

REPUBLIC STARTED IN RUSSIA

MEMBERS OF NATIONAL BOARD TO MANAGE OPERATION OF RAILWAYS.

Legislative Body Assembles at Minsk and Independence Will Be Proclaimed.

PETROGRAD BANKS SEIZED

Branch of National City Bank of New York Taken by Bolsheviks and R. R. Stevens, Manager, Is Arrested for Keeping Keys.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—The establishment of a republic in White Russia has been announced, according to Petrograd news today.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 27.—Soldiers acting under the orders of Finance Commissioner Menshinsky today surrounded and seized all private banks in Petrograd, including the branch of the National City Bank of New York.

At the time for the opening of the banks detachments of the Red Guard gathered in the streets and barred the entrances. Later the banks were entered, under the leadership of Mr. Menshinsky.

Mr. Stevens declared his bank had no vaults, but only small safes. After his arrest he was permitted to return to the bank, which was placed under guard.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The National City Bank of this city, whose Petrograd manager, R. R. Stevens, was arrested in the bank's branch there, will look to the Government of the United States to protect its interests and no doubt all necessary steps in this regard will be taken, it was said by an official of the bank here today.

Mr. Stevens, it was said, has been in charge of the Petrograd branch since it was opened in January. No direct word has been received from him in regard to his difficulties.

The National City Bank of New York was granted a license last January to begin business in Russia, with particular reference to the financing of railroad construction. The license given it was the first granted to a foreign bank to do business in Russia since 1878.

MEXICANS DRAFT MORMONS

Colonists Forced Into Army According to Report Just Made.

SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 28.—Prested into the service of the fighting forces of the Mexican government and forced to fight side by side with the Mexican troops is the fate of scores of young men, members of the Mormon Church, living in the vicinity of Mexico City, according to A. W. Ivins, who has charge of the church colonization work in Mexico.

Mr. Ivins reports to the church authorities here that several of the Mormon young men in the church colony of about 1000 persons have been killed and many of the homes have been destroyed by Mexican outlaws. He also reports that several of the chapels and schools of the Mormons have been destroyed.

Ray L. Pratt has been sent to Mexico to intercede with the Mexican government for the colonists and he is at present in Mexico City endeavoring to obtain the protection of the government.

AMERICAN WOMEN HONORED

Nurses Serving on Western Front Are Given Special Mention.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—Field-Marshal Haig, the British commander-in-chief, has submitted a list of names of persons serving on the western front, as deserving special mention. The list, which was published today in the London Gazette, contains the names of many American nurses attached to the American Army Nursing Corps.

The names of the women mentioned are: Miss B. M. Alexander, Chicago unit; Miss S. Briggs, Lakeside unit, Cleveland; Mrs. J. Christie, Presbyterian Hospital unit, New York; Miss C. Cuppage, St. Louis unit; Miss M. Dunlop, University of Pennsylvania unit, Philadelphia; Miss G. M. Gerrard, Harvard University unit; Miss C. Hall, Harvard unit; Miss H. G. McClelland, Philadelphia unit; Miss I. McKee, Lakeside unit; Miss L. Marsh, Presbyterian Hospital unit; Miss J. C. Stinson, St. Louis; and Miss D. Arch, of the Chicago unit.

Files Cured in 6 to 14 Days. Druggists refund money if PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure itching, burning, or protruding piles. First application gives relief. No-Quit-Down-and-Out.

Not Quite Down and Out. Many a man feels that he is down and out when as a matter of fact he still has in him many years of good service that can be brought out by proper treatment. Stomach trouble often makes one dependent. It hits him when he lives, saps his strength and energy and makes him feel like giving up. Give him a few doses of Chamberlain's Tablets to improve his digestion and invigorate his liver and bowels, and in most cases recovery is prompt and effectual.—Adv.

BEILLANS Absolutely Removes Indigestion. Druggists refund money if it fails. 25c.

TEUTONS' OFFER OF GREAT REPAIEMENT

British Newspapers Are Not Satisfied With Proposals Made by Czernin.

WAR WEARINESS EVIDENT

Sincere Desire to End War Is Conceded by Some, but Terms That Would Vindicate Militarism Are Held Impossible.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—Newspaper opinion here on the reply of the central powers to the Bolshevik peace terms follows two main lines. It is held that it seems to be felt that the central powers have made a perfectly sincere offer to end the war immediately, while on the other hand it is declared that they have set a cunning trap in which they hope, although vainly, to catch the allies.

The former view is supported strongly, for instance, by the conservative Daily Express, which stands uncompromisingly for victory over the central powers and is an ardent apostle of anti-Prussialism. In all the papers taking this view the statement of the central powers is regarded as being addressed less to Russia than to the allies collectively and the offer made through Count Czernin is assumed to be an initial proposal which the central powers are prepared probably to modify in the course of bargaining, for nowhere is the term of the central powers regarded as entirely acceptable in their present form.

