CONTINENT SWEPT BY RECORD STORM

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LONDON IS HELD FAST IN BLIZZARD'S GRIP

RUSS ARMIES BATTLE FOR SEVEN HOURS

The Maximalist and Ukrainian Troops in Bloody Conflict.

STATEMENT BY TROTZKY

Explains Peace Situation as Result of German Withdrawal.

Petrograd, Jan. 12.—Fighting lasting seven hours has taken place between Maximalist and Ukrainian troops near Rachmatch, in the Government of Tchernigov, according to advices received here. The fighting is said to have resulted in severe casualties.

Amsterdam, Jan. 12.—Leon Trotzky, the Bolsheviki foreign minister, at the conference at Brest-Litovsk yesterday said that in order not to leave any possibility in the fight for peace unconsidered, the Russian delegation accepted the demand that the negotiations be continuted at Brest-Litovsk.

The chairman of the Russian delegation said that in full accord with their former resolution, the Russians desired to continue the peace negotiations, quite apart from the fact whether or not the Entente powers participated.

Trotzky said he had noted the statement of the Central Powers that the basis of a general peace as formulated in their declaration of December 25 was null and void, and added: "We adhere to the principles of democratic peace as proclaimed by us."

Doesn't Fear Entente.

Referring to the objection raised by the central powers that the transferring of the negotiations to Stockholm or some other neutral point, as required by Russia, might enable the Entente nations to interfere, M. Trotzky said the Bolsheviki Government had been consistent and independent in its peace policy, and that there was no reason to assume Entente diplomacy would be able to oppose the conclusion of peace more successfully on neutral soil than in Petrograd.

No More Secrecy.

As for the fear of the central powers that the Entente nations might endeavor, behind the scenes, to hinder the conclusion of peace, M. Trotzky declared the Bolshevikl policy was conducted without the secret methods of the old diplomacy, which, like many other things, had been abolished by the Russians in their victorious revolution of October. It was the opinion of the Russian delegates, he said, that neither political nor technical circumstances rendered it necessary to continue to hold the sessions at Brest-Litovsk.

Moreover, M. Trotzky continues, the Russian delegation couldn't pass over another point, which had been mentioned by the German chancelior, Count von Hertling.

"I refer," he said, "to the portion of Count von Hertling's statement (before the Reichstag main committee), in which he referred, in addition to Germany's just intentions, to Germany's powerful position (Machtstellung). The Russian delegation cannot deny, and does not intend to deny, that its country, owing to the policy of the classes until recently in power, has been weakened. But the world position of a country is not determined by its technical apparatus alone, but also by its inherent possibilities—as, indeed, Germany's economic strength should not be judged by her present conditions and means of supply."

Want to Continue.

M. Trotzky considered that the greater forces of the Russian people had been awakened and developed by the revolution, just as the reformation of the sixteenth century and the revolution of the eighteenth century had vitalized the creative forces of the German and French peoples. He added: "The Russian Government, however, wrote the word peace at the head of its program. The great sympathies of the Russian people for the peoples of the Allies strengthen the desire to attain the speediest peace based on an understanding among the peoples.

"To remove from the quadruple alliance, a pretext for breaking off the peace negotiations on technical grounds, the Russian delegation accepts the demand to remain in Brest-Litovsk, in order not to leave unutilized any possibility in the fight for peace. In renouncing its proposal regarding the transfer of negotiations to neutral soil, the Russian delegation proposes continuation of the negotiations."

THE WEATHER

TOMORROW—FAIR, VERY COLD.

Toronto, Jan. 12.—8 a.m.

Forecasts.

Westerly gales, becoming very cold.

Sunday—Strong westerly winds fair and very cold.

Temperatures.

The following were the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today:

Stations.	High.	Low.	Weather.
Victoria	40	38	Fair
Calgary	—4	—12	Clear
Winnipeg	—10	—20	Fair
Port Stanley	26	2	Snow
Buffalo	26	20	Cloudy
Toronto	28	14	Cloudy
Kingston	26	20	Rain
Ottawa	24	8	Snow
Montreal	16	10	Snow
Quebec	10	2	Snow
Father Point	12	—6	Cloudy

Minus (—) means below zero.

