

THE RONAN PIONEER

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BELIEVED GREEKS HAVE ULTIMATUM

London, Dec. 11.—Optimistic statements issued by the Greek Royalist government do not conceal the fact that the crisis in the Greek situation has come. A break may occur in twenty-four hours.

Reuter's Athens correspondent says: "It is understood on reliable authority that an entente ultimatum will be presented to Greece today."

"The British and Russian ministers had an audience with King Constantine and subsequently the king summoned the American minister."

"The personal baggage of the entente diplomats has been sent to Piræus."

Garrett Drovers, the American minister, is said to have been in conference with the king more than an hour.

RAIDER IS SEEN IN AZORES

New York, Dec. 11.—A heavily armed steamship has been sighted about 500 miles north of the Azores in the middle of the steamship lane, according to a wireless warning flashed to merchant vessels of the entente allies by a British or French cruiser lying off Sandy Hook.

The message, which was sent first in English and then repeated in Italian, said:

"Sighted 7 a. m., Dec. 4, latitude 48.25 north, and longitude 27.57 west, a steamer of about 4,000 tons, 350 feet long and 45 feet beam. Vessel well armed and fitted with torpedo tubes. Had one short, broad funnel and two masts. Steamer probably high speed. Take all precautions."

DEUTSCHLAND IS HOME AGAIN

Berlin, Dec. 11.—The German commercial submarine Deutschland, completing a quick trip home from the United States, arrived here off the mouth of the Weser.

Will Return in January.

New London, Conn., Dec. 11.—The Deutschland will make another trip to this port within a few weeks, according to a statement by Paul G. L. Hicken, vice president of the Eastern Forwarding company, American agents for the undersea craft.

RUSSIANS REPORT GERMANS CHECKED

London, Dec. 11.—Little fighting except by the artillery is in progress on any of the fronts except Roumania. There the Teutonic allies, according to Berlin, still are making progress against the Roumanians in Eastern Wallachia. Petrograd asserts, however, that the Roumanians northeast of Bucharest along the road running from Ploechiti to Buzen have turned on the offensive and driven the Austro-Germans back westward.

To the north along the Transylvania-Roumanian frontier, Petrograd reports progress for the Russian troops and Berlin admits the capture by the Russians of a height south of the Trotus valley.

Semi-official advices from Berlin say the Roumanians have lost approximately 112,000 men made prisoners since Roumania's entry into the war and suffered casualties estimated at about 300,000.

Aside from a German attack in the Vosges region, near Col Sainte Marie, which was repulsed by the French, and the recapture by the Germans of a sap in Champagne, only bombardments and minor engagements have taken place along the line in France and Belgium.

Berlin reports the repulse by the Teutonic allies of a heavy attack by the entente troops north and east of Monastir, Serbia, while Paris reports the capture by the British south of Seres, Greece, of Turkish positions.

Roumanians Join Invaders.

London, Dec. 11.—A dispatch to the Daily Telegraph from Galatz, Roumania, says: "Certain Roumanian conservative politicians with Germanophile tendencies are remaining with the enemy, aiming at the deposition of King Ferdinand and proclaiming his brother, Prince Wilhelm of Hohenzollern, king. Wilhelm is with the invading army and issued a proclamation at Craiova declaring himself to be the rightful heir to the Roumanian throne."

Round Butte School Notes

Several of our pupils have been absent since the Thanksgiving holidays

on account of sickness. All are again present with the exception of Harry Dimon, who expects to enter again Monday.

The following pupils have been neither absent nor tardy the past month: Miss Dissett's room—Cyril Ackerman, Ross Miller, Paul Anderson, Evelyn Parkinson, Helen Ryla, Gladys Gibson, Eva Fisher, Wilma Murray, Veldon Desausure, James Cone, Martin McKlitrck, Alma Rinke, Ruth Swanson, Violet Osberg, Anna Myrtle Haegg, Vashki Desausure.

Miss Mayer's room—John Cone, Eva Simonis, Floyd Rice, Herbert Hansen, Daniel Syla, Ethel Dimon, Alice Harding, Edna Swanson, Joe Cone, Albert Swanson, Ray Johns, Maud Hall, Ileen Corr, Marie Hall, Glennie Johns, Nellie Rinke, Paul Middleton, Joslin Haegg, Lloyd Murray, Elva Rinke, Dorothy Haegg, Blanche Hall, Martha Murray.

We will have a Christmas program on Friday evening, December 22, commencing at 8 o'clock. Everyone is urged to be on time, thus avoiding confusion during the program.

Regular meeting of Equity on Saturday night, Dec. 23. Business session will open at 8 o'clock sharp. Important business on hand. Splendid social time promised at close of business meeting.

The pupils of our school raised a voluntary subscription of \$10.81 for the Montana Children's Home society, which was sent as a Thanksgiving gift.

