

Weather Forecast:
Local Snow

53rd YEAR. No. 22646

The London Advertiser

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HOME
EDITION

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DRASTIC DOMESTIC CHANGES EXCITE BRITAIN

Neutral Press Commends British Peace Answer—Russian Victory In Rumania

RUSSIANS BREAK THROUGH LINE OF TEUTON FOE

Smash Wire Entanglements and Penetrate Austro-German Position.

ENEMY FLIES IN DISORDER

Gain For Allies Recorded On Galician Front Near Stanislaw.

Petrograd, Dec. 20.—Via London.—British Admiralty, per Wireless Press.—Russian troops operating in the region of the River Bystritsa, in Galicia, says the Russian official statement issued today, broke through the barbed wire entanglements in front of the Austro-German advanced posts yesterday and penetrated into Bohorodczany Stare, southwest of Stanislaw. The Teutons are said to have fled in disorder, leaving some prisoners in the hands of the Russians.

The text of the statement reads: "Western front: In the region southwest of Brody (Galicia), the enemy, after bombarding our trenches with heavy artillery for half an hour, conducted an attack in open formation upon our position. He was driven into his trenches by our fire. Repeated enemy attempts to attack our detachments also were unsuccessful. "On the River Bystritsa, in the region of Leopold, Selszt and Bohorodczany Stare, our scouts having broken through barbed-wire entanglements at "acked the enemy's advanced posts and penetrated into Bohorodczany Stare. The enemy, after several men had been killed, fled in disorder, leaving some prisoners in our hands. "In the wooded Carpathian mountains, reconnaissance are being made by our strong scouting parties to the west and south of Mount Botosani."

LITTLE DOING IN RUMANIA.
Berlin, Dec. 20.—The German official statement on the eastern front says: "Rumanian front, front of Archduke Joseph—in the mountains on the eastern bank of the Golden Bystritsa, several attacks by Russian battalions resulted in failure. "Front of Field Marshal von Mackensen: There is nothing new. "There were no important developments on the eastern front. "In Macedonia the artillery was more active at some places."

VON HOLLWEG MUST BE MORE EXPLICIT TO GET ANSWERS

Premier, However, Escaped Snare of Abrupt Refusal.

THIS IS THE BRITISH VIEW

Press of England Sounds a Chorus of Approval to Lloyd George's Speech.

London, Dec. 20.—Premier Lloyd George's reply to the German proposals in the British press, and the general comment is that if Germany really wants peace she will, when the joint reply of the Allies is received, state terms which can form a basis of discussion. The Manchester Guardian says: "Premier Lloyd George has not shut the door on peace with that resounding clang for which some of his less well balanced supporters in the press have been listening. It is true, he insisted on the impossibility of accepting the German invitation as it stands. In this he was only seconded by Mr. Asquith, and will be approved by the country. The German chancellery must be both more modest and more explicit before he can expect any favorable answer to his invitation. But the real danger in the situation which his offer created was that the Allies, this country in particular, might be led into an abrupt refusal, not merely of the actual invitation, but of any proposal to discuss peace terms. This snare Lloyd George has avoided. "The Guardian says that as the speech (Continued on Page 11, Column 3.)

MORATORIUM EXTENDED

France to Provide Three Months More of It.

Paris, Dec. 20.—An extension of the moratorium for three months from January 1 is provided in a decree published today in the Journal Officiel. The decree is accompanied by a note from the minister of commerce, stating that there remains unpaid only 1,340,000,000 of a total of 4,450,000,000 francs of paper benefiting from the moratorium, which was held by the Bank of France in August of 1914.

RETURNED MEN LUNCHING AT McCORMICK'S



FRENCH INDORSING JOYFULLY SPEECH OF BRITISH LEADER

Hail It as Declaration That Was Expected.

Editor of Le Matin Declares Germany Must Admit She Is Vanquished.

New York, Dec. 20.—"A trick that would not work" was the phrase applied to the German peace proposal by Stephane Lauzanne, editor of Le Matin of Paris, after he had joyfully read the cable reports of Lloyd George's speech. He said the British premier had correctly interpreted the feelings of all the Entente Allies. He did not believe Germany would comply with the premier's suggestion that she state her terms, which will make any reply to the notes of the Allies that will in any way satisfy them. "I say her proposal was a trick that did not work because neither the Allies nor the neutrals whom it was designed to impress have been deceived by it. The declaration of Mr. Lloyd George has been a bombshell for Germany. A man expected it to be. There is not a sentence, not a word, which a Frenchman would not completely indorse."

MAJORITY OF DEPUTIES INDORSE PREMIER'S WORDS

French Parliamentarians Applaud When He Answers Critics.