Weather Notes.

The storm, which was in the Southern States yesterday, has moved northward to the Great Lakes, causing snow with gales of unusual severity in Ontario and Quebec. The western cold wave is now spreading eastward over Ontario and the Middle States.

At the weather bureau at 2 o'clock today the thermometer showed a drop in the mercury of 5.5 degrees since this morning, giving a reading of 8.5 below zero.

Heralded here last night by the fast dropping barometer and predicted by the weatherman for several days past, blizzard conditions have gripped London, Western Ontario, the whole province, and a goodly portion of the continent. Street railway service here was demoralized for hours, hydro operations were intermittent in the early morning hours, while steam railway service, both in and out of London, was practically at a standstill. Wrecks and heavy damage to rolling stock were direct results of the storm prior to 8 a.m. today.

The lowest local temperature reading prior to 8 a.m. today was only three below, but the blizzard winds intensified the cold till it seemed like the coldest day of the season. The temperature dropped readily all day.

On top of the weather conditions comes the local fuel situation. Desperate efforts are being made to operate coal trains, but with railway service tied into knots by the storm, the prospects are as cheery, to the average Londoner, as was the wind.

Predicted Friday.

Weather reports of Friday declared that the storm from the southeast, accompanied by blizzard conditions, was on its way. It came. Further than this, it came with a vengeance. During the night the wind switched south-southeast, to northwest, and every exposed crack, every crevice was blown full of drifting powdery snow.

Acute physical suffering from frozen ears, noses and faces followed in the wake of the storm. Forced to walk to work this morning by the lack of street railway service, blockaded by both snow and the Richmond street level crossing of the Grand Trunk, scores of those who faced the elements without protection of ear laps and so on, reached their places of business with frozen ears, cheeks or noses.

Without exaggeration it was the worst storm of the season, and for even some years past, and the possibilities of what may follow in its wake from the coal situation are causing the gravest fears.

Wrecks Caused at Chatham.

Inability to see train signals, due to the storm, resulted in Grand Trunk passenger train No. 12 from Windsor crashing into the rear of train No. 416 at Chatham at 10:20 this morning. The engineer of the passenger train in the storm, was unable to see the flagman sent back by the freight conductor to signal the passenger train to stop.

The trainmen jumped clear of the passenger engine, having a narrow escape, both lines were still blocked at 2 o'clock. No one was injured, but the damage to rolling stock and track will be heavy.

Three Engines Helpless.

With trains frozen to the tracks, others cancelled, flangers and snowplows operating on all branches, the Grand Trunk today is experiencing the

(Continued on Page 18.)

FIGHTING BLIZZARD'S BLAST ON TRACK AND SIDEWALK

Advertiser Illustration

Two phases of today's storm in London illustrated—snow-covered sweeper of street railway which fought vainly for hours to keep city lines open, and two pedestrians fighting way along swept streets which seemed akin to Greenland's icy mountains.

RAILWAY TRAINS "LOST," WRECKED IN BLIZZARD HOLDING THE DISTRICT AND CITY FAST IN ICY GRIP TODAY

Worst Storm of Season and of Years Ties Up Steam Roads.

SERVICE IS DEMORALIZED

Londoners Suffering From the Steadily Dropping Cold, Forced to Walk.

POSSIBILITIES ARE DIRE

Blockading of Roads Ties Up Movement of Coal From Niagara Frontier.

CALLS ON AUTO OWNERS WHO HAVE COAL TO BRING FUEL TO HUNDRED HOMES WHERE FAMILIES ARE ABSOLUTELY WITHOUT FUEL

So acute is the fuel situation in London, with one hundred families absolutely without coal, that General Manager E. V. Buchanan of the public utilities commission makes the following appeal:

"There are many residents of London who have more than one ton of coal in their cellars. Some have many tons. Let them take their automobiles today and tomorrow, put a bag or two of coal in and deliver it to the pepole who are absolutely without any fuel and who will suffer, possibly very severely, unless something is done. Why should not some of those in a most fortunate position help those less fortunate at this time? There will be suffering unless it is done."

MISSES FOOTING SWITCHING CARS; IS CUT TO PIECES

Blinded by Storm, M. C. R. Employee Is Instantly Killed at St. Thomas.

