

NEUTRAL PLANS FOILED; CRISIS GROWS ACUTE

New Alignment of Parties Forced by Russian Peace Fiasco MILITARISTS CONTROL Moderate Pro-Germanists Take Place of Socialists in Majority Combination

PARIS, Jan. 7. An early conference of the Allied Premiers was semi-officially reported today as likely to be called very shortly. Presumably such a conference will decide the exact outline of a joint restatement of Allied war aims.

COPENHAGEN, Jan. 7. Germany is preparing to meet Russia's demand that the peace conference be held in Stockholm with a counter-proposal that the parley be renewed at Dvinsk or some other Russian city behind the Russian lines, according to an unconfirmed report received here today.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7. A new political crisis has developed in Germany. Prussian militarism seems to have overreached itself in the Russian negotiations. As a result, a new alignment of political parties is being forced, and the moderate pro-Germanists are taking the place of the moderate socialists in the majority combination.

GERMANS STILL STUBBORN Interest in the new situation in Germany does not come from any belief here that it may hasten the initiation of a real peace movement. The attitude of the Entente diplomats here, and of the officials who have been sent to the entire confidence, is to forget peace, Germany—All Germany without regard to party—is not yet ready for peace. All Germans, the pacifists included, believe that Germany has won the war. While that view is retained, officials here say, it will be utterly useless to suggest a peace except along German lines, something which naturally has never even been thought of here.

The interest, however, centers in the new political division in Germany, which is considered certain to follow the Russian developments. That the Liberals will sharply criticize the military party is certain. The latter, to maintain their present control of the Government, will have to take radical steps. The result, officials say, may be the expected military dictatorship.

It is not believed here that the Kaiser will consent to any peace negotiations at Stockholm. The fact that Sweden is notoriously pro-German, the danger that the German peace representatives might get the real facts as to the economic and military situation facing Germany would be too great, officials here say. Germany may be expected to make every possible effort to have the negotiations resumed at Brest-Litovsk, but there is some doubt as to how successful this will be.

The entire text of Lloyd George's speech was sent to Petrograd on Saturday. It was learned today that it is hoped here that his message will have a good effect on the Russian people. Germany has insisted to the Russians that England's only aim is conquest. This Lloyd George has now flatly contradicted. His promise that the Allies will not maintain vast armies in the east for many weeks to come, and this will greatly aid the Allies in the west. An official here explains it—every day that Russia retreats from agreeing on a separate peace with the Central Powers, is that much more is gained by the Entente.

LLOYD GEORGE AIMS WIN ALLIED APPROVAL

LONDON, Jan. 7. The outstanding features of the situation today were: First, The general approval given by the Allies to Lloyd George's speech. Second, The fact that the Allies are now in a position to demand a separate peace from Germany. Third, The fact that the Allies are now in a position to demand a separate peace from Germany.

THE WEATHER

FORECAST For Philadelphia and vicinity: Rain, possibly turning to snow and colder tonight, with lowest temperature about 25 degrees; Tuesday fair and colder; gentle variable winds, becoming westerly.

PASS LOAN BILL BY BARE MARGIN

Trainer Leads Fight at Last Session of Old Select Council

WARNING TO VARES Trainer, by Contest, Serves Notice That Organization Can't Have Runaway

A spirited fight marked the closing hour of the old Select Council, which this morning passed the permanent loan bill for \$2,500,000. The bill went through by a vote of 22 to 7—just the necessary two-thirds, and no more. This was due to the hostilities started by Select Councilman Harry J. Trainer, anti-Vare leader of the Third Ward. Passage of the bill by the scant thirty-two has considerable political significance, according to the party followers. Many asserted that Mr. Trainer could have defeated the bill, but took this method of serving notice on the Vare faction that they could not have things entirely their own way.

When the bill was introduced Mr. Trainer objected, on the ground that the city's bonds were selling below par and to float loans at this time would cause a loss to the city of \$7000. He sought to prove this by market quotations. Mr. Trainer also said that, according to an act of Assembly, it was unlawful for the city to sell bonds below par.

