

## RUSSIA PREPARES FOR GREAT OFFENSIVE THRUST ON RIGA

### German Socialists Demand Abandonment of Germany's Policy of Conquest

#### RUSSIA PREPARES FOR A SWEEPING NEW OFFENSIVE AGAINST THE FOE ON THE RIGA

Equipped With Great Quantities of Munitions, and Backed by Large Reserves, She Will Renew Battle

London, Jan. 9.—The Russians are preparing to launch a great new offensive in the Riga sector, according to a Copenhagen despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company, quoting German newspaper correspondents on the eastern front. The Russian troops are said to be equipped with great quantities of munitions and backed by large reserves. Near Nitau and south of Riga the artillery fire is reported to have now become extremely violent. The weather is frosty and clear and the country covered with snow.

The correspondent of the Taegliche Rundschau says that the Russians attempted a surprise attack on Sunday near the Riga bridgehead. Great masses of the attackers, with white shirts over their uniforms, succeeded during a violent snowstorm, in entering the German trenches on a front of a thousand metres. The correspondent says that evidently an attempt was being made to break through the road between Mitau and Riga. The Germans, seeing the danger, sent all available reserves into the battle, which reached a pitch of tremendous fury. The two armies fought with bombs and bayonets until sunset, when, according to the correspondent, the Russians retreated to their previous positions over snow that had been reddened with blood.

#### Deeper Conviction of the Ultimate Victory

Has Come to Premier Briand, of France, as Result of Allied Conference in Rome

Paris, Jan. 9.—While on his way back to Paris from the Rome conference of the Entente Allies, Premier Briand made the following statement at Turin to a correspondent of The Petit Journal: "All the chiefs of the Allied Governments decided to maintain the strictest reserve as to the character and scope of the decisions reached at the conference. I may say, however, that during the discussions we found that an absolute agreement existed among the allies. We decided to accentuate still further the co-ordination of our efforts. "Such was the principal object of the conference, and it has been realized. I am personally highly satisfied with the results of our meetings, and after the conference at Rome I have more than ever a deep conviction of our ultimate victory." After the premier's arrival in Paris another brief council was held by French ministers in the waiting room at the railroad terminus. The Petit Parisien says the Rome conference considered three questions: Concerning Greece, in regard to which Italy hitherto had made certain reservations, concerning the

#### FORTY PERSONS ARRESTED IN ROME

Charged With Complicity in Destruction of Two Battleships

#### VATICAN OFFICIAL Is Among Those Charged With Conspiracy in the Matter

Rome, Jan. 9.—More than 40 persons are now imprisoned as a result of the investigations into the destruction in September, 1915, and August, 1916, respectively, of the Italian battleships Bendetto Brin and Leonardo De Vinci. The latter was blown up in Taranto harbor and 248 men perished. Lieut.-Gen. Cadorna, chief of staff came to Rome on Thursday to attend a meeting of the cabinet which was held for the purpose of deciding upon the disposition of the prisoners, but the question has become a political one from the introduction into the case of the name of one of the officials of the Vatican. An Italian named Ambrogetti, who was among those charged with being implicated in the destruction of the warships claims to be the financial agent of Monsignor Gerlach, Pope Benedict's private chamberlain.

#### WINDSOR HAS MADE PROGRESS

Population Increased in Past Year by Over 2,000

Windsor, Jan. 8.—The assessment report for the year just prepared by Assessment Commissioner Black shows Windsor, during 1915 made the greatest strides since its incorporation as a city twenty-five years ago. For the year the population has increased by 2,362 persons, and now numbers 26,524 while the assessment values increased from \$24,206,000 to \$26,449,000. There was a corresponding increase in the value of buildings permits taken out, the total for the year being \$1,500,000. Norwegian Ships Sunk London, Jan. 9.—Lloyds announce that the Norwegian Steamer Borg-holm, 1,719 tons, is believed to have been sunk. A despatch to Reuters from Bergen says that the small Norwegian Steamer Markland has been sunk.

#### Greece Agrees With Wilson

Athens, Jan. 8.—via London.—The official reply of the Greek Government to President Wilson's peace note was communicated today to the American minister at Athens. The reply asserts that Greece agrees with the President's effort in behalf of peace.

