

THE WEATHER

Fair Tonight and Saturday; Not Much Change in Temperature

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DISCLOSURES WILL CAUSE ARGENTINA TO DECLARE WAR

Luxburg's Telegrams, Showing New Evidence of German Trickery, Published

LINE UP AGAINST NORTH AMERICA

Had Secured Argentina President's Consent To Enter Into Agreement

Washington, Dec. 21.—Declarations of war against Germany by Argentina was regarded as almost certain in Latin-American diplomatic circles today as the result of the new evidences of German trickery disclosed simultaneously in Washington and Buenos Aires last by publication of another series of telegrams between the notorious Count Luxburg of "spurious versenik" fame and the Berlin foreign office.

Luxburg, former German charge in Buenos Aires, in a message dated August 1, last, informed his foreign office that he had at last made up his mind to negotiate a secret agreement with Chile and Bolivia for protection against North America. Another telegram intimated an attempt would be made to induce Peru and the plan was to be perfected according to Luxburg communication of August 1, "before the conference idea is taken up again."

The "conference idea" is assumed to be the proposed Latin-American neutrality conference advocated by President Carranza and widely discussed in South America. The secret agreement referred to may explain recent South American reports of President Irigoyen's proposals for a league of South American nations.

The messages, 40 in number, were made public by the state department through an agreement with the Argentine government and were accompanied by a statement by Foreign Minister Puyretyon, in which he says the "inaccuracies" of the German charge's report are so surprising that no epithet will fit them.

Statement of Minister. Following is the statement of the Argentine minister in foreign affairs, given out with the Luxburg telegrams:

"The telegrams which appear below are all that the Argentine ministry for foreign affairs received from the embassy in Washington of which the translations were made by the department of state in the United States. There are three telegrams not published as they allude solely to the..."

FEDERAL FARM LOAN BOARD MAKES REPORT

Loans Totalling \$29,824,000 Made to Farmers—Other Loans Approved

Washington, Dec. 21.—Loans aggregating \$29,824,000 have been made to farmers by the 12 federal land banks in the six months since the farm loan system has been in full operation, according to the monthly report of the federal farm loan board issued today. In addition, \$75,000,000 of loans have been approved and will be negotiated at the old five per cent interest rate.

Applications for loans have amounted to \$219,000,000 which has been cut to \$185,000,000 by reductions ordered by appraisers, or by rejections. Future loans will be made at the new rate of five and one-half per cent. The great volume of loans, \$7,390,000, have been made by the Wichita, Kas., bank which covers Kansas, Oklahoma, Colorado and New Mexico. Loans in other districts include: Columbia, S. C., \$9,818,900; Louisville, \$1,782,000; New Orleans, \$1,634,000; and Houston, \$1,145,000.

CHAIRMAN HURLEY FIRST WITNESS IN THE INQUIRY

Washington, Dec. 21.—Inquiry into the progress of the government's shipbuilding program was begun by the senate commerce committee today with Chairman Hurley, of the shipping board, as the first witness. The committee called on Mr. Hurley yesterday to be ready with the following information:

An itemized statement of all contracts with the names and locations of contracting parties. The number of ships constructed. Number of ships under construction and the amount of work completed on each. Details concerning the construction of ships for private account.

TREATY TO MAKE CHINA SAFE FOR RUSSIA AND JAPAN

Petrograd Paper Published Alleged Secret Treaty Between Japan and Russia

TO DEFEND CHINA FROM DOMINATION

Called Treaty For "Armed Demonstration Against American and England"

Petrograd, Dec. 20.—Under the heading "secret treaty between Japan and Russia for joint armed demonstration against America and Great Britain in the far east," the Izvestia publishes what it says is the text of the secret treaty drawn up last year providing for joint action by Russia and Japan to prevent any third country from achieving political dominance in China.

The treaty, dated July 3, 1916, runs for five years, automatically extending itself until a year after one party expresses the desire to annul it. It is signed by Sergius Sazonoff, the Russian foreign minister, and Viscount Motono, Japanese foreign minister.

The agreement shall remain a deep secret for all except for the contracting parties. It opens with the statement that it is designed to supplement and strengthen the secret treaties of 1907, 1910 and 1912.

The four articles of the treaty are as follows: Article I. The contracting parties recognize that the interests of either side demand the defense of China from political domination by any third power whatsoever cherishing hostile intentions toward Russia and Japan and therefore undertake whenever circumstances necessitate to assist in open relations based on full confidence in order jointly to take the necessary steps to prevent the advent in China of such a state of affairs.

Article II. In the event that as a consequence of any measures undertaken by mutual consent by Russia and Japan on the basis of the preceding article any third power, as foreseen by Article I, should declare war against Russia or Japan, the other contracting party shall, on the first demand of its ally, come to its aid.