Select Councilman Edward Buehler of the Nineteenth Ward and Councilman William E. Finley, of the Thirty-ninth Ward, branded Trainer's opposition to the bill as "political clapnet and camouflage," and declared that Trainer had not opposed the bill at a meeting of the Council's Finance Committee, of which he is a member. When the criticism of these two members had subsided, Select Councilman Seger, of the Seventh Ward, voiced his approval of the bill, and pointed out the need of the money for the dependents of soldiers who were in great need.

"I will vote for the bill irrespective of political lines," declared Mr. Seger. He was about to sit down when he suddenly fell to the floor. Several members ran to his assistance, as it was thought he had fainted. The vote was 22 to 7, and the bill passed.

PUBLIC MARKETS URGED

New Jersey Official Says They Are Most Economical

TRENTON, Jan. 7.—Every pound of potatoes used means a pound of staples saved for our soldiers and Allies, according to the market news service of the Bureau of Agriculture of the State Department of Agriculture, issued today through Alexis L. Clark, chief of the bureau.

M'ADOO TO WIELD DEMURRAGE CLUB

Consignees Must Unload Freight Cars or Pay Stiff Fines UPHELD BY RAILROADS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7. A drastic order designed to abolish the practice of shippers using freight cars as storage warehouses by failing to unload their freight within reasonable time, has been issued by the director general of the railroads, William G. McAdoo.

HARMONY PLEAS IN NEW COUNCILS

Business Administration Pledged as Municipal Lawmakers Organize COUNTY OFFICERS IN

Assurances of a more businesslike administration of municipal affairs by Dr. Edward B. Gleason, president of Common Council, and an appeal for "political" harmony by James E. Lennon, president of Select Council, marked the reorganization of Councils today.

EDWARD B. SMITH, FINANCIER, DIES

Banker and Clubman Is Victim of Double Pneumonia



EDWARD B. SMITH, head of Edward B. Smith & Co., bankers, died this morning at 2:30 o'clock at his town house, 706 South Nineteenth street, after a short illness. Double pneumonia developed ten days ago and Dr. Hohart A. Hare had been in almost constant attendance for several days.

Mr. Smith, who had been prominent in the financial and social life of Philadelphia for many years, was fifty-six years old. When the mosquito fleet was organized to patrol the Delaware River, Mr. Smith purchased a seventy-three-foot twin-screw power yacht and presented it to the Government. It was renamed the Vigilant and is now in commission, being commanded by his son, Edward B. Smith, Jr., who has been commissioned an ensign.

He had given his own yacht, the Vesper, but it was found that the boat was not seaworthy enough for Government purposes. It had taken part in a number of endurance races to Bermuda and return. Mr. Smith had earlier bought a machine gun as a gift to the First Troop, and was at the time there was not a machine gun in any national guard command of Pennsylvania.

Last May Mr. Smith foiled an attempt of some shippers to make wealthy Philadelphia shippers. He visited him and said the authorities at the Philadelphia Navy Yard were giving an entertainment for the benefit of the enlisted men, and that the shippers were in a place of honor. He was anxious to have the banker make a cash donation, but he became suspicious and said he would send a check, say or so later. He received the check back from the navy yard with a note, saying that the program was not authorized and no such entertainment was in contemplation.

Mr. Smith was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania of the class of '82. He married Miss Laura Nowell Jenks, daughter of the late John Story Jenks. Mrs. Smith and four sons survive. He is survived by a daughter, who married Miss Virginia Harrison, daughter of Mitchell Harrison; Edward B. Jr., John Story and Geoffrey Smith. His sister is Mrs. Henry Bickelwell, Toronto.

Mr. Smith was prominently identified with the four-in-hand coach. He had frequently driven coaches to New York and was famous as a four-in-hand driver. He was a member of the following clubs: Philadelphia, Racquet, Union League, Philadelphia Country, Rabbit, Corinthian Yacht, Radnor Hunt and the Hunt Club. He was a member of several well-known New York clubs. He was an enthusiastic sportsman and horse lover. His country home was at Gwynedd Valley.

