

LANSING PREPARES TO ANSWER MEXICO

Vigorous Reply Anticipated Unless President Restraints His Hand.

NOTE AT WHITE HOUSE

Secretary of State Firmly Opposed to Giving Carranza Another Opening.

Special Dispatch to THE SUN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Secretary Lansing began consideration today of the Mexican reply in the case of William O. Jenkins, Consul Agent at Puebla, Mexico.

The text of the note as sent here by Charge d'Affaires Summerlin differed only in minor details from that telegraphed to the press from Mexico city.

It is understood that no copy of the note was sent to the President, but it was explained that copies of all important communications, like those in the Mexican matter, are transmitted directly to the White House.

It is thought that the President will be allowed by his physicians to give the matter more study than has been the rule heretofore since his collapse.

Officials are fully refused to comment on the probable action of the United States, but it is regarded as certain that the Mexican Government may expect an answer, if not by return mail, at least in short order.

Opposed to Further Delay. It is outwardly apparent that the State Department's attitude is not one that will mean the forwarding of any other interrogatory seeking proof of Jenkins' release or will give the Carranza Government another chance to prolong the discussion, but that if any more dilatory tactics are employed it will be the duty of the judgment of the Secretary of State.

It was pointed out today that in all the correspondence in recent years between this Government and Mexico the Mexicans have shown marked ability in equivocal letter writing, and that while their diplomatic utterances have been crude as compared with the productions of European statesmen, they have been clever enough to word their replies so as to make some kind of reply apparently necessary.

While the present note would seem to call for no reply other than a demand to comply with the requirements stated to Secretary Lansing's last one, and while a peremptory demand is looked for in well informed circles, yet the possibility exists of another note pointing out mistakes and inaccuracies. However, the consensus of opinion among those in close touch with the State Department is that the next word from Washington to Mexico city may convey a surprise to Carranza.

Retains Faith in Jenkins. From the onset of the Jenkins controversy and during the different intervals covering the Consul agent's release, his two arrests by Mexican authorities and his release on shadowy bail furnished by J. Salter Hansen, the State Department has not hesitated to proclaim its complete confidence in Jenkins, and the assertion in the Mexican press that the information in American hands is not free from impartiality is regarded as a direct challenge.

The information regarding the latest Mexican case in possession of the State Department is conclusive enough so far as the United States is concerned. The information regarding many more cases, fully as flagrant, is an equally conclusive one, and unless the Secretary of State again is prevented from exercising his own patriotic judgment the belief here is that Mexico will not find it easy to continue talk without action.

TO STEAL PLANES FOR MEXICO. Two U. S. Airmen Arrested on Being Concerned in Plot. SAN ANTONIO, Dec. 18.—An alleged plot to steal thirteen American army airplanes and sell them to the Mexican Government for \$120,000 is believed to have been uncovered with the arrest of a Lieutenant and a former Lieutenant in the air service. It was stated at headquarters of the Southern Department of the Army here today.

According to officials the Lieutenant is being held at Kelly Field here, while the former Lieutenant is under arrest at Houston. Technically the men are charged with stealing a motor and other parts of an airplane at Ellington Field, Houston.

Officials at headquarters said the Lieutenant had admitted the alleged plot and expressed a willingness to testify against the former Lieutenant.

MEXICANS SEIZE NAVAL MEN. Two of the Pokomoke's Crew Under Arrest at Mazatlan. NOVALESA, Ariz., Dec. 18.—H. V. Leonard and H. G. Martin, members of the crew of the submarine tender Pokomoke have been in jail at Mazatlan, Sinaloa, since November 12. It was reported by Americans arriving at the town last night. The matter will be taken up with the American Government direct, it was said, because of the alleged refusal of the State Department representatives to take action.

The American agents said they have been arrested after a street fight with a Mexican. Officers of the submarine tender are reported to have tried for one week to obtain the release of the men, when this seemed impossible the tender sailed away.

BOLSHEVIKI CLAIM TO HAVE CAPTURED KIEV

London Report Says Denikin Retreat Continues.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The forces of Gen. Denikin, the anti-Bolshevik leader in South Russia, continue to retreat before the Red offensive, according to a report issued by the War Office today. The report says that during last week the Bolsheviki have compelled Denikin to withdraw another fifty miles along a vast front and that the present indications there is no military reason why the Reds should not continue to advance.

The Bolsheviki not only have captured Potyava and Kharok, the report continues, but also they have taken Kiev. The Bolsheviki have virtually an unrestricted hand against Denikin, since the fighting on other sections has slackened, and continue to rush heavy reinforcements south.

