



CAUTION URGED IN HANDLING RUSSIA

Separate Peace Project May Fail.

NO PRESSURE, POLICY NOW

Hasty Condemnation of Bolsheviks Might Cause Reaction.

HOPE STILL ENTERTAINED

Slavs, After All, May Not Violate Entente Treaty and Coming Conference With Germans May Fail of Purpose.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—Realization of the danger of causing a reaction in Russia favorable to the central powers by intervention in the political affairs of the new democracy has caused officials here to sound a note of warning against hasty condemnation of the Bolsheviks.

Back of what is described as a tolerant policy in dealing with Russia apparently not only is a purpose to demonstrate faith in the ultimate stabilization of the democracy, but a faint hope that the extremist faction which is for the moment in control of the government will refrain from violating Russia's treaty pledges to the entente allies and make a separate peace.

So long as there is a possibility that these overtures will fail because of the apparently irreconcilable differences between the Bolshevik peace scheme founded on "no annexations and no indemnities" and the German demands for compensation and "adequate safeguards for the future," it is regarded as bad policy to exert any pressure from the outside at this stage. To do so it is believed would only tend to cause resentment in Russia and to solidify the various elements around the Petrograd regime.

Discretion Held Necessary.

An additional reason for maintaining an attitude of watchfulness and reserve in Washington is found in the fact that to meet just such a situation as is developing in Russia is one of the purposes of the inter-allied conference assembled in Paris. There are intimations that suggestions have reached Washington from the French capital that it would be well to avoid adverse criticism here of the Russian tangle, leaving the commissioners gathering in Paris to deal with it, at this stage at least.

It is even possible that in pursuance of the idea that by moral suasion Russia can be prevented from going to the extreme of making a separate peace, some of the entente powers may decide to make some sort of acknowledgement of the receipt of the Lenin-Trotsky peace and armistice proposal.

No surprise is diplomatic circles here at the speedy acceptance by Germany and Austria of the Lenin proposals. It had been assumed that with no intention whatever of accepting any of the substantial demands of the Bolsheviks, the German and Austrian changes would not miss this great opportunity to eliminate Russia as an offensive military force for the many days, weeks or even months during which the skilled German diplomats might protract the negotiations for an armistice and peace.

Troop Release Possible.

In the meantime, of course, there may be releases for active service against the British, French and Italians on the west front hundreds of thousands of German, Austrian, Turkish and Bulgarian soldiers hitherto maintained on the eastern front.

It will be for the inter-allied conference in Paris to devise some means of neutralizing this German scheme, possibly by influencing the Bolsheviks to present itself through an exposition of the duplicity and real aims of the Germans or by recourse to the elements in Russia represented by General Kaledines and other leaders who have refused to acknowledge the control of the Maximalists.

The letter of Lord Lansdowne, suggesting a moderation of allied war aims, which has aroused such a bitter feeling in England, may, in the opinion of some of the diplomatic officials here, prove a powerful factor in keeping the Bolsheviks within the entente allied circle by letting them perceive that their own doctrines regarding peace are not lacking in support among entente statesmen.

AMSTERDAM, Nov. 30.—The Austro-Hungarian government, according to a dispatch from Vienna, has sent an official reply accepting the Russian government's wireless proposal to enter into negotiations for an armistice and a general peace treaty.

The reply was sent yesterday and is as follows: "The guiding principles announced by the Russian government for negotiations for an armistice and a peace treaty counter proposals to which are awaited by the Russian government, are, in the opinion of the Austro-Hungarian government, a suitable basis for entering upon these negotiations. The Austro-Hungarian government therefore declares that it is ready to enter upon negotiations as proposed by the Russian government."

SUICIDE FOLLOWS WOUNDING OF WIFE

CAMAS HUSBAND SEEKS REPRISAL AFTER DIVORCE SUIT.

Samuel C. Whitmyer Kills Self After Shooting Wife in Neck—Quarrel Precedes Tragedy.

CAMAS, Wash., Nov. 30.—(Special.)—Samuel C. Whitmyer is dead and his wife is seriously injured as the result of a quarrel this afternoon over a pending suit for divorce, as the culmination of which Whitmyer shot his wife and himself. The couple have long been residents here and have five grown daughters living in the county. Mrs. Whitmyer instituted the suit about two months ago and left the family home here to live with one of her daughters. A few days ago she returned, and, according to the daughter and son-in-law who lived at the couple's home, all went well until today, when Mrs. Whitmyer spoke of leaving soon. Mr. Whitmyer attempted to persuade her to stay and to drop the pending suit; she refused, hot words followed, and before either the daughter or the son-in-law, who were in the room, could prevent Whitmyer pulled a .32-caliber revolver from his pocket and fired two shots. The first struck his wife just below and behind the right ear in the fleshy part of her neck and coming out below her jaw lodged in the floor. The second Whitmyer fired into his own skull. He fell forward, dying instantly.