Article III. The conditions on which either party shall give armed assistance and the means by which such assistance shall be rendered, shall be fixed by the respective authorities of the contracting parties.

Article IV. It must especially be kept in mind that neither party shall consider itself obligated in accordance with Article II to give any armed assistance unless it received guarantee from its allies to the effect that they will give it assistance to the extent necessitated by the seriousness of the possible conflict.

Washington Officials Have No Information. Washington, Dec. 21.—American officials said today they had no knowledge of the so-called secret treaty between Russia and Japan described in the Petrograd dispatches, but they considered that to describe it as contemplating joint armed demonstration against America and Great Britain was a grossly exaggerated statement by the text of the published articles.

There is a possibility that the treaty referred to is the special convention concluded between Russia and Japan at about the same time as the so-called secret treaty. It was generally assumed here that the treaty contained some secret provisions but its purpose was described as being to safeguard the rights of Japan and Russia in the far east to reconcile all outstanding differences between them and generally to follow the lines of the Anglo-Japanese alliance.

At the time it was supposed that the secret articles provided for the sale by Russia to Japan all of the Manchurian railroads south of Harbin; the transfer to Japan of navigation rights in the Sugari river and the extension of fishing rights off the coast of Siberia.

It is improbable that the United States will make any effort to secure an explanation of the meaning and purpose of these secret articles from the principals but is rather expected that one or the other of them voluntarily will come forward with a statement in that line.

Careful reading of the four published articles inclined officials to the opinion that the general purpose of the convention was somewhat in line with the existing British-Japanese treaty touching far eastern interests and that it was designed to protect China from exploitation by any third power and was not especially directed against America or Great Britain.

DEATH TOLL FROM WRECK IS NOW 46

L. and N. Passenger Train Crashed Into Accommodation at Shephardsville, Ky.—Investigating the Cause

Shephardsville, Ky., Dec. 21.—The death toll taken last night when Louisville and Nashville passenger train No. 7, from Cincinnati to New Orleans crashed into the rear end of a Louisville, Bardstown and Springfield accommodation train a few hundred feet south of the railroad station here, had reached 46 today.

The number killed was at first placed by W. F. Sheridan, superintendent of the Louisville division of the Louisville and Nashville, at 38. Revision of this figure caused by additional deaths from among those badly injured increased the total to 44.

The wreck, which is said to be the worst in the history of the L. and N., occurred just after the local train had pulled out from the station here. It had gone only a short distance, when the other train, traveling at a high rate of speed, crashed into the slower moving train ahead and made kindling wood of the two wooden passenger coaches it carried.

The locomotive pulling the fast train was badly damaged by the impact, but the engineer and fireman escaped with a few bruises. The heavy steel coaches it pulled were injured with the exception of one baggage car and the train was able to proceed later.

Blame for the disaster seems to hinge upon whether the fast train had been given a clear block or not. Jesse Weatherford, operator at the station, said immediately after the collision that after the local train pulled away from the station he had turned his head to show the track clear for the fast train and then left his post in response to orders to help unload baggage.

As he left the office he said he saw the train approaching, rushed back to his office, set the red danger signal, picked up a red lantern and rushed to the platform to flag it. He reached the platform just as the train passed him, he said.

Superintendent Sheridan closely questioned the crews of both trains, as well as the station force, but declined to attempt to fix the blame, without further investigation.

Several of those killed were so badly injured that it was impossible to identify them last night. Many of the injured were so badly hurt that it is feared the death list will be increased even further.

ROMANIA TO REMAIN FAITHFUL TO THE ALLIES

Paris, Dec. 21.—V. Antonesco, the Rumanian minister here, has issued the following statement concerning the situation on the Rumanian front:

"The armistice was simply a measure of military order imposed on us through the Rumanian front being entirely enclosed with the Russian front. It would be a mistake to make a political deduction from it. Rumania intends to remain faithful to her allies and to work until the end with the allies."

