

GERMANS GIVE UP ATTACK ON CRECIAN CITY

Austro-German-Bulgarian Offensive Against Greek City Now Seems Improbable.

CONSIDER ALLIED FORCE IS SAFELY COUPED UP

Renewed Activities Reported on Both Eastern and Western Battle Fronts.

London, Dec. 28.—While there has been considerable renewal of activity at several points on both the eastern and western fronts in the past 24 hours, the situation in the Balkans has the most peaceful appearance in weeks.

Dispatches from both Germanic and Entente sources agree that the probability of an Austria-German-Bulgarian offensive against Saloniki is disappearing with the withdrawal of the Bulgarian frontier guard to purely defensive positions well behind the Greek frontier.

The Associated Press' Vienna correspondent declares that the Central powers have come to regard that any offensive against Saloniki as a measure promising only embarrassment and no advantages.

Allies Force Useless.

In fact, the Central powers are inclined to regard the huge Entente force at Saloniki as safely couped up, useless and expensive, and that therefore it would be an advantage to the Central powers to let it remain there.

On the western front, the German official communication admits a French advance on Hirzstein, but gives no details. There also has been further activity in the Vosges district, with intense artillery fighting along the whole front of Hartmannsweilerkopf.

Russians Lose Heavily.

Vienna reports the Russian attacking fiercely on the Dnyester and in Bessarabia. The Austrian communication speaks of the Russians' advancing lines, 15 or 16 deep, which the artillery broke up with huge Russian losses.

A dispatch from a German source says:

"A terrible battle has been going on since Friday in Bessarabia."

From many isolated fronts, come reports of preparations for spring campaigns, either in the form of a change in the location of large bodies of troops or in the building of fortifications.

Along the Dvinsk and Bug lines, the Germans are said to be constructing colossal fortifications, equipped with heavy artillery and machine guns and automatic rifles supplied in unlimited quantities.

Equipment Arriving.

The Bulgarians are reported to be busy entrenching their armies well back of the Grecian frontier, while equipment continues to arrive for the French and British at Saloniki, which in the report of General Gastnau is considered by its defenders impregnable.

Discuss Peace Plans.

A dispatch to the Geneva Tribune from Vienna says: "Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg is expected in Vienna shortly with the full conditions under which the Central powers will accept peace. After discussing the terms with Baron von Burian, the Austrian foreign minister, the conditions will be officially communicated to the Allies, Germany suggesting that the first conference be held at the Hague."

Troop Train Wrecked.

Eighteen soldiers were killed and 47 injured when a train, loaded with men, returning from their Christmas furloughs, was derailed at the Bentzen station today.

Conscription Seems Sure.

The cabinet meeting, although it failed to secure an agreement of all the ministers upon the next question of the voluntary system, versus conscription, was of a very critical and decisive character and nearly reached the condition that the application of force may become necessary.

Therefore, it was resolved that at the earliest opportunity a bill should be introduced in parliament in order that the government might have the necessary power should it be found that no other course was effective to this end.

Premier Asquith is expected to make a statement on the question Wednesday or Thursday of next week and announces the speedy introduction of a bill of permissive character, making service in the army obligatory on unmarried men who have failed to enlist.

The anti-conscriptionist ministers offered strong opposition and it is unknown whether any resignations will follow.

Two Boats Sunk.

The British steamer van Stirum has been sunk. The crew was landed.

The Swedish steamer Mereus of 1229 tons gross, was sunk in the North sea on Christmas day. The

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WILL SEIZE ALL FIRST CLASS MAIL

Washington, Dec. 28.—The Allies, it was explained here, intend to seize and examine all mail passing between the United States and the European neutrals, which there is reason to believe is intended for Germany. Hitherto the seizures of that sort has been confined to parcel post, but now it is said they extend it to first-class matter.

OSBORNE INDICTED BY GRAND JURY

Millionaire Warden of Sing Sing Prison Must Answer to Seven Charges.

White Plains, N. Y., Dec. 28.—Two indictments, containing seven counts, were returned against Thomas W. Osborne, warden of Sing Sing, by the Westchester grand jury, which has been investigating conditions in the prison. One indictment charged the warden with having committed perjury in his testimony before the prison commission recently.

