

WEATHER: North and South Carolina—Probably rain tonight and Wednesday. Warmer tonight in interior.

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THE LENINE-TROTZKY GOVERNMENT SAID TO HAVE BEEN OUSTED

Socialist Revolutionists Are Reported to Have Overthrown Bolsheviks

TECHERNOFF LEADER OF THE NEW POWER

Lenine and Trozky Are Said to Have Fled From Petrograd and Are in Riga—Rumor Comes from Finland

While German armies have crossed the Dvina and entered Dvinsk to deliver a blow at great Russia in consequence of the Bolshevik refusal to accept Germany's terms of peace, the Bolsheviks themselves are reported to have been driven from power in Petrograd. The report of the Bolshevik downfall comes from a rather uncertain source—through Finnish and Danish channels—but is circumstantial enough to give rise to consideration of the possibilities should it be verified. A successor in control of the government the group which would seem most likely to have assumed that power is specified. This group, that of Social Revolutionists under the leadership of Tchernoff, the former Kerensky Minister of Agriculture, controlled the recent Constituent Assembly which was dissolved by the Bolsheviks. Tchernoff is said to be the man now leading the new revolutionary group. The reports add that Lenine and Trozky, the Bolsheviks, have escaped to Riga.

Reported From Nasa. London, Feb. 19.—Rumors are current in Nasa that the Bolshevik government in Petrograd has been overthrown by the Social Revolutionists under the leadership of General Tchernoff, according to the correspondent of Politken, of Copenhagen, says a dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph. Nikolai Lenine and Leon Trozky are said to have escaped to Riga.

Vasa, or Nikolaistadt, is in Finland, on the only railway between Petrograd and Tornea, on the Swedish frontier.

M. Tchernoff is the leader of the Social Revolutionists and was chairman of the short-lived Constituent Assembly. He served as minister of agriculture in the Kerensky government during last July and August. When the Constituent Assembly met in Petrograd in January, Tchernoff was elected chairman over the Bolshevik candidate. The next day the Assembly was broken up by force by the Bolsheviks and it was reported that the Bolsheviks intended to arrest Tchernoff.

In an interview with the Associated Press correspondent in Petrograd on January 19, M. Tchernoff said that the Social Revolutionist party held that the Constituent Assembly should immediately call a conference of the Entente Allies to consider war aims. He said his party expected that the Allies would state their aims clearly and explicitly and would try to harmonize them with the democratic principles of the Russian revolution. M. Tchernoff admitted that the Russian army probably could not be expected to fight to any great extent, but he declared that Russia could act as a magnet to draw the German forces and prevent their being thrown to the Western front, thus helping the Allies.

DENY THAT KRYLENKO HAS BEEN CAPTURED

London, Feb. 19.—Denial is made in a statement issued by the official Russian news agency in Petrograd that Polish troops have captured Mohilev and seized Ensign Krylenko, the Bolshevik commander-in-chief. This report is described as a masterpiece of German invention. Occupation of Mohilev by Polish troops of the Russian army and the arrest of Ensign Krylenko and his staff was reported in a despatch received in Berlin from Kiev and transmitted through Amsterdam to London on February 5.

RUSSIA FORCED TO TERMS

London, Feb. 19.—Russia is now forced to sign peace upon the conditions proposed by Germany, said an official Russian statement received here today.

The official statement was signed by Premier Lenine and Leon Trozky, the foreign minister. It protests against the German resumption of the war and says the councils of people commissioners are now forced to declare its readiness to sign a peace as dictated by the delegations of the quadruple alliance at Brest-Litovsk. It promises to give a detailed reply without delay to the German peace conditions.

GERMANY'S ATTACK ON RUSSIA WAS EXPECTED

Confirms Belief That Central Powers Did Not Care for Actual Peace

London, Feb. 19.—Renewal of the German attack on Great Russia fulfills the expectation held here since Germany consented to negotiate with the Bolsheviks at Brest-Litovsk. The view often has been expressed that Germany had peace less in mind than to secure possession of what was valuable in Russia and that the temporizing attitude toward the Bolsheviks would be maintained only until the moment she awaited had arrived.

