

BRITAIN NOT TO IGNORE KAISER'S PEACE OFFERS

Essentially the Expressed War Aims of British Labor Men and Must Be Considered.

By FRANK W. GETTY, (Correspondent of The N. Y. Tribune.)

London, Jan. 2.—(Special Cablegram to The Bee.)—Now that the first sporadic outbreak against the peace proposals made by the central powers to the allies through the Russians at Brest-Litovsk has died away, there is no evidence here today of any tendency on the part of the British government to treat the matter lightly.

Take the essential feature of British labor's now clearly defined war aims and they will all be found embodied, in somewhat different form, in the German suggestions.

However, the chances that the recent conference for the exchange of ideas will result in anything like a general peace are infinitely remote. What is certain is this: It means a separate peace with Russia, the loss of her aid to the entente.

Is Lenin a German Agent?

Whether Lenin is a German agent or a fanatical pacifist, he has achieved his purpose. If he is the former, Russia never again will trouble Germany, but instead is liable to become a source of supply for her. If he is the latter, then he will shortly be able to commence his class war for peace.

Evidence that the whole of Russia is interested in peace is seen in the fact that the Ukraine sent delegates to Brest-Litovsk and that, whereas hitherto, she had asserted her stubborn independence of the Petrograd government, she is now joining actively in the peace negotiations.

Bolshevik Sacrifice Provinces.

In the three days of the negotiations the Bolsheviks consented to the detachment from Russia of Poland, Lithuania, Courland and parts of Estonia and Livonia. Of course, the central powers did not produce any evidence that these provinces desired independence, but this is the least of the Bolshevik worries. There will be a plebiscite later to decide which country these released territories will join, but when it is realized that German and Austrian troops still occupy these regions, it is easy to forecast which way the "popular" election will go.

Thus by this action the Bolsheviks may be committing a double crime against these provinces, for it not only releases them from Russia without their consent, but turns them over to Germany, since that is what is meant by letting them hold a plebiscite under the dominating enemy troops.

Interesting Program for Historical Society Meet

Lincoln, Jan. 2.—(Special.)—The program of the state historical society for its annual meeting, January 15-16, is upon the topic, "Farmer Movements in Nebraska."

Secretary Sheldon has written and received hundreds of letters from members of organizations giving glimpses of interesting events in early days.

E. B. Cowles, now of Lincoln, was secretary of the grange organized in Jefferson county in 1873. One of its objects was to reduce the price of farm implements.

Hon. Patrick Roddy writes from Nebraska City that the grange was organized in the Giles' school house near Nebraska City in the early 70's. Among its members were J. Sterling Morton, O. F. Mason and Mr. Roddy. The first meeting turned into a three-cornered debate, with Morton, Mason and Roddy the combatants.

Hon. Ben Sken of Brownville, writes to Secretary Sheldon as follows:

"As to farmers' clubs or debating societies, the first one in Nemaha county that I know of was organized in a log school house called Fairview and is district 31 today. It was organized in 1869, as I remember, and was kept up in the winter months most of the time until about 1870. The first men to take part were George Crow, Frederick Swartz, John Sken, S. W. Kennedy, T. N. Saunders and Frank McInich. The grange movement was started in the fall of 1873."

Deaths Reported in American Army in France

Washington, Jan. 2.—General Pershing today reported the following deaths:

PRIVATE ELI GEORGE, engineers, December 25, pneumonia; Suquamish, Wash.

ARMY FIELD CLERK DANIEL J. HAYES, December 30, pneumonia; Springfield, Mass.

PRIVATE FREDERICK O. JOHNSON, engineers, December 29, pneumonia; Goodwin, Ark.

PRIVATE HOMER MOORE, ammunition train, December 29, ruptured liver; Miami, Okl.

BUGLER FREDERICK E. PALMER, gun battalion, December 29, pneumonia; West Haven Conn.

PRIVATE ERNEST CAMON, stevedores' regiment, December 30, pneumonia; Statesboro, Ga.

PRIVATE MORRIS W. BARNHILL, infantry, December 30, gas asphyxiation; Elizabeth, La.

PRIVATE ERNEST R. WINDSOR, ambulance company, December 28, pneumonia; Athens, O.

PRIVATE SHED TATE, labor company, December 30, meningitis; Como, Miss.

Belgian Relief Ships Carry Coal to New England

Washington, Jan. 2.—Immediate steps to relieve the New England coal shortage were planned late today at a conference in the office of the director general of railroads. Rail shipments will be expedited and five ships of 25,000 tons aggregate capacity will be sent at once from Hampton Roads with coal for New England ports.

