



DUMA UNANIMOUS IN REFUSING PEACE

German Proposal Is Quickly Rejected.

DECISIVE VICTORY DEMANDED

Offer Officially Declared Proof of Weakness.

FUTURE WAR IS FEARED

New Minister of Foreign Affairs in Address Says Russia Repudiates Idea, and Is in Accord With Allies.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—A dispatch to Reuters' Telegram Company from Petrograd says:

"The Duma has unanimously passed a resolution against the acceptance of the German peace proposals, after a spirited speech by the Minister of Foreign Affairs."

The text of the resolution as received here follows:

"The Duma, having heard the statement by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, unanimously favors a categorical refusal by the allied governments to enter, under present conditions, into any peace negotiations whatever.

Fresh Proof of Weakness Seen.

"It considers that the German proposals are nothing more than fresh proof of the weakness of the enemy and a hypocritical act from which the enemy expects no real success, but by which it seeks to throw upon others the responsibility for the war and for what happened during it, and to exculpate itself before public opinion in Germany.

"The Duma considers that a premature peace would not only be a brief period of calm, but would involve the danger of another bloody war and a renewal of deplorable sacrifices by the people. It considers that a lasting peace will be possible only after a decisive victory over the military powers of the enemy and after definite renunciation by Germany of the aspirations which render her responsible for the world war and for the horrors by which it has been accompanied."

Peace Move Not Surprise.

M. Pokrovsky, in his speech to the Duma, said:

"In addressing you immediately upon having been appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs, I am not in a position to give you a detailed statement on the political situation, but I feel constrained to inform you without delay and with the supreme authority of His Imperial Majesty of the attitude of the Russian government regarding the application of our enemies, of which you have heard through news telegrams.

"Word of peace coming from the side which bears the whole burden of responsibility for the world conflagration which it started and which is unparalleled in the annals of history, however far back one goes, was no surprise to the allies.

Peace Mentioned Before.

"In the course of the two and one-half years of war, Germany has more than once mentioned peace. Seeing now that she is powerless to make a breach in our unshakable alliance, Germany has been obliged to propose to open peace negotiations. In substance, the German proposal contains no tangible indication regarding the nature of the peace which is desired by the enemy armies which devastated and occupied Belgium, Serbia and Montenegro, and part of France, Russia and Roumania.

"The motives of the German step will be shown more clearly if one takes (Continued on Page 4, Column 3.)

FRENCH MAKE BIG GAINS IN DRIVE

MORE THAN 7500 GERMAN PRISONERS CAPTURED.

Booty Includes Several Heavy Guns. Gain of Three Kilometers Made on 10-Kilometer Front.

PARIS, Dec. 15, via London, Dec. 16.—The French troops in an advance today north of Douaumont and between the Meuse and Woivre rivers, captured more than 7500 prisoners and several heavy guns, according to the French official communication issued tonight.

The advance was over a front of 10 kilometers and to a depth of three kilometers. The statement says: "After several days of artillery preparations, we attacked the enemy to the north of Douaumont, between the Meuse and the Woivre, on a front of more than 10 kilometers. The enemy's front broke down everywhere to a depth of about three kilometers.

"Besides numerous trenches we captured the villages of Vacherville and Louvumont, the farms of Chambrettes and the fortified works of Hardaumont and Bezon-Vaux.

"We have taken a great many prisoners, whose exact number has not yet been determined. Seven thousand five hundred of them, including 200 officers, already have been passed through our commandant's posts.

"We have taken or destroyed numerous pieces of heavy and field artillery and also a considerable quantity of material. Our losses are slight."

3000 ACRES TO GET WATER

Land in Western Part of Umatilla County to Be Made Productive.

PENDLETON, Or., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Three thousand acres of raw land in the west end of Umatilla County will be brought under irrigation and cultivation next season according to L. A. Riemann, county watermaster.

The land consists of 1000 acres under the Purnish project, 1000 acres under the Western Land and Irrigation project, 500 acres under the Umatilla project and 500 acres under the West Extension.

