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## BERLIN CRUSHED IS DEMORALIZED AND DISPIRITED

Berlin. (Via Copenhagen), Nov. 23, Saturday. (By the Associated Press.)—Strange are the experiences of a traveler who enters Germany after an absence of several years. Formerly there were many and varied governmental orders and restrictions to be obeyed. Nowadays, when you go to a police station, the desk sergeant will say sadly: "You are not required to register any longer." They do not even look at your passport.

Another feature of the "new freedom" in Germany which may surprise the traveler is that the private soldier no longer salutes his superior officers. The soldier calls his officer "Comrade."

Berlin outwardly is as orderly as ever, but order is no longer maintained by policemen but by soldiers with arm bands as the badge of officers. The picture is familiar to those who saw Petrograd during the Kerensky regime. Another sight recalling Petrograd are the military and royal automobiles—the latter still sounding the musical call denoting the approach of royalty—which dash through the streets with loads of soldiers.

The prevailing tone in Berlin is still military, but it is a militarism of privates and non-commissioned officers. Their symbol is the red flag which waves above every government building and from every automobile. As far as any participation in directing the affairs of the government, the bourgeois citizens simply do now exist.

Hunger has set its unmistakable stamp on the inhabitants of the capital. Here and there, hollow cheeks, sunken eyes and pasty complexions are evidence of the privations of the last four years. Similar conditions could be observed two years earlier in the city's horror quarters, but today they prevail among nearly all classes.

Dilapidated streets, cars and cabs drawn by skeleton horses intensify the picture of misery. The United States is regarded not only as not an enemy, but actually as a friend. Berlin residents hopefully recall assurances of President Wilson that America does not intend to wipe out the German people.

Berlin, crushed, broken and dispirited by deprivations, has accepted defeat with almost incredible apathy. It is demoralized, listless and hungry, even abject. It is primarily this apathy and the feeling that nothing matters which is playing into the hands of a few energetic fanatics who constitute probably the gravest menace to the immediate future of the German people.

## STATION AGENTS GET AN INCREASE

Washington, Nov. 23.—Railroad agents today were granted by Director General McArdoo a general wage increase of \$25 a month above the rate prevailing last January 1, with a minimum of \$95 a month. Eight hours is to be considered a day's work with pro rata pay for two hours overtime and time and a half for service above 10 hours.

The order affects about 2,500 station agents who are not telegraphers and who, consequently were not covered by the recent wage increase for telegraphers. The wage average does not apply to men paid \$30 or less a month for special services requiring only a portion of their time. Exceptions also are made for a few agents who received \$50 or less a month for whom a straight advance of \$25 is granted, without application of the \$95 minimum.

The wage increase order was the first official document signed by Mr. McArdoo today after announcement of his resignation on the ground of inadequate pay for cabinet officers.

## GLAD WILSON IS GOING TO PARIS SAYS THE TIMES

London, Nov. 23.—The Times prints a long leading editorial headed "President Wilson's Visit to Europe." After referring to political discussions now going on in America, the article continues:

"These debates are on the domestic affairs of the American people. To us, the President is the head not of a party but of the people. Even if there is a bias here to one or the other of the American parties—and there is not—it would not affect our attitude on the President of the American republic. Wilson has done incalculable service for the allied cause in the war and his name is one to conjure with in Europe.

"We are all idealists now in international affairs and look to him to help us realize these ideals—to reconstruct out of this welter a better and fairer world.

"We hope party controversy will not prevent him from coming to Europe, for even more important than the actual conference are the discussions by the allied representatives which must proceed it. To these Wilson's presence is not only desirable but indispensable."

The article says the discussion in America of the 14 points "merely means the American people are getting at grips with the subject." It adds:

"Questions of political theory are becoming questions of political practice. "The very appearance of a controversy is a wholesome and encouraging sign. The 14 points were never intended as tables of a new law brought down by an American from Mt. Sinai, but rather as principles for the regulation of international conduct in the future which have still to be discussed in application.

"Take, for example, the freedom of the seas, which is the most thorny of all the 14 points. As they are beginning to discover in the United States, the term has never yet been accurately defined. By extreme interpretation of the phrase it would mean complete abolition of a commercial blockade. By another extreme it might mean no more than the abolition of a closed sea, whether the Black sea or the Baltic, with provision for free and unimpeded navigation over them alike in peace or in war. Between these extremes there are a number of middle interpretations.

