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Russia May Eventually Fight Germany; The Americans Capture Belleau Wood

M. KERENSKY, FORMER PREMIER SAYS RUSSIA IS STILL IN WAR

"I Believe, Indeed I Am Certain That the Russian People Will Shortly Join You In the Fight For the Great Cause of Freedom," Declared Former Muscovite Leader, Who Has Arrived in London.

Former Premier Addresses Labor Conference, But Some Disorder Results and Kerensky Is Afterwards Requested To Retire — His Appearance Before Laborites Complete Surprise.

London, June 26—Ex-Premier Kerensky of Russia has been in London for several days. He is on his way to America. He has kept in retirement, however, and few Russians have been aware of his arrival. His health is bad and those who have seen him say he has gone through remarkable adventures in escaping from Russia and in his journey to England.

The presence of M. Kerensky, of course, is known to the British government, as it is impossible under the strict passport regulations for any aliens to enter the country without the government knowing it.

Kerensky told the labor conference delegates:

"I have just come straight from Moscow, and it is my duty as a statesman and a Socialist to tell you and the people of the whole world that the Russian people, the Russian democracy, are fighting against tyranny.

"I believe, indeed I am certain," added the former premier, "that the people will shortly join you in the fight for the great cause of freedom."

Some Disorder

At the conclusion of Kerensky's speech there were scenes of considerable displeasure. One delegate asked the reason for Kerensky's appearance and whom he represented. The chairman replied that he was not in the confidence of Kerensky and did not know whom he represented.

"We do not want any government 'plant' here. If Kerensky is allowed here, why not Troelstra," referring to Peter J. Troelstra, the Dutch Socialist, who was not allowed to enter England to attend the conference.

The chairman argued that to ask such a question in the presence of a "distinguished gentleman like Kerensky" would not only be an insult but an outrage.

Ordered to Withdraw

There were further interruptions and some disorder, the interrupting delegate refusing to obey the chcair until the conference passed a resolution almost unamiously that he should be ordered to withdraw when he left the conference. Kerensky's appearance before the laborites was a complete surprise. When Arthur Henderson, minister without portifolio in the British war council and former labor leader in the house of parliament, introduced him he spoke in Russian. His remarks were intepreted to the assemblage. He began with an expression of thanks, saying,

"I am very much impressed by the reception accorded me. I do not take it as an expression of sympathy toward me. It is an expression of sympathy toward tthe Russian democracy which is fighting for the ideals so dear to us all.

In London Four Days

Kerensky reached London incognito four days ago. Since then he has moved about quietly, though busily, conferring with prominent Russians in England over the necessity of Entente Allied assistance in Russia. He expects to go to America in a week or ten days.

Russian Charge D'Affairs

M. Nabokoff, was the first person to greet Kerensky upon the latter's arrival in England and has spent more time than anyone else in London with the former Russian Premier. In his conversation with the Associated Press representative M. Nabokoff said:

"Kerensky told me that Russia is like a strong man recovering from sickness. She is healthier than before. All she needs is assistance from the outside. She does not want interference in her internal affairs. That problem she will solve in her own way. It is economic and financial aid that she needs."

Welcomes Aid

"Kerensky is not a social revolutionary," he added, "he is a citizen of Russia and appeals to all intelligent Russians everywhere in behalf of the Fatherland. He especially welcomes American aid because he knows it will be disinterested aid and not the result of personal ambitions."

"He dislikes the term "intervention" as applied to Russia. He prefers to term it "assistance" because he does not believe that Russia has gone out of the war. He insists that the Russian front still exists, that it has been merely pushed back by the Germans and Austrians and will be restored by the resurrected Russians who are rapidly recovering from their illness."

REMARKABLE FEAT BY ROYAL AIRMAN

London, June 26..—A remarkable account of the feat of a squadron commander of the Royal Air Force, who is now in London on leave, is being told at the Aero Club. The day he was to leave France for England he determined to attempt to bring down one more German before his departure at noon. At 9.40 his machine left the airdrome. At 9.55 he met five German scouting phals machines and one German two-seater, just east of Ploegsteerts, Flanders. He shot down two scouts and successfully chased two others so that their pilots lost their heads and crashed their machines into each other, both collapsing in mid-air.

The Englishman then attacked the German two-seater, shooting it down in flames, despite the attempt of the fifth scout machine to interfere. Failing in its attempt, the last German machine flew away, escaping the vigorous pursuit of the Englishman, who returned to the airdrome in time for luncheon and to catch his train.

