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WHOLE NUMBER 1924

No. 6 Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

PEACE FOR EUROPE PROPOSED BY GERMANY

LEGISLATORS GUESTS OF CLUB

Southern Oregon Solons Hold Interesting Session, and Dine and Discuss With Commercial Organization

The coming of the legislative delegation from southern Oregon to Grants Pass yesterday was of the deepest interest, not alone to the members of the delegation, but also to every citizen who was privileged to greet the visitors. The solons met informally at the Commercial club rooms upon their arrival, and received a number of delegations and individuals who wished a hearing upon proposed legislative enactment. Later the delegation met in executive session, and matters pertaining to the organization of the legislature were discussed till late in the evening.

At 6:30 the visitors were the guests of the Commercial club at dinner served in the club rooms. The dinner hour was enlivened by a number of musical selections. E. S. Van Dyke and Mrs. Harmon and Miss Florence Smith delighted the diners with their songs, while the High School orchestra gave several excellent numbers.

During the hour Phil Bates, of Portland, and Dean Cordley, director of the state experiment station at Corvallis, made addresses, expressing to the legislators and club members their wishes along matters of legislation. Mr. Bates is interested in seeking a legislative appropriation of \$25,000 per year for two years for the exploitation of Oregon scenic resources and the turning of tourist travel through the state. He explained the value of the tourist trade to the various communities of the state, and said that the expenditure of a moderate fund would be returned many fold.

Following Mr. Bates, Dean Cordley told of the work done by the experiment station, noting some investigations that had been worth more to Oregon than all the college had ever cost. He said that the station was not asking for new appropriations from the state at the coming session, but sought only the reinstatement of certain continuing appropriations that had been inadvertently repealed at the last session. At the meeting of the Com-

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NEW BLOOD IS TO LEAD IN FRANCE

Paris, Dec. 12.—New blood for old, economy and efficiency for wastefulness and lack of concentration in governmental administration—this is what Premier Briand is aiming at in his reconstruction.

Those who were predicted that Joffre would be retired looked upon General Petain, defender of Verdun, as his probable successor, although there were also some suggestions that General Nivelle, hero of Vaux, might be chosen. According to Le Temps, announcement of Premier Briand's new cabinet may be made today. It appeared certain he would follow in Lloyd-George's steps and select a small, compact "war council" to handle France's part of the war.

SEC. DANIELS NOT LIKELY TO RESIGN FROM THE CABINET

Washington, Dec. 12.—"I will recommend next fall," is Secretary of the Navy Daniels' significant statement at the house naval committee hearing, which was today credited here as being his informal way of setting at rest reports and rumors that he would quit his post. The statement closely followed a formal announcement by Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo, saying he has no intention of resigning his portfolio. Authoritative declarations were also made at the White House, that, with one exception, President Wilson will start out his second term with no changes in his cabinet.

In connection with the information obtained at the White House on the cabinet situation, it was learned that Washington university has granted Secretary of Agriculture Houston an extension of his leave of absence as chancellor.

The one possible change is the attorney generalship. If Attorney General Gregory finds he cannot continue in that position because of personal reasons, it is believed Secretary of War Baker will be switched to the department of justice, and that Vance McCormick will be given the war portfolio.

STOCKS FALL IN NEW YORK MARKET

New York, Dec. 12.—A break in prices on the stock exchange today following Chancellor Hollweg's announcement regarding peace, had sent U. S. Steel, the market barometer, down three points to 120 1/2 at 11 a. m.

The market found support among traders who argued Berlin peace proposals do not mean peace is imminent, and although there was a rush of trading in which a half million share were dumped into the market in the first hour, the break was not panicky.

Republic Steel receded four points; Cuba Cane sugar declined 2 1/2 to 10 1/2; Central Leather, which has been a bull stock, broke three points to 108 1/2.

The peace proposal created no great flurry in Morgan circles and this was regarded as significant.

It was taken to indicate that the financial representatives of the allied powers did not regard favorably action on the Berlin proposals as likely.

Admittedly the greatest deterring force from the British standpoint is Lloyd-George. The belief was general that the British would not consent to a cessation of hostilities at this time, with their political house just in order and their organization for a major effort still untried. It is recognized that as yet but half of the full military strength of the British has been tested under fire.

