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TREATY OF PEACE NEARLY FINISHED

Council of Four Disposes of Polish-German Question—Germans Expected to Give Little Opposition. No Agreement on Italian Question. Wilson Opposes Italy's Aspirations and Stands Firm Against Secret Treaty of London—Soldiers' Council at Vienna Has Taken Over Austrian Capital—Situation in Europe Summarized by the Associated Press.

The situation in Europe is thus summarized for Friday by the Associated Press:

With David Lloyd George, British Prime Minister, again in his seat after his visit to London, where he defended his actions as the peace conference before the House of Commons, the council of four yesterday renewed its hearing of the claims of the Italians to the important Adriatic seaport of Fiume and also had under discussion the question of the Polish claims to Danzig on the Baltic. The council met at the "White House," the residence in Paris of President Wilson.

The opinion prevails in Paris that, with the Italian demands now the remaining obstacle to a full agreement, the situation is such that President Wilson will be able to sail homeward in mid-May with a signed copy of the peace treaty for submission to Congress, which in some quarters in Paris it is believed will be called in extra session not later than June 1.

Little opposition to the peace terms is expected from the Germans, according to the latest reports in circulation in Paris, as they are declared to be anxious for a return to peace conditions at the earliest possible moment. It is asserted that there is to be no German text of the treaty—the document to be issued only in the French and the English languages.

Although a general strike has been proclaimed in Bremen and the assertion has been made that it has been impossible to unload foodstuffs, taken there on an American steamship, a German wireless communication asserts that the unloading of vessels is assured. Employees of department stores and specialty shops in Berlin have joined the bank employees' strike. In Bavaria the situation still remains acute, but few details are available. In Vienna there also has been disturbances. The Bolsheviks attempted to storm the parliament building but were defeated.

Brig. Gen. Richardson has arrived on an ice-breaker at Archangel to take command of the American forces fighting in that region. A message from General Pershing read by General Richardson to the American troops called upon them to maintain the morale that was expected of Americans.

Helgoland, Germany's great buttress of defense of the Elbe and Wtiser rivers, is to be dismantled, but not destroyed.

It has been decided also that the fortifications along the Kiel Canal will be permitted to remain in existence.

Saturday.

The Adriatic question, embodying Italy's territorial claims, again fell short of solution after a four-hour session of the council of four Saturday.

This much discussed outstanding point in the peace conference parleys was presented to the council by Baron Sonnino, described as an "extremist advocate of Italy's utmost claims," and will again be brought up for consideration at the next sitting of the council, set for Sunday.

It was expected that a settlement would be reached soon, as the council when it assembled, purposed to give its time exclusively to the subject. The Italians, however, appear to be obdurate, and while the British and French Premiers are understood to favor a compromise on the question, President Wilson is described as still taking a stand opposing Italy's aspirations.

Disturbances and strikes continue in Germany, and reports from Vienna indicate that violent demonstrations have taken place there. The Parliament building was the storm center, when crowds in sympathy with the Bolshevik movement tried to enter the building. Five policemen were killed and scores of demonstrators and police were wounded. Troops finally dispersed the crowd.

Communists are playing a large

part in the troubles in Germany. They constructed trenches at Freising, near Munich, engaging in a battle with government troops. Losses are reported on both sides.

Three thousand Wurtemberg troops have arrived north of Munich. A decisive battle for possession of the Bavarian capital is expected when reinforcements arrive.

A state of siege was proclaimed at Offenbach, near Frankfurt, after an attempt by government troops to disband a Communist procession brought about disorders, in which casualties resulted. Bamberg was also the scene of a Communist rising.

Successes for the Russian and British forces on the Archangel front are recounted in a British war office announcement, and advices from Archangel tell of the occupation of Bolshie Ozerkie village. The Bolsheviks are being pursued southward.

The Soviet admits a retirement to new positions on almost all of the front in Eastern Russia.

Sunday.

Situation in Europe.

The situation surrounding Italy's claims before the Peace Conference for rights along the Adriatic seaboard has reached an acute phase.

The Council of Four Sunday again listened to arguments by Premier Orlando and Foreign Minister Sonnino, who endeavored to straighten out the tangle, but their efforts seemingly went for naught so far as a give and take method of settling the controversy is concerned.

President Wilson did not take part in the session of the council of the countries and it is asserted that Monday, when a further effort will be made to surmount the obstacles which are hindering an agreement he likewise will be absent. The Italian statesmen will depart for Rome Monday and wish to place before parliament the result of their work in Paris.

Italy, it is asserted, is still desirous of obtaining the entire Dalmatian coast and adjacent island and also the city of Fiume, without sharing the territory with the Jugo Slavs. The Italian army is declared to be behind the Italian premier in obtaining complete fulfillment of Italy's aspirations. The threat is said to have been held out in a dispatch to the premier from the heads of the Italian army that in case Italy's desires were not acquiesced in, Italy, without reference to the conference, would occupy the regions to which she considers herself entitled.

