

TERMS OF RUSSIA SUIT THE TEUTONS

Who Virtually Accept Them But Cannot Bind Themselves Unless Russia's Allies Also Recognize And Carry Them Out Honestly.

New York, Dec. 27.—Virtual acceptance of the peace terms offered by Russia was made by the Central Powers, in a statement issued to the peace conference Tuesday by Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister.

Peace without forcible annexations and indemnities is agreeable to the Central Powers and they will conclude a general peace immediately on conditions equally just to all belligerents.

The Central Powers share the Russian condemnation of the prolongation of the war for the purpose of conquest.

Count Czernin agrees that the people have the right of self-definition, but says that subject nationalities must solve their problem under the laws of the countries under whose sway they live.

The Entente Allies up to this time have not recognized the lawful right of the Bolsheviki Government to rule Russia and they have not agreed to the terms Russia proffered at the beginning of the Brest-Litovsk conference.

Think They Lack Sincerity.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Conditions surrounding Count Czernin's proposals for basis of peace cause officials here to feel some apprehension for their sincerity. There is great disposition to feel that the object of the German plenipotentiaries is simply to protract negotiations as long as possible without any expectation of an immediate peace agreement.

The American Government has not changed in any respect with regard to its determination to enter into no agreement with a Government which does not allow the free will of a governed people.

LAST TEUTON SUPREME EFFORT

To Reach the Venetian Plain Before Winter Checks All Operations.

THE ALLIES DETERMINED

NOT TO PERMIT ENEMY TO REACH SUMMITS.

The Snow Has Curtailed the Bringing up of Food For the Teutons—Italian Resistance Is Strong.

With the French Armies in Italy, Dec. 27.—The Teutons are making their last supreme effort to reach the Venetian plain to day, before winter irrevocably checks all operations.

Snow and ice are already checking offensive possibilities through all the mountain region. The winter, nevertheless continues unseasonably open. As yet there is no sign of heavy snow having fallen in the mountains. Yet the passes are gradually being covered with a mantle sufficient within a week or ten days more to check the enemy's operations.

Already snowfall has curtailed the bringing up of food to such an extent that the enemy has been forced to substitute for massed attacks the drive of special troops, carrying emergency rations. These forces fight until relieved by others, like themselves, carrying equipment for four days' service.

The Allies are determined not to permit the Austro-Germans even to reach the dominating summits of Asiago and Grappa. The Austro-German decision to accept their present front for the whole winter has been further indicated by their reversion to the old line, while offensive efforts are concentrated against Grappa, to improve permanent positions there.

The resistance of the Italian army at Asiago equals that exhibited by the Fourth Army in its recapture of

Asolone last week. These two examples of splendid courage and fighting ability give Allied officers the highest hopes of the Italians' ability to pin down the enemy to his present position.

NEW YORK STOCKS SOARED ON THURSDAY.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) New York, Dec. 27.—Stocks soared at the opening of the stock market to-day denoting the satisfaction of the financial community with the President's decision to take over the railroads. The advances ranged from two to eight points in the railways lists, all standard shares being bid up furiously.

TWO GERMAN ATTACKS ON VERDUN FRONT FAIL

London Reports Hostile Artillery Activity North and East of Ypres.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) Paris, Dec. 27.—The Germans made two attacks on the Verdun front to-day, but were not able to break through the French lines, the War Office reports.

London Reports Little.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) London, Dec. 27.—Except for some hostile artillery activity north and east of Ypres, there was nothing to report last night.

Third Attack Broken.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) Paris, Dec. 27.—The attacks were made by the Germans last night on the Verdun front east of the Meuse. At their third attempt the Germans succeeded in reaching the French lines but, were driven out immediately with heavy losses and leaving prisoners.

A STEAMER WRECKED.

Went Down in Deleoga Bay—All Passengers Saved.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) London, Dec. 27.—The British steamer City of Nagpur, 8,331 tons, has been wrecked in Deleoga Bay, Portuguese East Africa, according to a despatch to the Times from Lisbon. The passengers, numbering 250, were saved, as was the cargo.

War Tidings.

Eleven British ships were sunk by German submarines last week. The German Kaiser was nearly killed when the British bombed Mannheim. Sir Rosslyn Tenney is made first lord of the Admiralty and Sir John Jellicoe becomes a peer. Germany's attempts to secure Austro-Hungarian co-operation in the offensive on the western front are understood to have failed.

