

PEACE PROPOSALS SHOULD NOT STOP OUR WAR PLANS

Germany Again About to Sue For 'Peace Before Victory,' Says Baker

GERMANY KNOWS AMERICA'S POWER

"Our Armies Constitute Reserves of Victory in This War"

Washington, Dec. 24.—Germany's newest peace propaganda, viewed as a forerunner to an offensive in the west unless a German-made peace is accepted by the allies and the United States "should not for a moment induce us to slacken our preparations for war," says Secretary Baker today in his weekly review of the military situation.

"The Germans realize," continues the statement, "that within a short time our armies will form the principal body of fresh strategic reserves remaining available on the battlefields of Europe."

"Our armies constitute the reserves of victory,"

The review points out that the fighting in Italy may be relied upon no matter how intensive the German peace campaign comes and says: "The Italian theater once again is the scene of important military activity."

"The enemy, impatient of the delays which have occurred in bringing about the successful penetration of the Italian plain and the overthrow of the Italian armies, has dispatched further forces to the Italian front, with a view to achieving a decisive result."

"The Germans are endeavoring to follow the precepts of classic strategy and by a successful enveloping movement effect the destruction of the Italian and allied forces."

"It would appear that they are anxious to conclude their Italian adventure in a manner similar to the previous campaigns of Russia, Serbia and Roumania, where, as a result of the strategic envelopments gained at relatively small cost, vast tracts of territory were captured."

"Enemy pressure continues intense along the entire front."

"The Germans hope to drive the Italians back to the Adige, anticipating that such a reverse would have a very disintegrating influence throughout Italy."

"It is apparent that the Germans have not given up all hope of bringing about a social upheaval in Italy, as they did in Russia after their victorious campaigns of 1915."

"No matter how intensive this new submarine propaganda may be, nevertheless, we can confidently rely on the fighting morale of the Italian people."

Along the western front the enemy has continued his harassing raids with a view to keeping the allied forces on the alert. However, none of his engagements recorded in the west were of more than local importance.

"It would appear that as a forerunner the German offensive heralded to be launched in the west an intensive peace propaganda is to be initiated."

"Careful examination of the situation reveals some enemy plans to prepare to sue for peace before victory."

"Information from various sources confirms the report that the Germans would have to believe that the military situation is such that they are able to dictate the terms of peace. They therefore threaten that unless this dictated peace is accepted by the allied powers and ourselves, the German forces, now being concentrated on the western front, will break through the allied line in the west."

AMERICANS HAVE NOT GIVEN AID TO ANTI-BOLSHEVIKI

Trotzky's Statements Attributed to Ignorance of Facts, Say Officials

COL. KOLPASHNIKOFF IS BEING DETAINED

Headquarters of American Red Cross For Russia Was Raided By Red Guards

Washington, Dec. 24.—State department officials declared today that the statements of Leon Trotzky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, that the American Red Cross mission in Russia was giving aid to the opponents of the Bolshevik government, could be attributed only to his ignorance of the facts.

Reports from Ambassador Francis on the arrest of Col. Kolpashnikoff, an attaché of the Red Cross mission, while in charge of a relief train, had not reached the state department.

The state department does not believe Trotzky will persist in his attitude, however, when he realizes the true state of affairs. Arrangements were made in this country some time ago for strengthening the ambulance corps of Russia with 78 ambulances and other supplies much needed in certain districts. It was deemed advisable to send them via the Rumanian frontier. This was done with the approval of the Russian Red Cross.

The incident of money which it was alleged Ambassador Francis had offered, has been ascribed, in preparing a statement on the case for publication, to the Bolshevik had another significance, it was announced, than humanitarian. It was merely the ordinary transfer of money through the embassy sent by the Red Cross and intended for relief work.

The state department regards the action of Trotzky as entirely unwarranted.

Alive But Held In Confinement, London, Dec. 24.—Col. Kolpashnikoff, the American embassy at Petrograd, has been assured, in preparing a statement on the case for publication, to the Bolshevik had another significance, it was announced, than humanitarian. It was merely the ordinary transfer of money through the embassy sent by the Red Cross and intended for relief work.

The search ended at 5 o'clock and Col. Kolpashnikoff was taken to the fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul.