#### GERMANS LOSE IN OFFENSIVE

Repulsed by Russians With Loss of an Island and Several Guns

Petrograd, Jan. 9.—via London.—German troops on the northern end of the Russian front launched an offensive on the positions south of Lake Babit in the Riga region recently taken by the Russians, but according to today's war office announcement, were thrown under the fire of the Russian guns and infantry counter-attacks. The Russians by a surprise attack recaptured the island of Glandon which they lost recently and took seven machine guns and four iron mortars from the Germans afterwards repulsing a counter-attack.

#### CONTRIBUTION FROM WINDSOR

Mr. Robert Henry, ex-Brantfordite, of Prominence, Sends to Belgium Relief

Another indication that the appeal for financial assistance for the Belgians is not going unheeded, was the following letter received from Mr. Robert Henry, of Windsor, a former resident of this city. "I have read the circular letter of the Board of Trade with much interest, in connection with the support of the families belonging to the brave Belgian nation, who have suffered so much because of the cruel treatment they have received, treatment so savage and brutal that the history of the world does not furnish any example of such a more heinous, but the demands upon us are numerous, but all for worthy purposes. I enclose card." The following additional monthly pledges have been received: P. J. O'Connell, \$24.50; Burnley Bros., \$2; Robert Henry, \$1.00.

#### AUSTRIA NOW DESPAIRS OF PEACE; GERMAN SOCIALISTS MAKE STRONG DEMAND FOR IT

#### GERARD GAVE GERMANY WARNING

This is View of Manchester Guardian on the Ambassador's Speech

#### PRESENT POLICY Must Not Become More Extreme, or Danger Will Ensure

London, Jan. 9.—(Follow Berlin, Gerard)—The Manchester Guardian in its comment on Ambassador Gerard's speech in Berlin, says it regards it as a plain warning to Germany. "The versions of the speech deserve careful study," the newspaper declares, "because they throw a good deal of light on the inner mind of diplomats." After quoting the version of the Ambassador's remarks in which he is made to say that so long as Germany's destiny is conducted by her present leaders he did not fear that the relations between Germany and the United States would suffer. The Guardian continues: "That is the diplomatic way of saying that if more extreme parties came into power, or if the present rulers of Germany yielded to their clamor, he would not like to say what might happen. Evidently Mr. Gerard is anxious to support the chancellor and his associates against the attacks of the von Tirpitz clique and wild annexationists, and he is anxious to do that because he thinks the triumph of the opposition would mean very serious trouble between Germany and the United States. It is important that the English people should understand the angle at which Mr. Gerard stands."

#### While the Dual Monarchy Gives up Hope, German Socialists Insist on Abandonment of Policy of Conquest

Vienna, Jan. 8.—via London.—The Austrian press has abandoned all hope of peace negotiations and discusses calmly the prospect of a continuance of the war. Emperor Charles' order to the army, informing the soldiers that the Entente had refused to accept the central powers' peace offer, is accepted as final and editorial comment is confined to pointing out that the only course left is to maintain the struggle with the country's maximum effort. No results are expected from the Allies' reply to President Wilson's note, and the chapter of the present peace efforts is considered closed.

Demand Peace London, Jan. 9.—(New York Sun cable)—The German Social Democrats are circulating petitions to be sent to Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg demanding that Germany give up all plans of conquest and make peace at once. One of these petitions was found on a German soldier taken prisoner on the Somme within the last two weeks. It follows: "To the inhabitants of Altenburg, of the Social Democratic party, requesting you to sign the following petition for peace: "To the Imperial Chancellor, Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, the undersigned demand that the speediest possible end be made to the war which has devastated Europe for more than two years, imposing enormous sacrifices in blood and money upon all the belligerent countries. The undersigned reject all plans of conquest, which not only prolong the war, but also contain the germ of new wars. "They demand that the governments of the Central powers declare themselves ready to conclude a peace, which will guarantee to the empire its political independence and territorial integrity and freedom for its economic development."

