

Last Night's Cables

Without Full Reparation Peace is Impossible

Germany Must Accede to Terms Or No Negotiations Can Take Place

LONDON, Dec. 20.—Premier Lloyd George said in Commons today that it was felt that they should know before entering negotiations that Germany was prepared to accede to the only terms wherein it was possible for peace to be obtained and maintained in Europe. Premier said that without reparation peace would be impossible. He said there was no proposal for peace. To enter into proposals of which they had no knowledge was to put their heads into a noose with the rope end in the hands of Germany. Much as they longed for it, the Premier added, Central Powers not and speech proceeding it afforded small encouragement and

Lloyd George to Make Important Declaration

Premier Will Speak Under Circumstances Unparalleled in History of House

LONDON, Dec. 20.—The first appearance of David Lloyd George before the House of Commons as Premier was made today under circumstances seldom if ever faced by a new holder of office. Even if the peace proposals of the Central Powers had not intervened, his statement of the policy of his government, which was chosen in reply to a public demand for more vigorous prosecution of the war, would have marked an important step in the world conflict. The peace note, however, shifted the interest, and every corner of the world awaited the announcement as to the British attitude toward move of the Central Powers. The secret was so

VATICAN HORRIFIED

LONDON, Dec. 20.—A Rome despatch to The Daily Chronicle says: I am able to state from a most reliable source that the Pope's attitude toward the initiative for peace is unchanged while he earnestly desires the cessation of the war, he will partake in no peace movement unless he is assured of the consent and desire of both sides. Germany's plea of throwing the blame on the Allies for the continuation of the war has no effect at the Vatican, which is horrified at the latest German excuses, particularly at the French and Belgian slave raids.

NOTHING IMPORTANT

PARIS, Dec. 20.—Official communication given out here today in regard to campaign on Macedonian front, says nothing of importance occurred yesterday in that theatre of war.

AVAITOR KILLED.

PARIS, Dec. 20.—Captain DeBeacamp, in November, made a flight to Munich and dropped bombs on town, has been killed. He met his end in an airfight near Douaumont, his machine falling within French lines.

STEAMER SUNK

LONDON, Dec. 20.—The Spanish steamer Azon has been sunk. She is 2,084 tons.

READ THE MAIL & ADVOCATE

CAN DEFEAT THE ENEMY

PARIS, Dec. 20.—In an army order addressed to the men of his command, after Friday's success, General Mangin, who was in direct command of the troops which forced back the Germans over the Verdun front said, in part, after the battle of October 24th and December 15, fought on ground offering exceptional facilities to the defence with further advantages owing to the weather, none can doubt any longer that it is possible to defeat the enemy. Superior number and disposition of formidable artillery with minute preparation of the ground by good artillery and assistance of vigilant aviators, brave, brave, and well trained infantry, can break through and then manoeuvre under the high command of General Nivelle.

Promotion For Joffre

General Neville Takes Over Command of the French Armies

PARIS, Dec. 20.—General Joffre handed over command of the French armies of the north and northeast yesterday morning to Gen. Nivelle. In a brief speech General Joffre congratulated General Nivelle upon his appointment. Principal officers of the grand headquarters staff who will remain at their posts until Nivelle forms his own staff likewise tendered their congratulations. Nivelle replied, expressing admiration for the high military qualities of the victor of the Meuse, whose selection as President of the Allied Military Council he alluded to as a merited promotion.

Won't Murder Capt. Blaikie

German Foreign Office Says Captain of Caledonia was performing Duty.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—In the Commons today Bonar Law said the German Foreign Office had given assurance that Captain Jas. Blaikie was taken prisoner by Germans at the time the British steamer Caledonia was sunk, but would not share the fate of Captain Fryatt of the British steamer Brussels, who was put to death after being convicted by a German court martial. Personal assurance to this effect, Bonar Law said, has been given the American Embassy at Berlin. It is added Germany considered the Caledonia an armed cruiser and that Captain Blaikie in attempting to ram the sub was merely performing his duty.