Paris, Dec. 20.—Premier Lloyd met his critics in the Senate yesterday and carried with him the applause of quite two-thirds of the Chamber. A vote of confidence was not taken, because none was proposed until after the secret sessions, the first of which began after the premier had replied to a series of accusations by Senator Berenger of Guadeloupe.

Premier Lloyd reproached Parliament for making it difficult for the ministers to do their work in the present grave period, and said that as for himself he was ready to transfer his responsibilities at any time. He took occasion to announce that the reply of the Entente Allies to the Teutonic peace proposal would be handed over for transmission by neutral powers tomorrow.

SPIRITED ARTILLERY DUEL CONTINUING AT VERDUN

Heavy Battery Engagements Reported by French War Office.

Paris, Dec. 20.—Heavy artillery fighting continues on the Verdun front, the war office announces this afternoon. During the night the engagements were most spirited in the vicinity of Louvemont and Chambray.

The text follows: "There was nothing to report last night other than heavy artillery exchanges in the region of Louvemont and Chambray."

GERMAN STATEMENT.

Berlin, Dec. 20.—Via Sayville wireless.—Following is the German official statement of today:

NEW CABINET'S PLATFORM MORE FAR-REACHING THAN EVER PROPOSED BEFORE

Parliamentary Observers Declare It Is More Crowded With Vital Innovations Than Any Introduced by Previous Prime Ministers of British History.

London, Dec. 20.—Parliamentary observers who heard Premier Lloyd George's speech yesterday agree that no platform so ambitious, so far-reaching and so crowded with vital innovations has ever been proposed to the British nation by any previous prime minister in its history. Mr. Lloyd George was guilty of one oversight, however. He had pronounced glowing eulogies of the army, and had almost finished his speech when Admiral Sir Hedworth Meux, who was seated in uniform a few rows behind the speaker, called out: "What about the navy?" The premier was visibly embarrassed as he atoned for his neglect by a sketch of what the senior services had done in keeping open communications on the seas, and remarked that the Germans had seldom given the British sailors the luxury of a stand-up fight.

The most skillful theatrical producer could hardly have staged a more moving act than that offered by the external of this historical passage in the House of Commons. The churchy character of the chamber itself was emphasized by the scores of world-known statesmen, generals and diplomats who filled the floor and galleries. Before the

gowned and wigged Speaker stretched a long table on which lay the famous peace. To the Speaker's right were the members of the new cabinet, with A. Bonar Law and Sir Edward Carson at the foot. Opposite them were ranged the members of the ministry, with Reginald McKenna, Walter Runciman and Herbert Samuel at the end. Col. Winston Spencer Churchill, a figure in khaki, faced the speaker from a gallery packed with diplomats and representatives of the colonies.

GERMAN DIPLOMACY OUTPOINTED IN DUEL WITH LLOYD GEORGE

So Cables American Correspondent of Premier's Speech.

MUST TRY ONCE MORE

Enemy, However, Will Have To Adopt Changed Policy To Be Successful.

New York, Dec. 20.—Cabling from London last night, Arthur S. Draper, correspondent of the Tribune, says: "Reparation for the past and security for the future—these were the keynote of the reply which Lloyd George made on behalf of Great Britain and her allies to Germany's peace proposals. "If Germany is honest and sincere in her desire for peace, then Lloyd George's reply must be interpreted as an appreciable step forward, a distinct advance over the position which faced the warring nations a week ago. "This is Lloyd George's day. He completely dominates the situation. To-night people are saying that he was selected for premier as a war-maker, he is just as capable as a peace-maker. His first speech as premier showed broadness of mind, keen vision and skillful diplomacy. "If Germany intended her offer as an embarrassment to the Allies, then the Kaiser and his advisers have been outpointed in their first duel with the leader of the new government. "Germany must try again, but must come in a different frame of mind. It has decided to the feeling and conditions within the Central Powers are any criterion of the true situation, a second peace offer will not be long in coming."

DECREASING SERVICE, INCREASING FARES, TO CURTAIL ALL TRAFFIC

London, Dec. 20.—With a view to curtailing travel and thus enabling British railways to use more rolling stock for war and food purposes, it has been decided to decrease, after the first of the year, the number of passenger trains and to increase fares fifty per cent. This will not apply to workmen's tickets or to season tickets for distances not exceeding 40 miles. This decision was announced by the Government in the House of Commons today.

REPARATION TO BELGIUM MUST BE OF FULLEST

Germany Will Have To Make Good All Loss, Says Sheffield.

SAME APPLIES TO ALL

Serbia, France and Poland Included When Amends Are Made.

London, Dec. 20.—New York Evening Sun.—The exact scope of Premier Lloyd George's claim for reparation was the subject of eager discussion in the lobby of the Commons. Reparation should include, in the opinion of Baron Sheffield:

"The complete evacuation of Belgium with ample financial compensation to that country for the ravages committed; the restoration of destroyed buildings; the restoration of the railways, both in money and materials, taken from it; compensation to those forcibly torn from their homes and sent to the army, under German taskmasters, and compensation for those put to death by the invaders."

