



GERMANY AND HER ALLIES PROPOSE DEAL FOR PEACE

TO BRING FORWARD PROPOSITION FOR LASTING HARMONY

Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg Receives American, Spanish and Swiss Representatives and Gives Them Peace Proposal to Transmit to Hostile Governments

MESSAGE WILL BE READ BEFORE REICHSTAG BY GERMAN STATESMAN

Similar Proposals Are Being Made by Austrian, Turkish and Bulgarian Governments; Propositions Are Believed in Germany to Be Appropriate For Establishment of Lasting Tranquility; Transmitted to Vatican, Too

Berlin, Dec. 12.—By Wireless to Sayville.—Germany and her allies to-day proposed to enter forthwith into peace negotiations.

The propositions which they will bring forward are, according to Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg appropriate for the establishment of a lasting peace.

The Austrian, Turkish and Bulgarian governments are making similar proposals. These proposals have been transmitted also to the Vatican.

The Chancellor said the propositions which Germany was bringing forward had for their object the guarantee of existence, of honor and of liberty of evolution for the four allied (central) powers.

Chancellor Receives Neutral Ambassadors The following announcement was given out to-day by the semi-official Overseas News Agency:

"The Chancellor this morning received one after another the representatives of the United States of America, Spain and Switzerland, that is, of the States protecting German interests in hostile foreign countries. The Chancellor transmitted to them a note and asked them to bring it to the knowledge of the hostile governments. The note will be read to-day in the Reichstag by the Chancellor.

Allies Have Identical Notes "In the note the four allied (central) powers propose to enter forthwith on peace negotiations. The propositions which they bring for such negotiations are, according to the firm belief appropriate for the establishment of a lasting peace.

"The governments at Vienna, Constantinople and Sofia transmitted identical notes and also communicated with the Holy See and all other neutral powers."

Rumored McCormick Will Be Appointed Head of War Department

Washington, Dec. 12.—Vance C. McCormick, chairman of the Democratic national committee, it is rumored, is likely to become Secretary of War in the new Wilson Cabinet. It is understood that Attorney General Gregory desires to retire. Should he adhere to his decision, it is believed that Secretary Baker will be shifted to the Department of Justice and Mr. McCormick given the war portfolio.

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Fair and colder to-night and Wednesday; lowest temperature to-night about 25 degrees. For Eastern Pennsylvania: Snow and colder to-night; Wednesday colder and probably fair; fresh, shifting winds becoming west. River The Susquehanna river and all its branches will flow slowly or remain nearly stationary. A stage of about 4 1/2 feet is indicated for Harrisburg Wednesday morning. General Conditions The center of the western storm has moved to the North Carolina coast. It has caused light to moderately heavy rains and snows over most of the eastern half of the country in the last twenty-four hours. The weather continues unsettled over most of the western half of the country, with light precipitation, mostly snow, in central and northern districts. It is 4 to 22 degrees colder in the South Atlantic States and over a broad belt of country extending from the Gulf of Mexico northward through the Mississippi Valley and the Lake Region into Canada. Temperature: 5 a. m., 32. Sun: Rises, 7:19 a. m.; sets, 4:30 p. m. Moon: Rises, 8:20 p. m. River Stage: 4 1/2 feet above low-water mark. Yesterday's Weather Highest temperature, 37. Lowest temperature, 24. Mean temperature, 32. Normal temperature, 34.

Pittsburgh Plants Are Considering Closing Plants Because of Car Shortage

Pittsburgh, Pa., Dec. 12.—Important manufacturing interests in the Pittsburgh district were to-day considering the advisability of shutting down their plants December 23 and allowing them to remain idle until January 2 for the two-fold purpose of giving their employes a rest and to enable the railroads to clear tracks east and west of the vast quantities of freight daily being offered. It was said that machinery also needs overhauling, it having been in almost continuous operation for almost a year, a much longer time than usual. In spite of heroic measures adopted by the railroads freight continues to pile up at terminals. All freight depots in Pittsburgh are now being operated at night to allow consignees to remove freight, and yesterday the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis railroad placed an embargo upon all freight except such as shall originate on and is destined to points along its own tracks.

O'NEIL SAYS WOOD IS COVERING UP

Replies Sharply to Letter; 200 Insurance Claims Hidden From State

Lyndon D. Wood, of Philadelphia, whose connection with the Pension Mutual Insurance Company and the Union Casualty Company are said by Insurance Commissioner J. Denny O'Neil to be largely responsible for the financial difficulties in which those companies find themselves has written the Insurance Department demanding that the State revoke the insurance license of S. H. Whitley, one of his former associates. "Wood wrote me to-day," said Commissioner O'Neil declaring that Whitley was using this method to cover up his own delinquencies and to conceal his own lack of good business judgment.