SAYS HARDING'S KNOCK AT CODY IS "ALL BUNK"

Camp Cody, N. M., Via El Paso, Tex., Jan. 2.—(Special Telegram.)—Governor Harding's criticisms of Camp Cody when he got back in Iowa can quote me as saying so. "He knows what I think of it all and I told them the same back home," declared Major Sheppard B. Philpot, commanding the 125th machine gun battalion, Iowa and Minnesota troops, upon his arrival here from a Christmas visit at his home at Fort Dodge, Ia.

Major Philpot's first duty was to check out two companies from his unit to the other machine gun battalions here, which are brigade units while his is attached to division headquarters, and now embraces only two companies.

A New Year's bulletin from headquarters indicates that visitors on the reservation will be further discouraged during work hours. It also deals with health problems.

NATIONAL DEBT IS NOW \$51 PER CAPITA

Is Five Times Greater Than When We Entered War and One-Fourth That of Germany.

Washington, Jan. 2.—The United States enters the new year with a national net debt of \$5,615,000,000, more than five times greater than when it entered the war nine months ago, but only one-third of the debt which promises to develop by the first of next year. The debt per capita is about \$51 and the percentage of debt of estimated national wealth is 2 1/2%.

The actual outlay for the military establishment up to December 1 was \$1,311,000,000, the estimated outlay for the whole fiscal year is \$8,790,000,000.

The navy spent \$420,000,000 and the estimate for the year is \$1,300,000,000. Shipping board expenditures were \$118,000,000, while the year's estimate is \$901,000,000. Each of these three principal departments has outstanding contracts for which big expenditures will have to be made within the next six months, and the aggregate of these is the uncertain element which makes it impossible to determine precisely how many additional Liberty bonds must be issued before July 1, 1918.

Great as the national debt seems to this country, whose debt before the war was only a little past the \$1,000,000,000 mark, it is only about one-fourth that of either Great Britain, France, Russia or Germany. The debt of all of America's co-belligerents is about \$84,000,000,000, or 14 per cent of the estimated wealth of those nations, and the Teutonic allies' debt is about \$40,000,000,000, or 28 per cent of their estimated wealth.

Total Sales of Thrift Stamps to Date \$2,758,114

New York, Jan. 2.—Total sales by postoffices throughout the country of thrift and war saving stamps amount to \$2,758,114, it was announced here tonight. This amount, which represents \$2,066,550 in war savings, and \$691,564 in thrift stamps, does not include the distribution made by Federal Reserve banks to agents of the first and second class, which, it was estimated, would at least double the sales of postoffices.

New York City leads with sales of 51,240 war savings and 309,812 thrift stamps, while Chicago is second with 50,961 and 204,016, respectively; Cincinnati, third, with 32,000 and 106,000; Detroit fourth with 30,592 and 135,113; Kansas City, Mo., fifth with 28,000 and 100,000, and Pittsburgh sixth, with 24,380 and 282,800.

Refuse French Socialists Passports to Petrograd

Paris, Jan. 2.—Premier Clemenceau today refused the request of a delegation of socialist members of the Chamber of Deputies for passports to Petrograd for socialist delegates.

The premier, in his reply, told that he did not doubt their patriotism, but said the situation at Petrograd was too unsettled for a useful result to be obtained from their intervention and that giving them passports might seem like an endorsement of their mission, which would produce a harmful effect on opinion at the front as well as in the rear.

Many people would not fail to say in that case, added the premier, that France was taking part in preliminary negotiations for peace, which was in no wise thought of in the absence of serious propositions from the enemy.

Joy Rides Fill Graves.

Chicago, Jan. 2.—"Wine, women, gasoline and carelessness" cost the lives of 262 persons in automobile accidents in Chicago in 1917, according to the report of Coroner Hoffman today. The figures represent an increase of 30 per cent over those of 1916.

Men and Women Storm Coal Yard And Force Company to Sell Fuel

New York, Jan. 2.—With another day of bitter cold and intensive suffering from the general fuel shortage, New York had today its first real coal riot. The disorder began when several hundred men, women and children, who had lined up outside a large coal yard at One Hundred and Nineteenth street and East River, discovered several loaded trucks leaving the yard after announcement had been made that there was no coal for sale.

Some of those who had been waiting patiently with pails, bags, small wagons and baby carriages, at once began to stone the office windows. Others followed the trucks, unhooked the rear chutes and seized the coal that streamed into the street. Police reserves were called and succeeded in restoring order when a representative of the coal company announced that coal would be sold in small lots after certain hospitals had been served.

