GERMANS ANNUL RUSSIAN PEACE OFFER; MARCH ON PETROGRAD

Bearer of Trotsky's Peace Acceptance Abducted by Huns, Whose Entrance Into Russian Capital Seems Certain.

A despatch from Petrograd says:—As the Germans are developing their attack along the whole northern front, there is no doubt that they mean to take Petrograd by a quick blow. Their sweep into the interior is going directly east from Minsk to Moghilov, and by another line to Vitebsk and Proves. They are meeting practically no resistance. The vast Russian army is not putting up one-hundredth part of the fight the few Belgian troops did when the Germans entered Belgium. The railroad tracks are not even being disturbed. It is the easiest conquest of history.

A despatch from Rotterdam says:—It is probable that Germany intends to effect a military occupation of the whole of the Baltic provinces and then propose to Petrograd new conditions which amount virtually to annexation. The Berlin correspondent of the Nieuwe Rotterdanusche Courant, who is evidently officially inspired, telegraphs that pending a new discussion between the Central Powers as to the answer to be sent to Trotzky, "the military measures begun Monday will be continued. The object which is being sought for by these measures will probably be formulated to Trotzky as a condition of peace now proposed by him."

The conclusion from this significant announcement seems to be that the German Government regards the original Brest-Litovs conditions as annuled by Trotzky's recent breaking off of negotiations, and intend formulating now conditions dictated by the result of the present military operations.

A later despatch from Petrograd says:—The Russian Parliamentary messengers started in a motor car from Rieshitsa for Dvinsk, but near the station at Antonopol were met by a German automobile armed with machine guns. The Russian motor car was allowed to pass, but the Parliamentary representatives and the Commissioner of the 5th Army were detained and brought back to Rieshitsa in the German automobile.

Huns Strike at Dismembered Russia.

Map shows portion of battle line between Riga and newly formed Republic of Ukraine where the Germans threaten an offensive with Petrograd as the objective.

ALLIED AIRMEN FLY OVER JULIAN ALPS, BOMB TOWN IN AUSTRIAN TYROL

Attacked Munition Factories, Railway Station and Barracks—Many People Killed in the Streets.

A despatch from Buchs, Switzerland, says: Five Entente airmen flying over the Julian Alps Wednesday afternoon found that the town of Innsbruck, in the Austrian Tyrol, was not protected by anti-aircraft guns. The airmen thereupon swooped down to within 300 yards of the ground, picked out targets and copiously bombed them, including the railway station, barracks and two new munition factories.

Soldiers and civilians were surprised, and, being unaccustomed to an air attack, rushed into the streets and many were killed.

The German Consulate was hit and trains loaded with soldiers on their way to the Trentino front were attacked by machine guns, from a low altitude.

GERMANS TO RESUME TRADE IN BLACK SEA.

A despatch from Amsterdam says: Advices received here from Berlin on Friday say that it was announced in the joint sitting of the Reichstag that it was planned to resume shipping in the Black Sea after the mines have been cleared away. The plan is to expedite shipments to Germany from the Ukraine, Germany to supply agricultural machinery and implements in return for grain.

ENGLISH WOMEN DOING "BIT."

Now Engaged in Forty Lines of War Employment.

Those who have thought that the women of England might not have been doing their bit in the prosecution of the war were astonished when they entered the imperial war exhibition at Burlington House in London, to see forty different uniforms worn by women in service, says a correspondent. These show that women are engaged as messengers, munition and agricultural workers, nurses, &c., and that they are the pride of the girlhood of the country.

Not satisfied with this showing the women managers of the exhibition have issued an appeal to have women engaged in out of the way positions report, that their jobs may be added to the daily increasing lists.

Boys and Girls Can Help.

Seventy-one thousand boys and girls of school age last year increased the agricultural output of Ontario to the value of $125,000. Every farm boy and girl this year should be encouraged to rear a pig, a calf, a batch of chickens or to grow a plot of potatoes, beans, corn or vegetables.

See that all implements and harness are in shape for spring operations.

"Why does that hen insist on roosting on the mail-box?" "Very natural! She was hatched from a parcel post egg."

There has never been so widespread and active a demand for seed corn and it is sure to increase within the next few weeks.

"Father!" "Now, Tommy, no more of those silly questions!" "This isn't silly; I just want to know if the earth were destroyed while a man was up in an aeroplane where would he land?"

NEWS FROM ENGLAND

NEWS BY MAIL ABOUT JOHN BULL AND HIS PEOPLE

Occurrences in the Land That Reigns Supreme in the Commercial World.

It was stated in a city of London court that a substitute had been found for starch.

The King and the Prince of Wales each sent £5 to the Cheyne Hospital for Sick Children as a Christmas donation.

