

Austria Huns Plan Separate Government

Deputies Issue Declaration Announcing Formation of "German State"

To Establish Relations With Other Nations Move Is Evident Effort to Offset Wavering Policy of Dual Monarchy

BASLE, Switzerland, Oct. 23.—The German-Austrian Deputies in the Austrian Reichstag have formed an assembly for the purpose of conducting the affairs of the Germanic people in Austria and have issued a declaration announcing the creation of the "German state of Austria."

Carl Seitz, leader of the German socialists in Austria, has been elected president of the new assembly. The deputies have announced their desire to bring about the autonomy of the Germans in Austria and to establish relations with other nations.

The assembly has drawn up a resolution respecting the form of government of the territory occupied by Germans. The "German State of Austria" will seek access to the Adriatic sea in agreement with other nations.

Handling the establishment of a constitution, the people will be represented by the Reichstag Deputies constituted as a Provisional National Assembly. This body will represent the German-Austrian people in negotiations for peace and will exercise legislative powers. The executive branch will consist of twenty members who will have power to contract state debts and administer interior affairs.

"We are able and must act in favor of peace," said Herr Seitz in taking the presidency. "We must do all possible to lessen the misery of the German-Austrian people. The new German-Austria, for which we will lay the foundation, will be constituted in conformity with the free will expressed by the German-Austrian people."

Deputy Waldner, in opening the assembly, announced that he had been commissioned by the German Deputies in the Austrian Reichstag to convene an assembly of the representative assembly of the German-Austrians. The organization would have the right of free speech and would proclaim solemnly an independent political state for German-Austria.

There has been evidence for some time that the German people in Austria, distrustful of the policy of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and fearing its dissolution, or that it might draw away from Germany, were desirous of insuring their own close unity with the German Empire.

The German population in Austria forms the centre of Austrian society and is the largest of the many ethnic elements in the kingdom. The census of 1910 gave the German-speaking population as 2,950,000 out of a total of 3,825,000.

Austria Plans to Ask President for More Peace Details

BASLE, Oct. 22.—Official comment in Vienna on President Wilson's answer to the Austrian note expresses a desire to know the precise question put forward and that it is now necessary to again ask the President's attitude toward an armistice and the reestablishment of peace, according to advices received from the Austrian capital.

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It is added that officials say there is a contradiction in the reasons given by President Wilson in justifying his refusal to enter into peace negotiations and his answer to Baron Burian on September 15.

President Wilson's reply to the Austrian peace proposals in no way justifies the conclusion that the exchange of views which has been begun is to be interrupted, according to Baron von Hoesl, Austrian Premier, speaking before the House of Lords yesterday, according to Vienna advices received here.

"We shall continue all the more our efforts toward peace," he said. "We shall answer the note after carefully examining its contents. We hope that the peace discussions, notwithstanding difficulties, will deliver the world in the near future from the unspeakable misery of war."

Reichstag Upholds Prince Max After Peace Plan Is Outlined

Continued from Page 1

governments are anxious for war, in which case there is no choice for us but to put ourselves in a posture of defense with all the strength of our people driven to the last extremity.

"Should this necessity arise, I have no doubt that the German government, in the name of the German people, will issue a call for national defence in the same way that it spoke for the German people when it took action for peace. He who honestly took a stand on the basis of peace will also undertake the duty of not submitting to a peace of violence without a fight. The government which would act otherwise would be left to the mercy of the fighting and working people. It would be swept away by public opinion.

"There is also another possibility. The German people must not be blindly brought to the conference table. The German people to-day has the right to ask, if peace is realized on the basis of President Wilson's conditions, what they mean for our future. Our answers to the President's question must be framed on the German people's understanding of that question. What it now wants is clearness.

"The decision will be of tremendous import. It will not be our strength that will decide, but it will be what is thought to be right in free discussion with our opponents that will give the proud people accustomed to victory! The legal questions involved will not stop at our national boundaries, which we will never of our own accord open for violence.

Internal Questions Involved

"The principles upon which we have argued as a rule of conduct also involve internal questions. From many quarters it has been represented to me that an acceptance of President Wilson's conditions would mean submission—anti-German submission—to an anti-German court of justice, which would decide legal questions entirely from the viewpoint of its own interests. If that is the case, why then is it the extreme apostles of force in the Entente fear the council chamber as the guilty fear the court of justice?"