Premiers to Act on Fiume Dispute. Lloyd George Says American Representative May Participate in Conference.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—Premier Nitti of Italy has been invited to meet Premier Lloyd George and Premier Clemenceau, and possibly an American representative in Paris in the course of a few days, it was announced by Mr. Lloyd George in the House of Commons today. An effort to settle the question of Fiume was the purpose of the meeting, he said.

By the Associated Press. Fiume, Dec. 17.—Obstacles to the withdrawal of Capt. Gabriele d'Annunzio's forces brought about a new turn in the Fiume situation today and may block acceptance of proposals made by Gen. Badoglio, Italian Chief of Staff. Strong pressure is being exerted by a large number of soldiers who wish to remain in Fiume until formal annexation to Italy is promised.

There are also various elements of the annexationists waiting stronger guarantees, even insisting that the present garrison be maintained here as a regular Italian garrison under the command of d'Annunzio.

Feeling is running at highest pitch preparatory to the plebiscite which will be held to-morrow (Thursday). Several meetings were held this evening to discuss various phases of the question. The secretary of the Fiume National Council read the terms of the proposal made by Gen. Badoglio, urging its acceptance as tantamount to annexation to Italy.

"This proposal," he said, "says the Italian Government guarantees the occupation of Fiume shall be by regular troops, exclusively Italian. That means they will not be British, French or American. It means there will be no foreign troops, missions, delegation nor any representative of a foreign army in Fiume."

Commander Rizzo, chief of the d'Annunzian navy, said that d'Annunzio's troops would be taken back to Italy and would be permitted to rejoin the army without punishment. A large number of officers and men wish to remain, as they are living an easier life and receive three or four times the pay given them in the Italian army.

Several residents of Fiume have told the correspondent it would be a bold problem to get these soldiers out of the city. They do not want to return to the Italian army and prospects for work in Italy are poor.

BRITISH PARLEY WITH SOVIET FRUITLESS. Effort for Release of Prisoners Has Failed.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 18.—The negotiations between James O'Grady, representing Great Britain, and Maxim Litvinoff, representative of Soviet Russia, which have been going on here regarding the repatriation of British prisoners held in Russia, have been broken off without an agreement being reached.

Although the conference was called for the sole purpose of exchanging prisoners, Litvinoff has endeavored to use it as a medium for presenting the peace plans of the Russian Soviet to the Allies. The allied Governments have refused to accept the communications from Litvinoff.

BANDHOLTZ TO ACT FOR U. S. Will Continue to Collaborate With Mission at Budapest.

BASEL, Switzerland, Dec. 18.—A semi-official announcement of the Hungarian Bureau at Budapest says that following the departure of the American mission from the peace conference, Brig.-Gen. Harry H. Bandholtz, the American representative on the Interallied Military Committee to Budapest, ceased automatically to have any part in the councils of the military mission.

The despatch said Gen. Bandholtz would remain in Budapest until further orders as a military representative of America, and that he would continue to collaborate with the mission at Budapest.

A despatch received from Budapest yesterday on authority of the Pester Lloyd quoted Brig.-Gen. Bandholtz as saying he considered himself as representing the interests of the United States and not the Council of Five.

UKRAINE GENERAL, ARMY GONE, FLEES

Petlura Has Sought Refuge in Poland, Moscow Despatch Says.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—Gen. Petlura, the Ukrainian commander, has fled to Poland, it is asserted in a wireless despatch received here today. The greater part of Petlura's troops have been dispersed, the message declared.

Another message dated at Tashkent, Russian Turkestan, on December 16, reports that the Amir of Afghanistan has issued a manifesto of independence, which he declares Afghanistan will attain "by strength of arms."

5,000 JEWS KILLED IN UKRAINE POGROMS. New Wave of Slaughter in Gen. Denikin's District.

BERN, Switzerland, Dec. 18.—Reports of a fresh wave of pogroms in the districts of the Ukraine occupied by Gen. Denikin's forces are printed by the Lemberg newspaper Gortsetz Wicrowko, according to Lemberg advices today. The newspaper declares that about 5,000 Jews were killed in Ekaterinoslav alone.

A recent statement issued by the Russian Information Bureau in the United States said: "The pogrom victims' relief committee, attached to the Russian Red Cross Society, has published the following report, based upon documentary evidence and official inquiry: 'Petlura's regular troops and detachments have plundered and destroyed about 128 small towns in all, the total number of killed reaching 15,000.'

