

BOLSHEVIKI NOW SEEKS ARMISTICE

ON BASIS OF NO ANNEXATION OR INDEMNITIES FOR EITHER GOVERNMENT.

NOTE HAS REACHED EMBASSIES

Proposal For Immediate Opening of Peace Negotiations is Made By Leon Trotsky to all the Belligerent Nations.

Petrograd, Thursday.—The note of Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik minister, to the allied embassies conveying the announcement of the proposal for an armistice has reached the embassies. The text follows:

"I herewith have the honor to inform you, Mr. Ambassador, that the all-Russian congress of soldiers and workmen's delegates organized on October 26 a new government in the form of a council of national commissioners. The head of this government is Vladimir Ilich Lenin. The direction of the foreign policy has been entrusted to me in the capacity of national commissioner for foreign affairs.

"Drawing attention to the text of the offer of an armistice and a democratic peace on the basis of no annexations or indemnities and the self-determination of nations, approved by the all-Russian congress of soldiers and workmen's delegates, I have the honor to beg you to regard the above document as a formal offer of an immediate armistice on all fronts and the immediate opening of peace negotiations—an offer with which the authoritative government of the Russian republic has addressed itself simultaneously to all the belligerent peoples and their governments.

"Accept my assurance, Mr. Ambassador of the profound respect of the soldiers and workmen's government for the people of France, which cannot help aiming at peace as well as all the rest of the nations exhausted and made bloodless by this unexampled slaughter.

"L. TROTSKY, National Commissioner for Foreign Affairs."

AMERICAN TROOPS ARE ARRIVING IN FRANCE

Movement Keeps Pace With Expectations of War Department.

Washington.—Arrival of American troops in France has kept pace with the expectation of the war department, Secretary Baker said in the first statement he has ever authorized in connection with the progress being made in increasing General Pershing's forces.

Mr. Baker declined, however, to state the number of troops forwarded or to indicate whether he anticipated delay from this time. Movement of the force, he said, depended on two elements, the training and equipment of the men and the availability of ships.

"As fast as they are ready, ships and men will be combined," the secretary said. "As many American troops are now over seas as we expected in the beginning to have over seas at this time."

Mr. Baker indicated that an official statement of the number of American troops in France was not to be expected at any time during the war. He caused an inquiry to be made of the military censor, Major General McIntyre, however, which may result in more liberal regulations as to publication of the designations of regiments, brigades or companies which are engaged in action on the front from time to time.

LOOKS UPON MOVEMENT AS UNFRIENDLY ACT

Washington.—Rear Admiral Washington L. Capps, general manager of the shipping board's emergency fleet corporation, was relieved from duty in that position by President Wilson at his own request because of ill health and with expressions of deepest regret by the chief executive. His successor has not been named, but Chairman Hurley, of the board, was known to favor appointment of a man trained in the same service.

VILLA COLUMN MOVING ON CHIHUAHUA CITY

Presidio, Texas.—Villa's troops have driven the advance guard of the Mexican federal force in the vicinity of Chihuahua back toward Chihuahua City, according to information received here.

Villa was in command of his column which included half of his entire force, the remainder being left at San Juan del Rio and Ojinaga, according to the information received here.

LORD READING



A new photograph of Lord Reading, lord chief justice of England, who has taken charge of the financial negotiations for his government between the United States and England.

DISCUSS WITH WAR COUNCIL

BRITISH PREMIER URGES THAT AMERICAN TROOPS BE SENT AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

Russia's Collapse and Italy's Reverses Make It Necessary That Troops Be Sent Overseas Quickly—Allies Depend on America for Food.

London.—Premier Lloyd George told the Anglo-American war council, in session for the first time, that the collapse of Russia and the reverses to Italy, "made it even more imperative than before that the United States send as many troops as possible across the Atlantic as early as possible."

"I am anxious to know how soon the first million men can be expected in France."

The premier explained that British shipping now was wholly employed in war work, partly for the allies, partly on the British account, adding: "Assuming that the submarine situations gets no worse, the easing of the positions to the allies depends entirely upon the dates on which the American program for the launching of the six million tons of shipping provided for 1918 comes into practical effect. I have no doubt that with the largest industrial population and an exceptional national gift of organization the accomplishment of America in the matter of shipbuilding will astonish everybody."

