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BRITISH FORCES ARE FIGHTING THEIR WAY INTO VALENCIENNES

\$20,000 STOLEN BY BANDIT FROM G. T. R. EXPRESS CAR

GERMANY TO WAGE DEFENSIVE WARFARE IF HER PROPOSALS FAIL TO ACCOMPLISH PEACE SOUGHT, SAYS CHANCELLOR

Prince Maximilian Says German People Have a Right to Know What President Wilson's Demands Mean to the Country--Asks That United States' Notes Be Made More Explicit.

Copenhagen, Oct. 23.--Peace conversations between Berlin and Washington have reached a critical point, according to Prince Maximilian, the German imperial chancellor, speaking before the Reichstag yesterday. In the course of his address he urges that debate on the situation arising on the exchange of notes between himself and President Wilson be restricted as much as possible.

"The German people are anxious to hear the views of the Government regarding prospects of peace," he said. "But I am able to speak only with the greatest reserve and urge that the members of the Reichstag limit debate, as is consistent with the seriousness of the hour. The whole German people have been spoken to by President Wilson, and this fact gives the utterances of the representatives of all parties added force.

"Today, therefore, I am going to say only this regarding the international situation:

AWAITING NEXT ANSWER.

"The president's first answer to the peace move of the German Government had in all countries brought the questions of a peace of justice or a peace of violence to the highest point," he continued. "President Wilson's last note did not make clear to the German people how this public agitation will end. His next answer will, perhaps, bring definite certainty. Until then we must in all our thoughts and in our actions prepare for both eventualities--first that the enemy governments are anxious for war, in which case there is no choice for us but to put ourselves in a posture of defence with all the strength of our people driven to the last extremity. Should this necessity arise, I have no doubt that the German Government, in the name of the German people, will issue a call for national defence in the same way that it spoke for the German people when it took action for peace. He who honestly took a stand on the basis for peace will also undertake the duty of not submitting to a peace of violence without a fight. The Government which would act otherwise would be left to the mercy of the fighting and working people. It would be swept away by public opinion.

WANTS EXPLANATION.

"There is also another possibility. The German people must not be blindly brought to the conference table. The German people Continued on Page Eleven.

GERMANS READY TO EVACUATE BELGIUM ON CONDITION THAT ALLIES DO NOT CHASE THEM

Grotesque Proposal Is the Latest Outcome of Conference at Berlin Between Members of German General Staff and War Cabinet.

Paris, Oct. 23.--Germany's high command is ready to evacuate the invaded territories of France and Belgium on the express condition that the allied troops will not follow them in retreat, but will remain where they are now located, according to the latest information from Berlin, says the Zurich correspondent of the Journal.

This grotesque proposal is the outcome of the latest conferences at Berlin between the members of the general staff and the war cabinet. It is said the military party is rapidly gaining ground, but the members of the moderate faction believe that before long grave internal events will help to improve the situation.

The dispatch says that the existing controversy between the military and the moderate factions is very acute. The retrocession of Alsace and Lorraine to France, Emperor William himself is reported to have emphatically announced such an event at the meeting of the crown council on Saturday.

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, 58; lowest, 46.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 46; lowest, 39.

TOMORROW--SHOWERY.
Toronto, Oct. 23--8 a.m. Forecast.

Easterly winds; mostly cloudy today and on Thursday; showers in a few localities.

Temperatures.
The following were the highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today:
Stations. High. Low. Weather.
Victoria 44 Fair
Calgary 46 Fair
Winnipeg 50 Fair
Port Arthur 50 Fair
Port Stanley 54 Fair
Toronto 58 Fair
Ottawa 52 Fair
Kingston 52 Fair
Montreal 48 Fair
Quebec 48 Fair
Father Point 44 Fair

Weather Notes.
Showers have occurred in Western Nova Scotia and in Northern Ontario. Elsewhere the weather has been fine, and in the Western Provinces quite so.

ONE QUESTION ONLY TO BE CONSIDERED

Evacuation "Terms" May Be Discussed by U. S. Officials.

Washington, Oct. 23.--Secretaries Lansing and Daniels, of the state and navy departments, respectively, and General March chief of staff of the army, were called to the White House shortly after noon, just as a state department messenger arrived to deliver the German note to the president.

Official intimation already has been given that the only question for immediate consideration is whether there shall be a discussion of "terms" of evacuation while the Allied and American armies continue their work of clearing Belgium and Northern France.

