

GERMAN STAND ON PEACE PLAN AIDS MEDIATION

President Wilson Hopeful That Further Negotiations Will Result From United States' Offer to Act.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—President Wilson is "extremely hopeful" that progress toward peace in Europe will result from informal soundings of Germany and the allies.

This was the situation today regarding peace and mediation overtures, according to a high authority. It is still too early to discuss terms, but by careful and slow discussions through both official and private sources, the President, it is said, has reason for hope that some definite peace overtures may be presented at an early date.

The President characterizes the sentiments expressed by German Chancellor Bethmann-Hollweg to Ambassador Gerard, "as non-committal." It was authoritatively stated today that the Chancellor's conversation with Gerard did not touch upon terms or even suggest possible acceptance of the President's mediation overtures.

It is understood that the Chancellor only went so far as to say (whether with or without the Kaiser's knowledge and consent is unknown to officials here) that Germany could not consider or even discuss mediation until the position of the allies was known.

No reply was made by Emperor William himself, nor did the Imperial Chancellor indicate whether or not he spoke on behalf of his monarch, Ambassador Gerard cabled President Wilson the Chancellor's remarks from recollection, which were substantially as follows: Germany was appreciative of the American Government's interest and offer of services in trying to make peace. Germany did not want war, but had it forced on her. Even if victory in France, she must likewise accept all three have made an agreement not to make peace except by common consent. Similarly, England had abandoned through Premier Asquith and her diplomatists and newspapers that she intended to fight to the limit of her endurance.

In view of that determination on the part of the allies, Germany could accept only a lasting peace, one that would not be broken by the future. To accept mediation now would be interpreted by the allies as a sign of weakness on the part of Germany, and would be misunderstood by the German people who, having made great sacrifices, had the right to demand guarantees of security.

While the greatest official secrecy surrounds the peace negotiations, it was accepted today that President Wilson shortly made guarded informal inquiries from the allies, advising them of the German Chancellor's position. It was reported that the President would ask if the allies could present any tentative counter-proposals, or other suggestions in view of the Chancellor's stand that might bring the nations together upon some plan of preliminary discussion.

It is evident today that President Wilson himself is personally handling the mediation and peace overtures to the exclusion of Secretary of State Bryan and other officials and even taking leading diplomatic representatives here of the warring powers. That he expects to take an active personal role in the ultimate peace proceedings is foreseen.

Stirred by the issuance of the latest "white paper" from London, dealing with the rupture between Russia and Germany and Austria, both Count Johann von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, and Dr. Constantin Dumiba, Austria's Ambassador at Washington, denied today the assertion of Sir Maurice de Bunsen that Germany had made peace impossible.

The German and Austrian representatives reiterated former declarations that Russia, not Germany was the real aggressor. They intimated strongly that the British "white paper" containing Maurice's assertion was written from a partial point of view and was untrue.

Von Bernstorff said the atrocities were likewise false.

RUSSIA INSISTS PRUSSIA MUST BE DESTROYED

No Peace Overtures Will Be Considered Until Then.

PETROGRAD, Sept. 15.—The Russian Foreign Office is in full accord with the Governments of our allies and therefore will decline to admit to consideration any form of negotiations direct or otherwise, relating to the conclusion of peace until the most of militarism in Germany has been utterly destroyed," says the Evening Bourse Gazette.

"That means necessarily until Prussia ceases to play a predominant role among the German states and also until Great Britain and France are satisfied in full regarding their personal demands.

"From our own point of view we must see that we are able to attain the complete realization of our own Russian aspirations as well as the general aspirations of Slavdom.

"Until this can be accomplished every effort of the representatives of Germany, diplomat or otherwise, to bring about peace is foredoomed to failure."

MILAN, Sept. 15.—The Corriere Della Sera prints an article saying that preliminary steps have been taken looking toward peace between Russia and Austria, and that it is probable that Austria would be compensated with territory drawn from Germany should she retire from the war now.

WEATHER FORECAST For Philadelphia and vicinity—Fair tonight and Saturday; not much change in temperature; light to moderate variable winds.

For details, see page 14.

TWENTY-FIVE THOUGHT DEAD IN ALABAMA TRAIN WRECK

Seven Bodies Already Recovered 80 Miles From Birmingham.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Sept. 18.—Twenty-five people are believed to have been killed early today in a wreck of fast train No. 2, on the Alabama and Great Southern, near Livingston, Ala., about 85 miles south of Birmingham.

Seven bodies have been recovered. It is believed many more are under the wreckage.

WEAK TEA LEADS TO TRAGEDY

Chicago Man Kills His Wife and Commits Suicide.