PRIME LEADERS IN GERMANY'S PROPOSITION FOR PEACE NEGOTIATIONS WITH ALLIES



KAISER WILHELM



CHANCELLOR VON BETHMANN-HOLLWEG

PEACE TERMS ASK ESTABLISHMENT OF TWO NEW KINGDOMS

Washington, Dec. 12.—Advices from Berlin to the German Embassy indicate that Germany's peace terms, in general measure propose the restoration of the status quo before the war with the exception of the establishment of independent kingdoms of Poland and Lithuania.

They are understood to propose the complete restoration of the occupied portions of Belgium and France in return for Germany's captured colonies and to dispose of the Balkan situation because of its extremely complicated nature, in the peace conference.

No Indications of Stipulation Dispatches to the German embassy telling of the Chancellor's action in calling in the neutral diplomats and transmitting the peace proposals of the central powers, arrived soon after the news dispatches. The terms for the restoration of Belgium and portions of France gave no indication, so far as is known, of stipulations such as generally have been expected by the allies, although they did not absolutely dispose of their possibility. Hope For Conference It was indicated that while the German allies might not entirely expect that the proposals would actually cause a peace conference, they were not without hope that they would, and they were hopeful at least that they would be the means of getting the belligerents together in some manner to discuss the situation, and this it was expected, would lead to a basis for peace. In German quarters the crisis in the British Cabinet, the coming of winter and the lull in the fighting are given as reasons for making the peace proposals at this time. It is declared that the successes of the Teutonic arms in Rumania should convince the allied powers that the offer is not made because of any military weakness. By making the offer now, it is said, the German powers feel that all sides may be saved the preparations for the Spring campaign. Should the offer be declined, it is said here, it will be made again next Fall and if [Continued on Page 18]

HOLLWEG IN SPEECH AT REICHSTAG TELLS OF PEACE OVERTURES

Berlin, Dec. 12 (by wireless to Sayville).—Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg's speech is reported by the Overseas News Agency as follows: "Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg to-day announced to the reichstag that Germany, together with her allies, 'conscious of their responsibility before God, before their own nations, before humanity', had proposed this morning to the hostile powers to enter on peace negotiations." Practically all the members of parliament answered the unexpected summons. The crowded house and thronged galleries listened in attentive silence when the chancellor rose for his speech. Outlines Achievements The chancellor first outlined the extraordinary political situation and then, insisting upon the achievements of the central powers, made an announcement which possibly may be the turning point in the war, which for more than two years has held the world under its spell. The chancellor said: "The reichstag had not been adjourned for a long period, but fortunately it was left to the discretion of the president as to the day of the next meeting. This decision was caused by the hope that soon happy events in the field would be recorded, a hope fulfilled quicker, almost, than expected. I shall be brief, for elections speak for themselves." The chancellor said Rumania had entered the war in order to roll up the German positions in the east and those of Germany's allies. At the [Continued on Page 18]

KAISER TELLS GENERALS OF HIS PEACE OFFER BUT ORDERS THEM TO FIGHT ON

London, Dec. 12.—(4:05 p. m.)—A message says, they are to fight on. The message is quoted as follows: "Soldiers: In agreement with the sovereigns of my allies and with the consciousness of victory I have made an offer of peace to the enemy. Whether it will be accepted is still uncertain. Until that moment arrives you will fight on."

MAY LIGHT CITY WITH WATER FUND

Council So Advised by Assistant Solicitor; Snavely and Gross Clash

After providing for all expenses of the Water Department, including operation, reserve funds, extensions, bonded indebtedness, etc., Harrisburg may very properly spend the balance of its water departmental earnings "in the same manner as other revenues of the city"—that is, the electric lighting of the city's streets. In brief, that is the opinion Council was furnished to-day by Assistant City Solicitor E. Bruce Taylor. The question of whether or not the City Commissioners could use \$65,000 to \$68,000 of the water earnings to pay for the lighting bill and thus lop that sum from the general revenue ordinance with its consequent reduction of the city tax rate by a mill and a quarter was referred to the legal department following the suggestion of Mayor E. S. Meals. Other Solicitors' Views In addition to his own views on the subject Mr. Taylor incorporates an opinion by ex-City Solicitor Thomas S. Hargest and ex-Judge M. W. Jacobs. All the solicitors discuss the application of the old city and borough acts and their relation to the Clark act. Commissioner Bowman, in asking [Continued on Page 16]

No Foundation For Report of Revolt in 8th Wires Finney

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 11, 1916. Absolutely no foundation for reports indicating a revolt or anything approaching that in this regiment. Letter following explains in full. COLONEL FINNEY, Commander 8th Reg. In response to the Telegraph's wired request yesterday morning for the facts as to the reported "revolt" of the Eighth Pennsylvania Regiment of the United States National Guard on the border, Colonel Maurice E. Finney, the regimental commander, last evening telegraphed this cryptic explanation. Sensational stories from "special correspondents" had been to the effect that scores of men of the Eighth, including some fifty odd of D Company, one of the Harrisburg organizations, had been arrested and confined to quarters because they insisted upon banging tin pans, etc., in a "I-want-to-go-home" demonstration. Colonel Finney says most of the disorder was caused by the fact that the men in order to discover who was responsible the command was confined to the street limits. Only three men of the regiment were confined to quarters, the Colonel explains, and one of these was a member of D Company. At that, the trio was released within a few hours as their offense was not considered serious enough to warrant the preference of any charges.

