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PHILADELPHIA, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1917

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PRICE TWO CENTS

WARN RUSSIA OF DANGER IN PEACE OFFERS

Allies Serve Notice That Move Violates Treaty Obligations U. S. SIGNATURE WITHHELD

Impression Given That Wilson Will Follow Rule Adopted Toward Mexico GENEVA, Nov. 30. Count Czernin, Foreign Minister of Austria, today sent a wireless message to Petrograd consenting to treat with Russia for peace, said a dispatch from Vienna.

COPENHAGEN, Nov. 30. Austro-Hungarian army officers have arrived at the headquarters of Prince Leopold, on the Polish front, to treat with the representatives of the Bolsheviks concerning peace with Russia.

By JOSEPH SHAPLEN STOCKHOLM, Nov. 30. Allied military officials, except the American, have served formal warning on Russia's Bolshevik authorities that in attempting a peace with Germany Russia is ruthlessly casting aside solemn treaty obligations.

According to reliable information here, the notice was in the form of a joint note and specifically announced that the protest was made "in conformity with precise instructions received from authorized representatives." The note was delivered to the Bolshevik commander.

The widest speculation was aroused here over the news that no Americans signed the note. The allied message announced "a protest in the most energetic manner" against Russia's violation of the conditions of the treaty of August 23, 1914, in which all the Allies, including Russia, solemnly agreed not to conclude a peace separately.

The message concluded with the admonition that the signatories consider it their duty to warn Russia that violations of this pledge may cause very serious consequences.

OMISSION OF American signatures to the note reported above may be very significant of the policy of the United States toward Russia. If President Wilson follows with that nation the policy he adopted toward Mexico, it will be that the United States will not interfere with the working out of the people's national aspirations provided evolution is not affected in that process of evolution.

PETROGRAD, Nov. 30. A coalition Government, consisting of Bolshevik, Minamistals, Internationalists, the Left parties and Social Revolutionaries, was in process of formation today.

RAINBOW DIVISION IN FRANCE; CHEERS GREET FIRST GUARD UNIT; REPRESENT 33 STATES

Announcement of Safe Arrival of Initial Expeditionary Force of Militiamen—Joyously Welcomed by People of Towns

American Soldiers Make Fast Progress in Battle Training. Some of Them Already Reviewed by General Pershing—Buckle Down to Hard Work Promptly

By J. W. PEGLER AMERICAN FIELD HEADQUARTERS, FRANCE, Nov. 30. American National Guard units representing thirty-three States of the Union are now in France.

They arrived some weeks ago, but it was not until today that permission was granted to announce the fact. The new Sammees received a heart-thrilling welcome from France. They were quartered in towns which heretofore had seen only a few of the American fighting men.

Blaring French bands, trying their best to rattle off American ragtime, gave a home flavor to a reception which otherwise must have impressed the militia boys as unlike anything else in the world. The Americans were welcomed as heroes. The French population, dressed in its gayest clothes, marched side by side with the detachments, festooned the soldiers with garlands of flowers and decked themselves out in tiny American flags.

Within twenty-four hours the militiamen were thoroughly at home and on the most friendly relations with their fellow townsmen throughout the area over which they were billeted. The first National Guard arrivals, it was stated at headquarters today, have made encouraging progress in their training. General Pershing has already inspected certain of the new units.

MANN COMMANDS GUARD TROOPS "OVER THERE" WASHINGTON, Nov. 30. America's Rainbow Division is in France, along with other National Guard units. They represent a total of thirty-three States.

While the War Department made no announcement upon receipt of dispatches telling of the guard units' arrival, the army censor said it was permissible to refer to the Rainbow Division, as that was obviously meant and as General Pershing's censor had passed the news.

No announcement was made as to the nature of the other units "over there." The Rainbow Division includes troops from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Louisiana, Wisconsin, New York, Ohio, Georgia, Alabama, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, South Carolina, Kansas, Texas, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Michigan, Nebraska, Colorado, Oregon and the District of Columbia.

General William A. Mann, formerly of the militia division of the War Department, commands the Rainbow Division and is at the headquarters of the division in France.

GERMANS ATTACK SOUTH OF CAMBRAI

New Battle Develops Near Gonnelleu, on Extreme Flank TRYING TO SAVE CITY

Violent Assaults on Byng's Line Meet With No Success

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, Nov. 30. A new battleground in the Cambrai fighting developed today. On the extreme southern flank, near Gonnelleu, the Germans early this morning opened a violent attack.

At the time this is called they have apparently been unable to make headway. The enemy made one of the heaviest attempts to check the slowly closing jaws of Byng's vise around Cambrai that Crown Prince Rupprecht has yet delivered. It was characterized by lavish artillery preparation and barrage fire from guns lately galloped up to the line.

