

# TEUTONIC ALLIES PROPOSE PEACE

### But Declare Readiness to Continue the War.

### WOULD END WAR AT ONCE

### Overture Through U. S., Spain and Switzerland.

#### WHERE BOTH SIDES NOW STAND.

#### What They Have To Show After Two Years Of Hostilities and Millions Of Lives Sacrificed.

Germany's move for peace comes just two years and 133 days after she declared war on Russia and two years and 129 days after England declared war on Germany.

German Territory Held by the Allies—The western edge of Alsace-Lorraine.

Austro-Hungarian Territory Captured by the Allies—About half of Galicia and all of Bukovina and the southern fringe of Trentino as well as the western border of the Istrian Peninsula, north of the city of Trieste.

Turkish Territory Captured by the Allies—All of Northeastern Armenia and part of Mesopotamia.

Bulgaria Territory Taken by the Allies—None.

Entente Territory Occupied by the German Allies—Northeastern France, practically all of Belgium, Poland and Lithuania, more than half of Roumania, all of Serbia and Montenegro and nearly all of Albania, as well as part of Persia and Egypt. Some of Greek Macedonia is occupied by the German-Bulgarian forces, although Greece is not in a state of war. Germany has lost all her overseas colonies.

Berlin.—Peace proposals have been made by Germany and her allies, Austro-Hungary, Turkey and Bulgaria, to Great Britain and her allies, France, Russia, Italy, Portugal, Serbia and Roumania.

Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg announced to the Reichstag that Germany, together with her allies, "conscious of their responsibility before God, before their own nations, before humanity," had proposed to the hostile powers to enter on peace negotiations.

The proposals, which express the purpose of the Central Powers "to enter forthwith on peace negotiations with a view to lasting peace," are contained in identical notes from Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turkey and Bulgaria to the representatives of the neutral powers protecting the interests of the Teutonic Allies in hostile countries. These diplomats—in the case of Germany the representatives of the United States, Spain and Switzerland—are asked to bring the note to the attention of the nations at war with the Central Powers. The note has also been transmitted to the Vatican and all neutral nations.

#### Terms Not Given.

No terms are mentioned in the proposal or the note to the allied powers. Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg before delivering a remarkable speech in the Reichstag and reading the portentous note, received, one after another, the representatives of the United States, Spain and Switzerland, and handed each a copy of the note. Before the Chancellor entered the Reichstag the building was surrounded by an enormous crowd.

#### THE TEUTONS' PEACE NOTE.

#### Prepared To Continue War Until Bitter End, But Desirous To Avoid Further Bloodshed.

Berlin, December 12.—Following is the text of the note addressed by Germany and her allies to the hostile governments:

"The most terrific war ever experienced in history has been raging for the last two years and a half over a large part of the world—a catastrophe which thousands of years of common civilization was unable to prevent, and which injures the most precious achievements of humanity.

"Our aims are not to shatter nor annihilate our adversaries.

"In spite of our consciousness of our military and economic strength and our readiness to continue the war (which has been forced upon us) until the bitter end, if necessary, at the same time prompted by the desire to avoid further bloodshed and make an end to the atrocities of war, the four allied powers propose to enter forthwith into peace negotiations.

"The propositions which they bring forward for such negotiations and which have for their ob-

ject a guarantee of the existence of the honor and liberty of evolution for their nations are, according to their firm belief, an appropriate basis for the establishment of a lasting peace.

"The four allied powers have been obliged to take up arms to defend justice and the liberty of national evolution. The glorious deeds of our armies have in no way altered their purpose. We always maintained the firm belief that our own rights and justified claims in no way control the rights of these nations.

"The spiritual and material progress which were the pride of Europe at the beginning of the twentieth century are threatened with ruin. Germany and her allies, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey, gave proof of their unconquerable strength in this struggle.

"They gained gigantic advantages over adversaries superior in number and war material. Our lines stand unshaken against ever repeated attempts made by armies.

"The last attack in the Balkans has been rapidly and victoriously overcome. The most recent events have demonstrated that further continuance of the war will not result in breaking the resistance of our forces and the whole situation with regard to our troops justifies our expectation of further success.

"If in spite of this offer of peace and reconciliation the struggle should go on, the four allied powers are resolved to continue to a victorious end, but they disclaim responsibility for this before humanity and history. The imperial government through the good offices of your excellency, ask the government (here is inserted the name of the neutral power addressed in each instance) to bring this communication to the knowledge of the government of (here is inserted the name of the belligerent)."

#### ENTENTE WILL DISCUSS NOTE

#### Britain Disposed To Keep On Fighting. Not Likely Now To Make Terms Germany Would Accept.

London.—Peace is a step nearer, but still far off. Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg's speech before the Reichstag is no surprise to British officialdom. It has met with a cold and unresponsive reception here, however, for no matter how war-weary the people are, they are in no frame of mind to accept peace now.