CHICAGO, Sept. 18.—Beatrice Mrs. Marie Noort failed to make his tea strong enough her husband shot and killed her early today and then committed suicide.

PENROSE AIDS PLAN TO QUELL REVOLT BY INTIMIDATION

Orders to Break Up Meeting of Italian Political League Issued by Manipulators of Machine in Downtown Wards.

The Penrose and Vare machine in South Philadelphia has started a campaign of intimidation to put the Italian Political League, formed last Monday night to urge a revolt among the Italian voters against Penroseism in the Vaco district, out of existence. This was the accusation made today by officers of the league.

The men say Republican Organization ward leaders in South Philadelphia have called upon them and upon other members of the league, and have threatened them personally unless they stop agitating against the political conditions in their district.

Paul Tranchitelli, a city employe and a Republican leader in the Second Ward, today said, in organizing a crowd of men who have received orders to cause a disturbance at the meeting of the league next Monday night, at which a campaign of revolt against Penroseism will be planned.

The orders to break up the meeting in order that the movement will become a failure came from Harry C. Ransley, president of Select Council, said Andrew Morell, a member of the executive committee of the league today. He said that some of the men who have been asked to help break up the meeting told him this. Mr. Ransley could not be reached for comment.

The Republican leader said Morell, that nothing can stop the movement. Since the league was formed, said other officers today, Republican ward leaders have canvassed every Italian division in South Philadelphia and given the voters promises for their support. The general response, they said, has been that the Italians are tired of conditions as they exist today, and that they have already received too many promises which have not been kept.

At the meeting next Monday night seven flying squads of orators will be formed to conduct the league's campaign. They will invade every district in the city inhabited by Italians, starting within two weeks and continuing their campaign until election day. There will be five orators in each squad, it is planned, three who speak Italian and two who speak English.

HOME RULE BILL NOW LAW

Signature of King George Places It On Statute Books.

LONDON, Sept. 18.—King George today signed the home rule bill, which thus goes on the statute books as a law.

The Irish Home Rule bill received its third passage by the House of Commons over the veto of the House of Lords several months ago. By the "Parliament act," which removed the power of veto by the House of Lords of bills which had been thrice passed by the Commons, it then needed only the King's signature to become a law.

By agreement of Premier Asquith and the leaders of both parties it will not become operative until after the end of the war.

CLUBWOMEN WON'T TELL "SECRET" OF MEETING PLACE

They Just Aren't Talking About Selection For Next Convention.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Sept. 18.—Just to prove that women really can keep great big burning secrets, fifteen members of the Board of Directors of the National Federation of Women's Clubs, sweetly but emphatically declined this morning on the even of their departure for New York or Atlantic City was selected yesterday for their next biennial convention of the National Federation.

"To demonstrate once and for all that women can keep a secret we are going to make our decision known by the mailing in Philadelphia of letters to the chairman of the respective committees which urged New York and Atlantic City as advantages as meeting places," said Mrs. Eugene Reilly, of South Carolina, secretary of the National Federation.

Mrs. Percy V. Pennybacker, of Austin, Texas, said the committee thus hoped also to avoid the slightest suspicion of favoritism. The thirteen other committeewomen nodded their heads sagely. The identity of the messenger selected to mail the important letters was not disclosed.

As the committee left here for New York to attend a luncheon and other social festivities, it was inferred in some quarters that New York had vanquished Atlantic City in the convention race.

ISAAC CLOTHIER URGES ELECTION OF MR. PALMER

Great Philadelphia Merchant Ranges Himself Severely on the Side of Morality.

Indorses Stand of the Ledger and Says Economic Issues Must Give Way to Higher Considerations.

Isaac H. Clothier, one of Philadelphia's most prominent citizens and merchants and a lifelong Republican, in a letter to the Evening Ledger, advocates the defeat of Senator Penrose and the election of A. Mitchell Palmer, Democratic nominee for the United States Senate.

In his letter Mr. Clothier said that in the issues between Penrose and Palmer he must vote for the Democratic nominee. Mr. Clothier's letter, in part, follows: "I have been personally friendly for many years with Senator Penrose, and while I approve of the economic policies he represents, I feel that in the issues between him and my young friend, A. Mitchell Palmer, I must vote for the latter.

"I have carefully considered both the questions between them and the men personally, and I shall be glad to hear that the powerful influence of the Ledger has been thrown with Mr. Palmer. I have known him for many years, and I esteem him as one of the highest-minded men in our public life. "I think you know that I take a great pride in the Ledger, and am one of its most interested friends."

