

U.S. WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY GERMAN SHIPS

Cannot Readily do so After Wilson's Declaration at Start of Their War.

DECISION TO SINK IS NOT YET DEFINITE

Canada Said to Have Asked for Some as the Nucleus of a Navy.

MANY OTHER NATIONS WOULD LIKE TO BUY

But it is Suggested That Vessels be Used by the League of Nations as an Ocean Police Force.

(By Arthur S. Draper.)

Special cable to The N. Y. Tribune and St. John Standard. London, Dec. 1.—The United States cannot in honor accept even the smallest destroyer as her share of the German fleet after the declarations of President Wilson that America would accept no acquisitions arising out of the war. And it would hardly be fair for other nations to augment their navies by additions from the fleet of the possible detriment of the United States.

This explanation is offered here for the decision to dismantle the German ships after peace is signed and the world made secure for another generation at least, and sink them in the middle of the ocean.

There have been many claims for the German vessels. Britain, France and the other allies desire the German units to replace their losses during the war. The ships may survive in this way if an agreement is reached among the powers.

Canada also aspires to own the German fleet as the nucleus of a navy. Besides the other claim of the world's smaller nationalities would like the opportunity to purchase the new units.

The division of the German fleet among the belligerents on such a way as to make all parties contented would be a practical impossibility. Britain, having borne the greater burden of naval warfare, could claim most of the spoils, but she is unlikely to enforce such claims if an amicable agreement is reached whereby she feels her existence secure without continued naval effort.

The project of sinking is contingent upon the certainty that there is no new war loomed on the horizon. If the world's equilibrium, despite all efforts, seems likely to continue unstable, the German fleet may be used as a naval police force of the League of Nations, to be thrown in on the side of the powers fighting against an aggressor nation.

Meanwhile Britain is guarding and cleaning the disputed vessels, pending the decision of the Peace Congress in whose hands lies the final decision. No doubt it is entertained that the congress will decide not to return the fleet to Germany, but to retain it either as part payment for the damages caused by the war or as a guarantee against future aggression.

PROF. H. L. STEWART WILL LIKELY RECOVER

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 1.—Professor H. L. Stewart, of Dalhousie University, who some weeks ago fell and had his skull fractured at the base, and whose recovery at the time was despaired of, is so much better now that on Saturday he was removed from the V. G. Hospital to his home, and his complete recovery is looked for.

HERE'S ANOTHER FELLOW WITH HIS PLEA FOR MERCY AND HELP

Erzberger, Secretary of State, Describes in Detail How He Has Fought in Support of the People Against Prussian Militarism and How Positively Shocking it Would be for the Allies to Punish Germany Now That She Has Become Good.

By H. W. Smith.

(Special Cable to The N. Y. Tribune and The St. John Standard.) Amsterdam, Nov. 30.—Here Erzberger, in an interview which he accorded to a neutral correspondent, replied to the latter's expression of surprise at seeing him still Secretary of State in the present circumstances by saying: "We bourgeois must seek as far as possible to fortify the sound elements in this government. In my opinion this is especially incumbent on myself. I believe I have had a large share in the work which has led to the liberation of the German people. I do not think of deserting them at this critical hour. It is now, more than ever, a question, not of parties," continued Herr Erzberger, "but of supporting any government which is able to save the new Germany by maintaining order. A wide chasm has always separated me from the social democrats. This exists still, though it has been bridged over by circumstances. Germany has taken the road from which there is no turning back. For the present, the objects of the social democratic government are also the objects of the Federalist and liberal liberty. I could not refuse

Infernal Machines on Bodies of Dead Huns To Murder British Stretcher Bearers

With the British-American Armies, Dec. 1. (Correspondence of The Associated Press)—German devilry seemed to know no bounds in the last days of the fighting on the Hindenburg line had been shattered. They attached grenades to the bodies of the dead Huns left behind in the German retreat, so that when the bodies were lifted the grenades exploded, killing or wounding the bearers.

Near the town of Le Cateau, a number of Australian stretcher-bearers were killed by these grenades in attempting to remove some German dead from the field in front of an American machine-gun position. Thereafter no Australian would put a hand on a dead German. In some cases the bodies were dragged to their burial places by means of long ropes which allowed the stretcher-bearers to keep out of range of any exploding hand-grenades.

