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REPORT OF RUSSO-GERMAN PEACE

IS CIRCULATING IN HOLLAND BUT NOT CONFIRMED

SITUATION CAUSES CONCERN

Food Riots in Sweden and Strikes in Germany Hold Promise of Big Events

Amsterdam, April 20.—Reports are in circulation of a Russian-German armistice, but are unconfirmed.

Washington, April 20.—The Russian situation is causing concern to officials here. Failure of the provisional government to reconcile the differences between itself and the radicals is interfering with the reorganization of the Russian armies. In addition, the socialistic element is known to be intriguing against the provisional government and utilizing all of its efforts in advocacy of making a separate peace with Germany.

While officials generally believe that eventually a solid government will be formed, they are not losing sight of the fact that the present situation is filled with dangerous possibilities. Ambassador Francis is keeping in the closest touch with the situation and all of his reports are transmitted directly to the president. Meanwhile Petrograd advices indicate that Germany shortly will attempt a drive directly against the Russian capital.

Because of these possibilities of the Russian situation, officials are waiting with the greatest interest the assembling here of the international war conference which is to dispose of many of the problems which are facing the government in connection with active participation in the war. It is hoped that as soon as the commission gets down to business—just when still is a secret known only to the State department—it will be possible to get a line of the general instruction that will be discussed.

Copenhagen, via London, April 20.—The Dagens Nyheter describes a great food demonstration at Kalmars, Sweden. All the factories closed at noon Wednesday and five thousand workmen gathered in the market place and appointed a delegation to demand an increased food ration. Many shops were stormed and the police were powerless to control the crowds.

A large consignment of potatoes for Gothenburg was discovered and at the insistence of the mob was taken over by the food commission.

Stockholm, via London, April 20.—Dissatisfaction with the size of the bread ration, the shortage in many kinds of provisions and high prices generally resulted today in a strike of laborers in all the shops in the town of Vestervik, which has a population of some 8000.

At Karlsruhe, 100 women factory workers assembled at the city hall and sent a delegation to the mayor to demand an increase in the bread allowance.

Amsterdam, April 20, via London.—Strikes have broken out in various munition factories in Germany including the Krupp's. The Telegraph says it has learned from German sources.

Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, says the Berlin Lokal Anzeiger, having declined to discuss the situation with a delegation headed by Hugo Haase, president of the central executive committee of the new independent socialist democratic party, 20,000 workers in four factories in greater Berlin decided to continue their strike.

WILL BE LEFT TO THE PRESIDENT

NO WAR PROHIBITION UNLESS HE RECOMMENDS IT

RESTRICTIONS ARE PROBABLE

Which Will Limit Amount of Grain To Be Used in Brewing and Distilling

Washington, April 20.—The House will not vote to take up the question of prohibition during the war unless President Wilson advises it as a war measure. This was the decision finally reached by the Democratic caucus after extended discussion and a threatened bolt. It is regarded as certain that the manufacture of liquor will be considerably curtailed, if not prohibited.

That the output of the distilleries and breweries will be restricted is certain now—just as certain as it is that the United States is at war. It is just a question of whether the United States will go all the way and permit only the minimum amount of alcohol for industrial purposes.

It is known that the problem has been taken up direct with President Wilson, himself, and that it has been considered at the White House, Cabinet members, for example, realize the necessity of the government, at once, limiting the amount of grain that is consumed by the distilleries and turning the millions of bushels into channels where they will help meet the food shortage. The council for national defense is considering just what step the Nation should take. With Congress it is a question of what powers the government has to regulate the sale of intoxicants during the war, without martial law. But many devious ways, such as putting restrictions around the sale of liquor within specified miles of camps or industrial plants are being considered and some such bill will be worked out.

As the agitation over the way this problem should be handled has increased in congressional circles, it has become more manifest than ever that the economic side rather than any moral issue is the one that is weighing heaviest with Congress. Men who have been steadfast against prohibition are accepting as an imperative necessity that the government should take some steps along liquor restrictions, although they differ as to how far it should go.

NEW OFFICERS CHESS CLUB

The new officers of the Chess, Checkers and Whist club, elected at a meeting at which over six hundred ballots were cast, are as follows: Henry Rightor, president; Dr. William H. Seeman, first vice president; Henry G. McCall, second vice president and P. H. Foley, treasurer.