We now have a horse barn large enough to accommodate fourteen double teams. The farmers appreciate this convenience on these cold nights. Our community is justly proud of this latest improvement at our school.

Blast Is Fatal to Two.

Pittsburg, Dec. 11.—Two men were killed by an explosion which wrecked the storage house of the Aetna Chemical company at Fort Pitt, two miles west of Carnegie, this county. The cause has not been determined.

ABOUT OUT OF TIME IN FIXING SENTENCE

Miss Edith Colby, convicted last week of the murder of A. C. Thomas, was sentenced on Saturday last by Judge McCulloch to serve 10 years in the state prison at Deer Lodge. The jury in the case fixed her punishment at not less than 10 nor more than 12 years, which fact probably accounts for even the ten year sentence. Judge McCulloch was disqualified to sit in the trial of the case, but considered himself capable of pronouncing the sentence and fixing the length thereof so far as the jury allowed.

On motion of B. K. Wheeler, special prosecutor in the Colby case, the charge of murder against A. S. Ainsworth in connection with the Thomas murder, was dismissed. Ainsworth was the owner of the paper on which Miss Colby worked and was charged with responsibility for the murder. Insufficient evidence to convict is given as the cause for dismissing the charge against him.

CHICAGO DIVORCE FIGURES

Chicago, Dec. 11.—One divorce was granted to every eight marriage licenses issued here in 1915, according to figures announced by the country welfare bureau. In this period 31,309 licenses were issued and 4,116 divorces were granted.

According to the report a large number of divorces are obtained through collusion, as indicated by 92 per cent of the decrees entered after the defendants had failed to appear in court. Three-fourths of the complainants were women, the report said.

WAX NAMED IN NEW ROLE

New York, Dec. 11.—Charles H. Wax, alias "Oliver Osborne," confessed breaker of women's hearts and self-styled enchanter, elusive partner to Rae Tanzer's \$50,000 suit against James Osborne, developed a new role when an irate grocer who refused to give his name, charged that Wax embezzled \$2,400 from his wife.

JILTED SUITOR SUSPECTED

Fessenden, N. D., Dec. 11.—A series of attacks on Miss Bertha Miller of Ellendale, N. D., a teacher in Ellendale, this county, was brought to a climax when an axe suspended over the schoolhouse door dropped on her shoulder as she entered the building. The girl escaped serious injury. Officials believe the work is that of a disappointed suitor.

Will You Do Your Share?

The Pioneer in its seven years of existence has refrained from making undue calls on its patrons for the payment of past due and due accounts. But the time has arrived when we need the money and must earnestly ask each and every one knowing themselves indebted to the Pioneer, either for subscriptions, advertising or job printing, to call in and settle at the earliest possible date. An explanation of this call may not be out of place and we will make it concise and to the point: In order to keep pace with the development of this great valley and the growth of Ronan and the increased business that will necessarily follow, the Pioneer has purchased one of the most up to date typesetting machines on the market, at a cost of \$2,500. The machine was shipped from the factory on December 4 and will doubtless arrive and be in operation in this office by Christmas—a valuable and much appreciated Christmas gift. With the machine we expect to be able to give our readers a better paper, our advertisers better service and our customers for commercial printing quick action and entire satisfaction.

The machine must be paid for within thirty days after its arrival and we therefore need the money. Most of the accounts owing the Pioneer are small, from one dollar to two, three, five, or in some instances more, but in the aggregate amount to a good many dollars. We know each one of you will help to the extent of your ability. It is not the intention of the Pioneer to distress any one, but we shall appreciate an effort on your part to help us at least a portion of the amount due.

When the new machine is installed you are cordially invited to come in and see it in operation.

BANDIT TELLS OBJECT OF WAR

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 11.—A manifesto, issued by Francisco Villa and printed at San Andreas, Chihuahua, copies of which were received here, set forth Villa's reasons for waging war in Mexico. The document, which is signed by Villa as "commander-in-chief," emphasizes the slogan, "Mexico for Mexicans."

"All the peoples of the earth," the document begins, "are capable in determined moments of the greatest sacrifices when they see their national integrity menaced and when their rights as free men have been jeopardized."

"Of this we have an example in the titanic conflagration of Europe, and particularly in heroic Belgium. Our fatherland also has arrived at the solemn moment when we must oppose the unjustified invasion by our eternal enemies, the barbarians of the North."

Villa regrets that Mexico cannot be unified because of the Carranza partisans, whom he calls "renegade patriots."

Villa's declaration of principles include: Annulment of all Carranza concessions; repudiation of all foreign claims for damages.

Only those foreigners of continuous residence in the country for twenty-five years and who have become naturalized citizens for the same period, will be allowed to acquire property in Mexico.