The manner in which Germany played off the Ukraine against the Bolsheviks is regarded as a characteristic example of German diplomatic traditions. It is felt that the Ukrainian call for German help has been issued at Germany's instigation to give her a plausible pretext to gain control of the natural resources of the Ukraine. Doubt is expressed whether the move against Dvinsk is merely the turn of the screw expected to make the Bolsheviks grant submissively what Germany wants or will be followed by serious military operations.

DIPLOMATS JOIN IN A PROTEST TO RUSSIA

Repudiation of National Debt Brings Protest From Allies and Neutrals

Petrograd, Feb. 19.—The protest made by allied and neutral diplomatic representatives against the repudiation of Russia's national debt by the Bolshevik government, Foreign Minister Trozky intimated to the central executive committee of the All-Russian Workers' and Soldiers' Congress last night, indicated a silent understanding with German imperialists. He said:

"The protest of all the ambassadors against the nullification of loans locks around us a ring of international imperialists."

The protest presented to Trozky by the diplomats reads:

"In order to avert all misunderstanding in the future the representatives in Petrograd of all foreign powers declare that they consider the decrees on the subject of the repudiation of the Russian national debt, the confiscation of property of all sorts and other analogous measures as without value, inasmuch as they concern their nationals, and the said representatives reserve to themselves the right to claim at any hour they desire from the Russian government damages for all losses which the decrees and measures put upon their nationals."

In reference to the confiscation measures it is explained that losses aggregating many millions of rubles already have been sustained by foreign capital in connection with the seizure of factories.

The diplomatic corps drafted the protest at a meeting in the American embassy. It was signed by the ambassadors from the United States, Japan, France, Great Britain, Spain, Italy and the ministers from Belgium, China, Portugal, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Brazil, Argentina, Greece, Serbia and Persia. These are all the nations represented in Petrograd.

GERMANS ENTER RUSSIAN TOWNS.

Berlin, Feb. 19.—(Via London).—German forces have entered Dvinsk, it was officially announced today by the German war office. The Russians unsuccessfully attempted to blow up the bridge across the Dvina river.

Vienna, Feb. 19.—(Via London).—The German army group under command of General Alexander Von Linsingen, according to an official statement, issued by the Austrian war office, has occupied the Russian town of Lutsk, in Volhynia, without fighting.

JOHNSON ADVOCATES KEEPING RAILROADS

Says Government Should Own Roads—Has a Good Word for Wilson

Washington, Feb. 19.—Permanent government ownership of railroads rather than government control for the period of the war was advocated by Senator Johnson, of California, today in a speech opposing the Senate draft of the administration's railroad bill.

"I would now take the inevitable next step in government control of our railroads," Senator Johnson declared, "and do whatever might be essential to make that government ownership, permanent government ownership, or at least, leave the way open so that immediately upon the termination of the war we might follow to its logical conclusion what already we have partly done."

The California Senator protested vigorously at the proposed rate of compensation to be paid the railroads under the provision of the bill and also opposed the Senate's plan to turn the roads back to private management 18 months after the conclusion of peace.

Senator Johnson digressed from his discussion of the railroad legislation to express his approval of President Wilson's recent stand against secret diplomacy and the President's policy of addressing Congress from time to time in "the open forum of the world."

"I advert to this subject," the Senator said, "because I deplore the undemocratic and un-American suppression and repression which characterized the first months of our entrance into the war and which yet obtains in some circles."

In support of his declaration for government ownership Senator Johnson said that the railroads had broken down under the stress of the last few months, that if the country is to have efficient national transportation the roads must be nationalized and operated by one directing head; that the American people have "paid the price of private ownership," and that "despite barriers or obstacles the nation is marching straight to the goal of public ownership, and the people at last will come into their own."

