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## GERMANY'S MOVE NEXT THINK OFFICIALS IF PRESENT PEACE NEGOTIATIONS KEPT ALIVE MUST BE MORE FRANK WITH TERMS

That There is grave Danger of Break Between United States and Germany if Peace Fails, No Secret in Washington Officialdom—Germany Probably Take That Into Consideration as Well as Growing Restiveness of Her People—Entente Allies Left Loophole for Germany, Think Those Close to Situation

(By the United Press)

Washington, Jan. 1.—That the hint to the neutrals that the "time was opportune to act" toward peace, was conveyed to the neutral capitals by American diplomats abroad at the suggestion of this government, became known today. It was not in the form of a second note but "instructions" were sent to American representatives.

Washington, Jan. 1.—The life or death of the present peace movement rests wholly in the hands of Germany. This is known positively to be the belief of Washington officialdom. Furthermore, while the administration officials believe the Entente Allies left a loophole for Germany to prove the sincerity of her original peace proposals, they believe the peace negotiations are a little farther off than at the start of the movement. It is known this government feels that Germany must more frankly declare herself on terms if it is to keep alive the peace negotiations' sentiment among the Allied heads.

That Germany may do this in confidence is deemed possible by the officials for the following reasons: Because of the conviction that if peace does not come, Germany and the United States will be drawn to the verge of a break, owing to the submarine activities; their fear that the German people, already restive, will demand greater representation in their government, and either a more vigorous pursuit of the war or a more determined effort for peace. No secret is made here of the danger of a break with Germany. Whether this will influence Germany in the next peace step is to be seen.

## CHARGE GERMANY KNEW OF PEACE NOTES AHEAD OF SENDING.

That Germany learned in advance of President Wilson's intention to send peace notes to the neutrals, and that Germany, therefore, hurriedly dispatched the German peace proposals to make it appear that the President was backing Germany's peace plans, was the statement made in French and British diplomatic circles today.

Berlin, Jan. 1.—The general impression of the Entente's answer to the German offer is that it is verbose, but nevertheless a flat refusal to end the war, declared the official press bureau.

## LAWSON CALLS HENRY'S BLUFF AND COMES DOWN

(By the United Press)

Washington, Jan. 1.—Thomas W. Lawson wired Chairman Henry of the Rules Committee of the House that he would be at the Shoreham Hotel this afternoon to answer any questions he, Henry, wants to ask him regarding the peace note leak. Mr. Henry refused to say whether he would call on Lawson.

## ARTIST "COMES BACK" AFTER 34 YEARS WITH BUST OF KITCHENER.

London, Dec. 10.—(By mail)—Richard Bolt, artist, came back after 34 years of retirement due to illness and modelled a bust of Lord Kitchener, so lifelike that he was offered \$50,000 for it. Art is priceless to Bolt, however, and his masterpiece has been claimed by the Government. A cannon from the British artillery has been set aside to make the casting.

Bolt's last previous work was a bust of Sir Richard Burbridge which the Academy refused to accept. Shortly after the refusal he lost the power of one arm and gave up his work. The artist was one of Kitchener's worshippers and studied the great soldier's moods. When England was stunned by Kitchener's loss Bolt and his wife improvised a secret studio in their home and the sculptor began work anew to express in clay what was in his finger tips.

Critical art committees judged the model to be a faithful and lifelike representation of Kitchener contemplative, combining his severe facial lines with some hint of his genial nature.

## BRITISH CUTTER WAS BLOWN UP; NUMBER LOST IS NOT KNOWN

General Haig Promoted—Ven Buelow Back In Diplomatic Service, Appears. German "Nutmacker" Is Working Nicely, Said

(By the United Press)

London, Jan. 1.—The cutter "Protector" was blown up, according to Lloyd's dispatches. The number lost is unknown.

With the British in France—(By Simms)—The advent of 1917 finds the British line gradually extending outward more and more. Today England's mammoth expeditionary force is ready to answer any call.