During the month of November the Overseas Club headquarters collected for various war funds the sum of £14,509.

A firm of London tug owners was awarded £100 for salving a cargo of oats worth £1,285 from a barge which had been submerged.

During the month of November last eight thousand two hundred and sixty tons of fish were sent to Billingsgate for sale.

Mrs. King, of Worthing, has given to Cambridge University £1,000 five per cent. war stock for the establishment of a scholarship on fever research.

A London woman, who does not want her name known, gave a cheque for £750 to the Motor Transport Volunteers.

The officers and men of a West York Regiment presented to the city of York two guns captured by the regiment at Cambrai.

At a meeting in Darlington it was decided to open a national fund to commemorate the career of Brig.-Gen. Bradford, V.C., a Darlington man.

William Henry Scott, a chemist of Biggleswade, was fined £20 for refusing to billet soldiers.

The London Education Committee have granted a scholarship to the son of an Austrian who has four sons in the British army.

The London Committee of the French Red Cross have sent to France 8,000 fruit trees and 50,000 cabbage plants for restocking the farms and orchards.

A silver rose bowl and address were presented to Miss May Baird by the n.c.o.'s and men of the R.F.C., in recognition of her work in providing free club accommodation.

LEADING MARKETS

Toronto, Feb. 26—Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, $2.23½; No. 2, do., $2.20½; No. 3, do., $2.17½; No. 4 wheat, $2.10½; in store Fort William, including 2½c tax.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 C.W., 93⅝c; No. 3 C.W., 91⅝c; extra No. 1 feed, 89⅝c; No. 1 feed, 86⅝c; in store Fort William.

American corn—No. 3 yellow, kiln dried, $1.95, track Toronto.

Ontario oats—No. 2 white, 96 to 97c; No. 3 white, 95 to 96c, according to freights outside.

Ontario wheat—No. 2 Winter, per car lot, $2.22; basis in store Montreal.

Peas—No. 2, $3.70 to $3.80, according to freights outside.

Barley—Malting, $1.65 to $1.67, according to freights outside.

Buckwheat—$1.70 to $1.72, according to freights outside.

Rye—No. 2, $2.03 to $2.05, according to freights outside.

Manitoba flour—War quality, $11.10, new bags, Toronto.

Ontario flour—War quality, $10.60, new bags, Toronto and Montreal freights, prompt shipment.

Millfeed—Car lots—Delivered Montreal freights, bags included: Bran, per ton, $35; shorts, per ton, $40; middlings white, per ton, $45 to $46; good feed flour, per bag, $3.40.

Hay—No. 1, per ton, $17 to $18; mixed, $14 to $16, track Toronto.

Straw—Car lots, per ton, $8.50 to $9, track Toronto.

Country Produce—Wholesale

Butter—Creamery, solids, per lb., 47 to 47½c; prints, per lb., 48 to 48½c; dairy, per lb., 36 to 38c.

Eggs—Fresh gathered eggs, 50 to 52c; new laid, 55c.

Poultry—Dressed, chickens, 26 to 28c; fowl, 23 to 25c; ducks, 23 to 24c; geese, 21 to 22c; turkeys, 28 to 30c.

Wholesalers are selling to the retail trade at the following prices:—

Cheese—New, large, 23 to 23½c; twins, 23½ to 23¾c; early cheese, 25½ to 26c; large twin, 26 to 26½c.

Butter—Fresh dairy, choice, 40 to 41c; creamery prints, 49 to 50c; solids, 47 to 48c.

Eggs—New laid, in cartons, 60 to 65c; No. 1 storage, 50 to 51c; select storage, 53 to 54c.

Dressed poultry—Spring chickens, 30 to 33c; milk-fed chickens, 32 to 35c; fowl, 26 to 30c; turkeys, 35 to 40c; ducks, Spring, 27 to 30c; geese, 27 to 28c.

Live poultry—Turkeys, 30c; Spring chickens, lb., 22 to 26c; hens, 22 to 23c; ducks, Spring, 25c; geese, 15 to 17c.

Honey—Strained, tins, 2½'s and 5's, 20 to 22c per lb; 10's, 22c; 60's, 20c.

Beans—Canadian, hand-picked, bush., $8 to $8.25; imported, hand-picked, Burma or Indian, $6.75 to $7; Japan, $8 to $8.25; Limas, 18½ to 19c.

Potatoes—Delawares, bag, $2.40; Ontarios, bag, $2.30 to $2.35.

Provisions—Wholesale

Smoked meats—Hams, medium, 34 to 35c; do., heavy, 28 to 30c; cooked, 45 to 47c; rolls 28 to 30c; breakfast bacon, 40 to 42c; backs, plain, 43 to 44c; boneless, 45 to 46c.

