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WEATHER—RAIN

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## HUNS TAKE ROUMANIA'S COMMERCIAL CENTRE; LLOYD-GEORGE AT WAR COUNCIL AT ROME; U. S. CANNOT KEEP OUT OF WAR, SAYS LEWIS?

### CITY OF BRAILA IN HANDS OF TEUTONS

Best Commercial Centre Evacuated by Russians and Roumanians After Defending it Long Enough to Enable Them to Withdraw Their Immense Stores of Food and Other War Supplies.

ACTUALLY ALL OF MAJESTIC RIVER DANUBE IN HANDS OF FIELD MARSHAL VON MACKENSEN DOBRUDJA ABANDONED—BRITISH DRIVE OFF HOSTILE RAIDING PARTY SOUTH OF LOOS IN HEAVY FIGHTING—FRENCH REPULSE GERMAN IN VERDUN REGION.

The Roumanian province of the Dobrudja now is in the hands of the Central Powers, whose armies continue to advance through Great Wallachia into Moldavia. Braila, an important commercial city in Great Wallachia and on the west bank of the Danube, below Galatz, has been captured by the German and Bulgarian troops. Several villages on the outskirts of Braila also have been occupied, and Field Marshal Von Mackensen's troops have taken 1,400 prisoners in their latest success.

Virtually all of the River Danube, from its source to its mouth, is now in the hands of the Teuton forces who control all of the eastern bank and all but a few miles of the eastern bank. Galatz, twelve miles north of Braila, is the only important Roumanian town on the Danube left in Roumanian hands.

Clearing of Dobrudja. The clearing of the Dobrudja by the combined Bulgarian, Turkish and German forces, it is reported officially from Berlin, leaves a larger part of those forces ready for other employment, and closes the Dobrudja pathway to Constantinople to Russia. Advancing through the mountains in western Moldavia, Austro-German troops have gained additional ground and have captured several hundred prisoners. Between Rimnik Sarat and Fokshani Von Mackensen's men continue to progress and have occupied the towns of Sibotza and Rotesi.

The Russians and Roumanians, Petrograd announces, repulsed attacks at some points on the Moldavian front, and near Toposchik and Norucha the Austro-Germans gained ground. Austro-German troops have taken an island in the Dvina river, south of Dvinsk, from the Russians. Attacks by the Russians, Berlin states, in attempts to regain the island, were repulsed with heavy losses. Elsewhere on the eastern front there have been patrol engagements.

French Front. Small raids and isolated attacks have taken place at various points on the western front. Near Loos, Berlin announces, the Germans carried out a raid successfully. London states that the raiders were driven out after heavy fighting. A German attack against a small French position near Hill 304, east of the Meuse in the Verdun region, was repulsed. Elsewhere there has been artillery activity and trench bombardments. Both Paris and London report considerable aerial activity on the front in France.

Premiers Lloyd George of Great Britain, and Briand of France, have arrived in Rome for a conference with the Italian ministry on the general situation. They were accompanied by other members of the British and French war councils. A representative of the Russian general staff is also expected to take part in the consultations.

City of Braila. Berlin, Jan. 5, via Sayville—Braila, Roumanian's chief commercial city, has been captured by the Germans and Bulgarians, according to the official announcement made this evening. The announcement says: "It is reported that in Great Wallachia the main commercial city of the Roumanians, Braila, has been captured by German and Bulgarian troops. "Dobrudja has been entirely cleared of the enemy."

Braila had a population of 50,000 in normal times. It is situated in Great Wallachia, Roumanian, on the left bank of the Danube, which divides itself at Braila into a number of arms, one of them forming the harbor of the city, which is the chief commercial point in the kingdom of King Ferdinand. The export of grain and the sturgeon fisheries were among the principal industries in Braila. The stubborn defense made by the Russians and

### PREMIER LLOYD-GEORGE AT MOMENTOUS WAR COUNCIL

Meeting at Rome in Which Britain's Premier, Prime Minister of France, Gen. Palitzin of Russia and Other Entente Officials Represented.

London, Jan. 5—Premier Lloyd George and Viscount Milner, a member of the British war council, with their official advisers, have arrived in Rome, says an official statement issued tonight, to participate with the French and Italian governments in an exchange of views upon the general situation.

What Berlin Says. Berlin, via Sayville, Jan. 5—The Overseas News Agency says today, with regard to the visit of Premier Lloyd George and Viscount Milner to Rome:

"The Berliner Tageblatt points out that a great war council has been assembled in Rome, probably in order to obtain the necessary Italian co-operation in the Balkans, as otherwise the French General Sarraill's army would be irretrievably lost. This council, the newspaper adds, at least clearly demonstrates the critical situation of the Entente Powers in the Balkans."

