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POLITICS WILL STIR BELGIUM IN FEW MONTHS

PRESENT GOVERNMENT ONE OF TRANSITION, BUT A REAL GOVERNMENT TO BE FRAMED

CATHOLICS CONTROL 40 YEARS

Universal Suffrage System Will Relegate Priests and Landowners to Status of Workingmen

Brussels, Dec. 20.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—Belgium is facing a crisis in its political history. The present government comprising of six Catholics, three liberals and three socialists is acknowledged everywhere to be only a provisional one, a government of transition. A real government which will direct reconstruction of Belgium is in the making.

It is not expected that elections can be held in less than six months. Meanwhile the political fight will be waged upon a basis of universal suffrage—one man, one vote. Before the war the priests had four votes, land owners and nobles as many votes as they had estates in different provinces and socialists and liberals only one vote each. The socialists were mostly working men and the liberals mostly professional men. This enabled the Catholic party to be in power for more than 40 years. Under the universal suffrage system which would relegate priests and landowners to the same category as working men, doctors and lawyers, it is asserted the Catholic party may be placed in the minority. Nevertheless, Cardinal Mercier's great personality and the energy he displayed in behalf of Belgians during the war is said to have greatly helped the cause of the Catholic party.

One cause of bitterness and animosity, in Belgium is the Flemish movement which now is practically dead owing to the efforts of the late German Governor von Bissing to make use of it to divide Belgium into two parts. It is expected that the Flemish movement will revive when life resumes normal conditions but it is held in abeyance now through fear that it might be construed as German propaganda. King Albert in his speech to the parliament after returning to Brussels announced that the government will propose a bill to create the basis of a Flemish university at Ghent reserving the details to the new parliament to be elected later.

Pro-German and "activists" who supported the German scheme to drive the wedge between the Flemish and Walloons in Belgium are now ostracized socially. Many arrests have been made in Brussels, Ghent and Bruges. The people of Ghent divide their hatred and bitterness evenly between the Germans and the "activists." Bruges is filled with a deep-rooted hatred of everything German while Brussels ridicules both pro-Germans and "activists."

In Bruges 153 women who dealt with Germans were beaten and their hair was shorn. In Ghent pro-Germans and "activists," both men and women were physically punished.

CRUISER ST. LOUIS BRINGS WESTERN MEN

New York, Jan. 15.—The United States cruiser St. Louis, bringing the 34th field artillery, comprising 1,300 men, has arrived from Brest. The regiment consists of 99 per cent conscripted men, trained at Camp Lewis. They saw service in Belgium with the 91st division.

GOVERNOR LISTER SOUNDS WARNING

Washington's Chief Executive Says State Must Provide Work—Warns Against I. W. W. Practices

Olympia, Wash., Jan. 15.—Washington's 1919 legislature is faced by greater problems than have been faced by any previous legislature, Governor Ernest Lister declared in his biennial message read here today to the senate and house of representatives.

New work should be taken up by public and private corporations, the governor asserted, to provide work for returned soldiers and men from the closed war industries. "I believe it is our duty and responsibility to adjust conditions that there will be employment available in the state for every able bodied person willing to accept it," he said.

"The state can provide employment for many men by speeding up highway construction, new state buildings can be started and repairs to old buildings can be made," he added. Proposed irrigation projects should be put through at this time, he said. Wages should be kept up as long as the cost of living remains up, he added.

The governor's message reviewed Washington's war time accomplishments, particularly the state's contribution of men. "No less than 50,000 Washington men put on the uniform of their country during the emergency," he said.

"Men of the I. W. W. type should not be permitted to continue their unlawful and dangerous practices," he asserted. "Many of the men are aliens and the nation would be vastly benefitted by their deportation to their native land," he declared.

THOMAS GETS AFTER HIGHWAY COMMISSION

Salem, Ore., Jan. 15.—Charging that the \$6,000,000 hard surfacing act was railroaded through the legislature by a paving lobby, and declaring that hard surface bills were being drafted in Portland, Senator Thomas, of Jackson county, presented a resolution today demanding that the highway commission appear before the legislature on Monday to present plans so the legislature could draft its own highway legislation.

COLORADO AND IOWA FALL INTO LINE

Denver, Colo., Jan. 15.—Colorado ratified the prohibition measure today. The senate voted 29 to one. The house adopted the measure last week.

Des Moines, Iowa, Jan. 15.—The Iowa legislature adopted the prohibition measure today.

PORTUGAL ALSO HAS TROUBLESOME TIMES

London, Jan. 15.—Revolutionists at Santarem, northeast of Lisbon, having refused to surrender, the Portuguese government troops have surrounded the town and commenced a bombardment.

