

AUSTRIAN REPLY COMPLETED BY FOREIGN OFFICE

Said to be Conciliatory in Tone But Fails to Meet Demands Made by United States.

GERMAN INFLUENCE MAY PREVENT BREAK

Austria Would be Worst Sufferer—President and Lansing Pick Man to Handle Interests.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Preparations are being made by the state department for expected diplomatic break with Austria. A reply, conciliatory in tone, but refusing the demanded disposal of the sinking of the Italian liner Ancona, has been completed by the Austrian foreign office.

It is understood here that it contends that Austria does not accept the interpretation of the rules of international law by the United States. On the contrary Austria holds that she was well within her rights, as she understands them, in sinking the Ancona when the latter vessel tried to escape after being ordered to halt.

This reply either is on the way from Vienna or will be handed to Ambassador Penfield today. Officials say that it will prove most unsatisfactory to this government and they believe that the threatened diplomatic break must come unless German influence can force a reconsideration by Austria at the last moment.

Will Hurt Austria. So far as a diplomatic break with Austria is concerned officials here point out that it can hardly complicate the situation to any serious extent. Austria will suffer more than will the United States because of the enormous Austrian interests in this country.

Because cable communication with Vienna consumes two days Ambassador Penfield practically has played a lone hand in dealing with American affairs in the dual empire. There are very few Americans in Austria and it is not believed they would be in any danger should Ambassador Penfield be withdrawn.

Just who would care for American interests in case of a break, is known only to President Wilson and Secretary Lansing. It is understood that they have discussed this possibility and have reached a decision but that until a break actually comes the identity of the "friendly power" will be concealed. In this country the Bulgarian minister will act temporarily for Austria, although later on the affairs of the embassy will be turned over to the Spanish ambassador.

Recall to be Delayed. It is certain that if Ambassador Penfield is recalled it will not be until after President Wilson returns to the capital next week.

It is realized here that Berlin still is doing its best to swing Austria into line and it is entirely possible that if this government peremptorily rejects the suggestions in the coming note that then Austria will decide to accept the American position. But officials, while hoping that this may be so, are going ahead on the assumption that Penfield will be withdrawn and Charge Zwiedinck sent home.

ARTILLERY DUEL AT DARDANELLES

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 29.—In a great artillery duel between the all Anglo-French warships at the Dardanelles and the Turkish batteries near Sedd-el-Bahr, one battleship and a cruiser were struck by Turkish shells, it is officially announced.

The Ottoman war office gave out the following official statement today:

An enemy aeroplane was shot down by our guns on the Dardanelles front. Near Sedd-el-Bahr every vessel of the enemy bombarded us. We landed and a cruiser and a battleship were struck. On the Anatolian narrows we shelled the landing place at Tekke Burnu. Off Sedd-el-Bahr we sank a boat. A Turkish hydro-aeroplane bombarded the allies' camp.

LITTLE DONG. PARIS, Dec. 29.—The following official communique was issued by the French war office today:

"The night was calm except in the sector of Chalines, where there was a combat of grenades, and in Champagne, where we shelled the enemy positions west of Ferme Navarin."

ICE MEET IS PLANNED

City's Schools Will be Represented in Contests.

Competitive skating for children from every educational institution in the city is being planned for next week on the rink at the Oliver playground. This skating place is not quite finished, but it is thought it will be ready by Friday night.

Skating teams will be organized in every school in the city and a sort of track meet on ice will be held. There will be dashes of all distances from 100 yards to the half mile, along with obstacle races. There will also be competition in fancy skating.

Although nothing definite has been done on the municipal masked ice carnival, it is planned to make this event one of the biggest public affairs of the winter. Skaters from all parts of the city will attend, dressed in various kinds of costumes. On the same night there will be racing and fancy skating exhibitions.

CIVIC CLUBS TO DO RELIEF WORK

Question Will be Taken Up at Meeting of Representatives on Monday Night.

Philanthropy is to be made a regular part of the work of the civic clubs, and the first step toward forming relief committees in every one of the organizations will be taken at a meeting of the Civic Federation at the high school next Monday night. Representatives of the Associated Charities will attend the meeting and give suggestions on how to go about the work.

It is planned to cooperate with the Associated Charities in the relief work, although it will not be entirely in caring for the poor. The idea is to help those who are in any kind of trouble.

The purchase of a moving picture machine probably will come up for a definite settlement at this meeting. All of the civic clubs have favored the proposition of having municipal movies every night at one of the schools, but a machine has not been purchased. The municipal recreation department has corresponded with a number of motion picture companies, but has not found a machine that is entirely satisfactory.

