

The Evening Times & Star

VOL. XV. No. 32

ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1918

TWELVE PAGES—ONE CENT

London Is Hopeful of Early Peace; German Delegation Meets Foch?

GERMAN DELEGATION BELIEVED TO HAVE SEEN FOCH THIS MORNING

Allied Commander Sends Word Telling Them How to Approach His Lines—London Paper says Enemy's Representatives Have Already Crossed to French Headquarters

It is rumored that the German representatives have accepted the Allies' armistice terms and that hostilities ceased at two p.m. today. The Associated Press has nothing on this rumor and the Canadian Press has had no word to this effect from Reuters.

FIGHTING MAY SOON BE OVER

London, Nov. 6.—Reports that German delegates have started from Berlin to meet Marshal Foch are considered here as an assurance that fighting will be over in a few days. This cause satisfaction everywhere, but there is no celebrating here, and London is as quiet and dark as it has been at any time during the past four years.

The last days of the war have been so crowded with enormous events that there is no capacity left for surprises or sensations. The terms of President Wilson's note to Germany, dealing with the freedom of the seas and compensation to the Allies, are endorsed by all newspapers here. It is believed that German leaders know from the terms of the American armistice the sort of peace they had to expect and that they military and political situations give her no alternative but to bow.

News comes from the front that the hard pressed German armies have no fresh divisions left to throw into the battle. They have no great reserves of ammunition. The German people are demanding peace at any price to save whatever they may have from the wreckage. A few junker newspapers are still crying for war to the last ditch, but the Socialists seem to have turned the scales decisively in the other direction.

From a British viewpoint the greatest humiliation Germany will suffer will be in having her fleet surrendered or pass out of the war without one great fight. The death. But news from Kiel makes it doubtful whether the sailors would go into battle if the officers decided to fight.

Even the best informed men here are unable to arrive at a clear judgment of the situation. No authority was given for the many conflicting reports, as to the magnitude of the revolt against war among the German people, or how strong the people are in their opposition to the war. One fact is plain. There never was such freedom of speech in Germany as today.

Diplomats and soldiers are each trying to place the blame for their country's downfall on the other. placards have blossomed out in Berlin saying that the emperor and the crown prince must go. Correspondents are permitted to telegraph from Berlin that the vacillating character of the emperor is responsible for most of the nation's misfortunes.

Discussion here centres about the peace conference, where it will be held and what programme will be followed. One of its most urgent problems will be to arrange for food supplies for starving Europe. It is assumed that even the people of the central empires will be cared for, although the Allies cannot be expected to suffer great privations for the sake of their enemies. The repatriation of soldiers, prisoners and exiles, including 150,000 Belgians in Great Britain also are anxious to go home, are other great tasks before the conference.

According to tonight's reports the general election in Great Britain, which Andrew Bonar Law, chairman of the executive, is expected to announce tomorrow for December 7, will be postponed because the government cannot have the election and the peace conference on its hands at the same time. Doomed to Defeat.

Paris, Nov. 7.—News that a German white flag party had left for the front made a deep impression in France, where the prompt action of the German government took the people by surprise. The last lingering doubts as to Germany's sincerity in asking for the Allies terms for an armistice still held in certain quarters, seem to be removed. On the contrary, the impression now held is that Germany is really worse off than generally believed.

In the meantime, the Allied troops are giving the entrenched enemy no rest. Deserted by their last remaining ally, the weather—the rain fell in sheets yesterday—the retreat of the Germans verges perilously near a rout. British forces are within a few miles of Maubeuge, the fall of which is imminent. The French first army is concentrating at Hirsch. The enemy is falling back on the Meuse before the French fourth and fifth armies, which are driving in his rear guard and capturing many machine guns. The German white flag party may hear of the fall of the German emperor's former headquarters at Charleville and Mezieres before they reach Marshal Foch.

