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SHOWERS

THREE CENTS

GERMANY'S REJECTION OF PEACE OVERTURES MADE IN 1917 CRITICISED BY ERZEBERGER

Proposed by British Minister at the Vatican to the Papal Secretary of State and Were Concurred in by the French Government—Several Weeks Before Vatican Note Was Replied to—Collapse of Germany Brought About by Madness of the Country's Political and Military Authority.

Berlin, Friday, July 25.—Peace overtures to Germany by Great Britain and France were made through the Vatican in August, 1917, according to a declaration of Matthias Erzberger, vice-premier and minister of finance, in the German National Assembly. These overtures, he added, were rejected by Germany.

Monsieur Paoli, Papal Nuncio to St. John, on August 13, 1917, addressed a note to Imperial Chancellor Michaelis enclosing a telegram from the British minister at the Vatican to the Papal secretary of state, to which the French government assented. The British note, Herr Erzberger explained, asked for a German declaration for Belgium independence, and compensation, and inquired as to what guarantees Germany would need for herself.

Chancellor Michaelis did not answer this note for four weeks; then, on September 24, he wrote that the situation for giving such a declaration was not yet sufficiently clear.

Herr Erzberger pronounced more important revelations within a few days. The Papal Note.

Mgr. Paoli's note said:

"I have the honor, herewith, to transmit to Your Excellency a copy of a telegram which His Excellency, the King of England's minister at the Vatican, has handed to the Cardinal secretary of state. The French government gave its assent to the statements made in the aforementioned telegram, and His Eminence is earnestly desiring to continue efforts for the speedy attainment of a just and lasting peace, such as the imperial government has shown a conciliatory readiness to accept.

"Your Excellency's attention is particularly drawn to the point in the telegram relative to Belgium, with a view to obtaining, firstly, a positive declaration regarding the imperial government's intentions with regard to Belgium's complete independence, and compensation for damage caused Belgium through the war; secondly, a definite statement of guarantee for military independence, which Germany desires.

"If this declaration has a satisfactory effect, His Eminence thinks an important step will have been taken towards the further development of negotiations. As a matter of fact, the minister of Great Britain has already informed his government that the Holy See will reply to the communications made in the telegram in which it has received the imperial government's reply.

"It may be permitted, for my part, to give expression to my own impressions that by using your influence in all highest quarters of office, Your Excellency will gain the eternal thanks of the Fatherland for the whole of humanity, if a conciliatory reply can be obtained which can open up the opening of peace negotiations."

Herr Erzberger said that the government has asked permission to publish the contents of the British despatch, but that such permission has not yet been received.

The reading of the note caused a great sensation in the assembly. In commenting, Herr Erzberger said:

"In 1916 President Wilson used every effort to bring about peace, but President's Wilson's peace work was sabotaged by the unrestricted submarine warfare, and at least a temporary peace could have been brought about, but a fight with the military party, both times, prevented it.

"At the end of the war, I was in Munich. The Papal Nuncio came to me, and with tears in his eyes, said: 'Now everything is lost, and for your poor Fatherland, too.'

"The collapse of Germany, continued Herr Erzberger, was not brought about by revolution, but by madness of the country's political and military authority, by lack of political insight, the Conservatives and the supreme army command. They intimidated and terrorized the German people and are still pursuing these aims. We had to accept a peace of violence because that was the only way out.

"We have undertaken the responsibility of their misdeeds; if they wish their hands in innocency a hundred times, with loud 'no's' they will not free themselves of their guilt, either before us, before history, or their own consciences.

"Herr Erzberger concluded by pointing out the danger of revolution, and warning the whole of Europe. Five monarchs have been dethroned in this war, with the greatest ease, and there was every likelihood of this example becoming contagious. Statesmen who were not blind or dumb, must see the darkness of the people, must hear the angry rumble from the masses, and must take this factor into account.

Michaelis Denies Responsibility.

Berlin, July 27, (By The A. P.)—George Michaelis, the former Imperial Chancellor, in a lengthy declaration published by the Tagliche Rundschau, disclaims responsibility for re-

jection of peace overtures in 1917 attributed by him by Matthias Erzberger, vice-president, speaking in the National Assembly Friday.

