



RIBECOURT TAKEN; NOYON IMPERILED

French Win Important Key to Strategic City.

ROUTE IS OPENED UP OISE

Capture Said to Mark Epoch in Latest Offensive; Huns Resist Violently.

LASSIGNY REPORTED TAKEN

Further Encroachment Made on Thiescourt Plateau and Neighboring Heights.

(By the Associated Press.)
The capture of Ribecourt by the French marks an important epoch in the offensive which has for its immediate purpose the freeing of the region between the Somme and the Oise. As a gain from the strategic standpoint it ranks with the taking by the French of the forest and hill positions between the Matz and the Oise, which has brought the French almost to the gates of Lassigny. Through Ribecourt lies an open route up the Oise Valley to Noyon—a route by rail and the big national thoroughfare, not to mention the canal which parallels the roadways for the greater part of the way. Noyon is only a little more than six miles northeast of Ribecourt.

German front-line trenches at Beaumont Hamel, Serre, Puisieux Au Mont and Bucquoy have been found untenable by the enemy in the face of the recent activity by the British all along the line from Albert to Arras, while the French have persevered in their violent attacks against the Germans on the sector which dominates the lower portion of the Picardy plain and the Oise Valley and have encroached further upon the Lassigny massif and the Thiescourt plateau and farther south have captured the important town of Ribecourt.

Lassigny Reported Captured.

Unofficial reports have announced the capture of Lassigny by the French and of all the German positions between the western outskirts of Bray-Sur-Somme and Etinehem by the Australians.

From the Somme to the Aisne, except in the latter region, where the French have made further gains, the Germans seemingly have had further success in holding back the allied troops and still are in possession of Chaules and Roye, upon the capture of which the efforts of the British and French have been centered. In the central part of the battle front the enemy continues to deliver violent counter attacks and also has further reinforced his line with men and guns and is using them without stint to retain his position, realizing that their capture would spell disaster.

Ten-Mile Salient Doomed.

The giving up of front-line trenches north of Albert may mean the Germans foresee the ultimate success of the American and British operations along the Somme. In any event the retrograde movement seemingly indicates that the ten-mile salient between Beaumont Hamel and Bray on the Somme, with Albert its apex, now must give way in order that the German front here may come into alignment with that in the south across the Somme. Probably the Germans purpose to readjust their front from the Somme to Arras.

French Progress Continues.

Although they are still encountering violent resistance, the French are continuing to make progress through the wooded and hilly country between the Matz and the Oise, where the Germans from recesses in the forests, on spurs and in the canyons are using machine guns innumerable. Gas also is being loosed in great quantities by the enemy. Almost entire control of the Thiescourt plateau and the other high ground on this sector is now in the hands of the French.

PARIS, Aug. 14.—The town of Ribecourt, on the road leading to Noyon and six and one-fourth miles southwest of that town, has been captured by the French, according to the official statement issued tonight. General Humbert's army, operating

PLANES NOSE-DIVE, COLLIDE; 3 DEAD

BRITISH ROYAL FLYING CORPS CAPTAIN IN DAY'S TOLL.

American Lieutenant and Cadet Perish in Falls of 1000 Feet and Several Thousand Feet.

CINCINNATI, O., Aug. 14.—Captain James Fitz Morris, of the British Royal Flying Corps, was killed just west of this city today, when his engine died just as he rose from the grounds of the Western Hills Country Club to complete the last lap of a journey from Indianapolis to Cincinnati. Captain Fitz Morris was instantly killed, when his plane crashed to earth in a nose-dive. Brigadier-General Lee, announced that Captain Fitz Morris had a total of 23 German airplanes to his credit. During the three years of service on the front Captain Fitz Morris was decorated with the cross of the Belgian Legion of Honor and the military cross with one bar added in honor of additional heroic services performed after receiving the cross.