Exchanges between Washington and the Allied capitals have been in progress on the basis of the wireless version of the note received Monday, and it is regarded as certain that any reply the president may make will be governed by the supreme war council in France. Only the president and a few of his advisers know how far these exchanges have progressed. No one else can say when an announcement of the president's attitude may be expected.

Although an English translation was delivered with the note in German text, the state department made its own translation before sending the document to the White House. Nothing was made public pending a careful comparison with the wireless version, though it was said the expected verbal differences did not appear to alter substantially the meaning of the note.

OFFICIAL TEXT OF NOTE DELIVERED

Document Was Delivered to Lansing at 10 o'clock Today.

Washington, Oct. 23.--Germany's new note to President Wilson, which was delivered to Secretary of State Lansing at 10 o'clock this morning by Frederick Oederlin, charge of the Swiss legation.

The statement was authorized that there is nothing in the communication to alter the decision of the president that he will not propose an armistice to the Allies before the Germans evacuate all occupied territory.

DR. NORMAN H. BEAL SUFFERS A RELAPSE

Pneumonia Has Recurred and Condition Is Critical.

Dr. Norman H. Beal is again critically ill at Rochester, Minn., and his sister, Miss Beal, has left for there this afternoon, according to a wire received by Dr. Beal's father, C. J. Beal, today, from Mrs. Norman Beal.

The doctor has had a relapse and pneumonia again has developed. A couple of weeks ago he was stricken with Spanish influenza which quickly developed into pneumonia. His condition was so serious at that time that Mrs. Beal left for Rochester immediately, accompanied by her father, C. J. Beal, to find on her arrival that he was doing well.

DR. JESSOP CRITICALLY ILL.
St. Catharines, Oct. 23.--Dr. E. Jessop, M. P. P., is critically ill with influenza at his home here. He has been unconscious for the past 48 hours, and his recovery is not expected. He has been ill for over a week.



IN POSSESSION LONE BANDIT HOLDS UP TWO MESSENGERS ON G. T. R. TRAIN AND GETS AWAY WITH \$20,000

Unmasked Stranger Enters Express Car at Sunnyside, Binds and Gags Men and Escapes With Booty--Larger Portion of Money Is Later Recovered by Toronto Police Who Gave Chase to Man.

[Special to The Advertiser.]
Toronto, Oct. 23.--A lone armed bandit held up George Williamson and William Wilson, two Canadian express messengers in an express car of the Grand Trunk Buffalo-Niagara express, somewhere between the union station and the midland at 6:30 o'clock this morning, and stole \$20,000 in money, jumped from the fast-moving train and got away.

The robber leaped from the train near Sunnyside, held up a citizen motoring near High Park, at the point of a revolver, commanded the car and motorized away at full speed before the citizen could secure another machine. The train crew knew of the robbery when the train pulled into Hamilton a hour later, when the two express messengers were found tied up in the corner of the car. The Toronto police, who were notified by the express company, immediately started a search for the robber, but he had disappeared. The express messengers, who were looking for the robber, but he had disappeared. The express messengers, who were looking for the robber, but he had disappeared.

Inspector Kennedy declined to give the name of the citizen whose car it was, and also did not care to state where the money was found. According to Williamson and Wilson, the express messengers, the robber walked into the express car from the train shortly after it left the union station, whipped out a gun, and covering the two men, tied them up, and then stole the package of money worth \$20,000, and then left the train. The robbery is one of the most daring that has ever been pulled off in Toronto. Later today the police announced that they were looking for the owner of \$7,000 in bills of large denomination, which were left at 33 Hewitt avenue under exciting circumstances this morning. Early in the morning, a man called at that address and asked Mr. W. J. Greenaway, the proprietor, for the rent of a garage room. He carried a bundle which looked very much like a carpenter's apron rolled up.

Found Bills Not Bombs.
After making arrangements for the rent of the garage, the stranger wanted to find a place where he could secure board and lodging, and was referred to Mrs. Robinson at No. 33. Being somewhat suspicious of the stranger, Mrs. Robinson telephoned quietly to Mrs. Greenaway, advising her to have good security before taking the man in, with the result that she ultimately declined to do so at all. The man then asked to be allowed to leave his bundle at the house while he went to look for other quarters. Thinking there might be a bomb in the parcel, Mr. Greenaway and Mrs. Robinson opened it while the man was absent and found the roll of bills.

