

AMERICAN RELIEF WORKS SPLENDID

Gerard's Diary Records Feeding of 2,200,000 of Population of France.

GERMAN BARBARITY NOTED

Possibility Felt in Berlin That America Has Nothing to Do With Peace Conditions; Destruction of Suez Canal Planned.

RUSSIA'S COLLAPSE FORESEEN.

In the article published today the former Ambassador to Russia gives his impressions of German conditions in May, June and July, 1918. From this it is seen that with the sort of tacit truce between the Austrians and Russians on the eastern front in May, 1918, against the "fraternization" that led, a year later, to the collapse of Russia.

BY JAMES W. GERARD, American Ambassador at St. Petersburg, 1917. Author of "Four Years in Siberia," "The Russian Revolution," "The Russian Campaign."

ARTICLE XI.

(Ambassador's Private Diary Continued.)

May, 1918—I delivered the last American note to Von Jagow today. He said they probably would not answer, and then engaged me in gossiping conversation.

These people want peace and will gladly accept the President as mediator. The Pope, they think, will work for peace—a "Makler Lohn," as they call it—concessions for the church, such as the return of the Jesuits, etc.

If there is good and sick of war here, perhaps they may not feel like revenge, after all—but there is an ever-present danger we must prepare for. The fact that I was given detailed instructions as to leaving, etc.—which they undoubtedly learned, with their wonderful spy system—helped the Russian revolution.

The Chancellor and I became great friends as a result of my stay at the Hauptquartier. The League of Nations was attacked most bitterly. The government published a certificate in the Official Gazette to the effect that I was their faithful ally, etc.—and they were very kind to me.

I really think they recognize that the propaganda was an awful failure and want to inaugurate the era of good will.

I did not go to the front at the Hauptquartier as reported. I had enough to do in Charleville, but did witness the splendid relief work being done by the Americans, who are feeding 2,200,000 of the population of Northern France. Twenty thousand of the inhabitants of Lille, Belgium, are being fed by the aid of the American relief work.

While at Charleville in connection with American work I asked at one village to see the German army stores, so as to convince myself that the German army was not using the stores from the American relief work. One-half the stores came from Holland.

I think the psychological moment is approaching when Colonel House should appear as the President's white emissary of peace.

While the food question here is pressing, the harvest will be good, if present indications continue. Here is the principal crop, and this is harvested about July 22. I think, however, Germany can last, and in very desperation may try a great offensive which may break the French lines and change the whole position. The people here, although tired of war, are well disciplined and will see this thing through without revolution.

Chancellor Hopes for Peace. We are rather in calm after the last crisis. The Chancellor sent for me and said he hoped we would do something to England or propose a general peace, otherwise his position here will become, he thinks, rather bad. Dulbrück, Vice-Chancellor, very much interested in our failure as Minister of Interior to organize food supply is the real reason.

Yesterday I had a talk with the Chancellor. The occasion was the Polish relief question, which I shall now take up direct with Hefflerich, who, as I predicted, is the new Minister of Interior and Vice-Chancellor. He is a very businesslike man and did much for the favorable settlement of our last crisis.

The Chancellor seemed rather downcast yesterday, without apparent cause. He says that Germany from now on will have two months of hardship on the food question, but that after that things will be all right. The crops, as I have seen on my shooting place, are magnificent, and the harvest will probably begin even before July 15.

"Fraternization" With Russians Begins. Mrs. Gerard has just returned from a week in Budapest with her sister. The Hungarians are now more friendly and confident. The Italians, their hereditary foes, are being driven back, and on the Russian front there seems to be a lull in the fighting. The Germans are visiting in trenches, etc.—terms of great friendliness.

(This was the beginning of the fraternization, which led, a year later, to the collapse of Russia.)

At the races here last Sunday there was an absolutely record crowd and more money bet than on any previous day in German racing history. The cheaper field and stands were so full of soldiers that the crowd seemed gray, which gives to the fact that the last man is not at the front.

State Socialism makes advances over here. A proposition is now discussed to attach the young men who are earning large wages to save a part thereof. On the Sussex question I got a colleague to ask about the punishment of the conspirator and to say at the Foreign Office, after he had once been refused any information, that I had heard that the people at large in America believe the conspirator has received "Four in Merit." Von Jagow said that he was sure that this was not so, and that it was not "usual" to tell what punishment had been given. So that I suppose the matter will rest, unless I get orders to ask formally about the punishment.