Although today was a holiday coal yards were opened by request of the fuel administration. Hundreds of small fuel with baskets, baby carriages, small

NORMAL SUGAR SUPPLY IS SOON TO BE REACHED

Food Administration Increasing Allotments to Confectioners and Manufacturers of Non-Essentials.

Washington, Jan. 2.—A return to a normal sugar supply for the nation is not likely to be long deferred, the food administration announced tonight in outlining plans under which an increased allotment of sugar will be made to confectioners and manufacturers of non-essential food products containing sugar.

The 50 per cent allotment to which confectioners were limited when the sugar shortage became acute in October will be increased to 80 per cent, when the supply again becomes normal, it was announced, but continuance of this ratio will depend upon the efforts of manufacturers to reduce the sugar content of confectionery and soft drinks by substituting other sweetening materials.

Through a misunderstanding, food administration officials in New York last week announced that refiners already had been instructed to increase the allotment to confectioners to 80 per cent and that the full pre-war conditions had returned to normal. It was explained tonight that the maximum allotment would be 80 per cent of normal and that all manufacturers would be required to reduce the sugar content of their products as far as possible.

"The 50 per cent limit has worked but little hardship on the manufacturers of confectionery and sweet drinks," said the food administration's announcement, "as they had on hand supplies sufficient to keep their plants working at almost normal capacity for several months. It will, however, benefit the sugar supply in general, by preventing the possible accumulation of larger quantities than were necessary for immediate use."

American Censorship Is Somewhat Relaxed

Washington, Jan. 1.—Relaxation in several phases of the voluntary censorship, observed by American newspapers since the beginning of the war, is announced by the committee on public information in revised regulations effective tomorrow. Requests that nothing be published tending to disclose the names of line officers or individual units in expeditionary forces, tending to reveal the identity of American merchant ships and crews engaging submarines and giving information regarding dry docks, repair and construction work have been withdrawn entirely. It is explained unofficially that these were withdrawn because of the difficulty in having them universally observed.

South Dakota Bohemians Pledge Last Drop of Blood

Lesterville, S. D., Jan. 2.—The members of the local branch of the Bohemian-Czech National alliance recently sent President Wilson a telegram in which they stated that they were proud of their adopted country and of their president, and pledging the country "our last dollar and last drop of blood to conquer the central empires and make the world safe for democracy." They now have received a reply from Secretary Tumulty, in which the members of the alliance are warmly thanked for their generous assurances.

Congress Asked to Supply \$1,338,000,000 Deficiency

Washington, Jan. 2.—An urgent deficiency appropriation of approximately \$1,338,000,000 for the army, navy, food administration and other government work will be asked of congress after the holiday recess.

The largest item will be \$1,278,500,000 for the army, including \$700,000,000 for supplies; \$450,000,000 for ordnance and \$140,000,000 for engineers. The Department of Agriculture will ask \$6,000,000 for seeds to be sold to farmers in addition to \$2,500,000 provided for the same purpose in the food survey law. The food administration will ask \$2,000,000 to make a total of \$4,500,000 available for the current fiscal year, in addition to amounts allotted from the president's \$100,000,000 fund. The navy already has asked for \$55,000,000 deficiency appropriation.

Besides these deficiency appropriations, the War department already has asked \$1,123,000,000 additional to the regular estimates.

Will Not Relax Child Labor Laws During War

Washington, Jan. 2.—Efforts of the national child labor committee to prevent relaxation of the child labor laws on the excuse of wartime necessity have the endorsement of President Wilson. In a letter to the committee made public today the president declares that strict enforcement of the laws not only will contribute to preservation of life and health, but will tend to efficiency and economy of production.

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BRITISH TANK AND GERMAN SUB TOUR COUNTRY

New York, Jan. 2.—In an effort to give impetus to enlistments in the British and Canadian forces, the British armored tank Britannia will be started on a recruiting tour of the United States on January 14. It was announced tonight that the tank had been turned over to the British recruiting mission by the London war office.

Accompanying the tank will be a squad of speakers and Scotch pipers, as well as the captured German submarine, which was used in the Liberty loan campaign in this city, and in the Victory loan campaign in Canada. A tour of the south will be made first, thence north to Chicago and westward.

JAPAN LOANS CHINA BIG BUNCH OF COIN

Other Banking Groups in Syndicate Will Not Participate and Japanese Will Control Currency Reform.

(By Associated Press.)