SIX PERISH IN A FIRE

Indianapolis, Ind., April 20.—Six persons were killed and a score of others slightly hurt as a result of a fire thought to have been caused by an explosion of moving picture films in the office of a film exchange in the Colfax building and apartment house in the downtown district here.

TO GIVE PRESIDENT DRASTIC CONTROL OF FOOD SITUATION

Congress Framing Bill Enclosing Secretary Houston's Ideas; Will Give Government Power to Fix Maximum Prices and Absolute Control Over Dealers

By International News Service. Washington, April 20.—The legislative machinery was started tonight to vest the greatest possible power in the government to fix maximum and minimum prices of foodstuffs and control of food production, distribution and marketing.

The legislation will be in close conformity with the recommendations made to congress by Secretary of Agriculture Houston, with the approval of President Wilson.

The Senate and House leaders assured Secretary Houston by telephone that a measure embodying the basic principles of his report will be introduced and immediately rushed through both houses. The legislation would protect the country against "war profits."

Congressional leaders favor granting Secretary Houston's request for \$25,000,000 to conduct the work undertaken by his department.

In his call for the assistance of all persons engaged in mechanical pursuits, President Wilson served notice on the middlemen that the "eyes of the country will be on you." It is proposed to insert in the bill a section that will make possible the federal licensing of all dealers in foodstuffs, should that drastic step become necessary. This would give absolute control of the middlemen.

In discussing his plan, following the Cabinet meeting, Secretary Houston said: "We should be prepared for any emergency and have necessary machinery in readiness."

The administration bill is to be drawn along such general lines that the President will be able to cope with any situation that affects the food supply.

The big meat packers of the United States, who offered their plants to the government for the period of the war, in a conference here suggested that the federal government fix the prices, and that dealers be licensed. All branches of the government that deal in any way with the food situation are giving the matter close attention.

The use of more fish as food is the plan of strategy devised by the United States Bureau of Fisheries as its contribution to the mobilization of the food resources of the country to care for our European allies as well as ourselves in the war with Germany.

"The United States is fish hungry," declared Hugh M. Smith, commissioner of fisheries. "The consumption of fish here ought to be doubled or quadrupled. This ought to be brought about through the utilization of highly wholesome aquatic products that are neglected now or thrown away when caught."

"The per capita consumption of fish in the United States is only twenty pounds a year. In Japan it is three times that, and in some countries it is ten times that, yet the United States has fish resources superior to those of any other maritime country. Only two billion pounds of fish were consumed in the United States last year."

RAILROADS MAY WIN INCREASES

By International News Service.

Washington, April 20.—Shippers in an all-day hearing before the Interstate Commerce Commission fought a losing fight against a petition of the railroads for a fifteen per cent general increase in freight rates.

At the end of the day it was evident that unless stronger arguments are made against the increase, the present tentative order of the commission which makes the increase temporary would be made permanent by the commission shortly.

The increase, if granted, adds from \$300,000,000 to \$500,000,000 to the railroad revenues annually.

JEANNETTE STARTS SOMETHING

Washington, April 20.—Jeannette Rankin, of Montana, the only woman ever to hold a seat in Congress, has begun a fight for national woman's suffrage.

MUST CHANGE BOAT'S NAME

Omaha, Neb., April 20.—The owners of the Missouri river steamer Kaiser were notified today that they must change its name to the President before clearance papers are issued.

COMEDIAN MONTGOMERY DEAD

Chicago, April 20.—Dave Montgomery, the famous comedian, died this afternoon following an operation.

SELECTIVE DRAFT FIGHT IN SENATE

By International News Service.

Washington, April 20.—The fight for enactment of the administration's plan or raising a navy by selective draft opens in the Senate tomorrow, permitting the Senate to get a forty-eight hours start of the House in the race to get the army measure on the statute books.

There is every indication that the administration forces, favoring conscription, will win in the Senate.

In the House the report of the administration members of the military affairs committee which Wednesday refused to approve of conscription, is now in preparation.

The minority report will condemn the action of the majority as striving to place responsibility for the plan for the adoption of conscription on the President, rather than to assume a share of the burden.

