

The Weather

Maximum yesterday.....40
Minimum today.....24

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 1919

Predictions

Rain tonight and Friday.
Warmer.

Forty-eighth Year.
Daily—Thirteenth Year.

NO. 246

REDS OVERTHROW GERMAN GOVERNMENT

FIRST PEACE CONFERENCE UNDERWAY

Lloyd George Detained in London But Informal Meetings Held By Other Premiers With President—Procedure Adopted to Be Simplest Possible—Outline of Plans Agreed Upon—Formal Conferences Begin Next Week.

PARIS, Jan. 9.—Premier Clemenceau of France, and Premier Venizelos of Greece conferred this morning with the American peace delegation.

PARIS, Jan. 9.—A French protocol, giving a detailed program of the procedure of the peace conference, has been submitted to the American and other delegations.

PARIS, Jan. 9.—(By the Associated Press.)—President Wilson's conferences with the premiers of Great Britain, France and Italy, which were to open today, probably will not begin before early next week.

Mr. Lloyd George is detained in London. Premier Orlando of Italy, due here today, will probably return to Rome, where his presence for 48 hours is necessary because of matters under consideration by the Italian parliament.

There will, however, be a meeting today at the office of Stephen Pichon, foreign minister, attended by Mr. Wilson, Premier Orlando and Japanese representatives, but it will be informal. It was considered best to hold the meeting and clear up some preliminary points and it is believed that important details of procedure will be settled. If this is done the delegates will be in a position when Mr. Lloyd George arrives, to rapidly complete preliminary work and clear up matters for the opening conferences on Monday and Tuesday. President Poincare may definitely nominate today the French delegates to the peace congress.

Simplest Procedure
The procedure that will be adopted will be the simplest possible, saving the advantage of avoiding laborious pour parlers and exchanges of notes between chancelleries.

As regards questions concerning enemy countries, it is understood that those concerning Germany will be taken up first, then those of Austria-Hungary and finally those relative to Bulgaria and Turkey.

It is not expected that the premier's conference will deal with more than the most general principles. In fact, it now seems doubtful that more than a broad general agreement will be reached before President Wilson returns to America in February.

The procedure now being discussed is roughly as follows:

Outline of Plans

First, a general agreement between the United States and the entente belligerents for the creation of a League of Nations, or similar machinery, to enforce the terms of peace and preserve it.

Second, the setting up of new independent states growing out of the war.

Third, the assessment of damages and indemnities and the manner of their payment.

Fourth, the conclusion of peace.

(Continued on Page Six.)

FRENCH DELEGATES TO PEACE CONFERENCE

PARIS, Jan. 9.—(Havas.) Official announcement was made today that the council of ministers had approved the nominations as the French representatives in the peace congress of the following:
Georges Clemenceau, the premier; Stephen Pichon, foreign minister; Louis Lucien Klotz, finance minister; Andre Tardieu, French high commissioner to the United States; Jules Cambon, former ambassador at Berlin.
Paul Dutasta, French ambassador to Switzerland, will be secretary of the French delegation.

ALLIED EFFORTS IN RUSSIA ONLY WAR MEASURES

Operations Friendly and Not Hostile Towards Russian People Declares Hitchcock—Landing at Ports Military Measure Directed Against Germany During War.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—American and allied operations in Russia are friendly and not hostile to the Russian people, although in opposition to German-Bolshevik forces, Chairman Hitchcock of the senate foreign relations committee said in an address today, replying to the recent demand of Senator Johnson of California, for an official statement of the American policy in Russia.

Senator Hitchcock prepared his address after consulting with Acting Secretary Polk at the state department. Referring to seizure of Vladivostok, Murmansk and Archangel, he said:

"In each case it was done as a measure of war against Germany and not against Russia."

No Russia Exists

"There is no Russia. What was Russia is a vast disorganized aggregation of local governments. Lenin and Trotsky have the great cities of Petrograd, Moscow and some others, and thus have the center of the wrecked nation, but it is the most unhappy, most lawless, brutal and most bloody. Other parts of Russia are comparatively calm and orderly. The very fact," said Senator Hitchcock, "that a line of communication across Siberia 5000 miles long from Vladivostok where our troops are, to the Ural mountains where the Ufa government and Czechs are, together with a small force of British and French, is the best evidence that we and the allies are on good terms with Russia."