Near the Meuse the American army working in close touch with General Gouraud's forces, are demolishing bit by bit the half pillar of the German defence on the western front. The destruction of this German bastion would involve the whole enemy retreat in disaster. There is now no resting place for the German hosts this side of the Rhine. Indeed, it is not too much to say that the Germans are doomed to defeat without hope of recovery.

May Be Premature.

Montreal, Nov. 7.—The local newspapers here this afternoon announced by bulletin that Germany had quit. The city began celebrating, crowds collecting in the streets immediately, shouting and cheering.

Nothing Official.

Washington, Nov. 7.—Navy cable censors reported today that an unofficial message had come through from abroad announcing that the Germans had signed

THE GERMANS IN FULL RETREAT

Pursuit Continued Along the Entire Front Today

Ghent Abandoned

French, British and Americans Drive Forward—Part of Sedan is Burning—Many Prisoners and Much Booty

With the American Army on the Sedan Front, Nov. 7, 1.45 p. m.—(By the Associated Press.)—American troops today entered that part of Sedan which lies on the west bank of the Meuse. The bridge over the Meuse at Sedan over which the retreating enemy fled has been destroyed and the river valley flooded. The principal German lateral lines of communication between the fortress of Metz and northern France and Belgium are now either cut or unavailable for the enemy's use.

On the Battlefront in Belgium, Nov. 5.—(Night, By the Associated Press.)—A wireless despatch was received this afternoon at the headquarters of General Beauregard from the Germans saying they had decided to abandon Ghent and asking the Belgians not to fire on the suburbs of the town, where white flags were raised.

French Sweep Forward. With the French Armies in France, Nov. 6.—(By the Associated Press, 10 p. m.)—The French armies made another forward bound today from five to seven miles all along their front from out of Guise to their junction with the American forces west of the Meuse, pressing close upon the rear guards left by the Germans, who are in full retreat.

General Debeney's troops, tramping through mud and drenched by the continuous downpour of rain, captured Nouvion and Regnaval forests.

The booty taken this front indicates that the enemy's retreat has been more precipitate than that of yesterday. Prisoners captured say that the retreat will continue for a distance of fifteen or twenty miles further.

The march of General Gouraud's men toward the Meuse went on during the day with increasing speed. After working all night under heavy shell and machine gun fire in the construction of bridges for infantry and artillery over the Aisne and the Ardennes Canal they crossed the swollen stream in force and took up their advance this morning, throwing back the rear guards, taking Bethel, and advancing into the Rethel pocket for an estimated distance of six and a half miles and liberating twenty-four villages with the greater part of their inhabitants.

In some towns were found men of military age whom the Germans had recently brought back behind their lines.

The cavalry of the first army had this afternoon reached the road from Yverville to Avesnes. A considerable number of prisoners and immense booty fell into the hands of the French armies during the day.

Paris, Nov. 7.—Along the entire front the pursuit of the retreating German army was taken up again this morning, according to the war office announcement today. The French have thrown cavalry into the action on their right, where the mounted troops are pushing in the direction of the Meuse.

The French are moving forward east of the Forests of Nouvion and Regnaval, and north of the Serre and Aisne rivers. The statement follows: "The pursuit of the enemy was renewed this morning on the whole of the front. We are progressing east of the Forests of Nouvion and Regnaval, and north of the Serre and the Aisne. On the right French cavalry detachments are pushing in the direction of the Meuse."

London, Nov. 7.—British forces are continuing their progress along the Franco-Belgian battle line. Northwest of Valenciennes, according to Field Marshal Haig's report today, they have reached the outskirts of Quevrain and Crespe, close to the Belgian border.

