

BERLIN SEEKS PEACE TO GRIP EASTERN GAIN

Hertling Believed Hoping to Capitalize Russian Conquest

PRESIDENT WILSON TO ANSWER SOON

Reply Will Leave No Question as to Where U. S. Stands

PLOT TO SPLIT ALLIES

Teutons Also Count on Entente Being Willing to For-sake Slav Nation

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26. Germany is making a new peace drive, now that she has bagged a goodly section of Russia.

That was the meaning international experts placed today on the more conciliatory tone adopted by Count von Hertling in his reply to President Wilson's peace terms note.

And, further, some of the experts saw an effort by Hertling to split the Allies, relying upon them to have views differing from President Wilson in his four cardinal bases for peace discussion.

The Chancellor's acceptance of the four principles was regarded as indicating that at his peace table discussion there would be little haggling over Russia, if French, Belgian and some Balkan questions could be adjusted.

In fact, it was felt that Hertling's move harked back to Lloyd George's initial war aims speech in which he virtually cast Russia adrift, warning her that she would be left to her fate at German hands if she continued in her peace course.

MAY SACRIFICE RUSSIA

Well-informed Englishmen in this country have said recently that they doubted England would fight on long to wrest Russian territory from a Teuton grip, even though German retention of it was a strong step toward formidable strengthening of German domination.

Further, Italian Foreign Minister Sonnino's newspaper intimated after Lloyd George's speech that there might be little in the way of peace if Germany restored Belgium, cleared out of northern France, gave Italy Trent and Trieste, and did her expanding in Russia.

What President Wilson will do was something no one here could positively fathom today. That he will make some rejoinder is likely, however. But it is a question whether he will yield to Hertling's suggestion that the other nations must accept and express the four cardinal Wilsonian bases.

APPEALS TO PACIFISTS

Hertling subtly appealed to the pacifists of the Allied countries to join in pressure on their Governments for a statement coinciding with Wilson's.

There can be no mistaking that Germany wants peace, but a peace advantageous to herself. She has not altered her imperialistic aims and the military party is still in power.

Her acceptance of the principle of self-determination of nationalities is believed based upon the theory that she can coerce the captured Russian provinces into siding her way, especially as there is a strong German element in the population.

In one sense, though the Chancellor's declaration still further clears the air, for every statement on the subject of peace is regarded as one step nearer actual negotiation.

Military men feel that the delay of the long advertised west front offensive is partly explained by the manifest fact that Germany is striving to get peace by negotiation while her Russian "victories" are still fresh and while the territorial account stands to her credit on the international books.

ANOTHER GERMAN MISTAKE

While no official statement is forthcoming as to the President's views—no one but himself has the right to speak for him—it is expected that within the near future he will make it plain, for the benefit of the anti-war parties of Germany and Austria, that Count von Hertling again has made a serious error.

Germany's aggression in Russia has come at a bad time, when compared with the peace utterances of her statesmen, officials say.

That the President will reply to Hertling and also will take steps to define that all may know the attitude of the United States is considered a certainty today. The form in which this action will be taken is known only to the President.

WARE URGES DRYDOCK HERE

Presents Chamber of Commerce Resolution to Shipping Board

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—Resolutions of the war shipping committee of the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, urging that prompt action be taken looking to the construction of drydock facilities for the shipping board fleet on the Delaware, were presented to the shipping board today by Representative Ware.

DR. SAMUEL G. DIXON DEAD



The State Commissioner of Health died this afternoon at the University Hospital, after an extended illness. He was widely known throughout the United States as an expert on matters relating to public health.

U. S. TAKING OVER BIG BATTLE LINE

Every Energy Strained to Construct Huge American Sector

MAKE BRILLIANT RAID

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN THE FIELD, Feb. 26.

A strictly United States front of decisive proportions is growing in the face of the enemy's western front.

With American forces holding a well-defined sector, every effort, every energy in the work of the day is aiming to increase the sector, which will become a huge American battlefront as rapidly as further trench lines can be taken over by the high commands of the Allies.

The speed with which this is accomplished depends upon the arrival of fresh troops.

And the Germans, according to all indications, are pushing more troops into the sector facing our men.

General Pershing and his staff consider the Americans sufficiently trained and the supporting supplies of requisite abundance. Perhaps it has never occurred to those at home that the United States forces might fight in other than individual units, yet maintaining their identity, still others, at home might conclude from the permitted advice reporting various units of the American expeditionary forces reported in separate sectors that our troops have been fighting only as parts of the French army. The true reason is widely different. When the Germans occupy parts of the line, the United States forces are intentionally scattered among French units in order to perfect vital features of modern warfare, and express the four cardinal Wilsonian bases.