Terms Germany's First Bid. The Express says: "The terms may be taken as Germany's first bid. The proposals are, of course, wholly inadequate, but it is significant that the idea of conquest has been abandoned completely. An authority in the demand of the allies for reparation is ignored totally. There is no doubt that the negotiations are a form of camouflage for the central powers, who are talking to the allies through Russia. It is a general peace that Germany and Austria-Hungary want and behind Czernin's words there is, we think, a perfectly sincere desire to end the war at once. The offer, for what it is worth, is obviously genuine. An authority allied to the reply to Count Czernin might be a demonstration to the German people that the allies have no wish to contrive their destruction, but their development or threaten their independence. When they once understand what the allies really mean, they will see that their intentions are not to complete the destruction of that militarism which has set out to conquer the world."

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The Daily News, which is regarded as being tinged with pacifism, contends that Germany had to choose between her extremists and her moderates, and that the latter have possibly satisfied both Count Reventlow and Philipp Scheidemann. "If the allies are appealed to by the Russians for their views, they should seize without hesitation the opportunity of making a candid and reasoned statement of their war aims and their peace terms. On important questions, such as the repudiation of territorial ambitions and punishment of the aggressors, they should not be in a hurry to accept the proposals of peace terms as framed under such circumstances as brought the present German proposals to birth. Its demands may be assumed to represent not an irreducible minimum but a skillful negotiator's stock in trade."

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Germans Have Designs in Russia Pending Negotiations.

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According to the rumors it had been proposed by the representatives of Germany and Austria that pending the resumption of the negotiations Russia should mediate between the central powers and the Bolsheviks with a view to bringing about a general peace. Should the attempt fail, the occupation of the several strategic points by the central powers was proposed so that pressure might be brought upon the Bolsheviks.

The proposal, says the correspondent, caused consternation at the Smolny institute, the Bolshevik headquarters. Dr. Von Kuhlmann, the German Foreign Secretary, is reported as having replied to a prevailing commotion between the Russian and German Socialists. Reports of fighting and other military activities in interior Russia continue numerous, but they are so contradictory that it is impossible to get at the truth of the situation.

The Morning Post's Petrograd correspondent quotes from the newspaper the report of the finance commissioner on the financial condition of Russia, in which he stated that all sources of the state's income have been cut off. It shows the railroads entirely occupied with moving troops and munitions, and that the Red Guard, who travel free, there being, therefore, no receipts from passenger traffic.

The correspondent says the only resource of the state is the printing of paper money and that the government is bankrupt. A field headquarters communiqué issued after a long interval mentions only the western and southwestern fronts. It ignores the northern front, but indicates that there is still a Russian front in existence along about two-thirds the length of the Russian points where they were needed.

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RAILROAD HEAD COMMENTS ON FEDERAL CONTROL OF LINES.

President of Southern Pacific Company Says Reliance Can Be Placed on Railroads.

William Sproule, president of the Southern Pacific Company, views the decision of President Wilson to take the railroads of the country under Government control as a war move that is fully justified and that should have beneficial results.

Mr. Sproule's comments on the Administration's action, conveyed to Portland for information of the public yesterday through the local offices of his company, follow: "The public can rely on it that in the operation of the railroads, interference with the normal business of the country will be kept to the lowest point consistent with the purposes of the Government in the winning of the war. The fact is, that in emergencies the Government can, without any question, do things in the public interest that it would be unlawful for private ownership to attempt. It should be evident to everybody that it is the intention of the Government not to impede industry and its carriage, but to facilitate it, that the utmost facilitation of the railroads may be put to the public use and the business of the country gain in dispatch.

"As to the financing suggested for the roads needing it, this can be accomplished directly when it is the Secretary of the Treasury himself who has his hand upon the operation and conduct of the railroad systems of the country.

"No Word Received as to Government's Taking Over Railroads. SALEM, Or., Dec. 28.—(Special.)—Until it reaches a definite form as to the plans of the Government in

handing the railroads of the country, the Public Service Commission will pursue its accustomed course in all matters coming before it pertaining to railroads. This is the belief of Commissioner Buchtel, the one Commissioner who was here today. "So far the Commission is without information, save such as has appeared in the press, relative to the Government's proposal to take over control of the roads," said the Commissioner. "It is my understanding that existing laws will not be interfered with."

WAR WILL SOLVE PROBLEMS

Question of Management Will Be Settled, Says C. A. Prouty.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 28.—The war will undoubtedly precipitate a solution of the problems which so long have confronted the Government and railroad managements, in the opinion of C. A. Prouty, director of valuations of the Interstate Commerce Commission, one of the speakers today before the American Economic Association. He predicted that within the next 10 years there will either be Government ownership of railroads or at least a fixed National policy to determine the value of railroads and to facilitate harmonious co-operation, looking to adequate service and uniform rates.

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Bands and Edges at 39c Yard

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27-Inch Flouncings at \$1.19 Yard

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\$1 to \$3.50 a Pair

Store Opens at 8:30 A. M.

Saturdays at 9 A. M.

Store Closes at 5:30 P. M.

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The Most in Value—The Best in Quality

WAR MUST CONTINUE

Victory First, Then Peace, is France's Reply.

