

Texts of Allied and German Notes

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across its frontiers instead of producing what it requires from within. A country can both become and continue to be a great manufacturing country without producing the raw materials of its main industries. Such is the case, for instance, with Great Britain, which imports at least one-half of her food supplies and the great preponderance of her raw materials from abroad. There is no reason, whatever, why Germany, under the new conditions, should not build up for herself a position both of stability and prosperity in the European world. Her territories have suffered less than those of any other continental belligerent state during the war. Indeed, so far as pillage or devastation is concerned, they have not suffered at all. Their remaining and untouched resources, supplemented by the volume of import trade, should be adequate for recovery and development.

The German reply also ignores the immense relief that will be caused to her people in the struggle for recovery by the enforced reduction of her military armaments in future. Hundreds of thousands of her inhabitants, who have hitherto been engaged either in training for armistice or in producing instruments of destruction, will, henceforward, be available for peaceful vocations and for increasing the industrial productivity of the nation. No result should be more satisfactory to the German people.

Cannot Escape Unscathed

But the first condition of any such recuperation would appear to be that Germany should recognize the facts of the present state of the world, which she has been mainly instrumental in creating, and realize that she cannot continue to bear burdens which are almost more than she can carry. These burdens and losses have been forced upon them by the aggression of Germany. It is right that Germany, which is responsible for the origin of these calamities, should make them good to the utmost of her capacity. Her hardship will arise not from the conditions of peace, but from the nets of those who provoked and prolonged the war. Those who were responsible for the war cannot escape its just consequences.

German Note on Economic Effect

The note from Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau regarding economic effects reads as follows: "Mr. President—In conformity with my communication of the 9th instant, I have the honor to present to your Excellency the report of the economic commission charged with the study of the effect of the conditions of peace on the situation of the German population. In the course of the last two generations Germany has become transformed from an agricultural state to an industrial state. As long as she was an agricultural state Germany could feed 40,000,000 inhabitants. In her quality as an industrial state she could insure the nourishment of a population of 67,000,000. In 1913 the importation of foodstuffs amounted in round figures to 12,000,000 tons. Before the war a total of 15,000,000 of persons provided for their existence in Germany by foreign trade and by navigation, either in a direct or an indirect manner, by the use of foreign raw material.

Industries Will Be Reduced

According to the conditions of the treaty of peace, Germany will surrender her merchant tonnage and ships in course of construction suitable for overseas trade. German shipbuilding yards will build for five years, in the first instance, tonnage destined for the allied and associated governments. Germany will, moreover, renounce her colonies, all her overseas possessions, all her interests and securities in the allied and associated countries and in their colonies, dominions and protectorates, will, as an instalment of the payment of part of the reparation, be subject to liquidation, and may be exposed to any other economic war measure which the allied and associated powers think fit to maintain or to take during the years of peace.

By the putting into force of the territorial clauses of the treaty of peace, Germany would lose to the east the most important regions for the production of corn and potatoes, which would be equivalent to the loss of 21 per cent of the total crop of those articles of food. Moreover, the intensity of her agricultural production would diminish considerably. On the one hand, the importation of certain raw material indispensable for the production of manure, such as phosphoric acid, would be hindered; on the other hand, this industry would suffer like all other industries from lack of coal.

Mineral Losses Heavy

The treaty of peace provides for the loss of almost a third of the production of our coal mines. Apart from this decrease we are forced for ten years to deliver enormous consignments of coal to various Allied countries. Moreover, in conformity with the treaty, Germany will concede to her neighbors nearly three-quarters of her mineral production and more than three-fifths of her zinc production. After this diminution of her resources, after the economic depression caused by the loss of her colonies, of her merchant fleet, and of her possessions abroad, Germany would not be in a state to import from abroad a sufficient quantity of raw material. An enormous part of German industry would therefore inevitably be condemned to destruction. At the same time the necessity of importing foodstuffs would increase considerably, while the possibility of satisfying that demand would diminish in the same proportion.