CZECH-SLOVAK ARMY IN FRANCE

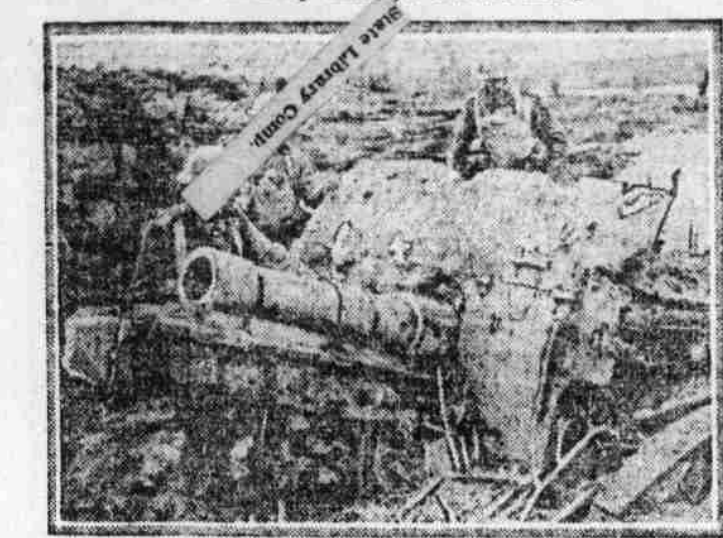
Paris, Dec. 21.—A decree authorizing the formation of a Czech-Slovak army in France appears in the official Journal today. One such army numbering 80,000 men already has been formed in Russia. It will be attached to the French army, which is daily being swelled by the arrival of fresh recruits from America.

The entire army will be placed under the political control of nationals of the Czech-Slovak countries. The headquarters will be Paris.

New French Cavalry Enters the War After Three Years

This photograph is the first indication of a radical change in the method of European warfare that has prevailed for three years. It shows French cavalry starting out on patrol at once the Aisne. Not since the first months of the war when the French horsemen were known as cuirassiers and wore heavy and unwieldy metal armor over the upper part of the body, and the Germans sent forth their Uhlans, has cavalry operated extensively. Now, however, it is predicted that the fighting will be more open, and cavalry will come more into use.

Wrecked by Hai g's Fierce Fire



A German 5.9 Gun Captured Near Paschenheide. This well protected German 5.9 gun and its crew near Houthulst Wood were unable to withstand the hurricane of fire from Field Marshal Hai g's cannon. The gun was captured by the Coldstream Guards. One of the men in the group was a British volunteer from the United States.

BAKER RESCINDS FURLOUGH ORDER FULL CONFIDENCE IN GEN. PERSHING

Number of Men To Be Given Furloughs Left in Hands of Camp Commander—Not To Block Traffic

By GEO. H. MANNING. Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.—Secretary Baker, taking heed of the universal protest made against his order of a few days ago directing that no more than five per cent of the soldiers in the National guard and National army camps should be given furloughs and allowed to go home for Christmas, today rescinded that order and in its stead issued instructions to all the camp commanders to use their discretion in furloughing the men during Christmas week.

This leaves the number of men to be furloughed entirely in the hands of the camp commanders except that the new order directs the camp commanders not to furlough so many men that railroad traffic will be blocked.

This order, which is the result of the insistent pleading of the men for opportunity to spend Christmas at home before going to France and the protests of their families and friends over Secretary Baker's first order, will permit the commanders at Camp Sevier, Greenville, S. C., where the North Carolina National guard is quartered, and at Camp Jackson, Columbia, S. C., where North Carolina National army boys are in training, to grant furloughs to a large number of the North Carolina boys to go to their homes during the holidays.

The soldiers returning from the camps in South Carolina to their North Carolina homes will, it is thought, permit issuance of a considerable number of furloughs to North Carolina boys, dependent, more or less, upon the ability of the men to obtain railroad accommodations.

AMERICAN RED CROSS IS WORKING IN ITALY

Rome, Dec. 21.—The American Red Cross has spent to date 11,000,000 lire aid refugees and invalids in Italian territory," said Major Grayson Murphy, head of the American Red Cross commission to Europe, today.

"The American Red Cross flags are now flying over the Italian front and over many interior hospitals," he added.

The American Red Cross, co-operating with the Italian organization, has donated a million lire to replace material lost during the retreat of the Italians and also to construct nine new field hospitals and front base hospitals.

Bureau to Study Peace

Amsterdam, Dec. 21.—A German government bureau for "studying questions relating to peace" has been opened in Berlin. Dr. Karl Helfferich, former vice-chancellor, is at the head of the bureau.

Must Get I. C. C. Approval

Washington, Dec. 21.—Railroads desiring to withdraw from joint agreements must obtain specific approval of the Interstate Commerce commission if the withdrawal would mean an increase in rates, the commission ordered today.

Named Secretary of State

Indianapolis, Dec. 21.—William Roach, of Delphi, was appointed secretary of state today by Governor Goodrich to succeed Captain Ed Jackson, who resigned to accept a commission in the national army.

Opposition to Bolsheviki Growing

London, Dec. 21.—The correspondence in Russia continues to emphasize the growth of the opposition to the

GERMANS REJECTED RUSSIAN PROPOSAL, IS LONDON REPORT

Petrograd Correspondent Wires Such Information—Opposition to Bolsheviki Increasing—German Populace Wants Leaders to Make "Strong Peace Terms"—Kaiser Sends Kuehlmann as His Representative

London, Dec. 21.—It is reported unofficially that the Germans have rejected the Russian peace terms, the Petrograd correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph company wires under date of Thursday.

