

Germany Rejects Russ Peace Offer
Four French Canadian Ministers to Come Into Cabinet
German People Clamorously Anxiously For Peace

DEBACLE OF RUSS ARMY HINDRANCE

Prevented Allies From Realizing Hopes Formed at the Beginning of Year

SAYS LLOYD GEORGE

Decisive Defeat Should Have Been Meted to Foe By Now

By Courier Leased Wire

London, Dec. 21.—Although allied hopes had not been realized because of the Russian collapse, Premier Lloyd George told the House of Commons yesterday that the Germans had not been able to quite hold their own in the west. He declared that it was "idle to pretend" that the hopes formed at the beginning of the year in regard to the military situation had been realized. At the beginning of the year the Russian army was better equipped than at any period of the war and its collapse was not due to unskillful leadership or lack of valor on the part of the Anglo-French and Italian armies in pressing the Germans "we should have been able to bring such pressure on the Prussian army as to inflict a decisive defeat upon them."

On the western front the Germans had been beaten in many battles. The Premier declared they had lost 100,000 prisoners, valuable ground and hundreds of guns. While the campaign in France had not realized the expectations formed, there had been military successes which he ventured to say would have a permanent effect on the future of the world. The Premier said he referred to the capture of Baghdad and Jerusalem as being something which "these two great events added more to the prestige of Great Britain throughout the world than any event in the whole course of the war."

The destruction of German submarines, he said, had gone up steadily during the year. This was remarkable and encouraging, because it showed how admirably the shipping controller really was grappling with the most menacing situation with which Great Britain is confronted in this war.

The effect of government control of shipping, the Premier continued, was that, although the aggregate tonnage was down by something like 20 per cent, Great Britain had lost only six per cent of her imports. This was only six per cent less than last year in tonnage. Had it not been for the skillful way in which shipping had been handled, it would have been impossible for Great Britain to carry through this year, and to help the Allies to the extent she had.

The Premier expressed hope that it would not be necessary for the government to control establishments dealing with the distribution of necessities, but they had the power to do so and would exercise it if food was not distributed fairly.

Other articles are published as follows: "Article II.—In no event as a consequence of any measure undertaken by mutual consent by Russia and Japan on the basis of the foregoing article shall either party, as foreseen by article 1, should declare war against Russia or Japan, the other contracting party shall on its first demand for assistance unless it itself not to make peace with the common enemy without obtaining the agreement of its ally."

"Article III.—The conditions on which either party shall give armed assistance and the means on which assistance shall be expected, shall be fixed by the respective authorities of the contracting parties."

"Article IV.—It must especially be kept in mind that neither party shall consider itself obligated in accordance with Article II, to give its ally armed assistance unless it receives guarantees from its ally to the effect that they will give it assistance to the extent necessitated by the seriousness of the possible conflict."

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VOTE IS AGAINST CONSCRIPTION IN AUSTRALIA

Military Service There Defeated Unless Soldier Vote Turns Scale

By Courier Leased Wire

Sydney, Australia, Thursday, Dec. 20.—Unless the soldier vote on the various fronts, which has not yet been counted, offsets the vote in Australia, the government's conscription scheme has been defeated in a referendum by a majority of about 150,000. This is believed to be hardly likely, however, on account of the heavy vote against conscription in New South Wales, which gave a majority of 115,000 against the proposal. Those favorable to conscription were surprised by the result in Victoria, which reversed last year's favorable vote by giving a majority of 1,500 against conscription this year.

SECRET RUSSO JAPAN TREATY

Bolshevik Journal Charges An Alliance to Control China

By Courier Leased Wire

Petrograd, Thursday, Dec. 20.—Under the heading, "Secret treaty between Japan and Russia for joint anti-Bolshevik demonstration against America and Great Britain in the Far East," the Izvestia published what it says is the text of the secret treaty drawn up last year providing for joint action by Russia and Japan to prevent any third country from achieving political dominance in China. The treaty, dated July 3, 1916, runs for five years, automatically extending itself until a year after one party expresses the desire to annul it. It is signed by Sergius Seazonoff, then Russian Foreign Minister, and Viscount Motono, Japanese Foreign Minister.

The treaty stipulates that the agreement shall remain a deep secret for an except for the contracting parties.

