

AUSTRIA MAKES NEW OFFER TO RUSSIA

The London Advertiser

Circulation Last Week
279,915
Daily Average, 46,652

HOME
EDITION

LONDON, CANADA—THE HOME OF UNBROKEN PROSPERITY.

56TH YEAR. NO. 22991

THE LONDON ADVERTISER, LONDON, CANADA. SATURDAY EVENING, JANUARY 26, 1918. 160 COLUMNS.

PRICE, TWO CENTS.

RUSSIAN MARCH IN AMERICAN CITIES

LUTCH REPORT BLOODY RIOTING AT BERLIN

AUSTRIA READY FOR SEPARATE PEACE IF SELF-DETERMINATION IS NOT IN CONDITIONS

Dual Monarchy Now Prepared To Make Separate Pact With Russia Apart From Germany, Accepting All Russian Program With Exception of Fate of Little Fellows—Great Demonstrations All Over Austria—Strike Called at Warsaw.

London, Jan. 26.—Austria has declared her readiness to conclude a separate peace without Germany and to accept the Russian democratic program with the exception of self-determination of nations, says a dispatch from Petrograd to the Exchange Telegraph Company.

Another dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Petrograd, dated Friday, says: "The Bolsheviki newspapers today report that great demonstrations are taking place all over Austria-Hungary. Workmen's and soldiers' organizations have been formed at Vienna and Budapest. A big strike has begun at Warsaw."

"The Socialist congress at Warsaw has resolved to organize a revolutionary council of workmen and soldiers' deputies."

MORE MADE BLIND IN HALIFAX DISASTER THAN THROUGH WAR INVESTIGATORS FIND

Clinic of Noted Experts Will Treat Those Who Lost Sight by Explosion.

New York, Jan. 26.—Three or four times as many persons were made totally or partially blind by the recent munitions explosion at Halifax than have suffered that affliction among Canadian soldiers since the war began. Edward W. Yancieve, managing director of the national committee for the prevention of blindness, has reported to this effect after a personal survey of conditions. Recognizing that the number of blinded victims is greater than from any similar disaster in history, the committee has decided to start a campaign for relief funds and to ask for support in all parts of the United States. The money will be turned over to the Halifax Blind Relief Committee, which has been organized to care for and re-educate the blinded.

Clinic is Started.
A clinic has been started under the direction of Sir Frederick Fraser, the blind superintendent of the Halifax School for the Blind, which he founded 42 years ago.

One of the most distinguished oculists of Canada will be in attendance, assisted by Miss Lotta S. Rand, of the Massachusetts State Commission for the Blind. Treatment by trained nurses of the Victorian Order. A special effort will be made to find all the victims among the widely dispersed survivors of the disaster.

Many Victims Women.
A large proportion of the blinded survivors, Mr. Yancieve said, were women between 25 and 40 years of age, who were overtaxed at their morning household. Education of the blinded adults presents a more difficult problem than that of children. A child adapts itself to life in the dark while blindness comes to the adult with the shock of despair and dissolution. Blinded mothers are being trained to carry on their household activities so as to be able to stay with their families rather than go to institutions.

NEGRO STUDENTS ARE BARRED FROM QUEEN'S
Kinston, Jan. 26.—No more negro students are to be admitted to Queen's College. This is due to the objection of residents to receive medical attention from negroes in hospital clinics. There are now fourteen negro medical students at Queen's, and these will be allowed to complete their fourth year, but will not be allowed to continue with their fifth year to the fact that the greatest amount of clinical work has to be done in this year.

RAID OF THE GERMANS FRUITLESS, SAYS PARIS
Paris, Jan. 26.—A German raid made by the French positions west of St. Ghobin, between the Oise and Ailette Rivers, failed last night, according to the official statement issued today by the French war office.

BERLIN ROCKS WITH RIOTING AS STARVING DEMAND FOOD

Dutch Receive Extraordinary Reports of Revolution Movement in Kaiserland. MOBS GLAMOR FOR PEACE Are Ruthlessly Repressed, Men, Women and Children Being Shot Down.

London, Jan. 26.—The Amsterdam correspondent of the Express says that extraordinary reports are current concerning a revolution in Germany and that there have been rumors of grave disorders in Berlin during the past two days, the rioters clamoring for peace. He also reports bread riots, which were ruthlessly repressed by the police, many men, women and children being wounded. The correspondent admits that confirmation of these rumors is impossible, but thinks that it is remarkable that no news, either press or commercial, were received in Holland on Friday direct from Berlin, all coming by round-about routes. None of Thursday morning's Berlin newspapers have arrived.

DISORDERS IN BARCELONA.
Madrid Jan. 26.—Rumors of disorders in Barcelona are confirmed by reports reaching here, which state that groups of women started rioting in the city on Friday, demanding cheaper food prices. The Government has suspended constitutional guarantees in Barcelona.

