

SAYS WILSON TRIED FOR PEACE IN 1916

Bernstorff Testifies That President Was Ready to Mediate

BERLIN HAMPERED EFFORTS

By the Associated Press. Berlin, Oct. 22.—Count Johann von Bernstorff, former German ambassador to the United States, who yesterday was the principal witness before the committee investigating the responsibility of German officials in causing the outbreak of the great war, resumed his testimony today.

While on the stand yesterday Count von Bernstorff told of the efforts made by President Wilson in 1914 and 1915 to find a way to bring peace proposals before the allied governments. German peace tentatives, made from time to time, however, handicapped Mr. Wilson, in the opinion of the former ambassador, being construed by the Allies as evidences of weakness on the part of Germany.

It was Count von Bernstorff's impression that Mr. Wilson intended to propose a temporary peace which would not touch on territorial issues and would leave major problems connected with peace to a conference of the belligerents. In 1916, the witness said, President Wilson was in a position to propose "peace without victory," but he declared Mr. Wilson deferred action because of the sentiment against Germany in the United States at that time.

Secret documents from the Foreign Office are in possession of the committee and records from the admiralty and war office will, it is understood, be produced later.

Got Memorandum

Count von Bernstorff, referring to the peace overtures contained in the memorandum written by Emperor William October 9, 1914, explained that this memorandum had been telegraphed to him for transmission to Colonel House because it had not been finished in time to be handed to Ambassador Gerard before sailing.

(The ambassador returned to America for a short vacation in the autumn of 1916.) Count von Bernstorff said that the document referred to a conversation between the emperor and Ambassador Gerard, held at general headquarters at Charleville, France, in which the possibility of peace overtures by the United States was discussed, and added that the memorandum had been suppressed in Washington, although it demonstrated that Germany was ready promptly to accept the mediation of the President.

At the time the presidential campaign in the United States precluded President Wilson from attempting any definite action.

Wilson Ready to Urge Peace

Count von Bernstorff uttered an emphatic "yes" when a member of the commission asked him whether he understood his instructions in the sense that he was to influence or encourage President Wilson and Colonel House to undertake a peace move in favor of Germany.

He also answered affirmatively a question whether President Wilson was ready to accede to these wishes and initiate a general action for peace even without possessing Germany's concrete conditions for peace.

The committee of investigation consists of two Democratic members of the national assembly, two majority Socialist deputies and one each from the Clerical, Conservative and Independent Socialist parties. Professor Bonn-Dietrich, Schaefer and Otto Hootzsch are the historical experts who will pass upon the evidence.

(Professor Hootzsch is the well known contributor to the conservative Kreuz Zeitung and Doctor Schaefer is the author of a number of historical works, including a history of the modern world and a history of Germany.) The chairman of the committee at the opening of the session cautioned the newspapers to practice reserve and to withhold editorial judgment until all the evidence was in.

VERDUN GETS WAR CROSS

Clemenceau Completes Recognition of City's Glorious Role

Paris, Oct. 22.—(By A. P.)—When the city of Verdun was awarded the cross of the Legion of Honor in 1916, the decoration was not accompanied by the French war cross. Premier Clemenceau, however, completed the recognition of the glorious role played by the fortress by the following mention today in general army orders, which carries with it the award of the war cross.

"Verdun, a fortress keenly desired by the enemy, victoriously resisted powerful and repeated efforts by assault and supported valiantly the loss and ruin caused by a bombardment unprecedented in history. Her inviolate rampart is the symbol of the resistance of France."



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ALFONSO GOES TO VERDUN

Spanish Sovereign Bears Wreath to Commemorate Valor of Defenders Paris, Oct. 22.—King Alfonso, wearing the uniform of a Spanish infantry general, left Paris for Verdun on board a special train at 11:42 o'clock last night.

LA CONFERENZA IN ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

L'Italia Pronta per il Lavoro di Ricostruzione e pel Commercio Estero

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Atlantic City, N. J., 22 ottobre.—Continuano i lavori della Conferenza Internazionale Economica. Il Comandante Dott. Ferdinando Quartieri, capo della Missione Italiana, nella riunione all'Hotel Traymore ha dichiarato che le perdite dell'Italia durante la guerra ammontano a circa tre miliardi di lire. Il lavoro di ricostruzione richiede ora l'investimento di altri bilioni ed alcune delle più fertili contrade d'Italia dovranno essere risollevate dalla devastazione subita durante l'epoca dell'invasione nemica. Nonostante l'Italia si trova in condizioni economiche abbastanza buone e pronta ad intraprendere una campagna di produzione e di lavoro, le relazioni commerciali all'estero, le quali dovranno portare al Paese una nuova era.

