

THE WEEKLY ONTARIO

AND BAY OF QUINTE CHRONICLE

ESTABLISHED 1841

ELLENVILLE, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1916.

MORTON & HERITY, Proprietors.

GERMANY'S PROPOSALS FOR PEACE PREPOSTEROUS AND RIDICULOUS

Britain is Opposed to Even Discussing the Peace Proposal—Cannot Be Accepted—No Definite Attitude Possible Until All Allies Consider the Question.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—A strong current of public sentiment opposed to the German peace proposal was evident in the first expressions available last night both from public men and the British press, although these were without knowledge of any definite terms and without any word from high authoritative sources indicating the attitude of the government.

The only information in the press reports was from Berlin, and in the absence of some tangible official proposition, British officials were disposed to maintain reserve. It was noticeable that the proposal had not created any profound impression among the average Londoners. There was little talk in the hotels or the public places, and this discussion was far less animated than in the recent ministerial crisis.

Government circles also held aloof from any discussion, with an evident desire to learn more of the details before committing the new administration to a definite course of action. The foreign office would make no comment in the absence of the terms, but indicated that the British attitude up to the present was embodied in the declarations made from time to time by the former premier and Viscount Grey, and that any new proposals would have to be considered by all the entente allies before a definite attitude was possible.

Those in close association with the new government took the view that the proposals would prove entirely unacceptable, mainly, because they were not likely to touch what the ruling authorities regarded as the most essential basis of any peace, namely, such guarantees against German militarism as would permit England, France and their allies to demobilize their vast armies, reduce their enormous military expenses and return to lasting conditions of peace.

HIS EXPERIENCE WITH REVOLVER

Lieut. Ted Yeomans Writes His Brother of Amusing Occurrences at the Front.

Sergt. Ted Yeomans writes to his brother, Master Asa, and gives some new and amusing experiences and impressions from the battlefield as follows:—

France 25th Nov. 1916.
Dear Asa,—I know it is a long time since I wrote to you but I know you were busy and I've had to write so many of you. I got both your letters and, as you write me scarcely more than I write you, you may be sure I felt like having a celebration when I received two in less than two weeks. You asked me a bunch of questions, so I'll start right in to answer them.

[I'll have to use both sides of this paper as they might raise a row if they found me using message forms but it's all I have.]

You asked me if I carry a revolver. Well, I am not forced to carry one, but can I like to buy my own. I did buy a Harrington and Richardson 32 calibre one time from a friend of mine for five francs (one dollar) but it was in a position where our forward station was in danger of being surrounded by Fritz and I felt safer when I was dressed like a cowboy. I only got two cartridges with it but I didn't care about that. I knew I was Dead Shot Dick, but still thought I might be able to raise a dent on some Fritz's coco with one of the shots.

Everybody tried to tease me into thinking it wouldn't puncture the skin unless I fired it at a range below fifteen yards, but I told them I might be able to stun a rat with one of the shots and tame him. I never got a chance, however, and when we moved out of that position, I got tired of carrying my "peg-shooter," as they called it, around with me, so one day I had a talk with a fellow about what a nice useful thing it is to have a 32 revolver with you at the front and convinced him so well that he said he wished he had one. So I told him how I had one that I didn't need at the time and finally sold it to him for seven francs (\$1.40) and told him I'd give him the two cartridges into the bargain. He wanted

to know if that was all the ammunition I had for it, so I told him that it was all he needed and that if he only shot them right he could wipe out the whole German army with all that many cartridges; and anyway it wasn't made much for shooting people with as for knocking them out with the butt. I don't know if he believed all that I told him, but I got rid of the gun which was the main thing and besides was the richer by two francs, so I should worry.

As for killing any Germans, as you ask, well, as a matter of fact, even the sharpshooters in the infantry can tell only once in a while they have killed their man or not. He shoots when he sees the top of a head above Fritz's parapet. He may have missed the fellow he shot, or he may have missed him entirely. He can only guess, for the fellow would naturally duck his head anyway, hit or no hit. As for me killing any, I don't think I have with a rifle, for I've only shot a few times since being out here, but if all the Germans who had been killed or wounded by the First Battery shells were to be counted and the result divided up among the men in the battery in proportion to the length of time each has been at the front, I guess I'd find that I was responsible for quite a number.

