

GREAT GERMAN FORTRESS ON RHINE HELD BY AMERICANS

It, upon reaching France, in a public address or in conference with the Entente statesmen preceding the opening of the Peace Congress.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 (Wireless and The United Press).—It is said that President Wilson holds all the powers must make sacrifices, if they sincerely desire a just peace.

Should the present world policy of competitive armaments be continued, the United States could do more than hold its share, with its new shipyards, its trained shipbuilders by thousands and its great estimated quantities of raw materials, according to unofficial information.

The United States, it is understood, wants a definite law formulated at the Peace Conference establishing the seas as an international highway, governed by the law of all nations combined—not by the laws of individual nations.

This Government, it is believed, would secure the establishment of a minimum contraband list and a definite blockade. (In the latter proposition is seen a move against future submarine warfare.)

President Wilson, in the belief of friends, will make at least one public address in England. It is understood he will be given an honorary degree in Oxford University, and in recognition as probable he will make this the occasion for his speech. The impression prevails that in this speech he will define his ideas of freedom of the seas.

FREE SEAS OR WE WILL RULE WAVES, WASHINGTON VIEW

Winston Churchill's Assertion That Britain Will Never Limit Defense Regarded as Challenge to Wilson.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—If President Wilson fails to impress his views on the Peace Conference relative to the freedom of the seas the United States must develop into the greatest naval power in the world.

This it seems must be America's answer to the position laid down by Winston Churchill that Great Britain enters the Peace Conference with the absolute determination that no limitation shall be imposed on her right to maintain her naval defense, which means her supremacy on the seas.

GERMANS SEE NO HOPE IN WILSON'S ADDRESS

National Liberal Organ Says President's Programme Will Have Only a Shadowy Existence.

BERLIN, Friday, Dec. 6 (via Copenhagen).—Discussing the address delivered by President Wilson before Congress last Monday, the Correspondent organ of the National Liberals, declares that the Germans will seek in vain for any substantial comfort in the message.

If it expresses the belief that President Wilson's programme, to which Germany has pledged themselves, will have only a shadowy existence at the Peace Conference.

GERMANY TELLS DENMARK SHE IS ON FAMINE VERGE

Austria Has Not Food Enough to Last a Month—No Coal in Vienna.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 7.—Germany has sent a note to Denmark, declaring that she is on the verge of famine. "It is necessary that we greatly reduce our rations up to February, when our cereals will be exhausted," the note said. The present supply is a third of normal.

Austria has not food enough to last a month. Vienna is without coal. It will be necessary shortly to cease railway traffic, put out street lights, and close numbers of schools and shops.

Roosevelt's Noted Patients Improving. The condition of George Gould, coming from a recent operation at Roosevelt Hospital, and Col. Roosevelt, in the same institution with sciatica, is reported as satisfactory to-day.

The condition of Benjamin Duke, who has been in Roosevelt Hospital, some days, was reported as satisfactory also.

FLINT, MICH., PLAN KEEPS WORKERS ON JOBS AT SAME PAY

Business Men Start Move to Avert Disaster in After-War Readjustment.

LABOR COMES FIRST.

Rents and Food Prices Lowered, Factories to Keep Full Force Busy.

(Special to The Evening World.) FLINT, Mich., Dec. 7.—Going on the theory that the laboring man must have the first consideration in the period of readjustment from war work to peace production, Flint manufacturers and business men have launched a price slashing campaign which already is bearing fruit.

Several days ago leaders of the Flint Board of Commerce, headed by Daniel A. Reed of Dunkirk, N. Y., Congressman-elect from the 43d District of New York and for the last two years managing director of the Commerce Association, visited the manufacturers regarding disturbing rumors that thousands of automobile workers were to be laid off for a period of several months during reconstruction and that wages were to be reduced.

Walter P. Chrysler, President of the Buick Motor Company, which, with its affiliated units of the General Motors Corporation, gives employment to 18,000 men, told the committee that the concern had decided to keep all its men at work and to keep up the wartime standard of wages, despite the fact it would be good business to lay off 3,000 employees.

He also informed the committee there were many workmen who had been unable to keep down expenses during the last few months because of the rapid advancement in prices and the demand made upon them for war funds.

The committee decided that there must be a checking of the upward trend of prices of the necessities of life or else a business catastrophe would result.

With this idea in view, the committee held a meeting of retail merchants, which was addressed by Mr. Chrysler. Then came a series of meetings of the various retailers' associations, culminating in a meeting attended by representatives of fifteen distinct lines of business authorized to speak for all the merchants in their respective lines, approximately 550 business houses.

They decided to begin radical price reductions at once, hoping to have the movement spread to retail stores in other cities.

