

GERMAN-RUSSIAN PEACE CONFERENCE IS ENDED

HINDENBURG SAID TO ACT AS DICTATOR

LUDENDORFF IS THE ACTUAL GENERALISSIMO UNDER GERMAN GENERAL

KAISER IN THE HANDS OF THE MILITARY DESPOT

Correspondent of the London Mail Says Stories of Political Crisis in Germany Are Purely Military Propaganda.

LONDON, Jan. 11.—Frederic Weile, a former Berlin correspondent of the London Mail, says the German crisis stories are purely propaganda.

General Hindenburg is the supreme dictator of Germany.

General Ludendorff is the actual generalissimo under Hindenburg, whose popularity assured success of any move getting his aid.

The Kaiser is entirely in the hands of the militarist despots; the crown prince is a steadfast Hindenburgist.

Chancellor Hertling is Hindenburg's political manager; the foreign secretary is permitted to do only what is ordered.

The Reichstag is merely a debating society, their only vestige of power is voting funds.

The food situation is bad, but not near breaking.

The German army is war weary, but so are the other armies. Germany won't stop fighting until made to see militarism does not pay. Germany will not accept peace until defeated.

FARM LOAN BILL PASSES HOUSE

McADOO AUTHORIZED TO BUY \$200,000,000 OF FARM LOAN BONDS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—The House adopted the conference report authorizing Director-General McAdoo to buy \$200,000,000 worth of farm loan bonds in the next two years. The Senate agreed to the report. This action saves the loan system from disaster.

POSTOFFICE RECEIPTS SHOW AN INCREASE

The year 1917 was a good year at the La Grande postoffice. Postmaster Bragg's annual report shows that the postal receipts for the year ending December 31, 1917, were \$25,000, an increase of \$1500, or 6 per cent over the year ending December 31, 1916. The receipts for the quarter ending December 31, 1917, were \$8599, an increase of \$1299 over the same period of the year 1916.

The amount of deposits on hand in the postal savings bank on January 1 was \$1750, showing a healthy increase over the previous year.

The La Grande postoffice just now has a new department, that of looking after the sale of thrift stamps. The office has received \$7000 from the sale of these war savings stamps, of which \$3000 worth were sold at North Powder, \$200 at Imbler and \$2900 at the La Grande office.

Go to War ROSEBURG, Jan. 11.—War forced a business firm out of existence here today, when the Douglas Junk & Hile company announced it will close its doors while the proprietors, M. Chused and M. Wolff, go to war.

THE WEATHER

PORTLAND, Jan. 11.—The U. S. weather forecast: "Rain or Snow."

Bill Proposes to Take over Oil Lands

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—Senator Swanson has introduced a bill authorizing Secretary Daniels to take over and operate the California and Wyoming oil reserves. The bill is backed by Secretary Daniels, and seeks to settle a long controversy over private claims in the reserve.

FOOT OF SNOW HAS FALLEN IN LA GRANDE

RAILROAD HAS NO TROUBLE. ROTARY SNOW PLOWS NOT OUT YET

About a foot of snow has fallen since last night. So far no rotary snow plows have been sent out. There are five inches of snow at Kemel, and nine inches at Telocaset, but there are no winds and no drifting, so that the railroad has had no trouble. The morning trains were both late, No. 17 being three hours late, but the delays did not occur on this division and were not due to snow.

Early this morning the city street department got to work, having sidewalks cleared off and the gutters cleaned out in the down town district.

CITIZENS URGED TO AID IN FOREST PROTECTION

Agricultural Councils of Oregon Pass Resolutions Calling for Support of Government Policy.

CORVALLIS, Ore., Jan. 11.—(Special.)—"Resolved that we, the Agricultural Councils of the State in convention assembled at O. A. C. this 4th day of January, 1918, do most earnestly urge on all loyal citizens the subordination and renunciation of any opinions held by said citizens relative to proper methods of fire protection which are in conflict with the policies promulgated by the government for the protection and conservation of its forest resources."

This resolution was handed to the news editor of the College, by U. L. Upson, president of the council convention, with the explanation that most of the heavy annual fire losses would be prevented by following its provisions.

The farmers of the State have pledged themselves to cooperate with all departments of the government in its war program, and cooperation will save the losses from forest fires, 50 percent of which are of incendiary origin.

County Agents and county agricultural councils are called upon to extend all the influence they possess to foster this cooperation.

COOL BOY PRAISED BY PERSHING



Private Taylor, Washington boy who went to France with U. S. engineers in August, has been commended by General Pershing for coolness in action. His detachment was doing construction work on a front line trench Nov. 15-18 when the sector was shelled and gassed by the Boches. Taylor and the others worked under the shell fire, suspending operations only while they were compelled to wear their gas masks. Taylor is 21 and enlisted in July.

AT BELSHAZZAR'S FEAST



LATE NEWS BY WIRE ALLIES FACE GREAT CRISIS IN THE WEST

RAILWAY AND FUEL DIRECTORS MEET

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—Promptly after effecting a working organization, the director general of railways held a conference with Fuel Administrator Garfield to consider plans looking to an immediate improvement in the transportation of coal.

The needs of New England and other sections that are short of fuel were given first consideration to relieve suffering incident to the blizzard. As a consequence an order was issued ordering the movement of coal trains eastward ahead of all other freight.

