RUSSIAN FACTIONS REFUSE TO MEET ALLIES TO DISCUSS TERMS

Plan Declared to be Impracticable—Ukrainian Government Asks For Recognition and Seeks Alliance With France.

A despatch from Tokio says:—Gen. Harvath, interviewed in Vladivostok regarding the Peace Conference plans for all the delegates of the Russian factions to meet on Princes' Island, said it was impossible to conclude an armistice with the Bolsheviki, who would not respect it even if it were made. He regards the plan as practically impracticable on this account and also because travel conditions would prevent the delegates from reaching the designated conference place by the day specified.

A despatch from Paris says:—The Ukrainian Government will refuse to take part in the conference on the Princes' Islands, according to an interview given to Petit Journal by M. Sedorenko, Minister of Internal Communications in the new Ukrainian Government.

Sedorenko has begun parleys with the French Government to obtain the admission of the Ukraine to the Peace Conference. The only claim which his country will put forward will be for recognition. If this is granted, according to the interview, the Ukraine will propose an alliance with France on the basis of the former alliance with Russia, and will take over part of the Russian debt, France taking payment in part in wheat.

MUST STUDY LUMBER MARKET

Canada Should Endeavor to Meet Requirements of European Trade.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—That the Canadian lumber trade will experience some difficulty in securing its share of orders for reconstruction work in Europe unless more attention is paid to the requirements of the overseas market, is a warning given by the Commission of Conservation to Canadian exporters of lumber. Lumber from Russia and Sweden, it is pointed out, conforms more to the size requirements of the British market, and the chief difficulty Canadian dealers must overcome is the one relating to the "cant size" of lumber shipments generally from this side of the Atlantic.

"As far as British Columbia is concerned," says the statement, "the bulk of lumber heretofore imported by the United Kingdom has been in the form of large timbers of the grade known as 'merchantable,' for heavy structural work, or for resawing into any special size.

"If British Columbia is to enlarge her timber trade, then a range of all grades and sizes, including merchantable, but not the lowest grades, must be dealt in.

"If Canada," the report continues, "can deliver lumber in the various grades sawn to British standards at Swedish standards, then she can do business in a broad and general way." This, it is pointed out, is practically impossible with freight rates at the present high level, but in two years freight rates may go low enough for Canada to compete with Sweden and Russia, provided we manufacture to the requirements of the British market.

INCREASE TO BRITISH NAVY TO BE REGARDED AS BONUS

A despatch from London says:—The Admiralty announces that pending the conclusions of the Committee of Enquiry on the subject, it has been decided to increase the pay of all naval men, ranging from an extra shilling per day for ordinary seamen to six shillings for captains and higher ranks, with similar increases to the Royal Marines. This extra pay, it is declared, must be regarded as a bonus, and not as representing an increase of the present pay, which may ultimately be considered a just and equitable remuneration.

ENGLAND'S BIRTH RATE LOWEST IN HISTORY

A despatch from London says:—England's population is decreasing. So states Dr. Caleb W. Saleeby, the famous eugenist, on the authority of unpublished vital statistics sent to him by the Registrar General. They show that, for the whole of England and Wales, last year's death rate would, probably, be found to be higher than the birth rate. The year was the worst on record in this respect. In London the birth rate was 15.8 per 1,000 of population, and the death rate was 18.90. The smallness of the birth rate figures was unprecedented in the history of England.

NO LOSS ON WHEAT IS EXPECTED

Surplus of Sixty Million Bushels in Canada Will Sell Readily.

A despatch from Ottawa says:—Inasmuch as the Canadian Government has guaranteed the price of wheat of the crop of 1918 and the carrying costs thereof, it is deeply interested in the disposition of the exportable grain remaining in the country. It is estimated that that exportable surplus of wheat now amounts to from 60,000,000 to 70,000,000 bushels. At present the British and allied Governments are not purchasing grain either in Canada or the United States. Hence if prices in the world market should suffer an early decline both countries would be called to make good their guarantees. It is stated here, however, that there is no reason to anticipate that the Canadian Government will find itself obliged to disburse money to bring the price paid for Canadian grain in the world market up to the guaranteed fixed price based on $2.24½ a bushel for No. 1 Northern. It is believed that the present suspension of buying is due to congestion in Great Britain, that the British Wheat Export Company will resume buying and will likely do so on the basis which has hitherto prevailed.

