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DISCUSSION OF PEACE IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT TERMS

Russians Halt Enemy In Rumania--Rumanian Army Safe---11,000 Prisoners Taken By French

HALT TEUTONIC DRIVE BY FIRE OF CZAR'S MEN

Russians Stop Enemy in the
Region of Filipechti,
Says Petrograd.

RAIN IN WEST, TOO

Ridge Taken in Valley of Uz,
While East of Glaschutte
200 Men Taken.

London, Dec. 12.—The Teutonic offensive in Rumania has been arrested by the Russian fire, the Russian war office announces. The statement, as intercepted by the British admiralty and collected by the Wireless Press was made public today as follows:

"On the Rumanian front, in the region west and southwest of Rominu-Sarat, our scouts made reconnoissances.

"In the region of the Filipechti railway station and in the region of Dibatogu the offensive of the enemy was arrested by our fire."

RUSSIAN FRONT VICTORIES.
London, Dec. 12.—Today's Russian official communication regarding military operations on the Russian western front as intercepted by the British admiralty and made public by the Wireless Press reads as follows:

"Petrograd, Dec. 12.—Western front: The enemy has been driven back from that portion of a trench of one of our companies which he occupied yesterday in the region of Porz. Our position has again been restored. In the region of Boudura an enemy balloon was carried behind our lines by the wind. No information regarding its descent has been received.

"On the River Narayurka (Galle), in the region of Serbutov, our scouts discovered a large German party and captured some prisoners.

"In the valley of the River Uz our troops captured possession of a ridge of heights, taking three officers and 25 men prisoner, and capturing one machine gun and much war material. East of the village of Glashutte we captured several heights and three officers and 201 soldiers and one machine gun. Enemy counter-attacks on the occupied heights were repelled.

"On the Russian front: The situation is unchanged."

BULGARIA COUNTS HER CHICKENS BEFORE HATCHED

Talks of Rumania's Virtual Extinction
In Official Orders.

Berlin, Dec. 12.—Via Saville.—In a special order the commander-in-chief of the Bulgarian army expresses thanks to the Rumanian army, which has been victorious in the country of Galla and Galla, for their recent victories in Rumania. The order says:

"The almost complete wiping out of the Rumanian army, and the virtual extinction of Rumania, which now seems probable, and through which Bulgaria now is given satisfaction for her sufferings of three years ago, have caused this victory to occasion unusual rejoicing."

LASTING PEACE MOVE WITHIN NEXT 90 DAYS

German-American Financier, Official
Enemy Representative, Predicts This.

New York, Dec. 12.—Leonard Zimmerman, head of the firm of Zimmermann & Forsyth, personal representative in the country of German government financial institutions, issued a statement yesterday saying in part:

"The most delicate phase of the movement to end the war has been passed. The foe has been broken, and it is now a matter of time before the situation to wear off, so that the conservative element may prevail. It may be stated reliably that, among the rulers and diplomats abroad, the end of the war is regarded as a realization, dependent only upon terms of adjustment which can and will be agreed upon.

"In well-informed circles, where leaders of European commerce prevail, preparations already are in the making, in anticipation of an early peace.

"I think that by the end of 90 days, the soldiers will be well on the way to agreement as to the terms of a lasting peace. I have every reason to believe that in place of highest authority, commercial activities are being encouraged with this view in mind."

ALBERTA PROTESTS SAY "FIGHT ON"

Cable to Duma President to Secure
Independence.

Edmonton, Alta., Dec. 12.—A convention held here of 250 Russians from Alberta and Saskatchewan sent a cablegram to the president of the Russian Duma urging the continuation of the war to the end, and until the independence of Poland, Serbia and Rumania has been secured and until Carpathian Russia, now under control of Austria, has been incorporated in the Russian Empire.

UNTIL GERMANY ANNOUNCES PEACE TERMS, CONFERENCE WITH ALLIES IS IMPOSSIBLE

Britain Receives Note Today, Through American Ambassador,
But It Contains No Terms — Statements of
Enemy Will Be Challenged — Germans
Seeking Conference.