NO FURTHER STRIKES IN SAVANNAH YARD

Savannah, Ga., Feb. 19.—At a very largely attended meeting of the men employed in ship building plants in Savannah last night, it was voted not to order any further strikes on government work. A committee which returned from Washington, brought back a wage scale that is considered satisfactory. The Terry Shipbuilding Company and the Foundation Shipbuilding Company have plants here.

MAJ. W. H. BERNARD PASSED AWAY AT HIS HOME TODAY

End Came Early This Afternoon; the Entire City is Saddened

HAD BEEN SERIOUSLY ILL ONLY FEW DAYS

Funeral Arrangements Not Yet Made; Deceased Was One of City's Foremost Citizens

The entire city was shocked and saddened this afternoon upon the announcement of the death of Major William H. Bernard, which occurred at the home of his son, Mr. W. S. Bernard, near the Shell Road crossing, at 3:20 o'clock, following a long period of ill health. His condition had not been considered serious until a few days ago, but had been critical throughout yesterday and all of this morning. News of his passing will be learned with deep regret, for Major Bernard was known by all and universally liked.

He was editor and publisher of the Wilmington Star for a long number of years. Major Bernard was a man of sterling qualities and his death will cause many heart pangs in this section where he had lived the greater part of his life.

Major William H. Bernard, former editor of the Wilmington Star, conspicuous among the newspapers of North Carolina, was born in Petersburg, Va., in January, 1837, and was reared and educated in Richmond. He was the son of Peter D. Bernard, a native of Goochland county, Va., who was a journalist of Richmond, and is the grandson of a soldier of the Revolution who died from wounds received at Brandywine. In 1855 Major Bernard went to Texas, but three years later returned to Virginia, and in 1859 was married to Maggie Stedman, of Fayetteville, N. C. Then, making his home in Helena, Ark., he remained there until March, 1861, when he came to Fayetteville and enlisted in Company H, First Regiment, North Carolina Volunteers. With this regiment, famous for fighting the first battle of the war, he was in the engagement at Big Bethel, and after its disbandment, was debarraded from further service on account of "physical disability." He was subsequently connected with the Presbyterian and Daily Telegraph at Fayetteville, and in 1865 was one of the founders of the Wilmington Dispatch, which he left soon afterward to establish the Wilmington Star in 1867. Mr. Bernard was a man of influence in public affairs and was a member of the Democratic State Committee for a number of years.

Major Bernard remained owner and editor of the Morning Star until about eight years ago when he sold out to a stock company, headed by Mr. Wm. E. Springer, who continues president of the company which owns the paper. Since that time Major Bernard has made his home with his son, Mr. W. S. Bernard, in Wilmington, with an occasional stay of several months each year with Mr. Frank H. Stedman, in Fayetteville. Hundreds of friends throughout the State will mourn his death and deeply sympathize with the bereaved.

AN EARL TEST DRIVE FOR A BIGGER PORT FOR WILMINGTON

Ten of City's Business Men in Washington Conferring With Officials

AMPLE FACILITIES FOR ALL SHIPPING

First Conference Held With Senator Simmons and Congressman Godwin; Will Remain Several Days

(By George Manning).

Washington, D. C., Feb. 19.—A "drive" for a bigger port and a bigger city of Wilmington was begun in earnest when a delegation of 10 Wilmington business men met with Senator Simmons and Congressman Godwin in the Senator's office shortly after 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

They stayed in close session over an hour and discussed plans for obtaining the approval of Director General of Railroads McAdoo and Chairman Hurley of the Shipping Board to a scheme for the increased utilization for the port of Wilmington for exportation to Europe.