WILL NOT CALL ON GERMANY TO PAY ALLIED COSTS OF WAR

A despatch from London says:—The Peace Conference has settled one important point with regard to the indemnity question, the Paris correspondent of the Evening Standard says he has reasons for reporting. The Conference, he declares, has eliminated any intention of calling upon Germany and her associates to pay the allied countries the cost of the war or to impose heavy indemnities upon the enemy nations.

TO PAY SOLDIERS 21 SHILLINGS WEEKLY

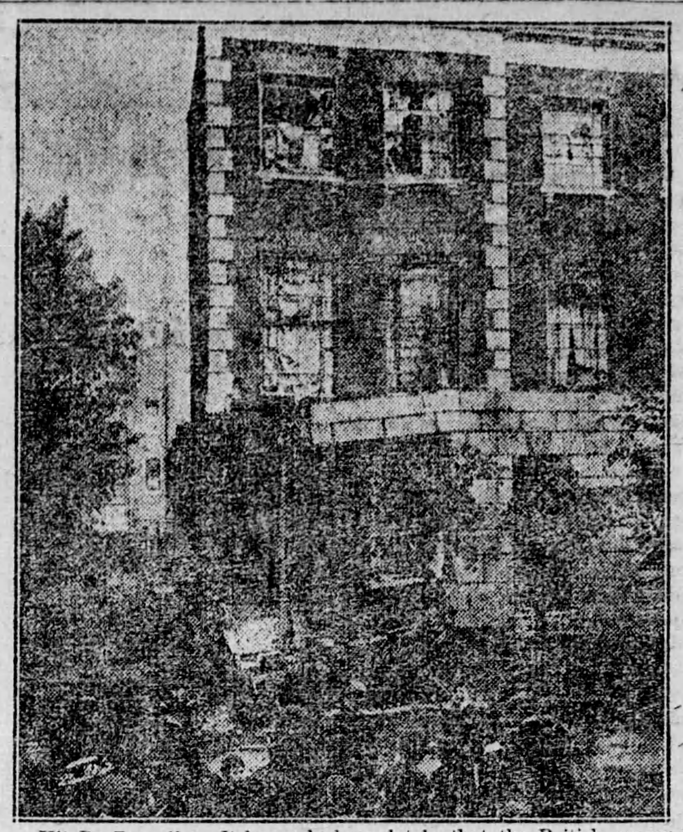
A despatch from London says:—The pay of the soldiers of the British army who will be retained until a peace footing again is reached probably will be twenty-one shillings a week and food and lodgings, according to a statement made by W. A. Appleton, Secretary of the General Federation of Trade Unions, to the Daily Mail.

FRENCH CUSTOMS LINE FIXED ALONG FRONTIERS OF 1870

A despatch from Paris says:—One of the first consequences of the reoccupation of Alsace-Lorraine has been the suppression of the Customs line of the Vosges. A decree appeared in the Official Journal fixing the French Customs line along the frontiers of 1870. The German Customs agents have been dismissed and an agreement has been made with Switzerland for opening the frontiers.

BRITISH FLAG FLOATS OVER STRASBOURG

A despatch from Strasbourg says:—Two British gunboats arrived here on Friday. The British flag now floats over the city.



Hit By Zeppelins—It has only been lately that the British censor has allowed any details to be published of the damage done by the various Zeppelin raids over London. Now that all danger is ended, the curtain has been lifted and the publication of photographs is permitted. This is a house in the west end of London which was hit by a bomb from a Zeppelin. All it inmates were killed.

YPRES RUINS TO BE LEFT INTACT

Will Stand as a Reminder of the Horrors of War to Future Generations.

A despatch from London says:—The decision of the Belgian Government to maintain Ypres, the scene of several battles between the British and the Germans in its present condition as a permanent memorial, is endorsed heartily by British press and public opinion.

"Ypres will be a memorial," says the Westminster Gazette, "in which future generations may learn the horrors of war. There is nothing more impressive than the sight of the stricken city with the skeletons of its once wonderful buildings rising gaunt into the sky. In a sense there are few things more beautiful. To patch it up would be impossible. Everyone, therefore, will welcome the decision that the remains of the old city shall be left intact instead of being cleared away.

