

U. S. CONGRESS OPENS NEW WAR SESSION

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TWO THOUSAND COSSACKS KILLED BY EXPLOSION

U. S. MUST MOBILIZE RESOURCES AT ONCE, PRESIDENT WILSON INFORMS CONGRESS

Taking Over of Vast Railway Systems Necessary to America Playing Her Proper Part in the War, Nation's Chief Executive Tells Representatives in Session.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.—President Wilson today laid before Congress, assembled in joint session, his recommendations for carrying out Government operation of railroads. Bills to carry out the president's ideas already have been prepared under the supervision of the department of justice, and were immediately introduced with plans for prompt consideration in both House and Senate.

U. S. PIERS AND WAR FACTORIES THREATENED BY HOBOKEN BLAZE

Soldiers, Firemen and Civilians Combat Suspicious Conflagration.

New York, Jan. 4.—An urgent call for aid in fighting a fire in the building where army supplies are stored at West New York, N. J., on the Hudson, was received by the police department today from United States army authorities. A police fireboat was dispatched to West New York.

Hoboken, N. J., Jan. 4.—Firemen, United States soldiers and civilians, aided by New York fireboats and railroad trucks, brought a stubborn blaze under control after a fight of several hours in the heart of the industrial section paralleling the Government-controlled waterfront here today.

At the present of war department authorities in New York, the police sent fireboats which reached through the Hudson River from the water front upon the Gatti-McQuade fire.

Government Must Guarantee. "While the present authority of the executive suffices for all purposes of administration and while, of course, all private interests must for the present give way to the public necessity, it is, I am sure, you will agree with me, right and necessary that the owners and creditors of the railways, the holders of their stocks and bonds, should receive from the Government an unqualified guarantee that their properties will be maintained throughout the period of federal control in as good repair and as complete equipment as at present, and that the several roads will receive under federal management an equality of treatment as is equitable and just alike to the owners and to the general public."

CHRONICLE NAMES MEN TO SUCCEED SPRING RICE
London, Jan. 4.—It is suggested editorially by the Daily Chronicle that either Viscount Grey, former foreign secretary; Earl Reading, lord chief justice; or J. Austen Chamberlain, might be acceptable as ambassador at Rome.

CENTRAL POWERS' PEACE AGENTS IN TWO CAMPS

Frequent Disputes Were the Rule at Brest-Litovsk Conference.

KAISER FOR MODERATION

Gen. Von Hoffmann Heads the Delegates Who Are Out For Annexation.

London, Jan. 4.—There were two distinct tendencies noticeable in the enemy delegation at the Brest-Litovsk meeting, the Petrograd correspondent of the Daily News says. One was annexationist, and was represented by Gen. von Hoffmann. A more moderate view was upheld by Foreign Secretaries von Kuehlmann and Czernin.

Many Disputes. There were frequent disputes between the two tendencies. These were settled, it is added, by appeals to Berlin, which always supported von Kuehlmann and Czernin. Gen. von Hoffmann took the purely military point of view, and complained with great bitterness that the Russians were using the armistice to agitate among German soldiers.

ALLIES AND LENINE. London, Jan. 4.—The recognition of the Lenin Government in Russia by the Entente Allies is probable on account of the developments in the Russo-German negotiations.

BURRIDGE ARRAIGNED ON DOUBLE CHARGE OF THEFT AND ARSON, PLEADS NOT GUILTY

Sent to Trial in Connection With Burning and Burglary of Ingersoll Store.

Ingersoll, Jan. 4.—Walter Burr Burridge, of London, accused of having been one of the men who first burgled the Ingersoll store here on the morning of November 10, with a consequent loss of \$100,000 and more, appeared in police court today. He was charged on two separate counts of burglary and arson.

Plea Identified. H. W. Clarke, former manager of the Northway store here, identified several hundred dollars worth of goods recovered by the Toronto police when Burridge was arrested there, as having been in the store at the time of the fire. Private marks of the store were found on the goods.

Detectors Cronyn and Stewart of the Toronto police force were called as witnesses in the case of Burridge. They testified that the store was the property of Ingersoll and Jack Roberts, alias Morrison, Robertson and Harrison, who made such a name for themselves in the city of Toronto. The officers gave evidence of the investigations which led up to the arrest of Burridge, and Roberts, who is still at large.