However, you mustn't think that the reason we are out here is to kill Germans. No sir! We're out here to win the war and there is a lot of difference between killing Germans and winning the war. If we should and when questioned by his Germans, there is nobody who would be more delighted than myself. You remember that poem in one of our first readers at school, "Somebody's Mother," which tells of an old woman standing at a crossing neglected by everybody around and waiting for a chance to cross through the rushing traffic to the other side of the street? At last a boy comes up and helps her across like a gentleman should and when questioned by his playmates as to his reason for helping the old lady said "She's somebody's Mother."

Well, whenever anybody is killed or wounded out here I say to myself, "He's Somebody's Son." Whether he's British, French or German, he has his loved ones at home who are watching and praying for his return. That is why I say we do not want to kill Germans but to win the war, and I think it is a shame that the greatest countries in the world can find no other way

of winning the war but to kill Germans.

Now your last question about how much kit do we carry and did I ever get my kit bag again after Ypres. We carry so much kit (all on our backs) that when I came out first I felt like dropping down on the roadside and staying there forever. However I have got used to it now and don't mind it. We carry first of all our gas helmets (of course, our greatcoats go on first) then a water-bottle, a haversack, a bandolier full of ammunition that we never use, and with us a telephone. Then on our saddles we carry a water-proof sheet, a nosebag full of oats and a hay-net full of hay, as well as our grooming kits. Our sleeping blankets go on the ammunition wagons. You can take it from me, a good like that gets heavy when you carry it for ten to twenty miles. But after a while you get so you don't mind it very much. As for the kit bag, I never saw it again after I left Poperinghe.

I am so glad you passed your entrance exams. Have they changed the history since I was there? It seems to me there will be an awful lot to learn after this war.

Well, I must close now. Don't forget that it is your turn to write now, so I'll look forward to receiving a good long letter.

With love to all from
Umpty, Iddy, Umpty-Iddy-Iddy.
(Ted.)

ASHLEY STOCK FARM HORSES AT GUELPH WINTER FAIR

Standard Breeds.
Stallions foaled in 1914 and after—
Jack Rayner, 1 year old, 3rd prize \$15; Winkle Boy, 1 year old, 4th prize \$10.00.

Mares foaled previous to Jan. 1914—
Phillywinkle, 2nd prize, \$15.00; Noble Lottie, 3rd prize, \$10.00.

Mares foaled on and after Jan. 1914—
Ella Bleeker, 1st, \$30.00; Clara Gay, 2nd, \$15.00; Winkle Girl, 3rd, \$5.00.

Three of the get of 1 sire, Merry Winkle, Lady McMartin, Cynthia McMartin, 1st \$30. (by McMartin.)
Clara Gay, Winkle Boy, Winkle Girl, 2nd, \$20. (by Alice).

Mare and two or her get—Noble Lottie, Ella Bleeker, Phillywinkle, 1st, \$30.00.

Emma Fraser, Jack Rayner, Cynthia McMartin, 2nd, \$20.
H. Ashley, Manager.

BROUGHT ACTION FOR DAMAGES

Mrs. Mason Alleges Violation of Contract in Sale of Property.

The opening case in County Court before His Honor Judge Deroche and jury yesterday afternoon was that of Mrs. Sarah Jane Mason who brought an action for damages against John Taugher, pump manufacturer of this city for alleged breach of contract. It appears that Mrs. Mason received some insurance money on the death of her husband who was killed in the Grand Trunk yards last summer and desired to purchase a property. Mr. Porter of the firm of Porter and Carnew, outlined on behalf of the plaintiff the case to the jury. He said Mrs. Mason entered into negotiations with Messrs. Whelan and Yeomans, real estate merchants and they pointed out to her the property of Mr. Taugher on Geddes street, which was listed at \$2,000. After some negotiations Mrs. Mason offered \$1500. Finally the agents were instructed to sell at that price. Mrs. Mason paid \$5 down as the first deposit and agreed to give the balance within 30 days. A contract to this effect was signed on August 24th. Mrs. Mason gave notice to her landlord that she would vacate the premises she was occupying on Sept. 22nd and on that day she had to move. But ten days before she learned that Mr. Taugher had sold the property for \$1625 to a Mr. Henderson. She had to rent a house and store her furniture and finally was able to secure another property by purchase. She sued for damages caused by the loss of a good bargain sale.

