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WINNIPEG FACES SERIOUS STRIKE SITUATION; BIG FOUR CONSIDER REIMPOSING BLOCKADE; COL. JOHNSON PRAISES CANADIAN ENGINEERS

Germans Are Strong On Writing

Note on Reparation Does Not Protest Against Payment for Devastation Wrought in Belgium and North France.

MAKES PLEA FOR PRISONERS OF WAR

Secures Fall Out of Big Four Regarding Change in the Labor Convention—Council Takes the Suggestion.

Paris, May 14.—The answers of the Council of Four to the German notes on prisoners of war and labor subjects were delivered this afternoon.

One of the later German notes, dealing with economic clauses of the treaty, declares that they mean the ruin of Germany if they are enforced.

A note on territorial questions protests particularly against the Sarre Valley arrangement and the transfer of the Malmedy, Moresnet and Eupen districts to Belgium, as well as the forced evacuation of a part of Schleswig.

A note on reparations does not protest against the payment by Germany for the devastation wrought in Belgium and Northern France, which it says Germany is ready to do willingly. It is added, however, that Germany will not pay reparation for this damage on the principle that she was responsible for the war.

The note on the question of prisoners says:

"The German peace delegation notes with satisfaction that the project recognizes the principle of the return of prisoners of war and civilians with the least possible delay. The delegation deems that all the details of the execution of this measure ought to be submitted to a special commission.

"Direct oral discussions between the commission and nearly all the belligerents concerning prisoners of war, have been considered, even during hostilities, as the surest means of solving the difficulties. It ought today to be all the easier to reconcile the different view points and clear up certain obstructions still existing on certain details of the problem.

"For instance, as a result of the diversity of the law in the different countries interested, the German delegation considers it indispensable that prisoners of war and the civilians undergoing penalties for other infractions than those of discipline, should be in a group that ought to be separated unconditionally.

"Germany has recognized this principle regarding prisoners of war, and civilians of the Allies and Associated Powers in its custody.

"The German delegation deems it necessary, for reasons of equity, to accord certain improvements in the treatment of prisoners, military and civilian, pending the time when they may return to their own country."

The three notes from Count Brockdorff-Rantzau have been referred by the Council of Four to special committees.

The report of the committee on the German note, regarding changes in the labor convention has been approved and sent to the Germans. Close scrutinity of the treaty revealed several omissions. The council corrected one of these by deciding to insert a clause providing for the withdrawal of representation on the reparations commission on a twelve months' notice.

THE MOST SERIOUS STRIKE IN THE HISTORY OF WINNIPEG IS SCHEDULED TO START TODAY

Latest Advices Show That the Conference at Which it Was Hoped to Avert the Strike Ended in Failure—25,000 Workers Will Lay Down Their Tools—16,000 Vets Watching Proceedings and to Balk Bolshevism, Which They Fear is in the Game, Will Do Their Part to Preserve Law and Order.

Winnipeg, Man., May 14.—Winnipeg today faces one of the most serious strikes in its history. Unless the efforts of Mayor Gray and Premier Norris, which are being energetically directed toward adjusting the difficulties between the builders and metal workers and their employers, prove successful, the city is confronted with the prospect of having all public utilities tied up. According to labor leaders there are to be no exceptions in this strike. And it is intimated that even the few unions who decided not to take a sympathetic strike vote must abide by the decision of the majority, or run the risk of being deprived of their charter in the labor council. The principle of collective bargaining is at stake, they say.

At the call of the presidents of the G. W. V. A. and the Army and Navy Veterans and the Imperial Veterans, a mass meeting of all veterans, 15,000 in number, will be held at 8 oclock tomorrow morning to discuss the attitude of returned soldiers in the event of a general strike.

The presidents stated that they wish it distinctly understood that this is not an effort against legitimate strikes, nor an effort at strike-breaking; but simply a meeting of returned men to consider how they can best co-operate with the authorities in maintaining law and order should riots develop, with attendant menace to life and property. While in full accord with legitimate demands of labor, the three executives say they have knowledge that there is a "red element in the rank of labor which would probably take advantage of any strike situation to foment anarchy and promote a revolution along the lines of Russian Bolshevism. It is stated that eighty unions, involving approximately 25,000 workers, will lay down their tools.