DESCRIBES AMERICAN CAMP FOR AVIATORS

Paris, Dec. 24.—The wonders of a vast American training camp for aviators in central France are described enthusiastically in The Petit Parisien by Paul Giniesty, who has just visited the camp. With the exception of a few huts, he writes, all the material was brought from America. The work was begun in September under the direction of 250 men, and the driving power which they are putting into their tasks was evident on every hand.

From this camp fully trained pilots will be sent to the front. French aviators are there to give the benefit of their experiences.

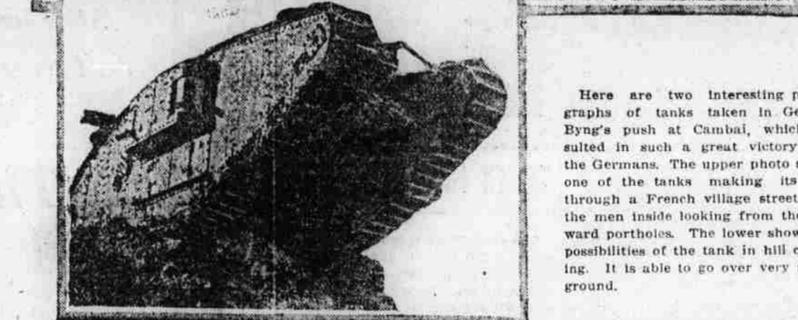
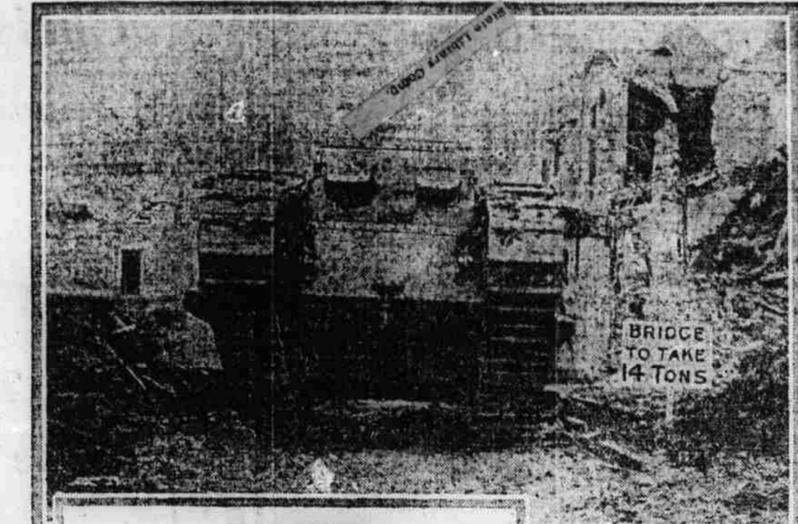
The arrangements which have been made for the comfort and entertainment of the American soldiers in all the camps are praised by M. Giniesty, who also was greatly impressed by the highly developed administrative organization which has been perfected.

He was especially struck by a table at the aviation camp which records the progress of each pilot from the time of his first flight until he is performing acrobatic tricks in the air.

CONSCRIPTION BEATEN IN AUSTRALIA ELECTION

Sydney, Australia, Dec. 24.—Further returns from the referendum have increased the vote against compulsory military service and the defeat of the plan is now beyond doubt. The political situation is very uncertain. Premier Hughes has made no statement thus far but in certain quarters there is evidence of opposition to his continued leadership of the nationalists, the dominant party. It is not improbable that Frank G. Tudor, a former cabinet member, will be permitted by the nationalists to form a government of the labor party, giving this party an opportunity to put into effect its plans for raising troops without conscription.

How Tanks Worked in General Byng's Cambrai Push



Here are two interesting photographs of tanks taken in General Byng's push at Cambrai, which resulted in such a great victory over the Germans. The upper photo shows one of the tanks making its way through a French village street with the men inside looking from the forward portholes. The lower shows the possibilities of the tank in hill climbing. It is able to go over very rough ground.