The jury retired at noon today and after less than an hour's deliberation brought in a verdict for \$250 for the plaintiff. The suit was for \$250.

The jury retired at noon today and after less than an hour's deliberation brought in a verdict for \$250 for the plaintiff. The suit was for \$250.

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ALLIES MAY PRESENT TO FOE STATEMENT OF PEACE TERMS

Acceptance or Rejection To Be left With Enemy—French Mock German Peace Proposal and Say Huns Find Situation Critical—Britain Will Test Peace Sentiment—Peace Note Was Drafted by Kaiser After Conference at Army Headquarters—Reichstag Was Kept in Dark—Sweden Believes Offer Will Not be Immediately Rejected—Russian Nobles Prepare Resolution on War For Presentation to Emperor.

RUSSIAN NOBLES TO PRESENT RESOLUTION.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 13.—The Russian nobles have elected a commission to formulate a resolution on the present situation in Russia for presentation to the Emperor.

WILL TEST PEACE SENTIMENT.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—According to the Telegraph the government in order to test peace sentiment has abandoned the proposed bill abrogating the rule making it unnecessary for the new ministers to seek re-election.

KAISER DRAFTED PEACE NOTE AFTER CONFERENCE.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—The Daily Telegraph's Rotterdam correspondent says the German peace note was drafted personally by the Kaiser after a conference at army headquarters with King Ludwig of Bavaria, Von Bethmann-Hollweg, the minister president of Bavaria, and foreign secretary Seimtmann.

The majority of the Reichstag deputies, he adds, were kept in the dark until the last moment.

FRENCH DERIDE PEACE OFFER; GERMANY WANTS WAY OUT.

PARIS, Dec. 13.—The German offer of peace is received with a chorus of derision in the French press. The newspapers are unanimous that it is an admission that the situation is getting critical in Germany and that the Chancellor wants a way out before it is too late.

SENSATION IN SCANDINAVIA BY PEACE OFFER.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 13.—Germany's peace proposals caused the greatest sensation in Scandinavia. The Dagens Nyheder, of the city says authoritative Swiss circles believe that the offer will not meet with immediate rejection by the Allies.

EDITOR OF ORILLIA PACKET DEAD.

ORILLIA, Dec. 13.—George Hale, widely known as editor of the Orillia Packet, died this morning.

ALLIES SHOULD STATE TERMS AND LET HUNS ACCEPT OR REJECT.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—The morning papers commenting on Germany's peace proposal take two main grounds that the offer should be rejected or that it should be met with a statement of the terms on which the Entente Allies are willing to effect a peace leaving it to the Central Powers to accept or reject it.

GERMANY'S PEACE PROPOSALS.

Restoration of Belgium; but with conditions which would practically leave it under German control and probably give over the port of Antwerp to Germany.

Restoration of the occupied portions of northern France; but with economic control, which would guarantee to Germany supplies of iron and other raw materials drawn from there.

Domination of Mesopotamia by Germany and Austria, to give them a path to the Persian Gulf and break England's gateway to India and Egypt.

An award to Bulgaria of all Serbia as far south as Nish, which would take from Serbia as much territory as she gained in the Balkan wars.

The return to Germany of all her African colonies, or the exchange for them of the French colonies.

Turkey's interests are not fully developed.

GERMANY DOES NOT EXPECT ACCEPTANCE OF OFFER.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—A Berlin cable says that if Germany's bid for peace is rejected it is certain the Central Empires will not take the initiative again to end the war. The despatch adds that the Berlin newspapers today are not sanguine that the offer will be accepted.

EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA IS EAGER FOR PEACE.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—The Morning Post's Budapest correspondent, under date of Dec. 4, quotes newspapers to show that Emperor Charles is signaling his accession to the throne with many acts of mercy. He cancelled the death sentence imposed on two Czech deputies and others who were charged with trying to reconcile Russia and Bohemia, only excepting Prof. T. G. Masaryk, an Austrian deputy, who is now in London. Many political offenders in Hungary have been or will be pardoned, but the sentences of those who were convicted of adhering to countries hostile to Austria-Hungary, including thousands of Serbians, Italians and Poles, will be carried out.