[Special to The Advertiser.]

St. Thomas, Jan. 12.—Orville Dawson, 35 Devonshire Place, a Michigan Central Railway switchman, was instantly killed while at work in the company's yards here at 6 o'clock this morning. The unfortunate man was switching cars and, in a blinding snowstorm, missed his step and fell beneath the wheels, being cut to pieces.

CARRANZA SENDS SHIP TO GET ARMS OF JAPAN

A Pacific Port Jan. 12.—A Japanese ship carrying a mission sent by President Carranza of Mexico to Japan for the alleged purpose of negotiating a treaty between the two countries and also for arranging for the purchase by Mexico from Japan of arms and ammunition for the Mexican army has arrived in port here, according to a local paper.

The mission, according to the newspaper, is headed by Juan T. Burns, said to have been former Mexican consul-general at New York, where he was indicted, it was said, for his alleged connection with passport frauds and liberated on $10,000 bonds.

ASSURANCE INSPECTOR COMMITTED FOR TRIAL

Toronto, Jan. 12.—J. H. Heath, inspector of the Citizens' Assurance Company, was committed for trial at the police court this morning on a serious charge.

SOCIALIST MAJORITY OVER THE BOLSHEVIKI

Petrograd, Friday, Jan. 11.—Returns have been received showing the election of 510 delegates to the constituent assembly. Those known to have been elected include 261 Social Revolutionaries and 158 Bolsheviki.

Winnipeg Trade Board Asks Govt. To Manage Railways In War Time

Consider That the Best Way To Tackle the Present Difficulties.

Winnipeg, Jan. 12.—After discussing at length the action of the board of railway commissioners in allowing an increase of 15 per cent in freight and passenger rates to go into effect on February 1, the board of trade has passed a resolution authorizing the delegation which is to be appointed by the shippers section to present to Sir Robert Borden, as an alternative remedy for the transportation difficulties now existent, that the Dominion Government should control the railways during the war. The board is of the opinion that the loss of efficiency due to excessive competition, duplication of service in many parts of the country, irregularity in operation and unscientific distribution of equipment were among the factors responsible for the bulk of the transportation difficulties of today.

VORWAERTS PRAISES THE WILSON PEACE MESSAGE, BUT WANTS IT TESTED

Amsterdam, Jan. 12.—Compared with his previous pronouncements, President Wilson's recent address to Congress seems "an example of statesmanlike moderation," says the Berlin Socialist newspaper Vorwaerts.

"It is a beautiful, alluring program of world peace," continues the Socialist organ. "But we must be on guard against too ready a confidence. We cannot welcome Mr. Wilson's utterances enthusiastically without testing what he means.

"We never stood behind our statesmen for any other purpose than to exercise pressure from the rear in the direction of peace. We shall continue to do so, and if the workers of other countries do the same then a general world peace will be attained at no distant date."

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

Following were the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest, 28 ;lowest, 13.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 10; lowest, 3 below.

GALE TOPPLES GREAT CHIMNEY, KILLING SCORE

Crashes Through Roof of Factory in Which Hundreds Were Working.

Lynn, Mass., Jan. 12.—A sixty-mile gale that came out of the northeast with unexpected ferocity today sent big brick smokestacks crashing through the roof at the Sprague Box Company plant at Brook street, where 200 men and women were at work. The mass caught and mangled many of the operatives, three of whom were killed and more than a score injured.

With the first cries from the injured, pinned down by falling timbers, the police and rescue parties worked desperately, as fears were expressed that the wreckage soon would be a roaring mass of flame. There was no fire, however, and this prevented greater loss of life.

THE WAR SITUATION

Russia will continue negotiations at Brest-Litovsk for a separate peace. This is her answer to the German demand that the conference not be moved, and the declaration of the central powers that the peace proposals of December 25, insofar as they affected Russia's allies had been withdrawn.

The decision of the Bolsheviki Government to continue the negotiations with the central powers was announced by Leon Trotzky, the foreign minister, when he replied on Friday to the German declaration, after he had obtained an adjournment to consult with his colleagues. It was Trotzky who demanded that the conference be transferred to neutral soil to get away from the German environment at Brest-Litovsk.