INDICTMENTS RETURNED

The grand jury's findings Friday included four bills charging murder. John Sobro, 1520 Sixth street, was indicted for the murder of Edward Stringer, 2901 Tchoupitoulas street; J. J. Espagnos, 1003 Duval street, was indicted for the murder of Frank Glee, a Chinese laundryman of the downtown section; James Wolsch was indicted for the killing of Clara Morris, August 18, and William Carmon for the killing of Clarence Carter, at Little Woods, March 21.

SARAH BERNHARDT IMPROVING

New York, April 20.—The condition of Sarah Bernhardt is satisfactory.

GERMANS, MEXICANS DISARMED

El Paso, April 20.—Disarmament of all German subjects and 12,000 Mexican residents of El Paso was begun today by militia and police today. Wagon loads of arms and ammunition were secured.

ANOTHER VICTIM OF AUTO BANDITS

By International News Service.

Another sea-faring man yesterday reported to the police that, while under the influence of liquor he was assaulted and robbed of \$25 and a \$15 watch by two white men who drove him to the rear of the city in an automobile. The victim is Joseph Beyer, stopping at Beck Johnson's rooming house, Calhoun and Tchoupitoulas streets.

Beyer told the police he had just left the ship with his month's salary and was searching for a rooming house when he encountered the men in the auto. They asked where he was going and Beyer explained the object of his search. He accepted their invitation to get in and allow them to bring him to "a place where rooms could be had at reasonable rates."

Instead, Beyer said, they drove him somewhere in the rear of the city, assaulted and robbed him and then put him out of the automobile.

This is the second case of its kind this week. It is thought that the robbers in this instance were the same ones who assaulted and robbed another sailor a few days ago.



JAMES HUBERT BLECK, ARCH BISHOP OF NEW ORLEANS.

DEATH SUMMONED BELOVED ARCHBISHOP LAST NIGHT

A saintly soul has passed over the bourne that mysteriously divides the physical realm from the great beyond of the spirit world.

His Grace Archbishop James Hubert Bleck died last night at 10:30 o'clock after a brave battle with the inevitable destiny of ephemeral humanity. Since Monday the eminent prelate was in the throes of imminent dissolution and it was most remarkable how his vitality resisted the attacks of the malady that had for two years taken hold of his robust body.

But the end was to come and last night, while some of the suffragan bishops of the archdiocese and many priests of this city were reciting the ultimate prayers for the dying, the soul of one of the most beloved archbishops of New Orleans was summoned to the throne of God.

The news of the death of Archbishop Bleck was quickly conveyed to the people of this city by the tolling of the bells of every catholic church. Many of the faithful on hearing the fateful clanging of the iron tongues bowed their heads in prayer and tearfully breathed to the All Father an orison of "peace and eternal rest to him who during his pastorate proved his piety,

sanctity and benevolence to all mankind." His Grace was a native of an American city.

During his administration the affairs of the church in New Orleans and in the whole archdiocese were placed upon a most satisfactory basis.

His death will be mourned not only in the South, but in foreign countries, where his great piety and learning were known.

KIDNAPPED TWO AUTOS Charges Made Against Chauffeur by Owner of Cars

Charged with taking two automobiles without consent from the garage of James McGowan, 2338 Canal street, by whom he was employed as a chauffeur, Henry Williams, 20, a negro, was arrested by Corporal Anderson, of the Central station. The machines have been recovered.

It is claimed that Williams took a Ford car out first, parking it at Howard avenue and Baronne street, while he went off for a while. Upon returning the automobile was gone and he then went to search for it in the other machine, a Lozier. The second car was found by the police abandoned at Canal and Claiborne streets.

NELSON MORRIS AND PARTY RETURN TO CHICAGO

Nelson Morris, president of Nelson Morris and Co., purchasers of the Crescent City stockyards and the heads of departments who accompanied him here, left for Chicago last night after settling the ball in motion for the preliminary work of creating a great packing plant in New Orleans. It was reported yesterday that the Morris company had effected the purchase of the newly formed Union Stockyards Company who were to have begun business May 1.

The annual meeting of the board of trustees of the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat hospital will be held Monday evening next in the trustee's room of the institution, 165 Elk Place.