It opens with the statement that it is designed to supplement and strengthen the secret treaties of 1917, 1919 and 1912. Article one is given as follows: "The contracting parties recognize that the interests of either side depend on the maintenance of an equilibrium of power in China from whatever source hostile intentions toward Russia and Japan and therefore undertake whenever circumstances necessitate to enter into open relations based on full confidence in order jointly to take the necessary steps to prevent the advent in China of such a state of affairs."

Other articles are published as follows: "Article II.—In no event as a consequence of any measure undertaken by mutual consent by Russia and Japan on the basis of the foregoing article shall either party, as foreseen by article 1, should declare war against Russia or Japan, the other contracting party shall on its first demand for assistance unless it itself not to make peace with the common enemy without obtaining the agreement of its ally."

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REPRESENT THE FRENCH IN CABINET

Four Ministers to be Chosen From Quebec, is Word Ottawa Hears

TWO OF EACH PARTY

Appointments Will Not Be Made Until Soldiers' Vote is Known

By Courier Leased Wire

Ottawa, Dec. 21.—According to the Morning Citizen, French representation in the cabinet, when provided for, will include two Unionists and two Liberals, the appointments not to be made, however, until after the soldiers' vote has been counted and the final result of the election known. The Citizen quotes Hon. A. K. MacLean, who has arrived from Halifax, as stating that the final result in Nova Scotia will be twelve to four in favor of the government.

Germany Rejects Russ Peace Terms

Government Bureau Opened in Berlin to Study Peace Question--Populace Cheered Kuehlmann on Departure For Russian Front, and Called For a Strong Peace--Socialists Approve Action

By Courier Leased Wire

London, Dec. 21.—It is reported unofficially that the Germans have rejected the Russian peace terms, the Petrograd correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company wires under date of Thursday.

Peace Bureau

Amsterdam, Dec. 21.—A German government bureau for "studying questions relating to peace," has been opened in Berlin. Dr. Karl Helfferich, former vice chancellor, is at the head of the bureau, with privy councillor Albert, former commissioner to the Panama-Pacific Exposition, as his assistant.

Amsterdam, Dec. 21.—Oint von Hertling, the imperial German chancellor, yesterday received representatives of all the peace-loving parties, with whom he had a confidential discussion on the situation caused by the opening of peace negotiations with Russia. The chancellor announced, according to a Berlin official despatch, that the emperor had authorized him to include peace, and he had charged Foreign Secretary von Kuehlmann to conduct the negotiations. The government's plans for future negotiations were reviewed by the chancellor, and all the deputies are said to have approved the guiding lines laid down.

According to the newspapers the Independent Socialists were represented at the meeting by Deputy Haase. This is the first time since the foundation of the party that it has had direct intercourse with the German government.

German people cheered for peace. Bulgarian delegates include Minister of Justice Popoff and M. Kosseloff and Lenin. While the peace delegates are assembling, the activity at Petrograd of a number of German and Austrian officers apparently is causing heart burnings. Circulars have been spread alleging that the Council of Soldiers' and Workmen's delegates is in negotiations with the officers. The Pravda, the Bolshevik organ, prints an unqualified denial, and makes a counter charge against the Constitutional Democrats, claiming that they are trying to undermine Trotsky and Lenin.

The Pravda further appeals to the workmen to defeat the attempt of the Constitutional Democrats to place Russia under the control of German imperialism. The Bolsheviks also accuse the Constitutional Democrats of being responsible for the looting of wine shops, which caused serious riots in Petrograd, and claim the documentary evidence, which they threaten to publish later.

Opposition to the Bolsheviks apparently is increasing, as reports of German support of the Maximalist Government become more pronounced, and the situation in Russia grows more chaotic, while the Bolsheviks endeavor to arrange a separate peace with the Central Powers. The Ukraine in its hostility to the Bolshevik Government has been joined by the Russian staff on the southwestern front, and General Stecherbacheff, the commander-in-chief in Rumania, has been appointed head of the Ukrainians, reported to be marching against the Bolsheviks. Another report reaching London, says that the Rumanians while other despatches declare that the former Premier Kerensky is marching against Moscow and that Grand Duke Nicholas is raising a royal army in the Caucasus.

German and Austrian officers released from Russian prisons are reported to have led the Bolsheviks in overpowering their opponents in Tashkent, the capital of Russian Turkestan, while other released enemy prisoners, said to be two army corps are near Petrograd. Officers of the Central Powers are said to be active in Petrograd, although this is denied by the Bolsheviks, who claim that the Constitutional Democrats are trying to put Russia under German control.