Cured meats—Long clear bacon, 28 to 29c; clear bellies, 27 to 28c.

Lard—Pure lard, tierces, 29 to 29½c; tubs, 29¼ to 29¾c; pails, 29½ to 30c; compound, tierces, 25½ to 26c; tubs, 25¾ to 26¼c; pails, 26 to 26½c.

Montreal Markets

Montreal, Feb. 26—Oats—Canadian western, No. 3, $1.10 to $1.11; extra No. 1 feed, $1.10 to $1.11; No. 2 local white, $1.09; No. 3, do., $1.08; No. 4, do., $1.07. Flour—New standard grade, $11.10 to $11.20; Spring wheat, $11.10 to $11.20. Rolled oats—Bags, 90 lbs., $5.50. Bran, $35. Shorts, $40. Middlings, $48 to $50. Mouillie, $58 to $60. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, $17.

Winnipeg Grain

Winnipeg, Feb. 26—Cash prices:—Oats—No. 2 C.W., 93⅝c; No. 3 C.W., 91⅝c; extra No. 1 feed, 89⅝c; No. 1 feed, 86⅝c; No. 2 feed, 83⅝c. Barley—No. 3 C.W., $1.66½; No. 4 C.W., $1.61½; rejected, $1.57; feed, $1.36. Flax—No. 1 N.W.C., $3.45; No. 2 C.W., $3.41½; No. 3 C.W., $3.24.

United States Markets

Minneapolis, Feb. 26—Corn—No. 3 yellow, $1.80 to $1.85. Oats—No. 3 white, 92½ to 93½c. Flour—Unchanged. Bran—$32.50.

Duluth, Feb. 26—Linseed—$3.76½ to $3.88½; to arrive, $3.76½; May, $3.76½ bid; July, $3.72½ bid; October, $3.50 asked.

Live Stock Markets

Toronto, Feb. 26—Extra choice heavy steers, $12 to $12.25; do., good heavy, $11.25 to $11.75; butchers' cattle, choice, $11.50 to $11.85; do., good, $10.90 to $11.25; do., medium, $10.25 to $10.50; do., common, $8.50 to $9.25; butchers' bulls, choice, $10 to $10.50; do., good bulls, $9 to $9.25; do., medium bulls, $7.85 to $8.50; do., rough bulls, $6.50 to $7; butchers' cows, choice, $10 to $10.50; do., good, $8.75 to $9; do., medium, $8 to $8.50; stockers, $7.50 to $8.50; feeders, $9 to $10; canners and cutters, $6 to $6.50; milkers, good to choice, $90 to $140; do., com. and med., $65 to $80; springers, $90 to $140; light ewes, $13.50 to $14.50; sheep, heavy, $6 to $7.25; yearlings, $11.75 to $12.75; lambs, $18 to $18.75; calves, good to choice, $15 to $16.50; hogs, fed and watered, $19; do., weighed off cars, $19.25; do., f.o.b., $18.

Montreal, Feb. 26—Choice steers, $10.75 to $11.50; good steers, $8.50 to $10.25; choice butcher cows, $9.50 to $9.75; good cows, $8.25 to $9.00; choice butcher bulls, $9.50 to $10.25; good bulls, $8.25 to $9; canners' cattle, $5.50 to $6; choice milk calves, $13 to $16; sheep, $11.50 to $12; lambs, $14 to $16; select hogs, off cars, $19 to $19.50; sows, $16.50 to $17.

BRITISH TAKE OVER STRETCH OF FRONT

Transfer of Considerable Part of Line Below St. Quentin From French.

A despatch from the British Army in France says: Another striking illustration of the co-ordination between the allied armies on the western front has been given in the successful transfer of a considerable stretch of the front below St. Quentin from French to British hands. From the inception of this delicate operation no hitch occurred. Thousands of French troops and scores of great batteries moved quietly and methodically out of the line day after day to make room for similar British units. It was done as easily as though the whole vast programme had been rehearsed.

Great credit is due to the French for the excellent condition in which they left the defences in this important region. Untold confusion, perhaps disaster, might have resulted had the defensive system been inferior, but it is such as to draw the highest praise from the British command.

DAYLIGHT SAVING IN BRITAIN MARCH 24.

A despatch from London says: Sir George Cave, Home Secretary, announced in the House of Commons that the Summer period would begin March 24 and end September 29.

Britain Stands by the Poles.

A despatch from London says: The British Government has instructed its agent at Kiev to make the declaration that Great Britain will not recognize any peace in the East which involves Poland without a previous consultation with Poland.

BRITISH REACH RIVER JORDAN

Gen. Allenby Secures Important Military Base By Capture of Jericho.

A despatch from London says: The British have captured Jericho, in Jerusalem.

