AUSTRIANS MEETING LITTLE OPPOSITION FROM MONTENEGRO

Vienna Advices Say Only Isolated Bands Are Opposing Invading Forces.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—The Austrians in Montenegro are now being opposed only by isolated bands in remote mountain districts, according to dispatches from Berlin. Vienna advices declare the entire country is being swept clear of hostile forces.

These reports assert the main Montenegrin army is concentrated near Cettinje, awaiting the result of peace negotiattions between the Montenegrin government and General Koeyess, the Austrian commander. Not a shot has been exchanged between the Austrians and the Montenegrin forces since an armistice was arranged last week, it is declared.

Before opening fire upon Montenegrin bands in the mountain recesses, Austrian officers have been ordered in every instance to signal the enemy news of the armistice. In some regions this has resulted, Berlin reports, in the surrender of the Montenegrins. But most of the mountain leaders are said to have received the report of an armistice with incredulity, and to have kept on fighting.

Ordered to Lay Down Arms.

It is stated that King Nocholas has dispatched messengers to remote Montenegrin districts calling upon the people to lay down their arms. The aged King himself has left his army and has arrived at the Italian port of Brindisi, on his way to Lyons, France, where the Montenegrin capital has been established temporarily. The Montenegrin troops will be commanded by former Premier Voukoditch conjointly with Prince Minsky. It is believed they retire into Albania and attempt to join the Serbians.

On the Greek front there is general quiet, with only occasional skirmishing clashes and aeroplane raids.

The belief is growing in Entente circles that the Austro-German attack on Saloniki is likely to be delayed some time. The Germans are finding that it will require considerable time to surmount all the obstacles facing them in this campaign. Chief among these is the transport of troops, heavy artillery and supplies along the bad roads and the railway line, which is still considerably damaged in several parts. It is said the railway will not be completely established for two months.

Reign of Terror In Serbia.

The Germans are said to have inaugurated in Serbia a veritable reign of terror. Domiciliary visits and the seizure of goods and property take place for the slightest reason. No one is allowed to be out between 5 o'clock in the evening and 7 o'clock in the morning, and the severest punishment is meted out to those who contravene the rigorous rules.

Floggings are administered in public with a severity which takes no account of age or sex. The Serbians are forbidden to pass the barracks or military buildings, and courts-martial are kept busy at Pirot, Nish, and Uskub. Several women are reported to have been sentenced to death and shot.

Typhus has made its appearance among the Austro-German troops.

The Russians continue to advance against the Turks in the Caucasus and in those regions are reported as enormous in Petrograd dispatches. The British relief column has not yet arrived at Kut el Amara, but it is believed the siege of that place will be raised son by the Turks, who have been unable to arrest the progress of the British expedition.

Russians On Offensive.

In Galicia and Bessarabia the Russians are not only holding their own, but they continue to take the offensive. The fighting on this front is confined chiefly to artillery bombardments, it appearing that there is no deficiency in the Russians' supply of ammunition. Berlin reports a complete lull on the eastern front, excepting artillery duels before Dvinsk.

The London war office, as well as the war offices of Paris and Berlin, report only artillery activit and mine activity on the western front. The Germans claim to have destroyed sixty yards of enemy positions southeast of Ypres. The German positions between the Moselle and the Vosges were shelled by the French. Paris claims the bombardment of the German lines in the Champagne and the Vosges was effective. The British have shelled the German lines around Hulloch, Richeburg, and Pilkem.

MADE IN GERMANY, SAYS BELGIAN ENVOY

Minister Havenith Declares He Knows Nothing of Alleged Separate Peace.

"Made in Germany."

This was the characterization given by E. Havenith, the Belgian minister, to reports published today that negotiations are on foot to bring about separate peace between Germany and Belgium.

Minister Havenith said he had had no advices from his government whatsoever regarding any discussion of separate peace predicted on Germany's evacuation of Belgian territory and promises of partial reparation.

"I only know what the newspapers have published," Mr. Havenith said, "and the newspaper dispatches are based upon an article appearing in a German paper. My government undoubtedly has seen these same reports and any comment on the suggestion should come from Havre and not from the legation in Washington."

