

WEATHER.
North and south Car-
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Thursday, fair, warm-
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THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

TODAY'S NEWS
TODAY

FULL LEASED WIRE SERVICE

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1918.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

NORTHERN RUSSIA SUFFERING FROM FOOD SHORTAGE

Quarter of a Pound of Black Bread is the Daily Allowance

CHAOTIC CONDITIONS PREVAIL GENERALLY

Wandering Soldiers Cause Annoyance—No Eggs, Meat Only for Children, Sugar Short

Petrograd, Jan. 23.—Since the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly and the disappearance of any immediate hope of reconciling the striving political parties, public attention in Petrograd is centered on the bread shortage. The lack of practically all bread, the break down of transportation and the commercial stagnation as the result of the closing of the shops.

Moscow, Petrograd and all the other cities of North Russia have little bread. The bread allowance in Petrograd today has been reduced to a quarter of a pound daily and the commission has listed eggs to be sold under three years, each child to have four eggs a month. But eggs are not obtainable at any price. The commission also has limited fresh produce to children between the ages of 12 and 12 with a half pound monthly to each child. Potatoes have been rationed for bread at Novorod and other places in North Russia. The cost is equivalent to 18 cents a pound in Petrograd and consequently the masses of the people cannot afford them.

A general suspension of passenger service began today in an effort to speed up the transportation of food to the north. Members of the Railway Commission are remaining at their posts to try to maintain transportation, but locomotives and cars are being disabled and traffic is hindered by the masses of wandering soldiers from all sections of the country who are taking their trains with precedence over freight.

Former bank employees in Moscow and Petrograd still refuse to work under the direction of the Smolny institution. Bolshevik agents are opening deposit boxes and confiscating gold and silver for the government and turning hoarded paper money into current accounts for the streets.

Street cars and lighting plants have suspended operations frequently in Petrograd because of the lack of fuel, and car lines when operating are so crowded by soldiers and refugees that the rolling stock is broken up. Soldiers and sailors have become wanderers throughout North Russia and are making excursions into the country and returning to the cities with meat, tobacco and sugar. Although the city shops are without supplies the streets are lined with soldiers offering supplies at high prices. Canned oils is not obtainable in Petrograd and candles are selling at 25 cents per pound. One pound of tallow is allowed each person monthly and is sold at 22 cents per pound, but is bought without a card costs 75 cents per pound. Flour is unobtainable at any price and black bread when available, when available. Dispatches from many points in the Samara and Saratov districts report starvation. Thousands marched yesterday in a general demonstration following the general services for M. Lomogoff, a member of the Constituent Assembly, and the other victims of the city during the day, the holiday anniversary of "Bloody Sunday," January 9, 1905.

BETTER CONDITIONS AT NEWPORT NEWS

Newport News, Va., Jan. 23.—With the melting of the snow and the clearing of the rail traffic and blocked shipping here, indications are that the work is being unhampered by the workmen's strike. The workmen's strike is being unhampered by the workmen's strike. The workmen's strike is being unhampered by the workmen's strike.

FUELLESS PERIOD BENEFITS OFFSET BY BAD WEATHER

Industries Resumed Operations in Face of Continued Congestion

EFFECTS OF CLOSING ORDER IN DOUBT

Difference of Opinion as to Whether Fuelless Days Helped or Not—Fewer Complaints

Washington, Jan. 23.—America's industries, idle for the past five days under the Fuel Administration's closing order, resumed operations today in the face of a congested transportation situation east of the Mississippi threatening daily to become worse from adverse weather conditions.

At the end of the five-day restriction period no official could say today just what were the effects of the industrial shut-down except that it had got coal to seaboard for ships.

Homes in many parts of the country still were without fuel although at the Fuel Administration it was said that complaints of lack of coal for household needs were fewer than they had been for weeks.

Railroad congestion has not been relieved, but it was impossible to say whether the closing order helped or not. Bad weather nullified much of the good effects the general closing might have had in clearing the roads, and there was a wide difference of opinion as to whether the shut-down would have assisted materially in moving freight even if the weather had been good.