With the Allied Forces in France and Belgium, Nov. 6.—(Reuters)—Normal

Battleships' Crews at Kiel Revolt; Threat to Blow Up the Whole German Fleet

Reported that Governor of Port Hastens to Grant All Demands, including Refusal to Salute Officers—Two Ships Seized by Mutineers and Captains Killed

London, Nov. 7.—The entire German navy and a great part of Schleswig is in the hands of the revolutionists, according to reports received in Copenhagen from Kiel, and transmitted by the Exchange Telegraph Company. The mutiny at Kiel, which has not only hoisted the red flag, but also has notified and hoisted the red flag. Officers attempting to defend the German flag were overpowered and two of them, including the commander, were killed. A number of others were wounded, according to the Cologne Gazette.

The soldiers council has decided that all officers must remain at their present posts, but must obey the council, which controls all food supplies. Machine guns are mounted in various parts of the city.

An Amsterdam despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company says that two battleships, the Kaiser and the Schleswig-Holstein, were seized by the mutineers and that twenty officers, including two captains were killed. It is reported that the garrison at Kiel refused to march to the harbor and that the sailors threatened to blow up the battleships if they were ordered to defend the ships and refuse to return to their duties until a truce of peace is signed. The authorities have ordered the port, having seized the mutineers what they wanted, has approved all their demands, including even their refusal to salute officers, it is said.

Revolt in Hamburg. Copenhagen, Nov. 7.—A revolt has broken out in Hamburg, according to a despatch from the correspondent of the Politiken, at Vambrug. Violent artillery firing was in progress in the streets of the city when the correspondent's informant was deported, the latter declared.

LATER. London, Nov. 7.—Kiel is governed by the mariners, soldiers and workers' council. All the workshops have been occupied by red troops. The street car line and railways are under the control of the workers' council. There have been no disturbances.

London, Nov. 7.—Strikes at the Imperial wharves at Cuxhaven and Wilhelmshaven are expected to occur today, the agency advised from Amsterdam. The strikers have demanded the release of the preventive arrest of sailors under suspension.

London, Nov. 7.—The military governor of Kiel, according to an Exchange Telegraph despatch from Copenhagen, has accepted the following demands of the workers and soldiers' council: The release of all military and political prisoners. Complete freedom of speaking and writing. Released prisoners must not be punished.

Officers who acknowledge and comply with the measures of the council shall be permitted to remain or to leave the service.

After a conference between Secretary of State Hausman and Deputy Nokes, and the workers' and soldiers' council, the following proclamation was issued: "Comrades: For the first time political power is in the hands of the soldiers. Great work lies before us."

"But in order that its realization can place the organization of our movement was necessary. We have formed a council of workers and soldiers and it will be responsible for the preservation of order."

The following points were passed by the council: 1. Secretary Hausman will take care that the demands of the soldiers' and workers' council shall be forwarded to the Reichstag. 2. The immediate cessation of all military measures directed against the movement of the council. 3. The navy has been ordered to leave the harbor. 4. Military prisoners to be released.

London, Nov. 7.—A strike of dock workers at Hamburg, involving ten thousand men, is reported by the Exchange Telegraph Company correspondent at Hamburg.

The Work Bureau of Berlin announces that work was stopped at Hamburg owing to a strike and that undisciplined acts and outrages have taken place. The news agency reports similar occurrences from Lubeck.

Amsterdam, Nov. 6.—German Social Democrats have notified the government that their representatives will resign their ministerial posts if the war is not brought to an immediate end.

HON. J. A. MURRAY'S NAME WAS ON ONE OF NOTES

Rev. Mr. Daggett Testifies That He and the Former Minister of Agriculture Did Their Financing Together—B. Frank Smith Was Paid For Shortage And Culls

Although he has been on the stand for many hours since the potato inquiry began, Rev. J. B. Daggett's evidence has not even begun to lose its interest. Each time he appears he has something new, either a fresh disclosure or a new version of something he has told today.

The fact that Hon. J. A. Murray, then minister of agriculture, was involved with Mr. Daggett and H. C. Smith in their financial operations, was announced by the witness today when he announced that his payment of \$1,500 to A. C. Smith & Co. was for the purpose of retiring their joint note. Another admission of startling interest which was made today by Mr. Daggett was his statement that B. Frank Smith was paid in full for every barrel of potatoes he shipped, with no deductions for shortages or culls.