Hollweg Waited Too Long. He should have spoken before the political crisis in the allied capitals. Now the people interpret it as a request for and not an offer of peace.

Before the Allies can reply they must hold a joint conference. This undoubtedly will be done immediately. The reply undoubtedly will contain terms which Germany will not be likely to meet, with the war map in its present condition. Premier Lloyd-George probably will give the official announcement of the British attitude in Parliament. His present views are well known, and it is safe to assume that they will govern the nature of the reply.

#### WILSONEAGER TOPUSHPEACE

#### The President Will Await the Formal German Offer and Feel the English Pulse Before Taking Chances Of a Snub.

President Wilson may gladden the whole Christian world with a message of peace which will make this Christmas memorable in history. It is intimated in a quarter close to the President that he is giving the most earnest consideration to the form in which he will present to the allied powers the proposal of Germany and her allies for a discussion of terms of peace.

This intimation—and it was a strong intimation—gave rise to the impression that the President in presenting the German communication to the Entente Powers, might go much farther than necessity requires; that is, he might not merely content himself with transmitting Germany's proposal to the Entente without comment, but might accompany it with a note in which he would point out to Great Britain, France, Russia, Italy and the other governments allied with them that the United States was deeply interested in the German effort for peace and request those to whom the communication was addressed to give it their most careful consideration.

#### TELEGRAPH TICKS.

Representative Lewis, of Maryland, author of the Parcel Post Law, introduced a bill in the House proposing government ownership of the public telephone system in the capital.

The Indian Appropriation Bill, carrying approximately \$9,000,000, first of the annual supply measures, was passed by the House without a roll-call.

John McVicker, 73 years old, once president of the International Typographical Union and formerly editor of the Detroit News, died in Chicago.

Thirty-seven produce merchants were convicted in New York of having sold cold-storage eggs as fresh eggs.

# PARIS DERIDES TEUTONS' MOVE

### Regards Peace Overtures as Sign of Weakening.

### PRESS SAYS, "CLUMSY TRAP"

### Relief Is Expressed That Proposal Is An Attempt To Create Discension Among Allies.

Paris.—The offer of peace of Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg is received with a chorus of derision in the French press. The newspapers are unanimous that it is an admission that the situation is getting critical in Germany and that the Chancellor wants a way out before it is too late. His move is considered to have the additional advantage that, in the event of its failing, it will enable him to throw the blame for the continuation of the war on the Allies, which he hopes will have a moral effect on Germany and the neutral nations.

The French Government has as yet received no official notice of Germany's peace note to neutrals, nor has the American Embassy received the text of the note from Washington for transmission to the Foreign Office. If a reply is made to the German note it will be only after consultation with the allies of France, and such conversations would require considerable time. Inquiry in responsible quarters elicited the opinion that Germany's suggestion is a maneuver designed first, for effect at home; second, to impress neutrals; third, as a test of public opinion in belligerent countries, with the chance of some reaction here. Germany's suggestion is rejected in authoritative quarters, where it is considered to be a repetition in more concrete form of the peace discussions originating in Berlin from time to time in the last 15 months.

#### WHAT THE GERMAN TERMS MAY BE.

#### Evacuation Of Belgium, But the Possession Of Alsace and Lorraine.

Washington, December 12.—Recent dispatches to the German Embassy, covering a wide range of subjects, indicate a belief that the general terms might be in substance as follows: A restoration of the status quo existing before the war. This includes the evacuation of Belgium and the restoration of the occupied portions of northern France with the exception of Alsace and Lorraine.

No authorized expression was obtainable from the embassy as to whether conditions would be attached to the restoration of Belgium and French territory, but it was understood that the German idea was to make provision for the future neutrality of Belgium and probably propose demilitarization, particularly of the city of Antwerp.

It was also understood that no conditions amounting to economic control of the mineral lands of northern France would likely be asked.

All Germany's lost colonies she expects to be returned. Her possessions in the Pacific, however, are not a subject of great concern and the Berlin government is understood to be ready to relinquish the claim on Kiaochau.

The security of Turkey in possession of Constantinople probably would be insisted upon by the Central Powers, as well as the restoration of Albania.

The establishment of independent kingdoms in Lithuania and Poland would be one of the factors in the German proposal, although that part of Poland possessed by Germany at the outbreak of the war would not be included.

What adjustment would be made to cover the Trentino region between Austria and Italy, or any provisions affecting Egypt, the Suez Canal, Mesopotamia, or the gateways of control to the Indian Empire are not made clear in German quarters here.

The Berlin situation is considered so delicate it would have to be untangled in the peace conference.