At the same time Director General McAdoo, of the railroads, was considering proposal of the Fuel Administration to embargo all freight except coal and food for the rest of the week, at least, to insure an adequate movement of these commodities.

SLIGHT INCREASE IN SICK RATE AT CAMPS

However, Measles and Pneumonia Epidemics Show a Decrease for Week

Washington, Jan. 23.—The sick rate in National Army and National Guard camps shows a slight increase for the week ending January 18. Deaths in the National Army for the week numbered 149 as against 147 the preceding week and 88. Of these deaths 100 in the National Army and 46 in the National Guard were due to pneumonia.

Camp Wheeler, Georgia, had the highest sick rate for the week. The measles epidemics are declining in all camps and pneumonia also is decreasing. A decrease is shown also in the meningitis condition at Camp Beauregard, Louisiana.

In the National Army, Camp Pike, Arkansas, had the highest sick rate and Camp Travis, Texas, the highest non-effective. There are more measles cases in the National Army than in the National Guard with Camp Gordon, Georgia, leading the Southern camps, and with Camp Lee, Virginia, showing an increase, and Camps Pike and Gordon decreases. Pneumonia is epidemic at Camps Pike and Travis and the mortality at Camp Pike has been "relatively high," with 30 deaths. Camp Jackson, South Carolina, shows a slight increase in meningitis and scarlet fever is still prevalent at Camp Pike.

"COMFORT SPOTS" AND COZY CORNERS" PROVIDED FOR FIGHTERS BY CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS



"Comfort Spots" and "Cozy Corners" are the by-words of the many church organizations working to make the soldiers fighting on the Western front more comfortable when they are sent behind the lines to rest up from their trench duties. These "Comfy" spots are situated not a great distance behind the lines, but they are not within the range of gunfire. British official photo.—Copyright by Underwood & Underwood.

AUSTRIA'S STRIKE HAS BEEN HALTED FOR THE MOMENT

Government's Reassurances Influence the Workmen to Return to Work

CENTRAL EMPIRES ARE STILL ALARMED

Unrest Among the Masses Disturbs Rulers—Little Fighting is Reported Along Lines

Under the influence of the government's reassurances regarding Austria-Hungary's peace attitude and promises of measures to alleviate the workmen's grievances the strike movement in Austria which involved approximately 1,000,000 persons, has been halted for the time at least, according to Vienna advices today. The newspapers are again appearing in the capital, after several days' suspension and the majority of the factories are said to have resumed work.

Alarm over the indications of Austrian unrest continues in the Central Empires, however, it being notably reflected in the German press comment. Resentment against Austria for what appears to be her weakening attitude is expressed in some of the newspapers and comment of this sort is apparently not obtainable to the German authorities.

The authorities, however, have suppressed the Socialist newspaper Voevarts for three days because that journal's comment on the Austria situation in which it mentioned the danger of Austria breaking away, making peace with Russia and leaving Germany isolated, it urged Germany to take her place beside her Austrian ally, subdue the pan-Germans and adopt a course in the peace negotiations with Russia which would show her honestly in agreement with the Austrian declaration of no annexations and no indemnities.

The war aims enunciated by Premier Lloyd-George and President Wilson were pointed to by the president of the important labor conference in opening its sessions at Nottingham today as taking from Germany her claim that she was fighting a defensive war. If Germany would not accept those terms, he said, labor must fight on.

The refusal on the part of Germany to give a guarantee of the evacuation of occupied territories is emphasized in a long statement dealing with the peace negotiations at Brest-Litovsk issued through the Bolshevik Telegraph Agency. The statement speculates on the attitude of the Germans during the negotiations and adds that the significance of the pourparlers is that it stripped the imperialists of their false pretensions to democratic principles.

On the fighting fronts the situation is unchanged. Small raids and spirited artillery actions at various points are the only activities on the Western and Italian fronts. There have been no further Bulgarian attacks in Macedonia, but in Albania the French have repulsed enemy reconnaissances in the Skumbi valley.

