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LIFE OF BELGIUM HANGS IN THE BALANCE

INDEMNITY URGENTLY DEMANDED BY KING ALBERT.

NATION HAS SUFFERED MUCH

"If Belgium Is to Live the Council Must Act," Gist of King's Message to Allied Leaders.

Paris, April 4.—Marshal Foch is expected to arrive from Spa tomorrow.

No word has yet been received in Paris regarding the negotiations with the Germans over the proposal to land Polish troops at Danzig.

Belgium's case has been laid before the peace conference by the most distinguished advocate Belgium could have chosen. King Albert has been in Paris for the past three days and in numerous conferences with the representatives of the great powers he has outlined the needs of his country and told of the steps that must be taken immediately if Belgium is to be restored.

Urges Quick Action.

King Albert has had long conversations with President Wilson, Col. Edward M. House, Premier Clemenceau and David Lloyd-George. These conversations led up to his appearance before the council of four today.

A member of the Belgian peace delegation told the press today that, shorn of all its diplomatic niceties, what King Albert told the council might be summarized thus:

"The time of promises has passed. If Belgium is to live the council must act."

The press is able to state that three questions of vital immediate importance to the re-establishment of Belgium, financially, economically and politically, were discussed. The first question was the immediate advance to Belgium of about 10,000,000,000 francs, the second the exportation to Belgium from England and the United States of raw materials, and the third the cession to Belgium of the left bank of the L'Escaut river and the Lemberg peninsula.

Avalanche of Marks.

The first item represents the value of German marks left in circulation in Belgium. After the departure of the Germans the ministry of finance sent out an urgent call to holders of the marks to deposit them in the banks. The amount was estimated to be about \$2,000,000,000 and it had been the government's intention to redeem them at the par value of one franc 25 centimes. Belgium was not prepared for the avalanche of marks that resulted. Eight billion marks passed through the banks' windows into the vaults. The banks were unable to redeem this amount of paper and depositors were merely given receipts, stating that a certain amount of marks were held to their credit.

The payment of an immediate indemnity by Germany was relied on

to cover payment for these deposits. The indemnity thus far has failed to materialize.

Much Money Idle.
Depositors cannot draw against these credits, with the result that some 10,000,000,000 francs are idle, as the banks are paying no interest on such deposits.

The importation of raw materials is said to be indispensable to the retrieving of Belgium from the economic standpoint.

The correspondent has just returned from an extended trip in Belgium. Everywhere he found investors complaining of the situation arising from the fact that while the Americans and British permit exportation into Belgium of manufactured articles they thus far have failed to export into Belgium raw materials which would permit of industries resuming work.

WILSON FAVORS FREEDOM OF THE FILIPINOS SOON

COMMISSION FROM ISLANDS EXTENDS GRATITUDE FOR STAND TAKEN.

President to Urge Release of Islands from U. S. Sovereignty, It is Declared.

Washington, April 4.—Members of the special mission of the Philippine legislature here seeking immediate independence for the islands, were told today by Secretary Baker that he spoke President Wilson's mind when he said he believed the time had come to grant the complete independence desired by the Filipino people.

He read a letter left by President Wilson when he went to Europe, expressing the hope that the mission would result in "bringing about the desirable ends set forth in the joint resolution of the legislature."

Obstacles Cleared Away.

Francis Burton Harrison, governor general of the Philippines, followed Mr. Baker with the statement that his experience in the islands had convinced him that the obstacles to independence that appeared to exist a few years ago had been cleared away.

The mission, including 40 prominent Filipinos and headed by Manuel Quezon, president of the senate, upon being received in Secretary Baker's office today, presented a formal memorial asking independence and pointing particularly to the record of the Philippines in the great war.

RETURNS TO HOME IN NORTH.

From Thursday's Daily.
Mrs. L. C. Cowles, of Brainard, Minn., who has been visiting in this city for some time past, coming to attend the funeral of her sister-in-law, Mrs. John Lewis, who died at her home in Colorado, and remaining for an extended visit at the home of her parents, Charles H. Lewis and wife of this city, departed yesterday for her home in the north.