The second count embraced allegations that he failed to perform the duties imposed upon him. The third count charged the warden with permitting of convicts going into the death house to visit Charles Becker. The fourth count charged Osborne with failure to maintain proper discipline, and the fifth, that he permitted fights between convicts. The sixth is against the moral character of the warden with the prisoners.

Thomas Osborne, millionaire, warden of the prison at Sing Sing, will be removed from office as soon as a successor can be named under the law. This action probably will be taken tomorrow, John D. Reilly, state superintendent of prisons, said today, after he had learned of the specifications in the indictments returned against the Westchester county grand jury.

"No man who is under indictment should continue in the office of warden," Supt. Reilly said.

ROOT OPPOSED TO NATIONAL ALLIANCES

Says Christian Church Has Urged Peace for 19 Centuries Without Results.

Washington, Dec. 28.—In the real restraint of nations by powerful international tribunals, operating under a definite code of laws, alone lies hopes of world peace, Elihu Root, former secretary of state and senator from New York, declared tonight in an address. He was speaking before a joint session of the sub-section on international law from the Pan-American Scientific Congress and the American Society of International Law, of which he is president.

"The Christian Church has been urging peace and good will among men for 19 centuries and still there is war," said Mr. Root.

"Alliances and ententes and skillful balance of power all lead ultimately to war. Conciliation, good will, love of peace, human sympathy, are all ineffective without institutions through which they can act. Only the possibility of establishing real restraint by law seems to remain to give effect to the will for the vast majority of mankind."

"When this war is ended, the civilized world will have to determine whether what we call international law is to be continued as a mere code of etiquette or is to be a real body of laws imposing obligations much more definite and inevitable than heretofore. It must be one thing or the other."

DENIES MOTION TO DISMISS INDICTMENTS

New York, Dec. 28.—The hope of the 11 former New Haven directors that the Sherman law conspiracy charge against them would never reach the jury, for a verdict, dissolved today, when Judge Hunt denied the motion of their counsel for the dismissal of the indictments. Without commenting upon the argument that had been given for and against the motion, he ruled that the case should be submitted to the jury on the facts as applied to each and all the defendants.

RITCHIE LOSES BOUT.

New York, Dec. 28.—Ted "Kid" Lewis, of England, outfought Willie Ritchie of San Francisco in every round except one in their ten-round bout at Madison Square Garden tonight.

BRITTON OUTPOINTED.

Akron, Ohio, Dec. 28.—Johnnie Griffiths, of this city, outpointed Jack Britton, of Chicago, tonight by a slight margin in twelve fast rounds.

FEDERAL JURY INDICTS TWO CONGRESSMEN

Eight Men Indicted, Including Congressman Buchanan on Conspiracy Charge.

ORGANIZATION FINANCED BY GERMAN GOVERNMENT

A Former Attorney General of Ohio Is Also Classed as One of the Leaders.

New York, Dec. 28.—Eight men, including a congressman, a former congressman and a former attorney general of Ohio, were indicted today by a federal grand jury on a charge of conspiring to foment strikes in American munition factories as part of a campaign financed by the German government to check the exportation of munitions to the Entente allies.

One Congressman "In." The men indicted were Congressman Frank Buchanan of Illinois, former Congressman H. Robert Fowler of Illinois, Frank S. Mounett, former attorney general of Ohio; H. B. Martin, Herman Schulteis; Franz von Rintelen, David Lamar and Jacob C. Taylor. All of the men except von Rintelen and Lamar are officers or former officers of Laborers National Peace council.

The government charged that this organization was financed by Franz von Rintelen to instigate strikes in munition plants, while working ostensibly in the interest of peace. Von Rintelen is at present a prisoner of war in England. Lamar, known as the "Wolf of Wall Street," is said to have been his paymaster.

No Warrants Issued.

No warrants were issued for the arrest of any of the indicted men, as District Attorney H. Snowden Marshall stated that he had reasons to believe most of the defendants would appear voluntarily to enter pleas.

According to federal officials, Mounett, Fowler, Buchanan and Lamar were indicated as the leaders of the alleged conspiracy. Von Rintelen was the financier and Lamar the paymaster, while Schulteis, Martin and Taylor are accused of doing the actual work of attempting to bribe union leaders. Schulteis and Martin are well known as lobbyists.

Buchanan's Comment.

