GERMAN-RUSS PARLEYS REPORTED ENDED; HUNS CONTINUE ADVANCE

Situation in Petrograd Critical As Indicated by Departure of Ambassadors—Foe Advancing in Three Columns.

A despatch from London says: A message received by the Bolsheviki Government in Petrograd from Brest-Litovsk, dated Friday, ordering a train under military guard to meet the Russian delegates at Toroshaets, was considered by the Government as probably signifying that the peace negotiations have been broken off, according to a wireless communication received here from Petrograd Friday.

An ultimatum was handed to the Russian Bolsheviki Government by the German commander on the eastern front on Thursday, giving the Russians three days in which to sign the peace treaty demanded by the Teutons. Coincident with this demand, the German advance into Russia has been resumed. There are apparently three columns of Germans advancing into Russia. One is near Luga, midway between Pskov and Petrograd; one is said to be at Polotsk, midway between Pinsk and Vitensk, and the other is at Sebezh, 80 miles east of Dvinsk. An official report says that the German troops had reached the right bank of the Dnieper River, north of Kiev.

That the situation in Petrograd has become critical is reflected in the report that the American and Japanese Ambassadors have reached Vologna, the capital of the Russian Government of the same name, lying far to the east of Petrograd. The British and French Embassies have also left the Russian capital, but nothing is known as to their destination.

Reports forwarded by the way of London say that the Russian troops are destroying railroad property and burning stores as they retire before the Germans. At no point is there serious fighting reported, but the advance of the Teutons is said to be cautious.

JAPAN TO PROTECT EAST

Entente and America Agree to Confide Task to Japs Alone.

A despatch from Washington says: —Indications now point to an agreement between the Entente Powers and America to confide to Japan alone the task of taking such measures as may be necessary to combat German aggression and influence in Siberia, and to protect the military stores at Viadivostok. No final conclusion has been reached, however, and it was said in high official quarters Friday night that conditions were changing so rapidly and so many new factors were entering into the problem that it would be unsafe to predict overnight what the issue might be.

A despatch from London says:—According to The Daily Mail, it is understood that the allies have decided to ask the Japanese to take any steps necessary for the protection of the allies in the Far East.

Stress is laid on the fact that the British and Japanese intervention in Russian affairs is not to be construed as an act of hostility to Russia or the Russian Government. Its purpose is to safeguard menaced allied interests and to protect stores and munitions at Viadivostok, and to assist Russia to lighten and eventually lift the burden of the German yoke.

AMERICANS STOP GERMAN ATTACK

Fight First Big Battle in Salient North of Toul.

A despatch from France says:—American troops repulsed a strong German attack Friday morning in the salient north of Toul. There were many American casualties, one of the killed being a captain who graduated from West Point in 1917. The raid was a complete failure, three German prisoners remaining in American hands. The ground in front of the American trenches were strewn with German dead.

When the enemy had been driven back out of the positions the bodies of ten German soldiers were found in our trenches. Two German officers were entangled in our wire and many bodies were in sight. Eight were visible through the snow storm at one point.

The Americans lost many killed and wounded, including officers.

BRITISH CASUALTIES FOR FEBRUARY SMALL

A despatch from London says:—British casualties for February were smallest since last Winter, aggregating only 19,492, divided: Killed, 4,542; wounded, 11,393; missing, 3,463. Officers' casualties were: Killed, 219; wounded, 411; missing, 94; total, 724. Men's casualties were: Killed, 4,323; wounded, 10,982; missing, 3,463.

If boiled icing doesn't harden try boiling it longer.

FRANCE ACQUIRES GERMAN SHIPS

Brazil Gives Over 200,000 Tons Shipping and Votes Credits.

A despatch from Paris says: The Chamber of Deputies has approved the arrangement with Brazil for the acquisition of 200,000 tons of German shipping in Brazilian ports, contingent on the purchase also from Brazil of 2,000,000 sacks of coffee and 100,000,000 francs ($20,000,000) worth of other goods; also for a 5 per cent. commission to intermediaries.

Fifty thousand additional workers are to be put at the disposition of the French shipyards to speed up the lagging repairs and increase production. Entire credits voted exceed 700,000,000 francs, about $140,000,000.

PLOTTERS AGAINST CANADA ARRESTED.

A despatch from Detroit says: Government agents took into custody here shortly before midnight, five men, who, it is charged, have been engaged in manufacturing explosive bombs for use in destroying Canadian plants. The men were arrested near a little town named Brighton, Mich., 35 miles outside Detroit, and brought here under close guard. Their names are withheld for the present.

Britain Releases 817 Prisoners.

A despatch from Amsterdam says: Three hospital ships bringing 817 invalid German prisoners from England for repatriation have arrived safely at Rotterdam.