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ACCEPTS REPORT ON LANGUAGE BILL

77 MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE FAVOR THE STAMPING OF FOREIGN TONGUE.

WANT 100 PER CENT CITIZENS

Proposal to Permit the Teaching of Religion in Other Than the English After School Has Small Following.

Seventy-seven members of the house went on record Friday as favoring the majority report of the conference committee on S. F. 24, the language bill. Fifteen voted against the report. Of those absent and not voting, all were accounted for—but Tracewell. The house waited under call while the sergeant-at-arms and three deputized assistants searched the capitol without result. After the call had been raised, the member from Cherry returned. The report as adopted is substantially in the language of the amended bill as it left the house. The house committee on education struck out the words "church" and "denominational" from the senate bill. In the majority report, denominational reappears.

The bill as accepted by the house does not permit the use of any language other than the English in grades below the eighth.

It provides that above the eighth grade, other than the English language may be taught as a language only. The majority report submitted by Representative Reynolds contained in addition to the report by the majority, a clause providing that: "No provisions of this act shall be construed to forbid the use of a foreign language in any Sunday school or in any private, parochial or denominational school on Saturdays or after the usual school hours for the religious instruction of pupils able to speak and understand such foreign language."

The main objections raised to the minority report were that since it presented matter entirely foreign to the bill as it passed the senate and as amended in the house, the report if adopted, might defeat the entire measure; that since no time is fixed in the parochial school bill as the hour for dismissal of school, the provision as embraced in this report might be construed as giving permission for the introduction of foreign language at any time during the afternoon and finally; that since the senate is to pass the majority report, should the house reject such report in favor of the minority, such action would require that another conference be held.

GERMANS RECEIVE DECISION OF THE ALLIES

ERZBERGER, HEAD OF ARMISTICE COMMISSION, DEEPLY MOVED AFTER CONFERENCE WITH FOCH AT SPA.

Spa, April 3.—Marshal Foch arrived in Spa at 8:20 o'clock this morning and immediately informed Mathias Erzberger, head of the German armistice commission, that he would confer with him in his private car at 9:30 o'clock.

The conference took place at the appointed time in the presence of Major General Weygand, assistant to Marshal Foch, and a French interpreter and lasted 40 minutes.

Marshal Foch laid before Herr Erzberger the decisions of the entente. Erzberger, after the conference, hurriedly returned to his train. He appeared deeply moved.

After a conference of one hour with Gen. Baron Von Hammerstein, a member of the German armistice commission, and his technical advisers, Erzberger returned to the hotel where the German members of the armistice commission are lodged.

The populace acclaimed Marshal Foch on his arrival in Spa. During the day the marshal visited General Nudant, his representative in Spa.

Before leaving Berlin Erzberger had a final consultation with representatives of all parties, at which an agreement was reached as to the attitude to be adopted in the negotiations with allied representatives here. It seems that the sentiment of the Germans is favorable to a settlement of the Danzig controversy.

TO INCREASE FORCES NOW IN RUSSIA

ALLIES ARE IN DANGER ON FRONTS IN FAR NORTH.

THE SITUATION IS PRECARIOUS

British Reinforcements Will Follow American Troops Already on Way to Murmansk.

London, April 3.—The situation in the Murmansk region of northern Russia is giving the British military authorities considerable anxiety. Announcement was made today that British reinforcements will follow immediately the American troops now on the way to north Russia.

It is pointed out that while the allied troops are isolated by the ice, the bolsheviks are likely to attempt to drive them into the sea. The bolsheviks have superior forces and as their section of the Dvina river thaws sooner than the part occupied by the allies, they have an important advantage.

Reinforcements Necessary.
The allies, therefore, believe it is essential that the troops be reinforced or relieved the earliest possible moment.

The curtain was raised for the British public on the position of the allied armies in north Russia for the first time this afternoon, when London afternoon papers circulated posters through the streets with startling phrases of which "the British army imperiled" was typical.