Dr. Michaelis, in his present statement, says that the proposals were laid before him early in September, not August, and that he discussed them with Dr. Von Kuehmann, who was foreign minister at the time. Later he requested the emperor to hold a council in the presence of the supreme army and navy authorities. This was held on September 11 and the result of the conference, he says, was summed up by the emperor in the following written memorandum:

"The annexation of Belgium is dubious. Belgium could be restored. The Flanders coast, it is true, is very important and Zebrugge must not fall into the hands of the British. But the Belgian coast could not be held.

"The close economic position on Belgium with Germany must be brought about. Belgium has the greatest interest in this."

The former chancellor explains that he arranged with Von Kuehmann to make soundings, through a suitable person, to indicate in accordance with the Crown Council's decision that preliminary negotiations were possible. Recognition of Germany's territorial integrity, restoration of the German colonies, abandonment of an economic war, and no indemnity. Great secrecy was necessary and it was considered inadvisable to negotiate through the Vatican, because that might have rendered an indiscretion by Erzberger possible.

In conclusion, Dr. Michaelis said: "I did my utmost, and if the plans failed, it was due to the fact our enemy was unwilling."

General Ludendorff, former first quartermaster general, until dismissed by Erzberger, said that he knew of the papal letter or the reply of Dr. Michaelis, until disclosed by Herr Erzberger. He learned, he says, from other sources in August, that Great Britain was willing to talk peace, and mentions the council of September 11. He adds that a decision was reached, but does not mention what it was.

The conservative papers say that the conservatives had many conferences with papal delegates, but that negotiations were futile because the Germans refused peace until Germany admitted her war guilt. Before the assembly at Weimar, the socialist deputy, Herr Welsch, said he was authorized by President Ebert to say that he first learned of the British peace offer through the Erzberger speech.

PRINCE OF WALES COMING IN AUGUST



Austrian Cabinet Has Its Troubles

Dr. Otto Bauer, Foreign Minister, Forced to Resign Because of His Failure to Secure Desired Ends.

Vienna, July 26.—Dr. Otto Bauer, the Austrian Foreign Minister, resigned the foreign portfolio today. He retained, however, the post of minister of Socialization in the Cabinet. The foreign ministry will be taken over by Dr. Carl Renner, the Chancellor, in addition to the Chancellorship. A number of reasons are advanced for Dr. Bauer's resignation as head of the Foreign Office. In the first place, under his administration there was failure to secure union between Austria and Germany, and likewise failure to secure the aid of Italy in advancing Austria's desire toward this end.

The attempt to secure protection by Italy against the territorial aspirations of the Jews Slavs also came to naught, as did an effort to obtain partial reunification by Italy of her claims in the southern Tyrol. There is also charged against the Foreign Office a failure to revive the goodwill of the Austrian republic.

Representatives of the Allied Powers, as well as the Austrian of the well-to-do order, are said to have been attempting for months past to secure Bauer's resignation because of his supposed Bolshevik affiliations.

PRINCE OF WALES COL. OF ROYAL CANADIANS

Now Known as Leinster Regiment But is Intimately Connected With Royal Canadians of 1861.

London, July 26, (C. A. P.)—The Prince of Wales has been appointed colonel-in-chief of the Prince of Wales Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians). The Times is wrong in describing this appointment as a Canadian colonelcy for the Prince, although the connection of this regiment with Canada is a very interesting one. During the Indian mutiny, the first regiment to be recruited in Canada for service in the British army was raised and became the 100th Prince of Wales Royal Canadians. While the original members were Canadian recruits for the regiment, raised in Canada in 1861, and when it returned there six years later, most of the original members were British.

When the British army was organized on the Cardwell territorial principle, the 100th became the Leinster Regiment but it has always carried the maple leaf colors.

The late King Edward as Prince of Wales reviewed this regiment when it landed in England sixty years ago. Curiously enough this review took place at Shoreham where the great majority of Canadian soldiers, in the earlier stages of the war, also found a temporary station. This was the late King Edward's first public engagement as Prince of Wales.