Mayor C. F. Gray said this afternoon that in the event of a walk-out he would adopt a very firm attitude in maintaining law and order. If no settlement is reached this afternoon, he announced his intention of addressing the firemen and policemen, pointing out that life and property must be protected at all costs.

The big utilities, water and light, it was said at the City Hall, can be maintained with perhaps minor difficulties. Organized labor expects no settlement. At the Labor Temple preparations for the strike are well advanced, and a strong strike committee had been formed.

While the strike was called for the purpose of enforcing a settlement of the demands of the Building Trades and Metal Workers, once the strike is effective, Secretary Robinson announced, no settlement will be permitted until demands of every union have been satisfactory adjusted. Negotiations will not be permitted between employers and respective unions, but all communications are to be handled by the strike committee, which will have absolute authority over the strike and will approve or disapprove any settlement offered.

Latest.

The final conference at which it was hoped to avert the general strike ended late this afternoon. No settlement has been reached. Mayor Charles Gray said all his efforts had been exhausted to bring the contending parties into harmony, but without result.

James Winning, president of the trades council, said on coming from the meeting: "This means that the strike will become effective at 11 o'clock Thursday morning. We are at an absolute deadlock and no further conferences have been arranged."

INSURANCE ACT UNDER AMENDMENT

Licenses Will Now be Necessary to Carry on Fraternal Benefit Insurance.

Ottawa, May 14.—The Senate's amendment to the Insurance Act, respecting fraternal benefit insurance, was approved by the Banking and Commerce Committee of the Commons. Under the amended legislation licenses will be necessary to carry on fraternal benefit insurance, but existing societies will be deemed to be licensed. No society will be licensed if it is in effect the property of the officers or collectors or belongs to any private proprietory or if it is conducted as a commercial enterprise. Annual statements will have to be submitted to the supeintendent of insurance, who may, if he considers it necessary, make a special valuation of the policies. Valuation balance sheets must be sent to policy holders.

SEAPLANES WILL STRIKE OUT TODAY

Expected the Third Plane Will Have Arrived from Chatham to Join the Fleet.

St. John's, Nfld., May 14.—Latest reports from Trepassey say the American seaplanes will not fly tonight, postponing the trip until tomorrow evening, awaiting the arrival of the third machine on the way from Chatham, Mass. The cruiser Chicago's men have completed their preparations for the reception of the dirigible due early tomorrow. A large party of seamen will keep the grounds clear by arrangements with the colonial authorities. The whole population is expected to witness the arrival.

POLISH ATTACKS FAIL COMPLETELY

In Attempting a Strong Infantry Charge Poles Were Mercilessly Mowed Down by Ukrainians.

Vienna, May 13.—(By the Associated Press.)—Polish attacks in the region of Lemburg in the last few days failed completely, according to reports received here from Ukrainian sources. The Poles attempted a strong infantry charge against the Ukrainians, but were mowed down with much gunfire, leaving hundreds of dead behind them as they retired.

The message indicates heavy fighting near Kiev, occasioned by Bolshevik attacks on the army of Simon Petlura. The fighting is said to be especially heavy near Berdichaff, southwest of Kiev.

TORONTO STRIKE NEARS SETTLEMENT

Toronto, May 14.—Forty out of one hundred of the firms engaged in branches of the metal trades in this city have agreed to the demands of the striking metal workers for an eight hour day.

Secretary Merrick, of the employers' association, states that the association is ready to meet the workers in a body but will not deal with the leaders.

DEBATE ON NATIONAL SCHOOLS PRODUCES HEATED ARGUMENTS

Dr. Edwards, of Frontenac, Declares There Are Counties in Ontario Where No Provision is Made for the Education of Children of the Minority—Lemieux Wants Separate Schools With Religious Instruction.

Ottawa, May 14.—A debate on the question of National Schools was precipitated in the Commons today by Dr. Edwards, member for Frontenac. Dr. Edwards had a motion for the order paper call on the establishment of a national school system, but it was not reached before private members' days were abolished for the session, so he started a discussion today on the motion to go into supply. The debate which ensued was, at times, inclined to be heated, and R. H. Butts, as a remark of disapproval, walked out of the House during the course of Dr. Edward's speech.

A statement by Dr. Edwards, that there were whole counties in Ontario and Quebec where no provision is made for the education of children of the minority, drew forth denials from Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux and Mr. J. A. Robb. As a representative Protestant of Quebec province, Mr. Robb stated that he was well satisfied with educational conditions in that province.