They also intend while here to explain to the Emergency Fleet Corporation the advantages Wilmington offers as the location for a big shipbuilding plant. Wilmington offers great advantages in this direction, the delegation believes, in the way of ample labor and its situation close to supplies needed for building ships. The harbor at Wilmington, free from ice at all times and well protected and possessing good railroad facilities, offers an excellent outlet for shipments of supplies to Europe to relieve the congestion at the Northern ports.

In the party which met with Senator Simmons and Mr. Godwin were Col. Walker Taylor, H. C. McQueen, J. A. Taylor, W. H. Sprunt, Thos. H. Wright, Herbert Smith, Thomas C. Orrell, C. G. Chabourn, M. W. Devine and M. J. Cypriat. The delegation expects to stay here several days.

SLIGHTLY ILL FROM EATING CORNED BEEF

Washington, Feb. 19.—Rumors that a large number of men had been poisoned at the Norfolk naval training station were cleared up today by a report from Captain Dayton, the commanding officer, that thirty-five of his force were made slightly ill recently by eating corned beef hash. He said there was no evidence of poison or other foreign substance in the hash, and that most of the men were now back at work.

EIGHT MEN HURT ON CRUISER MONTANA

Washington, Feb. 19.—Eight men have been injured in an explosion of a cartridge case during target practice on the cruiser Montana, brief report to the Navy Department today gave no details of the accident and did not give the names of the men hurt.

ALLIES ARE READY FOR HUN DRIVE

BRITISH ACCOUNT FOR SIXTEEN HUN PLANES

Ten Machines Brought Down and Disabled in Sunday's Fighting

London, Feb. 19.—Ten German airplanes were brought down and six more disabled by British airmen Sunday, according to an official statement on aerial activities, issued last night. Hundreds of bombs have been dropped on various targets and on Monday British aviators raided Treves and Thionville. The statement reads:

"There was fine weather Sunday and the incessant bombing that had been in progress for 36 hours continued. More than six tons of bombs were dropped on various targets and airdromes in the neighborhood of Tournai, Lille and Courtrai.

"Again there was severe air fighting, enemy scouts making determined but unsuccessful attacks against our bombing machines. Ten hostile machines were downed and six others were disabled. Three of our machines are missing. Sunday night there were further bombing raids on Comfians. A ton of bombs was dropped on the railway. Several burst and a fire was started. All our machines returned today.

"Today our bombing squadrons raided by daylight the barracks and railway station at Treves and the steel works and railway station at Thionville with excellent results. All the machines returned safely."

FEDERAL AUTHORITIES JAIL MAN IN RALEIGH

Alleged Pilot for John Wanamaker Arrested Following Suspicious Actions

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 19.—A man giving his name as Henry Hering, taken into custody here yesterday morning by police at the instance of Federal officials, after his alleged suspicious actions while in Raleigh, led the authorities to believe he might be working against the interests of the United States government, is being held in jail pending a thorough investigation into his activities.

Hering, who claims to have been employed as highway pilot for John Wanamaker, millionaire merchant of Philadelphia, has been in this city several days. According to Federal authorities he has been very active in visiting various State buildings and lines running out of Raleigh and seeking information about military workings at State College.

When examined yesterday by officers he stated that he stopped in Raleigh while en route from Philadelphia to Florida as a pilot for Louis Gerdere, chauffeur for John Wanamaker. He explained that he was employed to act as guide for the chauffeur through friendship with Mr. Wanamaker's butler, Britt Bracken.