Race Riots Break Out At Chicago

Two Deaths, the Wounding of Several Follow in the Wake of a Series of Riots Between Whites and Blacks

Chicago, Ill., July 27.—A series of riots in the negro district today resulted in the drowning of a white man, the reported drowning of another negro, the wounding of a policeman and injury to a score of whites and blacks by bullets or missiles. Police tonight said they had the situation well in hand. The trouble started at the Twenty-ninth street, Bevelly, where whites and blacks are segregated, and soon spread to State street, the main thoroughfare in the heart of the negro district, which extends about five miles. Shooting started near the beach. There was also some shooting in the vicinity of State street.

During the fighting, rocks, bricks and other missiles were hurled, both at the beach and at various points along Twenty-ninth street and along State street. White men were frequently attacked and beaten on State street, the police said. At the beach, where missiles were flying, a negro on a raft was reported to have been struck with a rock and hurled into the lake. Later the body of a negro was taken from the water. A white man, a swimmer, also was reported hit and drowned.

OUT OF PRESENT DISCONTENT THERE WILL EMERGE A BETTER BRITAIN, SAYS CAPT. McCASKILL

Forest Fires in The Western States Are More Alarming

New Blazes Springing up Excites Alarm on the Part of the Federal Forest Service Officials.

Spokane, Wash., July 26.—With new fires springing up in western Montana and Northern Idaho, and the supply of labor rapidly being drained, the forest fire situation has reached a stage where it excites alarm on the part of the Federal Forest Service officials, according to statements tonight.

Two new fires were reported in the Lolo National Forest, three in the Missoula Forest and twelve in the Clearwater Forest. Other fires that have been burning for weeks also continue to threaten. It was expected that the Rattle Snake fire that had burned over five thousand acres would be entrenched before tomorrow. Aid of soldiers has been asked by the Montana State council of defense. High winds have fanned the blazes to a strength that makes their control by present forces problematical.

The joining of the Cold Creek fire with the blaze coming down Long Gulch Creek in the Lolo forest caused a fire which spread in three directions at a dangerous pace, though it was temporarily checked when it reached the Old Black Trail Burn. The Hughes Creek fire, in the Bitter Root Forest, jumped the control lines several times. The Running Creek fire has cleared the Salmon Mountains and jumped into Montana and is burning over a large area.

Former St. John Clergyman Tells a Montreal Congregation of the Better Things in Store for the Empire and Especially Canada.

THERE IS CAUSE FOR PESSIMISM

Thinks a Newer, Better Life Will Come to the Commonwealth from the Shaking up it Has Had.

Special to The Standard.

Montreal, July 27.—"Out of the discontent, of the pessimism and of the yearnings after a way out for happiness, there will come a better life, not so selfish as in the past, for our freedom has cost us too dear to allow of selfish lives," declared Capt. Rev. J. J. McCaskill, in speaking at the service tonight at the First Presbyterian Church. Capt. McCaskill has just returned to Canada, having gone abroad as chaplain of the 73rd Battalion. While overseas he was wounded. Rev. Mr. McCaskill before he volunteered for service with the 73rd battalion, was pastor of St. Matthew's Presbyterian Church, Douglas Avenue, St. John. His last sermon, before leaving Canada, was in the First Presbyterian Church, Montreal, and tonight the first pulpit utterance since his return was in the same church.

Rev. Mr. McCaskill's sermon dealt with the same keen observation and grasp of conditions, economic and social, as in his pre-war days characterized his sermons and made him a leader among the pulpit orators in the lower provinces.

"There was a great deal of uncertainty in Britain," Mr. McCaskill said. "A great crying out of voices as to what should be done, voices of individuals, of labor organizations, of others, some strident and loud, others quiet and meek, and the yearning for pessimism." The speaker recalled that only a few weeks ago in Scotland, "I am looking forward to a future, in spite of the disaster, for Britain such as she has never before dreamed of, and for our own commonwealth a place such as we have never dreamed of."

Rev. Mr. McCaskill referred to the 21,000 Canadian soldiers still in England as men, civilians still, who were coming home.

One result had been the riots in the camps, enlarged somewhat in the English press, and, perhaps, in the Canadian press. The Canadians were not alone in this, for riots had occurred among the best of the English troops, the Black Watch, the Cameron, the Seaforth, for there was not a solitary camp in England where the tasks of the war had been different. The speaker referred to the reputation of the Canadian soldiers as second to none of any army.