HOME RULE ISSUE

London, June 26, (via Reuter's Ottawa Agency)—Andrew Bonar Law, government leader in the House of Commons, yesterday, in reply to a question by Godfrey Collins, member for Greenock, as to whether the government proposed to take any action in connection with a suggestion made by Gen. Smuts, in Glasgow on May 19, that the imperial conference might settle the home rule question, said that the imperial conference itself selected the subjects of discussion, and whether this question would be considered would depend entirely upon circumstances.

The Army of Austria Effects Retirement

About Five Per Cent. of the Forces Which Crossed the Piave Were Taken Prisoners—Estimate of 180,000 Casualties Probably Too Great — Vienna Refuses To Admit Defeat.

Special Cable to New York Tribune and St. John Standard. (By Hilaire Belloc).

London, June 26—The latest despatches at hand present little for comment. They tell us definitely that the Austro-Hungarian army has effected its retirement successfully with little further loss in wounded and stragglers.

Apparently about five per cent., or a little less, of the forces which crossed the Piave were taken prisoners. This is a small proportion. On the other hand we now know that the enemy's losses in dead and wounded are exceptionally high. The estimate of 180,000 is probably too great. Much the greater part of such a loss falls on the infantry and not more than two and a half times that number of infantry were engaged. No army could lose close on to half its men actually engaged in five days and survive.

Very High Loss

But even with a lower and more probable figure in mind, the enemy loss is extraordinarily high and out of all proportion to the Italian. This is due to the error the enemy command made in continuing the action after the original plan was exploded. On the Aisago plateau as early as Monday, June 17 the attempt to extend thte St. Dona bridgehead was especially costly.

The pause imposed upon the Germans in France by their chtck in the Matz battles is now nearly a fortnight's duration. The length of time between each portion of the offensive and its renewal is a fairly exact index of the enemy loss. For the only cause for such lulls is the necessity for reorganization and recruitment. Every week's delay is clearly disadvantaeous to the German army in the presence of American arrivals on the field. The attack on Rheims still remains unexplained and apparently inexplicable. The extension of some 25,000 troops over a line fifteen miles long for an extensive attack invited failure and it is impossible to discover either why such an insufficient force was employed or what the final object was that they expected to gain. Probably the true explanations were political.

Austrian Report

Vienna via London, June 26—The official report from general headquarters today says:

"On the front west of the Adige fighting activity has been more lively during the past few days. On the Zugna Ridge we repulsed strong thrusts initiated by vigorous gunfire, with heavy enemy losses."

"On the Asaigo Plateau and between the Brenta yesterday was appreciably quieter. The bitter struggle of June 24th ended in complete failure for the Italians, which was most perceptible in the disputed regions on Asolone and Monte Pertica. Our detachments, pursuing the enemy, captured several sectors of his front line. Thanks to the bravery and determined attacks of our troops, all the Italian efforts to recapture the ground they lost on June 15th were sanguinarily failed."

NEW GLASGOW MAN COMMITS SUICIDE

Young Married Man Was on Wrong Corner of the Eternal Triangle.

Halifax, June 26.—James Reid, of New Glasgow, twenty-one years of age, shot and killed himself in an office building here this afternoon. He was a married man and it is alleged to have been paying attentions with a view to matrimony to a young woman of this city. He shot himself in the presence of his wife.

BIG FIGHT OFF

Baltimore, Md., June 26.—The board of police commissioners announced today that except for the boxing contests for which permits have been granted, no more will be allowed during the period of the war. In effect this prevents the meeting of Fred Fulton and Jack Dempsey in this city.

SEVERAL CABINET CHANGES COMING IN NEAR FUTURE

Sir George Foster May Retire and Enter Senate—Mr. Pardee Likely To Enter the Cabinet.

Ottawa, June 27—The Citizen says this morning:

"When Sir Robert Borden returns to the capital, rumor has it that a number of changes will be made in the cabinet. It is reported, for instance, that Sir George Foster, Minister of Trade and Commerce, will go to the Senate and retire from the department, while Hon. A. K. McLean, who made good as acting Minister of Finance, is likely to get a full cabinet portifolio.

"The announcement that Mr. Blondin is to return to the postoffice department suggests the probability of his qualifying with a seat in the Senate It is rumored, for example, that Lieut. Governor Leblanc of Quebec will resign because of ill-health and be succeeded by Hon. Joseph Bolduc, speaker of the Senate, thus creating a vacancy in the upper house for Mr. Blondin. A parliamentary secretaryship of the post office department may be created, and in that connection the name of J. E. Armstrong, of East Lambton, is prominently mentioned. Other changes are also mooted.