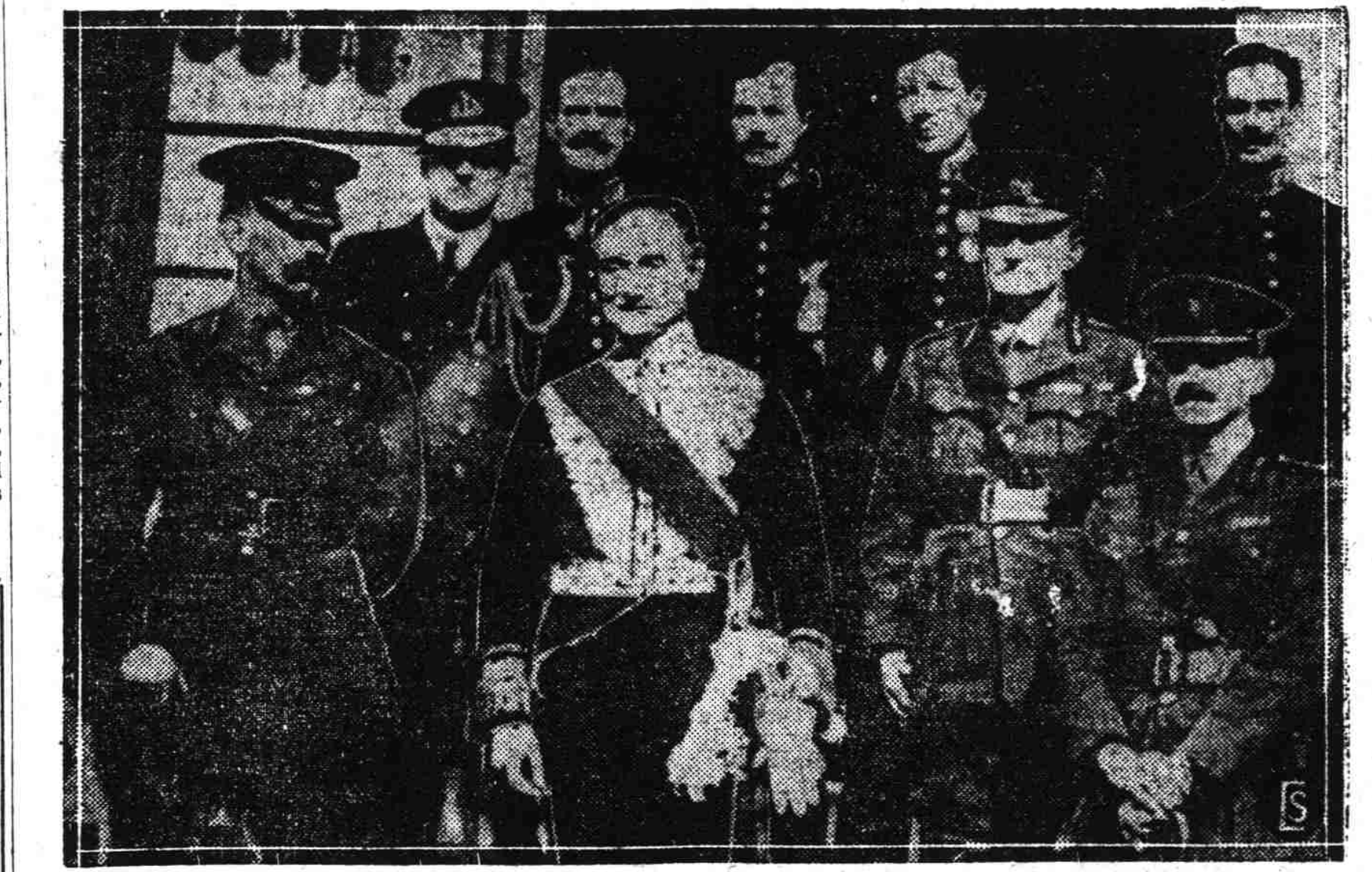
WOULD INCREASE PRICE OF WHEAT

Washington, Feb. 19.—A favorable report on the Gore bill to increase the minimum price of wheat of the 1918 crop from \$2 to \$2.50 per bushel, was made today by the Senate Agricultural Committee.

WANT A RATE INCREASE.