OLD-AGE PENSION PLAN UNDER WAY

State Commission Holds Meeting Here—Police Canvasses Proposed

Posthold on the project to pension old persons in Pennsylvania was obtained here this afternoon at a meeting of the State Old Age Pension Commission, appointed by Governor Brumbaugh to report at the next session of the Legislature on the feasibility of the scheme.

An ground work, Representative James H. Maurer, chairman of the commission, proposed that the police authorities of the various cities make canvasses of homes to ascertain the number of old men and women, making them according to age—between 60 and 70, 70 and 80, etc. This work, which could be accomplished in a few months, would enable the commission to learn the cost of the undertaking, he said.

Mr. Maurer is the Bolshevik Government's representative to the State Legislature, and the only Socialist member of the House.

William Draper Lewis, chairman of the State Health Insurance Commission, in Council's Finance Committee room, City Hall. He offered the aid of his commission in the plan. The old-age commission, appointed by the Governor last July, will report to the 1919 Legislature.

GETS 3 TIMES FORMER WAGES AT HOG ISLAND

Eighteen-Dollar Man Few Months Ago—Now Gets More Than Fifty Dollars Weekly

Alek Schumann, of 2503 South Percy street, who was a witness in the case of George Gallagher against the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company before Judge MacNellis in the Municipal Court, gave evidence of the high wages paid at Hog Island.

Judge MacNellis, upon learning that Schumann was employed as a pilot at Hog Island, questioned him as to his former employment and his earnings at Hog Island. Schumann testified that he has been a pilot for four months, or since his employment at Hog Island; previously he had worked for the Philadelphia North Spouting Company as a cloth sponger for \$18 a week.

Some extra sixty cents an hour as a pilot, or \$18 a week together with some extra and time and half time on Saturday afternoons, sometimes making more than \$40 a week.

DR. DIXON DIES; MARTYR TO DUTY

State Health Commissioner Succumbs to Painful Illness

STRICKEN AT HIS POST

Dr. Samuel G. Dixon, Commissioner of the State Department of Health and one of the most widely known physicians in the United States, died this afternoon at the University Hospital.

For several weeks Dr. Dixon kept a constant vigil at her husband's bedside and engaged a room adjoining the one he occupied in order that he might be near to aid in alleviating his suffering.

Doctor Dixon was a martyr to duty. He was stricken ill several months ago while making a tour of the state institutions and his condition became so grave that he was confined to bed for a while. It was believed he would recover. His condition grew worse, however, and about three months ago he was removed to the University Hospital.

Even while there for a time he directed matters of his department from his bedside, which among the wishes of the attending physicians. About two weeks ago his condition took a decided turn for the worse and he sank gradually until the end.

A news of Doctor Dixon's death came as a great shock, especially to his friends in the city.

SENATORS FAVOR U. S. OWNERSHIP OF HOG ISLAND

Believe Government Should Take Shipyard at Expiration of Present Contracts

Government ownership of the Hog Island shipyard after the present contracts are completed was advocated by the members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, who inspected the plant here, according to word from Washington today.

Hog Island, they said, should become the nucleus for a series of Government-owned shipyards building up a Federal merchant marine after the war.

By taking over the plant, the Senators said, the Government could get back the money that they were unanimous in saying, was wasted out of the funds allotted the American International Shipping Company by the Government. All agreed that Rear Admiral Francis T. Bowles should be given a free hand in writing out any agreements for the present, and all praised the food.

The five senators who made the trip yesterday were still in talking about Hog Island while here. Senator Handell of Louisiana, acting chairman of the committee, Senator Reed of Missouri, Senator Vandenberg of Michigan, Senator Borah of Idaho, and Senator Harding of Ohio. A resolution by Senator Fletcher, advocating immediate seizure of the yard, is before the committee now, but will not be favorably acted upon, it was said.

Admiral Bowles said that twelve feet of water is ready at Hog Island and that he saw no reason why the shipyard, so far as the present shipbuilding is concerned, should not be turned over to the Government. He said that the Government should have the yard, and that the Government should have the yard, and that the Government should have the yard.