Prince Maximilian said that he would not deny that heavy opposition in Germany must be conquered before the ideal league of nations could be realized, but, he continued:

"Whether the next few days or weeks shall call us to fight on, or open the way to peace, there is no doubt we are now equal to the task of either war or peace by carrying out the government's programme and definitely breaking away from the old system."

Prince Maximilian said he hoped soon to announce results of preliminary negotiations to obtain a legal extension of the Chancellor's responsibility, to be secured by the formation of a state tribunal.

"The new system," he said, "involves, as a natural consequence, a new mode of government in Alsace-Lorraine."

The Chancellor declared it was the aim of himself and his colleagues to establish the political authority of the German people. After saying that he welcomed expressions of opinion and that he and his colleagues were agreed as to methods and purposes he added:

"Our aim is the political authority of the German people. This is the guiding star of my collaborators and myself."

Sax People Are Rulers

The Chancellor said that individual members of the government at first had different standpoints, but had now been brought nearer together.

"The German people has long been in the saddle," he said. "Now it is to ride."

"Our first and last thought is for the brave men who are defending themselves against superior forces and whom we must defend against unjust charges. No one must think he can attack our army without also attacking the honor of our people."

"The lot of our soldiers to-day is terribly hard. They fight with anxiety for the homeland and with their minds

fixed on peace, and they hold their ground."

Responsible to Reichstag

The extraordinary war time measures, the Chancellor explained, could not yet be dispensed with, but they could be carried out only by the Chancellor, who would be responsible to the Reichstag for their application.

"His Majesty's decrees which I announced recently have now been issued," he went on. "They concern not only the censorship, the right of assembly and the right of personal liberty, but have to do with economic, social and political matters."

"If local military commanders disagree with the civil authorities, the decision must be reached immediately by the highest commander, who will not be able to promulgate any decision to which agreement is not given by myself or my representative, namely, Secretary of State Groeber. Care will be taken that the state of siege is maintained in the spirit in which I assumed the functions of the government and in which I am resolved to discharge them."

Speaking of the powers to be vested in the Reichstag under the terms of the new measures, the Chancellor said the bill provided for the compulsory embodiment in the constitution of the fundamental idea of the new form of government. He said the effect would be to make the Reichstag the people's house of representatives, which should be responsible in the decision of the most important question for the nation, namely, of peace and war.

For Peaceful Development

"That means peaceful development of the empire and its relations with other powers," he continued. "In such an extension of the people's rights the imperial government is willing to lend a hand when a league of nations has taken practical form. When such a league puts an end to all secret separate treaties I am confident that all agreements can be amplified in this sense."

The Chancellor said the German nation long had possessed political rights which its neighbors envied. He spoke in praise of the municipal and Reichstag elections and said that although the German people had not made use of its power in dealing with vital questions the development which had occurred at the end of September had changed everything.

"Therein lies the guarantee of the continuance and growth of the new system," he added. "This is a better and more reliable guarantee than any law or paragraph."

The German people, he declared, must not resort to forms of government which they did not in their hearts believe in for the sake of foreign countries or to meet the needs of the moment.

"Enemy Is at Our Gates"

"The enemy is at our gates," he said. "After paying tribute to the men at the front, he added: "Bad elements are to be found in every army, but the fundamental will of the people's army is opposed to them."

His programme of October 6 embraced amnesty for persons under sentence for political crimes, especially those connected with labor troubles, street demonstrations, etc. Far reaching amnesty of this nature was proposed by the Emperor and has now been applied.

Many persons had been set at liberty, Prince Maximilian added, only with strong misgivings on the part of the government, but "the conviction of the necessity of benevolence and a trustful policy decided the matter."

Rumania Closes All Ports on Black Sea

Danube Ports Also Closed, According to German Wireless Dispatches

LONDON, Oct. 23.—The British Admiralty reports that German wireless dispatches picked up at Moscow are to the effect that the Rumanian government has declared all Rumanian ports on the Black Sea and the Danube closed.

Kaiser Is Reported Firm Against Loss Of Alsace-Lorraine

PARIS, Oct. 23.—Zurich dispatches state that the militarist party is rapidly gaining ground in Berlin, but the members of the moderate factions believe that before long grave internal events will help to improve the situation.

