

TEUTONIC ALLIES PROPOSE PEACE

But Declare Readiness to Continue the War.

WOULD END WAR AT ONCE

Overture Through U. S., Spain and Switzerland.

ject a guarantee of the existence of the honor and liberty of evolution for their nations are, according to their firm belief, an appropriate basis for the establishment of a lasting peace.

ENTENTE WILL DISCUSS NOTE

Britain Disposed To Keep On Fighting, Not Likely Now To Make Terms Germany Would Accept.

London.—Peace is a step nearer, but still far off.

Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg's speech before the Reichstag is no surprise to British officials.

Hollweg Waited Too Long.

Before the Allies can reply they must hold a joint conference.

Wilson Eager To Push Peace

The President Will Await the Formal German Offer and Feel the English Pulse Before Taking Chances Of a Snub.

President Wilson may gladden the whole Christian world with a message of peace which will make this Christmas memorable in history.

This intimation—and it was a strong intimation—gave rise to the impression that the President in presenting the German communication to the Entente Powers, might go much farther than necessary requires; that is, he might not merely content himself with transmitting Germany's proposal to the Entente without comment, but might accompany it with a note in which he would point out to Great Britain, France, Russia, Italy and the other governments allied with them that the United States was deeply interested in the German effort for peace and request those to whom the communication was addressed to give it their most careful consideration.

Representative Lewis, of Maryland, author of the Parcel Post Law, introduced a bill in the House proposing government ownership of the public telephone system in the capital.

The Indian Appropriation Bill, carrying approximately \$9,000,000, first of the annual supply measures, was passed by the House without a roll-call.

John McVicker, 75 years old, once president of the International Typographical Union and formerly editor of the Detroit News, died in Chicago.

Thirty-seven produce merchants were convicted in New York of having sold cold-storage eggs as fresh eggs.

The country's manufacturing industries in 1914 turned out products valued at more than \$24,900,000 and employed 8,600,000 persons.

All of the passengers of the United States transport Sumner, which went ashore off Barnegat, N. J., were taken to New York.

The Senate adopted the committee amendment to the Immigration Bill, which would exclude Hindus and other activities without mentioning them by name, and which eliminates from the bill all reference to passport agreements.

Edward Francis asked to be jailed in Philadelphia the other day on the ground that he felt an uncontrollable desire to steal something.

PARIS DERIDES TEUTONS' MOVE

Regards Peace Overtures as Sign of Weakening.

PRESS SAYS, "CLUMSY TRAP"

Belief is Expressed That Proposal is An Attempt To Create Discension Among Allies.

Paris.—The offer of peace of Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg is received with a chorus of derision in the French press.

The newspapers are unanimous that it is an admission that the situation is getting critical in Germany and that the Chancellor wants a way out before it is too late.

His move is considered to have the additional advantage that, in the event of its failing, it will enable him to throw the blame for the continuation of the war on the Allies, which he hopes will have a moral effect on Germany and the neutral nations.

The French Government has as yet received no official notice of Germany's peace note to neutrals, nor has the American Embassy received the text of the note from Washington for transmission to the Foreign Office.

If a reply is made to the German note it will be only after consultation with the allies of France, and such consultations would require considerable time.

Inquiry in responsible quarters elicited the opinion that Germany's suggestion is a maneuver designed, first, for effect at home; second, to impress neutrals; third, as a test of public opinion in belligerent countries, with the chance of some reaction there.

Germany's suggestion is rejected in authoritative quarters, where it is considered to be a repetition in more concrete form of the peace discussions originating in Berlin from time to time in the last 15 months.

WHAT THE GERMAN TERMS MAY BE.

Evacuation Of Belgium, But the Possession Of Alsace and Lorraine.

Washington, December 12.—Recent dispatches to the German Embassy, covering a wide range of subjects, indicate a belief that the general terms might be in substance as follows:

A restoration of the status quo existing before the war. This includes the evacuation of Belgium and the restoration of the occupied portions of northern France with the exception of Alsace and Lorraine.