The public bought the papers eagerly, having no idea which army was referred to. Some of the papers declared that another Kut surrender or Khartum tragedy threatened.

Both Fronts in Danger.

Sir Ernest Shackleton, the explorer, who has just returned from Russia, where he superintended the winter outfitting and feeding of the expedition, confirmed the danger to the allied position and armies. He is credited with stirring British officials into a keener realization of the seriousness of the position in Russia.

He declared in an interview that both fronts are in danger, and that the bolshevist peril is a very real one because the entente forces are outnumbered by disciplined and well armed and well equipped troops in close touch with the allies' extended but by no means strong front.

"We must avoid the possibility of another Khartum," says Sir Ernest. He urges the need of sending reinforcements immediately. These he asserts can reach Murmansk from England in less than a week.

Bolsheviki in Retreat.

Dispatches from Omsk report that during the last few days the bolsheviki have been retreating on the Orenburg front so rapidly that the Siberian armies in pursuit are unable to keep in touch. Bolsheviki desertions continue. As an example 50 miles south of Ufa, a whole regiment of bolsheviki cavalry joined Kolchak's forces and turned their weapons on their former comrades.

The bolsheviki had accumulated at Orenburg over three million hundred weight of grain, which they had seized in the Cossack villages. They are trying, under the greatest difficulties, to transport this grain to Samara, and are evacuating Orenburg.

RETURNED FROM FALLS CITY.

From Thursday's Daily.

A. E. Eddie who has been at Falls City for the past four weeks, returned this morning, and says things at our neighbor town are moving along in excellent condition. There are being constructed some new buildings, the farmers are busy and a number of business changes have been effected just lately. Some old firms being superseded by new ones.

ANTI-NEPOTISM MEASURE NOW GOES TO GOVERNOR

Lincoln, Neb., April 4.—The anti- nepotism bill introduced in the house by Representative Foster, prohibiting the appointment by office holders of any person related by ties of blood or kin to any subordinate position or office where the yearly compensation is greater than \$800, passed the senate today.

The measure had the emergency clause attached and now only requires the signature of the governor to be the law of the state. It practically passes in the same form as it came from the house and by a unanimous vote.

GERMANY IS FACING NEW DISORDERS

SPIRIT OF UNREST STILL RAMPANT IN THAT COUNTRY.

RECENT LULL BUT TEMPORARY

Lack of Food and High Prices Supplying a Fertile Field for Spartacan Propaganda, and Having Effect.

Paris, April 3.—The latest advices concerning the fighting at Frankfurt and the renewal of the strike in Berlin confirm the impression prevailing in Germany when the former Berlin correspondent of the press left there a week ago that the then comparative lull in the manifestations of the industrial disorder and revolutionary violence and pillage by the rabble was only temporary. Germany was at that time fairly quiet, the only important exception being a strike in the surrounding region. The March insurrection in Berlin and the disturbances in central Germany and in East Prussia had been suppressed; the flame of disorder was only flickering in the Silesia coal fields, while order was being maintained in Bremen, Essen and other cities, formerly scenes of Spartacan uprisings and the socialist proletariat in that state without regard to the central government, were not seeking any occasion of conflict with the central authorities.

Spartacan Emissaries Active.
Beneath the surface there were abundant possibilities of trouble. The majority of the German working men, particularly the married men, wish to work, although higher wages are being constantly demanded, to meet the rising cost of food. An energetic Spartacan minority and the younger irrespressibles, however, are constantly causing trouble and preaching bolshevist doctrines of political strikes to dispossess factory owners and overthrow the present government. On earlier occasions, as at Berlin and in the Ruhr region, these minorities had been able to inveigle or persuade others into joining the strike movement, promising high wages in cases of success and holding out the bait of abundant food shipments from Russia if the government were overthrown and an alliance concluded with bolshevist Russia.

The factory-owners feared that the radical minority might again dominate their fellows if a new strike was called under propitious circumstances, particularly as there were a number of big establishments, known colloquially as "Liebknecht plants," where the workmen were largely Spartacan, who could be counted on to give a most satisfactory impetus to a general strike by going out in a body at a given signal.