Peking, Monday, Dec. 13.—The Associated Press is informed officially that Japan is negotiating an advance to China of £10,000,000 for the purpose of improving the status of the Bank of China. The negotiations are being carried in with the knowledge of the American, British, French and Russian banking groups in the syndicate which, with Japanese and German representatives, was formed before the war.

The terms will be similar to the previous Japanese advance under the conditions of the reorganization loan, but the other banking groups will not participate, because their governments prohibit the sending of bullion to China.

Japan will loan the money with the object of exercising control over the currency reform. The Japanese notified the other banking groups that unless they were willing to participate in the loan, it would be negotiated by Japanese interests.

National's Shortstop May Be Traded to Chicago

St. Louis, Jan. 2.—Indicative to local sport followers that a trade of Roger Hornsby, star shortstop of the St. Louis Nationals, is still under consideration is the departure tonight for Chicago of President Branch Rickey, Jack Hendricks, who was selected to manage the Cardinals next season; Charles Wegghman, president of the Chicago Nationals, and Fred Mitchell, manager of the team. Announcement was made that no trade had been effected, but it is said negotiations will be opened again in Chicago tomorrow.

Negotiations between Rickey and Wegghman have been in progress intermittently for several weeks.

Camp Cody Soldiers Eat Barbecue Dinner

Camp Cody, N. M., Via El Paso, Tex., Jan. 2.—(Special Telegram.)—Officers from the regiments of four states training here were received by Major General Augustus P. Blockson at division headquarters this morning while the division band of 300 musicians directed by Prof. Jacob Smith of Cedar Rapids, played supplanting the foot ball game that had been planned. A program of boxing and wrestling took place in the division stadium. In the afternoon a barbecue dinner was spread in Turner park for the soldiers at noon.

American Serbians Enlist For Service in Balkans

An Atlantic Port, Jan. 2.—Three hundred Serbians who left American farms and factories to form an American-Serbian detachment to fight against the Austro-Germans in the Balkans, arrived here today from Chicago on their way to Europe. The men who were in uniform, were tendered a reception by the Red Cross. An American flag, comfort kits, woolen socks and sweaters were presented to each of the Serbians.

New Burlington Bridge Across Ohio River Opened

Chicago, Jan. 2.—The mile and a quarter bridge built jointly by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy and Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis railroads across the Ohio river between Metropolis, Ill., and Paducah, Ky., officially was opened today. The bridge cost \$3,100,000 and one of its spans is 720 feet long. It is double-tracked.

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—Advertisement.

J. Barleycorn Bids Adieu To Alaska New Year's Eve

Juneau, Alaska, Jan. 2.—Alaska went on the list of "bone dry" states and territories at midnight last night. Some of the saloons which closed their doors have been operating since the days of the gold rush in 1898. Alaska bade farewell to "Hooch," as liquor is known in parts of the north land, and throughout the snow-bound territory from Nome to Ketchikan hundreds stayed up to watch the passing of the saloons.

Alaska Indians probably will receive the greatest benefits from the dry law as violators of the present laws have profited by selling them whisky in the past. One of the government's big tasks has been to keep whisky from the Indians.

German Seize Munitions For War

Washington, Jan. 1.—The Germans are taking down the massive bronze doors of the Brussels Exchange to ship them to Germany, according to a French dispatch today. All metals of value in the manufacture of munitions are being requisitioned, the dispatch says, and bell metal is known to have been in especial demand.

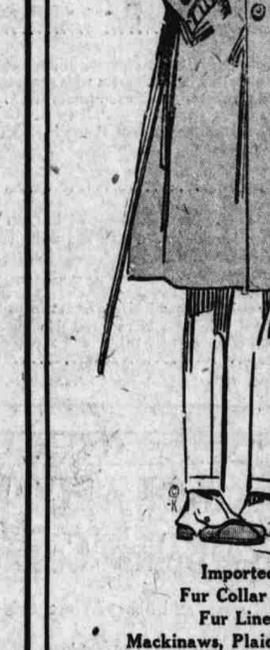
American Steamer Seized For Violating Blacklist

A Pacific Port, Jan. 2.—Its officers and crew, charged with violating the trading with the enemy act, by attempting to trade with black-listed concerns in Lower California, the steamer Norfolk was brought into this harbor tonight with a prize crew aboard and docked. Officers and crew are under armed guard and no one is allowed to approach the pier.

The Norfolk, an American owned steam schooner, 250 feet long, was seized at sea by a United States cruiser. It had been engaged in carrying ore mined in Lower-California.

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Wonderful color and fabric range—Values absolutely unequalled—
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