

BRITISH TAKE 40 TOWNS HUNS AND U.S. SOON AT WAR

GERMANY THOUGHT TO BE ON RAGGED EDGE

United States Will Not Declare War Formally, Although At War Technically--Will Aid Entente--Revolution in Prussia Expected and Kaiserism May Be Overthrown.

UNITED STATES CO-OPERATION WITH ENTENTE WILL BE PURELY OF NAVAL CHARACTER, DESIGNED TO AID EXTERMINATION OF SUBMARINES—REPUBLIC STILL TECHNICALLY NEUTRAL.

Washington, Mar. 21.—President Wilson today met the constantly increasing probability of war with Germany by summoning congress to assemble in extraordinary session Monday, April 2, two weeks earlier than the date he had chosen before the latest assaults upon American rights on the seas.

When the president addresses congress he is expected to show how a state of war actually has existed for some time because of the unlawful aggressions of German submarines.

Congress is expected formally to declare a state of war existing, vote a large sum, probably half a billion dollars, for national defence, and clothe the president with authority to use the armed forces of the United States, as it empowered President McKinley to deal with the menace of Spain in 1898.

Technical Declaration.

Such action would not be a declaration of war, except in a technical sense, and whether the United States and Germany actually go to war in the fullest acceptance of the term will depend on what the international tribunal does before congress is assembled or after it acts.

Despatches from abroad tonight, declaring that the German government expected a state of war within the next forty-eight hours, placed an ominous aspect on the situation.

Much to change the president's present intentions or the course of

the government in the crisis may develop before April 2. The first armed ships will by that time have reached the war zone. The ruthless destruction of one of them unquestionably would be an act of war.

On the other hand, slaying of a submarine by one of the armed merchantmen probably would be met as an act of war by Germany. Even the arming of American ships, with the avowed purpose of defending them against U-boats, may be declared such an act.

In any of these events, practically nothing would remain except for con-

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DETENTION OF NICHOLAS AND EMPRESS BY RADICALS

Russian Situation Cause of Much Uneasiness in Great Britain, United States and Other Nations—Evidently State of Chaos in Russia.

London, March 21, (3.07 p. m.)—The Russian government has ordered that the deposed Emperor and his consort shall be regarded as having been deprived of their liberty and that they shall be brought to the Tsaraboo-Selo, Reuter's Petrograd correspondent telegraphs.

Nicholas Romanoff, as the deposed Emperor is now known, departed on Sunday for his estate at Livadia, in the Crimea. It has been understood that he would be permitted to live in retirement at that place, far removed from the capital and the scenes of military operations.

Might Be Civil War.

The general policy of the new government has been represented as opposed to any acts of vengeance against persons connected with the old regime. While it has been recognized that if Nicholas could obtain a following and were disposed to combat the new government civil war might result, there have been no indications that he contemplated such a move or could obtain the necessary support. Nothing has been heard in regard to the attitude of the former Empress, a German, whose powerful influence at the Russian court is said to have been against all democratic tendencies.

Postpones Recognition.

For this reason, the immediate recognition of the new government, which was desired because of its announced republican principles will be postponed until affairs have had time to settle. Ambassador Francis is calling regularly at the foreign office, however, and transacting business as with the duly constituted authorities. The first complete official account of the Russian revolution reached the department today in a delayed despatch from Ambassador Francis, dated March 17.—"The only menace possible," the report said, "is in socialist demonstrations by minority socialist groups."

the former ordered back from his retirement to Petrograd, caused uneasiness, as possibly indicating control by an extremist radical group. Officials here think the great danger in the Russian situation lies in the possibility of attempts to destroy the moderates now in power, either by the former ruling party or by the extreme socialist revolutionary party. The arrest of the former Emperor and his wife is being watched, therefore, with the fear that it may foreshadow a long period of unrest in Russian internal affairs, and the crippling of the country's resources for war.

Postpones Recognition.

Officials are following the difficulties in Russia, not only because of the question of American recognition, which is admitted to be largely a formality, but especially because of the vital effect they believe those developments may have in America's own interests. The crippling of Russia's military strength at this time, or the possibility of a separate peace, are vital matters to the United States through the practical state of war now existing between that country and Germany.

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ONE THOUSAND WERE KILLED IN BUCHAREST

German Aircraft were Merciless Prior to Abandonment of Roumanian Capital—Attack on Royal Palace.

London, Mar. 21.—More than 1,000 persons were killed in Bucharest by the attacks of German aircraft prior to the abandonment of the city by the Roumanians, according to an account of these raids given out at Jassy, the present capital, and forwarded in a Reuters dispatch.

In a single day 300 persons were killed by the Zeppelins and airplanes. On this occasion, the report states, a group of airplanes descended to a low altitude and spent several hours in seeking victims, killing workmen and workwomen in the fields and streets. Two airplanes, which were pursuing a two-horse vehicle on the road, had a race to see which could reach it first. The vehicle was going at a good pace, but the airplane overtook it, killing the coachman, then passenger and then the horses.

