

TREATY CONCLUDED BY XMAS

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LIQUOR INTERESTS' HOPES HAVE GONE A-GLIMMERING

NO MORE DANGER FROM GERMANY

By Henry Wood

(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

PARIS, Dec. 16.—Danger of a possible resumption of hostilities resulting in Germany's attitude toward the protocol of the treaty has finally been averted. The supreme council has decided the German reply to the allied note demanding the acceptance of the protocol is "most conciliatory," and that the reply will be dispatched to Berlin as "soon as possible."

The supreme council further ordered a joint session yesterday afternoon of the allied and German naval experts for purposes of studying a form that the compensation will take for sinking the interned German fleet at Scapa Flow.

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In addition to the protocol note, the council took up the question of assistance for Austria. The decision was reached that American aid is absolutely necessary if Austria is saved from famine. The council declared it especially necessary for the United States to open credits to Austria to maintain Austria's territorial integrity.

The council reached a decision to prevent the separation of Vorarlberg from that country.

The supreme council is making arrangements to have the Germans sign the protocol and make the treaty effective before Christmas.

CONDEMNED MAN REPRIEVED

SACRAMENTO, Calif., Dec. 16.—Governor Stephens today gave a mother and two little girls the present they desired more than any Christmas present in the world, when he issued the stay in court order that their husband and father should not die on the gallows Friday. The governor reprieved Antone Lepara, who is convicted of murder, until February 20. Mrs. Lepara and children haunted the governor's office for days with the plea that Lepara be spared until after Christmas.

The official reason for the reprieve is "to review more evidence."

Lepara was convicted of shooting and killing Mario Alioto in November, 1917, in San Francisco.

D'ANNUNZIO WITHDRAWS

(By the United Press)

PARIS, Dec. 16.—One of the most daring and romantic episodes in history ended with the withdrawal of D'Annunzio from Fiume and the occupation of that city by the Italian regulars, a Rome dispatch today reported. The withdrawal followed an agreement reached by him with Premier Nitti, it is reported.

I. W. W. ACTIVITIES UNDER INVESTIGATION

(By the United Press)

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 16.—A special federal grand jury of 35 veniremen, which was called to investigate I. W. W. activity in southwestern Washington, began its sitting here at 10 o'clock this morning.

The federal jurors will consider the cases of alleged I. W. W. who are being held in the city and county jails on charges of conspiracy to overthrow the government, in addition to other evidence which was obtained by agents of the department of justice since the Armistice day murders at Centralia, Wash.

SENATORS CONTINUE PEACE EFFORTS

(By the United Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Democratic senators will continue their efforts to negotiate a peace treaty compromise despite President Wilson's statement, they declared today. In doing this they are not revolting against the president's leadership, they said.

The senators declare the analysis statement given out from the White House Sunday shows President Wilson did not say he would refuse to accept a compromise nor did he forbid the senators to effect one, but merely declared he would not offer any.

LAST HOPE OF WETS

(By the United Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The treaty ratification before January 16 or the repeal of wartime prohibition is considered by the wets their last hope for the lifting before the constitutional prohibition becomes operative. Senator Shepard, the dry leader, declared it is not possible for the law to be repealed and the house leaders agreed with him.

The ratification of the treaty in time to give holders of huge stocks of liquors an opportunity to sell them is also out of the question, it is agreed.

(Special to The Tidings.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—All hope of congress coming to the aid of the liquor interests before the constitutional prohibition becomes effective vanished when the house agricultural committee voted, 16 to 3, against the repeal of wartime prohibition today. Action was taken on Representative Gallivan's bill and means the measure will be permanently pigeonholed by the committee.

(Special to The Tidings.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Legal efforts to make invalid the constitutional prohibition amendment started in the supreme court today. The retail liquor dealers of New Jersey, under the name of William Duehne, have asked the court for permission to file the original bill testing the validity of the ratification of the amendment.

An injunction restraining the state and federal officers from enforcing the Volsted law in New Jersey, after prohibition becomes effective, is asked. Similar action is expected by the state of Rhode Island in a bill of complaint which is expected to be filed in court within a few days. The state will seek to have the amendment declared invalid.

In a brief to be filed this afternoon, the liquor interests will claim, it is reported, that the proclamation of Secretary Lansing announcing the beginning of constitutional prohibition January 16 is invalid, because

Ohio had withdrawn its ratification. This makes a new proclamation necessary and the amendment provides that one year must be given to dispose of liquor stocks after the new proclamation, the brief will contend.

CHARGES CONTINUE AGAINST MINERS

(Special to The Tidings)

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 16.—Hearings on charges of contempt of court against the officials of the United Mine Workers were continued indefinitely today by Judge Anderson of the federal court. These charges were based on alleged violations of the injunctions issued by Judge Anderson during the coal strike, preventing the union heads from furthering the strike.