Sold Furs in Toronto. Mrs. Mays who, with her husband, conducts a second-hand store in Toronto, was called as a witness to identify the furs of Burridge. She swore that Roberts, who gave the name of Harrison, had sold a set of furs, and had later come back to negotiate for further sales. Burridge, she swore, had helped Roberts carry the trunks into her store. These trunks were seized by the Toronto police.

CUTTING OUT THE RICE FOR THE NEWLY WEBS
New York, Jan. 4.—There is to be no more rice throwing at weddings, owing to the conservation of food products. The first formal notification of the abandonment of this old custom was made known at the Hotel Majestic, where notices have been put in the room where marriages take place, reading: "Don't throw rice—Save food and help win the war."



—New York Evening Telegram.

ONTARIO GOVT. WILL REQUEST EXTENSION OF LEGISLATURE; LIBERALS FAVOR ELECTIONS

Matter Under Discussion at the Toronto Conference—House to Meet This Month.

(Special to The Advertiser.) Toronto, Jan. 4.—The Ontario Government yesterday afternoon considered the question of extension of the Legislature, which expires in June next. In the event of such a request coming from the Ontario Government, as the conference was informed, the Liberal members of the Legislature would be in a position to oppose the extension.

BORDEN ADOPTS LIBERAL PLANS FOR THE OCEAN

Great Shipbuilding Program Was Urged by Opposition For Years.

LINK UP WITH ROADS Means Expenditure of From 50 to 60 Million Dollars Per Year.

Ottawa, Jan. 4.—The new shipbuilding program set forth yesterday by Hon. C. C. Halliday, minister of marine, involves a further step toward Government ownership of the shipbuilding industry. The program contemplated will mean the expenditure of from fifty to sixty million dollars per year on constructing new ships.

Link Up With Railroads. It may be that for a time the new vessels will be chartered to the Government, the rate to be regulated by the Government, but after the war the vessels will form the connecting link between the Canadian Government railway and the European market, thus establishing a long and direct factor of regulating competition with the old North Atlantic line.

Rolling Mills for the manufacture of ship plates will likely be established at Sydney, New Glasgow, Hamilton and St. John's, in conjunction with the steel plants.

KAISER'S CHANCELLOR NOT DISTURBED BY RUSSIA'S REJECTION
Berlin, Jan. 4.—Via Amsterdam.—Addressing the Reichstag main committee yesterday, chancellor von Hertling said with regard to the Russian rejection of the peace proposals dealing with disposition of the occupied Russian territories.

GOOD-BYE PEG-TOPS AND PINCH-BACKS
New York, Jan. 4.—"Peg top" trousers, "pinch backs" and French facings, fancy faps and patch pockets, are the latest luxuries to be offered as a sacrifice to economy. In an address here today on cloth economy before delegates from virtually every clothing centre in the United States, Mr. C. C. Cutler, a member of the commercial economy board, cited some of these limitations on men's clothing that had been decided upon as a conservation measure.

COMMISSION MAY TAKE OVER DISTRIBUTION OF FUEL HERE

Utilities Board Meets Today to Centralize Work.

DOCTORS FIND SUFFERING

Suggest Central Clearing Station to Look After These Needy Cases.

The utilities commission will meet this afternoon in a special session to discuss the fuel situation. Mayor-Elect C. R. Somerville and Commissioner-Elect Javed Vining will be asked to be present to go into the situation.

The city is in a bad way for fuel, and conditions are getting more serious. It is proposed that the utilities commission shall direct the distribution of all coal in the city. This would reduce the price of haulage, and would insure a supply for needy cases. It would give some control over the situation.

Thousands of cars on American roads found sidetracked. U. S. Government Is Rushing Repairs on Rolling Stock and Engines.

BLOCKADE IS VANISHING

Congestion of Freight in Great American Yards Is Disappearing.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Congress meets in joint session at 12:30 today to hear President Wilson outline his plan for legislation to speed up the government operation of the railroads.

Wage questions also were taken up by Mr. McAdoo, who arranged to be again today with heads of the four railway brotherhoods. At their first meeting yesterday they discussed principally hours of labor which the Government will require of employees and the basis of pay for overtime.