Dealing with the airplane situation, the premier said:

"Command of the air in the battle line is almost essential as command of the sea. The people of the United States possess to an unusual degree qualities of enterprise and daring necessary to the creation of successful air forces. The American climate also lends itself to the development of the air service, because it is clearer and more equable than the climate of the British Isles. This is of special value because the training of pilots, the creation of flying units, and the building of air-bases are as essential to the creation of an air service as the building of airplanes themselves."

Referring to food the premier said that the allies were becoming increasingly dependent upon what the North American continent could produce and economic pressure to bear on the cause of the mission that the most drastic restrictions were about to be imposed upon the people of the British Isles, partly in order to assist the allies, partly in order to leave more room for the carriage of men and munitions to the battle fronts. The premier said he regarded the tightening of the blockade as of next importance.

"Close co-operation between the United States and the powers of western Europe can bring still greater economic pressure to bear on the central powers during the war," he said. The premier then thanked the mission for the great services rendered by the United States navy.

ANOTHER ISSUE OF TREASURY CERTIFICATES

Washington.—In anticipation of huge returns next June from income taxes under the war revenue law, Secretary McAdoo announced an issue of four per cent treasury certificates of indebtedness of indefinite amounts due June 25, 1918; the final day for payment of income taxes. This was the first action taken by the secretary to prepare the law for the great volume of receipts under the war revenue act.

WAR WORK FUND WENT FAR ABOVE GOAL SET

New York.—The National War Work council of the Young Men's Christian Association announced here that the grand total of the nation-wide war fund campaign is \$49,205,411. This exceeds by nearly \$15,000,000 the \$35,000,000 goal set at the beginning of the campaign on November 12. President Wilson on being informed that the fund was greatly over-subscribed, telegraphed congratulations to Dr. Jno. R. Mott, general secretary of council.

LABOR FEDERATION LOYAL WITHOUT DISSENTING VOICE

Buffalo, N. Y.—Without a dissenting vote, the American Federation of Labor reaffirmed its unwavering loyalty to the country and a determination to stand behind the national administration until peace comes. The pacifist element, which mustered a small minority against President Gompers' attitude in support of the war was silent. The resolution containing the declaration was reported favorably by the resolutions committee.

AMERICAN MISSION IN FRENCH CAPITAL

UNITED STATES COMMISSION ARRIVES IN PARIS FROM ENGLAND.

STATEMENT BY COL. HOUSE

Which Was Made in London With Request That It Be Withheld Until Party Reach Paris is Made Public by Officials.

Paris.—Col. E. M. House and the members of the American mission which he heads, arrived in Paris from England.

London.—Prior to the departure of the American mission for Paris, Col. E. M. House authorized the following statement to the British officials, press and public, which he asked should not be published until after the mission reached France:

"I have been impressed by the wonderful machinery you have created here at the heart of your empire to control your part of the war. You have given the world an example of the efficiency of democracy which will be of lasting value.

"We also are creating in Washington a vast new machinery of government to bring our resources to bear, and we shall profit by what we have seen here. We all realize that no human organization is perfect, and I am sure you will not be content with yours any more than we will be content with ours until the tools that we are making have accomplished the great work for which they are being forged.

"It is inspiring to feel that our two organizations will work closely and frankly together in the cause of liberty. We appreciate beyond measure the kindly reception your officials, your press and your citizens have given us, and we will take back to America a delightful sense of your warm hospitality. Our visit has been memorable and I hope profitable to the cause in which we both are enlisted."

RAISING ARMY IS FIRST DUTY SAYS SECRETARY BAKER

Man-Power Exerted in Field Will Win the War.

Washington.—Man-power exerted on the field of France will bring victory in this war, Provost Marshal General Crowder declared in a statement of the aims, accomplishments and future of the selective draft system addressed to members of the local board and made public. After reviewing present conditions and necessities, General Crowder predicted that the selective system would become a permanent part of America's governmental system for war.

Every precaution possible has been taken with the new draft regulations, General Crowder said, to conserve economic interests, but the paramount duty of the country is to raise an effective fighting force.

"We are committed to this war," the general continued, "and we ought to fight it in the most effective fashion possible to us. The necessity of raising an army is paramount. The decrease in the labor supply must be adjusted in some way other than can be adjusted there is no question.