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Convinced of Final Victory

Venezolo's Agents to be Recognized—Spirit of Endurance Must be Maintained to Win.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—Premier Lloyd George announces it has been decided to give recognition to agents of former Premier Venezolo of Greece. Speaking of the western front, Lloyd George referred to the growth of the British armies there and continued: "I am convinced that ultimate victory is sure if the nation shows the same spirit of endurance and readiness to learn as the mud-stained armies at the front."

Turning more purely to political and domestic problems before the new Ministry, Lloyd George said: "We are anxious to avoid all controversial questions. The functions of the Premier and leader in the House of Commons has been separated because it was believed the double tasks were too much for one man. The organization of the new Cabinet is best adapted for the purpose of war when we want prompt decision. The Allies suffered disaster after disaster from tardiness of decision."

Lloyd George said the time is come when the Dominions should be consulted more formally as to the war. An Imperial Conference will be summoned at an early date to discuss vital questions. The speech of Chancellor Von Hollweg before the German Reichstag was characterized by Lloyd George as constituting in substance, a denial of the only terms upon which peace is possible. The Premier analysed the German Chancellor's speech and then declared emphatically that without reparation, peace is impossible, moreover what guarantee is there that subterfuge will not be used in the future to overthrow any treaties of peace wherein we might now enter. We must keep a steadfast eye on the purpose for which we entered the war. We entered it to defend Europe from aggressions of the Prussian military caste ever disturbing again the peace of Europe. Prussia has been a bad neighbor. Now that war has really been undertaken it would be folly not to see to it that swashbuckling through the streets of Europe is stopped. Disturbance of peaceful citizens must be dealt with here and now as a most serious offense against the law of nations. We will wait until we hear what terms are guaranteed, there are others than those, better than those, surer than those which Germany has so lightly broken.

Meanwhile, we shall not trust an unbroken army rather than broken faith in anyone who wants only to prolong this conflict has a crime on his soul which oceans of tears could not cleanse, the Premier declared. But anyone who abandons the struggle without attaining its objective would be even more guilty. Are we likely to attain our object by accepting German proposals. To accept proposals would be to put our heads into a noose. Historic examples cause us to regard the proposal with disgust. The Premier said it was proposed to appoint a director of national service, that all industries and services would be scheduled as essential or non-essential war. He said he was convinced that the Irish question was a misunderstanding and that he hoped this misunderstanding would be removed. The settlement of the Irish question, the Premier added, would be a great war measure. Referring to mobilization of labor the Premier said no man would be taken into the army if he were capable of rendering more useful service outside of it. Arthur Nivelle Chamberlain, he announced, had been appointed Director General of National Service. The Government had been fortunate in inducing Neville Chamberlain Lord Mayor of Birmingham to accept the post of director-general under this scheme; he will immediately proceed to organize the system of enrollment for industrial purposes. Reference to the mobilization of labor, Lloyd George said it has been decided to adopt principle of universal national service and that a new department of two sections of military and civil would be created. It was proposed to have a scheduling of industries in certain trades it being regarded as indispensable, labor being provided for them. Volunteers would be asked to come forward for this work, but if they did not do so, the Government would not shrink from asking for compulsory powers. In the course of his speech Lloyd George referred briefly to his break with Asquith saying it is one of the deepest regrets of my life that I parted from Asquith. Some of my friends have known how I strove to avert parting. I am proud to say we neither had any personal quarrel.



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Keep the Home Fires Burning

A meeting of the coal committee was held in the Premier's office yesterday afternoon to discuss the coal situation and adopt measures to provide against a possible shortage of this necessary commodity. The Government Engineer, Mr. T. A. Hall is at Sydney for the purpose of finalizing arrangements with the coal companies to give us whatever supply we may need. The Dominion Coal Co. will furnish steamers to bring two cargoes, the price of which could not be definitely fixed at the meeting, though it was thought that owing to the increase in the cost and the high freight rates there may be a slight advance over present prices.

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