Active work in the establishing of boys' and girls' civic clubs, similar to the adult organizations, is expected to be started after Monday night. The matter will be taken up thoroughly by the representatives of the various clubs and competent leaders will be named to take charge of the work. Meetings of both the girls' and boys' organizations were held some time ago, but nothing has been accomplished so far.

WILL REMEMBER ORPHANS

Mr. and Mrs. Max Livingston to Present Books Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Livingston, formerly of South Bend but now of Chicago, will make their annual donation of books to the Orphans home library Thursday. The day is observed each year by Mr. and Mrs. Livingston on the anniversary of the Iroquois theater fire in Chicago, from which their children, Miss Madeline and Lester Livingston escaped.

The day will be observed appropriately with exercises in the chapel, Mr. and Mrs. Livingston are expected to be present.

Young people from the First church of the Brethren entertained Wednesday afternoon for the orphan boys and girls.

I. U. STUDENTS TO MEET

Gathering Will be Held at High School Tonight.

Students of Indiana university, past and present, will hold a "get together" meeting at the high school tonight at which the members of the senior class of the high school will be invited guests. The affair will be similar to others held throughout the state during the Christmas vacation to boost the state school.

Tonight's party will be in the nature of a reception and dance. Artists' orchestra having been secured for the latter part of the program. Talks will be given by alumni and students who are in school now. Indiana yells will be given.

GRIP HITS COURT HOUSE

The epidemic of grip which has swept the country not excluding South Bend, put in an appearance at the court house Wednesday. Miss Gladys Monroe, deputy in the recorder's office, was compelled to abandon her work and remain at home under the care of a doctor.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Morton Hampton, school teacher, Michigan; Ruth Burrus, Michigan. Harry G. Murray, city representative, Detroit, Mich.; Edna Weise, stenographer, city. John M. Alexander, lawyer, Kalamazoo; Mary Everard McNair, Kalamazoo.

BOARD OF FIVE TO REPORT ON LIGHT QUESTION

Mayor Keller Names Committee to Investigate Propriety to Establish a Municipal Plant For City.

BIGGEST EXPENSE IS FOR STREET LIGHTS

Statement Explaining Action is Issued by Mayor. Points to Success of City's Water Works.

Mayor Fred W. Keller, Wednesday formally launched his campaign for a municipal electric light plant by the announcement of the appointment of a committee of five business men who will investigate the project from an unbiased standpoint and report to the city. This committee is composed of W. W. Ridenour, president of the Ridenour Apron Co., and member of the park board, D. Pollock, works manager of the Ringer Mfg. Co., J. W. Shidler, president of the Shidler Mfg. Co., E. E. Ruppel, wholesale notions merchant, and Charles P. Drummond, attorney.

According to the mayor an immense saving for the city and citizens can be secured by the addition of a municipal lighting plant and he has asked the committee to investigate every phase of the proposition in order that their decision will be based on facts. The committee will be asked to report to the city. This committee is composed of W. W. Ridenour, president of the Ridenour Apron Co., and member of the park board, D. Pollock, works manager of the Ringer Mfg. Co., J. W. Shidler, president of the Shidler Mfg. Co., E. E. Ruppel, wholesale notions merchant, and Charles P. Drummond, attorney.

Light Is Big Expense. "In announcing the above named committee to investigate municipal light it might be well to state that the mayor, in his study of the city's annual expenditures made with a view of determining where a substantial reduction in our tax levy might be made, shows that one of our largest items of expense is the lighting of our streets. About one-fifth of our annual general fund tax is spent for public lighting. Comparison of our expenditures with cities having a municipal plant reveals the fact that many of these plants are so operated that no charge is made to the city for public lighting.

"In these cities the income from private consumers is sufficient to operate and maintain their plants. The rates charged private consumers in the well managed municipal plants in most instances less than the rate in this city. For instance, the plants in this state, such as Anderson with a six cent rate per K. W. H. Ft. Wayne, seven cents, Logansport, five cents, Richmond, eight cents, compared with our rate in this city at 10 cents.

