

# RETURNED SOLDIER'S STARKLY CRITICIZE CONDITIONS ON NORTHLAND

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### BRITISH PREMIER AND PRESIDENT WILSON CONFER

#### LLOYD GEORGE AND WILSON DISCUSS MOMENTOUS ISSUES AT CONFERENCE HELD TODAY

Important Meeting Was Held Today at Buckingham Palace Between British Premier and American President.

London, Dec. 27.—President Wilson's conference today with British statesmen are described in American quarters as having been very satisfactory. The president spent more than three hours before Premier Lloyd George's luncheon in most intimate discussion with the premier and Foreign Secretary Balfour at Buckingham Palace, going over the general aspects of the fourteen points of his peace program.

No one particular phrase was taken up, but the whole discussion was a general one. No official announcements were made of the results of the conference, and afterwards the president continued the discussions with the British statesmen at the luncheon in Downing street, and later resumed them at Buckingham Palace.

##### CLEARED UP POINTS.

It was learned that a great deal of progress was made in making clear some phases of the president's points which are uppermost in the minds of the British, principally as regards the question of British naval supremacy.

At Buckingham Palace, before the luncheon, President Wilson, the premier and the foreign secretary met in one of the rooms of the president's suite before a cheerful open fire, with no secretaries or documents to lend any air of formality to the discussion. It was an entirely informal conference intended to develop the most intimate aspects of the situation.

The president did a great deal of the talking, and it was said afterward that nothing developed to show that any substantial difference in principle or in fundamentals existed.

##### NO MATERIAL DIFFERENCES.

The discussion ranged about the freedom of the seas, the league of nations and the attendant proposition of the reduction of armaments. None of these three subjects were discussed specifically or by itself, as they are considered inseparable in the final analysis, so the first purpose of the conference was to develop what may be the differences of opinion to the point where they may be cleared.

##### WILSON DESIRES TO MEET GREAT PERSONS WHILE IN ENGLAND

London, Dec. 26.—Dinner at Buckingham Palace tonight was a private function, covering being laid only for King George and Queen Mary and President Wilson. After dinner the president had a long talk alone with the king. The president is desirous of becoming personally acquainted with the leading personages in England before beginning his more formal conversations. He had an earnest talk with Queen Mother Alexandra this afternoon when he called to leave cards at Marlborough House.

The president was greatly pleased with the warmth of his reception in London, which, in the opinion of some of his suite, exceed even that of Paris.

##### CARLISLE VOTES FREEDOM OF CITY TO U. S. PRESIDENT

Carlisle, Eng., Dec. 27.—The city council of Carlisle this morning voted the freedom of the city to President Wilson. The mayor, who moved the resolution, said: "President Wilson, with his matchless statesmanship, guided, focused and united America on the war. Carlisle and Cumberland are proud of the fact that the president was born here, and spent his early years in this city."

##### EX-KAISER HAS NOT BEEN SHOT BY AN ASSASSIN

Report to That Effect Is Without Slightest Occupation.

Paris, Dec. 27.—Rumors that the former emperor of Germany had been assassinated became current in Paris, and in the chamber of Deputies last evening. There is not the slightest confirmation of the report up to the present.

##### CEREALS WILL BE SHIPPED TO EUROPE

Boston, Dec. 26.—Eighteen thousand tons of cereals, brought into New England to be used as wheat substitutes, will be taken off the market by direction of the central food administration and shipped to European countries. It was announced today by the director of the United States Grain Corporation for this district.

##### THE WEATHER

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.  
Following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest, 48°; lowest, 32°.

FORECAST.  
Local snow showers, but mostly fair with moderate temperatures today and on Saturday.

TEMPERATURES.  
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STATIONS. High. Low. Weather.  
Victoria 49 32 Cloudy  
Calgary 44 28 Clear  
Port Arthur 44 28 Cloudy  
Perry Sound 44 28 Cloudy  
Buffalo 44 28 Snow  
Toronto 44 28 Fair  
Ottawa 44 28 Fair  
Quebec 44 28 Clear  
Father Point 44 28 Cloudy

There is no important disturbance on the continent this morning, and fair weather prevails over the Dominion.

#### COMPROMISE IS EFFECTED BETWEEN MUTINOUS SAILORS AND GERMAN GOVT.

Marines Agree Not To Revolt If Troops Withdrawn.

LED BY LEDEBOUR

Theodore Wolf Believes Government Is Steering Rudderless Course.