BOY'S DREAM COMES TRUE

Orphan Adopted by Wealthy Widow to Tour Orient.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Planning a year's trip through the Orient to make her little adopted son's dream of foreign lands come true, Mrs. Caroline B. Esger, wealthy widow and a member of the Friday Morning Club, will leave Los Angeles next Thursday for San Francisco, whence with the boy she will sail for the Philippines in January.

The 9-year-old son, Theodore, had dreamed of seeing foreign lands while he was a tiny child in an orphanage.

TRANSPORT MAY BREAK UP

Stranded Summer Believed in Danger and Crew Seeks Rescue.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—The United States transport Summer, which went aground in Barnegat, N. J., in a fog Monday night and which has resisted all efforts of tugs to draw her off the sand, was believed early this morning to be in danger of going to pieces.

Vessels which had gone to her assistance have been asked to stand by to take off the members of the crew who have remained on board.

PORTLAND POSTAL GAIN BIG

First Fortnight of December Shows \$6757.25 Increase Over 1915.

Receipts at the Portland postoffice for the first two weeks of December show an increase of \$6757.25 over the receipts for the same period last year. This was announced by Postmaster F. S. Myers.

Receipts for the month of December up to and including December 15, 1916, compared to receipts of \$47,493.96 for last year.

CYCLE POLICEMAN IS SLAIN

Los Angeles Officer Killed While Pursuing Speeding Auto.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 15.—A bullet fired by an unidentified person ended the life tonight of Thomas J. Kronschnabel, a motorcycle officer of the Los Angeles police department, while he was pursuing a speeding automobile tonight on a residence street here. John L. Butler, Chief of Police, immediately instituted a systematic search for the officer's assailant.

LLOYD GEORGE IS BETTER

Chief of Imperial General Staff Makes Visit on Business.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—An official communication issued tonight concerning the condition of David Lloyd George, the British Prime Minister, says: "The Premier's condition is improving, but he is not yet receiving visitors. The chief of the imperial general staff, however, spent some time with him today transacting urgent business."

Burglars Ransack Residence.

The home of F. L. Dellschneider, 653 East Ninth street north, was ransacked last night by burglars who escaped with about 50 pieces of table silverware, besides a bracelet, a necklace, other jewelry and toilet articles. Detectives Craddock and Smith investigated.

BLIZZARD RAGING; MERCURY AT ZERO

Cold Wave Is General Over East.

NEW YORK HAS FIRST SNOW

Cleveland Suffers Milk and Natural Gas Famine.

OKLAHOMA IS SHIVERING

Coal Buyers From 18 States Are in Chicago Trying to Get Supplies, but Stocks Are Low and Cars Are Lacking.

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Zero weather was registered in Chicago early today. Continued cold weather is promised. By morning the mercury will go below zero, according to predictions of Henry J. Cox, the official forecaster. The lowest temperature last night was zero, at 2 A. M.

The cold wave was general over the country. North Dakota and Western Minnesota points are in the grip of a blizzard. The velocity of the wind was 40 miles an hour. The temperature hovered around the zero mark.

New York Has First Snow. New York had its first snow, five inches falling before noon. The movement of shipping was interfered with seriously. Several big steamships are being held up outside the Hook. Street traffic soon became congested.

With a temperature of 6 above, Cleveland is in the throes of a milk and natural gas famine. Milk producers put on an embargo after a fight with dealers, and gas firms are having trouble with machinery.

At Danville, Ill., it was 8 below. Other downstate points reported below zero temperatures.

Oklahoma Coldest in 16 Years.

Tulsa, Okla., had the coldest day in 16 years, with 2 below, while the same kind of weather was reported in Central Indiana, the official temperature being 1 1/2 degrees below.

Warnings were sent out to shippers everywhere tonight to prepare shipments West and Northwest to withstand 15 degrees below zero.

Coal buyers from 18 states are in Chicago trying to get supplies, but stocks are depleted and the car shortage prevents any shipments enough to meet the demand halfway.