#### Concern in Britain Over Balkan Situation

For First Time During the War Genuine Anxiety is Felt Over the Macedonian Outlook

New York, Jan. 9.—A cable to The Tribune from London says: For perhaps the first time in the war real anxiety is being manifested in Britain over the situation in the Balkans. Public interest is now divided between the Macedonian problem and the new loan, both of which have a direct bearing on the question of the early settlement of hostilities. Over the week-end a lively fight developed between the easterners and the westerners which means that behind scenes forces more powerful than the press are locked in serious debate. Rumors that King Constantine of Greece is planning an open attack on Sarraill's forces created alarm in some quarters, though in others confidence was expressed that the Allies could hold the situation well in hand. It is believed that Lloyd George and Briand have received strong assurances from Italy that she will prosecute the war vigorously until the Central powers are ready to make concessions satisfactory to all the Allies, but whether these assurances include a pledge by Italy to play a more important part in Macedonia, only future events will show. The same elements of the press that were responsible for the unheroic assault on the Salonica expedition on the ground that it is dissipating the strength of the Allies and is impossible of big success, because of transportation difficulties. Lloyd George is an easterner and Briand was largely responsible for the original expedition so any change in the Balkan situation, such as the withdrawal of the expeditionary forces of the Allies would amount to a complete "about face" for the leaders of the two governments. While the allied heads are exchanging views and pledges, tremendous preparation is being made here to launch the new loan. There are high expectations for realizing a sum unprecedented in the world's finances.

#### IT'S SO EASY



Cartoon by Sam Hunter in Toronto World

#### INDIAN REVOLT PLOTTED IN U.S.

German Agents There Scheme War of Murder and Rapine

London, Jan. 9.—Seventeen of the accused persons in the supplementary trial held in connection with Lahore conspiracy case were sentenced last week, says a Central News despatch from Calcutta today. Six received death sentences, one was sentenced to transportation for life, and the others were given terms of imprisonment. In delivering the judgment the court says the despatch, indicated that Manila was still an active center of revolutionary activity, but that the United States remained the chief center of the movement, it being fostered, it was said, by German consular agents. "We are fully satisfied that the United States has become the chief center of the movement," declared the court's opinion, as quoted in the despatch. "The overthrow of the British Empire in India was planned and discussed when the European war broke out, and many Indians sailed from the United States. The enemy's plan was to bring about a war of murder and rapine."

#### Body of Man Found on Train

London, Jan. 9.—The body of an unknown middle-aged man, apparently an American, was found in a compartment of an express train from the south, which arrived at Carlisle Monday morning. A large sum of money was found in the clothing, and also a letter, which, from the instructions on the envelope, apparently had been handed to him when he embarked at New York on December 30. The envelope bears the address: "Patrick Cotter, care American Steamship Company, Pier 52, North River, New York."

#### NAME THE BABY LLOYD-GEORGE

Many Parents Call Their Offspring After Britain's New Premier This Year

Toronto, Jan. 8.—Lloyd George leads among the unusual Christian names given the 295 babies whose births have been registered at the city clerk's office since the opening of the year, but there can be no mistaking the nationality or patriotism of the parents who have christened their babies by such names as Bruce, St. Julien, Loyal Jack, Verdun, Elizabeth Mary, Douglas Haig, and Patricia. Three of the babies bear the name of Britain's premier.

#### VICE-ADMIRAL WARRENDER DEAD

London, Jan. 8.—Vice-Admiral Sir George Warrender died in London today. According to the latest available British navy list, Sir George Warrender was commander-in-chief of the Plymouth naval station. Earlier in the present war he was commander of the second battle squadron. He was 66 years old.

#### ALLIED SHIPS ARE SUNK

London, Jan. 9.—The sinking of three steamers of Entente nationalities, two of them vessels of more than 2,500 tons, is announced by Lloyds shipping agency. They are the French steamer Alphonse Consoil, of 1,591 tons; the British steamer Lesbien, of 2,555 tons, built in 1915; and the Japanese steamer Chinto Maru of 2,588 tons.

#### TRAIN CANCELLED

Montreal, Jan. 9.—The temporary reduction in passenger train service on the Grand Trunk Railway to facilitate freight movements calls for the cancellation of trains between Ottawa, Montreal and Quebec. The reduced service becomes effective on January 14, 1917.

**Weather Bulletin**  
Toronto, Jan. 9.—A moderate disturbance is centered over Georgian Bay and a few snow falls have occurred in Ontario and western Quebec, while in other parts of the Dominion the weather has been fair.  
Forecasts  
Southwest winds cloudy with local falls of snow and rain. Wednesday, westerly winds generally fair.

"Zimmie"

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Waterloo St., Bell phone  
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**Foot Compound**  
A safe, reliable regulating  
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No. 2, \$1.50. No. 3, \$2.  
No. 4, \$2.50. No. 5, \$3.  
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