Berlin, Dec. 27.—By the Associated Press.—An eleven-hour compromise between the mutinous sailors by the Ebert-Scheidemann section of the Government apparently saved Berlin from an extremist Christmas. (Later reports from Berlin are that the Spartacus faction is the cause of trouble.) The sailors, who were to have been withdrawn from the city, will remain in Berlin as part of the republican soldiers' guard. The compromise provides that the division of troops from the western front under Lieut.-Gen. Lequis, which was sent to Berlin by Field Marshal von Hindenburg in response to an appeal by the Government, will be withdrawn and the capital under the protection of two volunteer police organizations, which are dominated by the extremists. The sailors, against whom the government has been antagonistic, are known to be under the special leadership of George Ledebour, who was one of the representatives of the sailors in the negotiations yesterday with the government. The government's capitulation is agreed to participate in any future revolts against the Government.

The settlement between the sailors and the Government does not satisfy the Vorwarts, which expresses hope that the sailors will subordinate themselves to the government. The Vorwarts, which is known to be under the special leadership of George Ledebour, who was one of the representatives of the sailors in the negotiations yesterday with the government. The government's capitulation is agreed to participate in any future revolts against the Government.

#### ENGLISH AND U. S. TROOPS ALONE CAN BRING ABOUT ORDER

Mutinous German Sailor Says That Can Be the Only Solution.

London, Dec. 27.—"We shall not have peace until English and American troops come to keep order," is a statement attributed to one of the riotous German sailors in Berlin by the correspondent of the Daily Express at the German capital. The correspondent says he talked with a dozen others of the men, who expressed themselves similarly to the first speaker, some of them adding: "Don't let them send the French or there will be more fighting." The correspondent adds that all the lower classes of Berlin are willing to see foreign troops in the capital, feeling that they have nothing to lose and perhaps something to gain by the presence of outsiders.

#### ALLIES HAVE NEW PROBLEMS TO DEAL WITH IN THE EAST

Gen. d'Esperey Called to Paris in View of the Serious Situation.

Paris, Dec. 27.—New problems having arisen in the east, following allied occupation of parts of Hungary, Turkey, Russia and Bulgaria, the French Government has summoned Gen. Louis Franchet d'Esperey, commander of allied forces in Macedonia, to Paris for a conference, says Marcel Huysmans of the Echo de Paris. The general is expected to arrive in Paris in a few days.

#### American Scribes Entertained by the British Government

Lord Robert Cecil Is Host at a Dinner at the Savoy.

London, Dec. 26.—Forty American correspondents who arrived here today with President Wilson were taken in charge by the Government as its guests. They were given a dinner tonight by Lord Robert Cecil, former minister of blockades, at the Savoy Hotel. The newspaper proprietors' Association will give a large dinner in their honor tomorrow.

#### TO HAVE MILK ROUTE

Dorchester, Dec. 26.—Gordon Harris has purchased the property of John Burke, north of the city, and is building a station, consisting of ten acres of land and a fine red brick house. He is buying up cows, and is going to start a dairy and milk route in the village, which is badly needed. The price paid was \$2,500.

#### HIS GOOD OLD LIFE PRESERVER



#### CURRIE'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO THE CANADIAN TROOPS

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—On Christmas Day a special order addressed to all ranks of the Canadian Corps was issued by Lieut.-Gen. Sir Arthur Currie the corps commander.

The message read: "I wish a very happy Christmas to all ranks of the Canadian Corps."

"Christmas in each year since 1914 brought a message of hope, but the hearts of our people at home were heavy and full of forebodings. We on the torn fields of battle could only harden our purpose to keep on fighting until Christianity and civilization were vindicated and re-established."

"And now we have reached our goal. The foe is vanquished, the powers of darkness are defeated. We can this year celebrate with joy the anniversary of the birth of Christ, the Prince of Peace."

#### BOLSHEVIK GOVERNMENT AGAIN APPROACHES THE ALLIES ON QUESTION OF PEACE TERMS

Proposals Have Met With No Response From Entente as They Emanate From Government Not Recognized by the Allies.

London, Dec. 27.—The Allied governments, since Christmas, have again been approached by the Bolshevik Government of Russia regarding the terms of peace. These differ in no respect from those put forward by M. Litvinoff, the former Bolshevik ambassador at London, through the Norwegian Government in November.