London, Dec. 12.—The Westminster Gazette, which all along has held strongly to the opinion that the German peace proposal should receive a serious reply, commenting today on the statement that the note contains no terms, says:

"If the German note contains no terms, and is merely a repetition of Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg's speech in the Reichstag the prospect of any immediate result is exceedingly slight."

NOTE ARRIVES.
London, Dec. 12.—The peace note of the Central Powers was handed to the British Government today by United States Ambassador Page, who called at the foreign office early in the day. In the absence of A. J. Balfour, the foreign secretary, he presented the note to Lord Robert Cecil, under-secretary for foreign affairs.

There were no formalities in connection with the presentation of the peace proposals by Mr. Page. The ambassador went in an automobile from the embassy and was received in the foreign secretary's room by Lord Robert Cecil, who was acting for the foreign minister. Mr. Balfour having just started on a three weeks' vacation.

No Reference to Peace.
The note was enclosed in a large white envelope. It was handed by ambassador Page to Lord Robert Cecil, without any comment, and the recipient made no reference to the question of peace, simply thanking Mr. Page for the transmission of the message from the Central Powers.

The two diplomats spent a short time in conversation, but as one said: "We talked about everything but the contents of the envelope."

The note will be considered by the British cabinet tomorrow, it being received too late today to enable the council to be called. The next step after the meeting of the cabinet will be to get into communication with the Allies of Great Britain so that joint action may be taken. This is expected to take at least a week.

It has been ascertained that the note contains no terms and the impression prevails in official circles that until these are disclosed a conference is impossible.

The presentation of the German note to the Entente Allied governments has now practically been accomplished. While the British foreign office was receiving the document from ambassador Page shortly after noon, it is believed that a similar delivery was taking place in Paris.

The Swiss minister at Rome has presented the note of the Central Powers to Italy without comment, and through the same channel the message was presented to Belgium and Portugal, also without comment. The Netherlands minister tendered the peace proposals to Serbia in behalf of Bulgaria.

Prior to receipt of the note by the British foreign office the deliveries to Italy and other countries had permitted each country to form its own opinion of the contents. The note is substantially the same as given in the speech made in the Reichstag by Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, and without containing any specific indication of the terms.

It is also being observed in official circles that the note was uniformly presented without comment. This is taken to indicate that Germany framed the communication so that the neutral intermediaries should not only be forward agents, but at least at the outset.

Will Show General Attitude.
Premier Lloyd George's speech in the House of Commons Tuesday is expected to show the general attitude of the British Government. Thereafter examination of the German note will determine the nature of the joint reply, but informal conferences already have prepared much of the ground. It is understood the assertion made in the

RUMANIAN ARMY SAFE IN BESSARABIA, WHERE IT IS BEING REFITTED

Russians Alone Holding Invaders Back, While Brave Little
Country's defenders Prepare for Further Operations—
To Stop Foe on Danube Marshes Is New Plan.

Paris, Dec. 12.—The Rumanian army is now safe, according to news received in Paris last night, says the petit Parisien. The paper says that the survivors are now beyond the Sereth River at Jassy and in Bessarabia, where they are being regrouped and refitted in view of further operations. The entire Rumanian front is now stated to be held by the Russians alone.

After the Bucharest-Ploesti line was lost, the story says, the Rumanians sent divisions and forces of cavalry to support the retreat of the

Rumanian army. King Ferdinand felt back as rapidly as possible, assured of the possibility of reforming behind the shelter of the Russians, and continued the withdrawal without halting until the Sereth was crossed.

The Russians offered strong resistance to the Germans in the region of Buzov, so as to permit engineers to construct a defensive line between Rimnik Sarat and the Danube marshes on which the front is stated, the Russians intend to stop the advance of the invaders.

A SYMPHONIC FROST



ACUTE DOMESTIC CRISIS THREATENS ALL ENEMY POWERS IF NO PEACE

German Food Resources Being Rapidly Exhausted, and the
Slaughtering of Stock in February Will Bring But
Temporary Relief.

London, Dec. 12.—The correspondent of the Times at Amsterdam telegraphs as follows under Sunday's date:

"The fact emerges with increasing distinctness, from examination of the circumstances attending the German peace proposal, that unless peace is obtained, the economic condition of the central empires is such as to threaten an acute domestic crisis.