PRESIDENT REFUSES TO MEET CHICAGO GERMAN-AMERICANS

Reception of Protesting Delegation Would Violate His Neutrality Policy.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—President Wilson today declined to receive the German-Americans from Chicago and other points in the Middle West who have come to Washington to protest to him against cruelty to Germans by Belgians and others.

The President made known his declination to receive the delegation to Senator Lewis, of Illinois, and promised to write a letter to them in which he would explain his position fully. It is understood the President believes that it is a violation of the spirit of neutrality which he has urged upon all Americans, to come to him on behalf of any of the belligerents in the present war.

The spokesman of the delegation was Horace L. Brant, a newspaper publisher, of Chicago. The President's action was not unexpected, since he is determined not to lend the slightest support to any Americans of whatever descent who take sides in the war.

HAGGIN LEAVES \$15,000,000 TO IMMEDIATE RELATIVES

Will of Financier and Turfman Is Filed for Probate.

NEW YORK, Sept. 18.—James Earl Haggin, financier and turfman, who died September 12, left his fortune of \$15,000,000 to his widow, daughter and grandchildren.

UNCENSORED MOVIES ARE BARRED IN PHILADELPHIA

Order From Supt. of Police Robinson Is Now Effective.

Moving pictures which do not bear the stamp of the Pennsylvania Board of Censors are not to be shown in Philadelphia from now on, according to an order issued this morning by Superintendent of Police Robinson. The step is taken following the decision of August 6, 1914, by Judge Martin, of Common Pleas Court No. 3, to the effect that the imposing of censorship on moving pictures is unconstitutional.

The act which provides for such censorship was passed in 1911 and went into effect on June 1, 1914, at which time Superintendent Robinson issued an order similar to that of today. Picture producers then appealed to the courts, claiming the enforcement of such an order unconstitutional, whereupon the order was recalled, pending the findings of the court.

SHOOTING OF MEXICAN POLICE DECLARED FICTION

Contradiction Sent to White House From Official Source.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—Information received at the White House today from a high official source in Mexico declared there was no truth in recent published stories of shooting of a group of Federal police. It was explained that the trouble arose from a clash in a carrousal in Mexico City, but that there had been no serious violence. Federal officers, the report said, had all the liberty that possibly could be granted, there was no disorder attending dispersal of Federal troops.

Orders for seizure of property, the report continues, were issued merely as a safeguard against any person who sought to start a revolution. The information said the Zapatista bands were being routed.

Villa was reported in perfect harmony with Carranza and has been promoted to division general in recognition of his support to the First Chief.

The White House today was in receipt of a message from Villa which is yet untranslated.

MORGAN'S ART TREASURES THREATENED BY FLAMES

Fire in Small Library Destroys Rare Books—Damage \$3000.

NEW YORK, Sept. 18.—Priceless art-treasures valued at more than \$1,000,000 were threatened with destruction shortly after midnight, when fire was discovered in a small library on the fifth street side of J. P. Morgan's residence at Madison avenue. Quick work by a policeman got the firemen on the scene before the flames had gained much headway. The damage was \$3000. All the valuable tapestries which had hung in the fire-scarred room were removed several weeks ago, when painters came to redecorate the place. Many rare books were destroyed, several of which had been collected by Mr. Morgan's father.

The War Summary

Terrific fighting continues along the Oise River, the allies attacking the German defenses. Losses are reported as stupendous, the allies admitting the slaughter of vast numbers.

French War Office announces that the allies' forces are "progressing slowly" and that the British have repulsed the German counter-attacks.

German War Office statements declare that the Germans are "advancing slowly but surely into France," and that the allies' attack is falling. Both offices, however, agree that the gigantic struggle thus far has been of no decisive advantage to either.

British War Office reports admit the allies have been unable to break through the German lines, but claim successes against the German right wing under General von Kluck.

Belgian forces engaged battle with the Germans who attacked a bridge near Termonde. It is reported the Belgians, aided by British forces, have annihilated a detachment of Uhlans near the French border.

Vienna admits that Russian troops have captured Krasnoy, the chief southern defense of Przemysl, which yesterday was reported invested on three sides. The occupation of this strongly fortified position is imminent. The Austrians, according to one report, have withdrawn toward Cracow, leaving only a small garrison to hold Przemysl.

The Austrian War Office discounts the importance of the capture of Krasnoy and reports that the united armies of Generals Danke and Oufenberg command the line between Przemysl and Cracow. It also states that action is still vigorous along the San, though the Russians outnumber the Austrians 3 to 1.

General Ziegler is reported wounded in the operations near the River San. The presence of his corps in this conflict indicates that some of the Vienna garrison has been withdrawn to reinforce the army in Galicia.