Says Millions Would Perish

At the end of a very short time, Germany would, therefore, not be in a position to give bread and work to her numerous millions of inhabitants, who would be reduced to earning their livelihood by navigation and by trade. Those persons would have to emigrate, but that is a material impossibility, all the more so because many countries, and the most important ones, will oppose any German immigration. Moreover, hundreds of millions of Germans expelled from the territories of the powers now at war with Germany, from the colonies and territories which Germany must surrender, will return to their native land. The putting into execution of the

conditions of peace would, therefore, logically bring about the loss of several millions of persons in Germany. This catastrophe would not be long in coming, about, seeing that the health of the population has been broken down during the war by the blockade and during the armistice by the aggravation of the blockade of famine. No help, however important, or ever however a long period it might be distributed, would prevent these deaths en masse. Peace would impose on Germany numberless human sacrifices that this war of four years and a half did not demand of her pride (1,750,000 killed, nearly one million dead, victims of the blockade).

We do not know, and indeed, we doubt, whether the delegates of the allied and associated powers realize the inevitable consequences which will take place in Germany. An industrial state, very thickly populated, closely bound up with the economic system of the world, and reduced to the obligation to import enormous quantities of raw material and foodstuffs, suddenly finds herself pushed back in the phase of her development which would correspond to her economic conditions and the numbers of her population as they were half a century ago. Those who will sign this treaty will sign the death sentence of many millions of German men, women and children.

I thought it my duty, before entering upon a discussion of other details of the treaty, to bring to the knowledge of the allied and associated delegations this summary expose of the problem of the German population.

I have at the disposal of your Excellency statistical proofs of the above statements. "I have the honor, etc., (Signed) "BROCKDORFF-RANTZAU."

Germany Must Bear Share of Suffering

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berger, who is in charge of the Austrian financial interests at St. Germain, demanded the assistance of another expert, and it is reported that he asked that Dr. Rudolf Sieghart, former governor of the Austrian Credit Foncier, be sent. The government, however, preferred to send Herr Schumpeter.

Considers Irish Request

Secretary of State Lansing has again taken in hand the request of representatives here of Irish societies in the United States that a safe conduct be secured for the three Irish leaders to visit Paris. President Wilson's office yesterday notified the Americans the matter had been referred to Secretary Lansing.

Dispatches from Geneva say the Turkish and Bulgarian delegates to the Peace Congress have arrived in Switzerland. They brought with them many documents, and both delegations plan to make protests. The Turks, it is reported, will protest against the partition of Turkey, especially concerning Constantinople. The Bulgarians will put in a claim for the return of the Dobruja and the port of Constanza. The delegations expect to reach here by the end of May.

Rantzau Expected Back Sunday

Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau and his colleagues on the German delegation, who left Paris yesterday for Spa, are expected to return Sunday. There is no indication that their absence is interfering with the progress of negotiations, the remaining delegates proceeding with their work as usual.

Announce Tomorrow A Sale of Millinery

News of the sale of millinery is being given by the German Government and better calculated to secure the objects of the league.

Regarding the suggestion of a separate mediation office, this is not considered feasible, since such a body would not have the requisite authority to maintain the peace of the world.

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the conference on Wednesday. It is believed that the delegation will confer with representatives of the Berlin Government preparatory to making a serious decision. The Echo de Paris believes that the German leaders have taken a stand against signing the treaty, but that public opinion in Germany is against them and they will retreat and reach a position which will make an agreement with the Allies more possible. All the newspapers consider that the departure of the chief of the German mission does not indicate a break between the Allies and the Germans.