The talk of the formation of an alliance to protect France from further aggressions by Germany, has brought forth the statement from a high source in the American peace delegation that the United States will enter into an alliance which would be inconsistent with the spirit of the League of Nations. President Wilson conferred with Premier Clemenceau Sunday afternoon, but the nature of their talk was not disclosed.

Chaotic considerations still prevail at Munich, where the government troops are declared to have been augmented and a battle for supremacy to be in immediate prospect. Sporadic fighting is reported to be in progress in the Bavarian capital.

The soldiers' council at Vienna has taken over the Austrian capital and purposes to administer it with a Bolshevik government. Troops representing the soldiers' council have occupied the parliament building. No trouble in the city is anticipated. The allied representative has issued a proclamation declaring that if there are disorders the food supply will be cut off.

Representatives with plenipotentiary powers are to be demanded of Germany at Versailles when the peace treaty is handed to Germany. The Council of Four has informed Germany that representatives, who are merely messengers, cannot be received.—Associated Press.

The American Sunday School union has offered a prize of \$1,000 for the best book manuscript on Christianity and Modern Industry. This work, the organization explains, should deal with actual achievements, as well as with principles and methods. It should include the rural as well as the urban situation. The offer is made under the provisions of the John C. Green prize of \$1,000 in two parts, \$600 for the best manuscript and \$400 for the next best, on Everyday Heroism.

Mr. T. A. Whichard, of Farmville, spent Sunday in the city.

MR. GLASS OPENS LOAN CAMPAIGN

Says the Country's Honor is Involved in the Success of the Victory Loan. In His Opening Address at Cleveland, Ohio, He Gave Assurances That the Loan Would Be a Success and Said, "The Work of Our Boys Must Be Backed Up."

Carter Glass, secretary of the treasury, in an address at Cleveland, Ohio, Saturday night to approximately 1,000 Cleveland bankers, manufacturers and fourth federal reserve district loan workers, opened the Victory Loan campaign in that district by saying that the entire country is ready and that the success of the last Liberty loan is assured. The secretary was given an ovation when he arose to speak.

Secretary Glass in firing the opening gun of the campaign laid emphasis on the fact that the soldiers had done their part to save America and the civilized world from the Hun menace and that it was up to the stay-at-homes to finish the glorious work.

"The work of our boys must be backed up and the way to do it is to put the financial shoulder to the wheel and put over this loan," he said. "A world is to be rebuilt," he continued. "Should we pause and debate as to who should rebuild it? No. The enterprise should be started right away with the whirr of mills, and the din of a thousand essential industries should spread to the uttermost parts of the land."

"The American people should supplement the patriotism of war by the patriotism of peace. The foremost obligation is the duty of guarding zealously the honor of the nation."

"The war is over, in a sense, but I decline to believe that the American people are indifferent to the honorable commitment of their government or would diminish the splendor of the nation's achievement by an exhibition of avarice in time of peace. Four Liberty Loans have been floated and nothing nor anybody can shake my faith in the purpose of the country to complete the splendid structure of national credit by making this last loan a great success."

The valor of the American soldier was extolled, the work of the soldiers' relief societies praised, the magnitude of the victory and its meaning set forth, and then the speaker ended with these words:

"The honor of the government is involved. Being your government it is your honor that is involved; and I know that the appeal of the American government to the American people will meet a response of which the nation will be proud."

New Pistol Law.

The new law regulating the sale and carrying of concealed weapons, was effective April 1, and from now on all persons who purchase weapons designated in the law will be required first to secure a permit from the clerk of the Superior Court. Each prospective purchaser is required to present himself before the clerk and answer such questions as are necessary to satisfy the clerk of good moral character, and that the possession of one of the weapons described in section 1 of the act is necessary for self defense or the home. Having received such testimony the clerk will issue a permit which all dealers must require before completing a sale within the State.—Wilmington Star.

FIRST BOLSHEVIK ARMY SURRENDERED IS REPORT.

London, April 20.—The first Bolshevik army, operating in the region of Homel, along the Pripiet river, has surrendered to the Ukrainians, according to a statement by the Ukrainian press bureau and forwarded from Vienna to the central news. Up to the time that the report was forwarded, 20,000 rifles, 35 guns and 200 machine guns had been handed over to the Ukrainians.

Tomato Land.

Good tomato land is neither extremely rich nor very poor, but just such land as would grow extra good corn or cotton. Land that was mangled heavily the previous year will generally grow good tomatoes.—Weekly News Letter.

EVERYTHING NICE TAXED MAY FIRST

Just Take a Look at the Levy on Luxuries—Soda Fountain Drinks Included; Load Up With Pennies Before You Go to Fountain.

