

KAISER READY TO HEAR PEACE PLAN, IS REPORT

Washington Hears President's Second Mediation Offer Has Been Accepted by Emperor.

Protection of German Territory and Commerce Said To Be Terms Demanded For Ending Hostilities.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—There is a persistent report in Administration circles that Emperor William has accepted conditionally President Wilson's second offer of mediation.

These conditions are said to insist that German territory be preserved and German commerce afforded full protection.

Both the White House and State Department refused to discuss the report and the German Embassy said it was cut off entirely from Berlin.

BORDEAUX, Sept. 17.—A former news agency dispatch from Munich quotes the Neueste Nachrichten as saying that Germany has empowered the United States to intervene with the Belgian government for the purpose of suggesting an armistice.

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DEMOCRATS MEET TO APPROVE WAR TAX BILL

Introduction of Measure Today or Tomorrow Will Follow.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—Democrats of the House Ways and Means Committee met today to approve the tentative draft written by Chairman Underwood of the Internal Revenue "war tax" bill.

Underwood indicated today that some of the Spanish war tax items might not be included in the present bill.

Republican committeemen plan a scathing minority report, indicting the Democrats for alleged extravagance in appropriations.

COUNCILS TO TAKE FIRST STEP FORWARD IN CITY'S ADVANCE

New Draft of Loan Bill Includes \$500,000 Item for Preliminary Work on the Subway.

The first step toward the actual construction of the subway and elevated lines and the abolition of exchange tickets will be taken today when Councils Finance Committee and Common Council meet to carry out the agreement made by Councilmen leaders last Tuesday.

Just before the Subcommittee on Appropriations met in City Hall at 1:30 o'clock there was a feeling of confidence among the business men of Philadelphia that the subcommittee would prepare a new draft of the loan bill and include the appropriation for transit.

A general reapportionment of the loan probably will be made. The original allotment for the Parkway, for instance, was \$500,000 for general pier construction, and also was included in the appropriation for transit.

There was considerable discussion preceding the subcommittee meeting about the original attitude of Councilmen leaders, they have been ordered to keep their hands off the Transit Department for the present.

The appropriation to the Transit Department for salaries this year was \$200,000. On August 1 there was a balance of \$12,345.77. The transfer made on August 15, 1914, leaving a balance of \$12,345.77. Councils, it was said, figure that only \$5,000 would be needed for the rest of the year, leaving a balance of approximately \$7,345.77.

On the other hand, it has been said that in view of the universal protest against the original attitude of Councilmen leaders, they have been ordered to keep their hands off the Transit Department for the present.

AVIATOR'S DARING AIDS JAPANESE AT KIAO-CHAU

Railroad Station in German Leasehold Taken With Little Loss.

TOKIO, Sept. 17.—The capture of the railroad station at Kiao-Chau was effected with slight loss to the Japanese because of the daring of an aviator who flew in a hydro-aeroplane and dropped five bombs.

While the Germans were in disorder the Japanese charged and drove the defenders back toward Tsing-Tao.

THIS CANDIDATE A HIGH FLYER

Andrew, of Massachusetts, to Campaign for Congress in Aeroplane.

BOSTON, Sept. 17.—Campaigning in an aeroplane is one of the latest novelties in political stumpings in Massachusetts.

A. Platt Andrew, candidate against Congressman Gardner for the Republican nomination for Congress, has made arrangements to sail in a Burgess-Wright airplane piloted by Clifford Webster from one town to another throughout his district.

Andrew has planned to get an early start from Marblehead Saturday forenoon and fly to Swampscott for his first speech.

S. P. C. A. Wants Motor-Driven Patrol A committee representing the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals consisting of S. B. Rutherford, William Phillips and H. Lepper, Jr., called on Director Foster today and requested that a motor-driven patrol be given to the Tacony police station.

NEW YORK, Sept. 17.—The Weather Bureau today announced that the Southern storm had passed inland to Georgia and that it would lose its intensity. Warnings were ordered down to the South Atlantic.

REPUBLICANS IN SENATE WOULD OUST PENROSE

La Follette, Cummins, Borah and Clapp Say His Elimination Is Party Necessity.

Evening Ledger's Support of Palmer Regarded as Powerful Factor in Campaign for Political Morality.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—Republican and Democratic Senators are silent today on the resolution introduced in the Senate yesterday by Senator George W. Norris, of Nebraska, for an investigation by the Committee on Privileges and Elections, of the primary campaign expenses of Senator Penrose and Roger C. Sullivan, the Democratic Senatorial nominee in Illinois.

Progressive Republicans like La Follette, Cummins, Borah and Clapp make no secret of their opposition to Penrose, and among the leaders of this wing of the Republican party there is a strong feeling that the former men of the type of Penrose and William Barnes, Jr., of New York, are eliminated as leaders, the better it will be for the party.

Senator John W. Kern, of Indiana, chairman of the Committee on Privileges and Elections, announced today that the committee would be called for a special session within a few days to consider the Norris resolution.