The fact that at this moment of Germany's proposal, France was also in the midst of forming a new government, is also counted on to discount probabilities of Bethmann-Hollweg's proposals bringing favor in France.

U. S. TRANSPORT SUMNER IS REPORTED ASHORE

New York, Dec. 12.—The United States transport Sumner is ashore off Barregeat, N. J. Wireless messages from the vessel, which went ashore in the fog last night, indicated that early today she was expected to be floated again before evening. The sea is light and the Sumner is resting easily according to her reports.

KAISER INDICATES TERMS FOR ENDING THE WAR

Restoration of Territorial Status As It Existed Previous to the Commencement of Hostilities, Except For Independent Kingdoms of Poland and Lithuania, Is the Chief Condition Imposed For Closing European Strife

Washington, Dec. 12.—Germany's peace proposals, according to a German embassy official, will include a suggestion that the territorial status of the nations engaged, be returned "practically" to what it was before the war started.

The exceptions are establishment of independent kingdoms of Poland and Lithuania and some readjustment of international boundaries in the Balkans.

On the latter question, it was said, the situation is so complicated that it is hard, at this time, definitely to suggest anything like positive terms that would be accepted by all belligerents.

The one concrete suggestion made is that Bulgaria probably will want the return of the territory she lost in the second Balkan war, and it is supposed Germany guaranteed this when Czar Ferdinand cast his lot with the central powers.

The peace terms, the United Press informant said, included the evacuation of France, restoration of the kingdom of Belgium, at least a partial restoration of Serbia and Roumania, and the return to Germany of her colonies.

The factors which are said to have led to the German peace proposals at this time are:

The favorable military position of the central powers.

The fact that the winter at hand will necessitate cessation of hard fighting for three months.

A desire to "smoke out" the allies to announce just what they are fighting for.

Desire to convince the world and the German people wherever they are that Germany is not fighting a war of territorial conquest and—

Desire, if war continues, to let the world know Germany will not be responsible for further bloodshed.

The peace terms outlined, the German official intimated, are not necessarily Germany's final proposition.

"The important question is to find out whether the allies will talk peace," said this official.

"Germany makes the proposals in order to find out whether it is more reasonable to stop fighting before either side is able to get what Lloyd-George called, in his interview with the United Press, some days ago 'a knockout.'"

Although he has no appointment, it is expected Ambassador von Bernstorff will see Secretary Lansing and thoroughly discuss with him the whole matter. It is believed possible that von Bernstorff may shortly express a wish for an audience with President Wilson.

It is not believed Ambassador Gerard had any definite information of Germany's proposals when he left Berlin.

It is said in some diplomatic circles that Germany's move may have been put forth because of their triumph in Roumania, the cabinet crises in England and France and the strong probability that Greece will join Germany at any time.

Berlin, via Sayville, Dec. 12.—"The chancellor transmitted to them a note and asked them to bring it to the knowledge of the hostile governments."

"The note will be read, complete, today in the reichstag, by the chancellor."

"In the note, the four allied powers propose to enter forthwith into peace negotiations."

"The propositions which they bring for such negotiations, are, according to their belief, appropriate for establishing lasting peace."

"The governments of Vienna, Constantinople and Sofia transmitted identical notes. The text was also communicated to the Holy See and to all other powers."

By handing the note to the representatives of the United States, Spain and Switzerland, Germany really transmitted it directly to her enemy nations. Under existing conditions, this is the only possible course of diplomatic interchange between the central powers and the entente allies.

The procedure in transmission of Germany's peace proposals will be identical in the cases of all the neutral nations, whose cooperation is invoked.

The representatives of the United States, Spain and Switzerland will hand the note to their respective capitals. The foreign offices, or state departments, of these neutral nations will then transmit the text to the American, Spanish and Swiss ambassadors or ministers at the capitals.

The chancellor this morning received, one after the other, the representatives of the United States, Spain and Switzerland—that is of the states protecting German interests in hostile countries.

ITALY READY TO PUSH WAR WITH VIGOR IN 1917

Rome, Dec. 12.—Italy, no less than her allies, is preparing to make 1917 a year of its most vigorous prosecution of the war.

Two events so indicated the new determination of the nation.