PERSHING REPORTS THREE AMERICANS KILLED IN ACTION

First Report of That Kind Received in More Than Two Months

GAVE NO DETAILS OF THE ENGAGEMENT

Many Ways in Which the Men Could Have Been Killed "in Action"

Washington, Jan. 23.—General Pershing today reported three American infantrymen killed in action on January 21. He gave no details of the engagements. The dead are: Private Albert Cook, West Almond, N. Y.; Private Harry V. Garman; mother, Mrs. Laura Garman, Catawba, Virginia; Private Leo E. Radi, Cleveland, Ohio.

WAR COSTING GREAT BRITAIN BIG SUM

London, Jan. 23.—Andrew Bonar-Law, chancellor of exchequer, announced today in the House of Commons that he daily average of national expenditure during the seven weeks ending January 17 was 7,517,000 pounds sterling.

WAR COSTING GREAT BRITAIN BIG SUM

London, Jan. 23.—By the sinking of two steamers by the enemy in the Mediterranean about three weeks ago, 718 lives were lost, it was announced officially today.

PEACE DISCUSSION SHOWED GERMANY IN TRUE COLORS

Absolutely Refused Guarantee for Evacuation of Occupied Territories

A LONG STATEMENT ISSUED BY RUSSIA

Declares That Germany Has Been Stripped of Her False Democratic Robe by Conference

London, Jan. 23.—A long statement dealing with the Brest-Litovsk negotiations issued through the Bolshevik Telegraph Agency, at Petrograd, emphasizes the absolute German refusal to give any sort of a guarantee of the evacuation of occupied territories.

"In such circumstances," says the statement, "the words 'self-determination' sound like mockery of principles and the people concerned."

The statement then asks what object the Austro-German imperialists had on December 25 in reorganizing the principle of a democratic peace, and answers:

"The same object as was followed by Wilson, Lloyd-George and other imperialists in exhibiting their democratic program and throwing humanity under the complete control of capital."

GOMPERS ADVOCATES SEVEN-HOUR DAYS

Indianapolis, Jan. 23.—A universal seven-hour day during the period of war, instead of present spasmodic suspension of industries by the Fuel Administration to conserve coal and relieve railroad congestion, was suggested today by President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor, in a speech to the convention of United Mine Workers.

PARTIAL FREIGHT EMBARGO PUT ON THREE RAILROADS

Only Fuel, Food and Munitions Will Be Received for Few Days

ENABLES ROADS TO MOVE MORE COAL

McAdoo's Order Will Change Conditions Little, as Most Roads Had Already Adopted Embargoes

Washington, Jan. 23.—An embargo on all freight, except food, fuel and war munitions, on the Pennsylvania lines, east of Pittsburgh, Baltimore and Ohio, east of the Ohio river, and the Philadelphia and Reading, was authorized by Director General McAdoo today.

The action was taken on recommendation of A. H. Smith, assistant director general in charge of transportation in the East. No reference was made to the recommendation for an embargo submitted last night by Fuel Administrator Garfield. The embargo is temporary and is expected to last only a few days.

The purpose of the embargo is to enable those lines, which are the heaviest bituminous coal carriers, to continue specializing upon coal for the double purpose of supplying the acute conditions in New England and the harbor of New York and elsewhere and in the provision of empty cars for mines and coke ovens, said the announcement of the railroad administration.

The practical effect of this order will not greatly change conditions of the last few days, it was stated by railroad administration officials, since local embargoes already have been declared by many Eastern railroads. These have been made on the initiative of individual roads. In many cases also, an embargo practically was in effect because severe weather conditions prevented railroads from supplying cars to shippers.

An embargo on everything but food, fuel and munitions has been under consideration for several days. Up to last night, however, Director General McAdoo was not favorable to a general embargo, believing that railroads would be soon able to move the entire volume of accumulated freight. This hope was shattered last night by the continuation of bad weather and snow almost everywhere east of the Mississippi and by the consequent breakdown of locomotives and slower movement of coal and food shipments. A threatened serious coal shortage in New York also is said to have hastened the decision.