Opposition Increasing. Opposition to the Bolsheviki apparently is increasing as reports of German support of the Maximalist government become more pronounced and the situation in Russia grows more chaotic while the Bolsheviki endeavor to arrange a separate peace with the central powers, the Ukraine, in its hostility to the Bolsheviki government, has been joined by the Russian staff on the southwestern front and General Stecherhatcheff, the commander in Lume B, has been head of the Ukrainian forces, reported to be marching against the Bolsheviki. Another report reaching London says that the Rumanians have joined the Ukrainians, while other dispatches declare that former Premier Koresny is marching against Moscow and that Grand Duke Nicholas is raising a royalist army in the Caucasus.

Teuton Leading Bolsheviki. German and Austrian officers released from Russian prisons are reported to have led the Bolsheviki in overpowering their opponents in Tashkent, the capital of Russian Turkestan, while other released enemy prisoners, said to be two army corps are near Petrograd. Officers of the central powers are said to be active in Petrograd, although this is denied by the Bolsheviki who claim that the constitutional democrats are trying to put Russia under German control.

Make Strong Peace Terms. Meanwhile diplomats of the central powers are hurrying to begin peace negotiations with the Bolsheviki. On leaving Berlin the German emissaries were urged by the populace to "make a strong peace."

Kuehlmann Leaves for First-Litovsk. London, Dec. 21.—Dr. Richard von Kuehlmann, the German foreign secretary with an important staff, left Berlin yesterday for Brest-Litovsk amid scenes of enthusiasm, the crowds singing the national anthem and raising shouts of "bring us a strong peace."

It is said the peace negotiations will be under the presidency of Ibrahim Hakkı Pasha, the Turkish ambassador to Berlin and dean of the Berlin diplomatic corps. The Bulgarian delegates included Minister of Justice Popoff and M. Koseff, chief of the foreign office.

While the peace delegates are assembling the activity at Petrograd of a number of German and Austrian officers apparently is causing heartburnings. Circulars have been spread alleging that the council of soldiers and workmen's delegates is in negotiation with the officers. The Pravda, the Bolsheviki organ, prints an unqualified denial and makes a counter-charge against the constitutional democrats claiming that they are trying to undermine Trotsky and Lenin. The Pravda further appeals to the workmen to defeat the attempt of the constitutional democrats to place Russia under the control of German imperialism.

Kaiser Authorizes Peace. Amsterdam, Dec. 21.—Count von Hertling, the imperial German chancellor, yesterday received representatives of all the reichstag parties with whom he had a confidential discussion on the situation caused by the opening of peace negotiations with Russia. The chancellor announced, according to a Berlin official dispatch, that the emperor had authorized him to conclude peace and he had charmed Foreign Secretary von Kuehlmann to conduct the negotiations.

According to the newspapers, the independent socialists were represented at the meeting by Deputy Hinz. This is the first time since the foundation of the party that it has had direct intercourse with the German government.

Present Congress Enters Protest. New York, Dec. 21.—A cablegram saying that the peasant congress in Russia adopted a resolution protesting against the policy of the Bolsheviki in arresting members of the constituent assembly was received here today by the Jewish Daily Forward, from its Petrograd correspondent. The message read:

"A very important sitting of the peasant congress was held today. Premier Lenin in person addressed the congress and in a lengthy speech defended the attitude of the Bolsheviki toward the constituent assembly. He justified the arrest of the members of the assembly and said that the labor council ought to be considered the highest authority.

"Notwithstanding Lenin's presence the congress passed a resolution protesting against the policy of the Bolsheviki with a vote of 260 to 221."

Fire Destroyed Cotton. Anderson, S. C., Dec. 21.—Fire of unknown origin destroyed early today a warehouse of the Chiquola mills at Honepath, Anderson county, with an estimated loss of \$35,000. Part of the 1,085 bales of cotton in the structure was saved.

Publishes American Edition. Paris, Dec. 21.—The London Daily Mail yesterday began the publication of an American edition from the offices of its Paris edition. The new edition will be for Americans in France and will carry special cables and a page of mail news.

Conscription Defeated. Sydney, Australia, Dec. 20.—Unless the soldier vote of the various fronts, which has not yet been counted, offsets the vote in Australia, the government's conscription scheme has been defeated in a referendum by a majority of about 150,000. This is believed to be hardly likely, however, on account of the heavy vote against conscription in New South Wales which gave a majority of 115,000 against the proposal.

Serbia Mission in Washington. Washington, Dec. 21.—Serbia's military mission was received here today with much ceremony. Escorts of cavalry and a part of American officials headed by Secretary Lansing met the commissioners. Later the mission was received by President Wilson and presented an autograph letter from King Peter. Tonight the president will entertain the mission at a state dinner.