CHRISTMAS CHEER FOR THE ITALIANS

American Red Cross to Remember Soldiers in the Trenches and Sick and Wounded Around Venice

Venice, Dec. 24.—American Christmas cheer will be carried to the Italian soldiers in the trenches and to the sick and wounded soldiers in and around Venice by E. Harvey Carroll, Jr., American consul at Venice, acting for the American Red Cross.

Mr. Carroll will leave Venice so as to make the tour of the trenches on Christmas eve. He will be accompanied by trucks bearing huge bundles of gifts for distribution among the troops.

Each soldier will receive a package containing socks, handkerchiefs, tobacco, sweets, some articles of food and a distinctive present.

Another distribution will be made in Venice on Christmas eve and Christmas morning to wounded soldiers and civilian poor.

The civilian poor are being cared for regularly to the number of 1200. Eight hundred meals at one American soup kitchen and 400 at another American kitchen. In addition to the extra Christmas dinner each woman and child will receive a present of clothing and food.

Most of the clothing has been manufactured in the American Red Cross factory at Maestri, near Venice.

The city of Venice remains comparatively undisturbed by the recent renewal of enemy pressure on the lower Piave, where his line is 12 miles east of the city. While shells from the heavy guns could reach Venice, it is known that the enemy has been unable to bring across the river anything except machine guns and a few pieces of small calibre.

The number of the bombardment can be heard day and night but the population has become accustomed to it.

One of the chief reasons for calm is the belief that Pope Benedict has intervened in some way by which the Austrians will not shell the city. This report cannot be verified but it is one of the main reasons for the calm with which the pressure on the lower Piave has been accepted.

The most valuable of the art treasures in the city have been considered it desirable to move a large number of paintings and statues which up to this time had been stored within the city. The most valuable were sent south months ago, but now the entire bulk, of movable art treasures has been taken away.

GEN. GUILLAUMAT WILL REPLACE GEN. SARRAIL

Hero of Verdun Will Command Allies' Armies Saloniki

Paris, Dec. 23.—(Delayed)—General M. P. E. Sarrail, head of the allies' armies at Saloniki, who has had to struggle against serious difficulties and has rendered great services, will be called to other duties as soon as circumstances permit.

General Guillaumat arrived at Saloniki on Saturday. He is one of the heroes of Verdun where he commanded an army corps which was mentioned in army orders as having "distinguished itself by the methodical precision of its preparations and the vigor of its attacks."

A London dispatch last Wednesday said the announcement had been made in Athens of the recall of General Sarrail, who has been in command in the east since October, 1915. His successor's name was given at that time as Gen. Guillaumat. The great French victory at Verdun last summer was under the immediate leadership of General Guillaumat.

REFUSED TO RECOGNIZE 'PAPER' STEAMSHIP LINE

Washington, Dec. 24.—Again today the Interstate Commerce commission refused to recognize a steamship company organized only on paper and not actually operating a transportation service to Norfolk, promising to operate the application of the Charleston and Norfolk Steamship company, which sought to have the commission establish proportional rail rates from Louisville, Cincinnati and other Ohio rivers crossing to Norfolk, promising to operate a steamship line between Baltimore, Norfolk and Charleston, S. C., if satisfactory proportional rates were first obtained.

Once previously the commission dismissed the application on the ground that the company was not a common carrier, but reopened the case last year by request of the senate.

STARS AND STRIPES ON STRAUSSBURG MONUMENT

Paris, Dec. 24.—The Strassburg monument on the Place Concorde, which during the years before the war was draped with crepe and for which flowers and bunting were substituted in August, 1914, today flies the Stars and Stripes alongside the French tricolor. The American and French flags were raised over the monument to the Alsatian city yesterday afternoon in the presence of the large crowd. American Ambassador Sharp and a number of delegates from societies of natives of Alsace-Lorraine were present.

The flags were raised in the name of the general Alsatian-Lorraine association of America and the World League of New York for the Restoration of Alsace-Lorraine.

LITTLE FIGHTING ON ITALIAN FRONT

Only Local Encounters Along Line From Asiago to Piave—Germans Gain In Ypres Region

The heavy fighting which has marked the situation on the Italian front for the last few weeks has almost subsided and only local encounters have taken place along the line from Asiago to the Piave. Indications are, however, that the Austro-Germans will again initiate a strong offensive in an effort to reach the plains or the northern edge at least, before severe winter halts large scale operations.