(Gonnelleu is at the extreme southernmost point of the arc over which General Byng struck his armies here, it is situated about eight miles from Cambrai.) Throughout last night the Prussians deluged Bourlon Wood and vicinity with shellfire, which continued heavily today. Prisoners lately taken declare they have been almost without sleep since November 29, and their haggard appearance and utter exhaustion bears this out.

German officers, however, are fearful that the British wedge at Bourlon will force a withdrawal south of the Scarpe. It is this apprehension which was evidently causing the shell storm today. Aerial reports evidenced that the enemy is destroying Cambrai and neighboring towns.

LONDON, Nov. 30. The big guns were active all night in front of Cambrai. The British positions in the Cambrai sector were heavily shelled by the Germans. The War office announced at noon. The British guns replied and a violent artillery duel developed.

There was heavy gunfire east of Ypres, on the west Flanders front also. Near Gavrelle, on the Acreas front, the Germans tried to raid a British trench, but were driven off.

PARIS, Nov. 30. The second powerful German raid in two days, following a violent artillery bombardment and partaking almost of the nature of a localized offensive, was unsuccessful around Cambrai, today's official statement asserted. Artillery firing was reported very intense throughout the Argonne.

BERLIN, Nov. 30. "Numerous" English and French prisoners were brought back by German storming detachments in various places near the coast, today's official statement declared.

QUICK NEWS

YOUTHFUL JOYRIDER HURT AND ARRESTED

A youth who gave his name as Joseph Percell, of 907 North Nineteenth street, was the only one arrested of three young joyriders whose party care to a sudden halt by crashing into a trolley car on Nineteenth street below Poplar this afternoon.

SEWER INSPECTOR SUFFERS THIRTY-FOOT FALL

William W. Briskworth, sixty-one years old, a sewer inspector residing at 2521 North Sixth street, is lying in the Frankford Hospital in a critical condition as a result of injuries received in a thirty-foot fall into a sewer this afternoon.

MAXWELL WINS AT LAKEWOOD

LAKEWOOD, N. J., Nov. 30.—In the second round of the golf tournament here Norman H. Maxwell very narrowly escaped being beaten by C. K. Rockwell, the Philadelphian winning on the nineteenth hole.

BOY STRUCK BY AUTO; DRIVER HELD

Edward J. Dee, nine years old, 1627 Swain street, was knocked down and seriously injured at Sixteenth and Brown streets late today. He is in St. Joseph's Hospital. The driver of the machine, Walter Busby, 109 Krums avenue, Manayunk, was arrested.

FIRST WAR COUNCIL TO MEET TOMORROW

PARIS, Nov. 30.—The supreme war council will hold its first session tomorrow at Versailles with Colonel House and General Bliss in attendance as America's representatives, according to announcements today. The Inter-Allied Council held a lengthy session today and it was stated progress was rapidly being made.

NEW JERSEY BANK COMMISSIONER SWORN IN

TRENTON, Nov. 30.—Frank H. Smith, of Plainfield, was today sworn in as the new State Commissioner of Banking and Insurance to succeed George M. Lamonte, of Bound Brook, who recently resigned.

CUBAN SHIPMENTS END NEW YORK SUGAR FAMINE

NEW YORK, Nov. 30.—The end of the sugar famine in New York is in sight today as the result of the recent arrival of two steamships from Cuba carrying hundreds of tons of sugar. Distribution will be made immediately.

BRITISH CHIEFS REJECT PEER'S PEACE APPEAL

Cabinet Repudiates Lansdowne Letter and Adopts Condemnatory Reply

LONDON, Nov. 30. The British Government today formally repudiated the letter on peace written by Lord Lansdowne. At a meeting of Unionists and Conservatives this afternoon, Chancellor A. Bonar Law, in behalf of the cabinet, disclaimed knowledge of the contents of the letter and all responsibility for it.

A condemnatory resolution was adopted and was sent to the Inter-Allied War Conference now sitting in Paris. In his letter, which appeared in the Morning Telegraph, Lansdowne expresses the fear that civilization will be completely wrecked if the world conflict is allowed to continue much longer and argues that Germany should be assured that it is not the wish of the Entente that she should be wiped out of existence.

A number of big developments, all bearing upon peace, have taken place within the last forty-eight hours. Roughly grouped, they are: First, The assembling of the Supreme Inter-Allied War Conference in Paris with the possibility of an expression of peace.

Second, The convening of the German Reichstag in Berlin and the declaration of Chancellor Hertling that Germany is ready to open peace negotiations with Russia regarding a separate peace.

Third, The revelation that Sweden has been acting as an intermediary between Russia and Germany for the arrangement of an armistice.

Fourth, The Lansdowne letter. A big sensation in political and government circles was created by the Lansdowne letter. The Marquis of Lansdowne is a statement of the first rank and is one of the best known men in public life in Europe today.