"The East abounds in the ruins of the last vestiges of once glorious civilizations which have been overthrown. Ypres will stand for centuries as a reminder that civilization itself cannot be overthrown and as a monument to the generations sacrificed in its defence."

1,000,000 MEN WILL OCCUPY RHINELAND

A despatch from Paris says:—The number of American, French and British troops to be maintained in the occupied regions along the Rhine will be limited to 1,000,000 men, according to The Echo de Paris.

AIRPLANES TO CARRY FOOD TO BELGIUM

A despatch from London says:—The Government has allotted a squadron of military airplanes to convey foodstuffs to Belgium for the relief of the population. The service, which is to be daily, will begin immediately between Folkestone and Ghent.

BRITISH ARMY REMODELLED

900,000 Hold Lines in Germany During the Transition Period.

The regulations governing the armies of occupation are dealt with in an official statement issued by Winston Spencer Churchill, Secretary for War, says a London despatch. The statement says:

"The British military Commanders are of the opinion that 900,000 men are sufficient for this transition period. All the rest will be demobilized as fast as possible.

"The new armies will begin forming February 1 and will be composed, in the first instance, of those who have enlisted since January 1, 1916, and who do not exceed thirty-seven years of age. Volunteers will be accepted for one year's service from among men otherwise entitled to release, while sixty-nine battalions of young soldiers now on home service will be sent immediately to help guard the Rhine bridgeheads and release the older men.

"The men of the new armies will be paid bonues ranging from ten shillings and sixpence per week for privates, to forty-two shillings for Colonels, in addition to the ordinary army pay. Leave will be granted on as generous a scale as possible.

"The occupation armies will be the home army, the army of the Rhine, and the army of the Middle East, a detachment of the Far North, and garrisons of the Crown colonies and India.

"These arrangements seem to be the best devisable for the year 1919. During the year, however, we must remake the old British regular army, so as to provide, on a voluntary basis, overseas garrisons and foreign stations."

In connection with the foregoing the Ministry of Labor announces that no further application for release of individual officers or men on pivotal or special grounds can be considered.

Victims of The Huns—This photograph of human skeletons is that of a batch of British prisoners just after their release from the German prison camps. They were literally starved alive.

FROM OLD SCOTLAND

NOTES OF INTEREST FROM HEB BANKS AND BRAES.

What is Going On in the Highlands and Lowlands of Auld Scotia.

During Y.M.C.A. week in Dundee the amount realized was £10,200.

Captain H. H. McKee, Harthill, Bathgate, has been awarded a bar to his Military Medal.

The Military Service Medal has been awarded to Pte. James McNee, Black Watch, Campsie.

John Given, the oldest postman in Stirling, has been awarded the Imperial Service Medal.

Mr. Laidlaw, the father of Piper Dan Laidlaw, V.C., has passed away at his home in Doddington.

Provost Aikman, of St. Andrew's, has given notice of his intention to retire from the civic chair.

Dr. Josephine Cairns has been appointed interim medical officer for the county of Clackmannan.

Lieut. J. A. Kirk, killed in action, was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Kirk, Galloway street, Maxwellton.

Major Francis Roy Tarleton, who has been awarded the Military Cross, is a son of Mrs. Wise, Dairsie.

Sam Brown, a resident of Stonehaven, has grown a potato which weighs two and one-half pounds.

Midshipman Archibald Douglas Moir, R.N., killed in action, was the son of J. W. Moir, Dunmar, Alloa.

D. M. Lamont, M.A., Bo'ness Academy, has been appointed classical master in Vale of Leven Academy.

Lieut. Douglas Caldre, of Bathgate, who joined the army in Toronto, Canada, is reported wounded.

Major R. O. Irving, M.C., Canadians, killed in action, was a son of Henry Bell Irving, Millbank, Lockerbie.

Major-General W. H. Ryeroft, Ardgairney, has had the Hellenes Order of the Redeemer bestowed on him.

The Town Council of Crief has decided to erect a memorial to the men from the burgh who have fallen in the war.

Lieut. Arthur D. Binnie, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Binnie, Longiddry, was killed as the result of an aeroplane accident.

The town of Peebles Council has acquired from the Earl of Wemyss the lands of Kirklands and the farm of Jedderfields.