(Special to The Dispatch.) Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 19.—Application of the North Carolina railroads for an increase of passenger rates within the State was filed today with the Corporation Commission. The carriers presented what is called Z and double Z forms to the Interstate Commerce Commission, asking that they be allowed to discontinue the double Z form of \$40.00 on 2,000 mile books. They would likewise discontinue Class Z, which is the 1,000 mile book, selling for \$20.00, and substitute one selling for \$22.50. The Interstate Commerce Commission granted the request as to the larger book, but declined the second as to the 1,000 mile book, sending the petitioners to the State Corporation Commission with their request.

Earl Reading Arrives in Washington on Eve of Ex-Ambassador Spring-Rice's Death



After the retirement of Spring-Rice, Earl Reading was named Special Commissioner and Ambassador Extraordinary to the United States. He is to combine in his person the tasks formerly delegated to several different commissioners and the British Ambassador. This photo shows Earl Reading with his party after he presented his credentials to President Wilson at the White House. He is in uniform in the centre of the group. On Lord Reading's right is Colonel Swinton, in uniform of the British tank and Assistant Secretary of the British War Cabinet.

Great Offensive on the Western Front Expected at Any Moment Now

GERMANS COMPLETE PLANS FOR ATTACK

Higher Command Expects to Break Through the Allies by Surprise Attack Using Gas and Tanks

British Army Headquarters, in France, Feb. 19.—The great German offensive on the Western front may be expected to begin at any moment now and as far as the British front is concerned, the main thrust will be made on the sector between Arras and St. Quentin.

Tanks and a new mysterious gas will be presented by the enemy in an attempt to break through the British lines.

The plans of the German high command are complete, and after many weeks of intensive training of assaulting troops they are ready to make the supreme and final effort which has been advertised so widely in the past weeks.

Field Marshal von Hindenburg and General von Ludendorff appear to have realized that the old methods of attack in which a long bombardment is employed are too well known to produce the results desired. Accordingly the German troops are being told that surprise attacks such as were used in Galicia last summer, at Riga, and again on the Isonzo, are to be tried against the Allies on the Western front.

Much stress has been laid on the fact that tanks and new gas are to be used, leaving the infantry little to do but to walk through the gaps and consolidate the positions captured. German troops have been trained to make long approach marches and then to storm enemy positions after a short gas shell bombardment. These obstacles which the German artillery has not obliterated will be rushed by the troops or ignored. The German infantry will rely on weight of numbers, masses of machine guns and mobile batteries to finish the work begun by the tanks and gas.

Word has been passed out by the German high command that few of the Allied troops will survive the effects of the tanks, the gas and the bombardment and that fresh German infantry will overcome speedily any resistance offered in captured positions.

Despite these assurances and the intensive training to which they have been put, the German troops are frankly skeptical and are undertaking their task with no enthusiasm, according to prisoners. They feel they are going to be thrown into battle to be used as cannon fodder and do not relish the prospect.

It is said General von Ludendorff recently addressed a body of infantry at Laon and asked how many men were willing to fight to a finish.

Only five non-commissioned officers and privates stepped forward. The others declared their desire for an early peace by "arrangement."

German officers, on the other hand, appear to have the conviction they will be able to break through by means of their secret attacks. General von Hutier, who is reputed to have laid the plans for the capture of Riga, has come to the Western front to assist in the preparation. Lessons of the capture of Riga have been preached religiously to the German troops. It has been pointed out that there is a preliminary bombardment of four or five hours to cut the enemy wire and demolish defenses was sufficient to give the Germans a firm footing in the Russian positions. The enemy troops have not been told, however, that the morale of the Russians, at Riga was very low and that the German attack was a complete surprise.

The Germans will find the Allied morale at the highest pitch on the Western front and their attack will be far from the surprise desired. The Allies are ready for a big blow and await with assurance the next move of the German high command.

The German attack cannot be delayed much longer. All information points to the fact that both German civilians and soldiers are keyed up to such a pitch of nervous expectancy that the strain cannot endure for long. They are waiting for the attack with feverish hope that the high command can at this time make good its promise. The German troops are expected to fight well.

The coming battles will perhaps be the most sanguinary of the war, and

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