French Represented. Paris, Jan. 5—A despatch to the

Havas Agency from Rome says: "Premier Briand, Minister of War Lyant, and M. Thomas, minister of national manufactures, including munitions, representing the French cabinet; Premier Lloyd George and Viscount Milner of the British cabinet, and General Palitzin, representing the Russian staff, are expected to arrive in Rome today for a war council with the Italian officials."

"The coming of the British and French cabinet ministers is creating a most favorable opinion in the newspapers, which regard the forthcoming conference as a sign of a closer union of the Allies and as marking the beginning of more vast and formidable efforts."

"The Corriere D'Italia says the meeting will have significance that will not escape Berlin and Vienna, as it will be demonstrated that the Entente, instead of being weakened by the threats of peace, is resolved firmly to continue the war until the objects of the Allies are attained."

Washington, Jan. 5—Approval of President Wilson's request for a statement of peace terms from the European belligerents was voted tonight by the senate at the conclusion of three days of stirring debate. Action came with dramatic suddenness when Democratic leaders decided to accept a form of resolution that would not commit the senate to endorsement of the whole of the president's note, and ten representatives of the Progressive Republican group joined the majority in making the vote 48 to 17.

Discussion of the subject had reached a climax during the day with a sensational declaration by Senator Lewis, (Dem., Illinois), chief spokesman for the Democrats, replying to Republican criticism of the president's course.

Cannot Keep Out of War? Without referring directly to the submarine controversy, the senator said the United States could not keep out of the war, if it continued, and that America would not again accept misconception of orders or real of any officer as an excuse for an injury to a citizen or property.

The resolution adopted was proposed by Senator Jones, (Repub., Wash. State), and was accepted by Senator Hitchcock, (Dem., Nebraska), as a substitute for his own. "That the senate approves and strongly endorses the request by the president, in the diplomatic note of December 18 to the nations now engaged in war, that those nations state the terms upon which peace might be discussed."

Senator Lewis. "Let me say, on my own authority," said Senator Lewis in his remarkable speech, "that I agree with the sentiment expressed from any quarter, and also referring to Secretary Lansing's first explanation of the president's note to the powers) that this war cannot continue without America being involved in the conflict."

"Do you feel that the people of this nation are in such temper that they can ever again allow any commander of ships, any captain or army, any officer of diplomacy to visit upon this country an injury to a citizen or property and escape on an excuse of misconception of orders or zeal of an officer?"

"If these conditions again be repeated America will not again accept that form of apology, and will resent and punish to the full extent of her power. No amount of logic or pacification would prevail."

"I say continuance of the war means war with the United States, and in this I have never a doubt of the comprehension of the United States and faith in the sagacious foresight of the officials of the administration in the effort looking to bring about peace with Europe that we might maintain peace in America."

Canada is consecrated." Hon. J. D. Hazen gave a brief review of the part which Canada had already played in the supplying of men, money and munitions. Canada's destiny was being fought out in the North Sea and in Europe and she must take a larger and larger share in the struggle.

Chihuahua City, Mexico, Jan. 5—Villa was defeated at Jimenez yesterday by General Francisco Murguia, with a loss of 1,500 rebel dead, wounded and captured. The rebel leader, Martin Lopez, and another Villa general are among the slain.

PENOBSCQUIS TO HAVE WEDDING ON JANUARY 10. Mr. and Mrs. Elkanah Hall, Penobscquis, announce the engagement of their daughter, Gertrude Macwood, to Harry Clement Alton. The wedding is to take place on January 10 at the bride's home.

### U. S. SENATE BACKS UP REQUEST OF WILSON

President Asked That Statement of Peace Terms be Made by European Belligerents — Vote Came With Dramatic Suddenness.

UNITED STATES COULD NOT KEEP OUT OF WAR IF IT CONTINUED WAS REMARKABLE STATEMENT MADE BY SENATOR JAMES HAMILTON LEWIS OF ILLINOIS, IN DRAMATIC ADDRESS BEFORE SENATE — SENATOR GALLINGER (A NATIVE OF CANADA) IN PEACE RESOLUTION OUTVOTED.

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### ANOTHER PEACE NOTE FROM THE TEUTONS?

President Wilson Denies He Will Send Second Note — Entente Reply Expected on Monday.

Paris, Jan. 5—The Central Powers are reported by the Louzanne Gazette to be preparing a second note to the Entente, demanding the precise conditions of peace, says a Geneva despatch of the Temps.

No U. S. Note. Washington, Jan. 5—The state department late today authorized the statement that President Wilson was not contemplating sending another peace note.

The following statement was given out: "The report that the president is preparing to send a new note to the belligerent powers is false, and without any foundation."

"The president has no second note in contemplation."