Mr. Lemieux declared his belief that separate schools with religious instruction were the best for Canada. Dr. R. K. Anderson, of Hatton, expressed a contrary view. He declared that it is a growing desire throughout the world for non-sectarian schools. Support for the national schools proposal also came from Mr. MacKie, of East Edmonton.

P. C. Hocken complimented Dr. Edwards for bringing up the matter, and praised the Norris government of Manitoba, for its handling of separate school question. He said that it was the duty of Parliament to see that national schools sentiment is created in Canada.

When Mr. Hocken concluded, the debate petered out and the House went into committee of supply.

Plans Made for Advance On Moscow

All Russian Government, Under Admiral Kolchak, is Ready to Deliver the Knockout Punch to Soviets.

OWING TO THAW LULL PREVAILS

Operations Will be Resumed Before Long and it is Expected to Establish Communications With Archangel.

Paris, May 14.—(French Wireless Service.)—Plans are being made by the all-Russian government at Omsk to begin an advance on Moscow, Admiral Kolchak, the head of the government, declared in an interview with the correspondent of the Petit Parisien. In discussing the military situation in eastern Russia, the Admiral said:

"Owing to the thaw and difficulty of moving the artillery forward, a lull prevails. But the operations will be resumed before long, and we will try to establish and guarantee communications with Archangel, and also with General Denekine in the south.

"The advance in the direction of Moscow will then begin. The capture of Moscow is the supreme end, the political aim, to which our wills must be directed. But we must first reach the purely strategic aim, which is the destruction of the Soviet army. This is the end to which I will devote my attention."

Admiral Kolchak said that the allies could aid in the campaign by sending armament, munitions, material and clothing to the army of the Omsk government. The blockade of Soviet Russia, he added, might be made more stringent.

After the final victory, the Admiral continued, a national assembly will be called to which Admiral Kolchak will hand over his authority. To prepare for the election of a national assembly, the Omsk government will be assisted by a council composed of representatives of the Zemstvos, the municipalities and the large social organizations. The council will co-operate with the government in the pacification of the country and in fixing rules and organizing the elections for the assembly.

Big Four Consider Re-Imposing The German Blockade

Paris, May 14—(By The Associated Press) — The Council of Four, composed of David Lloyd George, M Clemenceau, President Wilson and Signor Orlando, today considered the immediate re-imposing of the blockade against Germany in case that country declined to sign the peace treaty.

The subject was under discussion at two separate meetings of the council.

On other hand, it is anticipated that the blockade will be promptly lifted if the German delegates affix their signature to the treaty.

Premier Veniot Goes To Ottawa To Say Things

Will Attend the Meeting of Provincial Liberal Premiers to Discuss National Liberal Convention.

Ottawa, May 14.—There will be a conference in Ottawa on Saturday, of Provincial Liberal Premiers, or their representatives, to consider matters pertaining to the National Liberal Convention to be held during the first week of August. British Columbia will be represented by Hon. Dr. King, Premier Stewart, of Alberta, was here last week and will not return, but Alberta will be represented by Hon. Duncan Marshal and Hon. Mr. Boyle.

BRITISH EXPERTS ENGAGED IN DRAFTING AN INDICTMENT AGAINST THE FORMER KAISER

Marshal Foch Travelling To Area Of Occupation

Paris, May 14.—(By The Associated Press).—Immediate measures tending to the further subjugation of Germany if its delegates refuse to sign the peace treaty, were indicated today by the announcement that Marshal Foch had been sent to the Rhine by the Council of Four to take such action as may become necessary in the event that the treaty is not signed.

Marshal Foch is due to arrive at Coblenz on Thursday. He is making a trip which is taking him to the different headquarters of the occupied areas. The Marshal will go then from Mayence, and will be escorted down the Rhine by French gunboats. He will be entertained at luncheon by Lieut.-General Hunter Liggett, commander of the American third army, and will then proceed to Cologne, under the escort of British gunboats.

Dutch Mission is Now in Paris to Discuss With the Council of Four the Question of Extradition as Well as Territorial Matters.

JOINT ACTION BY FRANCE AND BRITAIN

It is Believed a Prolongation of Extradition Proceedings Would be Welcomed by Belgium, France and Great Britain.