Shameful Attack. The account also describes an airplane attack on the royal residents, when the young Prince Mircea lay dying of typhoid fever. The aviators evidently believed the Queen and Princesses were still there. This attack, the report says, was the subject of a special telegram from the Pope to the Queen, in which the action of the Germans was condemned.

This is the first indication that such a large number of persons met death at the hands of the German aviators. A Bucharest despatch late in November said that squadrons of German aircraft had flown over the city for five hours, and that several persons had been killed. Prince Mircea, and was four years old.

RED FLAGS OUTSIDE OF THE DUMA

London, Mar. 22.—A Reuter despatch from Petrograd says that the Finnish Duma will reassemble on April 4.

According to this despatch a crowd assembled outside the Duma Wednesday carrying red flags, on one of which was inscribed: "Death to those arrested." Cries demanding executions, also were raised. The minister of justice, A. F. Kerensky, has issued a proclamation pointing out that none of the revolutionary or socialist parties have urged violence or condemnation without trial, and adds: "There is reason to believe that such exhortations to violence have been prompted by a former member of the secret police and provocatory organizations."

The imprisoned ministers and other officials in the St. Peter and St. Paul fortress are being treated scrupulously. According to the regulations of the old regime they are allowed forty roubles daily for food. They are not allowed to give interviews, and their correspondence is being controlled. They are permitted to wear their own clothes. The correspondent says precautions

INTERNAL TROUBLES OF HUNS

Germany May Declare War on United States.

SERIOUS FOOD RIOTS IN HUN CAPITAL.

Revolution in Germany May Break Out Shortly.

London, Mar. 21.—According to private telegrams from Berlin to the Amsterdam Bourse, it is expected that a state of war with the United States will be an accomplished fact within 48 hours," says a despatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Amsterdam. "American journalists in Berlin," the despatch adds, "have been warned to this effect by the foreign office."

Want Chancellor Out.

Amsterdam, Mar. 21, via London.—A Munich despatch to the Berlin Tagblatt says that the "national committee for the swift overthrow of England" held a secret meeting on Monday and discussed measures for forcing Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg out of office. The despatch adds that a great popular demonstration is to be held next Monday.

The national committee for the swift overthrow of England" is a new organization, as far as any public despatches from Germany are concerned. Reports have told of apparent hostility throughout Bavaria against Germany. Serious Riots.

London, Mar. 21.—Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent reports that it is rumored that serious riots have broken out in Berlin in connection with the scarcity of food. "A despatch from Oldenburg, Holland, says persistent rumors are current of great rioting in Berlin," the despatch says.

Frontier regiments are reported to have left for Berlin to maintain order.

Chinese Arrested.

London, Mar. 21.—According to reports received in Amsterdam from Cologne, says the Exchange Telegraph correspondent in Amsterdam, fifty Chinese residing in Berlin, and expected in Berlin and Munich, were arrested yesterday charged with conspiracy. They were preparing to leave Germany with the Chinese legation. Most of the Chinese were students.

Strikes in Dusseldorf.

London, Mar. 21.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Rotterdam says: "Our frontier correspondent understands that five munition factories in Dusseldorf have been the scenes of strikes during the last 48 hours, in protest against the small rations entailed by the reduction in the meat, bread and potato allowances introduced last week. The workers refused to resume work unless the food rations are increased."

Special to The Standard.

Cobalt, Mar. 21.—A number of the mines have offered their employees a bonus of twenty-five cents per day when silver is over sixty cents, a double bonus when over seventy and a treble bonus when over eighty cents per ounce.

Regardless of this fact the men hold their meeting tomorrow and will probably demand a fifty cent raise all around. The bonus will only apply in the Cobalt camp and there would appear to be very little possibility of it spreading with favor among the mine workers in general who are looking for something more permanent than a bonus.

It is therefore, almost certain a demand for fifty cents will be made and unless the mine owners agree to this the situation will be serious. No demands have yet been made.

BRITISH CAPTURE 40 MORE VILLAGES

King George's Army Advances Rapidly During Last 48 Hours to South and Southwestward of Peronne, Reaching Points Ten Miles to East of River Somme—Successful Raids During Night.

NEW PEACE MOVE BY GERMANY IS LATEST REPORT

Switzerland Hears that there is Serious Trouble in Leipzig, Dresden, Munich and other German Cities.

London, March 21.—A despatch to the Times from The Hague asserts that a new German peace move is on foot. The despatch says that prominent Germans have recently visited Holland and Switzerland, under instructions to try and ascertain what the present attitude of Great Britain is towards a possible cessation of hostilities. The commission sent to Switzerland is said to be a prominent German business one, and one of the emissaries of Holland a high officer in the German war service. The latter emissary, disclaiming authority to speak for the German government, is quoted as saying that the Russian revolution had entirely changed the situation, that Germany could no longer contend that she wished to free the Russian Baltic provinces and could also consider handing back Poland to Russia under some form of autonomy. He is represented as adding that he believed the revolution in Russia made it possible for Germany to discuss terms more favorable to the Entente.