ALLIES LOAN TEN BILLION FRANCS TO THE BELGIANS

A despatch from Paris says:—Ten billion francs have been advanced to Belgium by Great Britain, France and the United States, this amount to be deducted from the first instalment of the war indemnity to be paid by Germany, according to a Havas despatch from Brussels.

The despatch adds that the amount will be raised either by an inter-allied bond issue or by a German loan having priority over all other loans.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT TO MEET FEB. 11

A despatch from London says:—The new British Parliament, according to present plans will meet on February 11, with Prime Minister Lloyd George and Andrew Bonar Law, the Government leader in the House of Commons, attending. The time used in giving the oath to members will be shortened, and it is expected that an hour after the session begins both houses will assemble to hear the speech from the throne. Sir James Lowther will be re-elected speaker of the House.

Future Army of Occupation Largely French and American

A despatch from London says:—The British contribution to the allied armies of occupation in the Rhineland, says the Times, will be less numerically than that of either France of the United States, consideration having been given to the part played in the war by the British Navy and to British responsibilities in other parts of the world.

Markets of the World

Breadstuffs

Toronto, Feb. 4.—Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, $2.24½; No. 2 Northern, $2.21½; No. 2 Northern, $2.17½; No. 4 wheat, $2.11½, in store Fort William, not including tax.

Manitoba oats—No. 2 C.W., 63⅝c; No. 3 C.W., 57⅝c; extra No. 1 feed 60⅝c; No. 1 feed, 56⅛c, in store Fort William.

American corn—No. 2 yellow, $1.45; No. 4 yellow, $1.42; January shipment.

Ontario oats, new crop—No. 2 white, 59 to 62c; No. 3 white, 58 to 61c according to freights outside.

Ontario wheat—No. , 1 Winter, per car lot, $2.14 to $2.22; No. 2, do., $2.11 to $2.19; No. 3, do., $2.07 to $2.15 to $2.15; No. 1 Spring, $2.06 to $2.17; No. 2 Spring, $2.06 to $2.14; No. 3 Spring, $2.02 to $2.10 f.o.b., shipping points, according to freights.

Peas—No. 2, $2.00.

Barley—Malting new crop, 73 to 78c; according to freights outside.

Buckwheat—No. 2, $1, nominal.

Rye—No. 2, $1.25, nominal.

Manitoba flour—Old crop, war quality, $11.35, Toronto.

Ontario flour—War quality, old crop, $10.00, in bags, Montreal and Toronto, prompt shipment.

Millfeed—Car lots, delivered Montreal freights, bags included. Bran, $37.25 per ton; shorts, $42.25 per ton.

Hay—No. 1, $22 to $23 per ton; mixed, $20 to $21 per ton, track Toronto.

Straw—Car lots, $10 to $11, track Toronto.

Country Produce—Wholesale

Eggs—No. 1 storage, 55 to 56c; selected, storage, 58 to 60c; cartons, new-laid, 65 to 67c.

Butter—Creamery, solids, 51 to 52c; do, prints, 53 to 55c; choice dairy prints, 53 to 55c; ordinary dairy prints, 38 to 40c; bakers', 30 to 33c; oleomargarine, (best grade), 32 to 34c.

Cheese—New, large, 28 to 28½c; twins, 29 to 29½c; spring mare, large, 28½c to 29c; twins, 29 to 29½c.

Comb honey—Choice, 16 oz., $4.50 to $5.00 per dozen; 12 oz., $3.50 to $4.00 per dozen.

Maple syrup—In 5-gallon tins, $3.15 to $3.35.

Montreal Markets

Montreal, Feb. 4.—Flour—New standard grade, $11.25 to $11.35. Rolled oats—Bags, 90 lbs. $4.00 to $4.25. Bran, $37.25. Shorts, $42.25 Mouillie, $68.00. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, $22.00 to $23.00.

Cheese—Finest easterns, 24 to 25c. Butter—choicest creamery, 53 to 54c. Eggs—Selected, 57 to 58c; No. 1 stock 53 to 54c. Potatoes—Per bag, car lots, $1.65 to $1.70. Dressed hogs—Abattoir killed, $23.00 to $23.50. Lard—Pure, wood pails, 20 lbs. net, 28 to 30c.

