

TRUCE SIGNED FOR TEN DAYS, BERLIN SAYS

Declares Hostilities Suspended From Black Sea to Baltic

ASIA FRONT INCLUDED

BERLIN (via London), Dec. 5. Agreement for suspension of hostilities from the Black Sea to the Baltic, and also in the Turo-Russian war theatres in Asia, from noon tomorrow until December 17 was announced officially today.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE general Russian armistice, it was stated, will be continued in a few days.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 6. Germany made a formal effort to obtain peace last August through Spain, according to revelations in the latest chapter of "Secret Diplomacy" Archives made public today by Bolshevik Foreign Minister Trotsky.

The evidence consisted of a telegram from M. Nakhoff, Russian charge d'affaires at London, to Provisional Foreign Minister Terestchenko, dated in August, 1917, and notifying Russia that British Foreign Minister Balfour had called a special meeting of the Ambassadors of France, Italy, the United States and Japan. To this assembly he said he had received information from Madrid that "a high personage in Berlin had informed the Spanish Ambassador that Germany wished to negotiate."

Balfour said, according to Nakhoff's message, that Britain was ready to receive any German communication regarding peace and to consider it in conjunction with the Allies.

Whether there was any reply from Germany to this noncommittal statement was not indicated in today's revelations.

A number of newspapers, under special permission from Trotsky, have been publishing "secret" documents covering all the period of the war. Trotsky made them public on the ground that the Bolshevik plan was to give the people all information of diplomatic dealings.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 5. Germany's negotiations for an extended armistice on the eastern front as a preliminary to a separate peace with Russia and Rumania are meeting with obstacles. Reports from Berlin today stated that the German Ambassador refused to accept certain German terms but had laid down counter terms which were not acceptable to the German officials.

A temporary truce is already under way on parts of the eastern front, according to an official announcement made by the German High Command today.

It is understood that the Germans are insisting upon terms which may be grouped in a general way as follows:—The German High Command demands their present positions, but the Russian and Rumanians are to retire "behind their defensive lines" and are to deliver up a certain part of their arms to the German High Command in Russia are to be released, but Russian prisoners in Germany are to be allowed to remain in labor camps and are to be given "a reasonable wage."

PETROGRAD, Dec. 6. Russia will insist if an armistice is signed with Germany that none of the Teuton troops now on the east front be transferred to the west front for use against the Allies. Foreign Minister Trotsky declared today in a speech at the Circus Moderne.

He also announced that General Johnson, American attaché, had visited "Voluntarists" headquarters of the Bolsheviks, and declared Colonel Kert's protest to headquarters had been "misunderstood." America, according to General Johnson's statement as reported by Trotsky, did not wish to interfere with Russia's internal affairs.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6. A story emanating from the Bolsheviks in Petrograd, purporting to show that the Allies last August were willing to receive peace proposals from Germany was pronounced a false by Secretary of State Lansing today.

The Petrograd outgiving was to the effect that in that month the German Government informed the Spanish Ambassador at Berlin that it would discuss peace with the Allies. The Ambassador, as was the story transmitted to the United States and the United States, whereupon Germany's enemies replied that they would receive proposals.

Secretary Lansing said that he remembered no such incident, and that obviously he would if there had been such an occurrence.

Fall in Barn Fatal to Farmer ALLENTOWN, Dec. 6.—Morris Werry, aged twenty-four, employed by Central Trolley Co., fell from a truck loaded with straw to the barn floor today and died of a fractured skull. He leaves a wife and two children.

Gas Kills Norristown Man NORRISTOWN, Pa., Dec. 6.—James Shinnors, forty-two years old, died at the Norristown Hospital from the effects of a gas leak in his bath room. The gas was believed to be illuminating gas at his home here.

Contest of Vote to Begin Today

Continued from Page One putting Judges, gave Kendrick a majority of 9723, Sheehan a majority of 2057 and Shoyer a majority of 293.

The petition alleges that more than 5000 phantom votes, that is, fraudulent votes, were cast in the city. It also alleges that 5000 or more persons voted fraudulently, in that they were obliged to vote for the Organization candidates and allowed the Organization representatives to mark their ballots for them.

WHOLESALE FRAUD ALLEGED The petition alleges that in the division of the city the election of the Organization candidates, however, was made purely on the return and the recount of 125 of the 1336 ballot-boxes of the city. The Town Meeting party attorneys showed many instances of fraud and in several cases proved that the election judges made returns for more votes to the Election Court than there were ballots in their boxes.

More than five ballots were not counted or returned for the Town Meeting party candidates.

"About 1000 or more votes were received, returned and counted for Organization candidates which should not have been accepted because the electors casting the ballots were not registered or qualified voters."