General Haig, the British commander in chief of the expeditionary force, has been elevated to be field marshal of England.

General Haig In Diplomatic Service, Geneva, Jan. 1.—General Von Buelow who was last reported as German minister of the forces below Belgium, is said to have arrived in Geneva with a complete retinue of secretaries, according to reports here.

"Nutmacker" Working Nicely. Berlin, Jan. 1.—The Ninth German army has pushed back the Russian position forces to a point half way between Rindia Sarat and Foch. The German Danube army has driven the Russians back to Bridgehead of Feula and in Dobrudja the German-Bulgarian troops have almost reached the Russian Bihulest position at Macin, it is officially announced.

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## WOMEN CULTIVATING THE SAVING HABIT SUCCESSFULLY

(By the United Press)

Franklin, Ill., Jan. 1.—Successful financiers are hereby advised to keep one eye on several hundred school girls here who are showing considerable ability in making their bank accounts grow from one cent to one dollar in a few weeks.

Club women here placed their children on an allowance of from 5 cents to \$2 a week. In three months they have accumulated bank balances that total \$9,000, besides paying school expenses and some shelling out of their allowances.

## CHICAGO RATS EAT \$65,000,000 WORTH FOOD YEAR

Chicago, Jan. 1.—It costs the United States \$65,000,000 a year to feed the rats in this country, according to Health Commissioner Robert Taylor today. This is far food consumed by the rodents and does not include general destructiveness which amounts to a big figure. Dr. Robertson says a city ordinance requiring rat-proofing of all buildings.

## CHICAGO BURGLARS WENT AFTER BIG GAME IN 1916

(By the United Press) Chicago, Jan. 1.—Burglars did fewer jobs, but got more loot than in former years, the 1916 report submitted by Chief of Police Healey here today showed.

## MICHIGAN'S YOUNGEST CHIEF JUSTICE TAKES OFFICE

(By the United Press) Lansing, Mich., Jan. 1.—Justice Franz Kuhn today automatically became chief justice of the state supreme court, under the seniority rule. Kuhn is the youngest man to act as chief justice of the Michigan court in the history of the state. He is 64.

## 70,000 NEEDLESS DEATHS ANNUALLY IN THE U. S.

Chicago, Jan. 1.—Fifty thousand babies and 20,000 mothers die annually in the United States because of improper care at childbirth, said Dr. Joseph B. Lee to club women here today.

## BULLETIN TO THE FREE PRESS Too Late for Saturday's Paper, Making First Announcement of Definite Refusal of the Allies to Enter Peace Conference.

Washington, 4 P. M., Dec. 30, 1916.—France and her Allies formally refuse to enter peace negotiations with Germany, without knowledge of the Teutonic terms. In a collective reply handed the neutral diplomats here, the Allies express resentment at an attempt to throw on them the responsibility for war. They also reiterate claims of Teutonic victory. Germany's proposals declared "more like war maneuver than peace offer."

## VILLA FORCES WHIP ARMY OF MURGUZIA IN BIG BATTLE MONDAY

Carrazaistas Had Been Sent to Stop Villaistas But Were Overpowered By Bandits—Large Number Troops Engaged

(By the United Press) El Paso, Jan. 1.—In the biggest battle in point of numbers engaged, since Villa regained power in the north of Mexico, the Villaistas today decisively defeated a column of government troops sent by General Murguía to halt the northward progress of bandit forces.

The battle occurred at LaCruse, the first station on the railroad line north of Santa Realita, according to reports obtained by the United States authorities here today.

## VILLA POLICE LOOK FOR BUSINESS MAN CHARGE OF MURDER

Said to Have Killed Young Model Account Jealousy. Surprise Promised When Arrest is Made and Announced

(By the United Press)

Philadelphia, Jan. 1.—A jealous fiend, known as a successful business man in Philadelphia and New York, is being sought by police as the murderer of Grace Roberts, a young model.