Live Stock Markets

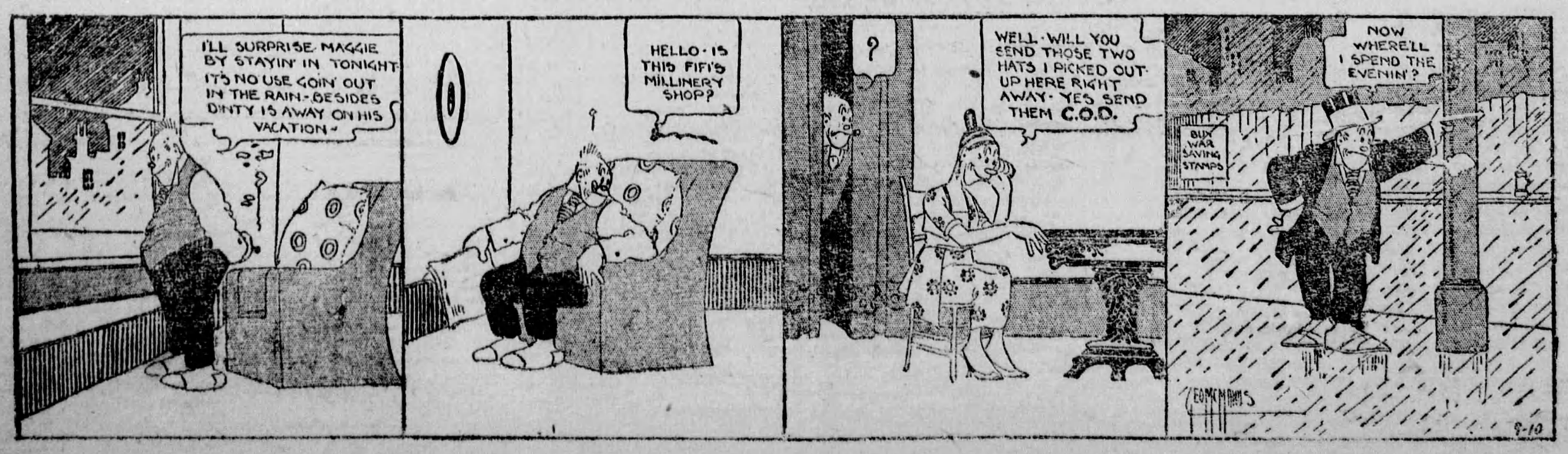
Toronto, Feb. 4.—Choice heavy steers, $13.00 to $14.50; butchers' cattle, choice, $10.75 to $11.25; do. good, $10.00 to $10.50; do. common, $8.50 to $8.75; bulls, choice, $10.25 to $10.50; do. medium bulls, $8.50 to $9.00; do. rough bulls, $7.25 to $7.75; butchers' cows, choice, $9.00 to $9.50; do. good, $8.00 to $8.50; do, medium, $7.25 to $7.50; do. common, $6.25 to $6.75; stockers, $8.00 to $10.00; feeders, $10.50 to $11.50; canners, $5.00 to $5.50; milkers, good to choice, $90.00 to $130.00; do. com, and med., $65.00 to $75.00; springers, $90.00 to $130.00; light ewes, $9.00 to $9.50; yearlings, $12.00 to $12.50; spring lambs, $14.00 to $14.50; calves good to choice, $15.00 to $15.50; hogs fed and watered, $16.00 to $16.25.

Montreal, Feb. 4.—Canners' cattle $4.50 to $6.00; butchers' bulls and cows, $9.00 to $10.50; lambs, $12.50 sheep, $8.00 to $9.50; milk fed calves, $12.00 to $16.00; choice select hogs $16.50.

80,000 OF AIR FORCE WILL BE RETAINED

A despatch from London says:—The Air Force for the armies of occupation, says an official announcement, has been selected on the same basis and with the same emoluments as the other branches of the service. six thousand five hundred officers and seventy-five thousand men will be retained out of approximately three hundred thousand.

GERMAN BOMBS KILL TWO BRITISH SOLDIERS

A despatch from Mons, Belgium, says:—Two British soldiers were killed and several injured on Friday by the explosion of bombs hidden under coal abandoned by the Germans. The soldiers were engaged in removing the coal when the explosion occurred.

BRINGING UP FATHER