"Sokolovsky's bands (Radomyli, in the Zhitomir region) destroyed sixty-two communities, committing about 3,900 murders. 'Zelensky's bands (Tiraspol region) destroyed fifteen communities and killed about 2,900 people. 'Struk's bands (Chernobyl region) destroyed forty-one places, about 1,900 murdered.

"Sokolov's bands (Uman-Skivra region) destroyed thirty-eight communities, killing about 2,000. 'Grigoriev's bands (Cherkasski-Elizavograd region) destroyed forty communities and killed 6,000. 'Zasenko's, Golub's and other bands (Tschernigov region) destroyed sixteen communities and killed 1,000 persons.

Soviet troops destroyed thirteen communities, killing 500 persons. The total number of communities destroyed by all these armed bands is 153, with 30,500 killed, according to verified information furnished by the Russian Liberation Committee in London."

ESTHONIA TO DEBATE SOVIET'S NEW TERMS. They Provide for Neutralization of Narova River.

By the Associated Press. DORPAT, Wednesday, Dec. 17.—With the announcement that M. Poska, the Estonian Foreign Minister, would place the new Bolsheviki boundary proposal before his Government immediately, and perhaps before the Constituent Assembly, the definite breaking off of negotiations in the Baltic conference has been delayed.

Gen. Kostyaxev, representing the Russian Soviet Government, brought a written proposal from the Moscow Government, replying to the Estonian communication concerning the town of Narva, but making little real change in the Soviet demands. They ask for neutralization of the Narova River and the withdrawal of the Estonians ten miles seaward of their present entrenchments.

The Estonians have announced officially that Joffe, of the Bolsheviki delegates, declared that military necessity has forced Soviet Russia to depart from the position of self-determination on certain of the districts involved. They insist that the proposed frontiers offered definite boundaries for the future, while it is asserted in other circles that they are simply military frontiers, to be maintained until the end of the war, when the question of the real boundary between the Narova will be submitted to a plebiscite.

The Bolsheviki proposal does not yield to the demand of Estonia for control of the strategic front east of the Narova River. Resumption of the conference probably depends upon whether the Estonians are willing to trust the Bolsheviki to the extent of weakening their military defenses by withdrawing their army from contested territory.

It is believed the decision in this instance will mean either peace or war. The Bolsheviki army is now hammering at Pskov, where it has launched another heavy attack, as well as the positions along the Narova front. Reports that the Estonians recently exchanged notes with the Allies did not clear up the point as to whether the former could expect aid if they refused the peace offer of the Soviet Government, and it is apparent from the attitude of the border States that Estonia cannot expect assistance from this quarter.

Discussing the plight of the Estonians an official of the Government said: "If the worst comes we are willing to fight to the last man to preserve our independence."

NEWSPRINT TO BE \$80 A TON. Canada Advances Prices \$11, to Be in Effect Jan. 1.

OTTAWA, Dec. 18.—The price of newsprint paper in Canada is to be raised to \$80 per ton (6,000 lbs.) on January 1, according to an announcement made today by Paper Controller J. R. Bell. The price now being paid by the Canadian newspapers is \$69 per ton.

RESTAURANTS IN BERLIN ON "STRIKE"

Action Is Protest Against Food Ministry Rules.

By the Associated Press. BERLIN, Dec. 18.—Every restaurant, cafe, bar and eating house, even the kosher kitchens in the poorer north and east ends of Berlin, closed today in retaliation against the Food Ministry's new regulations suppressing illicit trading in foodstuffs, which they denounce as more drastic than any law of the old imperial regime. The regulator aimed at eliminating the trade of food peddlers by forbidding dealings with them.

Herr Kretschmar, one of the promoters of the "strike," said, "The strike was the sublimity of cruelty but absolutely necessary," and that it would be repeated in every city, town and hamlet in Germany in January if the Government fails to annul the Food Ministry's orders.

Many persons today had provided themselves with emergency rations, but night travelers arriving in ignorance of what was happening suffered severely, as also did sick guests in hotels, who had to be removed to hospitals, which were the only places where food was being supplied. It is freely predicted that the Government will be compelled to yield to the "writings."

The personnel of the hotels today took advantage of the situation and called it a holiday. At the Adlon Hotel the waiters were swarming about, refusing any sort of assistance to the guests. Every hotel room was a miniature dining room, grocery stores having been virtually raided by guests for sandwiches, jam and anything else eatable or drinkable.

SCAPA FLOW CASE AGAIN CONSIDERED. No Definite Decision Reached on Compensation.