The Americans, on the other hand, hit upon the plan of making the German prisoners bury their own dead. In one instance a Bêche prisoner was summarily shot because he refused to remove the body of one of his dead companions. An examination of the body later led to the discovery that it was mined. The German was aware of this fact and refused to touch it.

In one small town evacuated by the Germans, many of the beds were found to be mined. An American officer, tired and worn by long and hard fighting, sought rest on a lounge in a room previously occupied by a German officer. The lounge blew up and he was instantly killed.

Another officer picked up a pair of field-glasses left by the Germans and was adjusting the focus when the glasses exploded in his hands and blew away a part of his face.

The Huns had become adept in the nefarious business of making infernal machines, mines and time fuses, and there was scarcely an area where the electrical and engineering experts of the Allies did not find some new form of their diabolical ingenuity.

BAD LITTLE BOYS LIVE IN MONCTON

Believe These Rounded up by the Police Were Responsible for the Glass Works Fire—One is Only Six Years Old.

Moncton, Dec. 1.—In the roundup of eight or nine boys ranging in age from nine to fourteen years, who have been committing a number of depredations recently, such as pulling in fire alarms, breaking electric light globes in the city banks, dumping the C. G. R. truckmen's trolley into the river, the police have reason to believe that they have found the culprits who caused the fifteen thousand dollar fire that occurred in the Humphrey Glass Works last summer.

The origin of the fire at the time was something of a mystery, but one of the boys in the group arrested in the police court yesterday stated he was in the crowd that dropped matches at the Humphrey Glass Works just prior to the fire breaking out. He developed that a boy as young as six years old had recently pulled in an alarm of fire. On account of the tender years of the lads before the magistrate they were let off with nominal fines and strong reprimands for the parents.

HALF THE VESSEL HAS FOUNDERED

Now Section of Steamer Sunk in Lake Ontario, But the Crew Escaped.

Buffalo, N.Y., Nov. 30.—The bow section of the steamer Northwest, which broke away from its tow while being taken through Lake Ontario on Wednesday, has foundered. The crew of nine men escaped on a life raft, and made shore in Canada, but two of them died of exposure. This information came today to Supt. Smith, of the Buffalo Drydock Company, in a telegram from Captain George McMinin today. McMinin said the crew had just landed, after a twenty-four hour battle in the storm.

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HALIFAX AND MILITARY HAVE FALLING OUT

Feeling Against Tax Exemption of Properties Growing for Some Time.

CHARLES BELL IS OPPOSITION LEADER

Matters Come to a Head Through Plan to Build a Hospital.

CITY ENGINEER ADVISES AGAINST IT

So the City Has Secured an Injunction and Contract May be Held up.

Special to The Standard.

Halifax, N.S., Dec. 1.—The military, since Halifax was founded, have had a prominent place in the life of the city, much more so it has often been thought than was really good for it. But in spite of this they do not always see eye to eye.

For years there has been an agitation, more or less pronounced, against their holding so much tax-exempt property and against such holdings by the government generally, an agitation in which one of the leaders is Charles Bell. The latest phase of this opposition to the military has developed in the obtaining of an injunction to restrain the Dominion Government from proceeding with the erection of a branch to the military hospital on Camp Hill. The department awarded a contract to Rhodes and Curry to build a branch on the eastern side. The city protested that the proposed building would be on top of two water mains.

The mayor and controllers got busy and wired Hon. A. K. MacLean, an old ally of Mayor Martin, M.P., protesting against such action, pointing out the dangers and intimating that the city engineer would not be responsible for the water service if the building construction proceeded.

The city solicitor Bell got busy, and while the wires were carrying the Mayor's and ex-Mayor's protests he was making application to Mr. Justice Clapham, in the Supreme Court, for an interim injunction to prevent the contractors from proceeding with construction. His Lordship granted an interim injunction returnable on Tuesday.