"Let there be no mistake. If what is meant as freedom of the seas be a real substantial diminution of sea power, such as would result by the abolition of a blockade, this country could never consent to it, least of all at the end of the war which could never have been won—or even continued any length of time—without our sea power. It is as well to speak plainly on that point to our American ally, who learned so much in this war about the real meaning of the efficacy of sea power, and America will respect us for our plain speaking.

"But in this, as in all other matters, we do not believe in shipbotheis. What matters is the substance, not the name. It may well be that the submarines, mines and air-power have substantially affected the conditions under which sea-power will be exercised in the future. What we need is a frank interchange of ideas and the transference of the discussion from the realm of mere words into the form of actual concrete proposals.

"That is one reason among many why we are glad President Wilson is coming to Europe. We have as much to learn from him as he has to learn from us. It is certain that from a perfect understanding between the two great English speaking peoples, the whole world has most to hope."



1—General view of Prague, capital of the new Czech-Slovak republic. 2—American engineers and infantrymen establishing a road in preparation of Prague. 3—President Wilson inspecting an American Handley Page biplane which flew from Miler's to Washington, 230 miles, in three hours.

## CARDINAL MERCIER SAYS U. S. SAVED WORLD

Brussels, Saturday, Nov. 23. (By the Associated Press.)—Cardinal Mercier and Burgomaster Max, two of the most prominent followers of the war in Belgium except King Albert, received the Associated Press correspondent today. Both men are as different, physically and mentally, as the ideas, ideals and opinions they represent. Burgomaster Max being one of the leaders of the liberal party, while Cardinal Mercier is the most prominent Catholic in Belgium.

"You have saved us," said the cardinal, when asked what he thought of America's participation in the war. "You have saved the world."

Cardinal Mercier is tall and dignified. He was garbed in a purple soutaine. He chatted with the correspondent for more than half an hour.

"I never doubted, I never lost hope, although at times my heart was very full," the cardinal said, referring to an incident in December, 1914, when Baron von Bissing, military governor of Belgium, virtually made him a prisoner in his episcopal palace. "I received a telegram then from the Associated Press and have never been able to answer it. I wish to reply to it now:

"Yes, Bissing treated me as a prisoner for four days."

Concerning the governors of Belgium during the war, Cardinal Mercier said that Flakenhausen was more cruel and inhuman than Bissing and more perfidious, insidious and dangerous.

"There was not much to choose between them, however," he said. Referring to the quiet recent birthday anniversary, the correspondent complimented the cardinal upon his robust appearance and health. The cardinal replied:

"It is true that I am 67, but rather it is my seventy-first, because the last four years seemed like eight to me."

Referring to the change in the government of Germany, Cardinal Mercier said:

"I am no politician. However, the changes there seem too sudden to be lasting. The new government appears to me like a camouflage to the autocracy and the changes seem to have been made to order according to pre-arranged schedule. It is God's justice, and the public conscience is satisfied. The triumph of justice is complete, the barbarian decree that might is right has received its death blow; the dream of pan-Germany domination has been shattered and evaporated like noxious gas in the wind, and thanks to God's justice, right has triumphed and the Belgians once more are free and independent. We have won the war."

On receiving confirmation of the rumor that President Wilson planned to visit Europe,

## APPOINTMENTS FOR THE MT. AIRY DISTRICT

The 1918 session of the Western North Carolina Conference closed a five days' session in Charlotte Sunday night. Following are the appointments for the Mount Airy District for the ensuing year:

- Presiding Elder, Rev. W. F. Womble; Arrarat, Rev. G. W. Clay; Danbury, Rev. J. J. Eads; Dobson, Rev. O. P. Routh; Draper, Rev. C. R. Allison; Elkin, Rev. W. E. Abernethy; Jonesville, Rev. J. H. Robertson; Leaksville, G. A. Stamper; Madison and Stoneville, Rev. J. E. Gay; Mount Airy Station, Rev. G. W. Herman; Mount Airy Circuit, Rev. T. P. Jimison; Pilot Mountain, Rev. J. W. Combs; Rural Hall, Rev. J. C. Meek; Spary, Rev. J. E. Armstrong; Stokesdale, Rev. G. W. Williams; Summertind, Rev. Albert Sherrill; Walnut Grove, Rev. T. V. Crouse; Yadkinville, Rev. W. M. Boring.

Rev. H. C. Sprinkle, who has been Presiding Elder of the Mount Airy District for the past four years has been appointed to the Reidsville station this year.