Senator Kern told the Evening Ledger, however, that there is little prospect of an investigation of the Pennsylvania and Illinois primary campaigns unless Senator Norris is willing to incorporate into his resolution definite and specific charges of the misuse of money by Penrose and Sullivan.

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U. S. ASKS BRAZIL TO EXPLAIN

Government Wants to Know Why Clearance Papers Were Refused.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—The United States today called upon Brazil for an explanation of her refusal to issue clearance papers to the steamship Robert Dollar at Rio De Janeiro.

MT. LASSEN'S NEW FISSURE

Ash-laden Vapor Escapes From West Side, Below Summit Crater.

MINERAL, Cal., Sept. 17.—Vast quantities of ash-laden steam vapor are escaping today as a result of a violent eruption yesterday at Lassen Peak.

MAYOR IN MESSAGE ECHOES DEMAND OF PEOPLE FOR REFORM

Necessity of Providing Funds for Transit Development and South Philadelphia Improvements Are Especially Emphasized.

Mayor Blankenburg's third annual message, submitted to Councils this afternoon, brought to the attention of the legislative bodies the demands of the people for great municipal improvements.

Necessity of providing funds for the beginning of transit development and for the elimination of grade crossings in South Philadelphia is particularly emphasized.

"The financial problems of the city are peculiarly the province of your honorable bodies, and I ask for them your early and careful attention," says the Mayor in his argument for the great civic betterments.

"Public improvements of the greatest importance to the city were included in the \$5,000,000 loan, authorized by popular vote at the election in November, 1913, and the \$12,500,000 loan whose submission to a special election was provided for by a later ordinance of Councils."

"These particular loans were prevented by a decision of the Supreme Court, which has, however, made clear that the larger part of these amounts can now be borrowed under a proper ordinance."

Mayor Blankenburg points out the splendid condition of Philadelphia's financial credit in connection with the flotation of municipal loans. "It is not known that any other American city was able to float four per cent bonds at par last year," he says.

WANTS WASTE AREA RECLAIMED Realization of the plan to transform South Philadelphia below Oregon avenue from a waste area to an important industrial, commercial and residential part of the city by the elimination of railroad grade crossings is declared by the Mayor to occupy the place of first importance among the achievements of his Administration in 1913.

"It means the realization of improvements which have been talked of for more than a score of years," he says. "It includes the completion of the Belt Line system and the transfer of the terminal of a great railroad from a point on the Delaware, where the development of South Philadelphia was held in check, to a point contiguous to League Island, adding a new value to this great naval station."

"It also includes the acquisition by the city of a water front that will enable us to build a dozen or more 500-foot piers for the accommodation of large steamships, and thus we may realize the hope to restore Philadelphia to its former position as one of the great seaports of the world."

Mayor Blankenburg calls attention to the economies in floating loans, effected through the efforts of his administration by having an act passed by the Legislature making it possible for bonds of an authorized loan to be sold only when the money is actually needed, thus effecting savings in interest and sinking fund charges.

COUNCILS SCORED FOR INACTIVITY. Councils are scored by the Mayor for failure to co-operate with him in an effort to put the city's finances on a sound basis.

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Flanking Movement to Cut Off Army of Von Kluk Reported Successful—Both Sides Bring Up Powerful Guns and Great Duel Is On.

The War Summary

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French War Office, at Bordeaux, announces that the Germans have been compelled to raise the siege at Verdun and that the Crown Prince's army again has been forced back.

German official War Office statement today explains the retreat of the Germans in France was only to their prepared positions and to enable the troops to recover from their earlier exertions. It is announced that the general battle now in progress is proceeding favorably to the German cause.

Przemysl, the strong fortification on the San, near where the Austrian armies are reported to have effected a junction, has been captured by the Russians, according to a Petrograd dispatch. The Austrians will be compelled to take a final stand at Cracow, near the meeting point of Russian, Austrian and German borders.

Capture of Cracow would open the way for the Czar's forces to march on Breslau, in Silesia, 190 miles from Berlin.

Meanwhile, another Russian army is proceeding west through Poland toward Silesia, and military experts believe that these movements will fatally expose Berlin, if the Kaiser has, as reported, withdrawn eight army corps (320,000 men) from East Prussia and Galicia to reinforce the German armies in France.

Advices from Vienna, however, state that the fighting in Western Galicia is not ended and that the junction of the armies of Generals Dankl and Auffenberg will be followed by fresh offensive tactics between the San and Vistula, with the object of keeping the line intact between Przemysl and Cracow, thus protecting Central Austro-Hungary on one hand, and Silesia on the other, from Russian encroachments.

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PRESIDENTIAL TENT FOLDED

Canvas Covering Removed From White House Lawn.

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The President will not miss it much. As a matter of fact it was not a success. Erected under his orders in order to give him a cool retreat in which to work on hot days, it failed of its purpose. It was not a cool retreat. The inside office was cooler.

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