"The problem is not to maintain the labor supply of agriculture and every industry intact. It is to make withdrawal of men in the most scientific manner possible. I think we have done that, and what is offered here is the basis for a nice balance between two necessities.

"There are those who say that we must win this war in the economic field, with the inference that the raising of an army is a side issue. I say to you that with any greater inroads into the field of recruiting of our army we shall be sending inferior men to the field; that if this nation is not competent to make the slight adjustments necessary to compensate for this scientific selection, then it is not competent to enter this war.

"Certainly no man can urge in this day of trial and sacrifice that this nation should deliberately neglect to make itself effective in the field of military operation on the plea that our greatest contribution to the cause of humanity is in attaining an economic supremacy. To do so would be to relegate the United States to the role of suttler for the fighting nations.

"We shall, of course, increase our production. We shall become more and more effective as a nation, and we shall supply our own armies and do all that can be expected of us to supply the armies of our allies.

"But we shall not, under the guise of our participation in this conflict to the baking of bread and the sharpening of the swords of other men."

GREECE IS PREPARING TO TAKE HER PART IN WAR

Washington.—Greece is rapidly preparing to take her part in the war. A cablegram received here from Athens via Switzerland says many new divisions of Greek troops swiftly formed, have taken their places at the front.

GERMAN PROPAGANDA CARRIED ON OPENLY

Washington.—Ambassador Francis at Petrograd has reported that German propagandists are now carrying on almost openly their activities to keep affairs unsettled in the Russian capital. The ambassador's message, dated November 20, said all Americans in Petrograd and Moscow were safe and those at Moscow had decided to remain. Eighteen Americans had left Petrograd on a special train for the Swedish frontier.

PRINCESS JOLANDA OF ITALY



Princess Jolanda is the eldest daughter of the king and queen of Italy, and like them she has endeavored herself to the Italian people during the war.

AMERICANS IN RUSSIA SAFE

AMBASSADOR FRANCES AND CONSUL GENERAL SUMMERS MAKE A REPORT.

Recommended That All Unattached Women and Men Accompanied by Children Leave—About 200 Americans in Petrograd.

Washington.—Messages from Ambassador Francis, at Petrograd, and Consul General Summers, at Moscow, received at the state department, said all Americans in the two principal Russian cities were safe. Conditions in both places were represented as quieter, but still chaotic.

Ambassador Francis reported that he had obtained transportation from Petrograd to Harbin over the trans-Siberian railroad for Americans who wished to depart from the capital. He had recommended that all unattached women and children leave. Officials have estimated that there were about 200 Americans in Petrograd.

No suggestion was made of moving the Americans from Moscow, although the fighting in that city appeared to have been more general and sanguinary than that in Petrograd. During the fiercest of the street battling, many Americans were gathered in the Hotel Metropol.

Ambassador Francis' dispatch said the Petrograd city duma had not recognized the Lenin-Trotsky faction and that many of the government departments were closed while others were operating under subordinate officials. A few Bolshevik newspapers were appearing at intervals with frequent changes of names and banks were open part of the time. Dispatches from the state department were beginning to reach Mr. Francis, the first one being dated November 9 and containing the American-Japanese agreement regarding China.

Conditions in Moscow, Consul General Summers' dispatch under date of November 17, said, had somewhat improved after a week of fighting. The maximalists had taken over the government.

OVERWHELMING INDOREMENT GIVEN SAMUEL GOMPERS

Buffalo, N. Y.—Union labor put its stamp of approval on the attitude of Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, in working hand in hand with President Wilson and placing the needs of the nation above all other considerations in questions involving the workingmen's part in a vigorous prosecution of the war against Germany.

The test of strength came upon a report from the committee on resolutions. The committee reported favorably a resolution endorsing the "patriotic work of the Alliance for Labor and Democracy which Mr. Gompers took an active part in organizing as an offset to the People's council, a pacifist organization.

CHIEF OF MEDICAL STAFF AT MACON DEAD

Macon, Ga.—Major Richard Well, chief of the medical staff at Camp Wheeler base hospital, died from pneumonia. It was announced. Major Well came here from New York at the opening of the base hospital at Camp Wheeler. He was taken seriously ill eight days ago, pneumonia developing. Mrs. Well, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Isador Strauss, of New York, who were lost in the Titanic disaster, hurried to the bedside of her husband.