THE CAR SHORTAGE. In the long yard west of Pittsburgh, 1,747 cars, needing repairing were found, and less than half the number of repairmen available a year ago, now are employed there. In the Erie terminals at Erie, Pa., the cars are piled up, waiting for repair. This road was unable to deliver freight to the Grand Trunk and Lake Erie because the lines were congested and lacked locomotives.

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY TO OPEN JANUARY 18
Petrograd, Jan. 3.—The Bolsheviks have fixed the opening of the Constituent Assembly for January 18, providing there is present at that time a quorum of 400 members.

MUNITIONS DEPARTMENT FOR U. S. GOVERNMENT
Washington, Jan. 4.—A department of munitions under a new cabinet head known as the secretary of munitions, is proposed in a bill introduced today by Chairman Chamberlain of the senate military committee as a result of his investigation of war operations.

EMERGENCY COAL SHIPMENTS ANNOUNCED BY GOVERNMENT; PROMISES MORE FOR ONTARIO

McGrath's Representative Says There Will Be Quick Delivery of Fuel for Province's Cities and Towns in Distress. But Maintains That Drastic Measures Are Unnecessary.

Ottawa, Jan. 4.—That C. A. McGrath, Dominion fuel controller, who has been in Washington and New York for some days in connection with the fuel situation, has succeeded in arranging for a number of emergency shipments of coal to Canada, was the important statement made today by C. W. Peterson, the assistant fuel controller. This has been done despite the pressure coming from the consumers in the United States to limit the export of coal from the country in order to relieve the acute situation across the border.

HELP FOR ONTARIO. Speaking more particularly of conditions in Ontario, the assistant fuel controller said that a considerable quantity of premium coal for quick delivery for emergency calls had been placed at the disposal of Mr. Harris of Toronto, the representative of the fuel controller for Ontario. That supply was now being used to meet the requirements of cities and towns where the need for coal is great.

ACUTE AT OTTAWA. Ottawa, Jan. 4.—Seventeen out of thirty-four of the separate schools in the city have been closed for lack of fuel to heat the classrooms.

MUNITIONS DEPOT EXPLOSION KILLS 2 THOUSAND COSSACKS

Stockholm, Jan. 4.—A Haparanda dispatch to the Tidningen says that the munitions depot on the Russian southwestern front was blown up recently, and that all buildings within a radius of two kilometers were destroyed. Two trains loaded with Cossacks on the way to the Don District were wrecked, causing the death of two thousand men.

THE WAR SITUATION HAIG ADVANCES BRITISH LINES SOUTH OF LENS

Local Fighting Along Cambrai Front Leaves Situation Unchanged.

London, Jan. 4.—"Local fighting took place yesterday afternoon on the Cambrai front in the neighborhood of the Canal Du Nord, without producing any material change in the situation," the war office reports.

YUKON NOMINATIONS. Dawson, Jan. 4.—Alfred Thompson, former member of parliament, and P. J. Condon are the candidates for Yukon Territory for the House of Commons. Both are running as Unionists, and were formally nominated on Monday.

THE WEATHER. LOCAL TEMPERATURES. Following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 3 o'clock last night: Highest, 8 above; lowest, 3 below.

ARTILLERY HAMMERS THE FRENCH FRONTS
Paris, Jan. 4.—Violent artillery fighting on the Champagne and Verdun fronts is reported in today's official communication. A German attack in the Argonne was repulsed. Eight German airplanes were shot down in the air.

CARDINAL ASKS PRAYERS FOR ARMIES OF EMPIRE
Quebec, Jan. 4.—His Eminence Cardinal Beugin, in conformity with the proclamation of the Sunday, January 6, as a special day of prayer throughout the Empire, has made an appeal to the faithful of the diocese of Quebec to unite in a fervent prayer to bring divine protection on the armies of the Empire and her Allies, and to implore the mercy of God in favor of that peace which is so much desired.

DORIS KEANE WEDS.
London, Jan. 4.—Doris Keane, the American actress, the Daily Mirror announces, was married yesterday to Basil Sydney, an English actor. They had been appearing together in London in "Romance."

TOMORROW—MODERATELY COLD. Toronto, Jan. 4.—8 a.m. Forecast: Fair, with light snow; moderate cold; light breeze.

Weather Notes. The Atlantic disturbance now centered south of Halifax has caused gales with rain and snow throughout the Maritime Provinces; weather continues cold in Ontario and Quebec, and mild in the western provinces.