One was the calling to the colors of the class of 1898, one year in advance of the time when men of that age ordinarily would be called on for military service.

The other was the vote of confidence accorded the present government by parliament. The session was a secret one. The vote was 376 to 45. Details of the division of this vote were not made public, but it is supposed those who opposed the government's plans were the socialist wing and some adherent of Giolitti.

Little activity on the western front.

Paris, Dec. 12.—A German attack in the woods of Des Loges, north of Launigny, was stopped yesterday evening, today's communique asserted. The usual cannonading and fire screening operations were reported elsewhere along the front.

FRENCH CABINET IS RECONSTRUCTED

Paris, Dec. 12.—France's reconstruction cabinet, designed to carry on the war, with re-doubled vigor, has been completed by Premier Briand. He authorized the United Press today to make this announcement. Briand said he would present himself at the chamber of deputies tomorrow to make a formal statement of the changes, which he had decided upon in the interest of compactness, efficiency and more vigorous control of France's participation in the war.

SIXTEEN BELGIANS KILLED IN RIOT

Amsterdam, Dec. 12.—Killing of sixteen Belgians in a riot at Turcoing, Belgium, due to German deportations, was reported by the newspaper Echoe de Belge today. A German soldier who struck a Belgian with the butt of his gun was attacked by the crowd and the German troops in charge of deportations, responded with a volley. Many were reported wounded. Fifty Belgians were arrested.

LLOYD-GEORGE MUCH BETTER

London, Dec. 12.—Premier Lloyd-George was feeling better today after the chill which forced him to bed yesterday. His physicians, however, ordered that he remain indoors for another day or two.

of the entente allies. These ambassadors will in turn, formally deliver the note to the governments of the entente nations.

The same procedure will be followed in the case of formal replies to the peace propositions. England, for instance, will probably give to the American ambassador, the Spanish ambassador and the Swiss minister identical notes, detailing her response to Germany's proposals.

These will be transmitted to the capitals of the United States, Switzerland and Spain and through diplomatic channels formally handed to Germany through the agency of the American, Swiss and Spanish diplomatic representatives at Berlin.

KAISER'S SOLDIERS TOLD OF PEACE TALK

Berlin, Dec. 12.—Kaiser William notified his troops in the field that he had made peace proposals to the enemy.

"Soldiers," his majesty said, "in agreement with sovereigns of my allies and with consciousness of victory, I have made an offer of peace to the enemy."

"Whether it will be accepted, is still uncertain. Until that moment arrives, you will fight on."

HOLLWEG'S ADDRESS IN REICHSTAG

German Chancellor Tells the Statesmen Reasons That Led to Proposal of Peace to the Belligerent Nations

Berlin, via Sayville, Dec. 12.—Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg's statement to the reichstag, as issued by the press bureau, is as follows:

"Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg today announced in the reichstag that Germany, together with her allies, 'conscious of their responsibility before God, before their own nation and before humanity,' had proposed this morning to the hostile powers that they enter peace negotiations."

Practically all members of parliament appeared in answer to an unanimous summons. A crowded house and thronged galleries listened in respectful silence when the chancellor arose for his speech, in which he outlined the extraordinary political situation, and then, insisting upon the achievements of the central powers, made the announcement which possibly may act as the turning point in the war, which for more than two years has held the world under a spell.

"The chancellor said it was fortunate that the reichstag had not been adjourned, but the calling of the next meeting had been left to the discretion of the president."

"This decision," said the chancellor, "was caused by the hope that soon happy events in the field would be recorded; that hope has been fulfilled quicker almost than expected. I shall be brief, for our actions speak for themselves."

"Roumania had entered the war in order to roll up our positions in the east and that of our allies. At the same time, the grand offensive on the Somme had failed of its object—the piercing of our western lines, and renewed Italian attacks, which had as their purpose the paralyzation of Austria, also failed."

"But with God's help, our troops shaped conditions so that we gained that security which is not only complete, but still greater than ever before."

"The west front stands firm and in spite of the Roumanian campaign, is outfitted with larger reserves of men and material than it had been formerly. Most efficient precautions have been taken against all Italian diversions. And while on the Somme and the Karst drumfire resounded; while the Russians launched troops against the eastern frontier of Transylvania, Field Marshal von Hindenburg captured the whole of western

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