Secretary McAdoo is appointed Director-General of Railways to take control of all roads in the United States. It is stated that there will be opposition to Mayor Fisher's re-election in Ottawa. The Government will take over the milk business of Winnipeg the first of the year.

REMEMBER THE KIDDIES! The Whig's Fund For Christmas Presents to Soldiers' Children.

Table listing donors and amounts for the Whig's Fund for Christmas Presents to Soldiers' Children. Donors include Mrs. R. S. Waldron (\$150.00), W. F. Nickle (100.00), Senator Richardson (50.00), W. J. Fair (50.00), Steacy's Limited (50.00), H. C. Nickle (50.00), Mayor Hughes (25.00), Royal Military College Cadets (25.00), British Whig (25.00), Standard Publishing Co. (25.00), At Davis & Son (25.00), R.C.H.A. Canteen (25.00), N. C. Polson & Co. (25.00), Macnee & Minnes (25.00), Dr. J. J. Harty (25.00), Mr. and Mrs. R. N. F. McFarlane (25.00), Canadian Ordnance Corps (25.00), Parcel Post & Letter Carriers (11.50), Ald. H. W. Newman (10.00), Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Whiting (10.00), A. B. Cunningham (10.00), Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Connell (10.00), W. G. Craig & Co. (10.00), Robertson's Ltd. (10.00), Ancient St. John's Lodge, A.F. & A.M. (10.00), Anderson Bros. (10.00), Mrs. S. E. Kirkpatrick (10.00), Geo. Robertson & Son, Ltd. (10.00), Dr. & Mrs. Hogart (10.00), J. B. Carruthers (10.00), Cataract Lodge No. 29, A.F. & A.M. (10.00), Kingston Shipbuilding Co. (10.00), Custom House (7.00), Major G. I. Campbell (5.00), Col. and Mrs. Perron (5.00), F. Atkinson Wray (5.00), Mr. and Mrs. H. Hitchon (5.00), Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. W. H. Macnee (5.00), Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. J. N. S. Leslie (5.00), Mrs. Margaret Dever (5.00), Mr. and Mrs. Sandford Calvia (5.00), MacDonald and Barbara Gibson (5.00), Great War Veterans' Ass'n. (5.00), J. M. Farrell (5.00), Alan G. Stevenson (5.00), Capt. John Donnelly (5.00), Col. and Mrs. G. Hunter Ogilvie (5.00), Rev. D. M. Gordon (5.00), J. H. Sutherland & Bro. (5.00), Capt. and Mrs. Peters (5.00), Sergeants Mess, Queen's Military Hospital (5.00), Mrs. H. Staley (5.00), A Friend (5.00), R. Meek (5.00), Mrs. E. J. B. Fense (5.00), John Hickey (5.00), Mrs. W. Kirkpatrick (5.00), Midland Shoe Co. (5.00), Mr. and Mrs. J. R. C. Dobbs (5.00), Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Stanley, Clinton, N. Y. (5.00), "Betty" (5.00), George Masoud (5.00), F. H. Anglin (5.00), Lend-a-Hand Circle, King's Daughters' Mite Box, Post Office (4.00), Major G. L. Starr (3.00), Mrs. Jeremy Taylor (2.50), Mrs. M. Eason (2.00), "Teddie" and "Jack" (2.00), Archdeacon Dobbs (2.00), Miss L. Mowat (2.00), Patricia (2.00), Mrs. T. H. Jamieson (2.00), Miss Emily Smythe (2.00), Mrs. W. D. Carmichael (2.00), A. E. Day (2.00), S. Cohan, Confectionary & Ice Cream Parlor, 108 Ontario St. (2.00), Mrs. John Carson (2.00), A Friend (2.00), Rev. W. T. G. Brown (2.00), Miss Charlotte J. Macaulay (2.00), Bessie M. Sanderson (1.00), A Friend (1.75), Mrs. Dupuis (1.00), Mrs. A. Mackie (1.00), Mrs. John Hunter (1.00), A Friend (1.00), A Friend, Wolfe Island (1.00), Santa Claus, Jr. (1.00), A Friend (1.00), Miss Baxter (1.00), Harold Anglin (1.00), Murray Airth (1.00), A Lover of Kiddies (1.00), Miss Dupuy (1.00), Wm. Bushell (1.00), Mrs. T. W. Mills (1.00), From a Friend (1.00), Rodger and Molly (1.00), A Friend (.50), A Soldier's Wife (.25), Another Soldier's Wife (.25).