"The same should apply to Serbia, France and Poland."

Compensation For Air Raids.

"For us, compensation for the open towns wantonly bombed by German ships; compensation for air raids upon civilians in open towns and villages; compensation for merchant ships sunk by cruisers, submarines and mines; compensation for lives sacrificed in all such cases; punishment, if necessary capital punishment, of those in authority who have ordered savage acts of repression and cruelty."

"When the Germans understand that this includes the kind of reparation we expected for the past," continued Baron Sheffield, "we will indicate the securities we demand for the future. As treaty obligations are treated by Germany as scraps of paper, we should demand, antecedent to negotiations, the withdrawal of Germany's forces and those of her allies from all territory outside the limits of their former dominions. "When the Germans assent and comply with these terms we can begin to discuss any further agreement leading to peace, but not till then."

WAR REFUGEES FROM RUMANIA ADDING TO RUSSIA'S BURDENS

Thousands Rendered Homeless by Invasion, Cross Border.

CANNOT HANDLE ALL

Despite All Efforts, the Ranks Have Been Thinned by Disease and Cold.

Petrograd, Dec. 20.—Via London.—The passage across the Russian frontier of thousands of Rumanians, who have abandoned their homes and property in the face of the invading Germans and Bulgarians, has created a serious problem on the Russian Empire. The refugees have been pouring into Odessa, Kiev and other Southern Russian cities in a desperate and helpless condition, and throughout the interior they threaten to be more difficult than any which has confronted a belligerent power since the invasion of Belgium.

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE DEPENDS ON DOMINIONS

Empire-Wide Gathering, Announced by Premier, Up to Colonies.

London, Dec. 20.—At a meeting of the Empire Parliamentary Association today, Walter Hume Long, secretary of state for the colonies, said that the time of holding the imperial conference mentioned by Premier Lloyd George in his speech yesterday depended on the overseas dominions. Their premiers, he added, were engaged in work of great importance and it was important as that of those in the home Government.

HOTEL FOOD CONTROL BRANDED AS FAULTY

Succession of Meals or of Course Rendering It Useless.

London, Dec. 20.—According to some of the newspapers, two days' experience of the first food control measure, which regulates the number and nature of the courses served in hotels and restaurants, has been sufficient to prove it futile. They say that not only has it failed to check consumption but that, in many instances, it has increased it. It is claimed that there is no supervision and that many customers, finding that they can indulge in several servings of the same dish without having more than one course counted against them, have availed themselves freely of this loophole. Moreover there is nothing to prevent anyone from taking a succession of meals in different places. The papers urge food tickets or a tax on hotels and restaurant bills, as in Paris.

MORE CANADIAN GOLD

New York, Dec. 20.—Gold to the amount of \$8,200,000, imported from Canada, was deposited in the assay office here today to the account of J. P. Morgan & Co.

SQUIRE RECOVERS.

Squire Chittich, who has been indisposed for the past two months with bronchitis, was at the court house today for the first time since his illness.

BRITAIN'S LABOR MOBILIZATION CONSIDERED MOST IMPORTANT OF LLOYD GEORGE PRONOUNCEMENTS

GLOOM SETTLES ON PEACE LOVERS(?) OF GERMAN WRITERS

British Pronouncement Seems To Rile Them.

INNOCENCE IS PARADED

Talk of Reparation Valueless, Declare Papers of Berlin.

Amsterdam, Dec. 20, via London, Dec. 20.—Commenting on Premier Lloyd George's speech, the Tagliche Rundschau of Berlin says:

"Reparation could be demanded by England only if Germany had declared war on England, if we were to blame for the war, if we had committed crimes against international law, and if we had been defeated."

The Lokal Anzeiger takes the view that Mr. Lloyd George's remarks about reparation are of no value, inasmuch as nothing has been said thus far about peace conditions. This newspaper continues:

"If Lloyd George means to postpone settling Europe's debts for peace until the time when the Entente is successful in conquering Germany's armies and those of her allies, then the whole of Europe, as well as Lloyd George, knows full well that this announcement means eternal war, unless it is in the power of the German command to bring it to an earlier termination than Lloyd George supposes."

The Tagblatt says it prefers to await the promised reply of the Entente, adding: "For the present it appears that the goal is very great beyond Lloyd George's standpoint and that described from the German side as the basis for peace."

VON BISSING REPEATS BELGIAN DEPORTATIONS

Answers Senators' Protest by Worn-out German Excuses.