American and British aviators planned a gala day. A number of Americans from the Dayton field, led by Major Claud K. Rhinehardt, who had flown from Mineola, were to meet the British flyers here who were coming from Indianapolis under the leadership of Brigadier-General Charles F. Lee. Two of the American machines were forced to land near Middletown earlier in the day. Both turned over and Lieutenant Earl Carroll was slightly injured. He continued to Cincinnati in another machine.

RANTOUL, Ill., Aug. 14.—Lieutenant J. M. Johnson, a cadet at the Chanute aviation field, was killed this morning when his plane fell at Gifford, six miles east of here. Another aviator in the plane was only slightly hurt. The men fell about 1000 feet.

FORT WORTH, Tex., Aug. 14.—Cadet William R. Turnstall, son of John R. Turnstall, of Brookfield, Mass., was killed today when his airplane collided with another machine several thousand feet in the air. The second machine landed safely and the cadet occupant escaped uninjured.

PENSCOLA, Fla., Aug. 14.—Joseph J. Fenton, of Bellows Falls, Vt., a student aviator at the Pensacola station, was killed late Tuesday night when his airplane fell into Pensacola Bay, it was announced today. Fenton held the rank of chief quartermaster.

PERSISTENCE IS REWARDED

Lebanon Youth Admitted to U. S. Service After Nine Attempts.

ALBANY, Or., Aug. 14.—(Special.)—After making nine unsuccessful attempts to enlist Hills Archibald Southard, of Lebanon, has succeeded at last in getting into the service and will leave here tomorrow with a contingent of six Linn County boys, who will go to Portland to become members of the Benson Polytechnic School training detachment. These attempts were made before Southard was 21 years of age. Having become 21 in the past year he registered last June under the selective draft and this fact led to his entry into the service tomorrow. Recently the local exemption board received a call for men to train as mechanics and on this call draft registrants were permitted to volunteer out of their turn.

STORM BUFFETS WARSHIP

Tugs Come to Relief of Fighting Craft in New York Harbor.

NEW YORK, Aug. 14.—Serious damage was caused late today by a freak windstorm which swept a section of the Hudson River around One Hundred Twenty-fifth street and a part of the upper west side. A foreign warship anchored in the Hudson dragged her anchor in the gale and was swept helplessly toward the rocks. Six tugs threw lines to the helpless ship when she was in shallow water only a few feet from the bank and dragged her out into the river.

PRISONERS TAKEN IN RAID

General Pershing Reports U. S. Success in Lorraine.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—"In Lorraine one of our patrols made a successful raid on the enemy's lines and brought back prisoners," General Pershing's night communiqué said. "In the Vosges a hostile raiding party was repulsed. With the exception of considerable artillery activity along the Vesle there is nothing further to report."

LIGHTNING FATAL TO SIX

Score of Persons Injured in Electrical Storm in Eastern Pennsylvania.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Aug. 14.—Six persons were killed and a score injured by lightning bolts during a severe electrical storm which swept Eastern Pennsylvania today. Heavy property damage was reported. One man was killed and several injured by lightning in Delaware.

ITALIANS OUST AUSTRIANS

Strategic Points Taken, With Prisoners, North of the Adamello.

ROME, Aug. 14.—Italian forces have occupied Monte Mantello, Punta di Matteo and the spur southeast of Cima Zigolon, north of the Adamello region, according to an official statement issued by the War Office. They have taken 100 prisoners.

\$500,000 MILL AT RAINIER IS BURNED

Plant Engaged on Big War Orders.

INCENDIARY WORK SUSPECTED

Three Residences of Company Officials Destroyed.

FIRE STARTS TO WINDWARD

Factory Covering Four Acres Soon Licked Up; Two Horses Lost Lives; Railroad Track Is Warped by the Flames.

RAINIER, Or., Aug. 14.—(Special.)—Fire of supposed incendiary origin destroyed the entire plant of the Columbia River Door Company here late tonight with a loss of approximately \$500,000.