Judge Anderson took this action upon the request of the miners' counsel, who asserted the defendants were using all their power to induce the miners to return. The request is concurred in by the government attorneys, except in the case of Alexander Howatt, president of the Kansas district of the miners' union, a leader of the radical element within the organization. Howatt's case will be continued until Monday when he will appear before the court to answer a charge of keeping some Kansas miners on strike.

OKLAHOMA WANTS TO STAGE FIGHT

(By the United Press.)

PONCA CITY, Okla., Dec. 16.—Miller Brothers, owners of the "101" ranch, have announced they would offer \$300,000 for the Dempsey fight. The Millers said they would make every possible effort to stage the world championship in Oklahoma, and if larger bids are offered they would raise their ante.

MAY HAVE PEACE BY CHRISTMAS

By Ed L. Keon

LONDON, Dec. 16.—Peace may be concluded by Christmas, according to the optimistic forecast today of the officials of the foreign office. A special commission of German economic experts, appointed to discuss with the allied representatives at Paris the matter of reparation for the sinking of the interned German fleet, is prepared to offer some of the docks, dredges and other materials demanded by the allies, it is reported.

In the event of the first offer being unsuitable the commissioners are authorized to negotiate further. The decision of the "unofficial peace conference" to adopt a "hands off" policy toward Russia is being claimed by the Laborites as the first great victory of organized labor in foreign affairs. They attributed the decision to the insistent pressure from labor in Great Britain, France and Italy.

Labor leaders are now planning to launch an intensive campaign to force the government to make peace with the Bolsheviks, and lift the economic blockade of Soviet Russia. War Minister Churchill told the Commons that Great Britain has fewer soldiers in Russia than the United States, France or Japan.

MEXICO HOSTILE TO ALLIANCE WITH U. S.

(By the United Press)

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 16.—The Minister of the Treasury Cabrera in a lengthy statement to the press, declared if Mexico had joined the allies in a world war she would have been absorbed by the United States, politically and economically.

"The present attitude of the American interventionist press will confirm this in the eyes of Europe and South America," he said.

"American imperialists interpret the Monroe Doctrine as meaning Mexico is the exclusive camp for American expansion, and the wisdom of remaining neutral in war is now proven."

Cabrera said the interventionist American papers claim Mexico has initiated a campaign favoring Great Britain to the disadvantage of the United States through granting the British special concessions.

"This is absolutely false," he said. "We are now endeavoring to renew world relations everywhere. This is interpreted in some quarters as aggression against the United States. Instead it should inspire in America a complete confidence in Mexico as striving to recuperate."

U. S. SOLDIERS OUT OF SIBERIA

(By the United Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The last of the drafted soldiers are now out of Siberia, the war department announced today. The replacements of volunteer enlisted men have been going forward to Siberia for some time and drafted men, in proportion are being returned to the United States for their discharge.

AUSTRIA NEEDS FORD, REPORT

(By the United Press)

LONDON, Dec. 16.—Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs Harmsworth declared in the House of Commons today that the food situation of Austria is so critical there will be no provisions after this week unless immediate aid is rendered.

Harmsworth said the British government is doing its utmost to obtain the co-operation of the allies in relieving the situation.

PORK TAKES A TUMBLE

(By the United Press)

CHICAGO, Dec. 16.—Organized warfare on high prices is being waged here by state officials, who met with Attorney General Palmer to plan means of hammering down prices. On the eve of the meeting pork prices took a sudden drop. Bacon fell to 48 cents a pound, 12 cents below the winter high price. Ham dropped to 40 cents. Pork chops are off five cents. Beef prices are also slightly reduced. The packers explained the lower pork prices are due to the cutting down of pork exports and the increased marketing of hogs.

An Early Frost Predicted



Admits Dumb Son Was Not Stolen

(By the United Press)

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Dec. 16.—Mrs. Esther Blake, accused of sacrificing her little dumb son, "Buddy," in the insane belief that she would win back her husband's love, admitted today the boy was not kidnapped as she at first declared, according to Dr. Louis Souder, the county physician. He said she admitted walking out on the municipal pier at Ventnor with the boy Friday night and she declared: "I guess he must have fallen into the water."

Mrs. Blake, who is charged with the "wilful murder" of the boy, has been ill in a hospital since Friday night, when she asserted, two negroes attacked her, and "Buddy" on the street. They choked her into unconsciousness and stole the boy.

According to Dr. Souder, Mrs. Blake started to repeat the "kidnapping" story to him. "I told her she knew that it was untrue," he said. "She began crying and said: 'It is not. I can't remember just what happened. Buddy and I went down to the pier. He was running ahead of me, carrying my purse. I guess he must have fallen in the water?'"

WEATHER FORECAST

For Oregon—Not so cold; rain west; snow east.