Soldier's Body Brought Home

The body of George G. Stratton, a young cavalryman, was brought home from the front in France, several days ago, by the effects of a horse's kick, was received by his parents here, without previous notice that the body had been shipped.

BLIZZARD GRIPS MIDDLE WEST

CHICAGO, Jan. 7. The Middle West was gripped by a white desert today. The heaviest snowfall on record was whirled by a mile-an-hour gale into high drifts twelve and fifteen feet deep, paralyzing all traffic and forcing business throughout this region virtually to a standstill.

More than one-third of a season's snow has fallen in twenty-four hours. The weather bureau reported a fall of three and one-half inches on the level today on top of four and one-half inches previously fallen. This was nearly half the entire snowfall of 1912.

The storm, which centered over the lower Mississippi valley, moved northward and today extended from Missouri eastward into Ohio. The heaviest precipitation was in Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan and northern Indiana. The Weather Bureau expected the wind and snow to abate in this territory some time today.

More than half the transcontinental railroads entering Chicago were forced to cancel from one train to another. Suburban service was virtually abandoned. But few surface cars attempted to buck the drifts. Taxi companies refused to send out their cars. Scores of privately owned automobiles and motorbuses were abandoned in the streets. Only the elevated railways maintained a semblance of a schedule. Pedestrians were exhausted by the struggle against the snow and wind.

The Chicago and Alton abandoned all train service out of the city. The Chicago and Northwestern was making no attempt to operate according to schedule and all through trains via Minneapolis were abandoned. All inbound trains on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul were temporarily suspended. Rock Island trains left one to three hours late. Trains on the New York Central and Michigan Central were six to ten hours late and many were canceled. The Illinois Central was operating service "as can be seen."

Telephone and telephone service was badly crippled and many cities were entirely isolated. A milk and fuel shortage was imminent in Chicago and surrounding cities. The only cheering feature of the situation was comparatively high temperatures, but with the abatement of the wind and snow the mercury was expected to drop to about 12 degrees above zero.

COAL FAMINE ENDS; 28,000 TONS ARRIVE

Passenger and Freight Trains Sidetracked to Let Fuel Pass

EPIDEMIS IS FEARED Director Krusen Attributes Grip and Pneumonia Increase to Heatless Homes

Philadelphia's coal famine is virtually ended. With shipments of family size coal aggregating more than 28,000 tons during the last twenty-four hours, nearly every dealer in the city has enough of the fuel on hand to supply all demands made today.

With the let-up in the intense cold and prospect of even milder weather for the next few days, mining and railroad officials predict a record-breaking week of production and delivery.

Officials of the three railroads entering Philadelphia expressed relief that shipments here today would equal, if not exceed, those of the last twenty-four hours. With the arrival of these shipments, assurances were received from National Fuel Administrator Garfield by the Philadelphia coal committee that Philadelphia will hereafter receive sufficient supplies to prevent a repetition of the recent suffering.

KRUSEN WARNS OF GRIPE MENACE Despite the big improvement in the fuel situation with the attendant relief due to the mild weather, many persons are ill as a result of the hardships they experienced during the last week. Dr. Wilmer Krusen, director of the Department of Health and Charities, said today that the increase in pneumonia patients throughout the city is due to the scarcity of coal. The disease is making headway, he said. He issued a warning to all persons to be extremely careful of their health as the breaking up of the cold wave is likely to bring not only an epidemic of pneumonia but of grip, and a decided increase in infant mortality.

It is because of these reasons, he said, that he is planning relief for all persons without coal. Every appeal made for coal, investigation station established in City Hall, under the supervision of the Emergency Aid Committee, will be promptly investigated, he said, and prompt attention be given deserving cases.

Lack of fuel caused the Henry Duesenberg and Sons Company, Tacony, to temporarily shut down their plant today. An official of the company, which holds Government contracts for acetone, said that shipments of coal are on their way here, and that the plant will reopen Wednesday morning. This is the first time within the last month that the plant has closed due to the coal lack. Five thousand persons are out of work.

To speed up the fuel shipments to Philadelphia and other points in the East, long trains of coal-laden cars are being given preference over passenger and other freight trains. Miles of empty coal cars being rushed back to the mines indicate heavy shipments today and no decrease is expected.