Local Rate is High. "From the investigation which has been made since the present administration went into office, of the rates charged for current in other cities, it is evident that our local rate is very high. From the comparisons made it is further evident that a city can produce and distribute current for a much lower rate than a private corporation. This can be accounted for by the fact that a municipality is able to borrow money for a much longer term than a private corporation and is also satisfied with a much less return on its investment. The operating expense in plants owned by private corporations are usually higher than municipal plants for the reason that they have

RUSS OCCUPY KASBAN

May be Aiming to Cooperate with the British Forces.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—A Reuter dispatch from Teheran says that the Russians have occupied Kasban and are marching toward Isfahan. The foregoing dispatch shows that the Russians are cutting into southern Persia toward Mesopotamia and it is possible that they contemplate cooperation with the British in that zone of operations. Kasban is 115 miles south of Teheran and Isfahan is about 110 miles south of Kasban. If the Russians succeeded in throwing a line across southern Persia they could bar the way of an advance of the Turkish forces overland toward India.

ANOTHER MEMBER OF PEACE PARTY QUILTS

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 29.—There has been another defection from the Ford peace party. Herman Bernstein has withdrawn and has left for The Hague. The remainder of the pacifists will leave Stockholm tomorrow for Copenhagen.

A banquet by the Swedish peace committee was given last night at the Grand hotel and many of the most prominent men and women of Stockholm were present. The greatest enthusiasm was shown, especially when Mayor Carl Lindhagen in the course of his speech said: "You come across the sea like vikings of old. You are vikings in a spiritual sense. I agree with Americans that it is better to try something big and fail than not to try at all."

It is now believed that the German government will make no effort to hold up the members of the party, but will give them free passage on the way through to The Hague.

ATTACK SCUTARI

LONDON, Dec. 29.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company from Turin quotes the Gazzetta del Popolo as saying that Austro-Hungarians are attacking Scutari in Albania, and that the fall of the city is expected soon. When Scutari

New York Now Is Largest City In the World

LONDON, Dec. 29.—New York is larger than London; is the largest city in the world.

This admission was published today, with an announcement of an error of 290,000 in the 1911 census figures.

The figures are: County of London, 4,521,358 in 1911; New York city, 4,769,883 in 1910. "Extra-London" counting all suburbs, 7,251,358; greater New York, including West Chester and New Jersey suburbs, in 1914, 7,383,871. These figures show New York city 245,525 larger than the county of London, and New York and environs 132,513 greater than greater London.

The figures from New York environs were taken in 1914, but the war has cut down London's suburbs, while New York's have boomed in the last year.

SHARP PROTEST TO BE SENT ENGLAND

Rules Established at The Hague Holds Mail to be Inviolable.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—On the basis of reports received today from Consul General Skinner at London, the state department is preparing a protest against British interference with American mail to and from Holland. The protest will be transmitted to the British foreign office as quickly as it can be drafted. Officials said today that the protest will be sharply worded and Great Britain will be asked to explain her acts immediately.

Consul General Skinner's reports confirmed press dispatches that American mail had been seized on ships bound for Holland and from some bound from Holland for the United States. Officials of the state department declare this is a flagrant violation of the eleventh convention adopted by the second Hague conference. The American protest will be based on the provisions of this convention, which follows:

"The postal correspondence of neutrals or belligerents, whatever its official or private character may be, found on the high seas on board a neutral or enemy ship, is inviolable. If the ship is detained the correspondence is forwarded by the captain with the least possible delay."

A report that the convention is not being observed in Great Britain because Turkey, one of the nations at war with Great Britain did not ratify, was scouted by officials here. It was said that Germany, Austria-Hungary, Great Britain, France and the other nations at war had ratified the convention and that therefore Great Britain is bound to observe it.

Consul General Skinner was instructed to continue his investigations and to report in detail on all seizures of American mail by Great Britain. It was stated that the protest will go forward on the information already on hand.

REP. FRANK BUCHANAN WILL FIGHT ARREST

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Rep. Frank Buchanan of Illinois, indicted yesterday in New York by a federal grand jury, along with seven others in connection with the activities of the Laborers National Peace council, today declared that he is going to resist arrest.

Rep. Buchanan asserted that if an attempt is made to arrest him he will refer the officers to the judiciary committee of the house of representatives.

An act of congress provides that no representative can be arrested except for high treason, a felony or a breach of the peace.

Rep. Buchanan claims that his indictment in New York is for a misdemeanor and that he, as a member of congress, cannot be arrested on that charge.

SHIP LIMPING TO PORT

No Further Word Received Today From Greek Vessel.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—No further word was received this morning from the Greek steamer Thessalonika, which reported by wireless that she was in distress.

The steamer was making her way slowly toward port when she called but as she was 200 miles away it was expected that it would be several days before she could reach port.

The president and Mrs. Wilson remained secluded in their apartments in the east wing of the building. A mass of congratulatory telegrams and letters, felicitating the president on his birthday were forwarded from Washington and were read and answered today. These all were from close personal friends.