The German military people and ruling junker class are furious at the settlement with America, and abuse America, the President and me indiscriminately.

Anything the President says about peace is prominently placed in the newspapers.

Wilson Absent in Hefflerich. Yesterday he followed in the Reichstag over the censorship. Member

Stresemann, National Liberal (the party which now holds the balance of power), recently abused President Wilson and said he was not wanted as a peace maker. All applauded except the Socialists—I think the President had better say nothing more about peace for the present. What he has said has done much good and has pleased the government here, if not the Reichstag. Although Von Jagow is a junker of Junkers, the junkers are against him and claim he is too weak. He may be bound.

The Germans are very firm. Undoubtedly we shall have another crisis when the extremists here demand a "reckless" U-boat war because we are doing nothing to England. Germany will last through on the food question.

I have heard reports that the Turks are tired of German rule and almost ready to stop.

I am to meet Prince Buisson, ex-Chancellor, tomorrow and may fish up something interesting.

The Kaiser has gone to the front, probably Russian. Next war loan will be 12 milliards.

Hefflerich lunched here last Sunday. He speaks English fairly well. Zimmermann is laid up with the gout. In the Reichstag debate yesterday, Stresemann, applauded by all except Socialists, said that if we were to throw away Wilson as a peacemaker. However, the government is pleased with the President's peace talk, as it keeps the people from thinking of food and U-boat crises.

U-boat question will come up again, when Pan-Germans and Conservatives demand a reckless U-boat war because we have done nothing against England. Harden's paper has been confiscated again.

Reichstag Debates Interesting. June, 1918.—The debates in the Reichstag have been quite interesting yesterday and the day before. The Chancellor, irritated by the anonymous attacks on him in pamphlets, etc., made a fine defense. In the course of the debate allusions were made to President Wilson and the U-boat question. The U-boat question may break loose again any day.

I do not think that either Austria or Germany wishes President Wilson to lay down any peace conditions. They possibly will be a congress after the peace congress, but meanwhile all parties here feel that America has nothing to do with peace conditions. America is the party to be feared, but that is all. The speech about the rights of small peoples has, I hear, made the Austrians furious, as Austria is made up of many nationalities, and the Germans say that if the rights of small peoples and peoples choosing their own sovereignty is to be discussed, the Irish question, the Indian question and the Boer question, the Egyptian question and many others involving the entente allies must be discussed. I think that generally there is a big change in public opinion, and the Germans are beginning to realize that the President is for peace with Germany.

The Germans expect that by September preparations will be finished and that the Suez Canal will be cannonaded, bombed and mined so that it will dry up, and then the Indian-Afghan troubles will begin.

Von Koester Urges Reckless War. The President's peace talks carried over the dangerous moment after the submarine submission. Von Jagow told me that because of debates in Reichstag, the President must not think he is not welcome as mediator.

Crops look well. The break in the Austro-Russian line is reported to have been caused by wholesale desertions of Rutenian troops to Russians.

The editor of the National Zeitung, responsible for the fake interview with me, has been "fired" from that paper, which has published a notice to that effect.

Admiral von Koester made a speech implying that reckless submarine war should be taken up and England thus defeated. He is retired, but has been in the Indian-Afghan troubles for years.

The Federation was actually organized in New York a week ago at a private meeting of more than 25 of the chief National societies, and many other bureaus will be established. The federation starts work with more than \$100,000 paid into the treasury and several hundred thousand dollars in addition pledged.

Other Organizations Merged. Besides independent prohibition societies, the National trades union prohibition organizations are merged into it, and State Societies of New York, Minnesota, and the National Trades Union Prohibition Society, will be one of the active campaigns.

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U. S. Assurance Unnecessary. So far as the United States Government is concerned, the Japanese apparently believe that it is not necessary for them to give formal assurances on the subject, though it is believed this course can be outlined to Japan in a way to make it perfectly clear that there is no lack of understanding of Japan's position, so that no strain will be placed upon the relations between the two countries through the failure of America to record a formal approval.

It is understood that there is still a chance that peace and order in Siberia and the elimination of German intrigue and propaganda there can be secured by the Japanese without resort to actual force.

Information is being collected from every quarter as to the extent of the danger to be expected from German prisoners of war or the extreme Maximilianists in Russia.