Out of scores of men she met through her cafe life the one man loved her insanely, grew jealous of all other admirers and then brutally slew her. That is ground on which the police are working. They expect a surprising arrest within 24 hours.

## BULLETINS

(By the United Press)

## PRESIDENT PLAYED USUAL GAME OF GOLF

Washington, Jan. 1.—The President began the New Year with his customary game of golf.

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## GLANCE AT CONGRESS SHOWS WORK MUCH IMPORTANCE BE DONE

Control In House Matter of Speculation—Britt-Weaver Controversy May Decide—Review of What Has Been Done

(By the United Press)

Washington, Jan. 1.—The short session of the Sixty-fourth Congress is on the last lap of a whirlwind race. Following is a review on what has been accomplished and something of what remains to be done.

These, measured by public interest, are the most important legislative tasks accomplished by the Sixty-fourth Congress:

The Army and Navy bills carrying appropriations of gigantic sums, a long step towards preparedness.

Establishment of Federal Reserve banks to eliminate danger of financial panics.

Purchase of Danish West Indies at a cost of \$25,000,000, another stride towards preparedness.

Federal Farm Loan Act, of great interest to farmers and intended to aid them in securing necessary capital at a fair rate of interest.

Federal Good Roads Law, provides \$75,000,000 to be used in improving national highways.

Federal Trade Commission, a "go-between" in matters between the public and corporations.

Workmen's Compensation; Ship Purchase Act, a movement toward a real merchant marine; Child Labor law.

Railway legislation looms up as the biggest piece of unfinished business. Strenuous efforts are being made to rush the railway program through during the present short session of Congress.

The corrupt practices bill providing for publicity of campaign funds, is another important bill up for a speedy consideration.

The ship-lease bill, which would relieve from service judges reaching the age of seventy after ten years' service, and who by reason of physical disability are unable properly to discharge their duties, also is set for early hearing.

The fate of the immigration bill, with the literacy test attached, which was recently passed by the Senate, is hard to predict. President Wilson vetoed a similar bill. It is rumored an effort will be made to pass the bill over any possible veto.

Woman suffrage and national prohibition have been reported by the House committee, but it is impossible to say when either bill will reach a vote.

Other important measures due for early consideration are: the water-power bill, having to do with the leasing of power sites on inland waterways; the flood-prevention bill, carrying appropriations of millions for flood prevention along the Mississippi and Sacramento rivers, and the Webb export bill, which would permit combination of American exporters for participation in foreign trade in an effort to meet competition at the end of European hostilities.

The line-up of Republicans and Democrats in the Senate will be slightly altered in the 66th Congress, Democrats losing one and reducing their working majority to 13.

The line-up of the House is still in doubt. The result of the fight being made in North Carolina by Britt, Republican and Weaver, Democrat, may decide the question of the majority in the lower branch of Congress.

## HUGO VOTES SPECIAL TAX.

Contentines Neck Township, in which is located the Hugo School, voted favorably on a special tax, which was submitted to the patrons Saturday, December 30. The returns were canvassed by the County Board of Education Monday when it met in regular session.

## 'LEAVE THE FARMER A PROFIT' IS BEST PLAN TO ENCOURAGE 'BACK TO FARM' AND 'KEEP BOYS AND GIRLS ON FARM' SLOGAN

—Asst. Sec'y Agriculture

By CARL VROOMAN, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture. (Written for the United Press)

Washington, Jan. 1.—A popular magazine some months ago sent a letter to all our Senators and Congressmen, asking them what, in their opinion, would help most to keep the boys on the farm. A certain Senator, noted for terseness of speech and horse-sense, wrote, at the bottom of the page an answer of five words, which I commend to all American citizens as being adapted to solve more agricultural problems than this one. The Senator's reply was:

"Make farming profitable, by—"

The prosperity of the farmer is to the business world what soil fertility is to the agricultural world, the fundamental basis of all permanent success. Many farmers in the past have made the mistake of thinking that they could get rich by skinning the coil, and many business men likewise have made the mistake of thinking that they could get rich by skinning the farmer. The only way that the farmer can make a permanent success of farming is to keep the fertility of the soil, and the only way that the business world can be permanently successful is to insure the continued prosperity of the farmer.

