

AMERICAN PLAN ADOPTED BY ALLIES

Premier Lloyd George Tells Commons of Decision

FOR CENTRAL AUTHORITY

Wilson Saw Peril To Allied Cause—Determined United States Should Not Waste Her Strength.

London.—Premier Lloyd George made in the House of Commons his eagerly awaited statement regarding the recent army changes. He said the Government was anxious to retain the services of Gen. Sir William Robertson as chief of staff so long as it was compatible with the policy decided upon in common with Great Britain's allies.

The Premier said the policy of the Government was based upon the assumption that the Allies had suffered in the past through lack of concerted and co-ordinated efforts. It had been decided to set up a central authority to co-ordinate the strategy of the Allies.

Document Most Able.

The Premier asserted that the conclusions reached were the result of very powerful representations by the delegates of other governments, notably the American Government.

"I hesitate for some time," said the Premier in referring to the American representations, "at whether I should not read in the House of Commons the very cogent documents submitted by the American delegation, which put the case for the present proposal. It is one of the ablest documents ever submitted to a military conference. The only reason why I do not read it to the House is that it is mixed up with the plan of operations."

Represents Great Britain.

The Premier announced that Gen. Sir Henry Seymour Rawlinson had been appointed to represent Great Britain on the supreme council.

He said the country was faced with terrible realities. He begged the House to have done with all controversy, adding that the Government was entitled to know whether the House and the country wished it to proceed with the policy deliberately arrived at.

Anyone who examines closely the events of 1916 and 1917, said the Premier, would find plenty of argument for some change in the machinery in order to effect a greater concentration than had hitherto been achieved in the direction of the Allied Governments had decided that it was necessary to set up some central body to co-ordinate the strategy of the Allies. At the last conference at Versailles it was decided to extend the powers of that body.

The Premier explained that he was hampered in discussing the action taken at Versailles by a resolution passed at that conference by the military representatives and the Governments that it was not desirable to give any information regarding the general plan arrived at.

READY FOR THE HUN DRIVE.

Allies Prepared To Counter If Germany Violates Swiss Treaty.

London.—The Allies assuredly are fully alive to the situation detailed by William Phillip Simms in his dispatch regarding the possibilities of Hindenburg invading Switzerland. If Hindenburg has completed tentative plans for such a move, the Allies are equally prepared to counter, as long as they are convinced it is the German policy to regard the treaty of 1815 as no more sacred than the Belgian "scrap of paper," providing the violation is considered strategically advantageous.

There is no doubt that the fullest cognizance has been taken of the recent massing of Germans near the Swiss border, which, however, must be regarded as a possible blind to distract attention from the real point of the projected offensive.

This has been suggested in some quarters in connection with the recent trip of General Smuts to Switzerland, which had been reported to be political in character, but which, perhaps, may have been really military.

HITS THE COUNTRY'S SCHOOLS.

Wholesale Resignations Are Due To Students' Desire To Join Colors.

Washington.—Wholesale resignations of students to join the fighting forces are seriously impairing the incomes of the country's colleges and universities. Dr. P. P. Claxton, commissioner of education, gave notice that if many of the institutions were to continue their work financial aid from the outside would be necessary.

CLASH WRECKS FOUR BUILDINGS.

Three Men Burned In Explosion At Wayne, New Jersey.

Wayne, N. J.—Three men were slightly burned in explosions which destroyed four buildings of the Wayne Powder Works here. Windows in towns nearby were broken by the terrific force of the explosions. One wet house, one dry house and two wheel mills were completely destroyed.

CALMLY AWAIT THE HUN DRIVE

With Full Knowledge Of What It Means, Tommies Are Resolute And Unafraid.

Officers And Men Feel That German Offensive Will Mark Turning Point.

British Armies In The Field.—With utter absence of panic or dread, the British troops are awaiting the shock of battle. Unlike Hindenburg's braggarts, the British do not pretend they are longing for carnage. The fighters are ready, with jaws set resolutely, calm and unafraid.