#### SENATE ELCTS SAULSBURY.

#### Receives 41 Votes to 22 for Gallinger and 5 for Clapp.

Washington.—Senator Willard Saulsbury, Democrat of Delaware, was elected to the Senate by a vote of 41 to 22 for Gallinger and 5 for Clapp, of Minnesota, the candidate of the Progressive-Republicans.

#### WANTS U. S. MILL AND BAKERY.

North Dakota Would Demonstrate Real Cost Of Making Bread. Washington.—Erection of a Government flour and bakery in the capital to demonstrate the real cost of making bread is proposed in a bill introduced by representative Young, of North Dakota.

# A CALL FOR TOMORROW



# PROHIBITION NOW BEFORE CONGRESS

### National Amendment Ordered Favorably Reported.

### ACTION WAS NOT EXPECTED

### Sheppard Bill Prohibiting Manufacture and Sale Of Liquor in the District Of Columbia Now the Unfinished Business.

Washington.—Nation-wide prohibition took a long stride toward congressional consideration when the House Judiciary Committee unexpectedly voted to recommend adoption of the resolution to submit a constitutional amendment forbidding the manufacture and sale of liquor for beverage purposes in the United States. Even the most enthusiastic champions of the amendment had not expected favorable action so soon from the committee, which at the last session voted to postpone its consideration indefinitely.

How far the resolution will progress through the various legislative stages of Congress at this session is problematical, but administration leaders doubt that it will reach the Senate in time for action at this session. Prohibition advocates are jubilant over the action of the committee, however, and predict ultimate adoption of the resolution and reference of the amendment to the legislatures of the various states at a much earlier date than they had before had hoped for. A two-thirds majority in both houses is required.

Coincident with the committee's action on the amendment, the prohibition issue was brought directly to the attention of the Senate when the Sheppard bill to prohibit the manufacture and sale of liquor in the District of Columbia became the unfinished business of the Senate.

Senator Kern, of Indiana, has added a proposal that women also should participate in the referendum.

Sentiment in the Senate for and against the referendum appears to be closely divided, with a vote on the subject expected within a day or two.

Discussion of the Sheppard bill afforded opportunity for comment on the proposed amendment, several senators, among them Sheppard, Vardaman and Owen, predicting triumph for the cause of nation-wide prohibition in the near future.

#### C. B. SNYDER DEAD.

#### Former Pennsylvania Newspaper Man Dies in Connecticut.

Greenwich, Ct.—Charles B. Snyder, a former newspaper owner in Pennsylvania and more recently up to two years ago business manager of the Graphic here, died at the age of 65. He was at one time owner of the Berwick (Pa.) Independent and later of the Wilkes-Barre Record and the Wilkes-Barre Times-Leader.

#### WILL BOYCOTT BUTTER.

New York Housewives Plan Three-Week Campaign. New York.—A boycott against butter will be started in this city Wednesday, continuing for three weeks or longer, it was announced by Joseph Hartigan, commissioner of weights and measures, and secretary of the mayor's committee on food supply. Housewives will be asked to economize in the use of the product, it was stated, instead of being urged not to buy it at all.

# A VIOLATION OF GERMANY'S PLEDGE

### Sinking of Marina Violation of Promises to U. S.

### FACTS IN CASE SENT BERLIN

### State Department To Give German Foreign Office Chance To Furnish Further Evidence Before Taking Next Step.

Washington, D. C.—Information assembled at the State Department and believed by some officials to present a clear-cut violation of German pledges in the sinking of the British steamer Marina with the loss of six American lives has been forwarded to Berlin for submission to the German Foreign Office.

It was announced at the department that the evidence had been sent as a matter of courtesy, to allow the Imperial Government to offer any other facts it may have before the United States takes its next step. Officials indicated also that any move by this Government might be delayed until complete information concerning the British liner Arabia, for which Great Britain has been asked, could be sent to Berlin.

In response to inquiries, Germany has admitted the torpedoing without warning of both the Marina and Arabia, stating that her submarine commanders took them for transports and asking the United States to furnish any evidence it might have to the contrary. In the case of the Arabia, Great Britain has been requested to furnish official data to establish whether the Peninsular and Oriental liner was in Government service, although all information now at hand indicates that when sent down she was passing through the Mediterranean on a regular voyage with passengers and freight.

As to the Marina, officials regard the case as complete. According to the evidence, while carrying a cargo of horses and other freight she was torpedoed and sunk without warning 100 miles from shore in a high sea, with no provision for the safety of those on board. Many horse tenders, including six Americans, were lost. Investigation has developed, it is said, that the ship had not been under charter or requisition by the British Government at any time during the war, but had transported horses at so much per head for the Allies.

It is generally believed that when President Wilson and Secretary Lansing are ready to act, the next step will take the form of a communication to clear up any doubt that may exist at Berlin as to the interpretation given by the American Government to the German pledges given after the attack on the Sussex.