The flames spread rapidly to adjoining residences, wiping out three of them, with almost their entire contents. For a time the entire mill district, half a mile away from the town proper, appeared to be threatened, but the blaze by midnight had practically burned itself out. The loss on the plant is 90 per cent covered by insurance.

The factory, consisting of a sawmill and a wash and door factory, with two large dry kilns and a warehouse, covered nearly four acres. Lately it had been engaged largely in war work, turning out spruce and ship timbers for the Government. More than 200 men have been employed at the plant. The loss is made up of \$375,000 on plant and \$125,000 stock. Two hundred men were employed in the factory, which was shut down for the night at the time of the fire.

Flames Spread Fast. Watchman Shepherd had visited the downstream end of the mill only 15 minutes before the fire started. The blaze broke out in a dry shed, 160 feet from any fire. This, together with the fact that the plant was busy on war work, leads to suspicion among the firemen and residents who saw the first pre-hun work is responsible.

When discovered the flames had swallowed almost the whole of the dry shed in which it originated. Their spread to the other buildings was rapid and a sprinkler system in the sawmill proper failed to save it, so hot was the blaze on reaching that part of the plant. When the volunteer fire department arrived it was evident that there was no chance to save the plant, and efforts were chiefly directed to protecting buildings nearby.

\$12,000 Loss on Residences. The houses destroyed adjoining the plant are those of W. D. Pius, president and manager of the company; T. E.

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SPRUCE MEN TO BE FIGHTERS DEC. 1

DATE SET FOR FORMATION OF UNIT FOR OVERSEAS.

Other Regiments to Be Formed Later for Service at Front, Says Colonel Disque.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Aug. 15.—(Special.)—December 1 is set as a definite date for the formation of a regiment of spruce production soldiers for overseas service, in an order received this morning at local headquarters, spruce production bureau. The date of departure of soldiers assigned to the new regiment for Vancouver for overseas training will depend upon the rapidity with which the selective service department supplies limited service men to take the places of the general service men in the woods.

Colonel Bruce P. Disque, in command of the spruce production division, said last night that he has issued in a general order the tentative plan of forming the first regiment of his men to be sent for overseas duty. This procedure was authorized by decision of Secretary of War Baker and was publicly announced by John D. Ryan, chairman of the Board of Aircraft Production, on the occasion of his recent visit in Portland. It was acclaimed with joyful enthusiasm by the men.

An important intimation of Colonel Disque's comment was to the effect that other regiments may be formed and sent to the front. "We hope before a great while," said Colonel Disque, "to reach the point where we can withdraw other men and send more regiments abroad. I consider the step now contemplated as but the first in the process."

It was explained by Colonel Disque that expected release of spruce production men from railroad construction work about December 1 is chiefly responsible for the order just issued and for the opportunity to release spruce workers from activities here for service as fighters abroad.

YOUNG PULITZER TO SERVE

St. Louis Editor Enrolls in Naval Aviation Corps.

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 14.—According to a dispatch from Washington, Joseph Pulitzer, Jr., of St. Louis, editor of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, has enrolled there in the naval aviation corps ground service, after being rejected in the flying service on account of poor vision. He will report to the Great Lakes training station near Chicago about September 1. He is 33 years old and has a wife and two children.

FERRY-BOAT BARS CLOSED

All Southern Pacific Steamers in San Francisco Bay "Dry."

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 14.—Ferry-boats and river steamers of the Southern Pacific Company are not "trains or train depots," but their bars were closed today as the result of the order making trains and depots dry.

Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company ferryboats continued their bars. The dry condition prevailed on all Southern Pacific ferryboats crossing the bay and on river steamers touching at Vallejo and other points.

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VANGUARD OF G. A. R. REACHES PORTLAND

First of 15,000 Guests Now in City.

OFFICERS IN HEADQUARTERS

Veterans Arrive as Soldiers Start for War.

MANY MORE DUE TODAY

Federal Officials of Affiliated Women's Organization Here for Convention; Mrs. Knauff Outlines Aims.