Minister Havenith recalled that most of the peace discussion has originated in Germany.

While the Belgian minister would not make any official statement in reply to an unofficial report, it was quite apparent from his manner that if his government shares his views Germany will find a difficult task ahead of it in attempting to make overtures to Belgium for a separate peace.

H. O. Sandberg to Attend San Antonio Conference

Harry O. Sandberg, of the Pan-American Union, left last night for San Antonio, Tex., where he will participate in and address a conference in regard to the exposition which will be held there in 1918 to commemorate the two hundredth anniversary of the founding of San Antonio. Thence he will go to New Orleans to participate in the National Foreign Trade Convention.

BELGIUM TO REJECT A SEPARATE PEACE

German Feelers to France and Russia Now Extended to King Albert.

(Continued from First Page.)

government, nor the people of Belgium would dream of deserting the allied cause. Belgium will be in the fighting until it ends by a general peace.

The allied authorities declared most positively that they know Germany is feeling effects of economic pressure more seriously than Germany admits or the world knows. For instance, the German effort to get milk for "starving German babies" from the United States, was caustically characterized.

Germany is gravely in need of fats, because they are required, not to feed starving babies, but to make nitroglycerin. As to milk for the babies, Germany probably has less real need for it than any other of the allied countries. Her next-door neighbors are Denmark, Holland, and Switzerland, all great dairy countries; all at peace; all sending her immense quantities of milk. Denmark and Holland are the sources of a large part of the dairy supplies used in Great Britain, and Germany has drawn these away as much a possible.

Allies Not Considering Peace.

The supply of fats in Germany has been woefully short for months past. Not only are they needed as a food element, but still more for making explosives. The talk about substitutes for fats and for cotton is branded by the allied agents here as demonstrated nonsense.

Germany wants to make peace, naturally enough, because she holds wide area of conquered territories and has an ample trading stock in hand. The allies are for precisely the same reason unable to consider peace; and they are not considering it. Rather, they declare, they are just fairly ready to begin fighting on fair terms.

In most positive terms, the declaration is made that there will be no talk of peace until Germany is crushed. The idea of the war ending in a stalemate is entertained by no one of the allied powers. It must go farther; much farther. No conclusion will be accepted that does not mean destruction of German militarism.

The information given out in Teutonic diplomatic quarters that Germany contemplates making Belgium an offer of separate peace, taken in connection with cable dispatches from Germany, was discussed with great interest in diplomatic circles today. The German viewpoint was that Belgium would be free to enter into such negotiations with the Kaiser's government because Belgium is not a party to the agreement which the British government has made with France, Russia, and Italy, binding each not to conclude a separate peace with the central powers.

In return for Belgium's consent to negotiate a separate peace, the German government is giving serious consideration to the question of voluntarily withdrawing all troops from Belgian territory, Teutonic diplomats declare, and of aiding Belgians in the work of restoration.

Advantages for Germany.

The advantages Germany might expect to reap from such a move are outlined as follows:

"First—The conclusion of a separate peace with Germany would automatically divorce Belgium from the other allies.

"Second—The occupation by any of the allies of any part of Belgian territory would become a violation of neutrality precisely comparable with the much quoted violation of neutrality of which Germany has been declared guilty.

"Third—For the allies to commit such a breach of neutrality after having used it as an excuse for making war on Germany is too inconsistent to be possible.

"Fourth—With immunity from attack from that portion of her frontier facing Belgium, Germany would have for disposal elsewhere the vast army now actually in Belgium and in the trenches on the western portion of the battleline."

In addition to the views expressed in diplomatic quarters, cabled advices today say that the Frankfurter Zeitung, a paper close to the German government, editorially urges negotiations for seperate peace between Germany and Belgium, and that all but one of the Socialist members of the Prussian Diet have subscribed to a declaration calling on the German government to restore to Belgium her independence.

The British embassy has given out a statement saying that a distinguished Belgian Jesuit, lately returned from Rome, quotes the Pope as declaring that he will never consent to offer his good offices for re-establishment of peace unless Belgium should have all her territories in Europe and Asia restored to her, and an adequate indemnity fixed after an inventory of all public monuments and private property has shown the extent of the loss.