AUSTRIANS ASK LONGER TIME TO GIVE ANSWER

Were Originally Given Fifteen Days in Which to Make Final Reply to Peace Terms.

St. Germain, July 27.—Dr. Carlo Renner, the Austrian chancellor and head of the Austrian peace delegation, accompanied by Dr. Richard Schuler, another member of the delegation, arrived here today from Feldkirch, near the Swiss border, where they had been in consultation with Austrian government representatives from Vienna. Dr. Renner at once, upon his arrival, formulated a request to the peace conference for an extension of the time accorded Austria to reply to the second part of the peace terms, which were communicated to the Austrians were originally given fifteen days within which to make reply.

MUST SETTLE WITH MARINE ENGINEERS

Pres. of the Union Says Not a Ship Will Sail from Atlantic or Gulf Ports Until Demand is Met.

New York, July 27.—Despite settlement of the strike of the International Seaman's Union, ships will not sail from Atlantic or Gulf ports until demands of the Ocean Marine Engineers' Union, not considered in the settlement, are granted, according to a statement last night by B. L. Todd, business manager of the union.

The demand is that the pay of chief engineers shall be only \$25.00 less than that received by the masters of the ships. Another is that assistant engineers shall be given \$35.00 a month increase.

Mr. Todd declares that shipping would be tied up until adjustment of the demands and that a committee of the union would meet with representatives of the American Steamship Association Monday.

SCOTIAN SAILED FOR QUEBEC SAT.

Has Large List of Soldiers' Dependents, 31 Officers and 150 Men from Buxton.

London, July 26, (C. A. P.)—The Scotian, after being delayed since Tuesday, cleared from Liverpool on Saturday for Quebec bearing 31 officers, four nurses, 27 non-commissioned officers and 150 men from Buxton, 300 wives, 130 children were also carried.

The passengers included Majors J. A. Hammond, G. G. Palmer, Vancouver, C. Washington, Saskatchewan, and J. G. Parmelee of Ottawa.

AMERICAN BOMBER DIGS NOSE INTO MOTHER EARTH

The Army Biplane Comes to Grief on Its "Around the Rim" of the Country Flight

Lake Placid, N. C., July 26.—After having been lost in the air for nearly three hours, the army bombing plane which left Augusta, Maine, this morning for Cleveland on its round the rim of the country flight, landed at Upper Jay near here late today, burying its nose in the ground. The crew was badly shaken up, but no one was seriously injured. The machine will be forced to remain here for at least two weeks to make necessary repairs. In hitting the ground, one wheel damaged in landing at Augusta, yesterday broke, swinging the machine completely around. Lieut. Smith, the pilot, sprained one ankle badly.

QUIET RESTORED AT WASHINGTON

All of the 2,000 Troops Brought There to Quell Riots Are Withdrawn.

Washington, July 27.—All of the 2,000 regular troops brought here to preserve order when last week's race rioting and street disorders got beyond control of the police, had been withdrawn tonight, but the National capital was still depending on the army which was represented by a pro-

THREE CAUSES FOR ITALY'S FAILURE IN CAPORETTO MIXUP

The Findings of the Gov't Commission Appointed to Inquire Into Disaster Makes Report.

Rome, July 26, (By The A. P.)—The findings of the government commission, appointed to inquire into the Caporetto disaster in October, 1917, when the Italian line was broken by the great Austro-German attack, were published here today. The commission report attributes the Italian defeat to three sets of causes, which were:

First—The powerful influence of unfavorable propaganda which seriously affected the morale of the Italian troops.

Second—Political meddling with military plans.

Third—The military's lack of vision, necessary in modern warfare, underestimation of the enemy forces and lack of preparation and material.

General Benato Rosso, who commanded a part of the Italian line on the Isonzo River, was acquitted by a court-martial in March, 1918, of charges that grew out of the Caporetto catastrophe.

CANNERS GIVE UP METHODS HELD TO BE HINDERING TRADE

Cancel Agreements Which Were Found to be Unfairly Increasing Their Monopoly

Ottawa, July 26.—The Coast of Living Commissioner announces that the Dominion and Canadian canners have, as a result of the investigation in progress, given up agreements which were found to be tending unfairly to increase the monopoly of the canners and the latent power to establish undue prices. The agreements, which had only been inaugurated this season, were found to be in restraint of competition and would tend, eventually, to give complete control over the prices of canned goods to the large canners' organization. This is a healthy sign that they have fully and finally given up these methods which have been held to be an unfair restraint of competition.