Hundreds of whooping lads in olive drab, off for a new war, were making Union Station ring with their tumult last night when the official party of the Grand Army of the Republic alighted from an Eastern train as the vanguard of the 52d annual encampment of the veterans of the Civil War. There was the long troop train, its windows jammed with husky young America. Swinging up the platform came a party of recruits for the Marines. To right and left were groups of officers chatting with friends. And down through the center walked a little party of erect, gray-haired men. "This is to be a war encampment," said Commander-in-Chief Orlando A. Somers, after the party were in their hotel. "We are solidly behind the Government in the prosecution of the war. When Prussianism is crushed and our flag comes back untarnished from overseas, then, and then only, will we talk of peace."

Commander-in-Chief Arrives.

Members of the official Grand Army party which reached the city last night are Commander-in-Chief Somers; Judge Robert W. McBride, Adjutant-General; Colonel Slowitz, Quartermaster-General; Miss Katherine E. A. Flood, secretary to Commander Somers, and Ell Torrance, of Minneapolis, past commander. National officials of the several women's auxiliaries accompanied the party, which is as yet incomplete. The remainder of the officials are expected to arrive today and tomorrow. The officers were met at the station and escorted to their hotels by members of the executive committee in local charge of arrangements: General Charles E. Beebe, Judge C. G. Burton, Frank McPhillips, W. J. Hofmann, Charles J. Schnabel, Fred A. Stadler, J. E. Ettinger, O. W. Melike and A. J. Stewart.

At Headquarters in the Multnomah

Hotel Commander Somers and his staff entered at once into preliminary discussion of plans with members of the local committee. This morning they will inspect the line of march for the

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16 BOYS DISREGARD ORDERS; WIN FAME

UNIFORMS TRADED WITH AUSTRALIANS TO GO OVER TOP.

Command Sending Them to Rear Obeyed Only Until Way Is Found to Get Back to Hot Battle.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—The 16 Chicago boys recently decorated by King George for valor probably were engaged in the Fourth of July fight at Hamel and won their laurels because they were not to be denied their share of the fighting.

It is now known that just before the zero hour the British commander felt that some of the American troops had not been long enough in training to go over the top and ordered them out of the line. With much protesting of regrets the American soldiers retired and their Australian comrades, with other Americans, went over and helped take the town.

When the casualties were counted, American soldiers were found in the dressing stations dressed in Australian uniforms.

It developed that the Americans, after retreating to the rear, had found Australian comrades not in the fighting, traded uniforms with them and then worked their way back to the Australian units and went over the top with them.

The troops which performed the heroic feat have not finally been identified, but it is known that Illinois troops were in the fighting on that day before Hamel, and it is believed that the 16 Chicago youths decorated by the King probably were among the daredevil heroes who were not to be kept out of their chance.

LOYALTY IS QUESTIONED

French Senator Humbert May Be Involved in Enemy Transactions.

PARIS, Aug. 14.—(Havas Agency.)—A government commission has sent to the military governor of Paris a report tending to charge Charles Humbert, a Senator and former owner of the Paris Journal, with communication with the enemy. A bill will be introduced at the opening of the Senate on September 17, providing for the suspension of parliamentary immunity.

When the case of Bola Pasha was before the French courts it was shown that there had been some relations between him and Charles Humbert. Among them was the purchase of an interest in the Paris Journal by the Levantine financier. M. Humbert was later accused of commerce with the enemy and it was alleged that he had received German money from America.

BIG Y. M. C. A. FUND PLAN

Mrs. H. P. Davison Appointed Head of Campaign Committee.

