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VOL. XXII., No. 306

FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1916

ONE CENT PER COPY

OFFICIAL REPLY TO U. S. NOTE WAS RECEIVED AT WASHINGTON

Allies Blockade of Greece Is Having Good Effect

**Conditions Reported to Have Improved Greatly From the
Allies Point of View---Royalists Newspapers Are Chang-
ing Their Tune---Army Being Demobilized.**

LONDON, Dec. 28.—News from Athens reaching London last night shows that the conditions have improved greatly from the Allied point of view. The royalists are beginning to feel the effect of the Allied blockade, and even the strongest royalist newspapers are completely changing their tones. In the meantime the Foreign Office announces the demobilization of the Greek army is taking place rapidly and satisfactorily, in accordance with Greece's promises. This will remove the threat from the Allies' rear. The persecution of the Venizelists is also lessening.

BERLIN, via London, Dec. 28.—The administration papers in Budapest deny a report published in the opposition newspapers that Count Stephen Tisza, the Hungarian premier, is about to follow Baron Burian and Dr. Von Koerber into retirement. The possibility of the withdrawal from public life of Hungary's "strong man" has, however, been in the air since the death of Emperor Francis Joseph.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 28 (via London).—A Stockholm despatch to the Ekstrablatt says that bread and flour tickets will be issued in Sweden in less than a month, beginning from January 15th.

AMSTERDAM, via London, Jan. 28.—A Vienna despatch says that Privy Councillor Rudolf Zieghart, governor of the Austrian land credit bank, has resigned at the request of the Emperor Charles. He is succeeded by Ritten Von Leth.

BERNE, via Paris, Dec. 28.—The semi-official Bund, commenting on Germany's reply to President Wilson's peace note, says: "The note conveys the impression that the Central Powers are not disposed to listen to President Wilson's suggestion and make public, before a conference, their conditions of peace. Their answer is practically a repetition of their first peace proposals made to the Allies."

Government of India Has Prohibited the Importation of Autos and Motor Cycles

LONDON, Dec. 28.—A special despatch to the Times from Bombay, India, says: "The government of India has issued a notification prohibiting the importation of automobiles and of motor cycles, with the object of checking the consumption of gasoline and liberating the tonnage necessary for other commodities. Regret is expressed that the action was not taken earlier, before the large interest in American cars had arisen."

"American cars to the number of 2,634, valued at 456,666, were imported into India between April and November, representing a large volume of shipping. It is expected that this action will result in curtailing other luxury trading, notably in provisions from England. Fears are expressed that the measure may induce the curtailment of tonnage from America. American buyers have been provided hitherto with the necessary tonnage."

British Government Discouraging Further Shipments of Gold to Argentine Republic

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Bankers have heard last night that cable instructions had been sent out by A. Bonar Law, British Chancellor of the Exchequer, in conjunction with Bank of England officials to all branch banks and banking agencies in this city, directing them to discourage further shipments of gold to the Argentine Republic and in general all gold shipments from the United States to any country.

The main reason for this is regarded as being the desire of the British government to keep the New York money market as easy as possible to enable it more successfully to float a new British loan in the United States. The Allies have been big buyers of raw materials in Argentine since the war began.

Opinion in Italy.

ROME, via Paris, Dec. 28.—The answer of the Central Powers to the Wilson peace proposal is declared by the editorial writers to be evasive, especially as regards the President's chief request that the belligerents state their terms of peace.

BERLIN, via London, Dec. 28.—The German reply to the Swiss note was handed to the Swiss minister today. It is on the same lines as the reply to President Wilson's note.

PARLIAMENT TO MEET ON JANUARY 18.

Ottawa, Dec. 28.—The Parliament of Canada will assemble three weeks from today, Thursday, January 18th. An extra of the Canada Gazette, summoning the Senate and Commons for this date is being published. The session is opening earlier than was anticipated because of the impending war conference in London, which Sir Robert Borden intends to attend. It will meet in the latter part of February.

Toronto Defeats The Canadiens

Montreal, Dec. 28.—Results of the N. H. A. games last night were as follows:
Toronto 7, Canadiens 1.
Quebec 6, Wanderers 2.
228th Battalion 10, Ottawa 7.

Hon. T. C. Casgrain Seriously Ill

Ottawa, Dec. 28.—Hon. T. Chase Casgrain, Postmaster General, who is ill with pneumonia at his residence here, was only slightly improved today. Mr. Casgrain made a trip to New York recently and on his way home contracted a cold from which congestion of the lungs developed. While his condition is not critical, it is rather serious.

G. C. Nurse Was Badly Burned

Cranbrook, B.C., Dec. 28.—Miss Pearl Barker, a nurse, while impersonating Santa Claus at a Christmas tree here, was so severely burned that she died shortly afterwards.