Meanwhile diplomats of the Central Powers are hurrying to begin peace negotiations with the Bolsheviks. On leaving Berlin the German emissaries were urged by the populace to make "a strong peace."

Premier Lloyd George, of Great Britain, simultaneously with the

PLACE BAN ON CHEAP BREAD

Grocers of City Will Not Patronize Cut Rate Product

DECLINE TO SELL IT

Agree to Stand by Local Bakers in Enforcing Fair Prices

While there will be no concerted boycott, the grocers of the city have decided to individually discontinue the sale of the bread manufactured in other cities, and hence the resolve to cease the sale of the product, temporarily, cheaper.

The grocers in issuing this ultimatum in the bread war that is being waged are following the lead of the City Council, when the city fathers on Monday night took the preliminary steps toward informing the Food Controller of the situation here and asking him to intervene.

By Courier Leased Wire

Berlin, via London, Dec. 21.—Increased mine firing and artillery activity on the western front was noted in the official communication from general headquarters yesterday.

Aviation Statement

London, Dec. 21.—The British war office today issued the following statement on aviation activities in France: "Three hostile machines were brought down in air fighting Wednesday and two others were driven down out of control. One of our machines is missing."

Disastrous Smash in Kentucky When Passenger Trains Crashed

By Courier Leased Wire

Shepherdsville, Ky., Dec. 21.—The death toll taken last night when the Louisville and Nashville passenger train No. 7, from Cincinnati to New Orleans crashed into the rear end of a Louisville-Bardonia and Springfield accommodation train a few hundred feet south of the railroad station, reached forty six today.

The number killed was at first placed at 38. Revision of this figure came by additional deaths from among those badly injured, increased the total to forty six.

The wreck, which is said to be the worst in the history of the Louisville and Nashville, occurred just after the local train had pulled out from the station here. It had only gone a short distance when the other train came into sight travelling at a high rate of speed. Before it could be halted it had crashed into the slower moving train ahead, and made kindling wood of the two wooden passenger coaches it carried.

Locomotive pulling the fast train was badly damaged by the impact, but the engineer and fireman escaped with a few bruises. The heavy steel coaches it pulled were uninjured with the exception of one baggage car and the train was able to proceed when a second locomotive had been secured from Louisville and the wreckage of the local train cleared from the right of way.

Blame for the disaster seems to hinge upon whether the fast train had been given a clear block or not. Jesse Yeatherford, operator at the station, said immediately after the collision, that after the local train pulled away from the station he had turned his board to show the track clear for the fast train and then left his post in response to orders to help unload baggage.

As he left the office he said he saw the train approaching, rushed back to his office, set the red danger signal, picked up a red lantern and rushed to the platform to flag it. He reached the platform just as the train passed him, he said.

Superintendent Cheridan closely questioned the crews of both trains as well as the station force, but declined to attempt to fix the blame, without further investigation.

Immediately after the crash, passengers from the New Orleans train and Shepherdsville citizens, rushed to the aid of those imprisoned beneath the wreckage of the local.

Several of those killed, were so badly disfigured that it was impossible to identify them last night. Two children were found in snowy drifts near which they had been thrown and were cared for last night by Shepherdsville citizens. One, a girl of about 11 years, was apparently unhurt, but had suffered such a violent shock as to lose her memory at least temporarily. The other child, a little girl about four years old, was asleep when picked up from the snow drift into which she had been pitched by the impact of the collision. Her rescuers decided not to awaken her after it was found she was unhurt, and the child slept the night through.

Many of the injured were so badly hurt that it is feared the death toll will be increased even further.

INCREASED GUNNERY ON WEST FRONT

German Official Statement Notes Recurrent Mine Firing

ARTILLERY ACTIVE

Five Enemy Machines Were Brought Down By the British Airmen

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CONSCRIPTION MAY BE ENFORCED EVEN IF DEFEATED

Parliament of Australia Will Act, Says Premier—Maj. Against 552,000

By Courier Leased Wire

London, Dec. 21.—(via Reuter's Ottawa agency)—A dispatch from Melbourne declares that Premier Hughes, in an address at a recent meeting in favor of conscription, stated that if the measure were defeated at the polls, parliament, he believed, would make the men of Australia do their duty.