EL PASO STIRRED WITH BOLSHEVISM

El Paso, Texas, Jan. 15.—Handbills printed in Spanish and signed "Spanish Bolsheviks" were distributed here, urging the death of President Carranza, Villa, Felix Diaz, Estaban Cantu, governor of Lower California, and all other political leaders and rich men in Mexico.

WILSON FIRM IN ATTITUDE TOWARD ITALY

HOLDS THAT FIUME IS THE NATURAL OUTLET FOR AUSTRIAN SLAVS

ARMAMENTS TO BE LIMITED

Delegates Divided on Matter to Obtain League of Nations—Some for Combined Power

London, Jan. 15.—Commenting upon the conference between President Wilson and Premier Orlando last Friday, persons in touch with the premier said he was surprised at President Wilson's attitude. The president is firm in his refusal to recognize Italian claims beyond Trieste and Trent. He is unwilling to give way to Italian claims for either the Dalmatian coast or Fiume, according to the correspondent. The president holds that Fiume is the natural sea outlet to the Austrian Slavs.

Paris, Jan. 15.—Lord Robert Cecil, who discussed with American journalists his views as to the work of the league of nations, had little to say regarding the limitation of armaments, but expressed his opinion, however, that the league "certainly would provide for limitation and a decrease of present armaments."

Paris, Jan. 15.—With the resumption of the preliminary peace meetings today, it became evident that the movement for a league of nations is being carried on by two forces having the same object in view, but differing in their means to make the same effective. One contends that the decisions of the league must be backed up by combined physical forces; the other believes that findings can be enforced without the aid of the world police force.

COL. HOUSE IMPROVING

Paris, Jan. 15.—Col. E. M. House is improving in health and expects to be able to be up in a few days.

"OUR DAYS NUMBERED" SAYS LENINE, "BUT WE'LL MAKE WORLD SHUDDER"

Archangel, via London, Dec. 20.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—Tales of horrors within the territory controlled by the Bolshevik government are brought here almost daily by some adventurous Russian, often a young officer who has made his way through the Bolshevik lines. These stories are published in the Archangel newspapers under the headline, "The Russian nightmare."

Two of the members of the Archangel City Duma who recently returned from Moscow where they had been taken under arrest, quoted Nikolai Lenine, the Bolshevik premier as saying: "Our days are numbered. We know that, but, in leaving the power, we will shut the doors in a way to make Europe shudder."

One of the Archangel papers says that the record of the "Central All-Russian Investigation commission is one of tortures and horrors. Arrested people," it adds, "disappear by groups. Agents of the German general staff are working in the commission. People are shot in the building of the commission itself and in groups of 20 to 30 at a time. Those who come in order to inquire about arrested relatives are themselves arrested and disappear. Only those who can afford to pay a large sum of money are liberated. For 30,000 or 50,000 rubles one can save his life. Trotsky, formerly foreign minister, has lost all sympathies

WEEK OF RIOT AND KILLING COMES TO END

BERLIN SEES ABATEMENT IN BLOODY STRUGGLE BETWEEN GOVT AND SPARTACANS

PROPERTY LOSS WILL RUN HIGH

Scene Shifts to Petrograd, Where Starving March Through Streets Given Unground Oats

Berlin, Jan. 15.—A long week of Bolshevikism has ended. Only small scattered bands of Dr. Liebknecht's followers are now operating. The property loss will amount to tens of millions of marks. The Spartacans looted systematically. At the Silesian station they had so much butter that they used it to grease their guns and boots with.

Stockholm, Jan. 15.—Hunger riots took place in Petrograd Saturday and Sunday. It is reported that thousands of people paraded the streets, shouting for bread, but were fired upon by the Bolshevik troops. There was no bread in the city, and the people were given unground oats.

+ NEW HAMPSHIRE 34th +
+ TO LINE UP WITH DRY +
+ Chicago, Jan. 15.—New +
+ Hampshire ratified the prohibi- +
+ tion measure today, making +
+ the 34th state to do so. The +
+ country will probably be voted +
+ dry within 24 hours. Thirty- +
+ six states are needed. +
+*****

GENERAL WOOD TO TAKE CHARGE OF SEATTLE

Washington, Jan. 15.—Orders directing Major General Leonard Wood, now commanding Camp Funston, Kansas, to proceed to Chicago to take command of the Central department, have been issued by the war department.

REDS WOULD NOT FULFILL PLEDGE

Writer Says English Forget Sufferings of Russians at the Hands of the Bolsheviks

London, Jan. 15.—Harold Williams, writing in the Daily Chronicle on the British proposal to invite the Russian Bolsheviks to the peace conference says:

Lenine could not have wished for better luck to give him another breathing space. To absolve him from the necessity of further military effort just when he is straining every nerve to bring about a world revolution is almost to agree to the Bolshevik plan of campaign. The armistice came a little too soon for Lenine. He desires a breathing space, just as he did a year ago, and now the British government proposes he should be given one, proposes, in fact, that he should be allowed a clear field for his world propaganda.