PARIS WORSHIPS BY DAY

Midnight Christmas Masses Cut Out to Save Light and Fuel.

PARIS, Dec. 15.—There will be no midnight masses in Paris on Christmas eve. Cardinal Amette, archbishop of Paris, has so decided.

The holiday services will take place wholly in daylight, in order to economize in lighting and fuel.

WOMAN ATTACKED IN SAVING GIRL

ROSEBURG JITNEY HELD FOLLOWING INCIDENT.

Girl Victim, Whose Plight Led Would-Be Rescuer Into Trouble, Has Disappeared.

ROSEBURG, Or., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—When Mrs. L. J. Barnes, prominent Roseburg church worker, stepped from her home at 11:30 last night in response to a woman's call for assistance, she was set upon by a man, dragged about 20 feet and hurled against a rugged stone embankment in front of her dwelling. She sustained a severe fracture of the wrist, a number of deep cuts about the hands and arms and may be internally injured.

Although not recalling the name of her assailant, Mrs. Barnes accompanied the officers to the business district today where she identified Gordon Gage, a local jitney driver, as the man who made the attack upon her. Gage was later arrested and is under \$1000 bonds.

Mrs. Barnes told the officers that she was about to retire last night when she heard a woman moaning.

"Please crank the car and go," the girl pleaded. When the driver made no attempt to proceed Mrs. Barnes neared the machine to investigate. She was greeted with a curse and as she drew nearer the man leaped from his seat and struck at her with his fist.

The driver then started to curse, got out of the car and grasped Mrs. Barnes by the throat and dragged her to the edge of the road. Here he tightened his grip and hurled her violently against the rugged rocks of the embankment.

Every Roseburg officer went to work on the case early this morning, but tonight they had been unable to locate the girl in the case.

45-YEAR BOYS TO JOIN CLUB

"Pop" to Be Requirement of Proposed Portland Organization.

A "Young Men's Club," in which all the members shall be more than 45 years old, is to be organized in Portland, just by way of showing how far the men in this city are quite able to come forward and prove their fitness after 45 as the Chicago men have been doing. The idea of a man so young having to defend his efficiency was a stunner for the forty-fivers of Portland.

Anybody who is over 45, able-bodied, young looking, "full of pep," fond of fishing and play and full of zest for work is eligible to membership. The organization will be perfected December 27 at 8 P. M., at the Central Library.

HATTIE PULLS SNOW-PLOW

New York Zoo Elephant Does Work of Gang of Shovelers.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Miss Hattie, the 16-year-old elephant of the Central Park Zoo, hauled a snow plow through the park today. Hattie was as effective as a small army of ordinary men shovelers. Keeper William Snyder said that when the snow ceased falling he intended taking her and the plow to the Fifth-avenue sidewalks to clear them.

"If the street-cleaning commissioner had a dozen elephants," he said, "he could sweep the avenue in short order. Hattie's plow cleans a 12-foot path and takes up at least a ton of snow each trip."

RAILWAYS AND MEN SEEK SETTLEMENT

Controversy May End Out of Court.

LEADERS HOLD CONFERENCES

Hope Is to Make Terms Outside of Adamson Law.

SITUATION IS IN EMBRYO

President of Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen Says There Is Prospect of Reaching Agreement on "Middle Ground."

EVANSVILLE, Ind., Dec. 15.—W. G. Lee, of Cleveland, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, publicly announced here today for the first time, that negotiations are under way between the leaders of the brotherhoods and those higher up in the chambers of the operating departments of the railroads, looking to a settlement of their entire controversy out of court before January 1, when the Adamson law is scheduled to go into effect. He said the settlement was in a crude state as yet.

Mr. Lee made the statement in the course of an address before the Central States Conference on Water and Rail Transportation, which closed its sessions here tonight.

Settlement Strongly Desired. "I know I am not betraying confidence," he said, "when I say some of the very best brains high up in the chambers of the operating departments of the railroads favor something satisfactory to both sides and they have discussed it with us. I left them only Wednesday night in New York and will be back there soon."