"We sent about 10,000 men to Vladivostok, the Pacific port," said Senator Hitchcock, "and about 5000 to Archangel, the Arctic port in European Russia, and Murmansk, the port which leads to the Murman coast."

As War Measure

"Those landing at Vladivostok are for the most part still there or in that neighborhood. Those landing at Archangel and across the White sea at Murmansk, while still holding those ports in connection with the British and French troops have penetrated a short distance inland in each case probably about 100 miles as a measure of protection for their bases. In one case they have gone up a river, in the other they have held the line of railway—both means of transportation."

"In all cases, the occupation of the Russian ports was made as a war measure, urged by the supreme war council in Paris at a time when our war with Germany was at its height."

TWO MORE STATES FOR PROHIBITION

DENVER, Col., Jan. 9.—The Colorado legislature has not yet ratified the federal prohibition amendment. The senate late yesterday 32 to 1, approved the resolution on third and final reading. Today the house of representatives passed it on second reading and it is expected to pass on final reading tomorrow.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Jan. 9.—The West Virginia legislature today completed its ratification of the federal prohibition amendment, being the twenty-third state to take this action.

JUGO-SLAV ENVOYS TO PEACE MEETING

PARIS, Jan. 9.—The premier of Serbia has notified Foreign Minister Pichon that the Jugo-Slav representatives at Versailles will be Nikola P. Pachitch, former premier of Serbia; Dr. M. R. Vesnitch, former Serbian minister of finance, and M. Trumbitch, president of the Dalmatian diet.

RAILWAY CHIEFS SUBMIT PLANS TO MERGE LINES

Comprehensive Program for Private Ownership Under Strict Government Regulation Submitted By Railway Executives—Unification of Operation and Pooling Provided.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—A comprehensive program for private ownership and management of railroads under strict government regulation was laid before the senate interstate commerce committee today by T. De Witt Cuyler, chairman of the association of railway executives, representing practically all leading roads in the United States. The plan includes provision for merging systems, a large measure of unification of operation, pooling of facilities and in certain cases of earnings, and enforcement of adequate service under supervision of a secretary of transportation, a new cabinet office, with the interstate commerce commission acting as a supreme court of review of rate disputes.

Adjustment of Wages

Wage and employment disputes which could not be settled between employes and managements would be referred to an adjustment board within the department of transportation under the plan, and strikes and lockouts forbidden pending investigation.

Most operating reforms effected during unified management by the railroad administration would be continued but the executives object to Director General McAdoo's proposal for five-year extension of government control. Their suggestions are similar to the recommendations of the interstate commerce commission presented to the senate committee at hearings earlier this week.

Secretary of Transportation

Suggestions include: Secretary of transportation should issue permits for new and branch lines and expensive terminals; carriers should initiate rates subject to approval of secretary of transportation, and interstate commerce commission; creation of regional rate tribunals appointed by president with one member from each state in each region to determine complaints subject to review by the interstate commerce commission; federal incorporation of interstate carriers; government supervision of security issues; and funding by the government of railroad indebtedness growing out of federal control during the war.

Railroad executives have pledged Director General McAdoo their cooperation and have urged him not to relinquish federal control until congress has had opportunity to legislate. Mr. Cuyler declared.

BERGER GUILTY OF DISLOYALTY

CHICAGO, Jan. 9.—Victor L. Berger, Socialist congressman-elect from Wisconsin, was found guilty of violating the espionage act in the federal court here last night. Four Socialist co-defendants with Berger also were found guilty. The case went to the jury at 11 o'clock this morning. The verdict was reached after 5 hours 45 minutes of deliberation.

A motion for a new trial was filed and Judge Landis announced that he will hear arguments on the motion on January 20.

After the verdict was rendered, Berger, when asked for a statement, said:

"I have been following my principles for 27 years. If 12 men say I am guilty I must suffer."

ATTEMPT TO KILL CZECH PREMIER FAILS

PRAHA, Jan. 9.—An attempt has been made at Prague to assassinate Dr. Kramarz, the Czech-Slovak premier. Eight revolver shots were fired at him, none of which, however took effect.