City Engineer Doane concludes his report to the Board of Control as follows: "I think prompt and decided action should be taken to prevent the officials of the government carrying out this work in defiance of the city, either by applying for an injunction to restrain Rhodes Curry Co., who have the

TRAIN WRECK ON C. P. R. IN QUEBEC DESTROYS TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION AND CUTS OFF NEWS SERVICE FROM CANADIAN PRESS

Because of a wreck at a place called Scotstown, Quebec, Maritime newspapers are this morning without the usual press service. The wreck occurred on Sunday afternoon, and from all that could be learned here it carried away every wire the C.P.R. has along the line. As a result of this condition efforts were made to secure a service from Montreal over the Western Union but for some cause not known at the present time this

AN AWFUL MESS MADE BY TURKS IN PALESTINE

Eye-Witness Story of the Debacle Arouses German People.

INCREDIBLE INCAPACITY AND NEGLIGENCE SHOWN

Commander's Only Thought Was for His Daughter at a Summer Resort.

WHOLE STAFF TAKEN WHILE SLEEPING

Then Chaos Reigns and British Had the Entire Bunch at Their Mercy—Whole Army Fled.

Amsterdam, Nov. 25 (Monday).—The staggering incompetence of the Turkish-German debacle in Palestine and Syria is shown the German public in an eye witness story published in the Vossische Zeitung of Berlin. The writer attacks General Sanders, the German commander in the Turkish field of operations for his "incredible incapacity and negligence." The general's entire concern, he declares, was for the safety of the general's daughters, who were at a seaside resort. He likewise condemns the British report of the general's flight, which the British official statement worded, "the enemy commander in chief fled far in the rear of his troops."

How the British broke through occurred on September 26, when the troops of the Turkish army heard of the break-through too late to retreat successfully. The British fell on their rear and their position became hopeless. Small detachments vainly tried to cut their way through. The roads were blocked and there was no leadership among those enemy forces, while the men were continuously harassed by Australian cavalry and British aircraft.

The Turks were largely seen on the retreat. Their either fled in good time or surrendered. The German detachments, the writer charges, made a desperate effort to stem the tide, but when this resistance broke down the remnants of the army fled, completely demoralized, to Aleppo, where they added to the confusion prevailing. An epidemic of influenza completed the havoc. The account ends thus: "All the army saved was four guns, the commander in chief, his daughters and the latter's baggage."

contract, from erecting the buildings, or by application to those who are superior in authority to the officials who are to blame. If these officials have made a mistake it might, and should, be corrected by them and not forced upon the city."

Berlin Issues Text of Kaiser's Abdication

Berlin, Nov. 20.—The text of the former German emperor's act of abdication which was issued by the new German government "in order to reply to certain misunderstandings which have arisen with regard to the abdication," follows: "By the present document I renounce and abdicate all rights to the crown of Prussia and the rights to the German imperial crown. I release at the same time all the officials of the German empire and the Prussian and other officials, non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the Prussian navy and army and of contingents from confederate states from the oath of fidelity they have taken to me.

"As their emperor, king and supreme chief, I expect from them until a new organization of the German empire exists that they will aid those who effectively hold the power in Germany, to protect the German people against the menacing dangers of anarchy, famine and foreign domination."

"Made and executed and signed by my own hand, with the imperial seal at Amerongen, Nov. 28. (Sgd.) 'WILLIAM.'"

Getting Ready To Fight the Flu Epidemic of 1919 Which Doctors Say is Coming Sure

Chicago, Dec. 1.—Plans for combating another influenza epidemic which is expected to sweep the country in 1919 will be considered by health authorities from all parts of the United States, Canada, and South America at the forty-sixth annual convention of the American Public Health Association which opens here today.

Members of the association say that all the influenza epidemics since 1918 have been recurrent for from two to three years after the initial outbreak. For this reason leading authorities feel convinced that the visitation of 1919 will be repeated in 1919 and probably in 1920. Also it is expected that in previous epidemics the second and third attacks have been more virulent and attended by a higher mortality rate than were the initial manifestations.

It was early in 1918, according to Dr. W. A. Evans, former health commissioner of Chicago, that the now so-called Spanish influenza made its appearance in Spain. Now Spain is having its second outbreak, according to Dr. Evans, more virulent in form and attended by an alarming death rate.