Il Comandante Quartieri disse che quando le Armate Italiane si ritirarono dall'Insona sul Pinar, il nemico invase una territorio di circa 1,400,000 ettari, con una popolazione di 1,100,000. Più in ripresca dei lavori agricoli una delle gravi difficoltà è rappresentata dalla mancanza del materiale da costruzione.

La chiara esposizione del Dott. Quartieri ha interessato moltissimo gli altri delegati alla Conferenza.

Roma, 22 ottobre.—L'On. Antonio Salandra, ex presidente del Consiglio dei Ministri durante il primo periodo della guerra europea, è stato attaccato da socialisti ed anarchici quando lunedì giunse a San Severo per un discorso elettorale. L'automobile dell'On. Salandra fu presa a colpi di pietra e gli occupanti furono colpiti.

BRITAIN PREPARING TO TRY EX-KAISER

Bonar Law Says Call for Surrender Awaits Complete Ratification of Treaty

COMMONS QUIZZES LEADER

By the Associated Press. London, Oct. 22.—All necessary preparations for the trial of former Emperor William are being made. It was announced in the House of Commons today at the reassembling of Parliament by Mr. Bonar Law, the government leader.

The request to the Netherlands government for the surrender of the ex-emperor, he explained, could not be made until all the powers had signed the peace treaty.

Walter Home Long, the first lord of the admiralty, was called upon to answer a series of questions concerning the Baltic situation. Mr. Long replied with considerable force to the inquiries. British ships were in the Baltic, he said, but he was without information as to the reports that they had been in action.

The actual strength of the British army, at present 750,000 men, will be reduced in the course of the coming financial year, approximately to the pre-war standard. It was announced by the house by Winston Churchill, the secretary of war.

Fifty-five thousand troops are stationed in Ireland, Mr. Churchill stated.

Huge Sums Paid in Dole

Approximately 275,000,000 has been paid out by the government in out-of-work doles since the armistice last November. Sir Robert Hare, the minister of labor, told the House. Former service men to the number of 275,000 are still receiving such payments.

15,000 Spanish Weavers Strike

Madrid, Oct. 22.—By A. P.—Fifteen thousand weavers employed by fifty mills at Alcoy, engaged in the manufacture of cloth for uniforms struck today, demanding a 50 per cent increase in wages. The employers have offered a 20 per cent advance but this has been rejected.

HEIR TO EARL DOM BANKRUPT

Lord Uffington, Grandson of Mrs. Bradley Martin, Listed in Court London, Oct. 22.—Viscount Uffington, whose name appears in the list of "receiving orders" in bankruptcy, is the heir to the earldom of Craven, and his maternal grandmother was Mrs. Bradley Martin of New York.

FEW AT ASTOR FUNERAL

Simple Services Held in St. George's Church, London London, Oct. 22.—(By A. P.)—Simple funeral services were held in St. George's Church this forenoon for Viscount (William Waldorf) Astor. The pastor of St. George's, the Rev. Francis Norman Thirkhead, officiated. A limited congregation attended the services.

The body was taken later to Golden's Green for cremation, the ashes then being conveyed to Cliveden for deposit in the private chapel there.

YANKS TAKE STRIKERS' JOBS

Baltimore, Oct. 22.—The crisis in the meat packers and cutters' strike was passed here yesterday with the employment by virtually all the firms of former service men from the commissary department. There resulted almost a normal output of packed food and the shipments were made without delay.

Sydney Miners Watching U. S.

Sydney, N. S. W., Oct. 22.—Coal miners in the Nova Scotia district will be guided in their demands for higher wages and better working conditions by the action of miners in the central competitive fields of the United States. Robert Baxter, president of the United Mine Workers, announced yesterday.

50,000 Spanish Weavers Strike

Madrid, Oct. 22.—By A. P.—Fifteen thousand weavers employed by fifty mills at Alcoy, engaged in the manufacture of cloth for uniforms struck today, demanding a 50 per cent increase in wages. The employers have offered a 20 per cent advance but this has been rejected.

TREATY REPORT READY

Military Experts to Submit Recommendations at Paris Tomorrow Paris, Oct. 22.—(By A. P.)—Military experts who were assigned by the Peace Conference to examine questions relative to final ratification of the treaty

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of peace with Germany will submit their report tomorrow, according to the charge of the examination of the man-ner in which the clauses of the armistice were fulfilled by Germany.

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