The Servians have abandoned Semlin (the town across the Danube from Belgrade), which they stormed a few days ago. The Servian plan of campaign has been changed and Bosnia made the objective instead of Slavonia. Austrian forces are reported as crumpling before the assaults of the Servian-Montenegrin coalition.

German war office issued a statement declaring that the Kaiser's line along the Aisne had been under terrific assault, but had stood firm. Heavy losses were admitted but attacks by the allies were declared to have been repulsed all along the battle front.

Italy's entrance into the war is expected hourly. It is reported a messenger from the Kaiser was refused audience with King Victor Emmanuel and that this was the final diplomatic move by the German Government. Emperor William is said to have termed Italy's attitude as treason.

Washington officials were encouraged for the success of President Wilson's plans of mediation by the reply from Germany through Ambassador Gerard. Germany's attitude was regarded as receptive, refusing, however, to initiate peace proposals.

FOULKE DECLARES GERMANY HAS MOBILIZED 5,000,000

Head of Municipal League Saw War Preparations.

NEW YORK, Sept. 18.—According to William Dudley Foulke, of Richmond, Ind., head of the Municipal League of America, Germany has mobilized 5,000,000 men. Mr. Foulke, who was in Germany when the war broke out, and who witnessed the mobilization, declared today: "It will be a desperate task for the allies to defeat the exquisite military organization of Germany. The war will doubtless go on until one side or the other is exhausted. Only today is England awakening to the tremendous gravity of the situation. Her resources are inexhaustible, so the balance of chance is on her side. I understand that Germany has mobilized five million of men."

Mr. Foulke arrived from Europe last night on the Lusitania.

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ADOLPH SEGAL, INSANE, TO BE SENT TO ASYLUM

Physicians Say Financier Will Not Live a Year and Family Will Ask Commitment.

Meteoric Career Ended by Mental Breakdown Which Began Six Years Ago and Precipitated His Downfall.

Adolph Segal has been pronounced insane by two physicians. The man whose operations brought about the failure of the Real Estate Trust Company a dozen years ago, the suicide of its president, Frank K. Hipple, and indictments against the Sugar Trust, will be taken to the State Hospital for the Insane at Norristown today or tomorrow to spend the last years of his life if commitment papers are signed by a Judge of Common Pleas Court. His physician says he will die within a year and may not live longer than two months.

The end of Adolph Segal's meteoric career has been as sudden as its start. His health has crept upon him step by step with his financial ruin. His collapse, financially and mentally, has been as rapid as his rise. Adolph Segal, the young soap boiler, became Adolph Segal, the millionaire, the daring financier who started the industrial world with his exploits. Now at the age of 51 years, when white is showing in his one-time glossy black hair and his fortune and financial wizardry are gone, even his mind has failed him.



ADOLPH SEGAL The meteoric financier, who has been adjudged insane, and probably will be removed to the Norristown Asylum today.

Today he is inconspicuously telling his attendants in the private room he has occupied for months at St. Joseph's Hospital that he wants to go back to his beautiful suite at the Majestic Hotel. He has been told that he is to be taken into the country for an automobile ride in the hope it will benefit his health, but he does not want to go.

PHYSICIANS CERTIFY INSANITY Application will be made today or tomorrow by attorneys for Mrs. Segal and Bert Segal, the son, for Adolph Segal's admission to the State Hospital for the Insane. A statement to this effect was given by Dr. Pierre N. Bergeron, of 1509 West Girard avenue, chief of staff at St. Joseph's Hospital, Doctor Bergeron and Dr. William H. Bunn, of 528 North 22d street, for fifteen years the Segal family physician, certified to Adolph Segal's insanity.

The law requires that one week before the commitment of a patient to the State Hospital for the Insane two physicians who have heard practicing doctors in the State shall certify to insanity, and this formality has been completed with Doctor Bergeron said today that Mr. Segal never will recover.

MENTALLY UNSOUND FOR 6 YEARS. Segal has been mentally unbalanced for the last six years, in the opinion of Doctor Bergeron, and the physician says he believes the financial collapse of the man was due to this condition. He thinks the symptoms of an unbalanced mind were not sufficiently pronounced to arouse the suspicions of his family. Adolph Segal always veered on the erratic, and when he did what would be called foolhardy in another man it was looked upon only as another evidence of his financial genius—if he won.

The crowning blow to Segal came last July when he was thrown into bankruptcy and lost the Majestic Hotel. Before that he had suffered innumerable reverses and had started financiers by some swift, unthought-of coup that made him rich again. But the loss of the Majestic destroyed whatever trace of fighting power he may have had at that time.

