

PERSIA IMPLORES LEAGUE FOR HELP

Seeks Protection Against Aggression of Russian Soviet Government

POLAND CLAIMS BIG GAINS

By the Associated Press. London, May 21.—Persia has appealed to the League of Nations to protect her against Bolshevik aggression.

The appeal, which follows the landing of soviet forces on Persian soil from the Caspian sea, was made through the Persian foreign minister, who is in Paris. The appeal alludes to the presence in Enzeli harbor of warships belonging to the anti-Bolshevik forces formerly operating under General Denikin, and maintains that Persia acted within her rights as a neutral with regard to these vessels. It points out that she declined to allow these ships to enter the harbor until she was assured she would not be hampered in disarming and interning them. Thirteen Bolshevik warships appeared off Enzeli and began to bombard the town on the morning of May 19, says a Teheran dispatch of that date to the London Times. A parliamentary, who went in an open boat to inquire their object, was fired upon, his white flag possibly escaping notice. A deputation in behalf of the Persian government, including a British officer, then proceeded upon a larger launch to

board the Bolshevik flagship. The deputation was informed that the Bolsheviks demanded the surrender of the port, owing to the presence there of Denikin's warships and troops. If it surrendered, the Bolshevik fleet had no further hostile intentions against the Persian government or the British garrison at Enzeli, and was ready to give immunity to the interned Russian volunteers. The future of the port of Enzeli, it was stated, would be discussed between the Moscow soviet and British government. "I understand," says the Times correspondent, "that a reply is being sent to the effect that Persia is interning and disarming Denikin's fleet and troops carried out in the strictest manner her obligations of neutrality, and protests against a gratuitous attack. Nevertheless, if the Bolshevik commander still contemplates danger from the interned ships the Persian Government is prepared to discuss the matter amicably, and to take such measures as are necessary to remove apprehensions,

the armistice being respected pending the discussion. "Private reports from Baku describe severe measures of repression there. It is said that an attempt to displace the soviet government will be punished by hanging or imprisonment of those implicated. "Admiral Sergieff, lately commanding Denikin's Caspian fleet, and other leading Russians have been hanged."

Warsaw, May 21.— Polish troops, counter-attacking Bolshevik forces on the northern sector of the battlefield, have driven the soviet armies back twelve and one-half miles near Kraysopol, according to an official statement issued here. The statement declares that on the middle Beresina sector the Bolsheviks were repulsed when they tried to force their way across the river. General Alexis A. Brusiloff, former commander-in-chief of Russian armies, is understood to have assumed command of the Bolshevik offensive against Poland. In Polish military circles there is a belief that the soviet attack is designed to overrun Lithuania and extend the Bolshevik front westward to east Prussia. Military authorities here declare vast stores of munitions and supplies have arrived in east Prussia in anticipation of a break in the Polish front before the Bolshevik offensive. Fighting continues along the northern sectors of the front, but all soviet attacks have been repulsed along the upper reaches of the Beresina river, according to the announcement. Information indicating some elements in Germany are determined to help the Russian Bolsheviks continues to be received here in military circles. The latest report is regarding upper Silesia, where German army forces have been assembling on the borders of the plebiscite area. Newspapers here yesterday published

prominently dispatches stating that 4000 security guards had arrived in upper Silesia by special train. For weeks, it is declared, Germans have been hauling ammunition into Silesia, hiding it beneath beds in railroad cars. Military authorities say the Germans are advertising their troop movements in this region for the purpose of compelling the Poles to transfer forces from the east and thus weaken the Bolshevik front. Paris, May 21.—(By A. P.)—The council of ambassadors at today's session fixed the date for a plebiscite in the Allenstein and Marienburg districts for determining the boundaries of Poland with regard to east and west Prussia. The council, however, decided not to make the date public until the measures to be taken for organizing the control of the plebiscite has been worked out and the advisability of increasing the allied forces there had been considered with Marshal Foch. Precautions are necessary because of the more or less violent friction between the different races.



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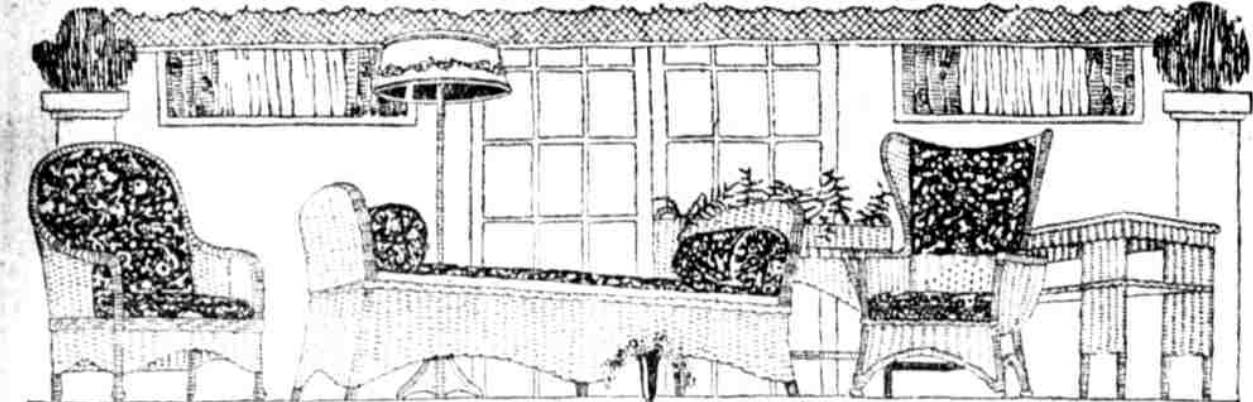
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