AGED SISTERS DIE IN FIRE Philadelphia, Dec. 12.—Two aged sisters, who lived alone, lost their lives in their home here to-day in a fire supposed to have originated from a lighted candle. The dead are Miss Elsie Koeler, 82 years, and Mrs. Josephine Rosenau, 79. Mrs. Koeler's charred body was found at the foot of a stairway leading to the second floor. Her sister was suffocated by smoke.

TWO SOUTHERN NEGROES FACING MURDER JURIES

Trial of William Jackson, Charged With Shooting Charles Brown, Begins 5 CASES STILL ON LIST Yovanovic, Christley, Shepherd, Misko and Kotur Are Accused Men

Two negroes, charged with murder, are now facing Dauphin county juries in different courts in legal battles to save themselves from the paying the law's penalty on the electric chair. Within a few minutes after the trial of Elwood Wilson, one of the Virginia negroes charged with shooting Patrolman Lewis C. Hipple, was resumed this morning before President Judge Kunkel in No. 1 room, another jury was selected and the trial of William Jackson, charged with shooting Charles Brown, a fellow Steleton negro, was begun before Additional Law Judge McCarrell, in No. 2 room. Five other murder cases are still on the list. These include Vlada Yovanovic, John O. Christley, Cornelius Shepherd, John Misko and Nick Kotur. The latter has already been convicted but has been granted a retrial. The selection of the Jackson jury began at 10:33 and at 12:10 the twelve in different selectets after forty-six jurors had been examined—just six more than were required to pick the Wilson jury yesterday. Incidentally half a dozen or more talesmen who had been challenged for the Wilson jury were accepted for the Jackson case. Furthermore while the defense exhausted its entire [Continued on Page 15]

PROTEST DEPORTATIONS London, Dec. 12.—A strong protest against the deportation of Belgians was made at a great meeting of the Social Democratic Labor Party held at Amsterdam yesterday, according to a Reuter's dispatch from that city. Magistrate Kllegen, of Amsterdam, the principal speaker, strongly condemned German methods in Belgium. A resolution was passed appealing to all lovers of freedom, especially German socialists to protest against the deportations.

LOCAL NEWS FLASHES

George F. Watts, Quincy Bent, C. W. Lynch, Edward Bailey, Joseph H. Wallazz and Robert H. Irons, and John F. Dapp, chairman, make up the committee to greet Edward N. Hurley, who will address the Commerce Chamber. Dauphin county's Poor Board expects to ask for an additional \$5,000 appropriation for 1917 to provide for improvements at the almshouse, including a new cold storage plant, new cattle and pig pens. Council to-day again postponed the Riverside annexation ordinance. 2,500,000 SHARES SOLD New York, Dec. 12.—With the market demoralized in the last hour the activity was so great that it brought the total transactions of the day up to more than 2,500,000 shares which is a record for many years. GREGORY WILL NOT RESIGN Washington, Dec. 12.—Attorney General Gregory has no intention of resigning now or later, it was said authoritatively to-day. DISCUSS PURCHASING BUREAU Harrisburg.—Members of the State Board of Public Charities and executive officers of State hospitals met with the State Economy and Efficiency Commission to-day for discussion of the plan for a central purchasing bureau for the institutions. Governor Brumbaugh outlined what it was proposed to do and the idea of secure a money-saving system at the hospitals. Other State officials spoke and committees will be named to work out ideas for legislation. GENERAL OFFICER TO COMMAND PRUSSIA Amsterdam, Dec. 12, via London.—The Cologne Gazette says that General Von Stein, the Prussian war minister, has appointed a general officer commanding the home forces, with powers including control of the censorship laws as well as other laws relating to a state of siege. CONSTANTINE ORDERS MOBILIZATION London, Dec. 12.—An Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Copenhagen says advices have been received there from Switzerland that King Constantine of Greece has ordered a general mobilization. MARRIAGE LICENSES Harry Payne Gillespie and Gertrude Sofa Mathen, Bridgeport, Conn. Hiram White Rodenhauer, Jr., and Ruth Elizabeth Ellenberger, city.