The correspondent further quotes the Hungarian newspapers as saying that Emperor Charles is eager for peace at the earliest possible moment. Leaders of the Independence party who are about to start a peace campaign in parliament, regard the emperor's reported utterances as a valuable asset.

"It may be said that the peaceful, and, in some respects, sentimental attitude of the emperor has created a very good impression in both countries of the monarchy," the correspondent concludes.

PEACE WAS OFFERED LATELY TO BELGIUM.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—The Daily Telegraph today prints prominently the following: "We have received information from an un-

impeachable source that the central powers recently offered peace to Belgium on the following terms: The Belgians are invited to insist upon immediate peace. In return for this their country will be restored to them, its independence guaranteed and financial assistance given for its economic rehabilitation.

"In the event of these terms being refused the intimation has been given Belgium that her very existence—her monuments, her public buildings and even her towns—is threatened."

RUMANIANS IN BUZEU VALLEY RESIST ENEMY.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—Positions in the Buzeu Valley are being held by the Russians and the Rumanians against the Teuton advance, according to the official communication on the war issued by Petrograd yesterday. In the Carpathians the Russians are continuing their slow advance down the passes leading into Transylvania.

The Rumanians fought successful actions on Sunday north of Thislau, on the Krikov river and west of Mizil. The Germans claim the fighting is progressing along the whole front, and that Urziceni and Mizil are in their possession. They assert that in the past three days they have taken 10,000 prisoners, as well as several cannon and quantities of field equipment.

WASHINGTON THINKS PROPOSAL WILL BREAK CHAINS BINDING U.S.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Germany's proposal for peace is regarded here as having broken the chains which for months have restrained the United States, as well as other neutrals, from making offers of mediation.

Now that one set of belligerents has signified its willingness to discuss peace terms—a condition often reiterated as necessary to any action by President Wilson, there are indications that when the United States, acting as the intermediary, transmits the German proposal, it may accompany its action by some steps, necessarily delicate, to throw the influence of the United States into the balance for at least a consideration, however preliminary, of the terms on which a lasting peace might be brought to the world.

Some ranking officials of the American government believe a league of nations, such as President Wilson has suggested, must be the outcome, and it could not be perfected without the participation of the United States.

CAN TORPEDO BOAT SUNK

(Special)

Ottawa, Dec. 13.—It is announced that the torpedo boat Grisle of the Canadian navy went down in a heavy sea off the Nova Scotia coast last night with her crew of six officers and fifty men. The Grisle was on her way to Bermuda when the disaster occurred.

She was commanded by Lieut. Walter Wingate of British Columbia, formerly of the Rainbow. The other officers were Lieut. Fry, Toronto; Sub-Lieut. Winslow, Vancouver; Artificer Wilkinson, residence unknown and wireless operators McClean of Newfoundland and Clement of Hamilton, Ont. The crew were mostly from British Columbia.

CHESAP MILK AT COBOURG

M. Fisher, of the Farmers' Dairy, Cobourg, is advertising thirty-two pint tickets for one dollar. This is exactly 6 1/2¢ per quart, while here we are obliged to pay nine cents. Why this big difference? One of our Councilors has taken the matter up and we understand will agitate for a municipal milk depot. There is no reason why our dealers should exact 9¢ per quart when milk of an equal standard can be sold in Cobourg at 6 1/2¢ per quart.—P. H. Hope Guide.

FULL MILITARY AND MASONIC HONORS

Military and Masonic honors were accorded the late Lieut. Bro. William Clark McGinnis of the Engineers, whose obsequies took place this afternoon. The order of the funeral cortege was the 254th Battalion band, Masonic Brethren, the firing party of the 25th Battalion, the hearse, bearers, officers and mourners.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service will be conducted at Foxboro Presbyterian Church next Sunday (Dec. 17) at 11 o'clock a.m. as a tribute to the memory of Pte. E. Lake and Pte. Bell.

COUNTY COURT

Before Judge Deroche this afternoon the suit was begun of Labarge vs. McCammon for damages. Porter and Carnew for plaintiff; A. B. Collins for defendant.

Mr. W. W. Anderson, reeve of Ameliasburg, is confined to his home. He is quite ill.

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