What new pacifism is this, that ignores responsibilities for the cruel suffering of the people that spent its strength in the allied cause? I dare not think of the effect of this proposal on these Russians who have been loyal to us through the darkest days. Then, supposing the Bolsheviks did come to the conference, we should simply see a repetition on a large scale of the spectacle of the Brest-Litovsk, with President Wilson, Lloyd George and Clemenceau in the undignified position of Kuehlmann and Count Czernin, while Trotsky and Radek displayed their gifts of repartee and their corrupting theories to an astounded world. There could be no more effective stimulus to the world Bolshevikism than this.

TWELVE STATES HAVE SURPLUS OF LABOR

Washington, Jan. 15.—Calling attention to an increase in unemployment of common labor, a message today from the National Council of Defense says the secretary of labor urges all state, county and community councils to bend every effort toward finding or creating necessary employment, saying it is possible the danger point will be reached within 30 days.

Whereas there was unemployment in seven states a week ago, the message says, this condition now prevails in 12—California, Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon and Utah.

London, Jan. 15.—An unconfirmed wireless message from Kiev says that the Ukrainian directorate has fallen. The power in the city now is in the hands of the Bolsheviks.

EDITOR MAY RECEIVE 6 MONTHS AND A FINE

St. Helens, Ore., Jan. 15.—Ham Kautzman, editor of the Houlton Herald, was found guilty of printing obscene and indecent articles in his paper. The penalty may be six months in jail and \$500 fine.

OREGON 33RD STATE TO RATIFY AMENDMENT

Salem, Ore., Jan. 15.—Oregon is the 33rd state to ratify the prohibition amendment. The senate voted unanimously today, and the house 53 to 3 late yesterday. The senate adopted a joint resolution for prohibition introduced by Senator Eddy of Douglas county. The house adopted Elmore's resolution, as did also the senate.

LEGISLATURE NOW WAITING FOR A MOSES

MEMBERS ARE FULL OF GOOD INTENTIONS, BUT NO ONE HAS PROPER PLAN

SOLDIERS AND ROADS IN VIEW

Irrigation to Receive Consideration, But Immediate Work for Returning Yanks Come First

State Capitol, Salem, Jan. 15.—Schemes for the employment of returned soldiers, involving at least \$20,000,000 are now in sight in the legislature. Various tentative ideas are being advanced, but yet no one has a real solution.

In the Oregon legislature there are 90 members, each one sitting back and waiting for one of the other 89 to appear as a Moses. The member who produces a practical solution to the problem of finding employment for the returned soldiers and for the civilians who will be replaced by the ex-soldiers will have no trouble in securing enthusiastic support. It is generally recognized in senate and house that the one big piece of legislation which must be adopted is a program which will provide employment for the returning soldiers at good wages.

Suggestions thus far fall under these heads: 1—Road construction; 2—Public buildings; 3—Irrigation development; 4—Clearing logged-off lands; 5—Consolidation of Portland Dock Commission and Port of Portland.

Possibly all of these suggestions will be adopted and interwoven into a reconstruction program. Now as to the finances. There may be \$9,000,000 for roads, financed by a bond issue cared for by motor vehicle license fees; \$5,000,000 for irrigation development; \$5,000,000 for consolidation of the Port and Dock Commissions; \$250,000, approximately, for public buildings, and no one can estimate what the logged-off lands would require.

The five groups indicated are merely the high points which have come to the surface already. Each one is calculated to give employment to many people. There will very probably be a dozen or a score of other suggestions brought forward within the next four or five weeks.

On two facts the lawmakers are unanimously agreed. The first is that they are prepared to go to almost any length to create employment for the returning soldiers. The second fact on which there is unanimity is that no one has advanced a good, general policy. No legislature was ever more filled with good intentions. The members will do the right thing if some one will show them how. Suggestions are now in order, but they should be workable.

"I am at a loss to advance the right idea," said Speaker Jones. "There are a number of representatives who have thought deeply, but they are apparently as much at sea as the others."

Both houses have agreed on a joint committee to work out a program of consolidation of the state offices and handle all consolidation legislation.

NO LIQUOR TO WET TONGUES IN HAWAII

Honolulu, H. T., Dec. 20.—(By Mail.)—The territory of Hawaii, made bone dry by action of congress last summer, cannot vote to rescind or ratify prohibition until the general territorial election in November, 1920, according to a recent opinion by the attorney general's office.