FIVE DEAD, 14 ARE OVERCOME BY GAS

Three Children of Mute Parents Asphyxiated During the Night

Warning to Gas Consumers GAS consumers are warned that they may be unable, temporarily, fully to meet the great increase in the demand for gas, due to cold weather and the shortage of the domestic coal supply.

There is danger of some burners going out when the gas demand is heaviest, and gas coming on later. Be sure that all burners not in use are shut off. Do not go to sleep with any gas burning. U. G. I.

Escaping gas has taken a toll of five lives, three of them children, in Philadelphia during the last twenty-four hours, and fourteen others, nine in one family are suffering more or less serious injury as the result of asphyxiation.

The three children victims are Wilhelm, David and John Robb, respectively twelve, six and four years old, of 1321 South Thirty-second street. Their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Robb, are deaf mutes. The death of the children was due to gas escaping from a defective gas heater which was being used on account of the scarcity of coal. Owing to his affliction the father had been able to provide only scantily for his family and for weeks he had been endeavoring vainly to get coal. The mother had lost her right eye.

ROUTED FROM BEDS BY FIRE

Family Imperiled When Flames Destroy Upper Floor of House

Joseph Marinucci and his wife and four children, of 1448 South Thirtieth street, were routed from their home early this morning by fire which destroyed nearly everything in the third story of the house.

Marinucci, who is the organizer of the Young Men's New Year Association, one of the organizations which parades every year, is a carpenter at Hog Island. When he got up this morning he found the floor hot. The fire was beneath the floor of the bedroom on the third floor.

QUICK NEWS

VARES CONTROL COUNCILS' COMMITTEES

Vare control of all important councilmanic committees was made certain today by the various appointments. Joseph P. Garfney was again appointed chairman of the Finance Committee, which is composed of seventeen Vare supporters, five Pentrose men and two independents.

TWO CARS HIT AUTO; ARMY OFFICERS HURT

Captain Emslen, U. S. A., and Lieutenant Robinson, U. S. A., were hurt by broken glass today when their motorcar, en route to the Frankford Arsenal, was struck simultaneously by two trolley cars at York street and Northeast boulevard.

COMMISSION ALLOWS INCREASES IN FARES

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—Increased passenger fares from Boston, Providence, Springfield, Worcester, Hartford and other New England points via the New England Steamship Company to New York were approved by the Interstate Commerce Commission today. The passenger fare increase came before the Interstate Commerce Commission providing for general increases to and from St. Louis was decided in favor of the carriers today. The entire schedule was approved with these exceptions: Fares via South Bend to lower Michigan; and any fare higher than the combination of intermediate fares.

TABLE WINES TO BE TAXED BY FRENCH

PARIS, Jan. 7.—Taxation of vins ordinaires (table wines) is to be promulgated by the Government shortly.

FOOD BUREAU CONTROLS 1918 BINDER TWINE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—Voluntary agreements have been made between the binder twine manufacturers and the food administration whereby the latter will control the twine output for the season of 1918, it was announced today. Binder twine is highly necessary in the production of food and as a consequence comes under the provisions of the food bill. Because of the war activities and increased freight rates, the price will not be as low as in former years, but the increase will be slight as a result of the agreement.

PRESIDENT PLAYS GOLF ON ICE LINKS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—Over links that were glazed with ice President Wilson played nine holes of golf today, appearing on the course for the first time in a fortnight. The roads to the links were so bad that his motor-cycle gang was unable to follow the White House car.

ALL ENGLAND PRAYS FOR SUCCESS IN WAR

LONDON, Jan. 7.—King George's proclamation fixing yesterday for prayers throughout the empire for what has been won in the war by British arms in the cause of freedom and a plea for the successful termination of the war was observed in the places of worship of every denomination. One of the features of the occasion was the closing yesterday of all saloons for the first time since the war began.