TROUBLE AT STUTTGART.
Amsterdam, Jan. 26.—In consequence of the disturbance of meetings of the Fatherland party at Stuttgart, the deputy general of the 15th Württemberg army corps has prohibited all public meetings in Stuttgart and the surrounding district for the discussion of political or military matters.

What the Socialist organ, the Vorwarts, terms "a spontaneous movement to show the Fatherland party what the masses of the Fatherland think of their activities, has compelled the party to take the strictest precautions to obtain a hearing anywhere. Only known sympathizers are admitted to their meetings."

PETITION IS FILED AGAINST ELECTION OF NORFOLK MEMBER
Alleged That Money Was Paid for Votes, in Some Cases to Women.

Toronto, Jan. 26.—A petition has been filed against the election of W. A. Charlton of Norfolk County. There are 35 specific charges in the petition, in which it is alleged from \$2 to \$5 was paid for votes, and there are a number of other charges. For the first time women figure in an election petition as having received money.

The last election petition was the cross-petition in South Bruce in December, 1912. There were five petitions following the elections of 1911, but none of them came to trial. The sum of \$1,000 is required to be paid into court with each petition.

In the present petition, J. Walter Binney of Townsend Township, Nelson and Wilson Porters of Woodhouse Township are the petitioners to void the election of Wm. A. Charlton of Toronto, whereas his opponent, J. A. Wallace, farmer, received \$237.

DUTCH SHIP SAILS
Nieuw Amsterdam Leaves for America With Big Passenger List.

Amsterdam, Jan. 26.—The Holland-America Line steamer Nieuw Amsterdam, which has been lying in the Rotterdam for some time with a large number of passengers on board, sailed yesterday afternoon for the United States.

A few days ago it was announced by the German Government that the Nieuw Amsterdam would not be guaranteed immunity from submarine attacks.



PETERBORO BUSINESS SECTION SWEEPED BY DISASTROUS FIRE, EXPLOSION STARTING BLAZE WHICH TAKES SEVERAL STORES

Bursting Boiler Sets Fire to Building on George Street and Flames Quickly Spread in Both Directions, Destroying Number of Retail Establishments and Large Motion Picture Theatre—Costly Fires at Winnipeg and Edmonton.

Peterboro, Jan. 26.—One of the worst fires in the history of Peterboro occurred this morning when one-half of the business section between Simcoe and Charlotte streets, on George street, was wiped out.

The fire broke out about 5:30 in the store of Robert Neill, due to the explosion of a hot water boiler in the basement of the building. The damage is estimated at \$500,000. The fire quickly spread on both sides, taking in the retail store of the Matthews-Blackwell company and the Dominion Bank on the north and the Dominion Picture Theatre on the south. The Matthews-Blackwell company's store are completely wrecked, and the Dominion Bank building, on the corner of the street, is badly gutted. The entire fire-fighting force of the city were taxed to the utmost, and at 9:30 this morning there was a fair prospect of saving the remainder of the block.

All light and power in the business section of the city is cut off.

The high wind and the extremely cold weather added to the difficulties of the firemen. Help is on the way from Lindsay, although it is believed that the fire is under control.

Edward Parks, who sleeps above the Royal Theatre, had a narrow escape. He scrambled out partially dressed and a few minutes later the fire swept into the building, destroying one of the largest motion picture houses in the city, together with a large quantity of equipment and films.

LATER.
Peterboro, Jan. 26.—At 11:30 the fire was under control. A 30-inch fire wall between the Royal Theatre and the Union Bank to the south was all that saved the entire block from being destroyed. The Union Bank and several stores to the south of the destroyed section will suffer considerable damage from smoke and water. Light and power is still off; business is at a standstill as a result. Street car service has been suspended owing to the water freezing in the tracks.

The Lindsay fire department is on hand with a number of men and equipment.

\$20,000 WINNIPEG BLAZE.
Winnipeg, Man., Jan. 25.—Damage estimated at \$20,000 was caused last night by fire which broke out in the Monastock Block on Fork street.

FIRE AT EDMONTON.
Edmonton, Jan. 25.—Fire which broke out at 7:30 last evening in the Sanderson Block, one of the oldest brick buildings in Edmonton, completely gutted the grocery store of J. H. Morris & Co. and damaged some other small stores in the same building. Loss \$39,000; fully covered by insurance.

KAISER'S TORCH BRIGADE BUSY RAZING U. S. WAREHOUSES AND ARMY SUPPLIES IN NEW JERSEY

RUMAN ARMY BATTLES WITH BOLSHEVIKI
Kishinev Reported Surrounded by Troops of King Ferdinand.

London, Jan. 26.—Kishinev is reported to be surrounded by Rumanian troops, according to a Petrograd dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company and hot fighting is said to be in progress between the Bolsheviki troops and the Rumanians.