When Representative Buchanan heard of his indictment in New York today, on charges in connection with the activities of Laborers National Peace Council, he declared that if he enjoyed any congressional immunity from arrest, he intended to insist upon it, that he might be free to press his impeachment charges against United States Attorney Marshall, now pending in the house judiciary committee.

Spokane Reforming.

Spokane, Wash., Dec. 28.—Beginning Sunday night, two nights after state wide prohibition becomes effective, street cars will not run after midnight. Officials of the company stated that a majority of the passengers of the after midnight cars were patrons of saloons.

BACK IN AMERICA FROM WAR HOSPITAL



Mme. Blanche J. Binmont, who for several months was administrative head of the French war hospital at Ris-Orangs, has returned to Washington to take up again the prosaic work in her class room in the Western high school. The hospital where Mme. Binmont served is the one founded by Lady Johnstone, sister of Gifford Pinchot, and saw some of the heaviest work in the early stages of the war. There were a number of Americans on the staff of the hospital. Mme. Binmont retains however, her French citizenship.

GOV. HANNA ILL WITH TYPHOID

Copenhagen, Dec. 28.—The disease from which Governor L. B. Hanna of North Dakota is suffering has been diagnosed as typhoid fever. The governor, who recently left the Ford peace expedition is now in St. Joseph's hospital. The physicians of the hospital are hopeful for the recovery of the governor owing to his apparently strong constitution.

REPORT FROM LONDON.

Governor L. B. Hanna of North Dakota has officially severed his connection with the Ford expedition, according to a dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company today from Copenhagen. The dispatch adds that Governor Hanna is "very ill, probably with typhoid fever."

HOLD PRIVATE MEETINGS.

Reuter's Copenhagen correspondent telegraphs as follows: "No official reception of the Ford peace mission is to take place. The president of the Danish Peace Association has decided that his organization will not participate in such a reception. The Danish government will advise the members of the expedition to hold their meetings in private."

DEFINITE PLAN IS URGED BY WAR DEPT

Congress Will Be Asked to Make Known Its Military Policy at Once.

CONSULT GERMANS IN REGARD TO ARMY PLANS

Efforts to Secure Men Without Conscription in England Is Closely Watched.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The war department will urge upon congress, it was understood tonight, that it is vital that a definite statement of a military policy for the United States be put through at this session, and that machinery be created for the organization of a citizen army, to consist of volunteer as first, but to be based ultimately on universal service. It was learned authoritatively that the administration's continental army plan is designed to operate either with the volunteer or universal service system. It is known that the continental army plan is regarded in its present form as a preparatory measure, paving a way to the decision by the people at large for or against the universal service.

In determining his plan, Secretary Lansing is known to have consulted every German officer of the active army and many officers of lower rank. The virtually unanimous opinion of commissioner's personnel of the army as well as the officials of the war department is said to be that adequate preparedness can only be secured on the basis of universal service.

Watch England's Plan.

In connection with the efforts to bring home to the people at large, the military situation, the effort of Great Britain to carry on the war without conscription is being watched by the department of war, because army officers say the United Kingdom situation touches at the root of conditions the United States faces in carrying out the administration's army increase program.

FARMER GETS RABIES FROM DISEASED COW

Grand Forks, N. D., Dec. 28.—Samuel Weight, a Barnes county farmer, is undergoing the pasteur treatment because of his intimate knowledge of the disease to him. The owner of the animal was treating the cow's mouth, his hands being severely chapped at the time. Through the chapped skin the poison germs made their way, but it wasn't till Dr. J. Winstow of LaMoure was viciously attacked by the animal, and bitten, that the cow's trouble was diagnosed as rabies.

The pasteur treatment is given by the state of North Dakota at its public health laboratory in Grand Forks, there being no charge for the treatment.

CHILEAN TO HEAD PAN-AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC MEET IN CAPITAL



Delegations from Argentina to Pan-American Scientific Congress; Senor Don Eduardo Suarez. Senor Don Eduardo Suarez, Chilean ambassador to the United States, will preside at the Second Pan-American Scientific Congress, to be held in Washington, December 27 to January 8. Ambassador Suarez is famous in his own country as a scientist as well as a statesman. The largest delegation from any South American country came from the Argentine Republic. The Argentine congress appropriated \$60,000 to cover the expenses of this delegation during its stay in the United States. John Philip Sousa, the "march king," has composed a stirring piece of music which is to be named the "Pan-American March," and played for the first time in public at the sessions of the congress. He has been working on the composition at intervals during the past two years.