It is to be remembered that the prime minister is pledged to give liberals cabinet representation on the fifty fifty basis and there are now about three short of it, so the new men are likely to be largely of that political stripe. Mr. F. F. Pardee, and one or two of the prominent men not in politics may land in the cabinet. If Mr. Crothers retires, Hon. Gideon Robertson, with a seat in the house, would probably succeed him."

DILMAN CAPTURED BY THE TURKS

London, June 26.—A Turkish official communication received here says: "In the region of Lake Urumiah we have occupied Dilman."

Dilman is an Aserbaijan province, Persia, and about 50 miles northwest of Urumiah, Persian Amernia.

CALL TO COLORS

Washington, June 26—White and colored draft registrants numbering 124,522, were summoned to the colors for general military service in a call issued today by Provost Marshal General Crowder. Mobilization will take place at intervals during the month of July, starting with the entrainment of 27,257 white selected men on July 5.

UNITED STATES TROOPS TAKE GERMAN POSITIONS

Americans Make Advance and Push Forward Positions in Belleau Wood.

THEY KILL NUMEROUS GERMANS IN ATTACK

Capture of Belleau Wood of Considerable Strategical Importance.

While the Italians have been busily engaged in cleaning up the Piave battle front, gathering together the spoils of war and making straggling Austrians prisoners, the American troops stationed in the Belleau Wood northwest of Chateau Thierry, have been devoting their time to showing the Germans again the fighting timber of which they are made.

Following up their recent attack as a result of which they occupied the wood in its entirety, they have advanced their positions materially northwest of the wood and made prisoners of 264 of the enemy, in addition to inflicting heavy losses in men killed or wounded.

Hurricane of Fire.

The attack was launched Tuesday night with the purpose of driving out the few remaining nests of Germans in the wood—nests from which enemy parties constantly were harassing the Americans. It followed a hurricane of artillery fire, the intensity of which stunned even those of the Germans who previously had gone through the terrific drumfires of the British and French. The hammering of the guns was kept up for 13 hours before the infantry set out to accomplish its task, and the havoc wrought by the American shells, many of them of high explosives, was evident from the number of enemy dead strewing the ground and the state of general demolition that prevailed.

Of Much Importance.

The capture of Belleau Wood is of considerable strategical importance, owing to the fact that from it the Germans had been able to rake the allied positions on all sides of it with their artillery. Its eastern and northern edges also command the railroad behind the German lines running to Chateau Thierry.

All the positions held by the Austrians on the lower Piave, constituting the Capo Sile Bridge Head, have now been taken by the Italians and the entire western bank of the Piave is clear of the enemy. Nearly 400 prisoners were taken in the enterprise. Aside from this fighting there has been little activity in the southern sector of the Italian theatre. Seemingly the chase of the enemy on the western bank of the Piave has ended, at least for the time being. In the mountains heavy bombardments are in progress in various sectors, and intensive aerial operations are going on along the entire front.

The Rome war office re-asserts that all the artillery lost by the Italians to the Austrians in the initial stages of the fighting has been recaptured.

On the battle front in France and Flanders the operations continue on a minor scale. The British both in Flanders and in Picardy have carried out successful encounters against the Germans.

MONCTON FAKE STORY OFFICIALLY DENIED

Interned Alien Enemies Not Taking Places of Strikers.

Ottawa, June 26.—According to A. E. Warren, Chief Operating Officer of the Canadian Government Railways there is no foundation for the report that laborers employed in tearing down the old Intercolonial shops at Moncton have quit work, and that interned alien enemies from the detention camp at Amherst have taken their places.

Mr. Warren stated that interned men were being used at different points on the C. G. R. system, but they were also being employed by other railways.

BIG U. S. ARMY

Washington, June 26.—During the senate debate today it was disclosed that if the highest hopes are realized 1,450,000 men will have reached France some time in August, and that there will be a total force under arms of approximately 3,500,000.

Guelph Incident Will Be Reported to Rome

If Pope Rules Honor of Jesuit Order Is At Stake As Result of Recent Raid on Novitiate, Letter of Remonstrance May Be Sent By Him To Great Britain — Jesuit Priest Talks — Letter From Hon. Mr. Doherty.

Toronto, June 26—If the Pope rules that the honor of the Jesuit Order is at stake as a result of the recent raid on the Novitiate at Guelph, a letter of remonstrance may be sent by him to Great Britain. The matter has now assumed an international aspect owing to the fact that a full report has been sent by Father Power, Superior General of the Order in Canada, to Father Aledo Chowski, at Rome, General of the Jesuits throughout the world, who in turn, will take the matter up with the head of the Roman Catholic church.

