

Fight for Peace and Democracy Will Go On, Says German Leader

Developments in Reichstag Will Not Halt Struggle, Asserts Erzberger

Looks for Aid From National Liberals

Even Without It, Insists the Majority Bloc Has an Ample Working Majority

BERLIN, Oct. 13, (via London), Oct. 14.—Matthias Erzberger, leader of the centrist party in the Reichstag, which has demanded greater deference to that body from the government, told the Associated Press to-day that the developments of the last week would not interfere with the majority parties' peace attitude as based on the resolution of July 19, or in any way retard the movement for parliamentaryization. If anything, he asserted, the latter would be more likely to be accelerated as the result of the government's predicament growing out of the events at the Reichstag.

Herr Erzberger declared that the majority bloc, which is now made up of Socialists, Centrists and Progressives, continues to present itself in a solid phalanx behind the peace resolution. He asserted that it is not probable that it will be augmented by substantial support from the National Liberals in connection with some of the more pertinent issues growing out of the present situation. Even without that support the coalition would have an ample working majority.

Kaiser Expected Back

The fact that the Centrists and Progressives did not join the Socialists in the vote on the resolution of confidence, and that the Far Left party declined to support the measure creating the post of Vice-Chancellor, does not signify an absence of complete accord among the coalition parties on the major issues, Herr Erzberger said. In spite of the situation, which is being described in the Liberal press as being more than a "latent crisis," it is not expected the Reichstag will convene before December 5, the date set at Thursday's adjournment. The Emperor is expected back on October 22 from his trip to the Near East, and it is assumed he will confer with the factional leaders of the Reichstag.

The Liberal and Radical press continues its outspoken demands for resignation of the men responsible for the launching and collapse of the government's indictment of the Independent Socialists in the open session on the Reichstag.

Says Chancellor Failed

Dr. Gustav Stresemann, floor leader of the National Liberals, in a signed statement, accuses Chancellor Michaelis of having failed to carry out his duty correctly, and that his speech was a failure.

"The form and contents of the government's declaration and its manner of procedure were distinctly depressing," Herr Stresemann said. "For friends of the government, and a reaction most naturally will result. It would have been a simple matter to strike a sharp blow at the Independent Socialists in connection with their resolution. Thanks to the inexpedient procedure, the opposite result was achieved, and even partisan quarters extending far to the right share this impression."

The most sensational of the developments of the last week in the Reichstag to which Herr Erzberger refers were the disclosures by Vice-Admiral von Capelle of the mutiny in the German fleet and his attempt, in conjunction with Chancellor Michaelis, to attach the blame for the outbreak to certain Independent Socialists.

Matthias Erzberger is leader of the centrist, one of the three great parties in Germany and the one which holds the balance of power in the Reichstag. Former Ambassador Gerard has expressed the opinion that the centrist party is the only real liberalizing influence in Germany, and this is borne out by recent events.

Since the beginning of the war Herr Erzberger has changed from an equally ardent peace advocate and parliamentary reformer. In July his party, which is composed entirely of Catholics, formed an alliance with the Socialists, Progressives and National Liberals and put through the Reichstag the peace resolution that has formed the basis for so much discussion lately. This four-party coalition also upset the Bethmann-Hollweg government and threatens in the present crisis to win another victory over the government.

Erzberger, who has steadily gained in influence since the war began, favors a government responsible to the Reichstag and also advocates a plebiscite as the solution of the Alsace-Lorraine question.

Germany Staked All on U-Boats And Has Lost, British Believe

Climax of Ruthless Warfare Is Seen in Attack on Michaelis and von Capelle—People Cannot Forgive Government's Submarine Folly

By Frank Getty

LONDON, Oct. 14.—The movement in Germany to force the resignation of Chancellor Michaelis and Vice-Admiral von Capelle, Minister of Marine, while ostensibly the result of Capelle's charges of mutiny against the Independent Socialists, with which the Chancellor professes to disagree, is believed here to really mark the climax of the biggest German failure of the war—the intensified submarine campaign.

Every other mistake that Germany has made during the war she has been able to rectify or justify, from a military or a political point of view. In starting the ruthless submarine campaign, however, she stood to win or lose everything, and it is the unanimous opinion of official England that she has lost.

The success of the campaign meant the starving of England and the surrendering of the Entente Alliance, and an important military victory for Germany. Failure meant the loss of everything. For Germany must have reckoned on the entry of the United States into the war and deliberately chosen to ignore this factor and take a chance on speedy victory.