"We hope to work it out. We know that if we don't work it out for ourselves, the employes and the employers, somebody is going to work it out for us, and it will not be acceptable to either side."

Both Sides Share Hope. "We know that for 25 years these organizations have dealt across the table in the most friendly spirit, and we believe there is sufficient intelligence on both sides of the table to enable us to get together, man-like, and thresh these things out and reach middle ground."

Mr. Lee said it was the hope of the brotherhoods to effect a settlement outside and independently of the provision of the Adamson law. He intimated that the railroad leaders also share this hope.

BOTH SIDES ARE IN ACCORD

Desire to Avoid Compulsory Arbitration Said to Be Mutual.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Proposals suggested recently by a committee of the National Civic Federation, to de-

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RELEASE OF OREGON TROOPS IS REFUSED

MR. McARTHUR TRIES WITHOUT AVAIL AT WAR DEPARTMENT.

State Department Said to Be Apprehensive About Mexico, and Desirous of Holding Men.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 15.—Representative McArthur today spent considerable time in conference with War Department officials in an effort to secure an order returning Battery A and Troop A, of the Oregon National Guard, to their homes. At every turn he was told that the department could not at this time see its way clear to release any more troops from border duty, especially since the State Department is said to feel apprehensive about the Mexican situation and has advised against the further release of guardsmen.

Mr. McArthur pointed out that the Oregon cavalrymen and artillerymen are at the west end of the border, where no trouble is feared, and protested against continuing them on the border unless their services actually are to be required, and this he did not believe to be the case in view of their situation. The department was obdurate, however, and Mr. McArthur could obtain no favorable assurance.

In the face of the representation made to Mr. McArthur, the War Department recently ordered the Idaho National Guard home, and it is to be in Idaho before Christmas, notwithstanding the professed anxiety of the State Department.

POTATOES \$200 AN ACRE

Carl S. English, Clarke County Farmer, Nets \$3000.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Carl S. English, a prominent Clarke County farmer, this year had 15 acres planted to potatoes, which netted \$3000 above all expenses, or \$200 an acre. This is as much as many made from their prune orchards.

Mr. English has a gasoline tractor and he used it in plowing his land this year, pulling a disc seeder behind and a harrow behind the seeder. The tractor is used in operating the feed mill and ensilage when not putting in the crops.

BULLETS HELP DENTISTS

American Dealers Report War Conditions Boost Trade Here.

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—Members of the American Retail Dental Dealers' Association in annual meeting today reported that the cessation of foreign competition and the removal of many teeth by dentists as a result of the European war had brought about a large increase in the last year in the dental trade of America.

It was asserted that competition of German and French dental dealers had heretofore hindered the manufacture of teeth in America.

Auto Smashed in Collision.

An automobile, registered as the property of Walter S. Basey, 729 North Edison street, St. Johns, was wrecked last night in a collision with Kenton street train No. 1, at Lombard and Greenwich streets. The car was found deserted by Patrolman George Adams.

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NEW TRAFFIC LAW DIES EARLY DEATH

Complaints Come Too Fast For Council.

EMERGENCY ACTION IS TAKEN

Rules Existing Prior to Sunday Are Re-Established.

PARKING PROTESTED MOST

Stop Limit of 15 Minutes Equally Obnoxious to Drivers and Merchants, Latter Declaring Interference With Shopping.

So loud has been the wail against provisions of the new traffic ordinance limiting stops in the business district to 15 minutes and prohibiting drivers of for-hire cars from standing more than 15 minutes in their old haunts, the City Council yesterday passed an emergency ordinance wiping out the new regulation and establishing virtually that which existed before.

The new amendment allows cars to stand for 30 minutes within any two-hour period during the day except on certain parts of Washington and Morrison streets and Broadway. It allows drivers of for-hire cars to stand for an unlimited time provided the driver remains in the car and moves away when ordered so to do by the owner or occupant of the business house in front of which he is standing or when ordered to move by a policeman.