Ensign Kreylinko, the Bolsheviki commander-in-chief, has begun a campaign to raise a volunteer army. The new force, he says, will be used not only against the bourgeoisie of Russia and against the Germans, if negotiations fail, but also to liberate the proletariat of other continental European countries. Bolsheviki troops have been defeated in the province of Tchernigov by the Ukrainians after severe fighting, but have occupied railway stations in South Central Russia.

France will not join in the peace conferences at Brest-Litovsk, Stephen Pinchon, foreign minister, has announced. She also will have no peace negotiations with the enemy until they make direct proposals. The French Government has refused to issue passports so that French Socialists might go to Petrograd.

There has been no break in the monotony on the fighting fronts in the west.

Raids have taken place south of Ypres and in Champagne, and the artillery activity has been most marked in the Ypres and St. Quentin areas. On the Italian northern front the artillery fire has been most intense between the Brenta and the Piave Rivers.

VIOLENT ARTILLRY FIGHTING AT VERDUN

Paris, Jan. 12.—Violent artillery fighting on the Verdun front is reported by the war office. The statement follows:

"The night was marked by violent activity of the artillery in the sector between Beaumont and Bezonvaux (Verdun front). Southeast of Bezonvaux, the French maid a raid and brought back prisoners.

"Everywhere else the night was calm."

TWELVE INDIAN BOYS ARE BURNED TO DEATH

Muskogee, Okla., Jan. 12.—Twelve Indian boys are reported to have been burned to death in a fire last night at the Dwight Indian Training School at Marble City, Okla., about 40 miles southwest of here.

BLIZZARDS AND COLD WAVE SWEEPING ACROSS CONTINENT BRINGING DEATH AND MISERY

SOME MAY FREEZE UNLESS SOME FUEL SECURED AT ONCE

General Manager of Utilities Commission Declares 100 Families No w Without.

"The coal situation is very grave. It has reached its most serious stage and we are compelled to refuse to investigate any more cases. We have over 100 orders on our books now for people who are absolutely without coal. The dealers have informed us this morning that they have no coal. The supply of coke is limited, and will not begin to meet the situation. I am at a loss to find a way out of it."

This is the statement of Manager E. V. Buchanan of the utilities commission.

"I have been trying to interest certain organizations in London to see if they will not do something for us at this time. I want to impress upon the citizens that there will be much suffering unless something is done at once.

Let Auto Owners Help.

"My suggestion is this: There are many residents of London who have more than one ton of coal in their cellars. Some have many tons. Let them take their automobiles today and tomorrow, put a bag or two of coal in and deliver it to the people who are absolutely without any fuel, and who will suffer, possibly severely unless something is done. I am not trying to tell an alarmist story. We have investigated these cases. We know the facts. There may be others whom we have not got in touch with. We know of more than a hundred cases. Why should not some of those in a most fortunate position help those less fortunate at this time? There will be suffering unless this is done. My staff has done its best. We have gone into this question thoroughly.

Appeals to Rotarians.

"I am going to ask the Rotary Club to take this matter up. There are 100 members of that organization in the city with automobiles. If each of them would take a bag of coal to some person it would tide them over until we could get coal. It is not a big matter, but it would be a very practical help. The people have the money to pay for it. I think it would be a good form of war help to do this. I am going to try.

"Some people may freeze if coal is not got to them. If any citizen is willing to take a bag of coal to a citizen, I will furnish him with the name. These are authentic, and have been investigated. They need the coal. They will suffer if they have not the coal. Our telephones are ringing constantly, and the people are demanding coal of us. I would appreciate if some person would start a movement of this kind. If it is not done there will be trouble, much trouble and suffering, I fear."

To Deliver Wood Sunday.

The utilities commission is making deliveries on wood, and are sending out the supply as rapidly as possible. Four rigs are delivering coke, two of them motors, and are giving every person as much as can be spared. One load of wood was delivered to nine different people, each getting a little to keep them going. The rigs will work all day today, and as late as possible tonight, and all day on Sunday.

Relief Inspector J. W. McCallum has been besieged by persons who want coal. The majority have money to pay for it. He sends them to the utilities commission, where their cases are handled.