Why Capelle Must Go

The plan failed, and in the English view that, and not the recent crisis, is the reason why von Capelle, who was directly responsible for it, must go.

Herr Naumann, Radical Deputy, one of Germany's foremost statesmen and author of the famous work, "Central Europe," which portrayed the ideal of a German-Austrian "holy empire," stretching from Antwerp to the Persian Gulf, made an interesting revelation in this connection in closing the session of the Reichstag. After expressing skepticism regarding the success of the submarine campaign, he said: "When the submarine was resolved upon we kept silent, although we regarded it as extraordinarily dangerous. We believed it to be out patriotic duty to hope that this weapon, with its grave subsidiary results, would exercise in the main an effect in our favor."

Aided by this "patriotic silence" the German government has hitherto kept dark the fact that the submarine policy was forced through against strong opposition, and that its opponents, though silenced, were unconvinced.

There is every evidence now that most Germans realize the fatal character of the submarine decision more plainly every day, and now that its original opponents have recovered their feet and his attempt, in conjunction with Chancellor Michaelis, to attach the blame for the outbreak to certain Independent Socialists.

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U. S. in '48 Opposed Prussian Despotism

Chairman of War Council to Render Report of His Work to the Nation

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Berlin's Determination to Keep Alsace Checks All Talk of Peace

Even Moderates Among Allies Now Declare Negotiations on Such a Basis Unfair to France, Which Has Borne Brunt of War and Deserves Reward

By Arthur S. Draper

LONDON, Oct. 14.—Just as the weather has checked Haig's offensive in Flanders, so has Kuehlmann put a spike in the peace push. His "never, never" speech regarding Alsace-Lorraine, corresponding to the declaration in 1870 of Thiers and Favre, "not a fortress, not a rod of French soil shall be ceded," has checked the peace movement just at the moment when it seemed to be gaining headway.

Kuehlmann evidently expected to find encouragement in the Allied Moderate circles, but instead of winning their support he has succeeded in driving them into the ranks of those who place no confidence in the possibility of peace through negotiation. So long as France is willing to fight for her provinces even the English Moderates will stand firm.

"The Manchester Guardian" puts it thus: "We need not be more French than the French themselves, but so long as they, with all they have endured and still have to endure, stand firm in their purpose, we, who have much less to endure, shall stand with them."

Moderates Change Views

H. W. Massingham, another Moderate, says in the "Nation": "It is, of course, true that without a good, generous settlement of the Alsace-Lorraine question there can be no permanent European peace. But neither will it come (the Allies failing in the destruction of Germany) from purely national and exclusive treatment of it. The 'Guardian' draws an interesting comparison between Germany's action after the annexation of South Africa, where, after England gave its first error, she placed the disposal of South Africa in the hands of the South Africans themselves. Had Germany so acted in the case of Alsace-Lorraine there would from that day have been a different Europe and there would have been no war," says "The Guardian."

It is well to consider the peace movement checked but not stopped. In the early future it is likely to become a theme of discussion again. Certainly the Liberal British press and statesmen will continue to press for a clear, definite statement from Germany on this question.

British View of Mutiny

The natural tendency of the Allies to consider everything said and done by Germany as part of a plot to fool them was in danger of reaching a point where it might damage their own interests, but events last week changed conditions materially. The British have come to learn that the motto of the German ruling class is "business" and that they see in the announcement of the mutiny in the navy much more than the disaffection of a certain number of sailors. They wonder whether the Kaiser has had more to do with the rebellious sailors than from the Socialists whom von Capelle branded as traitors; they wonder whether the Kaiser's candor was not a pretty plain admission which he deems it necessary to halt Socialistic activities; they wonder whether the German autocracy has not begun to feel the pressure of the enemy within as well as the enemy without.

There is one good test. The German armies are going back on the West front; constantly, if slowly, yielding. The German armies are giving no stimulus to the enemy within. Economically there is no improvement within the Central Powers. On the contrary, conditions are growing worse. Financially the present is black and the future blacker.

Economic Comparisons

Compare the military, economic and financial conditions of Germany with

Mayor to Greet Allies' Diplomats

Attacks Swiss Who Urges Justice for Belgium

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The competition will be divided into two classes—professional and amateur. The first and second winners in each class will be awarded a handsome gold medal, suitably engraved with the winner's name. The winners will be announced shortly after the end of the contest and the gold medals presented to them.

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Don't forget the date—Tuesday, Night, October 16th, 7:30 o'clock. Make sure to be hand to try out your speed and skill with the other expert operators of the Dictaphone.

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