All foreign property is confiscated. All railroads and mines are included in the confiscation, and, to stimulate Mexican industry, it is made unlawful to trade with the United States. To this end all rail and wire connections will be cut eighteen miles below the boundary.

Minneapolis, Dec. 11.—Two well-dressed men entered a fuel office here in broad daylight, held up two men at the point of revolvers, stole \$1,000, walked their victims to a box car 100 yards away from the building, locked them in the box car, and escaped.

The robbery, one of the most daring in Minneapolis in years, was discovered when Ralph A. Leighton, credit man for the Leighton-Campbell company, which has several fuel yards in Minneapolis, and P. H. Johnson, manager of the company's yard and office at 1401 Fifth street south, were liberated from the box car where they had been for an hour.

Tokio, Dec. 11.—Field Marshal Prince Iwao Oyama, commander-in-chief of the Manchurian army of Japan, during the Russo-Japanese war, is dead.

Field Marshal Prince Oyama possessed the highest military and civil honors in the gift of the emperor. Prince Oyama was seventy-four years old. In the war with Russia he acted as commander-in-chief and added to his reputation by a series of victories. A princedom was bestowed upon him for his achievements.

PEACE OFFER FROM GERMANY

Of the warring nations in Europe, Germany is the first to come forth with overtures, or an offer, of peace. On December 12 Germany and her allies officially proposed to enter into peace negotiations to terminate the war.

Germany's note to the hostile governments, as read by the chancellor before the reichstag, in part, is as follows: "The most terrific war ever experienced in history has been ranging for the past two years and a half over a large part of the world—a catastrophe which thousands of years of common civilization was unable to prevent and which injures the most precious achievements of humanity."

"Our aims are not to shatter nor annihilate our adversaries. In spite of our consciousness of our military and economic strength and our readiness to continue the war (which was forced upon us) until the bitter end if necessary, at the same time, prompted by the desire to avoid further bloodshed and make an end to the atrocities of war, the four allied powers propose to enter forthwith into peace negotiations."

No terms upon which she offers peace is given.

Public sentiment in England is said to be against the peace proposal, it being considered a shrewd political trick. But whether it is or not, England and her allies can hardly afford to turn down the proposal and take the responsibility of a continuance of the bloodshed and plunder that will necessarily follow. The world has been crying for peace and now that an offer is presented it should be carefully considered.

Don't Blame the Farmer

In a recent address before the National Grange and the American Association of Farmers' Institute Workers at Washington, President Woodrow Wilson expressed the hope that the American farmers would not permit the recurrence of present high prices of farm products and food materials. The farmer is not to blame for present conditions.

The farmer is but a single factor in production. He is perhaps the most consistent and dependable of the many factors in production. The seasons vary. Rains prevent harvests and damage hay and grain. Early frosts prevent the maturing of crops. Severe winters increase the consumption of food, stock losses and the price of meats. Drouth reduces the yields. The farmer cannot control these things. He is not to blame.

When high wages and great booms in business attract laborers to the city, and only bums and hobos are left to the employ of farmers, and even these too

few for the seeding and harvest, the farmer is not to blame. If high wages to artisans and craftsmen in town are reflected in increased cost of production of farm staples, whose fault is it? Only in higher prices is there an added inducement to produce more.

To fear bread famine is folly. The resources of the land are scarcely touched. Millions of acres are idle, producing nothing. Other millions produce only a small fraction of what they are able. More land, more labor, better methods of cultivation, will multiply many times the present product. Before starving, millions of city workers would help cultivate lands to increase the food product. It is uneconomic to produce food greatly in excess of the needs. A great surplus would entail a loss to producers. Only a little more than the amount needed is economically desirable. The larger the proportion of a country's population is engaged in manufacture and commerce the better for farmers and the higher the prices for foods.

Farmers didn't start the European war. Don't blame them for that, yet who can deny that it has had an enormous influence on the cost of living.

Farmers sold eggs at 15c and 20c per dozen. Ask cold storage managers, who bought them, why 60c is demanded for those eggs now.

Don't blame farmers for car shortage. Perhaps stock manipulation has sometimes displaced railway management and operation.

A consideration of marketing and the cost of living will be prominent in the Farmers' Week program at Bozeman, January 29 to February 3.

Farmers Are Warned

Some weeks ago J. R. Campbell published a letter warning Missoula county farmers from having anything to do with the Tri-State Rural Credit association until after thoroughly investigating the association and the manner in which it does business. This week Mr. Campbell has received advices from Fergus county which serve to substantiate him in issuing the warning. The association is believed to have representatives working in this county and our farmer friends will do well to investigate quite thoroughly before transacting any business with them.

TO REVIVE COMMERCIAL CLUB MEETING IS CALLED

Realizing the importance to the town and surrounding country of an active working organization in Ronan to look after the many interests that are sure to present themselves during the coming year, a mass meeting of the citizens of Ronan and adjacent territory has been called to meet in Searce hall on next Tuesday night, December 19.