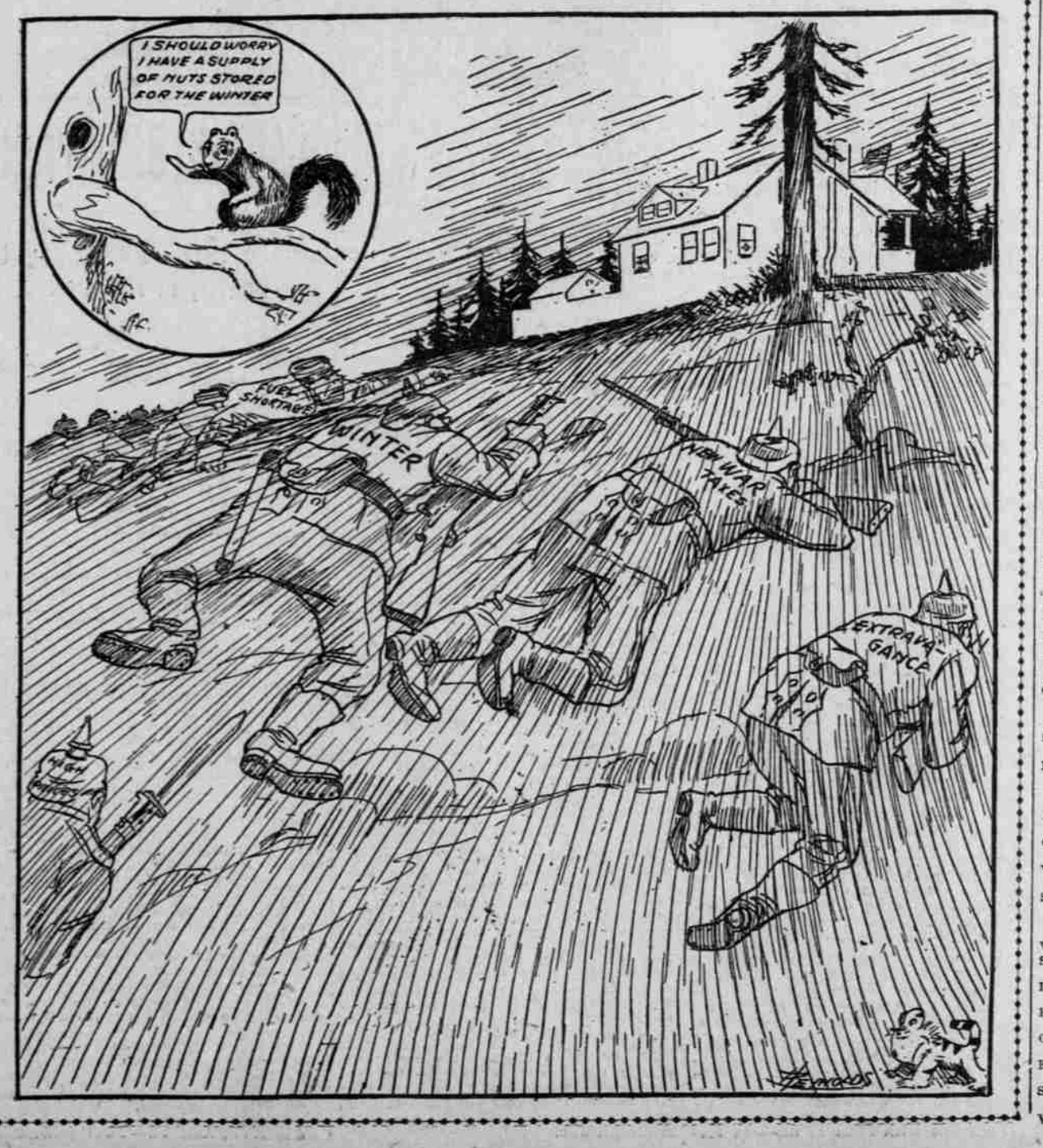
PORTLAND, Me., Aug. 14.—Mrs. Henry P. Davison, of New York, treasurer of the National Woman's War Work Council, was appointed chairman of the campaign committee to raise a \$150,000 fund for the Y. M. C. A. by the National Council today.