The British Whig's Christmas Tree for the children of soldiers overseas will be held in the armchairs to-morrow afternoon. The ground floor will be reserved for the children and their mothers. It has been arranged to open the balconies for the convenience of those who subscribed to the fund. Soldiers' wives who are entitled to admission tickets to the Christmas tree, and who have not received same, may obtain them by calling upon Mrs. Henning, 157 King street, or Mrs. Duff, corner Princess street and University Avenue.

May Have to Pool Coal. Washington, Dec. 27.—Fuel Administrator Garfield stated at the Senate coal hearing yesterday that if the war continued very long the Government would be compelled to pool coal and sell it at reasonable prices. He saw little relief in prospect for the railroads until their operations were centralized.

To Hang; Dies in Prison. Halifax, N.S., Dec. 27.—Carmello Sofie Morbillo, the Italian woman who was found guilty of the murder of her husband, at Pictou, and who was sentenced to be hanged on Jan. 15th, died on Christmas Day in the Pictou County Jail. Death was due to rheumatic fever and heart trouble.

FOUGHT FOR THE KERENSKY ADMINISTRATION



Mme. Kysath and her husband, Captain Rogosin, posed specially for this photograph in London. Captain Rogosin recently returned to England from Petrograd, where he fought for the Kerensky administration.

FINAL VICTORY NOT EXPECTED

The German People Are Betraying No Great War Enthusiasm Now.

WORKERS ARE UNDERFED

THE BREAD RATION IS INSUFFICIENT FOR THEM.

German Losses in Flanders Heavy—Civil Authorities Anxious to Make Peace Even at Cost of Abandoning Cherished Designs.

The Hague, Dec. 27.—I obtained today from a neutral recently returned from Berlin, whom I know to be a careful and experienced observer, information in reference to the state of public feeling in Berlin over the food conditions there. He assures me that, compared with those which existed when he was in Germany a year ago, the food conditions now are better, and, in spite of complaints, food is, on the whole, better distributed. The bread ration is roughly five thick slices a day, and the quality is distinctly superior to the bread now available in Holland, though much darker. There are two meatless days a week, but my informant had no difficulty in obtaining fish and fowl. A fairly good dinner of soup, fish, fowl, fruit and half a bottle of wine, would cost 20 marks. The bread ration is not sufficient for the working classes. Their food is admittedly of poor quality, but not sufficiently to provoke disturbances with the present state of public feeling.

Victory Not Expected.

He said: "There is no visible enthusiasm. It is not true that the public generally expects final victory as a result of the Russian negotiations. On the contrary, at the present moment they are only elated by comparison, because the prospect of peace all around resulting from these negotiations, their elation would give way to depression if they found the war was not at an end and further fighting was necessary. There is no real belief in the possibility of forcing the western front. It is also wrong to suppose that even the general public imagines peace in the west would follow immediately after peace in the east. All it expects is that after peace in the east it will begin to dawn in the west. Meantime, from top to bottom, the watchword is still, "We must hold out."

Flanders Losses Heavy.

The knowledge is now spreading among the people of the real extent of the losses in Flanders. It was the spreading of such information that caused the arrest by the military authorities of the minority Socialist leaders in Rhineland throughout Germany, and the vigorous action taken against the Haase group, although they were finally permitted to go to Stockholm, where he claims he is working for peace all round through a separate peace with Russia. Summarizing the situation, whilst the military authorities are unwilling to forego possible advances from delaying negotiations, they are

THE ADMIRAL'S RETIREMENT.

Some Papers Regret It; Others Are Satisfied.



ADMIRAL SIR JOHN JELICOE.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) London, Dec. 27.—Prominence given to the retirement of Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, first sea lord, in favor of Vice Admiral Sir Rosslyn Wemyss in the morning newspapers, is commensurate with his great reputation and the place he long has held in public estimation.

Notwithstanding recent severe animadversions concerning the Admiralty from some quarters several newspapers treat the announcement as a sensational surprise and two of three accompany their remarks with warm expressions of regret. The Daily Telegraph, one of these, calls for a fuller official statement of reasons for Admiral Jellicoe's retirement. On the other hand the Daily Mail, which long has campaigned against Admiral Jellicoe, says openly that it cannot pretend regret. It adds that Sir Eric Geddes, first lord of the Admiralty, deserves the thanks of the country for shrinking from a painful duty. The Times, though less frankly outspoken, does not conceal its satisfaction and sees in the change the determination of the Government to give the younger men a chance. It says: "We heartily congratulate the Government, having once taken a decision, on accepting its full consequences at once."