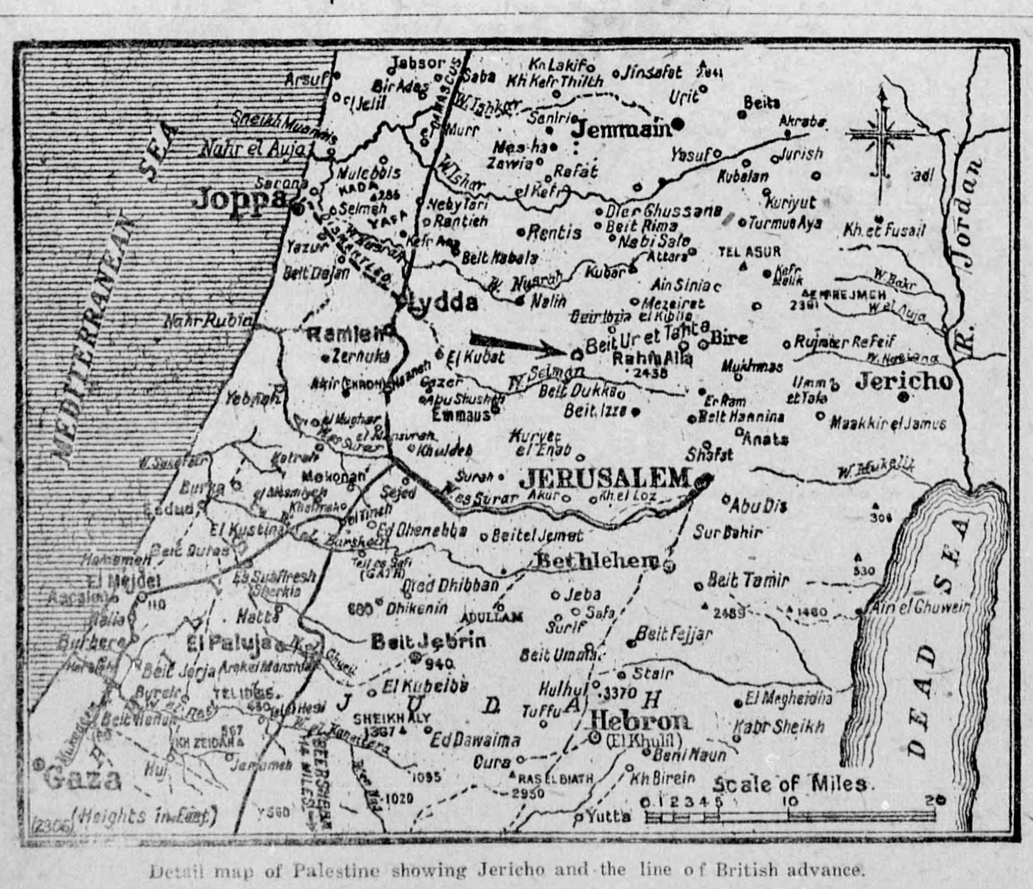
URGENT REQUEST COMES FOR FOOD

Great Britain Wants All That Can Be Spared, and Quickly.

A despatch from Ottawa says: "Every carload of wheat or flour and bacon or frozen meat that Canada can get to the seaboard is badly wanted." Such is the effect of a cabled message received from the British Ministry of Food by the Chairman of the Canadian Food Board.

"Compulsory rationing of meat, butter and fats came into force on Monday throughout London and the home counties. Fourteen million people are now restricted to about 1¼ pounds of meat, 4 ounces of butter or margarine and ½ pound of sugar per week. By March 25 compulsory rationing of these foodstuffs will be universal in the United Kingdom. The congestion on the railways in the United States continues to aggravate the already serious situation. Every carload of wheat or flour and bacon or frozen meat that Canada can get to the seaboard is badly wanted.

"The Italian Government Commission states that the food situation there is unchanged, but all the allied countries are naturally affected by the decreased imports reaching them from American ports."



Detail map of Palestine showing Jericho and the line of British advance.

NEW ISSUE

Offering of

$6,900,000

Five Year 6% Refunding Gold Bonds

CITY OF MONTREAL

DATED 1st DECEMBER, 1917 DUE 1st DECEMBER, 1922

Interest payable half-yearly—1st June and December.

Principal and Interest payable in Gold at the City Treasurer's Office, Montreal, or at the Agency of the Bank of Montreal, New York.

Bonds issued in Coupon form in denominations of $100, $500 and $1,000.

ISSUE PRICE—PAR.

A full half year's interest will be paid 1st June, 1918.

The bonds therefore give a net yield to the investor of about 6½%.

THE BANK OF MONTREAL, Fiscal Agent of the City of Montreal, is authorized to offer the above-named bonds for public sale on behalf of the City, at par, without accrued interest, payment to be made in full on 8th April, 1918, against delivery of the bonds at any Branch, in Canada, of the BANK OF MONTREAL, or of any bank the applicant may specify, or at the Agency of the BANK OF MONTREAL, New York or Chicago.

The issue is made to refund a like amount of Montreal Three-Year 5% Notes, the original issue having been made for public works, in anticipation of a permanent loan.

Beginning 25th February, 1918, applications for the bonds will be received by the BANK OF MONTREAL, MONTREAL, or any of its branches, from whom application forms and copies of the prospectus giving full particulars of the issue may be obtained on request. The offering is subject to withdrawal on or before the 18th March, 1918.