The use of legume crops has been advocated ever since the days of the Roman Empire, and probably long before that, because they not only were paying crops, but had the added advantage of gathering from the air and depositing in the soil more nitrogen than they expected. The legume should be the model for every intelligent business man in his dealings with the farmer.

When a banker loans a farmer money, he should loan it to him at a rate of interest and for the kind of investment that will enable the farmer not only to pay back his loan, but to gain for himself a margin of profit. The railway manager who makes rates for the farmer for shipping fertilizer and other merchandise to the farmer, and for shipping the farmer's produce to market, should make a rate that will leave the farmer a margin of profit. The middlemen who handle the farmer's produce should endeavor to get him such prices and should charge him only such commissions as will leave the farmer a margin of profit. In the long run, it is only thus that the banks, the railroads and the commission men can insure their own profits.

If the leaders of the business world will lay this lesson to heart; if on New Year's Day throughout this country they will take the legume as their model, and the words "Leave the farmer a margin of profit" as their motto, it will do more to increase production and reduce the high cost of living, it will do more to keep the boy and the girl on the farm, it will do more to create an invisible national efficiency and to push forward the work of national preparedness, than any other single step that can be taken.

## FRANK RHEM CHOS'N ROAD SUPERINTENDENT MONDAY

Frank Rhem, the well-known cotton weaver, was Monday chosen by the County Commissioners Road Superintendent, succeeding the late Bryant Taylor. Mr. Rhem will begin upon his new duties at once.

The County Commissioners held their regular meeting Monday. The session was rather a lengthy one, and routine matters occupied the morning and a considerable portion of the afternoon session. The board is scheduled to elect a road superintendent to succeed the late Bryant Taylor and possibly fill several minor places. No action had been taken on these appointments when press time came. It is understood that there are a number of applicants for the road superintendency but Chairman Churchill declined to indicate who would be favored by the board or who he would support.

## LIMIT IMPORTATION OF INTOXICANTS IN COLORADO

Denver, Colo., Jan. 1.—One quart of whisky and a half case of beer will be the total amount of intoxicants permitted a family in Colorado for one month's consumption if the dry forces of the State succeed in putting through a proposed amendment to the prohibition law at the coming session of the State Legislature.

Under the present law, unlimited quantities of liquor may be imported for personal use.

The reasonable success of the laws of North Carolina is generally quoted as a basis for introduction of similar laws in the legislature of the Mountain State.

## FIRE INTO NORFOLK SOUTHERN TRAIN

Friday night the passenger train, station at 7:39, was fired into this side of LaGrange and several passengers had narrow escapes from death. The bullet entered a window on one side of the train and passed across the coach out through the window opposite. A woman passenger sitting by the window, through which the bullet entered, was injured from the broken glass. She suffered a painful cut on the ear, and had to have medical attention "on arrival at Goldsboro. Mr. Emory P. Rouse, a son of Mr. T. R. Rouse of LaGrange was sitting by the window through which the bullet made its exit, and it is said the missile passed within a few inches of his face. Conductor Moore was in charge of the train. He clue so far has been found as to the identity of the culprit, but full prosecution will be given if he is apprehended.

## IMPORTANT CASES IN RECORDER'S COURT

Recorder Wooten went through the formality of calling his court to order Monday morning, but an adjournment was taken immediately on account of the New Year's holiday. Several important cases are to come up during the week. The Paulsen-Dunree assault cases are set for Friday and the cases against the Balfour brothers and Ed. Sumrell will be taken up during the week, possibly Tuesday. They are charged with violating the prohibition law.