CONFLICTING REPORTS TELL OF BLOODSHED IN BERLIN

NEW LEADER LOOMS BIG IN BERLIN



OTTO WELS
Wito Wels, friend of Ebert, erstwhile labor union secretary, and commander of the government forces and police force defending Berlin from the Spartacans.

STRIKE TIES UP ALL SHIPPING IN NEW YORK BAY

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.—Except for a small fleet of ferry boats, tugs and lighters engaged in debarkation of homecoming troops and loading of perishable supplies for the American expeditionary forces, harbor shipping was at a standstill today as the result of the strike of 15,000 marine workers in an attempt to force arbitration of their demands for higher wages and an eight-hour day.

Suspension of ferry boats between Staten Island, the New Jersey shore and Long Island left residents there dependent on small boats, bridges or subway trains. Subway entrances were choked with crowds.

New York's supply of fresh vegetables, milk and fuel was curtailed.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—Secretaries Daniels and Baker called into conference today representatives of the railroad administration and shipping board to consider the New York harbor strike situation.

Reports were current that either the navy or the war department would take over operation of all harbor facilities.

FAMINE RELIEF BILL SIDE-TRACKED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—By a vote of 5 to 2 the house rules committee today refused to report a bill giving privileged status to the bill appropriating the \$100,000,000 requested by President Wilson for European relief work.

The bill now goes to the calendar where its opponents say it will stay until the president gives more definite information.

ENGLAND AND ITALY DELAY FAMINE RELIEF

PARIS, Jan. 9.—England and Italy have not as yet appointed their members of the international food commission and consequently revictualling plans under the direction of Herbert C. Hoover have not been perfected. This has delayed also purchasing of foodstuffs urgently needed by the populations of regions evacuated by the German armies.

CORN DROPS ON FALSE REPORT OF CHANGE IN RULES

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—Food administration officials authorized the statement today that no recommendation whatever had been made as yet concerning change in restrictions upon the importation of Argentine corn. At the war trade board it was said nothing had been heard from the food administration on the subject.

The statement that no recommendation for removal of restrictions had been made was reiterated at the food administration when attention was called to an assertion to the contrary by J. J. Stream, chairman of the course grain division at Chicago.

It was said that Mr. Stream favored such action but that it had not been taken.

CHICAGO, Jan. 9.—J. J. Stream, chairman of the course grain division of the food administration, seen on the floor of the Board of Trade this afternoon stated that the food administration has recommended removal of restrictions on the importation of Argentine corn. The corn market declined on the statement. He was at a loss to explain denials from Washington, he said.

Extreme weakness in the corn market quickly followed Mr. Stream's statement. Prices fell 3 1/2 to 7 3/8c a bushel, as compared with 24 hours before. The close was excited at the lowest figures of the day with January \$1.44@1.44 1/2, and May \$1.35@1.35 1/2.

ENGINEER TROOPS ORDERED HOME

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—Practically all companies of the 37th Engineers and remaining units of the 20th Engineers have been assigned to early convoy home. These with other units on today's list comprise 157 officers and 4343 men. They are:

Regimental headquarters 1st battalion headquarters and companies A, B, C, D, E and F of the 37th Engineers; headquarters, 1st battalion medical detachments, 1st 2nd, 3rd and 36th companies 20th engineers; base hospital No. 66, 17th 148th, 657th and 636th aero squadrons; 1st and 3rd, 4th, 117th, 308th, 314th and 315th trench mortar batteries; cement mill companies 184th and 227th, 30th company, 20th engineers; 312th sanitary train headquarters; 8th trench mortar battery; air service casual company No. 1.

RIVAL GOVERNMENT PROCLAIMED AND BOTH SIDES CLAIM SUCCESS IN BERLIN'S REIGN OF TERROR

Paris Reports Ebert Government Overturned and Independent Socialists in Control and New Forces Sent Against Capital—Wireless Messages From Berlin Tell of Bloody Fighting and Claim Success for Government—Spartacans Reported Driven Back and Ebert Master of Situation—Artillery Participates in Battle and Chaos Rules Capital.

PARIS, Jan. 9.—(Havas.) The Ebert-Scheidemann government in Germany has been overturned, the extremists having gained the upper hand in Berlin after sanguinary fighting, according to the latest German advices.

A new revolutionary government has been proclaimed, composed of independent socialists.

A part of the government troops is reported to have gone over to the rebels and the Spartacans now hold the principal points in Berlin.