As B. F. Smith was in court this morning, it is possible that he may be heard this afternoon.

that name because he had not wanted to be identified with the transaction. Mr. Powell dwelt at considerable length on the surplus potatoes shipped by B. F. Smith. Witness said the British shipment was 40,000 barrels and that to Belgium 15,000. B. F. Smith sent in 43,631 barrels, as a result of the first order for thirty-five cars and the instructions to send additional quantities which brought 128 cars more.

Mr. Smith Wanted More. When setting with B. F. Smith, witness said, Mr. Smith claimed that in addition to his ten cents commission per barrel, he should be paid his shipping expenses. He also claimed that the government should stand the loss on the culls. Mr. Smith also protested that the culling process was too strict.

Mr. Smith also had urged that he should be allowed interest and exchange on his outlay and his drafts. Witness had refused to consider such a claim.

Regarding the \$128.31 paid to the department by the potato inspector and P. F. Blanchet. When the inquiry resumed this morning P. F. Blanchet took the stand and was examined by Mr. Hughes regarding his examination of the accounts and books of W. B. Tennant in connection with his Valley Railway transactions, at the time of a previous inquiry. He explained that his examination was for the purpose of accounting for the \$100,000 drawn by Mr. Tennant at "advance profits" from the N. S. Construction Company. Mr. Tennant had shown him vouchers and securities approximately amounting to the amount, although he could not say that it would balance out exactly.

Mr. Daggett Goes On. H. A. Powell, K. C., counsel for Hon. J. A. Murray, then resumed his cross-examination of J. B. Daggett, reviewing the transactions in considerable detail. Regarding his action in signing the name "Wm. Thomson" to the deposit slip for \$33,800 sent to Mr. Sumner, witness said that he still found it hard to recall the circumstances and would not have done so if he had not seen the document. He supposed that he had signed the name in error.

point and to many it has been an extreme hardship, but to have sacrificed four weeks and then run a risk because of a further few days' closing would be absolutely unwise. The citizens of this province realize this has been a unique visitation. No doubt there have been 1,500 deaths due to the epidemic in the last four weeks and the minister pointed out to the government as an official placed in the position of safeguarding the health and lives of the people of the province in a general way he could not conscientiously raise the tenor of his proclamation re closing before the date mentioned.

Survey of Province Re Epidemic. The following reports from prominent provincial points dealing with the condition of affairs relative to the influenza epidemic was gleaned last evening by personal conversation: Pettitcodiac Vicinity.

Dr. Fleming reports there were 250 cases at the height of the malady, but now only twenty-five or thirty. There have been six cases of pneumonia and two deaths in Pettitcodiac. The epidemic was quite heavy at Havlock and Elgin.

Cody's, Queens Co. and Vicinity. Dr. Hetherington reports no cases of influenza for miles around. Gagetown and Havlock, nearer points on south and north.

Dr. Somory claims the disease has almost entirely died out, although a short while ago it was almost beyond control, with hundreds of cases existing. In the parish of Shediac alone there have been fifty deaths out of a population of 2,000.

(Continued on page 11, first column)

TO LIFT BAN NEXT THURSDAY

This is Decision of the Minister of Health Announced Today

St. John and Other Boards of Health Approve—Reports from Various Parts of the Province on the Situation

The ban on public gatherings because of the epidemic of influenza will be lifted Thursday, Nov. 14, or to be more exact at midnight of the 13th.

This date was decided upon by Hon. W. F. Roberts, minister of health, and his chief provincial health official, Dr. G. G. Melvin, at noon today after a conference with a board of health officials in St. John, St. Stephen, Fredericton and Moncton, the four corners of the province considered most important in this matter.