PARIS, Dec. 18.—The question of compensation Germany should make for the sinking of the Scapa Flow fleet was again before the Supreme Council today. Loina Louchere, Minister of Reconstruction, and Georges Leygues, the Minister of Marine, of the French Cabinet, made reports on the discussion, which had taken place between the Allies and German experts over the compensation problem. Several propositions were presented to the council, but no definite decision was reached.

No meeting was set for to-day between the allied representatives and the German experts on shipping affairs. The Chamber of Deputies of the French Cabinet, made reports on the discussion, which had taken place between the Allies and German experts over the compensation problem. Several propositions were presented to the council, but no definite decision was reached.

One more boundary question was settled by the council today, when it delineated the frontier between Galicia and Bukovina.

COMMONS LABORITES TO "PROBE" IRELAND. Name Board to Inquire Into Conditions.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The Parliamentary Labor party, meeting in the House of Commons today, appointed a deputation to investigate conditions in Ireland. The commission includes William Adamson, John Robert Clynes and Arthur Henderson and will visit Ireland during the next few days.

The effect of the present system of government will be inquired into, and the extent to which it is interfering with legitimate individual liberty.

According to the Herald, the Labor organ, the real reasons why the Dublin Freeman's Journal was suppressed was not because of the newspaper's alleged interference with the recruiting of special constables, as was stated in Parliament, but was a result of the newspaper's attacks upon the Irish administration.

It is asserted that the Journal alleged certain known criminals were allowed immunity from prosecution because the Government was employing them. The Dublin correspondent of the Herald says it is firmly believed that Detectives Downing and Barton, who were slain in Dublin recently, were shot not by Sinn Feiners but by criminals of the village type, whose identity is known to the Government, but who are left untouched because the Castle wishes the murders to be attributed to the Sinn Fein.

CABLE SHIP LOSES ITS LIQUOR. \$8,000 Worth Is Confiscated and Fine of \$400 Imposed.

HALIFAX, Dec. 18.—Liquor valued at \$2,000, seized on board the Western Union cable ship Robert C. Cowry, was ordered confiscated today. The ship was released on payment of a fine of \$400.

U. S. Collected \$1,145,078,000 Here. The total amount collected this year in income and excess profits taxes in the Second Federal Reserve District, which includes New York, is \$1,145,078,000, the Federal Reserve Bank announced yesterday. About \$20,000,000 is yet to be collected.

IMPERIALISTS HAVE 'MONARCHIST ORGY'

Party Congress in Potsdam District Sends Greetings to Former Kaiser.

HOHENZOLLERNS LAUDED. 'Vorwaerts' Attacks Action and Calls Ex-Ruler World's Greatest Political Fool.

BERLIN, Dec. 18.—The German National Congress in the Potsdam district developed into a "monarchist orgy," according to Vorwaerts. Telegrams of greetings were despatched to "their Majesties" at Amerongen.

The chairman of the Congress, in the course of his speech, said: "Our royal house towers so high above all the princely houses of the world that it would be difficult further to spread knowledge of the Hohenzollern charter by word of mouth."

Commenting on this statement Vorwaerts caricatures the former German Emperor as "one of the greatest political fools in the world's history," and refers to the former Crown Prince as "a superficial youth of coarse and vulgar sporting dandy and in other respects totally incapable."

"He invented the cuff link," says Vorwaerts, and sums up by adding, "This is, briefly, the character of the twirling princely house."

The property law bill has been passed by the National Assembly. The bill, which was one of the three major legislative measures introduced by Minister of Finance Erberberger, was carried through with ease by a handsome majority. The ease with which Erberberger put the bill through was typical of the apathy with which the majority bloc of the Reichstag has received the most drastic of all the Minister's measures as a foregone conclusion. The expected opposition among the Democrats failed to develop and probably only half a dozen members of the liberal faction voted against the bill.

The newspaper comments reflect a note of resignation. George Bernhard, in a general review of the people's financial policy, written for the Vossische Zeitung, charges that it is calculated to meet only the needs of the hour and to keep the coalition together for a few months more.

The Assembly also has hurried through the second and third reading of turnover tax bill, a bill which provides for a general tax of 14 per cent. Luxuries are assessed 15 per cent. The National Assembly will adjourn Friday to reconvene in the middle of January.

Vorwaerts denounces the premium loan on the ground that it has appealed to the lowest passions of the people, fostering the gambling spirit. It asserts that the poor are "marched up to subscribe while the capitalist class has shrugged its shoulders and kept aloof. Its propaganda was a scandalous and contemptible piece of work, written for the paper shortage huge masses of circulars were uselessly distributed. These circulars and posters were all coughed in the same tone—subscribe and you will become a millionaire.