BOOTLEG FINES PAY COST

County Will Not Need Appropriation for Detection.

Multnomah County will not be forced to include a special budget for apprehension of prohibition violations during the coming year, it was decided by the County Board yesterday on receipt of a letter from District Attorney Evans to the effect that fines received from bootlegging convictions more than offset the cost of ferreting out and prosecuting such cases.

The District Attorney suggests that the Commission authorize the placing of all bootlegging fines in a special fund to be used in securing evidence in the county and to be distributed under the law. The board indicated yesterday that this action will be taken.

VANCOUVER DEPOSITS BIG

\$2,658,496.06 Total Is Record. Gain Is \$105,000 in 3 Months.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Nov. 30.—(Special.)—The deposits in the Vancouver National, United States National and the Washington Exchange banks of this city totaled \$2,658,496.06 at the call just made for statements.

SCHOOL BUDGET LOWERED

Taxpayers and Directors of District No. 1 Meet at 10 A. M. Today.

Taxpayers residing in School District No. 1 at 10 o'clock this morning will meet with the members of the Board of Education at the courthouse for a consideration of the 1918 budget.

M'ADOO AIDE HERE TODAY

Washington Man to Assist in Starting War Savings Stamp Sale.

H. D. Marshall, of Washington, special representative of Secretary McAdoo, will arrive in Portland today to work with Postmaster Myers and local bankers in perfecting plans for putting the war savings stamps and certificates on sale Monday.

ARMY'S HEALTH IMPROVES

Report for Week Ending November 23 Shows Change for Better.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—Slight improvement in health conditions in the Army camps for the week ending November 23 is shown by the weekly health report of Surgeon-General Gorman.

PICTURE PLAYWRIGHT HELD

Movie Production, Warrant Says, Tends to Cause Disloyalty.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Nov. 30.—Robert Goldstein, author and producer of a motion-picture play, the films of which were seized last night, was arrested today here on a Federal warrant charging him with "producing a publication" tending to cause disloyalty and mutiny among the armed forces of the United States.

BRUSSELS CALM AS TEUTON FOES NEAR

Populists Told to Abstain From Fighting.

Secretary of the American Legation in Brussels at the outbreak of the war. Copyright 1917, Doubleday, Page & Co., by Otis F. Wood.

CORRESPONDENTS AT CAPITAL

Newspaper Men Flock In to See Impending Battles.

While I was writing Z came in, suffering from a bad case of panic. He announced as he burst into my office that the Germans were within 20 kilometers of the city this evening. He was fairly trembling, but got indignant because I denied it, having just talked with Colonel Fairholme and with Maxwell, both of whom had no more than come back from the front.

BELGIAN ARMY UNASSISTED

Hugh Gibson Writes of How Heroic Little Nation Stemmed German Tide for Many Days and Upset Invaders' Plans.

BY HUGH GIBSON. Secretary of the American Legation in Brussels at the outbreak of the war. Copyright 1917, Doubleday, Page & Co., by Otis F. Wood.

WOMEN CONDUCTORS NEXT

Tacoma Railway Company Alarmed Over Shortage of Men.

TACOMA, Wash., Nov. 30.—(Special.)—Woman conductors on Tacoma streetcars is not at all improbable if the war continues, to decrease the supply of men. While the Tacoma Railway & Power Company has not yet taken the matter under serious consideration, it has given the question of employing women some thought, according to George W. Rounds, superintendent of transportation.

HOOVER, JR., OPERATED ON

Son of Food Administrator Treated for Appendicitis.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 30.—Allan Hoover, 10-year-old son of Herbert C. Hoover, Federal food administrator, underwent an operation for appendicitis today.

MONTH'S LOSS 25,000 MEN

Total of British Casualties for Period Is 120,089.

LONDON, Nov. 30.—British casualties reported during the month totaled 120,089, divided as follows: Officers, killed or died of wounds, 115; men, 24,223. Officers, wounded or missing, 3537; men, 21,108.

BOMB FOUND AT DETROIT

Powerful Explosive Discovered at Police Station.

DETROIT, Nov. 30.—A 16-inch bomb with an unlighted fuse was found on the window ledge at the police station today.

The City Chemist said it contained a sufficient quantity of powder to have caused a serious explosion.

UNUSUAL SEASON IS BOON TO STOCKMEN

Warm Rain Follows Snow Storm in Eastern Oregon.

Grass Is Still Green and Growing at Baker, and Ranchers Predict Decline in Hay Prices.

BAKER, Or., Nov. 30.—(Special.)—Violating all weather precedents, a warm rain here today and last night followed a snow storm yesterday and drenched the plowed fields, to the delight of the farmers.