To be sure, Ronan now has a semblance of a commercial club. But it is only a semblance. A meeting has not been held since the oldest member remembereth not. No one in particular is to blame for the inactivity of the club, but that it has been and is now dead as a smelt will be freely admitted. Therefore the call for a mass meeting, the object being to revive interest and form a new organization. You, personally, and your friends, are urged to be on hand and assist in the organization of a club that will be alive to the welfare of the valley and the town. Right now, for the coming year, such a club can be of great benefit to us all. Lend your assistance by your presence next Tuesday night.

Correspondents Wanted

With the installation of our new linograph, one of the most improved typesetting machines on the market, we will be fully equipped to handle a much larger amount of local news matter than heretofore. We can then handle the news—if we can get it. In order to do this we must have dependable correspondents in the different localities of the Mission valley—at St. Ignatius, Horte, D'Aste, Leon, Moiese, one in the Charlot country, and another to the northwest of Ronan, and possibly others. In fact, we want the news from every locality. Anyone in these localities who will undertake the job, please write or call upon us when in Ronan, and we will endeavor to make some satisfactory arrangements and terms. Our machine will be installed by January 1st and the service should start by that time.

Submarine Home.

The German submarine, Deutschland, arrived home last Sunday from its recent trip to America. This is the second round trip this boat has made. On the last voyage home it carried a cargo valued at \$2,000,000.

NEW LEADER HAS GREATER POWER

London, Dec. 11.—The official list of the new ministry issued here follows the unofficial forecasts with two or three minor changes.

Mr. Lloyd-George, Lord Milner, Earl Curzon, Andrew Bonar Law and Arthur Henderson form what is officially termed the war cabinet, while the others, who ordinarily have been designated as cabinet ministers, are called heads of departments.

An important point in this novel organization is that it concentrates far more power in the hands of the prime minister than the British system has ever known before.

Premier Near Dictator.

Mr. Lloyd-George's proposals to Premier Asquith were for a war council of which the premier should not be a member, although he should have the power of passing on its work. Mr. Lloyd-George has not hesitated to place himself in the position more closely resembling a dictator than he was willing to give his predecessor.

The war cabinet will hold daily sessions, directing the prosecution of the war, and the freedom of Mr. Lloyd-George, Lord Milner and Mr. Henderson from the departmental duties will allow them to devote all their time to the war council, the work of the exchequer and government leadership.

The complexion of the new government is twelve Liberals, fifteen Unionists, three Laborites and the presidents of the boards of trade and education and the shipping controller, who have been attached to no parties.

A meeting of the privy council will be held for the swearing in of the ministers.

French to Act Too.

Paris, Dec. 11.—A semi-official note issued says: "It is expected that a definite decision will be reached Tuesday, resulting in a diminution in the number of members of the cabinet and the constitution of a restricted national defense committee, as in England."

UNIONS ASK RAISE FOR U. S. WORKERS

Washington, Dec. 11.—An organized effort directed by the American Federation of Labor to induce congress to grant wage and salary increases to all employees of the United States government, from president down to the humblest laborer, was planned at a meeting here presided over by Samuel Gompers, president of the federation.

Resolutions were adopted at the meeting, attended by representatives of all organizations of federal employees affiliated with the federation, setting forth that government salaries have not kept pace with the cost of necessities of life, and directing that congress be petitioned to grant increases ranging from 10 to 33 1/2 per cent to government employees, whether in or out of the civil service.

QUITS IN MIDST OF PLAY

Chicago Opera Chorus Strikes for Increase in Pay.

Chicago, Dec. 11.—Forty-three singers, French, Italian, Russian and English, the male chorus of the Chicago Grand Opera company—overwhelmed, they said by the high cost of living, went on strike just before their entrance in the second act of "Gottterdammerung."

Cleofonte Campinini, general director, refused to meet their demands and the opera proceeded without the male chorus. The strikers said that while it had been widely advertised that they were paid \$35 a week, they actually received only \$24 a week.

Mayor Thompson in Wreck.

Chicago, Dec. 11.—Mayor William Hale Thompson is being congratulated over his escape from injury when his automobile collided in Lincoln park with a motorcar driven by Harry Reynolds, a broker. The mayor's limousine was thrown thirty feet and badly wrecked, but none of the occupants, including the mayor, Mrs. Thompson and a woman guest, was injured.

Bull Sells for \$21,500.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 9.—Fidene Mutual Fayne Valdassa, a junior yearling Holstein bull, consigned by Bernhard Meyer of Fidene, N. J., sold in the ring at the sixth Pacific International Live Stock show for \$21,500, the highest price ever paid on the Pacific coast.