(By Fred Moore, special cable to N. Y. Tribune and St. John Standard. Copyright N. Y. Tribune Inc.)

Paris May 14.—The Dutch ministers who arrived here today are in Paris this week for discussion of the Belgian-Dutch territory questions rising out of the revision of the treaty of 1839. They will also take up the question of the extradition of the ex-Kaiser with the Council of Four, according to information received by the correspondent today.

Sir Gordon Howard, the British Attorney-General and chief British legal delegate on the Crimes' Commission, arrived in Paris this morning to assist in the preparation of a brief against Germans guilty of breaking the laws of the world. It is probable that the completion of the whole indictment will require several weeks.

In British quarters the impression prevails that the Great Powers—at any rate France and Great Britain—will take joint action charging specific crimes.

The report of the Crimes' Commission is considered merely a formal document. A more definite charge against the ex-Kaiser probably will be formulated. In many quarters it is felt that William's freedom means the peace of Europe. Others believe that the Belgian, French and British governments would welcome a prolongation of the extradition negotiations until their respective peoples forget their wrath against the former German ruler.

No government is anxious to undertake to act as prosecutor singly, particularly since the ex-Kaiser's trial is likely to give him an opportunity for a dramatic defence, posing as a martyr before a world in which there are still many sentimentalists.

The fact that an International trial cannot have a judicial basis raises another difficulty, on which the Americans on the Crimes Commission insisted from the beginning. Because of the necessarily political character of the trial it is pointed out that, whatever decision is reached it will be open to criticism on the ground that it is too severe, or not severe enough.

There has been a noticeable cooling in the attitude of the French regarding punishment of the ex-Kaiser, which is considered an incidental matter which might be set aside for more important considerations. It is probable that this feeling will continue as the Kaiser sinks into obscurity. A similar situation exists as regards Belgium.

If it were not for Great Britain the other allies, probably, would welcome a combination of circumstances enabling the ex-Kaiser to sink out of sight, instead of staging a sensational trial which will result in William again becoming the world's most dramatic figure.

WAS SOLDIER KIDNAPPED?

Strange Case of Hughie McGovern to be Investigated by Washington.

Augusta, May 13.—Hughie McGovern, a Canadian by birth, has been for a number of years in this country making his home for at least five years at Wytopitlock in the northern part of the state. He did not care to serve in the Canadian army but was willing and did serve in the American army, being honorably discharged at the end of the war at Camp Devens. He went in uniform to visit his parents in Canada. The officers there told him not to again leave that country. He did so and returned to his home at Wytopitlock. A Canadian officer of some kind and degree entered the United States —state of Maine—without invitation or legal authority, took by force Hughie McGovern and carried him across the border into Canada, where he supposedly now is.

The matter was reported to the Attorney general of Maine by the chairman of the Wytopitlock public safety committee, and after securing all the facts the attorney general reported to the adjutant general, who in turn forwarded the matter to Major General Clarence R. Edwards, commanding the Department of the Northeast, and by him referred to the war department at Washington, with a recommendation that it be referred to the department of justice, or if necessary to the department of state, in order that it might be investigated and the rights of American soldier, Hughie McGovern, be protected.

RUMANIANS SAY TERMS ARE SEVERE BUT DESERVING

Considered Less Severe Than Those Imposed by Germany Upon Rumania.

Berne, Tuesday, May 13.—Rumania considers the peace terms given Germany severe, but just, and less severe than Germany imposed upon Rumania a year ago, the Rumanian press bureau here announces. It is recalled that the German plenipotentiaries made this remark to the Rumanians:

"The conditions imposed upon you are mild compared to those we intend to impose on the Allies."

THE HUNGARIANS CLAIM SUCCESS

Vienna, Friday, May 9, (By The Associated Press)—The Hungarian communist army claims, according to Budapest despatches received here, to have gained some successes against the Czecho-Slovaks at Fulck, sixty miles north of Budapest.

Premier Martin, of Saskatchewan, is en route to Ottawa.

Premier Norris, of Manitoba, has wired that he cannot come east, because of threatened labor troubles. Sir Loumer Gouin, Premier of Quebec, has signified his intention of being present. New Brunswick will be represented by Hon. J. P. Veniot and Hon. E. A. Smith, and Nova Scotia by Hon. E. H. Armstrong, Mr. William Proudfoot, leader of the Liberal Opposition in Ontario, has signified his intention of being present.