Those from mere acquaintances and politicians will be held in Washington and answered from there.

CHICAGO HAS BIG BLAZE

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—Loss totaling \$150,000 was caused by a fire at 121-123 N. Wabash av., in the heart of the city, last night and early today. Fleming H. Revell Co., publishers, and the Kuehl Clock Co. were the chief losers.

COLONEL AIMS VERBAL SWING AT PACIFISTS

Unable to Attend Session of Pan American Congress, His Paper is Read by Member of Body.

SECRET OF UNIVERSAL PEACE STILL MISSING

Easier to Disarm All Crooks Than to Stop Fighting Among Nations—Sees U. S. a Second China.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—A whole-hearted fling at the pacifists "of the stamp of David Starr Jordan and Henry Ford" by Theodore Roosevelt enlivened the third day of the Pan-American scientific congress. Col. Roosevelt explained by wire that he was prevented from delivering the address himself, and the speech was read by Prof. Edward A. Ross, president of the American Sociological society.

"There are well meaning people," the colonel declared, "utterly incapable of learning any lesson taught by history; utterly incapable even of understanding aright what has gone on before their very eyes during the past year or two, who nevertheless insist to turn this country into an occluded China—the kind of China which every intelligent Chinaman of the present day is seeking to abolish."

Scores Emotionalists. After bitterly scoring "emotional philanthropists to whom thinking is a distasteful form of mental exercise," Col. Roosevelt declared that it is questionable whether men and women "who are delighted to pass resolutions in favor of anything with a lofty name, are more desirable as a national type than the men who are guilty of the downright iniquities of life, for the latter at least have in them the elements of strength which, if guided aright, could be used to good purpose."

Touching on the subject of disarmament, Col. Roosevelt said: "The task of cabinet members are to pass resolutions in favor of anything with a lofty name, are more desirable as a national type than the men who are guilty of the downright iniquities of life, for the latter at least have in them the elements of strength which, if guided aright, could be used to good purpose."

The essential thing to be borne in mind regarding militarism, the colonel said, "is to be sure that one kind of militarism is not allowed to get a foothold—the military domination of an alien enemy."

The colonel declared that "nothing is gained by debate on non-debatable subjects," and flattened out the pacifists with the statement that "at present, in this world, and for the immediate future it is certain that the only way successfully to oppose the might which is the servant of wrong is by means of the might which is the servant of right."

"No intelligent man wants war," Col. Roosevelt concluded. "But no intelligent man willing to think, can fail to realize that we live in a great and free country only because our forefathers were willing to wage war rather than accept the peace that spells destruction."

The establishment of a general court of arbitration in America was declared to be a step toward the solution of the world's problems.

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SOLDIERS KILLED

BERLIN (via Sayville by wireless). Dec. 29.—Eighteen German soldiers were killed and 17 wounded when a train filled with troops who were on furlough jumped the tracks at Bentschen station, near Posen.

STEAMER SINKS

LONDON, Dec. 29.—The British steamer Morning, 444 tons, has been sunk by a German submarine. Two members of the crew were saved.

STRIKES MINE

BERGEN, Norway, Dec. 29.—The Norwegian steamship Hornelen, 2,766 tons, has been sunk north of Bergen, presumably by a drifting mine. One member of the crew was drowned, but the remainder were landed today.

Another International Romance



MISS IDA MAY SWIFT & COUNT JAMES MINOTTO.

Miss Ida May Swift, daughter of Louis F. Swift, of the noted Chicago packing firm, and her fiance, Count James Minotto, photographed recently in California. Their engagement has just been announced and the wedding will take place on Jan. 15.

Count Minotto is the son of an Italian nobleman with a large estate near Venice. At present the count is in charge of the South American business of the Guarantee Trust Co. of New York.

TO FORCE SINGLE MEN INTO ARMY GERMANY'S PEACE TERMS PUBLISHED

Irish May Not be Included in Bill Providing For Conscription. More Than Four Billion Dollar Indemnity Will be Insisted Upon.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—On account of the high state of popular feeling in Ireland against compulsory military service, the Irish may be excluded if a bill providing for conscription is introduced in parliament.

The Chronicle predicts that Premier Asquith will make a declaration of policy in commons on next Wednesday and will announce the bill providing for modified conscription will be introduced without delay.

This is the situation: David Lloyd-George, the minister of munitions, and a coterie of cabinet members are insisting upon conscription. Premier Asquith and the non-conscription faction are attempting to solve this burning question without resorting to national compulsion. According to excellent authority the cabinet has tentatively resolved upon modified conscription.