BANDITS FROM MEXICO KIDNAP AMERICAN YOUTH

Demand a Ransom Price of 1,500 Pesos and Threaten to Execute Him if it is Not Forthcoming.

Washington, D. C., July 26.—Phillip Thompson, fourteen-year-old son of John West Thompson, an American citizen, was kidnaped from his father's ranch, thirty miles from Mexico City, and is being held for ransom. The State Department was advised today. Urgent representations have been made to the Mexican government, it was announced. The bandits took a horse and a revolver from the boy before taking him from the ranch, and they were said to have threatened to execute him, unless the ransom was paid.

SITUATION AT COBALT UNCHANGED

Members of the G. W. V. A. Executive in Conference With the Mine Managers.

Cobalt, July 27.—Members of the executive of the local branch of the G. W. V. A. were in conference last evening with a number of mine managers of the camp in connection with the present strike here. Tom Maguire, M. L. A., for Temiskaming, was also present at the meeting, which lasted until late in the evening. No intimation of the proceedings was given out at the close of the session, which, it is understood, was informal. Apparently there is no change

CONVENTION OF ARMY-NAVY VETS. CLOSED SATURDAY

Receive An Appreciative Message from the King—Important Resolution Passed.

MONTREAL, Que., July 27.—The second annual convention of the Army and Navy Association in Canada came to a close Saturday evening after the busiest day since its opening on Wednesday last.

Many of the delegates, including Dominion President W. J. Tupper, K. C., and Dominion Secretary R. C. Irving, of Winnipeg, are remaining in Montreal for a few days. Many important resolutions were passed on Saturday, including one asking the government to provide special bonuses, not to exceed \$2,000, for fighting men and dependents of fallen soldiers, to be met out of Canada's portion of the indemnity to be paid by the enemy. A cable message was received from the King in appreciation of the message of loyalty sent to His Majesty by the government on Thursday. The Dominion President and other officers and delegates express great satisfaction with the sessions of the convention, saying it surpassed their hopes. The third annual convention will be held next year at Victoria, B. C.

The message from the King was as follows:

"I am commanded to thank you for the loyal message of greetings you have addressed to the King from the Army and Navy Veterans' Association, assembled in Dominion convention, and I am to assure you of how greatly His Majesty appreciates the sentiments to which you have given expression."

Signed PRIVATE SECRETARY.

On Board U. S. S. New Mexico, Friday, (By Wireless and Colon.)—Lieut. Ellis and Sergeant Vonberg were killed today and three persons were injured in a collision between an army aeroplane and a naval seaplane at the entrance to the Colon harbor. The two machines were wrecked.

COUNT KAROLYI AND FAMILY UNDER ARREST AT PRAGUE

Former Hungarian Provisional President Was Attempting to Escape to America.

Berlin, July 26.—(By the Associated Press.)—Count Michael Karolyi, former Hungarian Provisional President, his wife and his entire suite have been arrested and are detained at Prague, according to the Vossische Zeitung.

A despatch from Berlin, July 17, reported Count Karolyi's arrival in Italy after he had made several attempts to leave Hungary. It was said to be his intention to go to America.

MIGRATORY BIRD ACT PAINFUL TO ONE MAN OF DIGBY

Ignorance of the Law Caused Him to Pay a Nominal Fine—Seagulls' Breasts Came from Maine.

Special to The Standard.

Digby, N. S., July 26.—The first prosecution under the Migratory Bird Act took place here yesterday. It was a case of keeping gulls' breasts and wings for sale, and having same in possession. The presiding judge struck a nominal fine of ten dollars, as the defendant evidently did not know of the Migratory Bird Act. It seems from the evidence, that these gulls' breast and wings had been imported from Perry, Maine, to the present number of years, and have been sold as trimmings for ladies' hats. American tourists being the principal buyers of these goods. Mr. Loyd, of the Migratory Bird Commission, came from Ottawa to investigate this case, and also made a large seizure of similar goods in St. John. It would indicate that there is need of more rigid enforcement of the act on the other side of the boundary line.