"That Germany is rapidly exhausting her reserve food supplies is evident. The harvest is completed, and even the Kreuz Zeitung has admitted that the situation is serious. Food Dictator Balckel addressing the Berlin editors on the eve of the chancellor's speech in the Reichstag, stated the most favorable calculation was that the crop this year is 20,000,000 tons, against 20,000,000 tons last year. He estimated this shortage equivalent in food value to 5,000,000 tons of cereals. As, however, the increase in the German cereals harvest amounted only to 3,500,000 tons, there remains a deficit equivalent to 1,500,000 tons of cereals compared to last year.

"It is announced in the German press that after January 1 no more potatoes will be employed in bread-making. It is stated that the shortage of potatoes will be taken by barley, which has proved unsatisfactory for bread-making purposes, but which nevertheless is a valuable food substance when suitably treated. Oatmeal will also be utilized.

"It should be noted that Germany has not enough barley or any other cereal to make up the deficiency it hoped to derive from the supplies taken in the Reichstag. The German cereals from Berlin that in the most favorable circumstances only 1,000,000 tons of barley can be obtained from Rumania. Assuming that the whole quantity will be available, which is expected to follow shortly will prove a more difficult problem for restaurants which make a specialty of roasts.

"Germany has promised to increase meat rations in February. This will be done by a more extensive slaughtering of animals. This will only bring relief temporarily, for the motive for slaughtering the stock will be the feeding of the stock, which will be killed off all of them. Recognition of all these facts is undoubtedly the chief reason for the proposed collective meats throughout Germany, but already even many large cities have pronounced this impracticable."

SWEDEN'S QUEEN NOW REPORTED SERIOUSLY ILL

Has Grown Worse During Week, According to Official Announcement.

London, Dec. 12.—(N. Y. World Cable).—A Stockholm dispatch to the Morning Post, dated Saturday, reads: "An official announcement states that the condition of Queen Victoria has grown worse during the week. Her majesty's temperature has risen slightly and there is increased catarrh in the lungs.

"Sweden's queen is the sister of the Grand Duchess of Baden. She is 84 years old and the mother of three sons.

SUCCESSFUL MACEDONIAN RAID OF BRITISH FORCE

Coupled With Airplane Operations,
Trench Attack Succeeded.

London, Dec. 12.—Successful raiding and airplane operations by the British on the Macedonian front, are reported in today's official statement regarding operations in the war area. The statement reads:

"British troops successfully raided enemy trenches in the Penticter district on the Struna front and Brest, on the 10th and 11th inst. On Saturday and Sunday, 400 enemy dead were counted, and prisoners were also taken.

"Our airplanes dropped bombs on the Tumba station and inflicted damage upon enemy transports on the Gjeval-Gherinitse road."

UNDER REPRISALS ORDER

German Cash Taken by British Prize
Court.

London, Dec. 12.—Sir Samuel Evans, president of the British prize court, ruled today that German bonds come under the reprisals order and that German securities to the value of 20,000 marks, which were seized while on their way in a letter to the State Commercial Bank in Chicago should remain in court as property of enemy origin until the declaration of peace is made or until dealt with as the court might direct subsequently. The securities were seized on board the Danish steamship Frederick VIII.

FRENCH "BAG" IN OFFENSIVE TAKEN AT VERDUN REPRESENTS 11,387 PRISONERS; 115 CANNON

PEACE MANOEUVRE CLOAK TO PREPARE SWISS VIOLATION

This is Paris Temps' Warning
of Germany's Threat If
Offer Is Refused.

Paris, Dec. 12.—New York Times cable: The Temps, in a leading editorial tonight headed "The Other Danger," suggests that the German peace manoeuvre possibly hides preparations for a further crime in the violation of Switzerland. It says that Germany will be able to say that the world was warned that if the Allies refused peace they must accept the consequences, and will base her action on the dictum that necessity knows no law, which was the excuse for the violation of Belgium.

"After fruitless tactical successes," it says, "Germany is ready to do anything for a strategic decision. It is inconceivable that the unscrupulous and avaricious Germany threatens as calculated consequences of her peace proposal to justify this anxiety. If Germany thinks it necessary to destroy the rights of neutrals in order to obtain a decision she will neither shrink nor hesitate."