TEUTON DESIGNS ARE SEEN

"An Ally Has Failed Us, but Another Has Come; From Other End of World Democracy Has Risen Against Austro-Germans."

PARIS, Thursday, Dec. 27.—France will not accept a peace based on conditions before the war, Foreign Minister Pichon declared in replying in the Chamber of Deputies today to the peace secret treaty with the Bolsheviks, but that the war would go on whether or not Russia made a separate peace.

The Foreign Minister said Germany was seeking to protect the negotiations with the Bolsheviks, re-establishing commercial relations in the meantime, believing that in this way the Bolsheviks might be checkmated later. Referring to the terms which the central powers offered to the Russians, as published today, he said: "Germany is trying to involve us in her Maximalist negotiations. After suffering as we have, we cannot accept terms that would compromise France. By agreement with our allies, we are ready to discuss direct propositions regarding peace, but this is indirect."

"Russia can treat for a separate peace with our enemies or not. In either case the war for us will continue. An ally has failed us, but another has come; from other end of world democracy has risen against Germany's appetite for conquest."

"At the conference in Paris a programme was drawn up and in consequence unity of action on the part of the allies will make itself felt, even to Macedonia, Germany and her allies have undertaken the impossible task of conquering the world. The world will conquer them."

"In this war France will have played a great role, for, as Roosevelt has said, she will have saved humanity."

France Not Compromised. M. Pichon declared that the secret treaty published by the Bolsheviks have not compromised France. He said the German diplomats who were pretending to show indignation were the very men who sought to negotiate a secret treaty with the old regime in Russia, who attempted to drag Mexico into war against the United States, and organized an exploit in Argentina.

After referring to the German declaration that Alsace and Lorraine would never be surrendered, M. Pichon said: "The question of Alsace-Lorraine does not affect France alone. It is a world question. It is not a territorial problem, but a moral problem. On its solution depends whether or not the world shall have a durable peace."

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Top—(Left) Samuel Ray, (Right) Howard Elliott. Below—(From Left) Hale Holden, Julius Kruttschnitt and Patrifax Harrison.

McADOO IN CONTROL

Nation's Railroads Pass Into Government's Hands.

UNIFICATION WORK BEGUN

McAdoo Issues First Order to Speed Up Freight Movement and Full Co-operation is Pledged by Various Executives.

Government, in assuming control of the railroads, is only superimposing its authority on them and that as the roads are owned now as before by their stockholders, railroad employees are still employees of the owners of the roads.

Not only did members of the war board assure the director-general of the railroads, but they also assured the public that the new arrangement, but hundreds of telegrams reached the Treasury Department today from railroad officers throughout the country promising co-operation.

Railroad finances were touched on slightly at today's conference. Legislation suggested by the President's proclamation. This will be introduced in both houses of Congress when the President goes to the Capitol to outline his recommendations for financial arrangements.

There was considerable speculation today as to the Government's policy respecting the means of raising funds to reimburse the roads if operating revenues under Government control fall off. This can be done by paying the deficit out of the treasury or by raising freight rates. The roads are anxious that rates be raised. The disposition of Government officials apparently is favorable to a rate increase.

Government Freight Problem. It is considered unlikely that there will be any strong sentiment for transferring to the Government the freight free of cost as is done in England. Officials hold that if Government freight is paid for as it is hauled the Government will be in a much better position to determine accurately the exact financial effects of Government operation.

The Interstate Commerce Commission is held to issue its independent agency deciding on their merits requests for rate increases, and the subject of increases will become a matter of government policy to be decided probably by the President.

Some railroad officials today expressed the belief that once the railroads are run as a single unit it will be impossible after the war to go back to the old system of competition. Lifting anti-pooling restrictions, they hold, will disrupt elements of organization necessary under a competitive system and at the same time demonstrate that competition is wasteful and uneconomic.

McAdoo Assumes Duties. The text of Mr. McAdoo's order follows: "Having assumed the duties imposed upon me by and in pursuance of the proclamation of the President, dated December 28, 1917, you will until otherwise ordered continue the operation of your road in conformity with said proclamation. You are requested to make every possible effort to increase efficiency and to move traffic by the most convenient and expeditious routes. I confidently count on your hearty co-operation. It is only through united effort, unselfish service and effective work that this war can be won and America's future be secured."

Although Mr. McAdoo does not believe a complete unification of all rail systems can be brought about overnight, even with legal restrictions lifted, he fully expects measures taken under Government control will remove some of the obstacles that now prevent the rapid movement of freight. Members of the war board were requested to study the situation and report on any measures to relieve congestion that might wisely be put into force.

Transfer Without Formality. The railroads, passed under Government control without any formality. At 12 o'clock the director-general and the members of the railroad war board were so deeply engrossed in the discussion of measures to relieve congestion that they did not note until half an hour later that someone, glancing at the clock in Mr. McAdoo's office, called attention to the fact that the roads were out of the hands of their directors.

OREGON COMMISSION WAITS

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