## INFLUENZA

During the fearful epidemic of Spanish influenza that has swept over the country this fall a terrible death toll has been exacted. Statistics show that more people died in the United States from this disease than was killed in our armies in the great world war. During the month of October in North Carolina 4,805 persons died in the State with this disease. Of the one hundred counties in the State only one (Alleghany) that had no death, two counties, Alexander and Clay, had one death each, while Forsyth and Gaston suffered the greatest loss, having 210 deaths in each, while Wake was a close second with 203 deaths and New Hanover third with 164. Surry had 69, Yadkin 20, Wilkes 11. This is for the one month of October, but does not contain a full report, and there is no doubt but when a tabulated report is made from all the counties the number of deaths will go beyond 5000. The disease is not yet stamped out and the probabilities are that there will be cases breaking out all during the coming winter. The problem of prevention is one that lies in the hands of each individual for solution. People should avoid going into crowds as much as possible and from using drinking cups, eating utensils or towels that have been used by an infected person. Let everybody be careful where they go and what they use and the disease will soon be a thing of the past.

## Personnel of Commission Not Yet Been Completed

Washington, Nov. 23.—With President Wilson expected to sail for France within less than two weeks, so far as can be gathered the personnel of the American commission which is to represent this country at the peace conference is not complete, even as to its principals. This is believed to be the explanation of the delay in making public announcement of the names of the commissioners, which the recent white house statement said would be made "presently."

Meanwhile, attention is being given to the selection of the secretaries and attaches of the American mission and to the collection of the large quantity of historical and legal data that will be required. The nearest parallel to the approaching conference probably is to be found in the famous conference of Vienna of 1814 which gathered to rearrange the map of Europe following Napoleon's downfall.

## AMERICAN UNITS ENTER GERMANY

American Army of Occupation, Saturday, Nov. 23, (Evening; by the Associated Press.)—The German frontier was crossed at several places today by American signal corps units and ambulance workers. Short trips were made into Rhenish Prussia, where the inhabitants are reported to have shown the Americans every consideration.

American Army of Occupation, Saturday, Nov. 23, (By the Associated Press.)—The front line of the American army of occupation tonight rested along the Luxembourg-German border on the Saur river and thence along the Moselle river to the region east of Remich. The American army will mark time until further orders. At least three or four days are expected to pass before the next move is made toward the German border.

The Germans apparently are withdrawing according to schedule. Reports reaching the 3rd army today were that the German everywhere were whistling and singing as they marched. The general line of the German withdrawal is along the Perl-Staarburg road. The southern limit of the fifth German army is reported to be the line Sierck-Thionville.

Several instances are reported where Americans encountered Germans along the roadways and each time the Germans showed the Americans every courtesy. While an American officer in an automobile was riding along the Remich-Treves road, east of the Moselle, he encountered German troops marching northward. A column of German infantry and some German trucks withdrew to clear the way for the Americans. Owing to the shortage of horses the Germans are using oxen to haul their supplies and some artillery.

## COOL RECEPTION TO CROWN PRINCE

Amsterdam, Thursday, Nov. 21.—(By the Associated Press.)—When the former German crown prince arrived at the Zuyder Zee fishing town of Enkhuisen today, he received different welcome than he encountered elsewhere in Holland.

As he descended from the railway car with a swaggering gait and wearing a fur coat, howls of execration arose from the thousands gathered outside the station gate.

The outburst of hostility seemed to perturb him somewhat.

The government yacht which was to have taken the former crown prince to the island of Wieringen, which will be his future abode in Holland, grounded in the fog. A little tug boat was substituted. Affecting indifference, the former crown prince stepped on the gangway and lit a cigarette. The tug boat loose immediately and disappeared in the fog amid the angry snouts of the populace.

Amsterdam, Thursday, Nov. 21.—(By the Associated Press.)—Meesterland, a hamlet consisting of a score of small farmsteads and fishermen's huts on the bleak, lonely island of Wieringen, which is situated some distance from the Dutch naval station at Helder, is the home assigned to the interned former German crown prince. The local pastor's humble two storied residence has been leased furnished for six months and here the crown prince will live. The house, which is without the slightest attraction, is off the beaten track and is hardly ever visited by strangers. The hamlet itself is inhabited for the most part by mussel fishermen, who after their experiences with U-boats during the war, view the guest's advent, which is expected tomorrow, with anything but favor.