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SLAV PEOPLE RISING; FIGHT FOR PSKOFF

Captured City Changes Hands Several Times

FURIOUS BATTLES RAGE IN STREETS

Workmen Organize Battalions and Hasten to Defense of Capital

FOE PUSHES ON IN NORTH

Strike at Taps After Capturing Big Naval Base of Revel

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26. With the impression prevalent in Moscow that the Germans are driving for that city, the American consul general there is attempting to arrange the departure of the American colony to Samara, 500 miles east.

All Americans thus far are safe, according to State Department advices today.

LONDON, Feb. 26. The American and British Embassies are departing from Petrograd, leaving a few persons in charge, according to Exchange Telegraph dispatches from the Russian capital dated February 25, 5:50 p. m. Ambassador Francis is turning over the duties of the American embassy to the Norwegian Minister.

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 26. Turkish forces entered Trebizond on Sunday, according to reports from Turkish sources reaching here today.

Trebizond, a city in the Turkish province of that name, on the south shore of the Black Sea, has been in Russian hands since April 19, 1916, when it was taken by Grand Duke Nicholas.

PETROGRAD, Feb. 26. Notwithstanding that the Germans have taken Revel, the big Russian naval base on the Gulf of Finland, just as they threatened, there are indications that the Russian people will not submit tamely to the peace imposed by the Kaiser's military chiefs.

The advance of the enemy from the direction of Pskoff (162 miles southwest of Petrograd) has been halted. Since it was captured yesterday by the Germans the city has changed hands several times.

Red Guard and Lettish riflemen recaptured the Pskoff postoffice, battling in the streets with German detachments, which had been cut off from the main lines.

The garrison soldiers at Petrograd refuse to fight, but the workmen are enthusiastically joining the revolutionary army. Four thousand from the Pskoff works and 2000 from the Viborg and Smolny districts have formed an armed camp with red flags flying.

Revel was stubbornly defended before it was captured. The German troops that occupied the city are moving in the direction of Taps, according to a report from a German source today.

Taps is forty-one miles northwest of Revel and 150 miles from Petrograd. It lies on the Revel-Petrograd Railway. From announcements made by the German War Office, it is apparent that the Germans are following the railway routes in their advance.

The defense committee has issued a proclamation declaring the revolutionary voice against the measure being set by Chairman Lohr.

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JAPAN PREPARES INTERVENTION TO BREAK TEUTON GRIP ON SIBERIA

Will Join Russians to Fight Kaiser and Bolshevism. German Arming in Irkutsk and Plan Heavy Re-enforcements There

HARBIN, Feb. 26. It is understood here that Japan now intends to intervene in Russian affairs in Siberia.

There are evidences that the Japanese have been preparing to carry out this move.

The situation in Siberia is considered extremely grave owing to the inability of the Cossack general, Semenov, head of the anti-Bolshevik movement in that vast territory, to win Allied support, for which he has appealed to the Japanese.

General Semenov's movement now is officially recognized and a general committee has been formed at Harbin, which will act as a general staff, divided into three departments—financial, military and administrative. The Russian consul, M. Popoff, has been appointed chairman of the committee.

Two thousand Japanese have been ordered and are drilling at Irkutsk, capital of the government of Irkutsk, in eastern Siberia, and, according to an official report received from a foreign consular source today, the Japanese are preparing to bring much larger forces there.

RUSSIA AS HUN FASSAL WON'T ALTER U. S. PLANS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26. The American government, through Chinese and Japanese diplomatic sources, has today clearly stated its policy in the anti-Bolshevik movement in Siberia, caused by the German advance into that region.

It was pointed out that it would be most unwise to do more, such as if Japan intended to use the action against the German domination and control of Russia for plans which would be adverse to the United States.

It was very firmly explained in official quarters that the United States has no policy in Siberia, and that whatever action the United States will take will be dictated by the United States and all of the Entente.

Japan will protect the Pacific should the German advance into that region.

ARCHBISHOP NEAR DEATH

End May Come in 24 or 48 Hours, Says Statement

Archbishop Pretergeest is lying dangerously close to death. From the archdiocesan residence the statement was made this morning that the end may come during the next twenty-four or forty-eight hours. Relatives of the aged prelate have not yet been summoned to his bedside, it was said, but they may be done at any moment.

Bureau Heads War Industries

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Bernard Baruch today was named chairman of the War Industries Board, succeeding Daniel Willard, who resigned.

BASKETBALL SCORES

NORTHEAST . . . 26 — — NORTHEAST 2D. 7 — — SOUTH PHILA. . . 13 — — SOUTH PHIL. 2D. 7 — —

CAMDEN HIGH. 11 20—37 SWARTH HIGH. 17 11—28

ADDITIONAL RACING RESULTS

Fifth Havana race, 6 furlongs—Beverly James, 112, Collins, 15 to 1, 6 to 1, 3 to 1, won; Fickle Fancy, 92, Bullman, 5 to 2, 6 to 5, second; James, 112, Howard, 6 to 5, third. Time, 1:13.

