, Jules Siegfried, the oldest member of the Chamber, and Jean Francois, the youngest deputy, who had been selected by the members from Alsace and Lorraine to speak for them.

Albert Thomas, Socialist, ascended the tribune, amid terrific "booming," but he was unable to make himself heard for fifteen minutes. Finally, obtaining a relative measure of silence, he succeeded in saying a few words. Albert and Varrene, Socialist, also managed to speak for a few moments. The House then voted to placard throughout France, the addresses of Premier Clemenceau, H. Siegfried and M. Francois, ignoring those of M. Thomas and Varrene. The deputies, with the exception of eight Socialists, who remained seated, among them Marcel Cachin, listened to the speech of M. Francois, standing. The seated Socialists were "booted" by deputies and spectators alike.

The only vote taken was upon the posting of speeches, in which the Socialists were crushed. M. Clemenceau's speech was very brief. "We must rebuild France, let us hasten to commence; we must work and forget party politics," was the substance of his plea.

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MONTREAL FREE OF SMALLPOX Montreal, Dec. 9.—This city was given a clean bill as far as smallpox was concerned this morning by the Civic Health Authorities. All cases which have been isolated were reported as out of the infection class.

FRANCE TO ADOPT NEW SCHEME FOR MILITARY WORK

Some Peace Enthusiasts Even See the Entire Suppression of Compulsory Training Which Has Been in Vogue.

PROPOSE REVISION OF SERVICE LAWS

Seem to be Consensus of Opinion Among Frenchmen That the Period of Service Should be Two Years.

Paris, Dec. 9.—Exchange rate difficulties, lack of fuel, high cost of living and a score of other shortages are not the only subjects that claim the attention of the French press, now that Carpentier has beaten Beckett and the American delegates have packed their trunks. Having won the war, even though the question of a victorious peace may hang in the balance, many Frenchmen are looking forward to a shorter term of active military service. Some peace enthusiasts even see the entire suppression of compulsory training, although the latter surely will be disappointed.

It should be recalled that the extension of compulsory military service was one of the immediate results of the war of 1870. The period of active service was first fixed at seven years, later reduced to five, and again, after suppression, to one year of service, which was the privilege of those who could pass certain examinations. For others it remained at three years.

With the growth of the military power of the republic, the more radical political parties, in spite of the warnings of the army chiefs, succeeded in reducing the period of service to two years. Then, on account of financial stringency, the exemptions formerly allowed were suppressed entirely. In 1915, in view of Germany's menacing militarism and increased budget, the French Chamber took up the question of increasing the compulsory service period to three years. M. Juarez, who was killed just after the outbreak of the war, fought bitterly against adding this one year. Fortunately for France the eloquence of this great Socialist was of no avail.

The French press is now giving its attention to the proposed revision of the military service laws, and the consensus seems to be that the period of service should be fixed at two years, although this is not sufficient. The question has not come before the Cabinet.

Obviously, the period of active service depends in great measure upon the number of recruits available yearly. The standing army, especially for the next two years, cannot be allowed to fall below a certain strength. Unfortunately the man power of France has been falling for many years, and a decrease in the number of recruits must lead to an increase in the period of service.

Tremendous Stride Taken By Canada In Shipbuilding

Lloyd's Yearly Report Shows a Larger Amount of Shipping Than Has Ever Been Recorded.

Montreal, Dec. 8.—At the end of June, 1919, there was being built under the inspection of Lloyd's Register a larger amount of shipping than has ever been recorded in the history of the industry, namely, 4,762,000 tons, of which 2,023,339 tons were built in the United Kingdom. So states the report of the society's operations during the year 1918-1919, which has just come to hand, through the courtesy of Mr. W. J. Allerton, Lloyd's surveyor in the port of Montreal.

At the close of the year ended 30th June, 1919, 8,756 merchant vessels registering nearly 22,000,000 tons gross held classes assigned by the committee of Lloyd's Register.

There has been a great development of the ship building industry in Canada during the war states this report. In June, 1914, the total tonnage recorded by Lloyd's Register as under construction (whether intended for classification) consisted of 18 vessels of 14,184 tons gross.

At the end of June, 1917, the society's surveyors had under survey a total of 75,698 tons, and at the end of June, 1919, 59 vessels of 155,542 tons, of which 43 vessels of 134,757 tons are of steel.

Conditions, but to an organization, artificially stimulated under the inspiration of the Russian Soviet government. This opinion will be submitted to the New York legislature in an exhaustive report by the joint legislative committee, which has been in investigating medical activities here since its organization last May. It was learned today.

New York, Dec. 9.—Radical agitation in this country, with its resultant social unrest, is not due to economic