This will provide for conscription for unmarried men of military age who are not enrolled as volunteers under the recruiting scheme of Lord Derby. In the meantime the question is still under consideration and another program may be decided upon in the meantime.

There are some who believe that a cabinet crisis cannot be averted although it may be confined to a reorganization of the coalition ministry. Those who hold this belief look for the resignation of Lord Kitchener, the war secretary, if the government adopts a program which rouses the anger of the people of the United Kingdom.

Others whose resignations are regarded as likely are Reginald McKenna, chancellor of the exchequer, and Arthur Henderson, president of the board of education.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 29.—John W. Miller, after searching 14 years for his long lost son, Clifford, learned he had gone to Lima, O. But the joy attending vanished today when he received word from the Lima police that the son had died a year ago. Miller is near death at the city hospital and through his constant begging to see his son again a new investigation was made. Physicians predicted he had a chance for speedy recovery when it appeared the son would be brought back. But the later news has been such a shock he may not survive. The son had conducted a drug store at Lima and had been fairly prosperous.

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OFFICER ACCUSED

LONDON, Dec. 29.—Lieut. Col. Robert Simpson of the Canadian medical corps, was arraigned in Bowst. court today on an extradition warrant charging him with the theft of \$100,000 in Manitoba.

ZERO WEATHER IS HEADED IN OUR DIRECTION

Storm is Coming Toward Great Lakes From the Northwest—Four Below Reported in Two Cities.

SOUTHERN INDIANA TOWNS HIT BY SLEET

Storm Sweeping Northward Does Considerable Damage—Rain and Sleet Fell Over New England.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—Two well defined storms, one of which is being followed by a cold wave, were making their way over the country today, doing considerable damage and seriously interfering with all manner of wire and rail communication.

The more severe of the two storms is that which originated yesterday on the Gulf coast near New Orleans. This disturbance has advanced in a northeasterly direction, increasing in intensity and is central today over sections of West Virginia. Its progress has been marked by torrential rains, some snow and sleet and high winds.

At Atlanta, Ga., more than four inches of rain has fallen; a precipitation of 3.62 inches was recorded at Chattanooga; 3 inches at Montgomery, and 2.5 at Knoxville, Tenn., while other sections of the south to the Atlantic ocean and up the coast to the Virginia Capes were deluged.

As a result of the heavy rains, considerable damage was reported from many points. The Chattahoochee river near Atlanta has risen 24 feet over night and continues to rise. A gale ripped through north Georgia and southern Tennessee doing much damage in the vicinity of Chattanooga, where the storm was accompanied by thunder and lightning.

Further north the precipitation took the form of sleet, Indianapolis reporting much delay to all electric car service and demoralization to wires. Pennsylvania, Kentucky and several other states felt the force of the storm, there being delay to trains on nearly all railroads and interruption of wire communication. Rain and sleet fell over the greater part of New England. The sleet is reported as particularly severe in the vicinity of Memphis, Tenn., that city being cut off from the outside world.

One Headed Our Way. The second storm is coming toward the Great Lakes from the far northwest. It is in the form of snow and a cold wave closely following it. The high pressure will advance southward, developing much colder weather over sections west of the upper Mississippi and lower Missouri valleys. Temperatures of zero or below are probable by tomorrow in the plains states and through the entire northwest. It was four below zero at Stone Cliffe, Ont., four below at Wausau, Wis., and two below at the Yellowstone park this morning.

Despite weather predictions that a storm is sliming its force directly at this vicinity, the temperature Wednesday failed to undergo any decided change. The minimum for Tuesday night and early Wednesday morning was three degrees more than on the previous day, the lowest mark having been 15 above.

HOT SPRINGS IS VISITED BY GALE

HOT SPRINGS, Va., Dec. 29.—The aftermath of the storm which has been raging here since the 25th, is still in its northward progress, seriously interfering with the presidential plans today.

The president and his bride had expected to play a round of golf and then take a 60-mile auto ride over the mountains. Torrential rains, which fell throughout the night, transformed the golf links into a lake while a 40-mile an hour gale demolished trees along the mountain roads and temporarily blocked them for auto traffic.

The wind continued today although the rain had stopped. The sky was overcast, however, and presented indications of further moisture.

The president and Mrs. Wilson remained secluded in their apartments in the east wing of the building. A mass of congratulatory telegrams and letters, felicitating the president on his birthday were forwarded from Washington and were read and answered today. These all were from close personal friends.

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