

REPLY OF PEACE OFFER BEING FRAMED

[Continued From First Page]

ment, however, was not published until this morning, and it was too vast and too briefly indicated for the immediate crystallization of opinion.

To Mobilize Labor

The most important of these points foreshadowed by the premier was the general mobilization of labor for war and the vital industries. Mr. Lloyd George indicated he meant to begin with a voluntary plan and that if this failed he would ask parliament to give the government compulsory powers to place all the labor of the state at its services. His proposal, therefore, follows somewhat on the line of the German mass levy.

When Mr. Lloyd George invited the labor representatives to join his cabinet this scheme was put before them, but they deferred judgment until details were given to them. While expressing the opinion that, after compulsory military service, industrial conscription is not impracticable, the labor leaders are dubious as to its success, feeling that the outcome depends entirely on how the workmen take it. If there is hostility in the rank and file of organized labor, the scheme, they believe, will fail.

Has Gigantic Task

The task allotted to Neville Chamberlain, who has been appointed director general of national service, of scheduling certain industries as indispensable and supplying them with the necessary labor and material, and at the same time putting the indispensable industries on fixed allowances of labor, raw material and man power, is considered a stupendous one, but Mr. Chamberlain's great experience in business is expected to carry him through.

Dealing with the relations of the war cabinet with the general government, Mr. Lloyd George suggested that the connection be maintained by circulation of reports of the proceedings of the cabinet. As to parliament, he hinted that the French committee system might be adopted.

See Irish Solution

Shipping and coal mines are to be put under the same kind of control as railways.

The fact that the premier passed straight from Ireland to the imperial conference suggests that he hopes to find a solution of the Irish problem in this conference. It had been promised previously that Ireland would be one of the subjects of discussion at the next imperial conference, and as most of the dominions favor some form of home rule it is believed this will be the best means of settling the long disputed question.

The government probably will require the whole eight weeks of the parliamentary recess to produce the measures foreshadowed, which also include more drastic dealing with excess profits and an increase in food production by an extension of cultivation.

Driving Campaign of Von Mackensen Appears to Be Approaching End

Military operations in the European field of war are at a low ebb. The driving campaign of Field Marshal von Mackensen in Rumania seems nearly at an end in any event, whether or not some further move of an important nature is in contemplation in this war theater, the reports show comparative quiet to be prevailing at present.

On the Franco-Belgian front also there is a lull, with the quieting down of the recent activity at Verdun, while latest reports from the Russian and Austro-Italian fronts show little but artillery duels and skirmishes.

In Macedonia the reports show rain and fog prevailing, with no military movements, with the exception of patrol engagements.

Imperial Conference Depends on Provinces

London, Dec. 20.—At a meeting of the Empire Parliamentary Association to-day Walter Hume Long, secretary of state for the colonies, said the time of holding the imperial conference mentioned by Premier Lloyd George in his speech yesterday depended on the overseas dominions. Their premiers, he added, were engaged in work as strenuous and anxious and as important as that of those in the home government.

Nationalization of British Shipping Commands Much Attention Here

Washington, Dec. 20.—Nationalization of British shipping mentioned briefly by Premier Lloyd George as one of the first acts of the new war ministry commands more interest here from the strictly American point of view than any other phase of the premier's speech. What effect it would have on American foreign trade and on the status of British ships sunk by German submarines has opened a new and unexpected series of questions which official regard with much concern.

The taking into the national service of the whole mercantile marine following closely on England's announcement that she will not guarantee coal at any of her coaling bases the world over, except to ships conserving allied interests, is thought by officials at first glance to turn over the great majority of the world's carrying trade to specific war purposes. The effect on commerce for American purposes are not of service to the allies is problematical, especially as to the completeness with which Lloyd George enforced the order. Nevertheless there is in law nothing the United States can do should the whole British merchant marine be withdrawn from American trade and harbors.

It is thought the effect on the submarine situation would be to remove confusion between public vessels not entitled to any guarantees and private vessels entitled to warning and provision for the safety of those on board. Just when the point of distinction would lie is a very complex question.

Agree That Lloyd George Expressed Real Views of British Nation in Speech

London, Dec. 20.—The bulk of the morning papers agree that Premier Lloyd George expressed the views of the British nation in his speech in the house of commons dealing with Germany's peace proposal. "Premier Lloyd George," says the Times, "expressed the thought and wishes of the nation and laid down a program which will command its hearty support." This is the tone of the comment in most of the other papers, who hold that the premier's answer and also Lord Curzon's speech in the house of lords are "moderate in phrase, firm and unswerving in substance." The papers declare that the nation is prepared and will willingly undertake all the sacrifices foreshadowed and will face greater privations if necessary to insure those ends of reparation and security which the allies demand from the central powers.

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When you see all the good presents awaiting your approval. I've tried to do my best—and I think you will be pleased because I purchased most of my gifts at

"DOUTRICHS"

This has been my easiest year so far as buying is concerned — In the first place I had more money than in any previous year, and that alone would make shopping easier.

But there is more of it than that, I had always been buying a few things here—a few there but this year I learned that most people were buying their Men's and Boys' Gifts at "DOUTRICHS" and I am profiting by following the big crowds.

As a rule people know—and the bigger the store naturally the more they sell —Well when you are comparing things you should hear the exact volume of business done in DOUTRICHS—they took me into their confidence this year — and showed me some of the figures for this year, and I must say "DOUTRICHS" surely is the "BIG MEN'S STORE."

I've been to all the stores and they tell me lots of things — but "Old Santa" knows who's getting the business in Harrisburg, and if you go with me any day this week I will show you the enthusiastic buyers and they will tell you why they prefer to do their shopping at DOUTRICHS.

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Perhaps you've waited to buy this ever useful present, but here you will find an exceptional large line to choose from — we call your attention to the five dollar range — there are dozens of patterns — Slippers to match.

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FOR this Christmas we have assembled the greatest and most beautiful stocks we have ever shown.

BUT three days remain in which to do your shopping — why not save time and "nerves" by coming here first — qualities are better and styles different.

HERE for Silk Shirts, House Coats, Bath Robes, Lounge Gowns, Neckwear, Hosiery, Handkerchiefs, Wool and Silk Knitted Scarfs, Leather Novelties, Canes, Umbrellas, Gift Jewelry, etc.—all moderately priced. Everything packed in gift boxes.

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Willard Sims

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Coming To-morrow

"HARVEST DAYS"

Musical Comedy

"WOODROW"

"My Administration"

SANTA CLAUS, with gifts for all good boys and girls.

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HENRY P. DIXON

Presents the

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OF THE SEASON

THE BIG REVIEW

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Don't Fail to See the YACKI HULA DANCERS on the South Sea Isle.

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