"The risk here is not platonic; it is immediate. The Allies must not ignore it. Switzerland knows she has everything to fear from Germany. Her soldiers and her people know the value of a 'Berlin scrap of paper.'"

FOOD RESTRICTIONS OF BRITAIN START TODAY

Reduction in Hotel and Restaurant
Menus Commences.

London, Dec. 12.—The first food restriction went into force in England today. Hotels and restaurants are now forbidden to serve more than two courses for breakfast or luncheon, and three courses for dinner.

The meal of the day which is expected to follow shortly will prove a more difficult problem for restaurants which make a specialty of roasts.

NAVIGATION CLOSING

Arrival of Bulk Freighter at Duluth Today
Winds It Up.

Duluth, Minn., Dec. 12.—With the arrival of the steamer Morse, expected to dock today from Toledo with coal, navigation on Lake Superior will close. The Rogers and the Power, Steamer house, coal laden, docked yesterday and reported much difficulty in arriving in port because of heavy seas and ice. The weather department advised against further navigation last Friday, and it is believed the last boats have passed the Soo.

PEACE FROM MANY VIEWPOINTS

American Writer Says Britain Will Fight to Last Man—Allied Peace Laws
Called "Intellectual Neurosis" by German—Ex-President of United
States Sees No Possibilities for Immediate Peace.

French Socialists Recommend Opening of Negotiations.

WILL FIGHT TO LAST MAN.
New York, Dec. 12.—Arthur S. Draper, in cable dispatch to the Tribune, says:

London, Dec. 12.—It has now become certain that sooner than leave Germany in her present position, with ability to consummate her "Mittel Europa" idea and also to threaten India, Britain will fight to the last man. Under present conditions there can be no thought of peace.

The peace arrangements now being proposed by the German newspapers, including the suggestion to hold a conference at The Hague in January, while the fighting continues, simply infuriate the public here.

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Victory Greater Than at First Reported, and German Counter- Attacks To Gain Lost Ground Fail, With Exception of Small Terrain Lost in Chambrettes, Says Paris.

11,387 PRISONERS.

Paris, Dec. 12.—French forces have taken a total of 11,387 German prisoners on the Verdun front since the 15th of December, according to the announcement made by the French war office this afternoon.

A violent German counter-attack on the Meuse has resulted in German forces securing a footing at the Chambrettes Farm.

LLOYD GEORGE ANSWERS PEACE MOVE TUESDAY

The text follows:
"South of the River Somme a detachment of the enemy was endeavoring to surprise our lines to the southeast of Berry, has been repulsed with hand grenades. On the right bank of the River Meuse after the bombardment of yesterday, German forces delivered a violent counter-attack yesterday evening upon our new position. They succeeded, however, only in securing a footing at a point on the Chambrettes farm. We continue to hold the immediate surroundings of this location. Elsewhere the night passed in quietude."

"The number of prisoners taken by the 15th of December on the Verdun front is at present, according to the latest counting, 11,387, including 234 officers. The war material captured or destroyed includes 115 cannon, 44 bomb throwers, and 117 machine guns."

BRITISH PREMIER WILL MAKE HIS Promised Statement on Tuesday.

WILL LEAVE NO DOUBTS
Despite German Statement of
International Council, Allied
Terms Will Be Given.

London, Dec. 12.—Premier Lloyd George was much better this morning and his secretary said that he would certainly make the promised statement in the House of Commons on Tuesday.

Chancellor of the Exchequer A. Bonar Law definitely announced in the House of Commons this afternoon that Premier Lloyd George would be present in the House on Tuesday to make his statement regarding the British Government's policy.

On Saturday the Weekly Dispatch said: "Premier Lloyd George next Tuesday probably will roughly define the Entente Allied peace terms, and will leave Germany under no doubt concerning our determination to prosecute the war with the utmost vigor until a victory which will make these terms possible has been secured."

Desires No Armistice.
Telegraphing from Constantinople, the correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company quotes the Frankfurter Zeitung as saying:

"Germany does not want a cessation of fighting but more a conference at which all the belligerents shall openly state their peace proposals.

The meeting day which is expected to follow shortly will prove a more difficult problem for restaurants which make a specialty of roasts.

Continued on Page 11, Column 3.

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