Not that the troops underestimate what is coming. On the contrary, every one is keenly aware of the situation. It is unlikely that any army in the world individually ever understood quite so well the importance of an approaching battle.

First, because its intelligence was never so high. Second, leaders and men never were so thoroughly in each other's confidence.

Everyone appears to feel that in all probability it will be the turning point of the war; that behind the Kaiser's bluffing is a discontented nation of starvelings; that although Hindenburg undoubtedly has put everything he's got into this punch he cannot—must not—win.

Formerly only the generals knew what a battle was about. Today every soldier is wise to the fact that upon him to some extent depends much—even victory—perhaps an early Allied peace.

Meantime, a strange calm reigns over parts of the front. Here and there raids are increasing; there is a sporadic cannonading and lay machine gunning at wide intervals.

Otherwise the front gives an impression of calm before the storm.

BILLION-DOLLAR BILL PASSES.

House Puts Through Great Urgent Deficiency Measure.

Washington.—The billion-dollar Urgent Deficiency Appropriation, carrying half a billion for the military establishment and large sums for the navy and other branches of the Government, was passed by the House without a record vote.

In direct appropriations and in authorizations for obligations during the remainder of this fiscal year the total of the measures is \$7,107,220,000.

TWO-CENT COINS NOW ASKED.

Medium Recommended To Meet Change In Newspaper Price.

Washington.—Recommendation that the Treasury resume minting of two-cent coins has been made by the executive committee of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association in session here.

The new coin, it was pointed out, would provide a convenient medium of exchange in purchasing newspapers, the price of which generally has advanced to two cents because of the newsprint paper shortage.

35 SAILORS ILL FROM HASH.

Case Not One Of Ptomaline Poisoning Or Ground Glass.

Washington.—Thirty-five men of the Norfolk (Va.) Naval Station became suddenly ill after eating corned beef hash, said a telephone message from Captain Dayton, in command, to Secretary of the Navy Daniels. The case was not one of ptomaine poisoning or ground glass, Dayton reported. Dayton's message was the result of alarming reports of a widespread poison plot at the training station, coupled with a story that at least one man had died en route to the hospital.

GENERAL KALENDINES SUICIDE.

Leader Of Don Cossacks Said To Have Shot Himself.

London.—General Kaledines, leader of the Don Cossacks, has committed suicide, the Russian official news agency declared in a Petrograd dispatch received here. General Kaledines' reported suicide has been rumored for several days. One report was that he shot himself after the civil government of the Don district voted to ally itself with the Bolsheviks.

FALL KILLS NAVAL OFFICER.

Lieutenant Commander Bausch Tumbles Down Hatch.

An Atlantic Port.—Injured in an accident on a battleship, Lieutenant Commander Bausch died several hours later on the hospital ship Solace. Lieutenant Bausch fell down a hatch and his skull is said to have been broken. The Solace was near by. Two other members of the ship's crew were reported injured.

TO BRIDGE THE BOSPHORUS.

Span And Tunnel To Connect Europe And Asia.

Amsterdam.—The Turkish Parliament has approved a bill providing for the construction of a bridge and tunnel across the Bosphorus, connecting Europe and Asia. Contract for the work has been awarded to a Budapest firm and it will begin operations in April.

GERMAN ADVANCE INTO RUSSIA BEGUN

Headquarters Announces the Crossing of the Dvina

TO TAKE TWO PROVINCES

Austria Refuses To Join Attack—To Keep Troops On Ukraine Front—Breach Between Empires.

Berlin, via London.—Operations have been resumed on the Russian front. The Germans have crossed the Dvina.

The text of the statement reads: "On the great Russian front, hostilities began with an advance on Dvinsk. The Dvina has been crossed without fighting."

"Called upon by Ukraine to help in their heavy struggle against the great Russia, our troops have commenced their advance from the direction of Kovel."