"Five or more ballots were legally cast and voted for Walter George Smith, but which the electors fraudulently and unlawfully refused to count."

"There were five or more votes counted and returned for the Organization candidates which were legally and fraudulently deposited in the ballot-boxes of the city."

"Five or more votes should not have been counted because the voters casting them were induced to do so by bribery and intimidation."

"Five or more votes illegally returned and counted for Sheehan which were not properly marked."

"Five or more votes were marked by persons other than voters without the said voters having declared any disability and asked the election officers for assistance."

In many of these districts, the petition alleges, the election was conducted in a fraudulent manner and the returns were false and should be rejected since it is impossible to separate the legal from the illegal votes.

The Election Court could not open more boxes for a correction of the entire election owing to the limit of time due to the wording of the contest law that any election contest must be made within thirty days after election. This made it necessary for the Election Court to certify the election of candidates not later than today, so that the petition to contest the election could be filed today. The Election Court maintained that they had to assume that either party would contest the election.

The petition to contest the election came before Judge Wessell, who is sitting in the Miscellaneous Criminal Division of the Court of Quarter Sessions.

Halifax in Flames; Scores Dead in City

Continued from Page One an American munitions steamer was rammed amidships by an incoming vessel.

Buildings three miles from the scene were damaged. The roof of the Halifax Railway station was torn off. So terrific was the explosion that the report was plainly heard here, sixty miles from Halifax. It will probably take several days to restore telegraphic communication.

dispatch from Monckton says: Four hospital trains with nurses, surgeons and supplies are being rushed to Halifax and another is en route there carrying first-aid equipment, an official of the Canadian Government Railway declared this afternoon.

WASHINGTON, ANXIOUS, VAINLY SEEKS DETAILS OF HALIFAX DISASTER Following alarming reports concerning the extent of the disaster at Halifax, N. S., some reports putting the death toll in the hundreds, the Navy Department made desperate efforts today to secure from the fleet some definite word of the explosion. The interruption to wireless communication was so serious, however, that for a long time no success was reported. The Navy Department at noon was still without information as to the identity of the American munition ship that figured in the disaster.

The Shipping Board intimated that several American munition ships have recently left United States ports for Italy, France and England. Until the name of the Halifax vessel is learned the board said it could not give details of crew, cargo and destination.

Rebel Cops Driven Away From Plaza

Continued from Page One disarmed from the force some days ago and who now says his dismissal came as the result of a "frame-up." The charges against Simister are now being investigated by Mayor Smith.

Many members of the Philadelphia police force may decide to strike tonight.

Such was the statement of Harry M. Dickerson, financial secretary of the Patrolmen's Benevolent and Protective Association. He announced that the members of the association had succeeded in winning yesterday's election for delegates to the Police Pension Fund, but said they were intensely aroused over "frame methods" used by the Organization men at the balloting.

The election was worse than that in the Five Ward, according to President Harry P. Jones, of the association. Eighteen members of the association, including Dickerson, were summoned to appear for trial before the police board in City Hall today.

Dickerson was charged with being absent from duty without leave and disobedience of orders. According to Lieutenant Kane, of the thirty-ninth street and Lancaster avenue station, Dickerson failed to report for duty on November 24 and did not return for duty until November 27.

Kunkel and the sergeants attached to the station house testified that they went to Dickerson's home and they learned that members of his family did not know where he had gone and had not seen him for two days. Dickerson then took the stand and admitted that he went to a funeral and later got drunk and went to Atlantic City.

The board made a report of the case to Director Wilson.

Two members of the association were dismissed today.

They were Policeman Jesse Vest, of the Fifteenth and Locust streets station, and Policeman Charles McKeown, of the Twenty-third and Thompson streets station, accused of conduct unbecoming an officer. Both members were "framed up."

The question of the "impartial strike" will be decided at a meeting to be held in Grand Fraternity Hall, 1625 Arch street, tonight.

Steps already have been taken by the association members to go into Quarter Sessions Court to contest yesterday's election, which seemed to swing entirely in favor of the city administration, although the association members claim they won out.

TO MARCH ON COUNCILS It was said that yesterday's police election was the most spirited and bitter contest of its kind ever waged in the history of the local police department.

In the event of a walkout, the city will face the most serious situation in its history. While there are 7500 members of the Home Defense Reserve, it became known last night that these volunteers in general are not anxious to subject themselves to duty as "strike-breakers."

At a special meeting of the Thirtieth district Reserve of the Thirty-third Ward, in the Kensington Labor Lyceum, more than 1000 men unanimously manifested their objections to replacing policemen when they are fighting for the maintenance of police from the department. The reserve, its officials said, cannot be called for police duty in case of a "strike" without their individual consent.