ANOTHER AT PATERSON.
Paterson, N. J., Jan. 26.—The Fidelity Storage warehouse was burned here last night with an estimated loss of \$150,000. One life is believed to have been lost. It is thought this fire was due to German agents.

BAD BUFFALO FIRE.
Buffalo, Jan. 26.—The Western Electric and Manufacturing Company's service repair plant on Lock street, near the waterfront, burned today. The loss was \$150,000.

ANOTHER MYSTERIOUS BLAZE.
An Atlantic Port, Jan. 26.—Shipment of gasoline in metal containers, loaded on the deck of a large British passenger and freight steamer, caught fire here early today from an unexplained cause, resulting in slight damage to the ship. The blaze was discovered by a soldier guard, who summoned aid by firing a number of shots from his rifle.

OIL BARGES BURNED.
Newark, N. J., Jan. 26.—Three of five barges loaded with oil, and towed alongside a pier at the shipbuilding plant of the Submarine Boat Corporation, which is engaged in the construction here for the Government, were destroyed by fire early today. The blaze was discovered by soldiers, who claimed they saw a man running away from the scene shortly after the fire broke out. When they tried to stop him a shot was fired and a bullet went through the hat of the sergeant in command of the guard. The man who fired the shot escaped.

Stopped by Dynamite.
As ice conditions prevented the barges being moved on into the channel, dynamite was used to stop the spread of the flames after the barges and several hundred feet of docks, several loaded freight cars and a warehouse used by the quartermaster's department of the army had been burned. The shipbuilding plant was for longer in danger, the officials said. Official estimates of the loss were lacking.

300 BOMBS DROPPED.
London, Jan. 26.—Aerial activity on a large scale on Thursday owing to favorable weather conditions is recorded in the British official statement issued today. The statement says:

"More than 300 bombs were dropped on the Courmel, Ledehagen and Douai railway stations, the airfields near Courmel and on German billets west of Cambrai. The enemy hangars at Douai and other ground targets were bombed by airplanes. Seven hostile machines were brought down in fighting and five others were driven out of control. Two British machines are missing. As soon as it was dark British night fliers bombed a German airfield northeast of Ghent and other airfields near Courmel and billets around Roulers. All of the machines returned. At the same time other machines raided several objectives in Germany, making direct hits on factories, docks and in the town of Mannheim."

The barracks and railway station at Treves, the steel works at Thionville, and the railway stations at Saarbrücken and Oberbillerig also were attacked with excellent results. The pilots report large explosions at all objectives and a big fire at Treves. One of our machines failed to return."

HE'Y SAYS PACKERS TRIED TO INFLUENCE AMERICAN PRESIDENT
Used Bankers in Effort to Have Investigation Called Off.

Washington, Jan. 26.—The big packing interests were charged today by Francis J. Heney, special counsel in the federal trade commission's investigation into the meat packing industry, with having attempted to bring influence to bear on President Wilson.

Heney Scheldemann declared that an agreement easily was possible or conceivable, but that it would still have to be a conquest of America."

Heney Scheldemann fiercely attacked the militarist leaders, declaring that their attitude toward Austria was likely to lose for Germany her last friend.

"If our Government leaders cannot see us from those patriots," said the Social Democrat leader, "they had better go. I warn them that if they do not bring us peace with Russia they will be hurled from power."

BUOY TELLS STORY OF LOST GOVERNMENT SHIP
Halifax, Jan. 26.—A wireless dispatch from Superintendent Boulter, of Sable Island, to the marine department today says that a ship's buoy marked C. S. Simcoe was picked up on the beach.

The Simcoe was a Canadian Government steamer, and while engaged in supplying the lighthouses, was lost with all on board off the Magdalen Islands on December 7 last.

BOLSHEVIKI DISSOLVES CONGRESS OF PEASANTS
London, Jan. 26.—The Social revolutionary members of the recent constituent assembly who were arrested here, according to a Petrograd dispatch to Reuters' Limited. The same dispatch states that the Congress of Peasants, which is supporting the constituent assembly, has been dissolved and the members of its presidential board arrested.

KITCHENER NAMES LANG CONTROLLER OF FUEL
Kitchener, Jan. 26.—In compliance with the decision of a public meeting of citizens on Thursday night, Mayor Gress recommended to the city committee today the appointment of John A. Lang, manufacturer, to take charge of the fuel supply in this city. The recommendation was accepted subject to the approval of Fuel Controller McGrath.

WAR LORDS ARE STERNLY WARNED BY SCHEIDEMANN TO MAKE PEACE
Unless Agreement Reached With Russia, They Will Be Hurled From Power.

Amsterdam, Jan. 26.—Philipp Scheidemann, president of the Social Democratic party in Germany, answering Chancellor von Hertling's speech in the Reichstag today, warned the military leaders of the imperial Government that if they did not bring about peace between Germany and Russia "they would be hurled from power."