Hayre, Dec. 20.—The reply of Gen. von Bissing, German governor-general in the occupied portion of Belgium, to the protests of Belgian senators and deputies now living in Brussels against the deportation of Belgians has been received by the Belgian Government. In it the German governor repeats the defence of his actions, so often given, saying that "a large part of the Belgian laborers have been deported because of the long and serious continuation of this situation 'began to be felt in evil effects,' that 'in collaboration with competent Belgian ministers, decrees against idleness were issued' and that 'the decrees were founded upon considerations of health and conform to the right, which, without doubt, is the right of conquered people to the army of occupation.'"

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Labor Leaders Dubious Over Success of Industrial Conscription If Voluntary System Fails

London, Dec. 20.—The British public had much to reflect on this morning. The reply of Premier Lloyd George to the German peace proposals had been anticipated, and passages of his speech dealing with that question appeared in the late editions of yesterday evening's newspapers. The domestic program of business is expected to carry him through. He will have a military director under him to conduct recruiting for the army and a civil director in charge of recruiting for industry.

Dealing with the relations of the war cabinet with the general government, Mr. Lloyd George suggested that the connection be maintained by circulation of representatives of the proceedings of the cabinet. As to parliament, he hinted that the French committee system might be adopted. Shipping and coal mines are to be put under the same kind of control as railways.

Irish Solution In Conference.

The fact that the premier passed straight from Ireland to the imperial conference suggests that he hopes to find a solution of the Irish question in this conference. It had been promised previously that Ireland would be one of the subjects of discussion at the next imperial conference, and as most of the dominions favor some form of home rule, it is believed this will be the best means of settling the long-disputed question.

The Government probably will require the whole eight weeks of the parliamentary recess to produce the measures aforesaid, which also include more drastic dealings with excess profits and an increase in food production by an extension of cultivation.

Task Seemingly Stupendous.

The task allotted to Neville Chamberlain, who has been appointed director-general of national service, of scheduling certain industries as indispensable to the war effort, is not a small one, they believe, will fall.

CHILDREN MAY NOT WEAR UNIFORMS OF KHAKI LIKE FATHER

Stern Order Issued by Military Headquarters.

WILL CAUSE HARDSHIPS

Many Have No Other Suit and Lots Have Been Bought For Christmas.

[Special To The Advertiser.] Ottawa, Dec. 20.—No longer may little Johnnie Canuck parade about in a diminutive reproduction of the uniform of his soldier daddy. The military headquarters have issued an order that children wearing uniforms which even resemble those of the military will be heavily fined or given terms in jail. The order is issued, it is said, especially in view of the Christmas season, when parents are dressing their children in khaki, and the military authorities are anxious to prevent the children of all ages in khaki soldier uniforms of all ranks.

The above order will mean that hundreds of London children will have to go back into "civvies," and there is a certain hardship attached to this, because many children who have been running around in uniforms have their own suit and no other. Scores of children were to have received a uniform like their dad's for Christmas gifts, according to the clothing stores, and the Government at Ottawa is striking a serious blow at the business of Santa Claus. At the same time, say the clothing stores, there is nothing like the demand this season there was in 1915.

"I won't take the little uniforms off my two boys, because if I did, they would have to go about without suits at all," said the wife of a soldier who is serving in London's Own. "I bought them uniforms because it pleased their daddy and pleased them. They will be absolutely disgraced if they are told they cannot wear their khaki any more. The Government is very late in telling us we shall not dress our children in the uniform. Surely they will not make us throw them away, because that would be a real hardship. I do not think many children whose fathers are not in khaki are wearing the suits."

MAY BAR LIQUOR ADS. FROM ONTARIO PAPERS

Provincial Government Expected to Introduce Legislation Along This Line.

[Special To The Advertiser.] Toronto, Dec. 20.—Considerable tightening of prohibition screws in Ontario is being planned, and it is the reply that might have been expected. The powers that recklessly made the war are not to set the hour of the present convenience. The peace for which the Allies have been fighting, are fighting, and purpose to continue to fight, if need be, is a lasting peace with guarantees for (Continued on Page 5, Column 5.)

BRAVE 38 BELOW COLD TO HEAR SIR ROBERT

Brandon Turns Out Despite Weather for Closing Meeting.

Brandon, Man., Dec. 20.—Notwithstanding the early hour of 9 o'clock, and a temperature of 38 below zero, Brandon turned out in force at the Arena this morning to hear Sir Robert Borden and R. B. Bennett, M.P., director-general of national service. It was the closing meeting on the prairies of a campaign across the continent undertaken in the cause of national service. Two trains from neighboring towns swelled the audience to away three thousand. The meeting was necessarily brief, as the party entrained at half-past 10 for Toronto. Premier Norris was present.

STEAMERS ARRIVED.

At. Steamer. From. Boston. Sardinian. Glasgow. Bordeaux. Espagne. New York.