Non-Parking Signs Allowed. The merchant is empowered to place a sign in front of his place warning against any driver parking there.

In the ordinance about which there has been so much talk the stop of any car was limited to 15 minutes. Merchants objected to this because it did not give persons sufficient time to shop and it met with objection from the for-hire car drivers because it forced them out of the business center. It also prohibited any merchant from putting out a non-parking sign.

Changes Cost Money. That ordinance was adopted because of all kinds of complaint from merchants against for-hire car drivers standing in front of business places and refusing to move on. The change now is aimed to prohibit that.

These changes together with several others that have been made in the last few days, make worthless the traffic ordinance books issued a few days ago. It will be necessary now to have a new set printed. The cost of the discarded set was \$249.75.

COUNTY BOARD APPOINTED

Governor Leaves Selection of Deputies Official to Commissioners.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—W. D. Barnes, of Tualum, was named County Judge for the new county of Deschutes and A. L. Mackintosh, of Bend, and L. E. Smith, of Redmond, County Commissioners by Governor Withcombe today.

Mr. Barnes is a well-known rancher residing in the western part of the new county; Mr. Mackintosh lives at Bend and is a shoe dealer, while Mr. Smith is a resident of Redmond.

The Commissioners will select the county seat, which probably will be located at Bend, and it will fall to their lot also to name the officials of the new county.

RATE ADVANCE POSTPONED

Commerce Board Takes Action Affecting Shipment to East.

Eastbound transcontinental tariffs carrying advances of 10 cents per 100 pounds on many of the principal commodities produced in the Northwest and which were to have gone into effect on December 30, were suspended, by order of the Interstate Commerce Commission, yesterday until March 1.

This was the advice received last night from Joseph N. Teal, attorney for the Portland shippers, who now is in Washington.

The West-bound tariffs still are before the commission for consideration. Local shippers believe that they also will be suspended.

ROUMANIA'S PREMIER QUILTS

London Hears Resignation Is Reported in Bucharest Paper.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The resignation of Premier Bratianu, of Roumania, is reported by the Bucharest newspaper Avilias, as quoted in an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Copenhagen.

A recent dispatch from Jassy, the provisional capital of Roumania, said all the members of the Roumanian Cabinet had resigned with the exception of the Premier.

Flax to Be Tested for Twine.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—The Eugene Chamber of Commerce has sent F. Small, a San Francisco manufacturer, samples of flax grown in Lane County for the purpose of testing it in the manufacture of fishermen's twine. This twine is now selling at \$2.25 a pound.

OREGON'S DAIRY PRODUCTION IN 1916 TOTALS \$20,000,000. The Oregon dairy cow is a great wealth producer and each year its product adds materially to the total of Oregon's farm output. This year dairy production in Oregon will reach a total valuation of \$20,000,000, an increase of \$2,000,000 over last year. In 1901 Oregon's total butter output was 1,680,000 pounds; last year it was 13,447,725 pounds, and this year it will total approximately 16,300,000 pounds. The cheese output in 1901 was 1,185,763 pounds and this year it will reach nearly 9,000,000 pounds. Production of condensed milk has been increasing rapidly also, the output in 1914 being 19,880,756 pounds, and this year it will total more than 27,000,000 pounds. In addition to the growth of the dairying industry, the quality of the output has been improving steadily, so that today Oregon milk products rank with the highest produced in the United States. The progress of the dairying industry in Oregon will be reviewed fully in the New Year's edition of The Oregonian.

Advertisement for the Bank of Sympathy. The ad features a man in a top hat holding a sign that says 'FOR HE'S A GOOD FELLOW'. Below him is a woman and a child. To the right is a large sign that says 'BANK OF SYMPATHY'. At the bottom, there is a car and a dog. Text includes 'BUY YOUR STOCK IN THE BANK OF SYMPATHY TODAY', 'DO YOUR SHOPPING EARLY', and 'BUY AN AUTO SYMPATHY LICENSE AND GO AFTER THE WOLF'. The signature 'HEYNOLDS' is at the bottom.