Hon. Mr. Roberts attended a meeting of the local government at Fredericton last evening at which he gave an exhaustive report on the influenza situation throughout the province as gleaned at a late hour that evening by a telephone survey and from reports of Dr. Melvin, who personally visited many of the St. John, St. Stephen, Fredericton and Moncton, the four corners of the province considered most important in this matter.

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It is understood the mind of the government was largely opposed to any hasty action with regard to the ban but left the matter for the department of health to decide, since its officials were in close touch with the situation.

The opinion of the local boards of health approached today was unanimously to the effect that the shutdown should be continued for a few days longer as the danger from convalescents would be a certainty indoors at churches, schools, theatres and large meetings.

The theatres and public meetings of all kinds can be resumed on the 14th, the churches will be able to have their auditorium services Sunday, the 16th and schools will be released Monday, the 18th.

The Health Minister's Statement. Hon. W. F. Roberts gave out the following statement this forenoon: The minister of public health announced to the government last evening at Fredericton that providing the epidemic of influenza continued to abate and showed no further signs of increase to any extent that the ban would be lifted on Thursday, Nov. 14 next. The schools may re-open the following Monday, the 18th.

The minister went on to state to the government that while he had received a report, taken as recently as last evening (Wednesday), setting forth the fact that the epidemic was on the decline—in many places practically cleared up—yet there were some few places where it was still at its height. In all of the places where it is declining there are still numerous cases, which cases are capable of conveying it to others. Unfortunately many of these only partly convalescent are known to go from place to place. If the ban were lifted now and churches, schools and theatres thrown open these conditions would formulate an open door by which the epidemic would receive a fresh impetus and possibly plunge this whole country into a position where a repetition of sickness and suffering might obtain.

The minister of health said he knew there were many interests suffering by the shut-down from a financial stand-

CHARGED WITH THEFT; CASE UP AGAIN TODAY

Further evidence was taken this morning in the police court in the case of George Peltham, charged with the theft of \$85 from the office of Braudrum-Henderson, Ltd., about three weeks ago. Detective Hiddiscombe gave evidence. He had made investigations, and in consequence of what he learned he went to a store in King street and learned that Peltham had paid there fourteen dollars on his account on the Saturday in question. He paid a ten dollar bill and a five, from which he was given one dollar bill in change. The bills were afterwards identified as being two of the bills in the cash box from which the \$85 was stolen. The bills happened to be marked.

Peltham, on this evidence, was arrested. On being taken to police headquarters, after being duly cautioned, he made a statement to the effect that he took the money, the police said, but after making the statement he refused to sign it. In company with Detective Hiddiscombe he went to his home in 37 Elliott Row and from one of his pockets got the \$70 which the detective says he handed over to Hiddiscombe. He was remanded until tomorrow morning.

BUY-VICTORY BONDS—CHICAGO MARKET. Chicago, Nov. 7.—Reactions took place in the corn and oats market today from yesterday's wild advance. Efforts to realize profits explained much of the selling. Besides there appeared to be but little fresh support for the market, and there was a disposition to await the tangible evidence that the export movement of grain would be materially increased.

BUY-VICTORY BONDS—PHELIX and Pherdinand WEATHER REPORT

Issued by Authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stuart, director of meteorological service

Toronto, Nov. 7.—Showers are reported locally in Ontario and Quebec, but the weather in Canada on the whole is fine.

Lakes and Georgian Bay, Ottawa Valley—Moderate to fresh south to south-west winds, fair and mild; Friday, unsettled with showers.

Lower St. Lawrence, Gulf and North Shore—Moderate to fresh south to south-west winds, a few showers today and on Friday, but partly fair.

Superior—Winds mostly north and east, cloudy and cool, rain or snow by Friday. All West—Fair today and on Friday, with stationary or a little higher temperature. New England—Partly cloudy and probably rain tonight and on Friday; warmer tonight; gentle west winds.