Food Will Help Situation.

Factory owners and others in close touch with industrial conditions regard the distribution of American food supplies at reasonable prices as the only possibility of mastering the strike movement, reestablishing industrial order and stimulating production. With the workmen able to buy with their wages the necessary food they may be able to shake off the influence of the radicals. Without this possibility all must inevitably drift completely into the domination of the extremists.

The industrial situation is complicated by a shortage of coal and raw materials. Factories are running only five days a week on a short schedule of hours. Should the coal production be increased and transportation improved there would be a far better outlook for industry.

Leading German manufacturers, particularly in the electrical and machinery lines, assured the correspondent that they would have no difficulty in doing a profitable business even under the present wage scale if the food and fuel difficulties were solved.

The situation was rapidly becoming critical when the food shipping agreement was signed. But the speedy arrival of American food ships with food on board had already had an imposing effect on general sentiment, the distribution had not begun a week ago.

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WHAT ABOUT THAT BAND.

We all enjoyed the city band last year and all the years we had one, the concerts were splendid and were a source of much enjoyment to all the citizens. We had gotten to think that this music came like that of the birds, without any cost or any effort. True the birds have to make a living, and support their families, but you cannot expect, because a person is a member of the band to go practice night after night and then prepare the program for your enjoyment for the sake of pleasing you. They would like to do it, but they have to pay out their good money for music, for instruments and other things necessary. Nor do we not want them to do that and are and should be willing to pay for what we get. We should be pleased to bear our part of those things that are for the good of the community. Now this band is not for the purpose of making money for its members, but they should not be expected to do the work and bear the expense as well.

FORMER MEMBER OF LEGISLATURE IS SUED

By His Wife for Divorce—Alleges Husband Cruel to Her—Lives in Omaha at Present.

Omaha, April 4.—Trenmore Cone, prominent in the sand business at several points in Nebraska, was sued for a divorce yesterday in district court, by his wife, Ora M. Cone. She charges cruelty.

Mrs. Cone was Mrs. Ora M. Caldwell, a widow, before their marriage, November 1, 1917. Mr. Cone had also been married before. He was a member of the legislature for several terms, having been elected from Saunders county.

Mrs. Cone says she has property worth \$25,000, and she asks alimony. Mr. Cone is engaged in the business of dredging and marketing sand, with his principal headquarters at Central City, Neb.

Their Omaha home is at 4656 Douglas street.

Strawberry Plants for Sale

Progressive Everbearing Strawberry plants, \$1.00 per 100. Postage extra.—K. L. Kniss, Murray, Nebr.

TO HOLD LEFT BANK OF RHINE FOR A WHILE

LONG OCCUPATION OF GERMAN TERRITORY REPORTED DECIDED ON AS GUARANTEE.

FRENCH AND BELGIANS' JOB

Pichon Thinks the Peace Preliminary May Be Ready by Easter Day.

Paris, April 3.—The council of four has virtually decided, according to information from French sources, that the left bank of the Rhine will be neutralized until Germany has paid the indemnities fixed by the peace conference. It is understood that French and Belgian troops will hold this territory.

"I have always thought and think more than ever today, that the peace preliminaries to be imposed upon Germany will be ready before Easter unless something unexpected arises," said Stephen Pichon, foreign minister, yesterday, in reply to questioners at a banquet given by French republican journalists, according to the Matin.

An appeal for the independence of Korea will be submitted to the peace conference before the end of the present week by a delegation headed by Kinsie Kimoo, representing the new Korean young men's society. The appeal is declared to represent the vehement desire of almost the entire Korean nation, as manifested by the present widespread passive resistance movement.

The document is accompanied by a long memorandum reciting the alleged injustice and unpopularity of Japanese rule and the harshness of the measures with which Japan is declared to be endeavoring to suppress the national movement for liberation.

Farming Implements For Sale.

Having just quit farming, I have a number of implements for sale, that the price will be made right on, if taken soon. See me for particulars. Green Piggott. 27-31

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