BREAK WITH AUSTRIA NOW SEEMS CERTAIN; NOTE EXPECTED SOON

Unofficial Advices From Abroad Confirm Belief Answer Will Be Unsatisfactory to United States.

VIENNA MAY ADVANCE COUNTER PROPOSALS FOR SETTLEMENT

Stated That Austrian Submarines Are Furnished by Germany and Manned by German Crews.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Tentative diplomats here were tonight prepared for a break in diplomatic relations between Austria-Hungary and the United States. It was authoritatively stated. The preparation followed the confirmation of unofficial advices received here with intimations from abroad that Austria's forthcoming reply to the last American note concerning the sinking of the Ancona will fail to meet the demands of the United States.

May Avoid Break.

Various developments, it was agreed, might avoid such an eventuality, but none of the counter proposals, which, it has been intimated, the Vienna foreign office might advance, have been regarded so far as coming within Secretary Lansing's renewal of the demands for reparations and punishment of the submarine commander, who sunk the Ancona with the loss of more than a dozen American lives.

Now, the situation after being dormant nearly two weeks, is again beginning to take on an aspect of a crisis, the status of the negotiations of the United States over submarine warfare against merchantmen, not with Austria alone, but with the Teutonic powers and allies is commanding attention.

Diplomatic Failure.

Although Germany has given the United States assurances that she will conform to the principle of visit and search before attack, the practice against which the United States so vigorously contended, are being carried on now by her ally, Austria, and it has been charged that the Austrian submarines are in some instances furnished by Germany, and in others are officered and manned by the German navy. Such a situation it is being pointed out amounts to a defeat of the submarine negotiation with Germany.

Lusitania A Factor.

Furthermore, the impasse in the Lusitania negotiations becomes a factor in the situation. It is admitted that the United States scarcely can require Austria to conduct submarine warfare in its relations to the rights of the neutrals in a manner different from that permitted to Germany.

The demands of the United States upon Austria, in connection with the Ancona case, is broader than any German admission, being based upon the contention that international law, the Hague conventions, and the Declaration of London all require warning before striking a vessel, and insurance of the safety of the passengers and crew, even when the vessel is of belligerent ownership and where she does not comply with German ideas of the term liner.

To Justify Actions.

Unless the expected note from that government should amount to a total and sudden severance of diplomatic relations, it is expected in official quarters that the Austrian foreign office will seek to justify its methods.

Expect Note This Week.

The answer of the Austro-Hungarian government to the American government's note concerning the sinking of the Italian steamer, Ancona, is expected this week. Frederick C. Penfield, the American ambassador, had not received the reply up to Monday evening, however.

PRICE OF GASOLINE IS BOTHERING OFFICIALS

Washington, Dec. 28.—Investigations to determine the cause of soaring gasoline prices probably will be conducted simultaneously by federal agents and Federal Trade commission investigators, it was learned today, are at work and department of justice officials are considering undertaking an inquiry. The Trade commission seeks to ascertain the truth that gasoline prices have risen sharply only at points where the bigger concerns have no competition.

CELEBRITIES LEAVE ON S. S. ROTTERDAM

New York, Dec. 28.—Captain Carl Boy-Ed, the recalled German naval attaché; Col. Edward M. House, President Wilson's special embassy, and Brand Whitlock, American minister to Belgium, boarded the steamship Rotterdam within a few minutes of each other today to sail for Europe. Col. House and Mr. Whitlock were uncommunicative, but Capt. Boy-Ed gave out a written statement in which he denounced what he characterized "the rough utterances of an irresponsible press."

Col. House, who said he would visit the American embassies at London, Paris and Berlin, and possibly Vienna, said that he was going at the request of Secretary Lansing and President Wilson to inform various American diplomats in regard to the precise attitude of this government.

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 28.—Seattle shipping men, headed by R. M. Calkins, traffic manager of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway, announced today that they were organizing a company to build and operate three \$1,250,000 steamships to ply between Seattle, Hawaii, Australian and New Zealand ports. Necessity for the new line, Mr. Calkins said, is made evident by the accumulation of export freight here.

THE WEATHER. For North Dakota: Snow and much colder Wednesday, with a cold wave; Thursday probably fair and colder; strong northerly winds Wednesday.