Trouble in Germany?

London, March 21.—Some of the morning newspapers give prominence to wireless reports received from Switzerland saying that the news of the Russian revolution has started serious agitation in some of the German industrial towns. Among these towns are Leipzig, Dresden and Munich, where strikes and other disturbances are said to be taking place.

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GERMANS DEVELOPING CONSIDERABLE RESISTANCE AT NUMBER OF POINTS BETWEEN NURLU AND ARRAS, BUT THEIR REAR GUARDS ARE BEING SPEEDILY DRIVEN FROM POSITIONS AND BRITISH PROGRESS CONTINUES.

BULLETIN—London, March 21.—The capture of forty more villages on the front in France is announced in the official statement from British headquarters tonight.

The communication says: "South and southeast of Peronne we have advanced rapidly during the last 24 hours and reached points some ten miles to the east of the River Somme. We have occupied another forty villages in this area. "Between Nurlu and Arras the enemy is beginning to develop considerable resistance at a number of places. Nevertheless his rear guards are being steadily driven from their positions, and our progress continues."

"We carried out successful raids during the night east of Arras and northeast of Neuville-St. Vaast. A hostile raiding party east of Neuville-St. Vaast was repulsed. "The enemy blew a mine this morning southeast of Ypres, damaging his own trenches. "There has been considerable artillery activity during the day by both sides in the neighborhood of Armentieres and Ypres."

French Statement.

Paris, March 21.—The official communication issued by the war office tonight reads: "North of Ham the situation is without change. Our light forces remain in contact with the enemy between Rouppe and St. Quentin. "East of Ham we forced this morning, at two places, a passage of the canal of the Somme, despite lively resistance by the Germans. The operation, conducted vigorously, enabled us to clear the north and east margins of the canal and drive back the enemy as far as the outskirts of Clastres and Montescourt. Inundations have been caused by the enemy in this region. "Most of the villages before our lines in the neighborhood of St. Quentin are in flames."

"We have advanced north of Tergnier (which lies southwest of La Fere), in the valley of the Ailette there have been skirmishes between patrols. The enemy, who occupies in force the east bank of the Crozat Canal and the Ailette, has subjected our lines to a lively bombardment. "In the region north of Soissons we made considerable progress and fought several quite spirited engagements. Most of the conquered villages are entirely destroyed. "East of the Meuse the enemy delivered several surprise attacks against the Caesare trench, but these failed under our fire. The day was relatively calm on the rest of the front. "A bombardment on both sides occurred at various points on the Belgian front, particularly in the direction of Dixmude and Steenstraete."

MR. BLONDIN'S RESIGNATION NOT LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTED UNTIL HE RETURNS FROM WAR

Hon. E. L. Patenaud, Secretary of State, Will be Acting Postmaster General, or One of the Other Ministers Until Conclusion of War—Blondin a Sincere Fighter and a Man who Has Large Part of Quebec Province with Him—Montreal Star's Comment.

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, March 21.—Hon. E. L. Patenaud, secretary of state, will be the acting postmaster general during the absence on active service of Hon. P. E. Blondin. This was intimated by Sir George Foster at the conclusion of the cabinet meeting this afternoon. On Tuesday a cable was sent to the prime minister conveying the information that Mr. Blondin had resigned his portfolio for the purpose of enlisting in the overseas forces, but as yet no reply has been received.

Will Not Be Accepted.

It is not anticipated here that Mr. Blondin's resignation will be accepted. One of the other ministers will probably be acting postmaster general until the conclusion of the war or until Mr. Blondin returns.

The post office department is particularly fortunate in having a deputy minister, Dr. Conitor, ex-M. P., one of the most capable officers in the public service, so that the administration of the department is rendered the

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The Fighting Minister. The Evening Journal has the following to say of the postmaster general who has enlisted for active service: "Hon. P. E. Blondin took to the public service of the country as a cabinet minister unusual talents for administration. His control of his department is and has always been effective. A man of culture and business acumen, he has been a source of strength to the present government in its conduct of the national affairs. "Mr. Blondin is something of a fighting man, as well. In his youth he was amateur boxing champion of his native province. Even today he possesses a physical development far above the average. A man of his type should make an excellent soldier. His many friends and admirers will be delighted at the decision he has made to offer himself for active service and will be confident that if he raises a battalion as is suggested, it will be a unit second to none. "The example he has set is calculated to be particularly effective at this time and, should the fortunes of war permit his return to Canada after the war is over, those who know the man will realize what a strong, unchallenged force he will exert in the national life when the voice of misrepresentation has been stilled."