Three Extreme Cases.

"I am handling the relief coal only," said Mr. McCallum. "I had three extreme cases. They were poor people, one with a sick child, another with a woman sick, and another with the husband dying. They had no money, and I could not get any coal from the dealers. The utilities commission got me some coke for them, and they will be all right. There will be much suffering unless something is done. There is plenty of coal in the city if it were properly distributed."

Coal dealers say they have no coal, although practically all have supplies on the way.

THREE GRAND TRUNK TRAINMEN KILLED IN MIMICO COLLISION

Toronto, Jan. 12.—Grand Trunk Conductor Moise and Brakemen E. Batman and H. Barnham, all of Belleville Ont., were burned to death in their caboose following a rear-end collision at the Mimico yards during a blinding snow storm this morning.

FOUR MEN KILLED IN BANK ROBBERY BY LONE DESPERADO

Bandit Posing As Army Officer Raids Texas Bank.

Camp Funston, Kas., Jan. 12.—Four men were killed and one seriously injured last night, when the army bank here was robbed by a man dressed in the uniform of a captain of the United States army. The bodies of the dead men are said to have been literally hacked to pieces.

The dead are: C. Fuller Winters, vice-president of the National Reserve Bank of Kansas City, Mo.; John W. Jewell of Springfield, Mo., editor of the Camp Funston Trench and Camp, and associate owner with his father, H. S. Jewell of the Springfield Leader; Karl Ohleson, 19, Kansas City, Mo., and —— Hill, clerk in the bank.

Kearney Wornell, cashier of the army bank, was seriously wounded. When the murders and robbery were discovered he was the only one of the five victims conscious, but he has not yet been able to give a lucid story of the occurrence.

William Huttig, president of the National Reserve Bank of Kansas City, said he could not give the exact amount of money on hand in the robbed bank, but said that generally it was $10,000 to $11,000.

20,000 SCRAMBLE FOR 500 PIGS

Washington, D. C., Jan. 12.—Food rioting in Vienna on New Year's Day is described in a dispatch received here today from Switzerland. When the authorities announced that 500 Serbian pigs would be put on sale at 75c a pound, more than 20,000 people assembled outside the market, most of them remaining throughout the New Year's Eve in intense cold for the chance to buy. In the morning, the dispatch says, the crowd lost its patience, broke through the police lines and invaded the market, where many persons were wounded before the supply of pigs was exhausted. Then crowds are said to have marched through the streets denouncing the municipal authorities and the imperial government.

BRITISH DESTROYER RACCOON FOUNDERS

Lost Off the Irish Coast After Running on Rocks.

London, Jan. 12.—The British destroyer Raccoon struck rocks off the Irish coast on Wednesday and foundered, it is announced officially.

All those on board the Raccoon when the vessel sank were lost.

The Raccoon was built in 1910. She was 266 feet long and displaced 915 tons. She was armed with one 4-inch and three 3-inch guns and two torpedo tubes. Her normal complement was 105 men.

FOE TO CLOSE TWO FRONTIERS FOR 2 MONTHS

Geneva, Jan. 12.—Announcement is made from a reliable source that Germany is about to close her frontiers on both the Swiss and the Dutch sides.

The National Zeitung of Basel understands this complete isolation of Germany may last two months, during which time nobody will be permitted to leave or enter the empire.

JOS. CHOATES ESTATE PLACED AT $4,629,789

New York, Jan. 12.—An appraiser's report filed today regarding the estate of Jos. H. Choate, former ambassador to Great Britain and a leader of the American bar, places the net assets at $4,629,879. Nearly forty relatives, friends and employees, together with several institutions, are beneficiaries

ST. LOUIS NEARLY CUT OFF.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 12.—As a result of the blizzard that swept the central west yesterday and last night, St. Louis is nearly cut off from railway communication with the outside world.

Only three through passenger trains have arrived at the Union Station since 5 o'clock last night. One of these was a St. Louis and San Francisco train from Texas, due here at 6 p.m. Friday. It arrived at 7 a.m. today. No trains have left Union Station since 6:30 o'clock last night.