"Some reductions already made are: milk, one cent a quart, making it thirteen; coal from three to five per cent, bringing the cost to below the standard fixed by the Federal Fuel Administration, and shoes, ten per cent.

The merchants, while fixing no percentage of reduction for the entire group because of the wide variance of their lines, declare that their price reductions will be so substantial as to be noticeable to the public and prove that they are acting in good faith.

Landlords of the city had a meeting Thursday night, and on recommendation of a committee of the largest holders of residence property in the city, voted a reduction of fifteen per cent in rentals on single dwellings and apartments effective at once and to continue for a period of ninety days.

The business lines co-operating in the movement, all stores in which have window cards announcing price

CELEBRATING IN ROME NEWS OF END OF HOSTILITIES



PEACE DEMONSTRATION IN ROME

NEW YORK WAR DIVISION CASUALTIES 44 OFFICERS, 1,109 MEN

(Continued from First Page.)

from the signing of peace, when the war army must be discharged. So far as transportation is concerned, the Chief of Staff said it would be easy to bring home all National Guard and National Army divisions within four months. The camps to which each large unit will be sent for demobilization will be announced as soon as Gen. Pershing decides that the unit has started for home.

VON MACKENSEN'S ARMY IS BEING DISARMED

Soldiers Are Permitted to Cross Hungary on Their Way to Germany.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 7.—The disarming of Field Marshal von Mackensen's army has begun in Hungary, according to a despatch from Berlin.

POINCARÉ AND CABINET GO TO METZ AND STRASBOURG

Elaborate Ceremonies to Mark Formal Taking Over of Alsace-Lorraine To-Morrow.

PARIS, Dec. 7.—Prime Minister Poincaré, the cabinet, and large delegations from the Senate and Chamber of Deputies, left for Metz and Strasbourg in special trains to-day to take official possession of Alsace-Lorraine on Sunday and Monday. Elaborate ceremonies will be held in both cities.

NEW YORK ARSENAL EQUIPPED TO MAKE GUNS UP TO 18-INCH CALIBRE

Ordnance Chief's Report Does Not Indicate Whether Construction Is Contemplated.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The army arsenal at Watervliet, N. Y., is equipped to manufacture guns up to 18 inch calibre. Major Gen. C. G. Williams, Chief of Ordnance, said to-day in his annual report to the Secretary of War. No details were given to indicate whether construction of this large type of ordnance is contemplated.

During the fiscal year 16,000 contracts were let for material valued at five billions of dollars, four thousand manufacturers participating. Funds expended in the development of manufacturing facilities totalled \$420,000,000.

Satisfactory progress has been made in the erection of nitrate plants which will render this country independent of the Chilean supply. Production from one of the four plants will soon reach 22,000 tons per year.

HOOPER CALLED THE SAVIOR OF BELGIUM AT BRUSSELS

Tribute Paid to American Food Administrator by Burgomaster Max.

BRUSSELS, Friday, Dec. 6.—Herbert C. Hoover was the guest of honor to-night at a reception in the City Hall, Burgomaster Max, in a speech welcoming the American Food Administrator to Brussels, of which city he was recently elected a citizen, said: "In greeting the friend of the Belgian nation I am interpreting the feelings of eight million human beings saved from famine, exhaustion and death. Our country twice was saved by you, for the intervention of the American armies which decided the result of the war and delivered our territory would have freed nothing but a vast cemetery if it had not been preceded by the magnificent work to which the name of Hoover will forever be attached."

REARRANGEMENT PLANNED FOR REVENUE DISTRICTS

Commissioner Roper Would Have Them Coincide Geographically With State Lines.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Internal revenue collection districts may be rearranged during the next year to make boundaries coincide with State lines, Commissioner Roper announced to-day.

3,500 INFLUENZA DEATHS.

Mortality City Record Tabulated—Rate in Manhattan 27 in 1,000.

Figures on the results of the epidemic of influenza in Manhattan, announced to-day by Health Commissioner Copeland, show there were 3,500 deaths and a death rate of twenty-seven in 1,000 cases. This, he said, is lower than the rate in Philadelphia, Boston, Buffalo, Newark or Baltimore. Where it ranged from thirty-two to forty-seven deaths in every 1,000 cases.

WILSON INVITED TO COLOGNE TO HELP SAVE GERMANY

Berlin Wants Combined Tenth and Allied Armies to March Against Bolsheviks.

BERLIN, Dec. 7.—President Wilson is invited by Cologne to meet delegations from Berlin and other German cities there to bring about an understanding regarding the integrity of Germany.

German newspapers are showing a universal dread of the various separatist movements.