Mrs. Woodrow Wilson was made honorary chairman of the war work council, and a committee consisting of Mrs. William Adams Brown, Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and Mrs. Henry P. Davison, all of New York, was appointed to urge acceptance.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

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- Foreign. Germany orders Finns to fight allies. Page 4. Mexico resents British aid protest. Page 5. Defeat in France scares Germans at home. Page 2. Amazing political upheaval in progress in Moscow. Page 1. Maximilian Harden tool of Kaiser, says Dentist Davis. Page 4.
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- Pacific Northwest. Spruce workers to join fighting unit September. Page 1. Rainier mill destroyed, loss half million. Page 1.
- Commercial and Marine. Beginning of Oregon oats harvest indicates slight crop. Page 17. One-fourth of wool stored at Portland has been valued. Page 17. Wall-street stocks react and market closes heavy. Page 15. Steel and wood-ship construction may pass under single supervision. Page 12.
- Portland and Vicinity. Vanguard of G. A. R. already here. Page 1. Suit for accounting of money spent on Vista House charges fraud. Page 10. Denton G. Burdock candidate for Speakership of House. Page 18. Extension of Y. M. C. A. work to all spruce camps held urgently important. Page 10. Government aid to be sought in housing workmen. Page 11. Examiners for training camps continue tour. Page 11. Salaries of assistants in Portland libraries are raised. Page 12. Weather report, data and forecast. Page 13.

ARE YOU FOLLOWING THE SQUIRREL'S EXAMPLE?



AMAZING HISTORY MADE AT MOSCOW

Bolsheviki Violate British, French Consulates.

OFFICIALS TAKEN PRISONERS

Allied Residents Held Hostages Following Developments at Archangel.

SOVIET MAY HAVE FALLEN

American Consul - General Poole Reports on Extraordinary Situation.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—Official dispatches today from American Consul-General Poole in Moscow lifted the curtain for a moment and revealed an amazing train of events in that city.

Consul-General Poole, after witnessing the violation of the French and British consulates and the arrests of the Consuls-General and their staffs, destroyed his code book and papers and turned the affairs of the American Consulate over to the Swedish Consul, at the same time demanding safe conduct from the country for himself and his associates.

French and British Arrested.

French and British citizens have been arrested and the Bolsheviki have announced they would hold them as hostages because of the attack on the Soviet government by British and French troops at Archangel. Members of the French and British military missions stationed in Moscow were refused permission to leave the country, in spite of a previous promise of safe conduct.

It is possible that since the sending of Consul-General Poole's telegram, which began on July 29 and continued until August 6, the situation may have changed, because it is reported that Lenine and Trotzky, the Bolsheviki leaders, have fled and the Soviet government in Moscow may have been overthrown.

U. S. Consul May Stay.

Should the situation be unchanged, the American Consul-General's action of turning his office over to Sweden will not affect the status of other American Consuls in Russia, as they have been working with the local governments throughout Russia, where pro-ally feeling is strong.

The story is told in sequence in the State Department's official announcement of its advices from Mr. Poole. It follows:

"The Department of State has now received several telegrams from Consul-General Poole at Moscow concerning recent events in that city. Following is a summary of them:

State of Defense Alleged.

"One of the telegrams, similar in character to a previous message received through other channels, states that on July 29 Lenine declared repeatedly before an official gathering of the Soviets that a state of war existed between the Russian republic and the allied powers. "Because of this the diplomatic representative in Moscow of Great Britain and the Consular representatives of France, Italy and the United States visited M. Tchitcherine, the commissariat for foreign affairs, and inquired if Lenine's declaration should not be considered a declaration of war, involving the rupture of de facto relations and the departure of the Consuls.

"Tchitcherine said that it need not be so understood; that it was a state of defense rather than a state of war, and that the government desired to continue its relations with the entente as it did with Germany under analogous circumstances.

Early Reply Promised.

"The Consuls demanded that to be acceptable any explanation must be publicly by the head of the government himself. They also pointed out that the question was inseparable from that of the departure of the members of the former military mission. After having agreed to facilitate the departure of these persons in accordance with international law, the government, they said, had raised absolutely inadmissible objections. "The foreign representatives also

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