"Western Theatre.—Southeast of Taurhure (in the Champagne sector) local fighting developed."

Amsterdam.—An agreement has been reached between Germany and Austria-Hungary whereby, in the event of military action being necessary, the German troops will be confined to the frontier of Great Russia and the Austrians to Ukraine only. This announcement is made in a Vienna dispatch.

Stockholm.—The Germans resumed war measures against Russia, the Social Democrat states. Their first objective is the seizure of Esthonia and Livonia, it declares.

Threatened Reval.

"Within a week we will occupy Reval," General Hofmann, German military representative at the Brest-Litovsk peace conference, is reported to have told the Russians late in January, when they asked what would happen if they did not accept Germany's final terms.

The Stockholm announcement indicates that Germany is moving to carry out this threat. Reval is the capital of the province of Esthonia. It is situated on the Gulf of Finland, and has been one of the principal Russian naval bases for Baltic operations. It had a population before the war of between 60,000 and 70,000.

The Germans' occupation of Riga last fall and the extension of their invasion northward gave them possession of a portion of the province of Livonia, including virtually all the coast on the Gulf of Riga. Its area is 18,800 square miles. Immediately to the north, bordering on the Gulf of Finland, is the province of Esthonia, 7,800 square miles in area. These two provinces, together with the province of Courland, which has for some time been in Germany's possession, comprise the Baltic provinces, possession of which by Germany in the peace settlement has been insisted upon by the ultra-annexationist faction in the empire.

Occupation of Reval would naturally be one of the first steps to be taken were a military advance upon Petrograd in prospect. A railroad runs thence along the coast to the capital, which is about 200 miles distant.

London.—A deep, serious schism has been created between Germany and Austria-Hungary by the termination of the armistice between the Central Powers and Russia and the renewal of a state of war, according to the Copenhagen correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company.

The Austrian press, continues the correspondent, is warning Germany against the reopening of hostilities in which Austria does not wish to participate. The semi-official Fremdenblatt is silent, but the Neue Freie Presse is quoted as pointing out that the Austrian monarchy no longer borders upon Russia and is not, like Germany, compelled to resume warfare. The only thing Austria might do against its will, says the newspaper, is to protect the free connection between the monarchy and the Ukraine.

Propaganda In Poland.

Washington.—The Prussian Budget for 1918 calls for 2,250,000 marks to be devoted to German propaganda in Polish territory, according to an official dispatch from Switzerland. It is reported that the Germans are preparing for an extensive campaign of Prussianism in Silesia, Posen and West Prussia.

Another dispatch says Austrian troops recently fired on Poles in Lemberg, who were meeting in support of a united Poland. One man was killed and at the funeral great crowds joined in the procession, while shops and theatres were closed and university classes suspended.

NEGRO KIDNAPPER LYNCHED.

Stolen Baby Later Found Uninjured In Briar Patch.

Fayetteville, Ga.—"Bud" Cosby, a negro, was lynched near here by a mob after he had attempted to rob the home of Mrs. Barney McElwaney, near Aberdeen, and kidnapped her 2-year-old baby. The child was found later in a briar patch uninjured.



SPY'S MAIL LINE FOUND BY U. S.

Secret Service Man Tapped Letters Sent Under Swiss Seal

INTERFERED AS DANGEROUS

Federal Agent In Running Down Philadelphia Caught Many Others—Used Colombian Mail.

Philadelphia.—Switzerland is the channel through which Adalbert K. Fischer, said to be an important agent of the German Government in this country, communicated with friends in Germany. Fischer, head of the firm of Schutte & Koerting Company, valve manufacturers, Philadelphia, now is interned at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., as a dangerous enemy alien.

Secret Service agents made this known, when they referred to mail sent by representatives of Fischer aboard. The mail was first addressed to a representative of the Swiss Government in Philadelphia, and later addressed to persons in Zurich under the seal of the Swiss Government.