As in the Sussex catastrophe, officials here point out, the Marina and Arabia cases have demonstrated the menace to innocent neutral lives in the practice frequently followed by German submarine commanders of attempting to ascertain the character of a ship by periscope observations. The United States has demanded that the character of a vessel be determined beyond doubt before an attack is made that endangers the lives of its citizens and contends that this can be done practically only by actual visit and search.

#### \$1,000,000 FIRE KILLS EIGHT.

Huge Quaker Oats Plant in Ontario Destroyed By Explosion. Petersburg, Ont.—An explosion and fire destroyed the Quaker Oats buildings here with an estimated loss of eight lives and injuries to ten other persons, all employees, and with property damage amounting to about \$1,000,000. It is supposed that the explosion occurred in the dry room and that it was caused by spontaneous combustion.

# STATE NEWS BRIEFLY TOLD

### The Latest Gleanings From All Over the State.

### TOLD IN SHORT PARAGRAPHS

#### Tobacco Prices Highest.

Lancaster.—Tobacco prices are the highest ever known, according to many veteran growers who attended a meeting of the Lancaster County Tobacco Growers' Association here. The present prices are twenty cents for wrappers, ten cents for fillers and five cents for scrap. It was reported that the Lancaster County crop will average from 1200 to 1500 pounds wrappers and about 200 pounds fillers to the acre. The crop is the largest in years. According to growers, the tobacco acreage in the county will be increased fifty per cent, the coming year.

#### Rolls Of Steel Mill Kill Man.

South Bethlehem.—Caught on a stretcher block on a spindle which drives the heavy rolls of the eighteen-inch mill in the new merchant mills of the Bethlehem Steel Company, Byron L. Pierce, aged twenty-six, was crushed to death. He was employed as a guide setter. How the accident happened is unknown, as no one was a witness to it. It is presumed, however, that young Pierce's clothing became caught as he was passing the rolls, which drew him into the machinery. His body was found by Donald Sinclair, foreman in the mill.

#### Three In Guardhouse For "Revolt."

Harrisburg.—Telegrams to the Harrisburg newspapers from Colonel Maurice E. Finney, commanding the Eighth Regiment, near El Paso, declares the "I Want to Go Home" demonstrations as no way to approach a revolt and were merely "minor infractions of discipline." Colonel Finney declares only three and not fifty men were placed in the guardhouse, and that the only punishment meted out to the men of Company D, this city, was an order compelling them to remain in their company street for forty-eight hours.

#### Republic Barn Fire Loss \$12,000.

Bethlehem.—A loss of \$12,000 was caused by a fire of unknown origin, which destroyed the barn of the Carter Junior Republic, at Reddington. The Republic was founded, and is supported by Mrs. William T. Carter, of Philadelphia. Nine horses and ten head of cattle were rescued, but everything else in the barn was destroyed, including 600 bushels of potatoes, fifty tons of hay alfalfa and straw, and the winter supply of oats.

#### Didn't Know Gun Was Loaded.

Shamokin.—Florence Cova'skie, twelve years old, was entering the home of John R. Brown to study school lessons with one of his daughters, when Harry Brown, six years old, alleging he did not know the weapon was loaded, shot her with a small rifle. The bullet entered her neck and lodged near the ear. The victim was rushed in a critical condition to the State Hospital.

#### Limestone Workers Get Increase.

Johnstown.—A wage increase of ten per cent has been granted employees of various limestone quarries in this district, according to an announcement just made. About 1500 workers are affected, including those of the United States Steel Corporation. Under the new schedule laborers will receive \$2.50 a day, carpenters, \$2.55, and mechanics, \$3.75.

#### Coatesville Trolley Approved.

Harrisburg.—The Public Service Commission has approved the application for charter papers for the Coatesville Trolley Company, which will run a line in the city of Coatesville and in East Fallowfield and Valley Townships. The applicants are H. I. Schotter, J. V. Penner, C. F. Fumpton, H. G. Rambo and W. J. Elliott.

#### Explosion Injures Two Miners.

Mt. Carmel.—As Henry Briley and John Rix were about to descend from a breast at the Philadelphia & Reading Coal & Iron Company's Romance Colliery, they were blown to the bottom of a gangway by a terrible explosion of gas, both being badly burned.

#### Revokes Auto License.

Harrisburg.—State Highway Commissioner Black revoked the motor vehicle license held by John L. McConnell, of Millersburg, who was convicted in the Dauphin County courts on November 27, of having operated a motor vehicle while intoxicated. He was fined \$100 and costs.

#### Two Men Killed When Roof Falls.

Wilkes-Barre.—George Richards, aged forty-eight, and Bernard Ewell, aged thirty-five, miners, were caught under a fall of rock and coal in the Woodward mine of the D. L. & W. Company, at Edwardsville, and both were killed. The men were in their chamber when the roof gave way.