APPOINTED MEMBER OF AIRCRAFT BOARD

Washington.—Appointment of R. F. Howe, of New York, a director of the International Harvester Co., as one of the civilian members of the aircraft board which will be in charge of the development of the air service in this country, was announced after a conference of the aircraft production board with President Wilson. Howard E. Coffin, chairman of the present present production board, also will head the new board.

BRITISH PENETRATE HINDENBURG LINE

SMASH THROUGH GERMAN FRONT FOR DEPTH OF OVER FIVE MILES.

ALONG THIRTY-MILE FRONT

Success One of Greatest Achieved on Western Front During Progress of War.—Capture 8,000 Prisoners and Many Guns.

London.—Andrew Bonar Law announced in the house of commons that eight thousand prisoners, including one hundred and eighty officers have been taken by the British in their present operations. At one point the British penetrated five miles behind the German lines and several villages in addition to those already announced, have been taken.

Germany Army on Last Line. British Army headquarters in on their last line of defense at one point of the British attack.

Nearly a score of guns is reported to have been captured. The British are pushing on toward Cambrai, three miles southwest of Italy, and like them she has endeavored herself to the Italian people during the war.

The advance of the British army against the Germans was continuing. The towns of Masnières, Maroilles, Ribecourt, Havrincourt, Graincourt and Plesquieres all were behind the British advancing line and the cavalry, which is co-operating with the tanks and rendering valuable service, was drawing in toward the Bourlon wood, west of Cambrai.

Paris.—The French troops attacked in the region to the north of Craonne and Berry-au-Bac on a front of about two-thirds of a mile and penetrated the German positions to an average depth of about 400 yards, capturing strong defenses and taking 175 Germans prisoner, according to the French official communication issued this evening.

UNNATURALIZED GERMANS LEAVING BARRED ZONE

Compelled to Vacate Under President's Proclamation.

Washington.—Thousands of unnaturalized Germans were forced to move from their homes near docks, piers, warehouses, railway terminals and other establishments declared barred zones by President Wilson's alien enemy proclamation. For many the new regulations meant not only the actual moving of the place of residence, but the loss of jobs in the forbidden areas as well.

To those without work, including many with dependents, the federal employment agencies were open and officials were emphatic in explanation that the help of these agencies in finding new employment for the alien enemies would not be withheld. This was only one evidence of the government's anxiety to treat law-abiding Germans with courtesy and consideration, while applying drastic rules to detect the few with sinister intent.

Mayors of eastern seaport cities today were asked for the co-operation of their police departments in the registration of alien enemies under the President's proclamation, and a few early replies to the department of justice indicated that the police would willingly undertake the task of enrolling thousands of German adult males and soliciting data on their occupations and habits for future references.

Along the Atlantic coast, where danger from alien plotters is considered greatest, the registration enterprise will be undertaken first, and will be followed later by registration in the interior.

John Lord O'Brien, special assistant to Attorney General Gregory, in alien proclamation, expects to complete regulations for the registration late this week, and to put them into effect next week.

BOLSHEVIKI ISSUES WARNING TO WEALTHY

Petrograd.—The Bolsheviks have issued a warning to the "wealthy classes and their servants" who are accused of inciting strikes in state and municipal services. The warning says: "You are playing with fire. You will be first to suffer from famine that is threatening the country and the army. You will be deprived of the right of receiving products. All your stores will be requisitioned and your property confiscated."

THREE OFFICERS, AND EIGHTEEN MEN LOST

Washington.—Lieutenant Commander Walter E. Reno, the commanding officer, his two junior officers, Lieut. Charles F. Wedderburn and Ensign Harry G. Skinner, Jr., and 18 enlisted men were lost in the sinking of the American torpedo boat destroyer Chauncey in a collision in the war zone Monday morning, November 19, the navy department was advised by Vice Admiral Sims.

WAR DECLARATION ON GERMANY'S ALLIES

Washington.—Whether the United States shall declare war against Germany's allies promises to be a subject of much discussion at the next session of Congress, Senator Hitchcock, ranking member of the foreign relations committee, said upon his return to Washington. In his opinion, the question presents many complications and is one of extreme delicacy as well as importance in immediate and future developments of the war.