88 VIRGINIA MINES SHUT BY POWER PLANT FIRE

ROANOKE, Va., Jan. 7.—Eighty-eight coal mines in the Pocahontas and New River fields, on the Norfolk and Western and Virginian Railroads, have been forced to suspend operations for lack of motive power as the result of the burning of the Appalachian Power Company's generator at Switchback, W. Va. Many towns in southwest Virginia and in West Virginia are without current as the result of the fire, and none will be available for many of them until the Switchback plant can be rebuilt.

400 QUARTS OF NITRO-GLYCERIN EXPLODE

BOWLING GREEN, O., Jan. 7.—An explosion of 400 quarts of nitro-glycerin in a storeroom of the American Glycerin Company near here, today broke hundreds of windows in business houses. No fatalities have been reported.

FORTY HURT IN PANIC ON BOSTON "L"

BOSTON, Jan. 7.—Forty men and women were hurt when fire followed an explosion in a Cambridge tunnel train of the Boston elevated railway, which was stalled on the west Boston bridge today. When smoke and flames followed the explosion, the passengers became panic stricken. Windows were broken. Fights resulted from the frantic efforts of passengers to get out.

WILSON PRAISES WAR WORK OF THE Y. W. C. A.

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—Praise for the welfare work of the Young Women's Christian Association's War Work Council was expressed in a letter from President Wilson, read last night at a mass-meeting to begin a drive for \$1,750,000 in this city.

WOMAN DEAD MAINLY HURT ICY STREET

Slippery Pavements Hamper Traffic and Cause Injury to Scores

Rivers Filled With Heavy Ice Which Holds Ships Fast and Delays Ferries

A woman was killed and scores of persons were injured today by the weather, which, after freezing the city for 4 weeks, hypocritically became warm and friendly and then suddenly turned on citizens, breaking their bones.

A treacherous veneer of rain made icy ice-covered streets and sidewalks, making footing perilous. Huge floes of ice, released by the temperate winds, crashed and crunched their way down the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers, blocking ferries and other water traffic and threatening shore properties. Boats carrying workmen to Hog Island shipyard could not make their trips.

Turn for the worst will come tonight, the Weather Bureau warned. The present temperature, hovering above the freezing point, will drop, according to today's forecast, possibly turning to snow, and colder tonight, with lowest temperature about 25 degrees. Tuesday fair and colder. Gentle variable winds becoming westerly.

The irony of the weather was that today, with a temperature of 35 degrees at 11 o'clock, gained the distinction of being the balmiest day of the new year.

MRS. ELIZABETH HOLMES, forty-five years old, 2617 Mantion street, Philadelphia, slipped and fell on the steps of her home as she was returning from a store, her head striking sharply on a step. A neighbor carried her inside and later she was taken to St. Agnes's Hospital, where she died.

LOANS LIST OF INJURED Injuries reported at hospitals were: JOHN J. JAKEMAN, fifty-four years old, 3610 Broad street; broken ribs; German town Hospital. HUGH MCNEALY, twenty-five years old, 1700 South Second street; fractured shoulder; Woman's Homeopathic Hospital. WILLIAM WILKENS, twenty-one years old, 1621 Page street; cut face; Woman's Homeopathic Hospital. HOWARD SOPAR, thirty-eight years old, 1313 North Thirtieth street; fracture of jaw; Joseph's Hospital. EDWARD TREKLER, thirty years old, 250 High street; fractured left arm; German town Hospital. CHARLES LAYK, twenty-three years old, 2412 North Second street; fractured right arm; German town Hospital. JOHN BUCHHEIT, forty-one years old, 3511 Mather street; cut nose and mouth; Episcopal Hospital. GEORGE LYNN, twenty-three years old, 2805 Oregon street; fractured hip; Episcopal Hospital. THOMAS DEWITT, thirty-four years old, 233 North Larch street; fractured right arm; Episcopal Hospital. MRS. ELIZABETH HOLMES, forty-five years old, 2617 Mantion street; fractured collarbone; St. Agnes's Hospital. MRS. ELIZABETH HOLMES, forty-five years old, 2617 Mantion street; fractured collarbone; St. Agnes's Hospital. MRS. ELIZABETH HOLMES, forty-five years old, 2617 Mantion street; fractured collarbone; St. Agnes's Hospital.

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