The proposals have met with no response, as they emanate from a government which is not recognized by the Allies. The whole Russian question is at present under discussion among the Allied Governments.

#### DECLARES THAT THE EX-RUSSIAN CZAR IS STILL ALIVE

IS STILL IN CONTROL OF SOCIALIST PRESS

Nephew of Gen. Skoropadski Says Allied Government Knows of Fact.

Warsaw, Tuesday, Dec. 24.—(By the Associated Press).—There is no doubt that the czar and his entire family are perfectly in the hands of the Bolsheviks, according to a declaration made to the correspondent today by Michael de Tchitchineff, a Russian nobleman who has just escaped from the Ukraine after a recent trip to Petrograd, Dvinsk, Vilna, and Kovno.

"I cannot reveal where the czar is because he does not wish it," he added. "He does not care to be bothered, and he wants to be left alone."

"His whereabouts is known to an alleged government. It is in a neutral country. Accounts of his murder at Ekaterinburg were manufactured by Trotsky and Lenin for propaganda purposes."

"It took much money and time, and also the lives of many officers, to accomplish his escape. Among the officers killed was Count Tatischeff, the czar's former personal military attaché, who was shot instead of the documents describing the czar's escape were in the hands of German Consul Koenig at Petrograd, who forwarded them to Berlin."

M. de Tchitchineff said the Allies should send an army of occupation into Russia to re-establish a stable government and business condition. He said the cost of living in Russia was appalling, a pound of butter cost 120 rubles and a pair of trousers 1,000 rubles. Frequently, however, there was no food obtainable at any price.

#### FORMER LONDONER DIES IN MOOSE JAW

[Special to The Advertiser.]

MOOSE JAW, Dec. 27.—Robert Green, one of the best-known old-timers in England, and came to Canada over forty years ago, coming here from London, Ont.

#### Canadian Soldiers Who Came Home On Northland Declare Food Was "Not Fit For Dogs"

#### GERMAN SHIPS FLYING RED FLAG MAY BE SUNK BY THE BRITISH

Admiralty Will Take Drastic Measures To Stamp Out Bolshevism.

Amsterdam, Dec. 27.—The British admiralty is prepared to take drastic measures against the propagation of Bolshevism. The part of the German fleet remaining in German hands, according to a Berlin dispatch today, is flying the red flag and the execution of crews infected with Bolshevism is threatened, it is declared.

#### EARLY SOLUTION OF FOOD PROBLEM MAY MEAN EARLY PEACE

Austria Is Nearest On Brink of Starvation.

CANADA HAS SUPPLIES

Efficient System of Distribution Must Be Formulated

#### HINDY AND WILHELM DUCKED FOR THEIR DUGOUTS WHEN BULLETS BEGAN TO FLY

Germany's Supermen Spent Greater Portion of Their Time in Luxuriously Equipped Shelters Deep Underground.

Spa, Belgium, Dec. 16.—Correspondence of the Associated Press.—The former headquarters of the Kaiser and his general staff is disclosing some extraordinary details of the life of the Kaiser and his staff during the war. The Kaiser, who was a great hunter, was often seen in the forests of Spa, where he was surrounded by his staff and his hunting party. The Kaiser's staff was composed of some of the most brilliant military minds of the time, and they were often seen in the forests of Spa, where they were surrounded by the Kaiser and his hunting party.

Some of the European countries are known to be in great need. Among the food officials of the various countries, the Serbians and the Czechoslovaks are in the greatest danger of real privation, but all the European nations require to import food. Of the enemy nations, Austria appears nearest the brink of starvation. Reports from Germany are conflicting and contradictory, but the known facts indicate that the home production of food will not suffice to feed the population.

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#### GREATEST RELIGIOUS GATHERING EVER HELD IS PLANNED

More Than 100,000 Delegates To Attend Columbus Meeting.

Columbus, O., Dec. 27.—Plans already are being completed for what is expected to be the greatest religious gathering in the history of America. The meeting will be held here early next summer in celebration of 100 years of foreign missionary work by the Methodist Episcopal Church. Directors of the big centenary celebration which will mark the end of the church's campaign to raise \$15,000,000 for foreign missionary work, declare that besides the thousands of visitors from the United States and Canada there will be 100,000 accredited delegates.

Scores of natives in costumes from China, India and the South Sea Islands, Africa and Asia and exhibits from every missionary field in the world will be brought here, and seven cars of exhibits from foreign lands have already arrived. The celebration will be conducted by laymen of the church and the cooperation of the general conference of the Methodist Church in the south, the board of bishops and allied church organizations.

