

GERMANY POSED AS CONQUEROR AT PEACE CONFERENCE

Trotzky Treats With Persia MAY RECOGNIZE LENINE'S POWER

CENTRAL POWERS ENVOYS CLASHED AT PEACE MEET

While Her Allies Were Conciliatory, Germany Was Dominating; Leaders in Open Disagreement.

Petrograd, Jan. 3.—Disclosure of details of the Brest Litovsk peace negotiations makes it clear that Germany assumed a dominating attitude, while Austria-Bulgaria and Turkey were very conciliatory and disagreed with the German position.

There were differences also among the German delegates. Foreign Minister Von Kuhlmann and Gen. Hoffmann clashed openly during the general meetings. Germany posed constantly as a conqueror, while her three allies showed eagerness for peace and a disposition to compromise.

A statement issued by the Bolsheviks emphasizes the fact that the enemy delegations now in Petrograd have no diplomatic standing and are here merely to arrange details, growing out of the armistice, such as the exchange of prisoners and the resumption of postal service.

ASKS MONEY FOR SHIP PLANTS

Chairman Hurley Petitions Congress for \$82,000,000 More for Next Year.

Washington, Jan. 4.—Chairman Hurley of the shipping board, today asked congress for \$82,000,000 for acquisition or establishment of shipbuilding plants in addition to the \$165,000,000 heretofore asked for the next fiscal year.

SWEDISH COUNCIL TO RECOGNIZE FINLAND

King Gustave Presides at Session Deciding to Acknowledge Independence of Province.

London, Jan. 4.—The Swedish council of ministers, at a session presided over by King Gustave, has decided to recognize the independence of Finland, according to a Reuter dispatch from Stockholm today.

WILSON NOMINATES ARMY MEN FOR HIGHER POSTS

Washington, Jan. 4.—Brig.-Gen. Peyton C. March, major-general in the national army, was today nominated by President Wilson a major-general in the regular army.

The following colonels were nominated to be brigadier-generals in the national army: Brig.-Gen. Edwin B. Eabbitt, ordnance department, was nominated to be a brigadier-general in the regular army.

BERLIN HEARS JAPS WILL NOT TREAT WITH RUSSIA

Copenhagen, Jan. 4.—The Lokai Anzeiger of Berlin, says it learns from Tokyo that the Japanese government had decided to enter into diplomatic relations with the new Russian government.

NORWAY SHIP LOSSES FOR PAST YEAR TOTAL 367

London, Jan. 4.—Last year 367 Norwegian vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 555,000 tons, were sunk, an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Copenhagen reports.

SIAM FLOODS WORST IN YEARS; CATTLE DYING

Washington, Jan. 4.—Floods in Siam, the worst since 1831, are devastating the country. Dispatches today from the American legation at Bangkok say the water has risen to the roofs of houses on which peasants are living.

\$500,000,000 ASKED FOR GOVERNMENT OPERATION

Guarantee to Railway Owners Chief of Items For Legislation Recommended by Administration; Admitting Responsibility of Assuming Control Transportation Systems, Wilson Declares It Less Weighty One Than Failure to Remove Any Difficulties Impeding Great Tasks of War.

Washington, Jan. 4.—President Wilson laid before congress today his recommendations for legislation to carry out government operation of railroads, and administration bills to that purpose were introduced immediately in both houses.

While the president, in his address, laid stress on the importance of properly preserving the properties for their return, the administration bill specifically provides that government-control shall obtain throughout the war and "until congress shall thereafter order otherwise."

Many government officials and railroad men made no concealment of their belief that the railways never would return to private hands.

The president's program, beside calling for a \$500,000,000 appropriation, to be used as a "revolving fund" with railroad income for operation and maintenance, calls for compensation to the roads at the rate of their net operating income for the last three fiscal years.

One section of the proposed law, considered very significant, lays a heavy penalty on any one who impedes "possession, use, operation or control" of the roads.

All new railroad financing would be under the approval of the president and the government would be authorized to support railroad credit by buying railway securities and holding them for better markets.

All advances on money to the roads or expenditures for betterments would be reimbursable to the government.

In the house, the bill was introduced by Chairman Sims, of the interstate commerce committee, which will meet Monday to consider it.

In the senate, it was introduced by Senator Smith, of South Carolina, and will be considered by the senate committee also on Monday.

Text of Address. Gentlemen of Congress—I have asked the privilege of addressing you in order to report that on the 28th of December, last, during the recess of congress, I, through the secretary of war and under the authority conferred upon me by the act of congress approved Aug. 29, 1916, I took possession and assumed control of the railway lines of the country and the systems of water transportation under their control.

To Forward Mobilization. I am sure that I am speaking the mind of all thoughtful Americans when I say that it is our duty as the representatives of a nation to do everything that it is necessary to do to secure the complete mobilization of America by the whole resources of America as a rapid and effective means as can be found. Transportation supplies all the arteries of mobilization.