Civil war is spreading to other parts of Germany, and parts of the Danish provinces and Bavaria now are reported to be involved.

Enemy Overturned

Gustave Noske, commander-in-chief of the German government troops, will send new forces against the capital in an attempt to regain control of it, it is reported. A desperate reaction by the more conservative elements is expected.

Casualties in the Berlin fighting are reported to have been heavy.

The independent socialists said to be at the head of the new government are Georg Ledebour, Herr Liebmann and Herr Tiek.

Dr. Karl Liebknecht, the leader of the Spartacans, is continuing his activities, (presumably in an effort to install a government of his own choosing.)

LONDON, Jan. 9, 4 p. m.—German government messages picked up by wireless here say that parts of Berlin are scenes of bloody fighting.

The government, it is added, is taking all necessary measures to destroy "the reign of terror."

The messages say that some parts of Berlin already are without light and water. Provision depots have been stormed by the Spartacans and the feeding of soldiers and civilians has been interrupted.

LONDON, Jan. 9.—At 6 o'clock Wednesday evening there was little change in the situation in Berlin, although the government had made some progress in strengthening its position, according to an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Copenhagen.

Rival Government

BERNE, Jan. 6.—Telegraphic reports from Berlin today state that the rebels there have formed a new government under the title of "The Revolutionary Committee," comprising three members, Herr Liebmann, Georg Ledebour and Herr Tiek. The last named the president of the Spartacans league.

The Spartacans thus appear still to be working with the socialists of the left, or independents.

(The dispatch would also seem to indicate the possibility that the new government set up is a rival one to the Ebert-Scheidemann government and has not in fact displaced it, as today's advices thru Paris report.)

BASEL, Jan. 9.—Troops loyal to the Ebert government have arrived in Berlin from Potsdam and driven the Spartacans as far as the Tiergarten and re-occupied the printing works, according to the Frankfurt Zeitung.

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 9.—Street fighting in Berlin attained the greatest intensity between 11 o'clock Tuesday night and 5 o'clock Wednesday morning, according to a Berlin telegram to the Frankfurt Nachrichten. Heavy artillery fire continued uninterrupted. The dispatch says the government is still master of the situation.

Artillery Employed

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 9.—Severe fighting in which artillery was employed, took place in Berlin yesterday near the central telegraph office. The Spartacans renewed their attempts to seize the chancellor's palace, it is declared in Berlin dispatches to the Handelsblad, but were driven back with the loss of 30 killed and 45 wounded.

Chaos prevails in the government offices

The government has been concentrating troops in Berlin and on Wednesday the advices add, the Spartacans were driven from the Potsdam and Anhalt railroad stations, the Brandenburg gate and the central railway office.

The correspondent reports that the Spartacans obtained 18,000,000 marks in paper money when they captured the government printing office.

Fighting Continues

BERLIN, Jan. 8.—(11 a. m. By the Associated Press.)—Heavy fighting continued throughout last night at various points in Berlin. The civil warfare already is estimated to have cost twenty times as many lives as were sacrificed in the overthrow of the Hohenzollern dynasty 60 days ago.

The correspondent is informed that the government troops have been repulsed in every attempt they made to recapture public buildings from the Spartacans. The position forces hold the reichstag building, the approaches to the Brandenburg gate and the Silesian railway station.

The excitement in the city is so great that it is impossible to secure details.

Since Monday the Spartacans have not repeated the attempt to capture the government headquarters in the chancellor's palace, which is strongly guarded by soldiers.

Negotiations Fail

LONDON, Jan. 8.—Negotiations between the government and revolting elements in Berlin were in progress all day yesterday, say Copenhagen and Amsterdam dispatches, but no definite result was apparent. None of the leaders, it appeared, had any real control over the masses in the Berlin streets, and spasmodic fighting took place in various parts of the city.

The Spartacans group has proclaimed a general strike for January 19. The Spartacans declare they will prevent the elections to the national assembly by all possible means. It is asserted that the entire railway system of Germany is in their hands.

Outside the capital, the messenger state, the Bolshevik movement is weak.

Large bodies of troops, particularly artillery, it is added, continue to be sent to Berlin. Premier Ebert is reported to have told a friend that he had no doubt about the issue of the fighting.

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