Mayor Smith declined to comment on the situation, but those he has taken into his confidence were of opinion that he would meet a committee of policemen and consider any demands that he believed to be justified. The Mayor's friends say, will not oppose any move for higher wages, having held the view that the high cost of living makes it impossible for the patrolman to get along on the wages standardized three years ago.

It is the hope of Mayor Smith, Transit Director Twining and others that the lease will pass during the present year.

DUTCH LINER MAY BE EXPLOSION VICTIM; 750 PASSENGERS ABOARD

NEW YORK, Dec. 6. So far as could be learned here this afternoon, the Nieuw Amsterdam of the Holland-America Line was the only big mercantile ship from here in Halifax harbor at the time of the explosion. This vessel left New York about a week ago with 750 passengers on board, many of them subjects of Germany and Austria-Hungary returning home by way of the British Government.

Holland-America Line officials say they have been unable to get into Halifax by wire to ascertain the vessel's fate.

GLI ITALIANI INIZIANO LA NUOVA OFFENSIVA

GLI ITALIANI INIZIANO LA NUOVA OFFENSIVA Perdite al Nemico e Catturano Prigionieri

ROMA, 6 Dicembre. Dalle notizie giunte dalla fronte di battaglia si apprende che la nuova offensiva teutonica in Italia e stata iniziata ed il nemico, dopo aver riordinato le sue forze e colmato i suoi gravissimi verificatosi durante i precedenti combattimenti, ha cominciato ad attaccare le posizioni italiane sull'altipiano di Asiago.

Le forze austro-tedesche dispongono di moltissima artiglieria, la quale con violenti fucili distruttivi tenta di scovolgere le linee italiane e coprire l'avanzata delle fanterie nel supremo sforzo di conseguire qualche successo. Nonostante che le forze nemiche siano in numero non saranno capaci di superare la saldezza delle linee difese dagli italiani, e qualche trincea che gli austro-tedeschi sono stati capaci di occupare non ha per nulla indebolito la resistenza degli italiani.

Gli attacchi teutonici furono iniziati ieri, e la furia del nemico si volse specialmente sulle posizioni di Meletta ove opero un doppio attacco. Il primo attacco fu arrestato dal fuoco delle batterie italiane e infine spezzato nel pomeriggio in un settore di Monte Sisonof e sulle pendici sud-ovest di Meletta di giulio. Gli italiani in quest'ultima localita' si lanciarono in un combattimento corpo a corpo e respinsero il nemico dopo averlo decimato e catturato alcune centinaia di prigionieri.

Il secondo attacco fu violentissimo e contro Monte Tondello degli italiani. E si protrasse fino all'alba. Gli austro-tedeschi riuscirono ad occupare alcune trincee avanzate e cio' consiglio gli italiani a ritirarsi da questo settore non essere esposti ad un sacrificio inutile.

Sulla Piave, e precisamente a Zenson, gli aviatori italiani avevano notato un movimento di truppe nemiche, ed il comando italiano ordino' ad un riparto di operare una incursione, la quale fu bene sostenuta dall'artiglieria. Gli italiani avanzarono a distruzione cinque piccoli ponti che gli austriaci avevano gettati.

Adventures and Letters of Richard Harding Davis Edited by His Brother CHARLES BELMONT DAVIS

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TRANSIT LEASE PUT IN FINAL SHAPE

New Draft Completed by Representatives of Company and City

A final conference between representatives of the Rapid Transit company and the Department of City Transit will be held this afternoon at the latter's office in the Bourse, at which corrections and changes were made in the new draft of the Smith-Mitten lease. The belief was expressed by those present that the lease in its present form is practical and leaves room for objections by those who favor progress in transit.

The new draft of the lease will be submitted to Councils' Joint Committee on Finance and Street Railways at a public hearing tomorrow afternoon. This will be the sixth public hearing for the discussion of the lease, the last having been held on October 26. Criticism has now been heard by representatives of various business organizations, improvement organizations, corporation attorneys and others. The suggestion offered by those who attended the hearings have been incorporated in the new draft.

It is the hope of Mayor Smith, Transit Director Twining and others that the lease will pass during the present year.

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Fire Engine Catches Fire

A fire engine attached to Engine Company No. 25, of Fourth street and Girard avenue, caught fire while responding to an alarm of fire at the Gorgas-Pierie Manufacturing Company, 130 East 4th street. The engine was stopped and the fire was extinguished. The engine started from oil which had been dropped accidentally near the boiler.

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of Richard Harding Davis Edited by His Brother CHARLES BELMONT DAVIS

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