## 14 TO BE TRIED IN SURRY COURT

Winston-Salem, Nov. 21.—The preliminary investigation of those who participated in the disorder here Sunday evening when a mob attempted to take Russel High, colored, from the city lockup, began in the municipal court this morning and lasted all day. Solicitor Graves was in charge of the investigation. All of the parties arraigned, 14 in number, were bound over to Surry county superior court, their bonds being fixed at \$3,500 each.

Governor Bickett will be asked to call a special term of Surry court to try these cases.

Riley Donald, charged with the larceny of a gun from the Brown-Rogers hardware store during the trouble, was given a term of 18 months on the county roads. Levi Hairston, a colored boy 16 years old, was found guilty of stealing a knife, watch, bracelets and other things from the Southern Loan office and he was sentenced to the reformatory. Robert Hood, for the same offense, was sent to the roads for 18 months. Frank Little, a white man charged with entering the hardware store of Tucker & Ward and forcing Mr. Tucker to give up a gun Sunday evening, was held for the higher court in a bond of \$1,000.

During a difficulty at Piedmont warehouse this morning between Charles Lawson, a Stokes county farmer, residing near Walnut Cove, and Jesse McNeal, a young colored man employed as trucker by the warehouse, the negro cut the white farmer twice. One stab was just behind the ear, penetrating the mastoid, while the second was in the lung. The wounded man was rushed to the hospital and his condition is regarded serious, little hope being entertained for his recovery. After a lively race, McNeal was arrested and locked up. It is reported that he was taken to either the state prison or to a jail in an adjoining county this afternoon.

## AMERICAN'S HEAD THE PROCESSION

With the British Army of Occupation, Friday, Nov. 22, (By the Associated Press.)—American soldiers headed the procession of troops which entered Brussels this morning with King Albert. One battalion of fine looking fellows from the Ninety-first division, which comes from the coast states, was followed by a battery of artillery from the Fifty-third brigade.

## LETTER FROM FRANCE

Dear Editor:

Today has been one of these long, long Sundays spent in France. I have tried in several ways to pass this lonely Sabbath as a pleasant one. After a general policing of ourselves and quarters, I began to write, write, so I wrote mamma, papa, sister, brother and friends of course. By that time one of my many friends came in from a walk with some nice grapes, and you can easily guess what was next, "Eating." Then a friend happened to possess a nice "cigar", and as luck would have it, he did not possess the smoking habit, so he proceeded to address the parties that happened to be present as we all were his friends. He gave us a square deal, so we had to take one cut each at a deck of cards, the highest cut smoked the cigar. No, it was not me. By that time someone had found a paper which was very pleasantly escorted to our room. Well, you know we all had to take a peek at it. Next thing on program was dinner, (Eating). That brings us to our evening task. Well, what next? I had planned a nice game of "Rook" but I found that I had better laundry a hand towel and a few other articles which I had failed to get laundered during the week, as the one I had employed had to do a little detail work. So I did some nice laundry, had a game of cards.

6:30, Supper has been very much enjoyed. Now that long period from supper to bed time. Well, I didn't have to plan anything as I received the dear little Elkin Tribune. I did manage to look over the "Locals", and the paper is on its journey. I said "boys, be careful, don't get it lost." Everybody enjoys a paper from states, as anything to read.

A little experience in France. We have been in France several weeks. Have been quartered in cattle barns for some time, as the camps were already filled. Rue we are now quartered in good barracks. I find the people of France very kind to the Sammies. They seem to be very glad to do anything possible for our comfort and convenience. France has once been a beautiful country and is very nice yet. The part I have been located in is very mountainous, and the principal industries are stock raising, some farming.

Everybody in France seems to be in the very best of heart, and we have no doubt but what the Huns are fast finding out that the Sammies are not over here on a vacation. Of course everybody is watching the news and note that every move that is made is in favor of the allies. I think that Germany has one more card to play and that is a "duce," and we sure will catch it.

The Y. M. C. A. and Red Cross. Every American soldier in France is proud of the little Y. M. C. A. and Red Cross huts. They furnish so many accommodations. We are so thankful for the interest our dear Americans have taken in trying to make everything comfortable and pleasant for us.

The weather over here is not very favorable, we have lots of rain.

Everything is going fine in France. With kind regards to the Tribune and its readers, and all. SGT. LONNIE F. WALKER, Battery "B" 317th F. A., American Expeditionary Forces France.