GERMANY'S REPLY TO PRESIDENT WILSON'S NOTE IS NO REPLY AT ALL

**Looks as if the Huns Were Trying to
Trap the Allies Into a Conference---
London Press Repels the Idea of
A Conference.**

LONDON, Dec. 28.—The London morning papers generally regard Germany's reply to President Wilson's note as no reply at all, but a renewed effort to trap the Entente into a conference at an inopportune moment for the latter, with a view to avoiding what is consistently maintained here as inevitable defeat for the Central Powers.

The Post, assuming that Germany regards President Wilson's note as an instrument fashioned to serve her interests, says that Germany has seized the occasion with the desperate aggressiveness of a drowning man catching at a straw.

Rejecting all idea of a conference, the Post says: "It is perfectly evident that if a discussion were once begun the war could not possibly be resumed. The long gathering momentum of the Allies, once checked, could not be recovered."

Germany's Call for a Conference Described By the London Post as Impudent Affront

The Post calls the German proposal for a conference "an impudent affront," and adds: "That he afforded occasion for this affront should help President Wilson to understand why, in all the Allied capitals, his action is regarded askance. The German answer may well refer to the friendly spirit of the American note, for its effect, however, undesigned, is to succor Germany and embarrass the Allies."

The Daily Telegraph thinks the reply marks a new and significant step in the game of desperation forced upon the Central Powers by their well-justified idea of what the immediate future holds for them.

The Challenger for Peace Negotiations Should be Invited to State the Terms

The Daily News says: "The failure to meet President Wilson on common ground cannot be ascribed to obtuseness. Germany's affectation of misunderstanding will mislead nobody. The original German note and the present reply to President Wilson have the common object of throwing upon the Entente the onus of rejecting ostensible German advances. The Allies must see that they do not promote the success of that transparent manoeuvre by the adoption of a purely negative or intransigent attitude. Our right course is not to repel advances, but to state our terms when the challenger to negotiations has stated his."

Austrians Pretend to be Willing to Termin- ate the Era of Bloodshed if at all Possible

LONDON, Dec. 28.—A Reuter despatch from Vienna by way of Amsterdam quotes some of the Austrian papers regarding the peace proposals. Commenting on Austria's reply to President Wilson, the Fremdenblatt says: "The Central Powers contemplate the possibility of the continuance of the war with full confidence, but feel they owe a duty to their people to do everything compatible with their justified interests and terminate the bloodshed if at all possible."

The Neue Freie Press says: "By our reply President Wilson's policy is at once allied with our own. The Entente can refuse nothing to the Central Powers which they would not also refuse to President Wilson. The Entente no longer faces us alone, but also America, with whom we are in full harmony."

The Reiches Post says: "Our proposal gives the Entente a favorable opportunity even at the last moment honorably to turn from the crime of war to the reconstruction of civilization."

Berlin is Well Pleased.

BERLIN, via London, Dec. 28.—Germany's answer to President Wilson and the promptness with which it was made have caused a good impression generally in the press. Only the anti-American newspapers show a tendency to dissent and express their views that interference of any kind by America is intolerable.

F. ST. JOHN BLISS SHOT HIMSELF IN THE HEAD

**Secretary-Treasurer of York Attempted Suicide at
County Court House This Afternoon--His Con-
dition Critical--The City Shocked by the Tragic
Occurrence.**

Fred St. John Bliss, Judge of Probate and Secretary of the Municipality of York, shot himself through the head between noon and one o'clock this afternoon. The desperate deed was done in the Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Bliss crossed the corridor from his own office to the Sheriff's Office and locked himself in. With a revolver he sent a bullet through his temple. Death was not instantaneous and up to 2.45 o'clock the unfortunate man was still breathing.

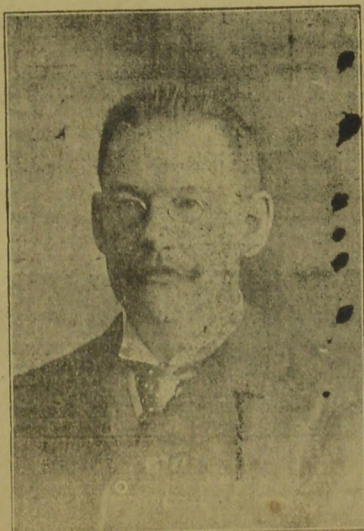
Mr. George E. Armstrong, County Auditor, was at work in the Treasurer's office during the morning. Judge Bliss was in the office at times. At some time between noon and one o'clock Mr. Armstrong heard a sound, evidently the shot fired by Judge Bliss, but did not attach any importance to it.

Later, going into the corridor, he heard stertorous breathing from the Sheriff's Office. He tried the door, but found it locked. Judge Bliss being nowhere in sight, Mr. Armstrong at once surmised that something had happened him.

Going into Queen street, he found Postmaster Lewis H. Bliss, brother of the county official. Together they returned, but not being able to force the door, called in Mr. W. C. Burtt, locksmith, who turned the lock.

Judge Bliss was found with a horrible wound in his temple and the re-

(Continued on page 5.)



FRED ST. JOHN BLISS.