Berlin, according to dispatches received here, wants to form a combined Allied and German army to march against the Bolsheviks in Russia.

MEN LISTED IN DR. FUEHR'S DIARY DENY PRO-GERMANISM

Undermyer Says Introduction of Letter About Buying Newspaper Was Ridiculous.

Denials that they were pro-German prior to America's entry into the war were made to-day by a number of men mentioned in the diary of Dr. Karl A. Fuehr, a German agent brought to America by von Bernstorff. Regarding a letter written by Samuel Undermyer to Dr. Heinrich Albert, then Commercial Attaché of the German Embassy, concerning the purchase of a New York newspaper, Mr. Undermyer characterized the communication as being without taint of propaganda and said the introduction of the letter into the proceedings was ridiculous.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT AGREES TO SHORTER HOURS IN FULFILLING ENGINEERS' PLEDGE.

LONDON, Dec. 7 (British Wireless Service).—The British Government has agreed to the principle of an eight-hour day for all members of the wages staff in the United Kingdom in fulfillment of the pledge given the railwaymen by the Government since the Board of Trade. The eight-hour day will come into operation next February.

JEWELS HIDDEN ON HORSE.

Driver Pleads Guilty to Theft of \$150 Gems from Woman.

A man giving the name of Vincent Sabato of No. 276 East 132d Street was held in \$1,000 bail by Magistrate Brough to-day after pleading guilty to the theft of \$150 worth of jewelry from Mrs. May Koehn of No. 264 West 9th Street. Sabato is a driver for a department store.

MASARYK MEETS POINCARÉ.

Czecho-Slovak President Received With Honors in Paris.

PARIS, Dec. 7.—Prof. Thomas G. Masaryk, President of the Czecho-Slovak Republic, who is now in Paris, will be received by President Poincaré this afternoon.

SHIP WITH 144 SHELLSHOCK CASES IN.

The American Ship Nansemond from France was reported near Sandy Hook at 12 o'clock this afternoon and expected to dock before evening. Among the soldiers on board are 144 "mental cases" caused, it is said, by shell shock.

Capt. Dennis F. Collins Dies. Capt. Dennis F. Collins, formerly a well known officer of the City Fire Department, died suddenly yesterday at his home, No. 349 West Avenue, Long Island City, of apoplexy. The funeral will be held in St. Patrick's Church, Long Island City, next Monday.

WALDORF WATER TANK AFFAIR.

Fire in, on or around the water tank on top of the Waldorf-Astoria, on the northwest corner of the hotel, brought out the fire apparatus, a large crowd, some congestion, little confusion, lots of smoke and "Smoky" Joe Martin at the noon hour to-day. The tank started to burn when a frozen pipe leading from it was thawed out by heat. No damage.

PERSONALS.

WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST AND MAJOR HYLAN. William Randolph Hearst paid a visit to Major Hylan in City Hall to-day and spent twenty-five minutes with him. When he emerged from the Mayor's office and faced several newspaper men, the editor was smiling broadly. The smile vanished, however, when this question was put to him: "Have you anything to say with reference to the resolutions adopted last night by the Republican Club, which criticized the Mayor for appointing you on the committee which is to welcome home the soldiers?"

"I have nothing to say in reply to that," said Mr. Hearst frowning and walking faster. Then he added: "They can say anything they want to say about me."

"Have you any comment to make on the Bernstorff plot disclosures from Washington, in which your name has been mentioned?" was next asked.

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"Did you discuss the Republican Club resolutions with the Mayor?" The question was evidently not heard by Mr. Hearst, for by that time he was moving toward the steps leading to City Hall Plaza.

The Republican Club resolution says, among other things, that the appointment of Mr. Hearst as Chairman of one of the reception sub-committees of the Soldiers' Welcome Committee, is "an insult to every soldier, sailor, parent or kinsman of the same, and to every American."

Mr. Hearst was to have attended a meeting of the Mayor's Committee on Soldiers' reception in City Hall this morning, but he didn't put in an appearance at City Hall until the meeting had broken up. A member of the committee explained that Mr. Hearst had misunderstood the time.

This explanation was given as a contradiction of the rumor that Mr. Hearst had purposely avoided meeting the other members of the committee.

A member of the Mayor's Committee on Welcome to Homecoming Soldiers was asked if the resolution introduced at the meeting had been discussed during to-day's meeting.

"It was," he replied, "and it was the opinion of two of the members of the committee that the attack on Mr. Hearst was 'petty politics' as they put it."

Inasmuch as the session was executive, the committee member said he was not at liberty to mention names.

URGES RAISE FOR TEACHERS.