Majority Against

Melbourne, Australia, Dec. 21.—(via Reuter's Ottawa Agency)—Partial returns of the referendum give 252,000 majority against conscription out of 638,000, which is a quarter of the total electorate. The returns are chiefly from anti-conscription strongholds, and the soldiers' vote is not included.

FORTY SIX LOST LIVES IN WRECK

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Get your overalls ahead. \$1.99 instead of \$1.75, at Lazarus' Clearance Sale. Arranged to be sold at 10% off.

ROUMANIA FAITHFUL TO ALLIES

Armistice Was Imposed Upon the Country by Russia, Says Minister

STILL WITH ENTENTE

Roumanian Front Entirely Enclosed Within Russ Battle Line

OPPOSE BOLSHIEVIKI

Roumanians on Southwest Front Join Ukrainian Revolt

By Courier Leased Wire

Paris, Dec. 21.—V. Antonesco, the Roumanian minister here, has issued the following statement concerning the situation on the Roumanian front: "The armistice was simply a measure of military order imposed on us through the Roumanian front being entirely enclosed within the Russian front. It would be a mistake to make a political deduction from it. Roumania intends to remain faithful to her allies and to work until the end with the Allies."

Join Ukrainians

London, Dec. 21.—The Roumanians on the southwestern Russian front have joined the Ukrainians and Lieut. General D. G. Schebacheff, commander of the Russian forces in Roumania, has been appointed commander-in-chief of the whole Ukrainian front, according to a report received in Petrograd and transmitted by the Exchange Telegraph Company. The Bolsheviks and Ukrainian troops are reported to be advancing on each other, being three verstas apart.

A Petrograd despatch to the Daily News says that the staff of the Russian army on the Roumanian front has joined the Ukrainians, which report is declared to be more probable than that the Roumanians have taken such action. The Daily News reports confirms the appointment of General Schebacheff as the Roumanian commander.

Bolshevik Victory?

London, Dec. 21.—A Bolshevik force, commanded by a Russian man and Austrian officer prisoners, has defeated the anti-Bolsheviks at Tashkent, capital of Russian Turkestan, according to a Petrograd despatch to the Morning Post. The despatch also says that it is believed a force of released enemy prisoners equivalent to two army corps commanded by their own officers is now within striking distance of Petrograd.

Consuls Visit Trotsky

Petrograd, Thursday, Dec. 20.—The British, Danish, French and Belgian consuls have visited Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik foreign minister and arranged to exchange with Russia courtesies to official couriers.

Russo-Jap Treaty?

London, Dec. 21.—The Pravda, the Bolshevik organ, according to a Petrograd despatch to The Times, prints the text of a secret treaty between Russia and Japan, signed in July, 1916, agreeing to co-operate against the interference of any third power in the affairs of China.

Petrograd Unruly

Petrograd, Thursday, Dec. 20.—Incessant fighting has occurred in many parts of Petrograd in connection with the efforts to check drunkenness and prevent the raiding of wine cellars. A mob raided one distillery where fifteen soldiers drank themselves to death. Fifteen persons were killed and wounded when an armoured motor car attacked the distillery, which was set on fire. This fire department was prevented from extinguishing the blaze by rowdies and many persons were burned before the situation was brought under control.

The streets are running with wine in many sections where the soldiers are pumping wine out of the cellars to prevent disorder.

Get your overalls ahead. \$1.99 instead of \$1.75, at Lazarus' Clearance Sale. Arranged to be sold at 10% off.

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WEATHER BULLETIN
Toronto, Dec.
21.—The weather
has been cloudy
and mild with
light local rains
from the Great
Lakes eastward,
while in Northern
Ontario it has be-
come somewhat
colder. There has
been very little
change in the
western provinces.
Forecasts.
Fresh west to
northwest winds,
colder to-night
with local snow
flurries. Saturday
fair and moderately cold.

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SIMPLICITY.
Simplicity in advertising is often
the key to success. "Iron beds
that sold over 100 beds in a single
afternoon in a small city." "Will-
sons—that's all" became nationally
known and remembered. Why? Be-
cause the brief statement is grasped
in its entirety by the reader, and
stays with him, while the flowing
sentences flutter away and are lost
and forgotten like the summer
breezes.