FRENCH VESSELS LOST.

Two of Them Were Sunk by Submarines or Mines.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) Paris, Dec. 27.—In the week ending Dec. 22nd one French steamer of more than 1,600 tons and one of less than that tonnage was sunk by submarines and mines. No fishing vessels were lost.

Sir Charles Gordon of Montreal, who has been appointed vice-chairman of the British War Mission in the United States, has arrived at Washington, and will take up Lord Northcliffe's duties until the latter returns after the new year.

FIRST DRAFT ON JAN. 3RD

Drafts to Supply Men Regardless of Number Already Sent.

TWELVE DEPOTS READY

TO RECEIVE THE RECRUITS TO BE CALLED OUT.

Men to be Sent to Reinforce Battalions From Their Division—Districts With Most Unmarried Men Will Supply Largest Number.

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—The first draft of Class A under the Military Service Act will be required to report at various divisional headquarters on Thursday next, January 3rd. All preparations have been made to receive, equip and train the men of the new drafts and about 20,000 is the number expected to be ready by the date set. Twelve battalion depots with accommodation for 2,000 men each and with headquarters corresponding with the headquarters of the twelve military divisions and districts have been established. The officers in charge of the mobilization and training will so far as possible be men who have seen active service overseas.

It is stated that all uniforms and equipment necessary to fit out the new draft immediately are ready and that no time will be lost getting down to intensive training at once.

Men Drafted Territorially.

The new men who are destined to provide reinforcements for the battalions overseas will be gathered territorially and will be disposed overseas according to the territorial arrangement at present in force. That is, men who have been drafted in the Toronto, Kingston, Winnipeg or other divisions will go to reinforce regiments whose natal division was Toronto, Kingston or Winnipeg as the case may be.

No official figures are as yet available as to the number of men secured in the various districts under the first draft. The proportional numbers vary considerably in various districts. In some a great many appeals lodged by the Military Representatives of the tribunals are still pending. In others many appeals lodged by the men themselves for exemption are still to be heard.

No Consideration For Numbers Sent.

Out of the 400,000 men estimated to come under the first class, about half have been found to be medically fit for service. Of these it is estimated that at least half will receive exemption for various causes.

The drafts will be called without much consideration for the numbers already sent under the voluntary system for particular districts. The reason for this is that it is not expected that the first class will supply much more than the 100,000 required. This being so the district which has still the most unmarried men available will provide the most for the draft.

THE KAISER'S FOES IN GERMANY GROW

The Newly Organized Independent Social Democrats Become More Powerful

Washington, Dec. 27.—The newly organized Independent Social Democratic party in Germany has become already as strong as the Government Socialists, according to information reaching Government officials in Washington in a roundabout way from Germany. The law Independent party was founded last April during what is known as the Gotha Conference, and is represented as now having 120,000 members. The Government Socialist party had over a million members when the war began, but this has dwindled to less than 200,000 members, and it is between the latter and the Berlin government that serious difficulties are reported to have arisen as a result of the circumstances under which the armistice was concluded between Germany and the Maximalists of Russia.

Horsemen Plan Races.

Cape Vincent, N.Y., Dec. 27.—At a recent meeting of the Cape Vincent Horsemen's Association, held at Leininger's Hotel, the following officers were elected: President, Claude W. Cole; vice-president, Frank L. Fitzgerald; secretary, Fred L. Burdick; treasurer, Edward D. Fitzgerald. The association has decided to hold its annual dance at the firemen's hall on Jan. 16th. The proceeds of the dance will be used in connection with the races which the association will pull off on the ice some time during the present winter.

To Return Them Ome.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) New York, Dec. 27.—Sir Frederick Smith, Britain's Attorney-General, states that arrangements will be made to return to England all British subjects in the country who have not enlisted in American forces.

WHIG CONTENTS. 1—Russian Terms Suit the Teutons; Final Victory Not Expected; Last Supreme Effort; First Draft on Jan. 3rd. 2—Major Sears' Wife Killed; Incidents of the Day. 3—Was a Big Task; Market Reports. 4—Editorial: Walt Mason's Rhymes; Things That Never Happen. 5—Tributes' Commission; Mayor's Banquet. 6—Local News Briefly Told. 7—Amusements Announcements. 8—Military News; Theatrical Themes. 9—Sunday School Lesson; Making Grindstone. 10—A Western Anniversary; Praised by French. 11—Late Youthful Fashions Illustrated. 12—In World of Sport; Bringing Up Father.