Other mail sent from here to German agents was mailed under the seal of the Colombian Government. Teuton propagandists here believed their information was secret, but the United States opened the letters, learned the contents and permitted them to proceed on their way.

With the mail, however, and in fact on the same boat, was a Government secret agent. What he learned when the mail was delivered resulted in the arrest in this country of many German spies, whose names have not been published. They are now interned.

SOCIALISTS BACK WILSON.

Great Enthusiasm Regarding Open Diplomacy Expressed At Meeting.

New York.—The national conference of Labor-Socialist-Radical movements, at its session here, adopted a resolution which declared that members "greet with enthusiasm that President Wilson has placed as the first condition of his peace program open covenants of peace, openly arrived at, after which there shall be no private understanding of any kind."

GLASS IN CANDY; SOLDIERS ILL.

20 Enlisted Men In Hospital At Camp Forrest, Chattanooga.

Chattanooga, Tenn.—Twenty enlisted men of the Fifty-second Infantry at Camp Forrest are confined to the base hospital as the result of eating candy containing particles of ground glass. At the camp it was said that the condition of some of the men is serious. The candy was secured at the camp canteen and was said to have been shipped there from Knoxville, Tenn.

SPEND TOO MUCH FOR CLOTHES.

Oxford Professor Says Wastefulness Of American Women Is Striking.

Washington.—American women spend too much money for clothes, in the opinion of Prof. Stoughton Holborn, of Oxford University. His first two impressions of America, he said here in a lecture, were the amount of money spent on the American woman's dress and the waste of food.

FOREIGN TRADE UNDER LICENSE

Permit Must Be Obtained for Exports and Imports

NEED SHIPS FOR WAR WORK

Allies' Hand On Neutral Tonnage—Less Essential Commerce Is To Be Reduced To A Minimum.

Washington.—All foreign trade of the United States—exports and imports—was put under license by President Wilson as a part of a general program of the American and Allied Governments for releasing ships to transport troops and supplies to Europe.

Will Shift Trade Routes.

The less essential exports and imports will be reduced to a minimum and materials regarded as necessary will be transported by the shortest haul possible. The Allies are working in close co-operation with the United States and the trade routes of the world, in many instances, will be shifted to bring the most economical operation of tonnage.

To Make More Reductions.

The Allies have already cut their foreign trade sharply, but will make further reductions as a part of the general plan. American representatives sitting in London will work with Allied representatives in eliminating and rearranging ocean commerce to free ships for war service.

Licensing of American exports and imports will be handled by the War Trade Board, which has created a special contraband committee, with final powers in deciding the country's foreign trade policies. The board, which already issues licenses for the large number of commodities over which the Government has exercised export and import control, will work with the State Department, the Department of Commerce and the Shipping Board in arranging trade routes.

Ship Controller To Be Named.

The Shipping Board has formed a special division under Dean E. F. Guy, of Harvard University, to prepare statistical data on shipping and commerce. To bring about a proper co-ordination between the Shipping Board and the War Trade Board, it is likely that a controller of ships and cargoes will be named to see that the ships are used in the most economical manner.

Control Neutral Tonnage.

Control of exports and imports and of bunker coal by the United States and the Allies given them control of neutral tonnage and officials predict that virtually all the ocean-going ships owned by the neutrals will be in the American and Allied services before many months.

Officials declined to speculate tonight on the changes in routing of America's foreign commerce likely to grow out of measures to be put into force. It is known, however, that the War Trade Board is inclined to turn to Latin-America for more materials and to cut correspondingly the country's trade with the Orient. It is probable that many articles, such as rugs and art objects now received from Japan and China, will not be granted import licenses. It is likely that as many rare materials as possible will be brought up from the South.

America's trade balances will be affected considerably by redistributing commerce and one of the concerns of the Government is to maintain them on as favorable a basis as possible.

GERMANY GETS A NEW JOLT.

Austria Warns That Her Troops Cannot Be Used To Enforce Demands.