LISTS 9,000,000 FOR U.S. SERVICE

Provost Marshal Gives Rules Regarding Liability for Military Duty.

Washington, Nov. 15.—The five classes into which 9,000,000 men registered for military duty—and those who are registered hereafter—are defined and the order in which they will be called for service were officially announced in the provost marshal general's questionnaire which every registered man must fill out and file. The order shows some change from the tentative draft published some time ago.

Contrary to some published reports, it does not exempt married men as a class, but it does place married men with dependent wives and children far down on the list of liabilities. In fact, the questionnaire indicates that only men of the first class will be called to the colors, except in the gravest emergency. The five official classifications of registrants follow:

CLASS I.

- (A)—Single man without dependent relatives.
- (B)—Married man, with or without children, or father of motherless children, who has habitually failed to support his family.
- (C)—Married man dependent on wife for support.
- (D)—Married man, with or without children, or father of motherless children; man not usefully engaged family supported by income independent of his labor.
- (E)—Unskilled farm laborer.
- (F)—Unskilled industrial laborer.

CLASS II.

- (A)—Married man with children or father of motherless children, whose wife or children or such motherless children are not mainly dependent upon his labor for support for the reason that there are other means by which certain sources of adequate support excluding earnings or possible earnings from the labor of the wife) available, and that the removal of the registrant will not deprive such dependent of support.
- (B)—Married man, without children, whose wife, although the registrant is engaged in a useful occupation, is not mainly dependent upon his labor for support for the reason that the wife is skilled in some special class of work which she is physically able to perform and in which she is employed or in which there is an immediate opening for her under conditions that will enable her to support herself recently and without suffering or hardship.
- (C)—Necessary skilled farm laborer in necessary agricultural enterprise.
- (D)—Necessary skilled industrial laborer in necessary industrial enterprise.

CLASS III.

- (A)—Man with dependent children (not his own—but adopted—whom he stands in relation of parent).
- (B)—Man with dependent helpless brothers or sisters.
- (C)—Necessary municipal officer.
- (D)—Highly trained fireman or policeman, at least three years in service of municipality.
- (E)—Necessary custom house clerk.
- (F)—Necessary member of United States in transmission of the mails.
- (G)—Necessary artificer or workman in United States army or arsenal.
- (H)—Necessary employe in service of United States.
- (I)—Necessary assistant, associate or hired manager of necessary agricultural enterprise.
- (J)—Necessary highly specialized technical or mechanical expert of necessary industrial enterprise.
- (K)—Necessary assistant or associate manager of necessary industrial enterprise.

CLASS IV.

- (A)—Man whose wife or children are mainly dependent on his labor for support.
- (B)—Mariner actually employed on sea service or citizen or merchant in the United States.
- (C)—Necessary sole managing, controlling or directing head of necessary agricultural enterprise.
- (D)—Necessary sole managing, controlling or directing head of necessary industrial enterprise.

CLASS V.

- (A)—Officers—Legislative, executive or judicial of the United States or of state, territory or District of Columbia.
- (B)—Regular or duly ordained minister of religion.
- (C)—Alien enemy, who on May 18, 1917, was preparing for ministry in recognized school.
- (D)—Persons in military or naval service of the United States.
- (E)—Alien enemy.
- (F)—Resident alien (not an enemy) who claims exemption.
- (G)—Person totally and permanently physically or mentally unfit for military service.
- (H)—Person morally unfit to be a soldier of the United States.
- (I)—Licensed pilot actually employed in the pursuit of his vocation.
- (J)—Member of well-recognized religious sect or organization, organized and existing on May 18, 1917, whose then existing creed or principles forbid its members to participate in war in any form, and whose religious convictions are against war or participation therein.

The questions on the subject of dependents are framed to meet every possible circumstance and to draw out every bit of information that might be of value to the boards in fixing the class to which a man is to be assigned. Seven days are allowed registrants after receipt of the questionnaire to fill it out and return it to the local board.

Endless Supply.

"I suppose only a limited amount of this stock is being offered—the old wheat."

"No, we're offering an unlimited amount of it," said the promoter truthfully. "We'll continue to print it as long as we have any sale for it."