Applications should be addressed to the

BANK OF MONTREAL, MONTREAL

and should contain full instructions as to place of delivery and payment suitable to the applicant, and the denominations of bonds required.

The issue is made with the approval of the Minister of Finance, Ottawa.

LEADING MARKETS

Breadstuffs

Toronto, Mar. 5—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., 97½c; No. 3 C.W., 94½c; extra No. 1 feed, 92½c; No. 1 feed, 89½c; in store Fort William.

American corn—No. 3 yellow, kiln dried, $2.05, track Toronto.

Ontario oats—No. 2 white, 97 to 98c; No. 3 white, 96 to 97c, 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, $1.68 to $1.70, according to freights outside.

Buckwheat—$1.78 to $1.80, according to freights outside.

Rye—No. 2, $2.08 to $2.10, according to freights outside.

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

Ontario flour—War quality, $10.70, new bags, Toronto and Montreal freight, 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, 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., 47½ to 48c; dairy, per lb., 36 to 38c.

Eggs—New laid, 49 to 50c.

Poultry—Dressed, chickens, 26 to 28c; fowl, 25 to 27c; ducks, 23 to 24c; geese, 21 to 22c; turkeys, 30 to 35c.

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, 51 to 52c; solids, 49 to 50c.

Eggs—New laid, 55c; new laid, in cartons, 58 to 60c; No. 1 storage, 51 to 52c.

Dressed poultry—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; chickens, lb., 26 to 28c; hens, 30 to 33c; ducks, Spring, 25c; geese, 15 to 17c.

Beans—Canadian, hand-picked, bush., $8.25 to $8.50; imp. hand-picked, Burma or Indian, $6.75 to $7; Japan, $8 to $8.25; Limas, 18 to 19c.

Provisions—Wholesale

Smooked 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, 42 to 43c; boneless, 45 to 46c.

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

Montreal Markets

Montreal, Mar. 5—Oats—Canadian Western, No. 3, $1.11½; extra No. 1 feed, $1.11½ No. 2 local white, $1.10; No. 3 local white, $1.09; No. 4 local white, $1.08. Flour—New standard Spring wheat grade, $11.10 to $11.20. Rolled oats—Bags, 90 lbs., $5.60 to $5.70. Bran, $35. Shorts, $40. Middlings, $48 to $50. Mouillie, $60 to $62. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, $17.00.

Winnipeg Grain

Winnipeg, Mar. 5—Cash prices:—Oats—No. 2 C.W., 97½c; No. 3 C.W., 94½c; extra No. 1 feed, 86½c; No. 1 feed, 89½c; No. 2 feed, 86½c. Barley—No. 3 C.W., $1.76½; No. 4, $1.71½; rejected, $1.42; feed, $1.40. Flax—No. 1 N.W.C., $3.59; No. 2 C.W., $3.54½; No. 3 C.W., $3.36½.

Live Stock Markets

Toronto, Mar. 5—Extra choice heavy steers, $11.75 to $12; do., good heavy, $11.40 to $11.65; butchers' cattle, choice, $11.25 to $11.35; do., good, $10.75 to $11; do., medium, $10 to $10.25; do., common, $9 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, $8 to $8.25; yearlings, $11.75 to $12.75; lambs, $18 to $18.75; calves, good to choice, $16 to $17; hogs, fed and watered, $19.50 to $19.60; do., weighed off cars, $19.75; do., f.o.b., $18.50 to $18.60.

Montreal, Mar. 5—Steers, from $9.50 to $11.30, according to quality; butchers bulls, $8 to $10.50; butchers' cows, $7.50 to $10; canners' cattle, $5.50 to $6.50; milk calves, $13.50 to $15.50; sheep, $11 to $13; lambs, $13 to $16; select hogs, off cars, $19.50 to $19.75.

AIR RAID ON CITY OF VENICE

Austrians Carry Out Reprisal For Italy's Raid on Innsbruck.

A despatch from London says: Gothas dropped over one hundred bombs on Venice Tuesday night out of a sheer lust for destruction. Bombs fell close to the Ducal Palace, the Bridge of Sighs and Saint Mark's Church. The despatch suggests that these escaped serious damage. Elsewhere the damage is grave. Two convents were struck and nuns were victims. One-third of all the houses in Venice are now reported ruined.

A despatch from Vienna says: The official statement issued at the War Office Thursday night says:

"In reprisal for the Italian air raid on the open town of Innsbruck our flying squadrons on Tuesday bombed railway stations and military works of the naval port of Venice. Many hits resulted in fires."

WAR TAX NETS $127,350 IN MONTH OF JANUARY

A despatch from Ottawa says:—The sum of $127,350 was netted to the Government during the month of February by the war tax, according to the statement issued from the Inland Revenue Department on Thursday. The total revenue from all sources for the month was $2,555,597.

Remember that brown rice is most wholesome.

The Doings of the Duffs.