Amsterdam.—Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister, has notified Berlin that Austrian troops must not be used against Russia to support any policy which Austria has not approved, but only for purposes of self-defense against marauding bands.

SUSPICIOUS OF TROTZKY "PEACE"

Germany Worried Over Latest Move By The Bolsheviks.

DEMOBILIZATION STOPPED

Order For Russian Demobilization Said To Have Been Canceled And Berlin Fears Trick—War Prisoners.

Amsterdam.—Judging from the latest indications in the German press, much dissatisfaction and suspicion has been aroused by the latest move of Foreign Minister Trotsky. Important political and military leaders are said to be conferring busily to find the best solution to the puzzle.

The Kreuz Zeitung, of Berlin, on Tuesday declared "on reliable information," that Trotsky's proposal is in no circumstances to be regarded as a peace offer, while it is pointed out by other papers that the Russian war theatre was mentioned especially in the official army report of Tuesday. A Berlin telegram to the Koeleniche Volkszeitung of Wednesday says:

"The Government is not willing to continue relations with Russia on any basis whatsoever unless the present Russian Government signs a regular peace treaty. As, however, it must be reckoned, for the present at any rate, that Trotsky does not think of signing any formulated peace declaration, a situation is created which makes necessary a thorough discussion between the Government and the supreme army command."

The correspondent in an apparently inspired passage adds: "The Chancellor is resolved under no circumstances to conduct further negotiations in any neutral centre, and it will be the affair of the Central Powers to determine where such negotiations may best be held. The recall of the economic commission from Petrograd is under consideration."

On the other hand, it is evidently realized that the question of the big army of Austro-German prisoners of war in Russian territory still controlled by Petrograd cannot be overlooked.

A telegram from Vienna to the Tagliche Rundschau says: "It is pointed out in well-informed quarters that the confusion and uncertainty of internal conditions in Russia demand that the Central Powers adopt a cautious and waiting attitude, and that in spite of the absence of a formal conclusion of peace, there be no hindrance to the exchange of prisoners."

All German newspapers note the fact that three hours after a message was sent out announcing the issuance of a demobilization order to the Russian Army, another Russian message was issued ordering that circulation of this communication be stopped. It is suggested that this indicates that the Bolshevik government no longer thinks of adhering to the declaration of Foreign Minister Trotsky.

The Zeitung Am Mittag goes so far as to say that there are proofs that Trotsky's promise of a Russian demobilization is a sham manoeuvre. It declares that reliable reports represent the Bolsheviks as energetically forming a red guard army out of the remnants of the Russian army in the hope of raising 1,000,000 men to establish Bolshevik power in the border states.

The line of demarcation along the eastern front must be maintained, in consequence of the Russians' refusal to sign a peace treaty, a Vienna dispatch to the Lokal Anzeiger of Berlin says. Turkish troops will take possession of all Turkish territory which hitherto has been occupied by Russians.

TO CLEAN UP U-BOATS.

Sims' Visit To Rome Believed Connected With Plans To Drive Them From Mediterranean.

Washington.—The presence of Vice-Admiral Sims at Rome is regarded here as not having to do with any proposed assault on the Austrian naval base at Pola on the Adriatic as has been stated in some published reports, but to be more likely connected with plans for cleaning up the submarines in the Mediterranean. Naturally navy officials here are not discussing such plans as they may know of, but the suggestion that a naval drive on Pola is in contemplation meets with a cold reception.

The Austrian base is well located and flanked by land defenses of the strongest character. It is very doubtful that a proposal to storm these defenses from the sea without land support would be favored by any power. There seems no doubt, however, that Admiral Sims' visit to Rome was connected directly with plans mapped out by the naval section of the Supreme War Council. It is certain that a definite part in whatever is in prospect has been reserved for the American naval forces.

In a general way naval opinion here appears to favor a bottling-up campaign against submarines in the Adriatic rather than assault by sea on the bases.