The Sort.

"She made a beautiful sight standing there, gracefully beckoning him to come to her."

Belongs to a Club.

Little Ads.—Oh, mamma, I do wish I belonged to a club.

Extending Use.

"What on earth is the cook cutting up the veal in that odd way for?"

N.C. FARMERS UNION CONVENTION ENDED

DR. H. Q. ALEXANDER IS AGAIN RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF UNION.

POE IS NATIONAL DELEGATE

State Union Adopts Resolution Thanking Government for Action to Secure Nitrate of Soda.

Winston-Salem.—Dr. H. Q. Alexander was again elected president of the North Carolina Farmers' union at the session in this city with only one dissenting vote. His action in preparing patriotic resolutions and resolutions for the union to purchase \$10,000 in Liberty bonds indicate a change from his accredited attitude of opposition to war and resisting the draft.

Dr. Clarence Poe, editor of The Progressive Farmer, Raleigh, who was considered an opponent to his re-election, was not re-elected as a member of the executive committee, but was made a delegate to the national union. The other officers were re-elected.

National President C. S. Barrett was present and addressed the union. The Farmers' union convention adjourned after passing a resolution of thanks for the steps taken by the Congress of the United States authorizing the President to use \$10,000,000 in the purchase of nitrate of soda to be imported for the use of the farmers and to be furnished to them at cost. The executive committee was authorized to appoint a committee to go to Washington to confer with the agricultural department concerning the best method of distributing this soda. National President C. S. Barrett has consented to accompany the committee. The text of the resolution is as follows:

"Whereas, the Nash County Farmers' union did, at their meeting in August, strongly petition the Congress of the United States to enact a law enabling the agricultural department to import nitrate of soda for distribution to farmers at cost, and

"Whereas, this petition was followed up with much painstaking correspondence with both Congress and the agricultural department, and

"Whereas, Congress did on or about the 10th of August, 1917, enact a law authorizing the President of the United States to use \$10,000,000 of the national funds to purchase soda;

"Therefore, we, the North Carolina Farmers' union, do resolve that we tender our sincere thanks to the national Congress for its action in this regard and to the Nash county union as well for its intelligent efforts.

"Second, That a memorial be sent to the agricultural department at Washington urging that no stone be left unturned to the end that ships be provided for the landing of this soda in our country before next spring.

Committee to Washington. "Third, That it is the sense of this body that a committee be appointed to go to Washington, if the necessity arises, to confer with the agricultural department as to the best manner of carrying out plan of distribution of this soda, the chief labor of which has been delegated to Mr. M. R. Wilkinson, now of Washington, D. C., but formerly of Atlanta, Ga.

"Fourth, That a committee be appointed also by this body to help work out a plan of assisting the federal government in the distribution of this material within our own state."

The insurance committee introduced a resolution, which was adopted, recommending the Farmers' Mutual Fire insurance company as the most suited to the farmers.

Five Dead in School Fire.

Ashville.—Five known dead, with a possibility that the number will be increased to eight, is the toll claimed by flames which destroyed the Catholic Hill school for colored children, 20 minutes after the children had been put through fire drill. Three of the bodies have been identified, and two more at the morgue cannot be identified as yet, but five more children are missing, and it is practically certain that the bodies are those of two of the missing children.

The dead and injured are as follows: Identified dead: Henry Thompson, Elsie Thompson, Mary Jamison. Missing and believed dead: Addie Logan, Daisy Dobbins, Hazel Harris, Inez Davis, Hannah Smolton. Two unidentified bodies are in the morgue and will account for two of the missing.

The teachers, it is stated, tried to make the children form for fire drill, but the little negroes, excited, refused to obey orders. One teacher locked the door, but the children broke it down and escaped.

The fire is believed to have originated in the furnace room. In justice to the Ashville fire department, it is stated that the fire had burned 19 minutes before the alarm was turned in.

The fire was discovered about 20 minutes before noon, and seems to have made considerable headway before the alarm was turned in. The school was situated on a high hill, making access by the fire trucks difficult, but the department was quickly on the job, battling against what from the first, was a hopeless task. Two firemen were slightly injured in the battle against the flames. Reports were current tonight that the fire was caused by an overheated furnace. The loss on the building is placed at \$3,000.