It is stated that special investigation is being made into the strength of the Cossack General Semenov, who, it is believed, really brought the Siberian issue to the fore by an appeal to Japan for aid in suppressing the Bolsheviki.

It is suggested that these Cossacks, the "loyal Russians" referred to in today's Tokyo dispatch, are an element which must not be antagonized.

LONDON, March 5.—The Evening News says the question of Japanese intervention in Siberia has been settled, and that all the allies, as well as the United States, have agreed to immediate action to safeguard the interests of the powers.

Japan Moves With Caution. It is understood, according to a Reuter dispatch from Tokyo, that the Japanese government is extremely well informed of the developments in Siberia, but at present is adopting a policy of watchful waiting.

Japan is carefully avoiding arousing the antagonism of loyal Russians, who, notwithstanding their dire need of assistance, appear to be extremely sensitive to outside interference.

Recognizing also that China is entitled to consideration as a protector of the frontier on which Japan does not actually border, Japan, the dispatch says, probably has agreed with China on a plan for prompt co-operation.

The Daily Mail says that the joint representatives by the British, French and Italian Ambassadors in Tokyo that Japan intervene in Siberia will be tantamount to a request that Japan take steps necessary to afford prompt and adequate protection to entente allied interests there.

The object being to safeguard the military stores at Vladivostok and along the Trans-Siberian railroad.

Japanese Military to Decide. "The Japanese military authorities," says the Daily Mail, "will decide how far into Siberia it is feasible to carry the protective measures, which, besides safeguarding the military stores, also would seek to protect the vast food supplies in the Siberian area, bordered on the west roughly by a line parallel with Omsk, falling into Germany's hands."

"There is every reason to believe Japan, in return for a free hand, desire and is prepared to give the allies every assurance of disinterestedness and of the single-minded purpose to act

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF DRYS LAUNCHED

W. J. Bryan Head of Largest Organization in World Opposing Liquor.

CAMPAIGN IN PROSPECT

Membership Includes Many Prominent Americans, Including Governors, United States Senators and Representatives.

CHICAGO, March 5.—Formation of a National dry federation, which will be composed of practically every leading prohibition society in the country and will be the biggest organization in the world opposing liquor, was announced here today.

William Jennings Bryan is president of the organization and active speaking campaigns will be started at once. The fundamental objects of the organization are ratification of the national prohibition amendment in the shortest possible time, success of the prohibition campaigns in the six states which vote on the question in November, and immediate war prohibition for the avowed purpose of "conserving the man power and resources of the Nation."

Prominent Men Interested. Included in a long list of Governors, Senators, Representatives and Congressmen who are expected to take active part in the work of the organization are Governor Milliken, of Maine, and Governor Whitman, of New York; Senators Kenyon of Iowa, Borah of Idaho, Sheppard of Texas and Sherman of Illinois; Representative Webb, of North Carolina; Representative Randall of California; Representative Fess, of Ohio; Representative Barkley, of Kentucky; and Representative Kelley, of Pennsylvania.

National headquarters of the organization will be in Pittsburgh. Branch offices will be opened immediately in Chicago, Washington and New York, and many other bureaus will be established. The federation starts work with more than \$100,000 paid into the treasury and several hundred thousand dollars in addition pledged.

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swiftly and efficiently solely in the joint allied interests.

"The American ambassador is not expected to join in the report. Although the United States is not a formal party to the allied proposal, no opposition to the step now imminent is expected."

Japanese Sentiment Divided. A Reuter dispatch from Tokyo under date of March 2 says: "Public and press opinion is radically divided on the question of Japan's intervention in Siberia. One of the strong political elements which is also commercially powerful, urges Japan to remain inactive, insisting that the talk of a German menace through Siberia is merely a mare's nest, and opposed to the mobilization of men and resources."

"Another, including the best elements in Japan, is daily and more loudly demanding action. The leading newspapers in the capital belong to this school."

"The newspaper Kokumin, which is regarded as frequently expressing the views of the President, unequivocally asserts that the government is running the risk of irreparable loss if it longer delays action against Germany and the Bolsheviki in Siberia, which they expect to come under their complete control."

PARIS, Monday, March 4.—Significant attacks on Siberia by the foreign affairs committee of the Chamber of Deputies this afternoon, which was attended by Former Minister Pichon.