Washington, April 15.—Carry a few pennies in your pocket after May 1.

Uncle Sam is going to take them away from you to help pay for the war.

Every time you spend a dime at a soda fountain or ice cream parlor on and after May 1 you'll have to throw an extra penny on the counter to pay the war tax.

Many soda fountains which charged 15 cents for sodas and sundaes during the war have reduced the price back to 10 cents, but you're likely soon to see signs over their fountains reading:

"Sodas and sundaes now 11 cents." The tax on ice cream and soft drinks is only one of the many which go into effect under the revenue act on May 1. The most important of these are written into the revenue bill before it became apparent to our Congressmen that they were unnecessary.

An attempt was made to pass a bill repealing them before Congress adjourned, but it was one of the bills talked to death in the filibuster. It is likely that the "luxury taxes" will be repealed during the coming special session, but until then we'll have to pay 'em.

They call these "luxury" taxes, but the commodities taxed are by no means all luxuries. Congress intended the taxes to fall on the rich and the well-to-do people of the country, but some of them will fall just as heavily on the great 90 per cent of the population represented by the middle classes and the poor.

Take, for instance, the tax on medicines. After May 1 you'll have to pay a tax of one per cent for each 25 cents' worth of proprietary medicines you buy, whether they are pills, tablets, powders, syrups, tonics, plasters, salves or ointments. If you pay \$1 for a bottle of medicine, you'll pay four cents tax.

The same tax will apply to tooth powders, hair dyes, hair restoratives, toilet waters, perfumes and other toilet articles.

The tax on other "luxuries" is not so heavy as that on medicines, toilet articles and beverages. The reason for this is that, while the tax is 10 per cent, it is imposed not on the entire price of the article taxed, but on that part of it in excess of a specified amount.

For instance, carpets and rugs are taxed 10 per cent on the amount you pay over \$5 a square yard. That is if you buy 10 square yards of carpet at \$5 a square yard, or \$50, you will pay no tax. But if you pay \$6 a square yard, or \$60, you will be taxed on that extra dollar a yard, or \$61 for the ten yards.

Another "luxury" tax that will hit the poor after May 1 is that on moving pictures, which requires every person leasing moving picture films for exhibition to pay a monthly tax of five per cent of the amount his films produce in rentals. This tax, of course, will be added to that already being paid by the public on admissions to moving picture theatres. In many cases it will double the prices of movie tickets.

The new taxes are in addition to the many others which went into effect on April 1. Prominent among these is the tax of five per cent of the total price paid on all articles of jewelry.

Still other "luxury" taxes, which affect wealthy people principally, but here and there dig into the pockets of the poor, have been paid ever since the revenue act was approved by the President in March. These include the following proceedings of the total prices:

Automobiles, five per cent.
Automobile accessories, 5 per cent.
Musical instruments and records, five per cent.
Sporting goods, 10 per cent.
Chewing gum, three per cent.
Candy, five per cent.
Cameras, 10 per cent.
Photographic films and plates, five per cent.
Firearms and ammunition, 10 per cent.
Hunting knives, 10 per cent.
Portable electric fans, five per cent.
Thermos bottles, five per cent.
Cigar and cigarette holders, humi-

THE SPECIAL TROPHY TRAIN.

Will Be in Smithfield and Selma, Saturday, May 3.

Crammed full of military equipment and machinery covering every phase of wartime science two Victory Liberty Loan trophy trains will leave Richmond, Monday, April 21, to tour the States of the Fifth Federal Reserve District. The first, which will pass through Virginia, North and South Carolina, will be known as "The Thirtieth Division Special" in honor of the fighting Carolina boys who were with the first to pierce the Hindenburg line.

Each train will be on the rails approximately three weeks covering almost 2,600 miles in the completion of the schedule that calls for stops at 75 cities and towns in the Fifth District.

Part of the exhibition will include every variety of weapon and equipment used by the Allies in the successful prosecution of the war, from rifles, machine guns and hand grenades to large calibre cannon. In addition airplane parts will be included in the display.

Probably the only arm of the service to be omitted from representation in the Trophy Train will be the tank corps. Arrangements had previously been made by the government to ship "whippet" tanks to various cities and towns throughout the country as a separate feature.

A unique part of the exhibit will be the display of naval inventions, perfected under the stress of war needs, and completed only at a late date when the signing of the armistice prevented their introduction into the scheme of modern warfare.

As a balm to longing eyes the display will include an assortment of captured German war material—helmets of the crack Prussian guards, large calibre guns used by the Huns in reducing Allied trenches and fortifications, and articles or personal equipment captured from Boche officers.

Special features to commemorate the Liberty Loan trophy train have already been prepared in many of the places where the train will stop. These will assume form in the way of speeches by war veterans, exercises and, where time permits, a parade by the contingent of soldiers that accompanies the train as an escort. In many towns the appearance of the trophy train will officially be made the occasion for a holiday or a half-holiday.