With the capture of Jericho General Allenby has made another stride forward in his task in clearing Palestine of the Turks. The place itself was before the war only a small collection of hovels, but tracks and roads which pass over a great concrete bridge which the Germans had built across the Jordan since the war began, and convenient fords, make it an important military base, the capture of which gives the British another road leading northward to the Turkish base at Nablus.

In addition the village controls the road to the coast and the mountain highway from Jerusalem. The Turks are also deprived of an important road running behind their front which enabled them to send troops to threatened sectors, and it is even possible that the Turkish forces have been completely separated.

MONUMENT UNVEILED TO CANADA'S IMMORTALS.

A despatch from Canadian Headquarters in France says: Canada in France paid reverent tribute to the memory of the Canadian gunners who fell in action during the Vimy Ridge operations, when Gen. Currie unveiled a memorial erected to the gallant dead by the Canadian Corps artillery. Sir Julian Byng was present, and with him was Gen. Sir H. S. Horne, commanding the First Army.

WAR COSTS BRITAIN $31,920,000 A DAY.

A despatch from London says: Andrew Bonar Law, Chancellor of the Exchequer, speaking in the House of Commons, said the average daily expenditure during the four weeks ending February 16, was $31,920,000.

BRITAIN CAPTURES 168 HEAVY HOWITZERS IN PAST YEAR.

A despatch from London says: The British captures in the past year include 168 heavy howitzers, 68 heavy guns, 437 field guns, 1,057 trench mortars and 2,814 machine guns. This statement was made by James Ian MacPherson, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for War, in introducing the army estimates in the House of Commons.

REPRISALS TO BEGIN IN EARNEST

British Will Carry Air War to German Cities in Retaliation For Hun Outrages.

A despatch from London says: The campaign of air reprisals on German cities and towns is about to begin in earnest.

"Reprisals" is a word not officially used in Great Britain. However, let it be set down here on the very highest authority that if the Germans believe they can bomb London every moonlight night, killing women, children and cripples unable to find shelter, and then trust to the Christian spirit of England to prevent reprisals, they may look for a violent awakening from their barbarous slumbers.

It is conceded generally that the bombing of cities containing military bases, supplies, troops and munitions will be one of the big features of the war from this time on. It will veritably be a war in the air, and may, perhaps, have a vital effect on hastening the end of hostilities. Improvements in aircraft have been almost magical since the war began, and the world may well prepare for astonishing things.

For every raid on London or other unfortified city there will be raids on German cities. No one expects the English fliers to go to Berlin just now. A return trip to the German capital under present conditions would be too uncertain, but it may be said that the Germans are not the only ones who are making wondrous strides in the perfection of aircraft.

MORE UKRAINE GRAIN THAN CAN BE MOVED.

A despatch from Amsterdam says: In an address to the Lower House of the Reichsrath at Vienna, Dr. von Seydler, Austrian Premier, declared that under the peace treaty with the Ukraine there had been placed at the disposal of the Central Powers the Ukraine's surplus of agricultural products. This surplus was greater than the Central Powers, at the most favorable estimate, could transport.

AMERICANS LOST 204 ON THE TUSCANIA.

A despatch from London says: Two hundred and four Americans lost their lives on the Tuscania, according to the latest figures received at American army headquarters. Of this total there have been identified and buried three officers and 137 men; unidentified buried, one officer and 31 men; missing (presumably went down with the ship), 32 men.

GERMANS CONTINUE ADVANCE EASTWARD IN RUSSIA, CAPTURING MINSK

Immense Booty Taken, Including 8,700 Men, 425 Officers, Over 1,300 Guns and Nearly 5,000 Motor Cars.

A despatch from London says: The German troops have entered Minsk in their advance eastward in Russia, according to the report from German Headquarters on Thursday evening.

The Russian town of Rovno has been cleared of the Russians, the Berlin War Office reports. Trains with about 1,000 cars, many laden with food, have been captured, as well as airplanes and an incalculable amount of war material.

Between Dvinsk and Pinsk the Germans are pressing eastward. General von Linsingen's movement continues. Important railway and highway junctions have been occupied.

A Berlin despatch states that the Russian written confirmation of the acceptance of peace terms has passed the German lines. This disposes of rumors of the fall of the Lenine-Trotsky Government.

The German War Office announces that 1,353 guns and between 4,000 and 5,000 motor cars have been captured from the Russians thus far in the new campaign. The Germans have made prisoner a General commanding an army, 425 officers and 8,700 men.

Rovno is the most easterly of the triangle of Russian fortresses in Volhynia. Lutsk, the western citadel in the triangle, capitulated to the Germans on February 18 without fighting. The third fortress in Volhynia, Dubno lies about midway between Rovno and the town of Brody on the Galician frontier.

The Doings of the Duffs.