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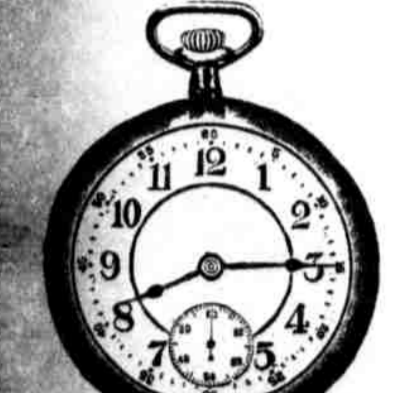
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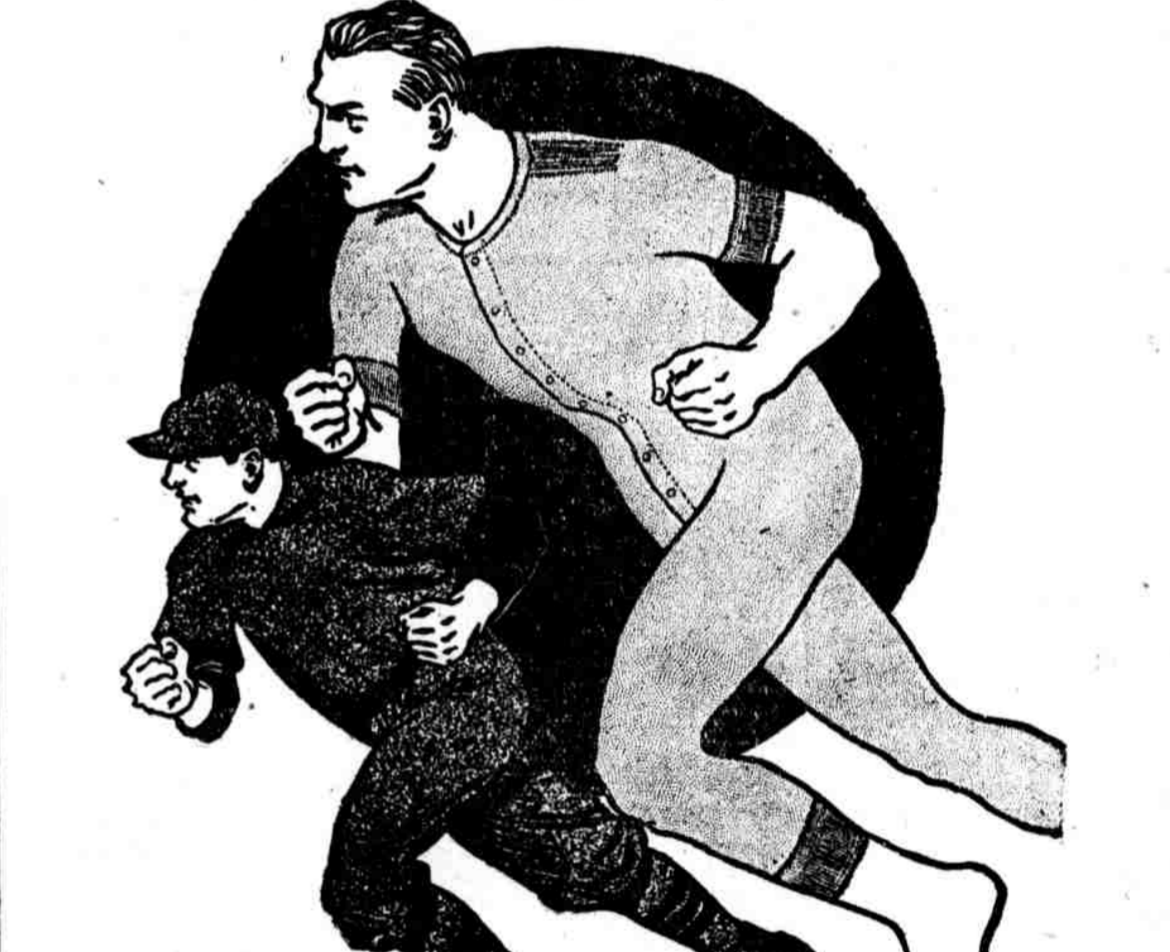


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