The Victory Liberty Loan Trophy train will make stops in this section in accordance with the following schedule:

Saturday, May 3—Arrive at Smithfield 7:50 a. m. Leave Smithfield 9:30 a. m. Arrive at Selma 9:45 a. m. and leave for Wilson at 11 a. m., reaching the latter place at 12. Will leave Wilson for Goldsboro at 2 p. m., arriving there at 3 p. m.

Town House-Builders.

Smithfield's housing syndicate has been doing business. Its first new houses will be ready for rent or sale by the first of August. Smithfield was growing so fast she did not have houses for the newcomers knocking at her door. Her business men have met that situation and propose to build a house for every family that wants to locate in their thrifty town.—Wilmington Star.

Crop reports as sent out by the United States Department of Agriculture show that the peach crop was severely damaged by frosts of April 2 and 3.

dors, smoking stands, 10 per cent.
Slot machines five per cent.
Livery uniforms, 10 per cent.
Hunting or riding habits, 10 per cent.

Fur clothing and furs, 10 per cent.
Toilet soaps, three per cent.
Pleasure boats, 10 per cent.
Paintings and statuary, 10 per cent.

Then there are the taxes on alcoholic drinks, which we won't have to pay after July 1, anyway, because there ain't going to be no alcoholic drinks, and the taxes on cigars, cigarettes and tobacco, which every user has been paying since the law took effect.

Not to speak of the income, excess profits, and war profits taxes, theater taxes, and various others which are all paying Uncle Sam to help pay for the war.—A. E. Geldhof, in Charlotte Observer.

SIX TROOP SHIPS REACH NEW YORK

Bring 14,446 Officers and Men in Time for Easter—Two German Liners Among the Transports; Their First Trips Under U. S. Flag.

New York, April 20.—Six troop ships loaded to capacity with American officers and men—14,446 in all—arrived here today in time to celebrate Easter Sunday on home soil.

Two of the ships which arrived here were the German liners Zeppelin and Graf Waldersee, making their first trips since they were turned over to the United States.

The Zeppelin flying the international flag as well as the Stars and Stripes, brought 1,650 men, including the 129th field artillery complete, 53 officers and 1,274 men, the 339th ambulance company, three officers and 103 men, 73 casual officers and a detachment of one officer and 21 nurses of base hospital 44.

On the Graf Waldersee were 1,741 officers and men, the majority being hospital units and including detachments of the fifth, 14th, 21st, 42nd, 44th, 50th 72nd, 79th and 20th base hospitals, six casual companies, 18 casual officers and 58 convalescents.

Both ships had on board parties of German officers who had turned the ships over to the United States and who had made the trip across representing the German government.

Barnes-Kirby.

J. H. Barnes, a popular young man of Dunn, and Miss Marie Kirby, of Kenly, were married at the home of the bride Tuesday evening, April 8. Rev. Mr. Clark, the bride's pastor, performed the ceremony in the presence of a number of relatives and friends.

The groom has made Dunn his home for about a year, moving here from Kenly last summer, when he accepted a position with the Snipes Garage. He is a young man of excellent business ability and is held in high esteem by a number of friends here. He is well known in Dunn and is popular with all.

The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kirby, of Kenly. Her father is president of the Bank of Kenly and is one of the leading business men of that town. She was prominent in the social circles of her town where she has many friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Barnes arrived in Dunn last week and will make their home in the residence on South Fayetteville Avenue, until recently occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Colon Pearson.—Dunn Dispatch, 17th.

MUST ERECT SIGN POSTS.

New Law Imposes a Penalty of \$50 to \$100 For Failure.

The Attorney General is calling attention to the county commissioners of North Carolina that the 1917 law requiring sign and guide posts be erected on all public highways, has been strengthened by the 1919 Legislature, which passed an amendment to the old law. The new law lays a penalty of \$50 to \$100 on the county commissioners for failing to provide these guide posts. In counties where the road work is under the supervision of a road commission the fine is applicable to that body rather than the county commissioners. The work must be done by the first of July, 1919, and unless they are erected the solicitors of the several districts are directed to prosecute them.—Oxford Ledger.

Buying Fertilizers.

It is estimated that around 5,000 bags of fertilizer were sold to farmers in Monroe Saturday. Such was the demand that a number had to return home without theirs. Mr. W. Z. Faulkner, manager of the Southern Cotton Oil Company, accounts for the buying in such quantities by the fact that the farmer did not begin to purchase as early as in former years.—The Monroe Journal.

Dr. W. S. Rankin, secretary of the State Board of Health, in making his annual report to the State Medical Society in session at Phehurst last week, made the statement that one million cases of influenza in North Carolina during the past five months be a safe estimate.