#### COUNTRESS READING ENTERTAINS MRS. WOODROW WILSON

London, Dec. 27.—Mrs. Wilson was entertained at a small luncheon party today by the Countess Reading.

Guests included Mrs. David Lloyd George, Mrs. John W. Davis, wife of the United States ambassador, and Mrs. H. H. Asquith.

#### Returned Men From Western Ontario Allege That Conditions On Board Troopship Were Extremely Bad—Claim Is Made That No System Prevail On Transports.

ARE ON THEIR WAY HOME.  
Halifax, Dec. 27.—The returned soldiers from the Northland, bound for the Ottawa-Kingston military district, were scheduled to leave Halifax at midnight, but did not get away until 1 a.m. The men are those destined for the London, Toronto and Montreal military districts. The first train, with men for the Quebec, Winnipeg, Victoria and Calgary districts, left at 10 o'clock last night.

Plates Were Not Washed.  
There were two sittings at meal time, and, according to the men, the plates from the first sitting were not washed and the second batch of men had to eat from the dirty plates of their predecessors or starve.

"Even the sailors and firemen on board were told about the food," the correspondent stated. "The Northland's stewards confirmed all that the Ontario men said. The food was not fit for dogs," he said. "The conditions on board were vile." The food question was only one phase of the general complaint.

One Bath For One Thousand Men.  
According to the correspondent, the Northland was verminous. There was only one bath for one thousand men on board. "Look at the filthy mess," exclaimed one man as he held up a dirty handkerchief. "We could not get fresh water to wash with. We had even to shave in salt water."

The men also complained that while the officers and women on board were kept in the hold, which "stank like a rat hole," they were not allowed to go to the deck. "We were kept in the hold, which 'stank like a rat hole,' and we were not allowed to go to the deck," he said. "The conditions were slightly improved, but we were not allowed to exercise or to go to the deck. We were stuck on the rough side while the officers strolled up and down in shelters."

His statement about the food in the ship's hospital was borne out by an orderly who attended him. "I had to go to the hospital to get my wound dressed," he said. "The food was not fit for dogs."

#### MEANEST THIEF ON EARTH IS CAUGHT

Stole Coins From Poor-Box In Cathedral.

New York, Dec. 27.—While a priest was celebrating mass at 6 a.m. yesterday at the high altar in St. Patrick's Cathedral, a man who had crept up, apparently for his devotion, worked his way from pew to pew in the dimly lighted edifice and, with a piece of wire, baited with glue, began fishing coins out of a poor-box. John Reed, a watchman, noticed the man's peculiar actions and let him work until he had taken out a coin, and then pointed on him, took him to the street and turned him over to a detective.

When the man was taken to the station he gave his name as Louis Lambert, a clearmaker. He is charged with petty larceny.

#### GERMAN GOVT. IS PLANNING TO RAISE BIG SUM IN TAXES

Eighty Billion Marks Is the Amount To Be Secured.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 27.—Taxation designed to raise about eighty billion marks is planned by the council of the people's delegates, said an official report received today from Berlin, according to the Deutsche Zeitung. The dispatch said that the new taxes would be levied on war profits and that a decree determining the extent of the tax would be published within a fortnight.

In connection with the dispatch, the Deutsche Zeitung observes: "However legitimate may appear the principle of the tax on war profits, the government is acting. The allied powers will surely augment their demands on the German people, and the extent of our financial means and will lay hold of the sum in question. The raising of taxes will be a heavy burden on the people, and an increase in taxes which will fall on German citizens."

#### GRAPE GROWERS WANT TIME LIMIT EXTENDED

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—Representative Ontario grape growers interviewed today by the chamber of commerce, declared that the time limit within which they are entitled to transport native wines has been extended. Owing to ambiguity in the original order, some difficulty has arisen. The right to manufacture wines at the end of the year, and the order has been interpreted as implying that the right to transport wines within the province shall cease at the same time.

The delegation asked that such ambiguity be removed, that they be given the right to transport so long as sale is allowed. Any such extension would apply only to existing stocks.

#### GERMAN MINISTER TO TURKEY HAS MADE DEPARTURE

London, Dec. 27.—"Under pressure from the Entente," says a German wireless dispatch received today, the German ambassador to Turkey, and his wife, have left Constantinople. They are expected to reach Genoa on Saturday.