RELIEF FOR AUSTRIA WAITS ON U. S. CREDIT. British to Provide Temporary Supply of Fats.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN from the London Times Service. Copyright, 1919, all rights reserved. PARIS, Dec. 18.—The Austrian delegates have left Paris. Dr. Renner's appeal on behalf of the starving Viennese has resulted in success which, although considerable, can be only a temporary alleviation of their distress.

Sir William Goode, British director of relief, has been authorized by the British Government to supply more than \$1,000,000 worth of food to Vienna, where the supply has exhausted. He has also been authorized to send in three shipments of coal.

Final solution of the financial difficulty attending the food problem depends upon the United States deciding to grant further extensive credits.

OVER-GARMENTS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE OVERCOATS NOW PRESENTED. FINCHLEY CONSIDERED IT ADVISABLE TO ADHERE TO THE CURRENT ENGLISH STANDARD OF DRAPE.

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BRITAIN IS THROWN OPEN TO IMPORTS

Sankey Ruling Invalidates Government Ban Pending an Appeal.

MUNITIONS ONLY BARRED. Construction of War Proclamation Is Body Blow to Protectionists.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. Copyright, 1919, all rights reserved. LONDON, Dec. 18.—The decision of Justice Sankey threw a bombshell into the ranks of protectionists who are trying to modify the English system of free trade. Its immediate effect was the announcement in the House of Commons by Sir Auckland Geddes, Minister of National Service and Reconstruction, that as the Government possessed no power to prohibit the importation of certain goods, orders had been issued to permit the importation of all articles affected in the Government's prohibitory proclamation pending an appeal.

During the war imports in England were governed by section 43 of the customs act, which says: "Importation of arms, ammunition, gunpowder or any other goods may be prohibited by a proclamation or an order of the Council." While the war lasted all imports were regulated by this rule and no objection was raised because it was considered a public necessity. Now that the war is over it was decided to bring up a test case to see whether Parliament had ever given any power to prohibit the importation of all kinds of merchandise, except a public necessity.

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Since the anti-dumping bill has been practically pigeonholed Sankey's decision if upheld by the proposed appeal will deprive the Government of any means whatever to prevent imports, except on goods which may be termed munitions of war. If the appeal fails the question will arise as to whether all parties whose goods were prevented from entering the country by the embargo law are entitled to damages.

By the Associated Press. LONDON, Dec. 18.—According to a Government order following the decision of Justice Sankey, the following articles can now be imported into Great Britain: Dyes, synthetic drugs, chemicals, optical glass, scientific glassware, illuminating glass, laboratory instruments, gas mantles, gauges of all classes, magnets, hoistery and needles.

The Manchester Guardian says: "The import restrictions during and after the war were imposed by proclamation under the act of 1878, which was so vaguely worded as to be capable of interpretation far beyond its obvious intentions. By Justice Sankey's decision the whole basis of the policy of import restrictions is declared illegal except in so far as it relates to munitions. The present Government did not originate that policy, but continued to develop it long after the necessities of war had made restrictions necessary, and finally attempted to embody its worst features in an anti-dumping bill. That bill was buried last week and it cannot be exhumed, if at all, until the next session."

Aero Club Men Reach Pekin. By the Associated Press. BERLIN, Dec. 17 (delayed). Representatives of the Aero Club of America who are making arrangements for the first aerial derby around the world, arrived in Pekin today from Japan. The party included Louis D. Beaumont, Major Charles J. Glidden and Benjamin Lillman.

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HIKED FROM COREA TO REACH PARIS. FRENCH TROOPS ARE SENT INTO SILESIA. Explanation Asked by Paris Radical Newspapers.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN from the London Times Service. Copyright, 1919, all rights reserved. PARIS, Dec. 18.—Evening papers announce the departure for Dantzig of a division of French chassiers with full equipment. The Bonasor, a radical newspaper, says that the nation is being kept entirely ignorant of the reasons for such military movements, and demands that the public be informed as to why French troops should be despatched to Silesia. "Who are these battalions going to do down there?" asks this paper. "Who are sending them? It is not, without a doubt, a pleasure trip. It is more probably to do some fighting. Whom are they going to fight? On what new adventure are we embarking?"

Under the tentative arrangements reached at the Paris Peace Conference it was suggested that United States troops should be sent to the Dantzig area at the time the plebiscite would be held. The failure of the Senate to ratify the treaty makes it necessary that troops of some Power other than the United States be sent there.

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