During the three-day meeting, the methods used in combatting the 1918 epidemic in the United States will be thoroughly considered and plans outlined for meeting any future emergency. Among those who will present papers and take part in the discussions are Major W. H. Welch, of the National Medical Corps; Dr. E. C. Rogown, of the Mayo foundation; Dr. Herman Biggs, commissioner of the New York State Department of Health, and Dr. A. J. McLaughlin, assistant surgeon general of the United States Public Health Service.

Besides consideration of influenza, many subjects of general interest pertaining to public health during the reconstruction period will be taken up. There will be discussions regarding proper precautions in the care of children to reduce mortality rates, rural sanitation, the effect of fashions on health and the use of narcotics in war times.

TWO LADS ARE DROWNED AT MAUGERVILLE

Four Young Fellows Were Sliding Down-Hill to a Pond.

ICE GAVE WAY AND ALL WENT THROUGH

Brother of One Got Help and Managed to Rescue Two of Them.

BUT HIS BROTHER AND ANOTHER PERISHED

Victims Were Arol Clark of Fredericton and Wendell Clark of Maugerville—Double Funeral Today.

Special to The Standard.

Fredericton, N.B., Dec. 1.—A drowning accident by which two boys, Arol Neil Clark and Wendell Clark, lost their lives, took place at Maugerville about three o'clock on Saturday afternoon. The boys, with two other companions, Douglas and Frank Palmer, were sliding from a small hill adjoining Bush's Pond, out on the pond, when they broke through the ice. Donald Clark, a brother of Wendell, was standing on the hillside. He ran for help and with the assistance of Chas. Bartlett, who lives near by, rescued the two Palmer boys and Wendell Clark, but the latter died from exposure before he could be taken to Bartlett's house.

The body of Arol Clark was recovered some hours after. Arol Clark was a son of Winlaw Clark, of Abernethy Street, of this city, and was nine years old. Wendell Clark was a son of Wm. A. Clark, of Maugerville, and was ten years old.

Much praise is given to Donald Clark for his success in rescuing the Palmer boys.

Coroner George Perley viewed the remains and considered an inquest unnecessary. A double funeral of the victims will take place at Maugerville on Monday afternoon.

Mrs. Julia Darlington, widow of John Darlington, died at her home, Charlotte Street, last night. She leaves two sons, Peter and Ernest, and one daughter, Mrs. McIntosh. The funeral will take place on Monday afternoon.

The different city churches today held thanksgiving services. At Main Street Baptist Church on Sunday a memorial service was held for Harry Harrison, Henry Hown, Wallace Cameron and Milton Clegg, who gave their lives for their country during the late war.

WANT NEUTRALS TO FIX BLAME

German Gov't Asks That Commission be Appointed to Find Who Caused the War—Self Must Get Out.

Berlin, Nov. 30, via Amsterdam.—The German government has proposed to the Entente nations that a neutral commission be established to examine the question as to who was responsible for the war. The Foreign Office of Berlin says it has been officially informed that the workmen and soldiers' council has demanded the most speedy retirement of Dr. W. B. Solf, the German foreign secretary. The council also has ordered the seizure of all documents relating to foreign affairs and the old government system.

The Allied naval squadron which recently passed through the Dardanelles into the Black Sea anchored off Sebastopol, the Russian naval base in the Crimea on November 26. The Russian ships which were in the hands of the Germans, and also some German submarines were surrendered to the Allied naval representatives.

STARVATION THREATENING ROUMANIANS

Loaf of Bread in Kischineff Costs Six Dollars and Scarce at That.

GERMANS SWEEP THE COUNTRY CLEAN

Winter Coming and Clothing Four Hundred Dollars a Suit, Shoes One Hundred.

NOT ENOUGH COAL TO HEAT THE HOSPITALS

People Are Not Complaining, But Look to the Allies for Immediate Assistance.

By Hampton Hunt.

(Special Cable to the N. Y. Tribune and St. John Standard. Copyright, 1918, by the N. Y. Tribune Inc.) Paris, Dec. 1.—Private letters received here from Jassy indicate that before the Allies think of doing anything in the way of sending foodstuffs to Germany and Austria it is much more imperative that they should do their utmost to come to the help of Roumania. In none of the Allied countries is the shortage of food making itself felt so terribly as in Roumania.