To facilitate the movement of coal the director general is considering a plan of transferring locomotives from the roads West and South for use on the busiest eastern lines. With the equipment will also come employes to assist the overburdened East.

The fuel administration has delivered to the director general of railway full data as to the sources from which New England coal moves, in order that shorter routing may be adopted wherever possible. A distribution schedule covering the North Atlantic states and eastern Ohio has been worked out. This shows the various mining districts and the distribution lines along which coal must move to points of consumption. The effort of the fuel administration will be to eliminate the cross-hauling of coal. Specific coal-producing districts in West Virginia and western Pennsylvania will be set aside to supply the distributing centers in the North Atlantic states.

NEW PLAN WORKS WELL

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—The reports received from Deputy Fuel Distributor D. R. Lawson of Fairmont, W. Va., show that the new plan of the fuel administration of decentralizing the distribution of emergency orders for coal is working admirably. Under the new plan every mine in the district has been receiving at least partial supplies of cars, and the daily loss of tonnage, which formerly ranged from 32,000 to 38,000 tons, has been reduced to from 1500 to 2500 tons.

SERBIAN LEGATION IN WAR TIMES

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—Italy had her vision of an Italia Irredenta; Greece still cherished The Great Idea, and other European nations have "dreams that never can come true."

But while their statesmen like to talk about national aspirations in hushed tones and "not for publication," there is no false modesty evident at the Serbian legation, the home of the Yugoslav Confederation.

Serbia aspires to become the dominating power in the Balkans. Her statesmen remember heroic Serbia in the days before the Turkish tide swept over the Balkans to the gates of Budapest. They remember how Serbia alone refused to yield to the Ottoman yoke and her bitter struggle.

GERMANY REFUSES TO MEET RUSSIANS ON NEUTRAL SOIL

Russian Foreign Minister Trotsky Moves to Conclude the Meeting. German Delegates Blame Allies for Failure to Participate in General Peace Conference.

Russian Delegates Charged With Inciting German Troops to Revolt

Official Statement Says Russian and Ukrainian Delegates Are to Formulate Answers to the Teutonic Proposals. War Preparations Are Resumed and Troops Ordered to Their Posts Occupied Before the Revolution.

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 11.—The Brest Litovsk German-Russian peace conference terminates.

It was suspended yesterday when the Germans flatly refused to transfer the negotiations to neutral soil, Trotsky moving the conclusion of the meeting.

The German delegates announced plans for a general peace meeting was definitely off as the result of the allies' failure to respond within ten days to an invitation to participate, so the central powers are seeking only a separate peace. The Germans charged, the Russian officials wire-lessly the German troops, urging a revolt. The meeting was bitter.

PETROGRAD, Jan. 11.—Russian Foreign Minister Trotsky asked the suspension of the peace conference until the Russian-Ukrainian delegates were able to formulate a reply to the Teutonic proposals, according to an official statement.

It is reported Trotsky told the conference Russia would not agree to a German planned peace. War preparations have been resumed, officers ordered to ante-revolution posts, and troops are preparing for service.

No Stock Dividends Permitted in Russia

PETROGRAD, Jan. 11.—The Bolsheviks suspended payments by private companies of dividends, and prohibited stock transactions, pending the nationalizing of business and the determination of the interest rate.

CREW OF JONES COOL AND HEROIC

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—The report of Lieutenant Commander Bagley on the torpedoing of the destroyer Jones shows that heroic sticking to posts made possible the rescue of 44 members of his crew. The destroyer sank eight minutes after being hit. The men's coolness was highly praised.

GERMAN CHANCELLOR WILL ANSWER ADDRESSES

BERLIN, Jan. 11.—Chancellor Hertling will probably reply to Lloyd George's and President Wilson's addresses in his Reichstag speech Monday.

Sweaters for Camp Lewis CAMP LEWIS, Wash., Jan. 11.—Soon there will be sweaters galore in this cantonment. A shipment of 17,500 garments, knitted by Red Cross members on the Pacific Coast, are expected within a few days, for distribution to the men not provided for already. The organization has distributed 10,000 sweaters here already, and the new distribution, together with the receipt of sweaters from relatives and sweethearts by many men, will enable every enlisted man in camp to sport a knitted garment.

Pendleton Has Home Guards

PENDELTON, Jan. 11.—Pendleton's home guard unit has annexed considerable territory. Known officially as the Umatilla County Guard, it has been given official recognition by the State of Oregon, and it is fully equipped and armed. The Pendleton reserves and a number of promising recruits comprise the unit, which is commanded by Captain Lee D. Drake.

BOTH PARTIES HELPED SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—The National woman suffrage association issued a statement that the passage of suffrage was due to neither party but to friends of the movement in all parties. This is to forestall the possibility that both parties are seeking to make political capital. The women are working for immediate Senate action.

"TRUST SMITH TO MOVE FREIGHT"



ALFRED H. SMITH Alfred H. Smith, McAdoo's first assistant, the man who will be in direct charge of the operation of all the railroads in the country, is not a "front office man." He knows railroading from the ground up. There are other railroad officials who are better financiers, better engineers, or cleverer politicians; but when it comes to getting traffic over the tracks they all take off their hats to Smith.