Such was intimated by Father Power when interviewed on a train on its way to Montreal, where, today, he consulted the Jesuit Fathers and considered the question of taking legal action as a sequel to statements arising out of the raid of June 7.

Priest Protests.

"We must, however, enter a solemn protest against any private individuals, whether lay or clerics, attempting to usurp the functions of our public legislators as those Protestant ministers have done," said Father Power.

"We ourselves never made the least attempt to know what is going on in the Protestant seminaries, but if we did know that they really had a large percentage of defaulters and deserters we never would think of interfering in the matter, but would strictly mind our own business. We would, in fact, consider it a gross piece of impertinence if we were to attempt to direct the higher military authorities in the course they should pursue, still more if we attempted to browbeat them as some among the Protestant ministers have done.

Folly of It All.

"I have reason to believe that the net results of this passing storm will be to show Catholics and Protestants alike the folly of making religion, which is essentially peace and love, a pretext for rancor, and bitterness. Let us rather, as I have stated before, endeavor to meet on a common platform of Christian peace and charity, while awaiting the happy moment when we can meet on a common platform of Christian belief. In necessary things let there be unity; in doubtful things let there be liberty; but in all things let there be charity."

Hon. Mr. Doherty's Reply.

Ottawa, June 26.—In having been represented that Rev. W. D. Spence, president of the ministerial alliance of Guelph, had not received an answer to a series of instructions addressed to Hon. C. J. Doherty, acting prime minister, regarding the Guelph affair, Mr. Doherty states that an answer had been sent by his secretary and mailed Sunday night. The questions were only sent on Saturday. After some consideration Mr. Doherty consented to a copy being made public. The letter, dated June 22, is as follows:

Ottawa, June 22, 1918.

Reverend Sirs,

I am directed by the minister of justice to acknowledge the receipt this day, your telegram of the 21st inst., and to inform you that it is so that his son became 19 years on the 1st December, 1917, and consequently does not come within the act, having entered on the 30th of March, 1918, and was, and is, as the dates given in your message clearly establish, free from any obligation whatsoever under the law. Of course, any obligation to submit to military medical examination or to register in his military district.

Was Turned Down.

I am further to say that though under no obligation, and not being within the act . . . in no position to obtain a certificate under it . . . . the young man, did nevertheless, present himself for examination and was examined by four physicians, all members of the examining boards appointed under that act and being more than a complete board, and was found unfit as already stated by the minister and by the military authorities. Of this fact, the latter are in possession of written evidence satisfactory to them.

I am instructed to point out that this information is conveyed to you, in the hope that it may put an end to the misapprehension under which you have been apparently laboring, not as recognizing the propriety of your message and to add that the minister does not see that any useful purpose can be served by a discussion between your body and himself of this matter, in so far as it may personally affect him, and that in view of this correspondence, must be so far as he is concerned, considered closed.

Yours respectfully,

E. TREMBLAY,
Private secretary.

The questions asked by Mr. Spence to which the foregoing is an answer, were as follows:

Guelph, June 21, 1918.

Minister of Justice, Ottawa,

Re your statement in today's papers, is it not so that your son was 19 in December, 1917, and therefore does come within the act, having entered March, 1918? Has he military papers to prove physical unfitness? Did he register in his military district?

(Signed) Guelph Ministerial Assn.

VON KUEHLMANN MAY QUIT PLACE

Basel, Switzerland, June 26—A rumor has reached here from Berlin that Dr. Richard Von Kuehlmann, the German Foreign Secretary, will resign his portfolio.

Amsterdam, June 26.—Following the speech of Dr. Von Kuehlmann in the German Reichstag, dealing with Germany's war aims, Deputy Groeber (Centrist) expressed regret that the utterances of the foreign secretary were still as bloodthirsty as ever.

Count Von Westarp, Conservative, said that the words of the foreign secretary regarding responsibility for the war alarmed him and that Dr. Von Kuehlmann's declaration did not strengthen the will to peace.

"Abroad," he continued, "They will, I fear, regard it as a new peace offensive. An appeal to the good will of England is useless."

Secretary Von Kuehlmann made a general reply to the criticisms raised in the debate. He said the most difficult questions in the circulation of peace would be territorial questions.

NO C. B. STRIKE

Sydney, N. S., June 26.—The Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company dispute is settled with the company having granted increases approximating those granted their New Glasgow employees, declared J. C. Watters, government mediator, tonight.