Retreating Germans Carry Away Everything in Sight.

With the Allied Armies in France and Belgium, Oct. 23.--North of Valenciennes, the British have forced their way almost through the Raimon forest. Along the entire front between Valenciennes and Tournai, recent rains have made the ground difficult and progress has been slowed up.

The Germans on this front in the past few days have been following the tactics of retreating during the night. The British have not been able to establish contact with the enemy rearguards until noon of the next day. The rearguards endeavor to hold the British in check until daylight, when they again retreat.

There appear to be good indications that the line on which the Germans are now resting temporarily in this region will not be defended for any great length of time.

The entire country between Valenciennes and Tournai is as barren as a desert, as far as the personal property of the French inhabitants is concerned. Liberated civilians say that the retreating Germans carry so much loot that they stagger under the loads. Apparently the Allied instructions given the German troops to take the most strict care as regards the property of civilians are not observed at the front.

BRITISH CAPTURE BRUAY NEAR VALENCIENNES IN NEW ATTACK MADE TODAY

AUSTRIA TO GET WILSON'S VIEW AGAIN ON PEACE

Vienna Complains That Reply Does Not Answer Precise Question.

CLAIM CONTRADICTIONS IN IT

Enemy Officials Maintain the President's Answer Is Inconsistent.

Basel, Tuesday, Oct. 23.--Official comment in Vienna on President Wilson's answer to the Austrian note expresses a complaint that it does not answer the precise question put forward. We hope that it is now necessary to again ask the president's attitude toward an armistice and the re-establishment of peace, according to advice received from the Austrian capital.

It is added that officials say there is a contradiction in the reasons given by Mr. Wilson in justifying his refusal to enter into peace negotiations and his answer to Baron Burián on September 15.

TO CONTINUE EFFORTS.
Basel, Oct. 23.--President Wilson's reply to the Austrian peace proposals in no way justifies the conclusion that the exchange of views which has been begun is to be interrupted, according to Baron von Hussarski, Austrian premier, speaking before the House of Lords yesterday, according to Vienna advices received here.

It is added that officials say the more our efforts toward peace, he said. "We shall answer the note after carefully examining its contents. We hope that the peace discussions, notwithstanding difficulties, will deliver the world in the near future from the unspeakable misery of war."

RESPIRE IS GRANTED
TO MAN SENTENCED
TO HANG ON FRIDAY

Application for a New Trial of Aurele Vuillellette To Be Made Tomorrow.

Montreal, Oct. 23.--Aurele Vuillellette, the young man found guilty of the murder of a farmer and his young son at Snake River, Pontiac county, and sentenced by Mr. Justice Weir to hang on Friday, was yesterday granted a respite by judgment of Mr. Justice Weir until January 10 next.

The condemned man's sentence was to be executed Friday, a respite having been granted in June last by Mr. Justice Weir until October 23, pending an application to the court of appeal for a new trial.

The application for a new trial will be made in the court of appeal tomorrow.

BRITISH PRISONERS LIBERATED UNDER PEACE AGREEMENT

Party of 1,000 Soldiers Pass Through Sofia.

London, Oct. 23.--The first party of 1,000 British prisoners taken by the Bulgarians and liberated under the peace agreement between that country and the Allies, passed through Sofia yesterday on route to Salonika, according to a dispatch to the Mail from the Bulgarian capital. They reported that because of ill-treatment at the hands of the Bulgarians, 30,000 of the 50,000 Serbians in Bulgarian prison camps have died.

ADMINISTRATION OF
GOVERNMENT GIVEN
TO POLISH OFFICIALS

Austrian Authorities Relinquish Control in Occupied Poland.

Amsterdam, Oct. 23.--The Austrian authorities in the part of Poland occupied by the Austrian arms have formally handed over the administration to Polish authorities, says a Vienna dispatch to the Voelische Zeitung of Berlin.

Other victims are believed to be still in the ruins.

Haig Reaches West of the Scheldt in Drive Launched Between Le Cateau and Calesmes ---Germans Abandon Town of Brioules.

FIGHTING FOR VALENCIENNES.
With the Allied Armies in France and Belgium, Oct. 23.--(By the Associated Press).--British troops were fighting their way into the centre of Valenciennes early today. They were facing a strong enemy machine gun fire from the east bank of the Scheldt, which flows through the city.