Only Under Government Control. It had become unmistakably plain that only under government administration can the entire equipment of the several systems of transportation be fully and unreservedly thrown into a common service without injurious discrim-

nation against particular properties. Only under government administration can an absolutely unrestricted and unembarrassed common use be made of all tracks, terminals, terminal facilities and equipment of every kind.

Intend Few Changes. The common administration will be carried out with as little disturbance of the present operating organizations and personnel of the railways as possible.

Guarantee All Owners. While the present authority of the executive suffices for all purposes of administration, and while of course no private interest must for the present give way to the public necessity, it is, I am sure you will agree with me, right and necessary that the owners and creditors of the railways, the holders of their stocks and bonds, should receive from the government an unqualified guarantee that their properties will be maintained throughout the period of federal control in as good repair and as complete equipment as at present, and that the several roads will receive under federal management such compensation as is equitable and just alike to their owners and the general public.

Financial Argument Best. "I need not point out the essential justice of such guarantees and their great influence and significance as elements in the present financial and industrial situation of the country. Indeed, one of the strong arguments for assuming control of the railroads at this time is the financial argument.

It is necessary that the values of the railway securities should be just and fairly protected and that the large financial operations every year necessary in connection with the maintenance, operation and development of the roads should, during the period of the war, be wisely related to the financial operations of the government.

Meanwhile the question of the constituent assembly still bothers the bolshevik and demands are made that it be called at once. The government of the Ukraine has sent to the bolshevik a demand that it withdraw its troops from the Ukraine and decide whether or not it is at war with that government.

Deal With Them Greatly. It is probably too much to expect that even under the unified railway administration which will now be possible sufficient economies can be effected in the operation of the railways to make it possible to add to their equipment and extend their operative facilities as much as the present extraordinary demands upon their use will render desirable without resorting to the national treasury for the funds.

Warmer, Says Billy Possum. Now put aside the trinkets, girls, the cross-guns and the sabers. The spirit you won through camps that were to compensate your labors. And order belladonna and a box of brand-new "blushes." New officers in embryo will soon commence their rashes. The weather? Fair and slowly rising temperature tonight and Saturday.

OPENING DATE RUSSIAN ASSEMBLY SET JAN. 18

Petrograd, Jan. 3.—The bolshevik have fixed the opening of the constituent assembly for January 18, providing there is present at that time a quorum of 400 members.

Unless there is a change in original plans, the emissaries of Russia and the central powers will meet today to continue their discussion of peace terms, which the bolshevik have declared are unacceptable. Russia's delegates have proposed that the conference meet in Stockholm, which, if agreed to by the Germans, will make for delay.

RUSSIANS MAKE COUNTER-PROPOSALS

A news dispatch received in London says the Russians have made counter proposals to the Germans. It is added that they will be discussed at the next meeting at Brest-Litovsk on Saturday, which would indicate the Russians have not persisted in their demand that future meetings be held on neutral soil.

Reports that the German and Austrian emperors and the military and political advisers are much perturbed over the Russian attitude are followed by one that Count Von Hertling, the German imperial chancellor, is ill. Berlin political circles have a rumor that Von Hertling, who is 74 years old, is to be ousted in favor of Prince Von Buelow, the former chancellor, who is very close to the German crown prince.

Recognition of the Lenin-Trotsky regime in Russia as a de facto government by the entente allies is probable, according to a London Daily Chronicle. Such a change of sentiment, it is said, would be due to the threatened break in peace negotiations and might bring from the allies a statement of democratic policy toward Russia.

Nothing has occurred to break the inactivity of the infantry on the western and Italian fronts. Small raids have taken place here and there and the German artillery fire continues strong at vital points on the western front.

England will soon be under compulsory rationing. In making this announcement Lord Rhonda, the food controller, said the situation was not alarming and would improve, although shortage in certain foodstuffs would continue.

SIXTEEN INJURED WHEN NORFOLK TRAINS COLLIDE

Norfolk, Va., Jan. 4.—Sixteen men were injured when an engine with two coaches carrying workmen to the concentration depot at Portlock, Va., ran into a light engine standing on the main line of the Norfolk and Western in Portlock yard early today.

All of the injured were brought to Norfolk and rushed to St. Vincent's hospital. While it is said that none of the men were fatally hurt, it was believed one man was internally injured.

DEVELOPMENTS IN RUSSO-GERMAN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS PLACE RADICALS IN DIFFERENT POSITION; REVIVAL OF WAR IN RUSSIA PROBABLE.

London, Jan. 4.—Recognition of the Lenine government in Russia by the entente allies is probable, owing to the developments in the Russo-German negotiations, according to the Daily Chronicle. The statement apparently is based on a contribution "by a diplomatic correspondent," which is printed beneath it.

"There are," he says, "three alternatives: The bolshevik may give way, the Germans may give way or there will be a rupture of relations. The first is hardly likely in view of Foreign Minister Trotzky's declaration. The second is possible, for the Germans are pastmasters in the art of specious compromise.