No authorized expression was obtainable from the embassy as to whether conditions would be attached to the restoration of Belgium and French territory, but it was understood that the German idea was to make provision for the future neutrality of Belgium and probably propose demilitarization, particularly of the city of Antwerp.

It was also understood that no conditions amounting to economic control of the mineral lands of northern France would likely be asked.

All Germany's lost colonies she expects to be returned.

Her possessions in the Pacific, however, are not a subject of great concern and the Berlin government is understood to be ready to relinquish the claim on Kiaochau.

The security of Turkey in possession of Constantinople probably would be insisted upon by the Central Powers, as well as the restoration of Albania.

The establishment of independent kingdoms in Lithuania and Poland would be one of the factors in the German proposal, although that part of Poland possessed by Germany at the outbreak of the war would not be included.

What adjustment would be made to cover the Trentino region between Austria and Italy, or any provisions affecting Egypt, the Suez Canal, Mesopotamia, or the gateways of control to the Indian Empire are not made clear in German quarters here.

The Balkan situation is considered so delicate it would have to be untangled in the peace conference.

SENATE ELECTS SAULSBURY.

Receives 41 Votes to 22 for Gallinger and 5 for Claop.

Washington.—Senator Willard Saulsbury, Democrat, of Delaware, was elected President pro tempore of the Senate, receiving 41 votes to 11 for Senator Gallinger, Republican, and five for Senator Chapp, of Minnesota, the candidate of the Progressive-Republicans.

WANTS U. S. MILL AND BAKERY.

North Dakotan Would Demonstrate Real Cost Of Making Bread.

Washington.—Erection of a Government flour and bakery in the capital to demonstrate the real cost of making bread is proposed in a bill introduced by representative Young, of North Dakota.

ALL BUT GREGORY STAY.

Attorney Generalship Only Place Liable To Be Vacated.

Washington.—Every member of President Wilson's Cabinet, with the possible exception of Attorney General Gregory, is expected to remain in office after March 4, when the President's second term begins.

It was learned definitely that all of them have been, or will be asked to keep their posts. Secretary McAdoo, personally denied that he had any intention of resigning.

A CALL FOR TOMORROW



PROHIBITION NOW BEFORE CONGRESS

National Amendment Ordered Favorably Reported.

ACTION WAS NOT EXPECTED

Sheppard Bill Prohibiting Manufacture and Sale Of Liquor In The District Of Columbia Now The Unfinished Business.

Washington.—Nation-wide prohibition took a long stride toward congressional consideration when the House Judiciary Committee unexpectedly voted to recommend adoption of the resolution to submit a constitutional amendment forbidding the manufacture and sale of liquor for beverage purposes in the United States.

A VIOLATION OF GERMANY'S PLEDGE

Sinking of Marina Violation of Promises to U. S.

FACTS IN CASE SENT BERLIN

State Department To Give German Foreign Office Chance To Furnish Further Evidence Before Taking Next Step.

Washington, D. C.—Information assembled at the State Department and believed by some officials to present a clear-cut violation of German pledges in the sinking of the British steamer Marina with the loss of six American lives has been forwarded to Berlin for submission to the German Foreign Office.

It was announced at the department that the evidence had been sent as a matter of courtesy, to allow the Imperial Government to offer any other facts it may have before the United States takes its next step.

As to the Marina, officials regard the case as complete. According to the evidence, while carrying a cargo of horses and other freight she was torpedoed and sunk without warning 100 miles from shore in a high sea, with no provision for the safety of those on board.

It is generally believed that when President Wilson and Secretary Lansing are ready to act, the next step will take the form of a communication to clear up any doubt that may exist at Berlin as to the interpretation given by the American Government to the German pledges given after the attack on the Sussex.