Jersey Education Official Says Youths in Office Get More Pay.

TRENTON, N. J., Dec. 7.—John P. Murray, a member of the State Board of Education told the Assembly Educational Committee to-day that all teachers' salaries should be raised to prevent them from entering other lines which offered more compensation. He said many New Jersey teachers receive less than those employed in his New York law office.

Commissioner of Education Calvin N. Beach, including supervising nurses of the hospital, acted as godmother. Only members of the institution staff were present.

HOUSE TO PUSH INQUIRY.

Right of Way Voted to Security League Investigation.

LUSITANIA SINKING ENDED PROPAGANDA PLAN OF DERNBURG

Subsidizing of Papers Ended in His Blame, Bernstorff Told Berlin.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Shipwreck of German propaganda initiated in America by Bernhard Dernburg was attributed by Count von Bernstorff in his explanation to the Berlin Foreign Office to the impossibility of keeping secret the fact that an American newspaper is subsidized and to the sinking of the Lusitania.

The former Ambassador's explanation was laid before the Senate Committee investigating brewery and German propaganda to-day along with other secret documents from the files of the Department of Justice by A. Bruce Bielski, Chief of the Bureau of Investigation.

In a letter to the Foreign Office in 1915, Bernstorff said the subsidizing of papers always ended with him being held responsible for all the articles of such papers. For this reason, he said, he had succeeded in getting free of all relations with the fair play of Marcus Braun, and that he also would like to be free from the Bernhard, which, he added, "has shown itself of little value."

The letter spoke of an unfortunate experience with the "Times mail," and said only the future could show "whether we will have better luck with Mr. Huntington Wright and Mr. T. E. Low."

Among other documents presented by Mr. Bielski were several relating to J. F. J. Archibald, American newspaper man, from whom German communications were taken by the British authorities while he was on his way to Germany. One paper was a German Embassy receipt for \$5,000 signed by Archibald, dated April 31, 1915.

Marcus Braun, a former immigration inspector, was editor of the Fair Play. This paper, Bielski told the committee, received numerous subsidies from the German Embassy, the amounts ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Early in 1916 publication of the paper was stopped, as its circulation had dropped to such a low figure that it had become of little value to the Germans.

To prevent the ownership of the paper from going into bankruptcy, with "undesirable publicity," being given to it, Bielski said, the German Embassy gave \$5,074 for the payments of debts. This amount was given, it was declared, only after Braun had threatened that he would make no effort to prevent the publication of the connection between the German Government and the paper, should it become bankrupt. A letter to Bernstorff, termed this "dispicable extortion," but recommended that the amount should be paid to avoid further trouble.

Submitting evidence concerning the National Courier, published for a time in Washington, Bielski said its Editor, Theodore E. Lowe, received \$8,000 from the Germans during the paper's short life. Bielski also testified that Louis Garthe, Washington Correspondent of the Baltimore American, was a regular contributor to the Courier, without the knowledge of the management of the American.

Two other communications from Bernstorff to Berlin in which he stated he desired an authorization to use funds to influence Congress, and which were made public by the State Department some months ago, also were read to the committee.

Another written alleged to have been on the payroll of the German Embassy, Bielski said, was a letter to the Editor of Freedom, a foreign language publication, at Cleveland, O., who Bielski said, wrote a motion picture scenario called "Blood is Thicker Than Water," containing scenes showing Austrian workers in the United States refusing to make munitions for the Allies and the subsequent burning of the plant.

A detailed account of the organization and activities of the American embargo conference, which was formed in 1915 to stop shipment of war supplies from this country to the Allies by so arousing feeling among the voters as to compel legislative action being taken, was given by Bielski.

Bielski also read a communication signed by Senator Hitchcock, stating he would do all in his power both as a Senator and as editor of the Omaha Herald to bring about an embargo on arms.

Telegramms began to reach the Committee to-day from the men whose names appeared on the "important list of names" among the German papers produced yesterday. Next Tuesday was set for hearing Prof. Alfred Bushnell Hart of Harvard, who asked to be heard.

JULIUS HAUSER RECOVERING.

Julius Hauser of Sayville, L. I., former State Treasurer of New York, is recovering in Fordham Hospital from a serious operation performed a few days ago. Mr. Hauser is in failing health and has been in a sanatorium in Penn. Van, N. Y.

NEW IT IS PERSHING SQUARE.

The open square in front of the Grand Central station is now Pershing Square. Mayor Hylan yesterday signed the remarkable ordinance designating it.

'NOTHING TO SAY,' REPLY OF HEARST TO CLUB CENSURE

Refuses to Discuss Criticism of His Appointment on Committee to Welcome Soldiers.

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