Raided and local attacks have been carried out in the Ypres and Verdun sectors on the western front. The Germans gained slightly in a local attack on the Ypres Station railway, but at all other points on both the British and French fronts they were repulsed. The artillery has been extremely active in the Ypres and Verdun sectors.

German's Driven Off, London, Dec. 24.—German troops yesterday afternoon attempted to raid the British positions southeast of Epehy on the Cambrai front but were driven off, the war office announced today. The statement reads: "Last night hostile raiding parties which attempted to approach our lines in the neighborhood of Mouchy Le Preux and west of La Basse were repulsed."

Yesterday afternoon the enemy endeavored to raid our positions southeast of Epehy but he was driven off."

Aerial Activity, Paris, Dec. 24.—Intense aerial activity is reported by the war office. In the course of 100 combats in the air during the last few days the French brought down 13 German machines.

CONGRESSMAN BATHRICK, OHIO, DIED LAST NIGHT

Akron, Dec. 24.—Representative E. R. Bathrick, of the fourteenth Ohio district, died at his home here last night.

Representative Bathrick had been ill more than five weeks. Ten days ago he underwent an operation for gall stones. Mr. Bathrick was born in Oakland county, Mich., January 6, 1853. He served in two congresses.

TO PROSECUTE FRENCH DEPUTIES

Paris, Dec. 24.—General Dubail yesterday signed the order for the prosecution of Deputies Caillaux and Loustalot and M. Comby. It is alleged that Comby was present at the lunch at which former Premier Caillaux met Cavallini and is said to have accompanied Loustalot to Switzerland where he saw the former khediv of Egypt, Maitre Demange, who defended Dreyfus at Rennes, has been chosen by M. Caillaux as his counsel.

CENTRAL POWERS ARE CONSIDERING RUSSIA'S TERMS

No Annexation and No Indemnities Keynote of Terms Submitted at Brest-Litovsk Conference—Everybody Wants Peace, Says Kaiser—Kuehlmann Made Chairman

Peace without annexations and without indemnities, the formula adopted by the German reichstag in its peace resolution last July, is the keynote of the Russian peace terms now being submitted to the representatives of the central powers, who have taken them under consideration.

NO ANNEXATION OF TERRITORY No compulsory annexation of territory seized during the war and immediate evacuation of it and no contributions to be required from belligerent countries are proposed by Russia. This is similar to the reichstag resolution which, however, was not accepted by Dr. Michaelis, who was then German imperial chancellor. Russia suggests that countries deprived of their independence during the war be reinstated and that national groups not independent before the war, shall decide their status by a referendum.

Germany Scores a Point, Germany scored a point in the selection of Dr. von Kuehlmann, her foreign secretary, as permanent chairman of the conference. Emperor William, it is reported unofficially, intends to go to Brest-Litovsk, if the diplomats now there arrive at an agreement, to attempt to assemble all European rulers in a peace conference. The German ruler is said to have declared that everybody wants peace.

To Negotiate With Ukrainians, London, Dec. 24.—Petrograd dispatches report that attempts are being made by the Bolshevik commissaries to negotiate with the Ukrainians for a settlement of the differences which have arisen and it is also reported that the authorities of the new Ukrainian government are ready to accept proposals looking toward a peaceful arrangement. The movement is attributed by the correspondent of the Times to the fact that the growing dangers of the situation are being recognized by the Bolsheviks. For the same reason, he says, they are believed to be inclined to modify their attitude of hostility toward the constituent assembly which is likely to meet within a week.

Concurrently with these statements appear numerous further reports of military activities on the part of the Ukrainians and Cossacks, and of the sending of more Bolshevik troops southward to oppose the Ukrainians. Apparently there have been no hostilities on a large scale or of such a nature as to indicate important developments.

Many news dispatches from Petrograd speak of the supposed impending arrival of the Germans there, which is said to be the universal topic of discussion in the city, but every one seems to have a different version. Many of these stories center around the capital of a large force of released German war prisoners, to whom arms are being handed over, according to some of the reports. Referring to these rumors, the Petrograd correspondent of the Post says that unquestionably thousands of German war prisoners are flocking towards Petrograd from all parts of Russia but he believes that at present a more important phase of the situation is the active and thorough manner in which the Germans have been pushing trade with Russia since the frontier was opened. He reports they are making the most of a commercial opportunity such as the world has never seen before, inasmuch as Russian industries are nearly dead and the Germans have no competition.