"Russia may quite possibly witness a revival of the war. If not in the most active form it might at least be a sullenly defensive war necessitating the keeping on the frontier of a considerable German force. It would prevent those pleasant and profitable commercial exchanges which Germany hopes for.

"Assuming such a situation and the consolidation of bolshevik power, provided failure to extract a peace does not wreck the Lenine regime, then recognition of that power as the de facto government follows. Since that is so, a socialist would be the logical representative of that government and Maxim Litvinoff, who has been appointed, is a likely enough occupant of the embassy."

Strengthened Allied Cause. "Be that as it may, we may expect shortly some new statement of policy with regard to Russia, which, should it lean toward the latest developments and democracy would undoubtedly strengthen the allied cause in Russia."

GERMAN TROOPS REPULSE ATTACK

Berlin Dispatch Announces the Failure of British Efforts East of Ypres. Paris, Jan. 4.—Violent artillery fighting on the Champagne and Verdun fronts is reported in today's official communication. A German attack in upper Alsace was repulsed. Eight German airplanes and a captive balloon were brought to earth yesterday.

Berlin, Jan. 4. (via London).—Attacks by the British in the region east of Ypres and north of La Bassee canal were repulsed by German troops, who captured prisoners and machine guns in the fighting, army headquarters announced today.

CRITICISES WILSON FOR HOLDING OVER CABINET

Washington, Jan. 4.—Senator Hardwick, democrat, declared in the senate today that President Wilson's action in holding over his cabinet from his first term without submitting recommendations was a "contemptuous disregard" of senatorial courtesy, and he introduced a resolution calling on the president to inform the senate by what "warrant of law or authority" the present cabinet officers hold their offices.

WAYCROSS INSURANCE MAN SHOT AT GREENWOOD

Waycross, Ga., Jan. 4.—According to information received here, James W. Waycross, insurance man and banker of Waycross, and well known throughout the state, was not accidentally killed at Greenwood, Miss., but was shot to death while going from the railway station to the home of his daughter, Mrs. Gerson. A man said to be T. L. Eaper, is reported to have surrendered to the county authorities at Greenwood but has refused to make any statement other than to say he met Mr. Knox at the station.

TAMPA HAS HEAVY ROST; LITTLE DAMAGE FEARED

Tampa, Fla., Jan. 4.—Tampa had heavy frost last night with 21 degrees and freezing weather overcast most of the state, Miami reporting 32; Fort Myers, 34; Euclid, 22, and Jacksonville, 24. As December and November were cold months citrus trees are dormant and little damage has been done.

IF TURKEY WILL WITHDRAW ARMY SO WILL RUSSIA

Bolshevik Foreign Minister Bargains With Persian Government.

London, Jan. 4.—The bolshevik foreign minister, Leon Trotzky, is said by the Petrograd correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph company to have sent a communication to the Persian government offering to begin negotiations for the withdrawal of Russian troops from Persian territory, provided Turkey will withdraw hers.

The Russian commissioners, the correspondent says, have decided to negotiate with the government of Ukraine on the basis of recognition of the Ukrainian republic provided it does not hinder military operations against Gen. Kaledines, the Cossack leader.

It is suggested that these negotiations be held at Smolensk or Vitebsk. According to the same correspondent, M. Kerensky, the deposed premier, has prepared an account of his services during the period of the first revolution which will be presented to the constituent assembly. It includes full details of conditions at the front during the June offensive and the reasons why M. Kerensky decided to remove former Emperor Nicholas to Siberia.

In the archives of the Russian foreign office there have been discovered documents of unusual interest dealing with negotiations between Germany and the imperial Russian government in regard to a national convention to combat socialism. Other documents relating to the origin of the war throw light on certain aspects of German policy. These papers will be published as soon as they have been classified.

EISENMATH'S PLANS WERE VISIONARY

Washington, Jan. 4.—Failure of the government to call on many large clothing manufacturers to make uniforms was assailed by Frank S. Turnbull, of New York, president of Rogers, Peet & Co., when the war inquiry was resumed today by the committee.

"There was no earthly reason why we couldn't have clothed the men and clothed them fast," he said.

To conserve wool, Mr. Turnbull said, Charles E. Eisenmath, vice-chairman of the supplies committee of the council of national defense, had proposed that all civilian clothing during the war be made of shoddy.

UKRAINIANS WILL CONDUCT OWN AFFAIRS

Amsterdam, Jan. 4.—According to a telegram from Brest Litovsk, peace delegates from Ukraine have arrived here and reported that the Ukrainian government is preparing to conduct its own international affairs everywhere.

UNKNOWN MAN JUMPS FROM NASHVILLE BRIDGE

Nashville, Jan. 4.—An unknown man tied a rope around his neck, made the rope fast to the Sparkman street bridge over Cumberland river and removing his overcoat jumped off this afternoon. The rope parted and whirling body went into the river.