Awaiting Reply. London, Jan. 5—The British government still is awaiting advice from the French government concerning the publication of the Entente reply to President Wilson's peace note, the Associated Press learned at the foreign office today. It is now believed the reply will not be made public before Monday.

More Generalization. London, Jan. 5—The peace terms of the Teutonic allies which Count Jassandry, former Hungarian premier, is reported to have said the Entente could learn from President Wilson, are believed, in diplomatic quarters, to consist of generalizations which Germany and Austria-Hungary communicated to the American authorities. The Pope expressed to the German and Austrian-Hungarian emperors his hopes that the terms would be "moderate and acceptable." The emperors responded that it was their purpose to formulate "moderate" terms.

Reports that the reply of the Entente to President Wilson's peace note would contain a statement of terms are now known to refer to a similar general statement of conditions which, while somewhat more specific than the generalizations in the speech of Premier Lloyd George and in the Entente's reply to Germany, does not mention specifically by name the countries on behalf of which damages and restitution of territory are to be asked.

The city of Nante has been damaged extensively by fire. The island of Formosa lies between the Philippine Islands and Japan, and is owned by Japan. The city of Nante is situated in the central part of the island, about 100 miles south of Tathoku.

Felt in Canada. North Bay, Ont., Jan. 5.—At 10.20 o'clock last night a slight earthquake was felt here. In some homes crockery and utensils were upset.

Died From a Fall. Marcelle Barrius, a checker employed by C. P. R., who fell unconscious on the wharf yesterday at West St. John, and was removed to General Public Hospital passed away at the institution last night at 12 o'clock.

### WILSON'S SECRETARY DENIES STOCK MARKET CHARGES

"Where was the Leak?" is Question Washington is Endeavoring to Ascertain—Otto Kahn of Big German Wall St. Firm Also Denies Knowledge of Wilson's Peace Note Leakage.

Washington, Jan. 5—Smouldering rumors that somebody made money in the stock market with "leak" information about the sending of President Wilson's peace note biased up at a sensational session of the house rules committee today at its first hearing on Representative Wood's resolution for an investigation.

Specifically declaring he made charges against no one, and was presenting only information that had come to him, Wood brought in the names of Secretary Tumulty, "a Mr. Bolling," a brother of President Wilson's wife whom he did not further

identify; Bernard Baruch, a New York stock operator; Otto H. Kuhn of Kuhn, Loeb & Company, and others. When Secretary Tumulty learned that Representative Wood had mentioned his name he issued a formal statement, demanding a public apology and denying flatly that he even knew of the President's peace note before it was made public.

Kahn Denies Story. New York, Jan. 5.—Otto H. Kahn of Kuhn, Loeb & Company, and representative of the others mentioned by Representative Wood in his testimony, have come out with formal denials of his allegations so far as these refer to them.

Hazen and Bennett Tell Pointed Truths at Halifax. Halifax, Jan. 5.—"The success of this movement rests with you and me and you, and you," said the repetition of "you," Mr. R. B. Bennett, M. P., director-general of National Service, pointed hither and thither at those in front of him and in a direct, personal and vivid appeal sounded the call to National Service to an audience of nearly sixteen hundred at the Academy of Music tonight.

"That's right, clap your hands and forget all about it tomorrow morning—you think it only applies to your neighbor," he shot back as the audience applauded.

Speaking rapidly at times, often emphatically, and always with telling force, Mr. Bennett held the undivided attention of his audience for close to an hour and a half.

Must Win War. "Let the people of Nova Scotia know what is necessary to be done to mobilize the resources of the country so as to win the war and I am confident they will do it," declared the Hon. Geo. H. Murray, premier of Nova Scotia.

The first thing to be done, said Mr. Bennett, was to fill out the National Service cards. National Service did not necessarily mean military service. "System, science and method—that is National Service. The problem is to fit the right man in the right place,

### CONFERENCE OF PREMIERS TO MEET JAN. 10

Important Meeting of Provincial Heads at Ottawa to Consider Returned Soldiers Problem.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Dec. 5.—A conference of the premiers of the provinces of the Dominion has been called for Jan. 10 at Ottawa. Replies have been received from the pre premiers of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Manitoba that they will be present, and the others are expected also to be here.

The conference has been called to discuss the question of the returned soldiers. The British government has asked the Canadian government what its views on this matter are and Sir Robert Borden came to the conclusion that the provinces should be consulted.

The federal authorities will take the opportunity of the conference to discuss land settlement for soldiers.

THREE HUNDRED LOST LIVES IN QUAKE. Tokio, Jan. 6.—Three hundred persons have been killed and many injured in a disastrous earthquake in Central Formosa, according to special despatches from Tathoku, the capital of Formosa. It is estimated that one thousand houses have been destroyed.