EXPRESS CLERK AND \$86,000 MISSING

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 26.—All the energies of the entire force of special agents of the Adams Express Company in Pennsylvania today were concentrated on the tracing of a clerk who disappeared late Saturday following the robbery of approximately \$86,000, which was sent by the Bank of Pittsburgh to the American Steel and Wire Company's plant at Donora. The money was to be used in making up the plant's payroll. P. H. Robbins, chief special agent of the company, arrived in Pittsburgh today from Philadelphia to take charge of the man hunt.

MAN FALLS DEAD IN THEATRE

An unidentified white man, about 65 years old, dropped dead this afternoon in a theater at Market and Juniper streets. In the pocket of his coat was found a pay envelope bearing the address "710 South Front street."

THIEVES PUT CAMDEN CARS OUT OF SERVICE

Controllers and Air Brakes Stolen and Trolley Transit Interrupted

Thirty trolley cars operated by the Public Service Company in Camden were almost wrecked today by thieves, who after capturing a car hauler at Twelfth and Newton avenues, stole all the controllers, airbrakes and other mechanisms of the cars. Before new airbrakes and controllers could be obtained, traffic in different parts of Camden was virtually at a standstill.

Discovery of theft of the mechanisms of the cars were made today when a trolley hauler boarded the cars. At first the hauler thought the controllers had been removed by the company to make room for new ones. As each motorman boarded his car he in turn found that the air brakes, with its chains and gears, had been removed. Marks found on some of the cars made it appear as though steel axes had been used by the thieves.

William Graham, superintendent of the Camden division of the Public Service Company, was notified. He quickly telephoned to one of the supply stations in Camden and had two airbrakes and controllers rushed to the car barn. However, a little delay ensued before the arrival of the new controllers.

The robbery was reported to Captain of Detectives William Schlegel, in Camden, who assigned several detectives. Constables and other authorities on the outskirts of Camden were also notified to watch out for the thieves, who the police believe will try to unload their loot to junk dealers.

WIND AND RAIN SWEEP THE CITY AND ENVIRONS

Schuylkill Threatening Flood as Result of Fierce Storm

READING SENDS WARNING

Mill Owners at Manayunk Take Precautions Against Rush of Waters

While Philadelphia and its environs suffered from a terrific wind and rain storm early this morning, the heaviest downpour of rain in the State deluged Reading. Shortly before noon the Schuylkill River there was ten feet above the high water mark and was still rising.

Simultaneously with this report came a notification from the Mayor of Reading to Superintendent of Police Robinson in which he gave warning of possible floods here.

Immediately the mill owners along the Schuylkill River at Manayunk were visited by the police of that section and were informed of the pending water trouble. They immediately made preparation to protect their properties. The Schuylkill was rising very slowly at noon and those who have experienced the movement of high water reported to Reading estimate that the rush of high water will not reach Manayunk until about 5 o'clock today.

Hundreds of Philadelphians who were awakened by the roar of the storm found windows and shutters broken. However, the great mass of people who did not know of the tremendous storm could not believe that one of the heaviest rains of the season had taken place during the night, or when they awoke the streets were thoroughly dry.

The sheet tin along the south side of the Gomer-Schwartz Building, 138 North Broad street, was torn loose and fell until the police ropes of Broad street at 7 o'clock this morning were pedestrians out of danger. The damage was done on the upper floors, where the American International Shipbuilding Company has its office. When the night workers received a bad scare.

High billboards turned the winds into whirlwinds and from the Gomer-Schwartz structure on Cherry street, a horse was thrown to the street and the wagon overturned. The horse, which is owned by Mrs. W. Young of the Lead-in Terminal Market, was not injured. The driver escaped uninjured.

On the ground floor of the building, Broad street side, a bulk window was demolished.

Gibbel, the building occupied by the Earle Street, and many other stores along Market street were slightly damaged, but in most cases it was confined to broken windows.

Two plate glass windows of the Woolworth store at 612-33 Woodland avenue were blown in and much goods in the premises were damaged. In the Chambers Brothers' store on Market street, fifty-eight windows and Baltimore and Ohio Railroad cars were blown in. The American International Shipbuilding Company has its office. When the night workers received a bad scare.

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