November has been the most remarkable one in years, since the cold snap last October, the temperature has been unusually mild. Lilac bushes, shrubbery and trees are budding, leaves are still falling and wildflowers throughout the county are reported to be blooming.

Winter wheat is four inches high and grass is still green and growing. Ranchers expect that the ultimate effect will be a marked drop in price of hay, because few of them have as yet been compelled to start feeding.

Never before, the stockmen say, have they been able to use the ranges so late in the season. Last year the thermometer registered below zero on November 10 and snow covered the ground all month.

This year, except on the highest ranges, pastures are still bare of snow.

TITLE IS ATTACKED AFTER HALF CENTURY

Suit to Reclaim Lands to Be Filed Today.

Suit attacking the title to valuable river frontage, the estimated worth of which is nearly \$1,000,000 and which is now held by the O.-W. R. & N. Co., will be filed in the Circuit Court this morning by Reinhart Hill, administrator of the estate of Henry Ploch, deceased, who died in this city March 21, 1852.

This suit against the railroad corporation may possibly be the forerunner of other suits against more than 1000 homeowners in the Carruthers Addition and involving several million dollars.

RIVER FRONTAGE IS INVOLVED

Henry Ploch Estate Valued at Nearly Million Dollars.

A story teeming with romance and dramatic possibilities is woven into the 12-page complaint which has been prepared by Thomas Hanlix and George Arthur Brown, attorneys for the heirs of the deceased, Henry Ploch. It is a story of how Ploch, coming to this Western country by ox-team settled on a 160-acre donation land claim, now known as the Carruthers Addition.

The Ploch family is reported to have come to this country from smallpox before he had had an opportunity to file his claim with the Land Office and of how his nephew, Reinhart Hill, learned of his claim to the property more than 60 years later while in Portland making a search for the burial place of the almost-forgotten pioneer.

Intimates of a suit hoped to be brought to light yesterday when Hill filed in the County Court a petition to be named administrator of the estate of Henry Ploch, who died nearly 65 years ago.

CITY BEGINS NEW YEAR

Increased Salaries Go Into Effect Generally.

This is New Year's day for the city government. The fiscal year of 1917 closed yesterday and the year 1918 starts today.

All financial books for the year were brought to a close at 5 o'clock last night and all unexpended money went into the city's general fund, there to remain until called upon for the next expenditure under the new budget for the year 1918. The new year marks the beginning of increased salaries for firemen, policemen, laborers and others in the city service and also marks the beginning of all new policies adopted by the Council for 1918.

BANDON YOUTH DROWNED

Alma Hunt Caught by Wave and Carried Out to Sea.

BANDON, Or., Nov. 30.—(Special.)—Alma Hunt, 16-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hunt, of this city, lost her life in the surf at the mouth of New River, 12 miles south of here, Thanksgiving day. Her body was seen floating in the shallow breakers when a wave caught her hair.

The youth was taken off his feet and carried out to sea by the undertow before assistance could reach him. The body has not been recovered. He was a freshman in the local high school.

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GERMAN RULED OUT OF OREGON COURT

W. CHYBKl FIRST ALIEN ENEMY DEPRIVED OF RIGHT TO SUE.

Judge Bell Stops Attempt to Set Up Defense and Cross Complaint in District Court Action.

"No alien enemy can come into court and attempt to prosecute a civil action against an American citizen."

With this injunction District Judge Bell yesterday cut short an effort of W. Chybki, a German, to set up a defense and cross-complaint in an action started by E. L. McDougall, an attorney. McDougall was given judgment for \$25 which he alleged to be due for legal services, while a cross-bill for \$75 against the attorney which Chybki sought to recover was summarily dismissed.

This is believed to be the first case in any court in Oregon wherein an alien enemy was deprived of the right to prosecute a civil action, as is contemplated in an act passed by the last Congress.

Chybki, it was brought out, is still a subject of the Kaiser, though he has lived in the United States for more than 10 years.

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BIG MASS MEETING MOVES TO MUST GILL

Slaxity in Vice Matters Held Proved.

Failure to Remove Chief Beckingham and Thus Exhibit Real Desire to Meet Demands Made by General Greene, Are Cited.

COUNCIL ASKED TO IMPEACH

No Voice Dissents When Resolution Is Put to Vote.

McCOURT TELLS SITUATION

Without equivocation, speakers and resolutions alike denouncing the Mayor for allowing the use of his name and reject his explanation that it was without his consent because he is no longer a member of the firm.

John McCourt, a leading lawyer and prominent in civic affairs, presided. John McCourt, former United States District Attorney of Oregon and now a representative of the War Department, who made the special investigation for the Government into the moral condition of Seattle, was one of the principal speakers. He was the man who recommended to Mayor Gill that the only way to show good faith in carrying out General Greene's