As in the Sussex catastrophe, officials here point out, the Marina and Arabia cases have demonstrated the menace to innocent neutral lives in the practice frequently followed by German submarine commanders of attempting to ascertain the character of a ship by periscope observations.

Former Pennsylvania Newspaper Man Dies in Connecticut.

Greenwich, Ct.—Charles B. Snyder, a former newspaper owner in Pennsylvania and more recently up to two years ago business manager of the Graphic here, died at the age of 65. He was at one time owner of the Berwick (Pa.) Independent and later of the Wilkes-Barre Record and the Wilkes-Barre Times-Leader.

WILL BOYCOTT BUTTER.

New York Housewives Plan Three-Week Campaign.

Huge Quaker Oats Plant in Ontario Destroyed by Explosion.

ENGLISH EAT HORSE MEAT.

Workers At Yorkshire Being Educated By Belgians.

Oxygen and alcohol vapor are being used to stimulate the heart by English physicians.

NATION'S CROPS SHOW SHORTAGE TO STANDARDIZE STATE SUPPLIES

Buyers for State Institution Discuss Plans for Central Purchasing Bureau.

Final Report From U. S. Bureau of Crop Estimate.

TOBACCO IS AN EXCEPTION

Oranges and Hay Also in Limited Group, Showing an Increase in Yields—How Crops Fall Off.

Washington.—Hope of relief from the high cost of foodstuffs, through a plentiful production was shattered by final report by the United States Bureau of Crop Estimates, showing an unusual shortage of all major crops.

The belief that the great American farmer might be able to stem the tide of advancing food prices through an adequate yield was only abandoned with the final and official announcement by the Government crop experts, based on thousands of reports from departmental agents in all sections of the United States.

Not only did every grain crop, without exception, as well as those of potatoes, apples and some garden vegetables fall way below last year's figures, but other crops involved in the high cost of living proved a disappointment.

Cotton production, while slightly greater than last year's crop, was way below the average for the last five years.

How Crops Fell Off.

The total estimated production of wheat in the United States during 1916 was 639,886,000 bushels, against 1,025,000 bushels for a five-year average, the United States Bureau of Crop Estimates reported today.

Total production of corn during 1916, according to latest estimates was 11,511,000 bushels, against 11,191,820 bushels in 1915 and 14,259,000 bushels for a five-year average.

Total production of oats was 1,251,992,000 bushels, against 1,549,030,000 bushels for 1915 and 1,157,961,000 as a five-year average.

Total production of barley was 180,927,000 bushels, against 228,851,000 in 1915 and 186,208,000 as a five-year average.

Total production of rye was 47,383,000 bushels, against 54,056,000 bushels in 1915 and 37,568,000 for a five-year average.

Total production of buckwheat was 15,056,000 bushels in 1915 and 17,022,000 for a five-year average.

Total production of tame hay was 89,891,000 tons, against 59,820,000 tons in 1915 and 66,234,000 for a five-year average.

Total production of apples was 37,695,000 barrels, against 76,760,000 barrels in 1915 and 63,966,000 for a five-year average.

Total production of potatoes was 285,437,000 bushels, against 359,721,000 bushels in 1915 and 360,772,000 for a five-year average.

Total production of oranges was 23,875,000 boxes, against 21,250,000 boxes in 1915.

1,200-BARREL GUSHER OPEN.

Carnegie Gas Company Makes Big Find in Pennsylvania.

Waynesboro, Pa.—Drilling into the Gordon sand on the George M. Iseninger farm, in Springhill township, Greene county, the Carnegie Gas Company struck a gusher which is producing 50 barrels an hour, or 1,200 barrels a day.

MAKES BACHELORS "DRY."

Virginia Court Holds They Have No Regular Homes To Get Quart.

SAFE CONDUCT FOR TARNOWSKI.

Entente Powers Yield To Representations Of United States.

Last December Germany had more than 10,000,000 cows and more than 20,000,000 beef cattle of all kinds.

TO STANDARDIZE STATE SUPPLIES

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