He was first taken to St. Joseph's when he was subpoenaed to appear at his bankruptcy hearing. The physicians in charge knew then that he was insane, but the secret was well guarded and not the slightest inkling of it was permitted to become known to the public. Since that time Segal has been under the care of Doctor Bunn and two trained nurses in a private room at the hospital.

SEGAL'S HALLUCINATIONS. "Adolph Segal will be taken to the Norristown Insane Asylum today or tomorrow," said Doctor Bergeron today. "He is hopelessly insane. He will never be any better. He may live a year and it may be but two months. His mind is practically gone. The other day he said to Doctor Bunn, who has been his attending physician: "I lent you \$50 yesterday and you promised to return it to me today. Will you give it to me now?" "There had been no exchange of money, it was a hallucination on Segal's part."

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GERMAN LINE HOLDS FAST UNDER ALLIES' FURIOUS ONSLAUGHT

British Advance Slightly on Extreme Left Against Von Kluck, But French Attacks Along Main Line of Battle Are Repulsed With Terrific Loss.

Armies of Crown Prince and Ruprecht Abandon Several Small Towns, But Maintain Strong Positions—Allies Admit They Have Failed to Dislodge Germans.

PARIS, Sept. 18.—The battle continues. Our lines hold everywhere.

That was the comment at military headquarters today. The allied armies are still unable to make any serious impression on the new German defense line stretching almost across northern France along the north bank of the Aisne River and eastward to the Meuse, where for six days the great battle has been raging.

The fighting is especially desperate on the left, where the joint armies of Generals von Kluck and von Buelow have been compelled to extend their extreme right in order to meet a flanking movement in force. No news of the outcome at that point is as yet available, but the military experts believe that the most significant developments must soon be reported there.

The French and British artillery has failed to dislodge the invaders from their strongly entrenched positions on the heights along the Aisne and north of Rheims. But on the other hand, the vigor of the allies' assaults has compelled the invaders to remain upon the defensive.

General Gallieni, the French military governor, believes that the battle will continue for some days yet upon the present field, but he feels assured that the Germans will be dislodged.

The French and British army has thus engaged along their left wing, and upon the centre, the troops on the right wing, from Suippes eastward across the Meuse, are exerting tremendous pressure against the armies of the German Crown Prince and Crown Prince Ruprecht of Bavaria. The Germans have showed their teeth in several counter attacks, all of which the French War Office claims were repulsed.

GERMAN LINES HOLD FAST, REPORTS BERLIN

BERLIN, Sept. 18.—The War office official statement, issued today, admits the German lines are being subjected to enormous pressure, but declares they are holding fast. It says:

The battle in France along the new lines occupied by our forces rages with uninterrupted ferocity. The only advantage that has been gained by our forces during the last two days has been the repulse of several French attacks in force.

We are, however, holding intact all of the important positions recently taken. The spirit of the army is excellent and the work of the German artillery, especially, is spreading havoc in the ranks of the enemy.

In the battle of September 17 between the Oise and Meuse Rivers, there has been no decisive victory yet. The indications, however, are that the resistance of the enemy is beginning to decrease.

An effort made by the French with great bravery to break through the German extreme right has failed.

The centre of the German army is slowly advancing. Raids by the French in the vicinity of Verdun have been repulsed without much trouble.

Taking cognizance of the demand for more information as voiced by many of the newspapers, the War Office issued this statement:

Referring to the opinions expressed here that in her own interest, Germany should publish a larger number and more detailed reports from the battlefield as the foreign press is daily getting such reports from our enemies.

Military considerations will not permit such publications, as a prematurely published dispatch might mean grave danger to the German armies. That is the only reason why the General Staff is keeping operations on the battlefield secret.

Unofficially, it is stated that the French have been directing their attention to the army of the Crown Prince which, it is said, has suffered very heavily. However, it holds a position of enormous strength and has repulsed every attack. The German artillery, it is explained, is causing enormous losses to the French who have been unable to make any impression on the German positions at any point.

The several attempts of the allies to envelop the German right wing have been repulsed with great loss.

Measures have been taken in Berlin to protect works of art in Belgium. Superintendent-Director Falke, of the Berlin Art Museum, has been charged to take all proper measures.

BRITISH ADMIT GERMANS HAVE REPULSED ATTACKS

LONDON, Sept. 18.—Advices from the fighting front in France indicate that the German lines are holding under severe pressure from the allies.

The German centre, especially the army of the Crown Prince, has been heavily reinforced by troops from Luxembourg and all efforts of the French to break its resistance have so far failed. It is stated that an artillery duel is in progress at many points along the line.

Among the casualties reported is the death of the French General Bataille, who was killed in action.

The official account of the operation