Southeastern States Hit by Terrific Snow and Sleet Storms, Which Cause Many Deaths—Western Ontario Badly Tied Up by Record Blizzard—Hamilton Plants Obliged to Shut Down—Chicago Cut Off From Rest of the Country.

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 12.—A blizzard extending from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico and from the Rocky Mountains almost to the Alleghenies, and accompanied by low temperatures paralyzed steam railways and street railway traffic at many points today.

Over practically the entire territory covered by the blizzard today train schedules have been upset and all the large terminals like Chicago, St. Louis and Kansas City, many trains have been annulled. Nebraska, it is said, experienced the coldest day in half a century, no point reporting to the weather bureau at Omaha showing a temperature as high as zero, while O'Neill turned in 37 below.

In Kansas and Missouri temperatures of 20 below zero were common, and in St. Louis the thermometer reached 19 below. The heavy snowfall in the winter wheat districts is said to have greatly benefited the crop outlook.

CHICAGO CUT OFF BY WORST BLIZZARD.

Chicago, Jan. 12.—Chicago is isolated from railroad communication with the outside world by one of the worst blizzards in its history. Its business is paralyzed. No milk trains arrived nor were coal wagons able to move 10 per cent of the fuel needed. The thermometer dropped to 14 degrees below zero, and a sharp wind from the northwest added to the suffering.

BLIZZARD CRIPPLES HAMILTON PLANTS.

Hamilton, Jan. 12.—A blizzard which held Hamilton in its grip throughout the night was still blowing big guns at noon today. The power failed shortly before 8 o'clock, crippling the big munition plants and other factories for over two hours, while street railway and suburban traffic was tied up for the same length of time. Business generally was disrupted and considerable damage done, many windows in the business section being blown in while the big sign over Loew's Theatre crashed through the marquee early in the morning. At 10:30 traffic on the electric lines was resumed.

TORONTO GETS SHARE OF THE BIG STORM.

Toronto, Jan. 12.—This city is getting its share of the big storm. "Canyon Corner," the huge abyss between the C. P. R. and Royal Bank skyscrapers is practically impassable for anything but policemen and street cars. All other vehicles are warned away from the corner and pedestrians try to cross at their own risk, which is great owing to the frightful velocity of the wind.

DEATH AND DESTRUCTION IN SOUTHERN STATES.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 12.—With the entire south in the grip of its worst storm and sleet storm of the winter today early reports show that tornadoes which swept through Eastern Alabama and Central Georgia had taken a toll of sixteen lives and injured more than 100 persons. Wire communication over a great area was paralyzed, scores of small towns being isolated.

Advance, Charleston, Jacksonville and other cities along the south Atlantic coast were cut off from outside communication. The deaths and injuries reported early today were as follows:

Cowarts, Ala.—Seven killed and 25 injured.

Dothan, Ala.—Six children killed and 40 injured in collapse of schoolhouse in country near Dothan.

Webb, Ala.—One killed and estimated 70 injured in destruction of store and other buildings.

Troy, Ala.—One killed and several injured.

Macon, Ga.—One killed at Camp Wheeler and several injured.

Snow and Lightning.

The cold wave that extended as far south as Florida was preceded by an unusually low barometeric pressure, 28.98 being recorded at Knoxville late yesterday, while thunderstorms and lightning accompanied a heavy snowfall at Asheville, N. C.

It was thought today that sleet and high winds were the chief causes of the isolation of most of the towns and that little or no damage had resulted in the larger cities along the Atlantic coast.

The cold wave, combined with a virtual fuel famine in nearly every section of the south was expected to add greatly to suffering already reported.

DRIFTS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, Jan. 12.—Six and a half inches of snow fell in the storm which started about 2 o'clock this morning. It was accompanied by a south-southwest wind of 18 miles an hour velocity, which quickly piled the snow up into drifts of a considerable depth.

HEAVY GALE AT QUEBEC.

Quebec, Jan. 12.—Quebec is in the grip of a forty-eight-mile-an-hour gale with drifting snow.

TREE SHIPS AGROUND.

Newport News, Va., Jan. 12.—The 60-mile gale which swept this coast last night, drove three ocean steamers aground in the harbor here. The ships are hard and fast, but none is thought to be in serious danger. While the storm has tied up shipping at this port, no serious damage has been reported.