Austrians Now Await Sentence

The Delegates Have Arrived to Learn What is to be the Cost to the Empire for Its Association With Germany.

POLAND CLAIMS SOME WARSHIPS

Italians Are Declared to be Concentrating Large Forces on Certain Portions of the Dalmatian Coast.

New York, May 14.—The Associated Press tonight issues the following:

And now it is the turn of the Austrians to learn from the Allied governments what is to be the cost to the former empire for its association with Germany and her Allies in the world war.

The Austrian delegates, who are to receive the Peace Treaty drawn up by the Allied and Associated governments, have arrived in the village of St. Germain, near Paris, where they are to await the summons of the Peace Congress to appear before it.

Unlike the reception given the Germans on reaching Versailles, that accorded Austrians had some elements of friendly courtesy on the part of the French representative charged with the duty of meeting the visitors. On the face of the leader of the delegation Count Renner, there was a pleasant smile when he alighted from the train. In contrast with the stern, set face of all the Germans when they arrived at Versailles.

It was evident that the request of the Germans for permission to go to St. Germain and greet the Austrians had been denied, for no Germans were present. When the first meeting of the Austrians with the Allied peace delegates is to take place has not yet been announced.

The Council of Four has made reply to the suggestions incorporated in notes from the German delegates regarding labor, and the repatriation of prisoners. Three additional German notes have been delivered to the council, and Count von Brockdorff Rantzau, and his associates are said to be drawing up further lengthy proposals looking to the amelioration of the peace terms given to the Germans.

One of the last notes given to the Germans, which deals with the economic clauses of the treaty, that enforcements of the terms will mean ruin of Germany. Another note touches on the Sarre Valley, arrangement, the transfer of German territory to Belgium, and the evacuation by Germany of Schleswig.

No protest is made by Germany to affording reparations for damages done to Belgium and Northern France but one of the notes asserts that Germany will not pay for damages on the principal that Germany was responsible for the war.

A member from each the British, French, American, Italian and Japanese delegations has been appointed by the Council of Four to deal with the objections and proposals of the German plenipotentiaries.

Efforts are being made by the British peace delegation for the pooling,

(Continued on page 2)

U. S. DIRIGIBLES WILL REACH TREPASSEY THIS MORNING

Expected That the Naval Seaplanes, and Possibly the Dirigible, Will Set Out Tonight for Their Long Trans-Atlantic Trip to the Azores.

Washington, May 14.—The naval seaplanes N C-1 and N C-3 probably will be in flight before sundown tomorrow in the first attempt to cross the Atlantic ocean through the air. Official reports to the Navy Department late today from Trepassey Bay, Nfld., the starting point of the proposed flight, intimated that the "hop-off" would be made within 24 hours as favorable weather along the route to the Azores was indicated.

The navy dirigible C-5 may also attempt the long cross-ocean trip either tomorrow or next day. Rising from Montauk Point, Long Island, early today, the big airship had passed Halifax before sunset, and is expected to reach St. John's, Nfld., before daylight tomorrow. A decision as to the trans-Atlantic attempt will be made immediately on the receipt of her commander's report of his arrival.

The third seaplane of the trans-Atlantic division, the N C-4, held up by engine trouble on the first leg of the journey, caught up much of her lost distance today and was moored tonight beside the mine layer Baltimore at Halifax, awaiting daylight to proceed to Trepassey Bay. The boat travelled from Chatham light, Mass., to Halifax today, nearly 350 miles in less than 4 hours. Urged by a favorable fifteen mile wind, she attained a speed of ninety-nine land miles an hour.

The decision of Lieut.-Commander Reade, of the N C-4 to spend the night at Halifax was taken to mean that he had encountered further trouble to delay him. He had expected to reach Trepassey Bay after a stop of a few minutes.

Weather conditions predicted for the next 24 hours over the proposed route from Trepassey Bay to the Azores were reported at the Navy Department late tonight as "less encouraging."

This was not interpreted by officers, however, as precluding in any way a decision by Commander Towers to postpone the departure of the planes.

The "less encouraging" weather conditions were said to have been reported over the eastern portion of the route, or over that portion of the route near the Azores. By the time the planes could reach that region, it was said, the unfavorable weather probably will have passed away.