Fifth, That a league for the enforcement of peace shall be formed at the end of the war.

It is feared that the letter will have the result of reviving attacks on the Lloyd George government.

LANSDOWNE'S APPEAL OFFERS PARALLEL TO WILSON'S PRINCIPLES

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30. The Marquis of Lansdowne's demand for a revision of the Entente war aims in the interest of peace in America's capital. High administration officials read the suggested platform of the British Tory leader with deep interest.

MISSING DOCTOR AND WIFE FOUND

Felgers Left West Philadelphia House to Begin Life Anew in Frankford UNDER ASSUMED NAME

Dr. Floyd Felger, veterinarian, and his wife, missing for six weeks from their home at 849 North Palm street, West Philadelphia, were found by the police today in a furnished room over Andrew Martin's cigar store at 4766 Tacony street.

Mrs. Margaret King, of Manville, O., Mrs. Felger's mother, almost beside herself with grief and worry since the young pair's disappearance, was with Detective McColligan when he found Mrs. Felger. She was overjoyed at finding her daughter, and Mrs. Felger was happy to see her mother again.

Meantime Special Policemen Rossboro and Farmer, of the Thirty-ninth street and Lancaster avenue police station, found that Felger was working in the Quaker City Paper Box Factory, at Brill and Richmond streets, and went there to find him.

Felger first denied his identity, insisting that his assumed name of John Oehinbocker was his true one. Finally he admitted he was Felger and led the special policemen to the furnished room on Tacony street, where Mrs. Felger already had been found.

WANTED TO ESCAPE GOSSIP Felger said he and his wife dropped from view to escape "gossiping neighbors" and to make a new start in life. Though he had done nothing wrong, Felger felt that he had not succeeded in life as he should and he wanted to start over again.

\$2.35 TAX RATE PASSES COUNCILS

Virtually Means \$2.50 Figure, Independent Leader Says in Fight HIGHEST SINCE CIVIL WAR

The 1918 tax rate for Philadelphia was fixed at \$2.35 this afternoon by Common and Select Councils, after the independents in Common Council discussed the question for an hour and put up a fight to prevent its passage.

The bill to increase the rate passed Common Council by a vote of 63 to 10. Those voting against the increase in the lower branch were: Bradenburgh, Fifteenth Ward; Burch, Forty-sixth Ward; Cahill, Fourth Ward; Kelly, Seventeenth Ward; Lambertson, Twenty-second Ward; Lewis and Meekert, Twenty-third Ward; E. F. Roberts, Twenty-ninth Ward; J. M. Smith, Thirty-fourth Ward; and J. Walter Thompson, Forty-sixth Ward.

Joseph P. Gaffney, chairman of the Finance Committee, spoke about the proposed increase in the rate and said that the increase in all departments of the city Government for maintenance and supplies were due wholly to the advanced prices caused by the war and pointed out an increase of seventy-five cents during the year 1918 other than those of 450 firemen required to put into effect the two-plateau system passed at the last session of the State Legislature.

Threepence members of the lower branch attacked the methods used by the Finance Committee and said that the appropriations for the different city departments could be pared down so as to keep the tax rate at a lower rate than \$2.35.

Robert E. Lambertson, Councilman from the Twenty-second Ward, was the principal spokesman of the independents. He said that the Finance Committee was compelled to treat the finance committee and never use the budget and the tax rate for the following year is fixed.

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CAMP MEADE RECRUITS ARE AROUSED BY FIRE

Early Morning Blaze in Barracks Squelched With Blankets Before Firemen Arrive

CAMP MEADE, Md., Nov. 30. Little Penn was given his first scare early today when a guard in the barracks of Company E, Twenty-third Engineers, discovered flames in a sleeping quarters of the men.

Fifty men, who were sleeping on the second floor, were aroused and extinguished the small blaze by smothering it with blankets and blankets. An alarm was sounded, but before the fire apparatus arrived the soldiers had extinguished the blaze. The origin of the fire is unknown.

BRITISH CAPTAIN BRINGS STORY OF SUBMARINE ACTIVITY OFF

AN ATLANTIC PORT, Nov. 30.—German U-boats have reached the West Indies, according to the captain of a British steamer which arrived here today from the River Platte.

He reports that while in the port of St. Lucia in the British West Indies, he received warning from the authorities that a foreign submarine was operating near the island. He was advised to follow a circuitous course in leaving St. Lucia.

SAYS GERMAN U-BOATS ARE NEAR WEST INDIES

BRITISH CAPTAIN BRINGS STORY OF SUBMARINE ACTIVITY OFF ST. LUCIA

THE WEATHER

FORECAST For Philadelphia and vicinity: Unsettled weather tonight and Saturday, with probably some light rain; slightly warmer tonight; gentle southerly winds.

"THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A PENNSYLVANIAN" The Life Story of Governor Pennypacker