The ruthless requisitions made throughout the agricultural districts by the Germans during their occupation swept the country almost bare and now with the advent of severe weather things are assuming a critical state. Not only is food growing more scarce daily but there is also serious lack of clothing, boots, leather, cotton, wool and furs and many articles of first necessity to the peasantry, who form such a large proportion of the population.

The wheat has been exhausted even in the most fertile districts. At Kischineff in Bessarabia a four and a half penny loaf of bread costs thirty cents that is to say, six dollars. At Bucharest and large provincial towns a suit of clothes costs 2,000 lei or four hundred dollars, a pair of shoes costs 500 lei and one can seldom be found even at these prices.

The present winter promises to be unusually severe and the people, after the terrible sufferings they went through during the past two winters which caused tens of thousands of deaths from the hardship, are calling piteously for immediate help. Every day a deluge of sending help in the form of foodstuffs to Roumanians meant the loss of dozens of lives from sheer starvation. The hardships of the people are aggravated by the shortage of coal which is lacking to such an extent that it is impossible to warm even the hospitals.

U. S. CASUALTIES ARE CLIMBING UP

Twenty-eight Thousand More Are Added—Total Now is 265,839.

Washington, Nov. 30.—The new casualty reports added more than 28,000 names to the American total for the war. The summary announced last week totalled 236,111, including 2,163 prisoners. General March said he did not think the number of prisoners would be increased materially by the new figures, indicating the probable total to November 26 will be 265,839. Today's summary adds 4,313 to the number killed in action or dead of disease, 1,823 to the number dead of wounds, 10,350 to the number wounded, and the number of missing in action is increased from 1,160 to 14,290. The large increase in the latter classification is attributed to belated reports from all commands on the checking up of missing men.

With all their sufferings of the past the present morale of these brave people is excellent. The troops and people both are delighted with the news of the occupation of San Juan and Muklais, near Brashov. In the joy of victory there is danger of the people being lost to the sight of the triumphant Allies. Roumania's sufferings at the hands of the Germans are only equalled by those of Belgium. She now is looking to America and England in full confidence that her appeals will not be in vain.

INFLUENZA BREAKS LOOSE AND DALHOUSIE GOES UNDER AGAIN

After All Trouble Seemed to be Over and the Disease Practically Stamped Out, Numerous Cases Have Appeared and on Saturday Evening the Lid Was Clamped Down—Provincial Department is Very Generally Blamed.

Dalhousie, Dec. 1.—This town has again. When the influenza epidemic was at its height in all other parts of the province, Dalhousie escaped fairly well, though not nearly as well as many of our people thought. For while there was so great excitement at the time it was because the people here did not regard the prevailing sickness as anything very serious. It was known that quite a number were ill, but until Dr. Doucet took hold there was little realization of actual conditions. The doctor who is head of the local board of health, on making a round of the community, found many cases of flu and since then has devoted his entire time and strength to fighting the epidemic. In this he has suffered through lack of co-operation from the provincial department, and has practically carried the entire burden alone. And to make matters worse, to add a note of tragedy to his able efforts, Mrs. Doucet became ill and died, leaving besides her husband, five children, the oldest of whom is only six years.

Through the efforts of the doctor and those who were secured to assist him, the spread of the disease was finally checked for a time, and the ban which had been placed on all gatherings, such as schools, churches, meetings and the like was lifted. But without that assistance which was expected from the provincial department the situation soon developed seriously with the result that during the past few days there has been such a re-eruptance of the epidemic that on Saturday evening the lid was again clamped down. Everything is now closed, and while the rest of the province has been practically freed from the disease with the exception of a few scattered cases, Dalhousie is worse off than ever, and the people are sore at the manner in which this community has been neglected, and the disease allowed to spread. Every credit is due Dr. Doucet for the self-sacrificing manner in which he has worked, but it is felt that he has not had the respect co-operation from the minister of health, and has been called upon to do more than should be expected from any one man. Dalhousie is closed tight again, and the fault is largely with the Provincial Department of Health which has consistently neglected this community from the very start of the epidemic.