Indications today were that hard weather would continue through most of the week and railroad administration officials intimated that they looked for little improvement in the transportation situation before Saturday.

Early reports showed that without the embargo order a deluge of traffic

WAR CABINET BILL TO MILITARY COMMITTEE

Administration Leaders Avoid a Clash on the Proposition Now

Washington, Jan. 23.—Conferences today between Senate administration leaders handling President Wilson's fight against the military committee's bills to create a war cabinet and munitions director practically decided that reference of the war cabinet measure to the Military Committee will not be opposed. Thus the initial clash has been avoided.

This plan was decided upon, administration spokesmen said, not in fear that they lacked votes for a test of strength but rather to avoid broadening the schism with the White House and also to follow usual procedure of legislation.

After allowing the war cabinet bill to go to the Military Committee, administration leaders plan to have it also referred to the Naval committee. The munitions director bill, previously reported, also is to be sent to the Naval committee.

GERMANY NOTICES PEACE AGITATION IN DUAL EMPIRE

Newspapers of Berlin Divided in Views on Austria-Hungary's Troubles

SOCIALISTS WARN GERMAN RULERS

Says Uprising in Austria Will React on Germany—Other Papers Blame Czernin for Disturbance

London, Jan. 23.—The peace agitation in Austria-Hungary is receiving a great deal of attention in Germany. The Socialist newspaper Vorwarts, of Berlin, emphatically declares the solidarity of the German proletariat with Austrian labor in the peace struggle, and maintains that events in the dual monarchy must have a deep reaction in Germany.

"We have been walking on the edge of a precipice in the last few days," it says, and goes on to demand that the German government resolutely take its place by the side of its Austrian ally.

"As the fruit of Pan-German propaganda," it continues, "we are menaced not only with the wrecking of the peace negotiations with Russia, but also with complete political isolation. This danger can be averted only if the German government declares itself in agreement with Foreign Minister Czernin's declaration (respecting adherence to the principles of no annexations and no indemnities) and draws therefrom all practical conclusions, which must be drawn honestly. If the government acts otherwise the consequence would be that while Austria-Hungary and Russia enter into lasting relations of friendship, Germany will remain excluded therefrom and we shall lose our last neighbor and friend."

Among newspapers of a different complexion there are indications of considerable irritation toward Austria which in some cases is expressed frankly. The Tagliche Rundschau, of Berlin, declares that owing to support from the Austrian government, democratic internationalism has come to the surface, stirring up strike after strike and preparing for democratic peace of the sort Trotsky stands for. It also speaks of a fresh crisis arising in Germany through the action of the German social democracy.

The Frankfurter Zeitung expresses much concern at the peace agitation in Austria, remarking that Germany cannot be asked to agree to an unconditional peace after such a war as this, nor can Austria. It complains that the Austrian government might do more than it is doing to make it clear that it is not in the special interests of Germany that the two nations are standing together in the peace negotiations. The Zeitung conjectures that the strikes in Austria are attributable to Count Czernin's stage management.

Other German newspapers express strong dissatisfaction at the attitude of Count Czernin.

A report from Amsterdam says that 14 meetings having the character of peace demonstrations were held in Cologne on Monday, non-Socialists from the middle classes as well as the Socialists, being represented largely.

BREAD RATIONING IN PARIS DISTRICT

Paris, Tuesday, Jan. 23.—The government has decided to apply the bread rationing system to the Paris district on January 23, extending it gradually throughout the country. Every man, woman and child will be entitled to ten ounces of bread daily.

A BIG INCREASE IN FOREIGN TRADE

Washington, Jan. 23.—America's foreign trade surpassed all records in 1917, amounting to \$9,178,000,000. Official figures issued today by Department of Commerce showed there was a gain of nearly \$1,300,000,000 over the preceding year. December exports of \$589,000,000, an increase of \$100,000,000 over November, caused the big increase in the year's total.