French Discuss Siberia. The understanding is that the Russian situation is affecting the Far East, was under discussion. While the committee, as a matter of course, declined to make known the exact terms of M. Pichon's statement, they nevertheless, says the Havas News Agency's report of the meeting, allowed it to be understood that it now seems certain that all the allies are in agreement to leave to Japan the task of intervening in Manchuria and Siberia.

ISHII DECLINES INVITATION

Japanese Ambassador Will Hasten on to Washington.

A PACIFIC PORT, March 5.—Viscount Ishii, newly appointed Japanese Ambassador to the United States, called the Chamber of Commerce in this city today that he would be unable to attend entertainments on his arrival, as urgent business would call him to Washington.

NO ALLIANCE, DECLARES LEWIS Illinois Senator Says U. S. and Japan Not Agreed on Siberian Issue.

"CONCILIATION" TALKED OF

Arthur Henderson, Leader, Believes Length of War Depends Largely Upon German Socialists' Influence on Their Government.

LONDON, March 5.—The campaign for the next general election has already begun. Arthur Henderson, secretary of the Labor party, addressed a meeting last night in Eastham, making a strong appeal for the abolition of secret diplomacy, for peace by conciliation and a league of nations.

He said that it had to be recognized that no greater disaster had occurred during the war than the fatal omission to do the utmost to keep Premier Kerensky and his government in power in Russia. "The people must be on their guard against a repetition of the same fatal policy over a wider field."

It is highly improbable, Mr. Henderson declared, that the war can be ended by a decisive Prussian military triumph, but it might end by a process of exhaustion.

There remains, he said, a third alternative—a policy of conciliation through the combined forces of labor and socialism to obtain a real people's peace, and to leave Germany with all her power for mischief unimpaired.

What the policy of conciliation meant was the destruction of militarism, not only in Germany, but everywhere.

The speaker quoted a recent speech of Philipp Scheidemann, the German Socialist leader, and articles in the Socialist Vorwaerts proving that there

GERMAN PEACE REPUDIATED

Siberians Organize Council of National Commissioners at Irkutsk.

VOLOGDA, Russia, Sunday, March 3.—A new Siberian Council of the Workers and Soldiers' Republic at Irkutsk, which has determined not to recognize any imperialistic German peace, has organized a Council of National Commissioners, composed of 11 members of the Bolsheviki and four Left Social Revolutionaries.

The president of the Council is M. Sushchinsky and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Weinbaum. A Siberian central executive committee to act as an independent legislative body also has been formed.

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MEN—A REAL SALE SILK SHIRTS

AT LESS THAN PRESENT WHOLESALE COST! \$2.95

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—Go through your bureau drawers tonight and see just how many shirts you will need, then come early. There are all sizes in the lot, 14 to 17½, but, of course not all sizes in each style.



—A GOOD ASSORTMENT OF FANCY NARROW, MEDIUM AND WIDE STRIPES IN POPLIN SILKS AND TUB SILKS AND SOME FRENCH FLANNELS WITH SILK STRIPE PATTERNS. SEE BIG WASHINGTON STREET WINDOW DISPLAY

SUPPLY YOUR NEEDS FOR AN ENTIRE YEAR

Main Floor, Just Inside Washington-Street Entrance.

Lipman Wolfe & Co. Merchandise of Merit Only

PEACE LABOR'S PLEA

Campaign for General Election in England Begins.

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Former Premier's Funeral Held.

VICTORIA, B. C., March 5.—The funeral of the late H. C. Brewster, Premier of British Columbia, was held here today. Hundreds of citizens crowded the legislative chamber of the Parliament building, where the body lay in state, before it was removed to the Metropolitan Methodist Church for the religious services. Interment was at Rose Bay Cemetery.

Coal Shipments Again Normal.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—Priority of coal supplies for railroads, domestic consumers, cantonments, public utilities and hospitals, established by the Fuel Administration January 17, was suspended today in all states east of the Mississippi River, except Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, Ohio and Eastern Kentucky.

For United States Senator

President Praises Theme of Play of Patriotic Nature.

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RISE IN PRICES have brought many new problems for manufacturer and merchant. The same quantity of goods as in normal times, requires almost twice the investment.

Quicker turnover—better collections—a closer study of your customers and your markets, are vital to success.

These are days when you should keep in touch with your bank. The First National, with many phases of service, can be helpful to the business man and the individual.

Enlist in the Thrift campaign, with a savings account. We pay interest on savings.

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