London, Oct. 23.--The British began a new attack early today on the front between Le Cateau and Calesmes, south of Valenciennes, Field Marshal Haig announces. The British have captured Bruay, 2½ miles north of Valenciennes, and have reached the west bank of the Scheldt.

The statement follows:
"At an early hour this morning our troops attacked on the Le Cateau-Colesmes front, and are reported to be making good progress.

"Further north, between Valenciennes and Tournai, we have taken Bruay and reached the west bank of the Scheldt at Blesaires and Espain. Considerable resistance was encountered on this front yesterday and sharp fighting took place, in which our troops, pressing the enemy vigorously, inflicted many casualties upon him and drove him from his positions, capturing a number of prisoners."

FRENCH ADVANCE SEVERAL MILES.
London, Oct. 23.--Northeast of Laon French troops have reached the line of the Serre River, having made an advance of two to three miles on an eight-mile front.

FOE GIVES UP BRIEULLES.
With the American Army Northwest of Verdun, October 23.--The town of Brioules, on the western bank of the Meuse, which has been stubbornly defended by the Germans, has been given up by the enemy.

This is the latest point at which the Americans have driven a dent into the German defences, despite the fact that the enemy resistance is still as strong as formerly.

The Germans set fire to Brioules late Tuesday, and American patrols early today reported that the Germans had withdrawn from the town.

FRENCH TAKE PRISONERS.
Paris, Oct. 23.--On the Serre front last night the Germans met with heavy machine gun fire the efforts of the French to cross the Souche and Serre rivers, the war office announces. Further east the French made progress between Nizy-Le Comte and Le Thour, taking prisoners.

The statement follows:
"On the Oise front, heavy artillery fighting continued during the night.

"The booty taken by the troops of the first army in the fighting of October 17 and 18 includes 81 cannon, about 100 trench mortars, more than 700 machine guns and munitions depots and war material of all kinds.

"On the Serre front the enemy continues to oppose, by his machine gun fire, our efforts to cross the Serre and the Souche. Far east we made progress between Nizy-Le Comte and Le Thour, taking prisoners."

AMERICANS TAKE BOIS DE FORET.
With the American Army Northwest of Verdun, Tuesday, Oct. 23.--In the face of stubborn resistance American forces today cleaned up Bois-de-Foret, just west of Brioules, capturing 75 prisoners, many of them machine gunners who fought to the last. The fight for Bois-de-Foret began a week ago, and has been one of the most stubborn since the beginning of the Meuse-Argonne offensive.

The Americans fought with determination. At times they fell back under terrific pressure, and then rushed forward with all their might. On Monday they reached the line crossing the northern half of the wood and completed their task today. Among the prisoners were several officers. The enemy clung to the wood with tenacity owing to the fact that the cleaning-up of this place endangers the commanding positions of the Germans to the north.

COUNT ANDRASSY TO
BE HUNGARIAN
FOREIGN MINISTER

Paris, Oct. 23.--Measures are being taken to carry into effect the proclamation of Emperor Charles conferring independence on Hungary, says a Zurich dispatch to the Petit Parisien. It is reported that Count Julius Andrássy will be Hungarian foreign minister.

Hitherto Austria and Hungary, although having separate ministries, for the administration of internal affairs, have had one minister in common for each of the departments of foreign affairs, war and finance. Count Andrássy is a former premier of Hungary and has figured prominently in efforts toward peace.

SEVENTY KILLED IN EXPLOSION.
Basel, Oct. 23.--Seventy persons were killed and 50 wounded in an explosion which occurred in a factory at Dossau on the Elbe, 67 miles northwest of Berlin. Other victims are believed to be still in the ruins.

RUSSIAN SOLDIERS DID
NOT EVEN KNOW THAT
THE CZAR WAS DEAD

Held by Germans in Belgium, and Kept in Utmost Ignorance.

Bruges, Tuesday, Oct. 22.--A fresh and striking instance of the inhumanity of the German authorities has been discovered by Belgian soldiers in liberated territory. They found a large number of Russian soldiers, who were captured three years ago, at work with German labor companies. The Russians had been treated with the utmost brutality and forced to labor behind the firing line. They were utterly ignorant of the Russian revolution, the death of Emperor Nicholas or the Brest-Litovsk treaty of peace.