The Germans have refused to admit M. Zinovieff, a close associate of Nikolai Lenin, and other Bolsheviks whom the soldiers and workmen's delegates wished to send in to spread their doctrines in the German army. They also declined to admit Trotzky's newspaper printed in German for army propaganda. The Bolsheviks are negotiating with the social revolutionists of the left for the formation of a coalition government wherein the latter will hold the ministries of the interior, justice, posts and national affairs.

The trial of persons who have been arrested by the Bolshevik authorities was to have begun yesterday before a military revolutionary court, according to a delayed dispatch from Petrograd.

A dispatch from Tashkent, capital of Turkestan, describes the lynching under horrible circumstances of General Korovitchenko, who was Kerensky's military commander in the province.

The Italian embassy has made a formal protest against the pillaging of armed men of the apartment of the embassy's first secretary.

It is reported that the Germans are moving troops from the Russian northern and western fronts to the southwestern and the Rumanian front.

Kaiser To Issue Declaration, Rome, Dec. 24.—The report that a new German peace move is at hand is supported by apparently reliable information which has reached high quarters here. It is said on Christmas day Emperor William will issue a declaration containing peace proposals but whether explicit conditions of peace may be expected or merely another maneuver intended to throw on the allies responsibility for continuance of the war cannot be ascertained.

Explains Russian Peace, Paris, Dec. 24.—Leon Trotzky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, according to a note issued by the Havas agency, called on Joseph Noulens, the French ambassador to Russia, and explained that the Bolsheviks wished to keep to the principle of a "democratic peace" leaving to the peoples the right to dispose of themselves. The ambassador having asked him what he would do if Germany refused such a peace Trotzky answered that then the peace would not be signed and that the Maximalists might be led to "wage a revolutionary war."

Trotzky added that "if public opinion was opposed to such a war the question would then be carried before the constituent assembly." He concluded by saying that if the Bolsheviks succumbed to the resistance they are meeting within Russia the country would be given over to anarchy.

The Havas note concludes: "This conversation, which is correct throughout, must be considered as creating no new relation between the Maximalist government and us."

VERDUN BATTLES NOT IN VAIN, SAYS KAISER Amsterdam, Dec. 24.—Emperor William visited the front north of Verdun on Friday, according to a Berlin dispatch, and in an address to the troops thanked them warmly for their efforts.

"But for the calm and heroic warriors on the western front," he said, "the enormous deployment of German forces in the east and in Italy never would have been possible. The fighting in the west has exposed heroically his body so that his brothers on the Dvina and the Isonzo might storm from victory to victory. The fearful battles on the bloody hills around Verdun were not in vain; they created new foundations for the conduct of the war."

Canada is "Bone Dry," Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 24.—Canada has been added to the "bone dry" territory of the North American continent. Importation of intoxicating liquors into Canada after Christmas eve is prohibited by order of the premier.

Caucasian Army, Petrograd, Dec. 24.—A Caucasian army of 100,000 men is advancing on the rear of the troops of General Kaledine, the Cossack leader, according to an announcement made today by the Bolshevik press bureau.

AN AMERICAN, ALLEGED PRO-GERMAN, DEPORTED Peking, Dec. 24.—Gilbert Reid, an American, accused of being a pro-German propagandist and sympathizer, has been deported to Manila at the request of the Chinese government.

Dr. Gilbert Reid, editor of the Peking Post, was released from prison at Shanghai on July 23, 1917, when he promised to refrain from criticism of the American government or its officials.

MEDICAL DIRECTORS TO BE MADE REAR ADMIRALS Washington, Dec. 24.—Medical directors Geo. H. Barber and Edward R. Stitt, of the navy, will be promoted from the rank of captain to rear admiral as soon as congress reassembles, in recognition of distinguished service.

Dr. Barber is at the head of the naval hospital at Los Angeles, Cal., and Dr. Stitt is president of the naval medical school in Washington.