The dispatch says that the existing government remains very hostile to the retrocession of Alsace and Lorraine to France. Emperor William himself is reported to have emphatically denounced such an event at the meeting of the Crown Council Saturday.

Jugo-Slavs Demand Own Sovereign and Democratic State

BASLE, Switzerland, Oct. 23.—The Central Executive Committee elected on October 5 by the National Council of Slovenes, Croats and Serbians at Agram, has issued a statement that the committee will at once assume the political direction of those nationalities and declaring for the creation of a sovereign Jugo-Slav state on a democratic basis.

The following principles have been announced by the committee:

To bring about a reunion of all the Slovenes, Croats and Serbians on a racial basis without reference to their present political frontiers.

To create a sovereign state on a democratic basis.

To see that the nationalities represented by the council have a delegate at the peace conference.

The committee rejects the plan contained in the imperial manifesto for the settlement of nationalistic problems in Austria. It will guarantee the free development of all national majorities which may form a part of the state organized by it. Neighboring states will be assured free access to the sea, provided they make no attempts on the constitutional rights of the state and on its territorial integrity.

The committee finally urges concord among all the nationalities in order to create a great national state.

New York Papers Hail New Note as Surrender Demand

President's Position "Absolutely Unassailable," Declares "The World"

Words Called Solemn

"Voices Accurately and Clearly People's Demand," Asserts "The Herald"

Newspapers of New York City comment as follows on the President's reply to the German note:

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"With language plainer and more solemn than was ever before used in a communication of this kind, the President repeats his assertion that the government of Germany which instigated this war is not to be trusted, and expresses serious doubts as to the claims recently made in Berlin that those now pretending to be in control there have a different inspiration or a greater responsibility to the people. If the United States must deal with the military masters and monarchial authorities of Germany, he concludes, it must demand, not peace negotiations, but surrender."

"In this the President takes a position which is absolutely unassailable. He is dealing to-day not with a government of a people but with an army, represented by a civil organization dependent wholly upon its will. That government is without respect even at home and, made as it was, to meet an emergency, everybody knows that the power which brought it into being is able as quickly to bring it to an end."

THE TIMES

"The great force and emphasis of the words with which President Wilson begins his reply to the German note of October 21, declaring that he had received the solemn and explicit assurance of the German government that it unreservedly accepts the terms of peace laid down in his address of January 8 and his subsequent addresses, may suggest he is in receipt of other and more definite commitments of the German government than those which have come to the public knowledge. However that may be, it is a surrender and nothing short of a surrender that he now demands of Germany as the condition to which she

must assent before peace can be discussed.

"The plain meaning of the President's answer is that if Germany is not ready to lay down her arms then the war which the civilized world is waging against her must continue until she is forced to lay them down. The acceptance of these terms of surrender, as the President points out, will be the best concrete evidence of Germany's unqualified assent to the principles and conditions of peace to be set forth in his successive addresses."

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"Which means that Germany is not going to be allowed to withdraw her troops in safety from France and Belgium, to be re-formed at the German frontier as a wall of safety."

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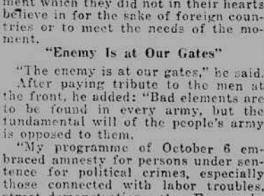
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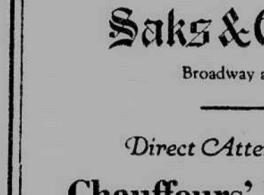
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Stores which are compelled to raise their prices are trying to create the impression that there are no exceptions to the rule.

We foresaw all this months ago when we had the courage to buy woollens while others were holding back.

And it's not worrying us, either—we and our customers are reaping the benefits of forehanded buying—we are publishing this advertisement merely for your information and guidance.

Our prices for these suits have not gone ahead!

Our quality in these suits has not gone behind!

And our hand-workmanship runs like a thread of gold through the fustian of cheap commercial clothes!

DON'T PAY MORE FOR LESS
PAY LESS FOR MORE FOR A CHANGE!

Franklin Simon & Co.
FIFTH AVENUE
MEN'S SHOPS—2 to 8 West 38th Street—Street Level

New York Papers Hail New Note as Surrender Demand

President's Position "Absolutely Unassailable," Declares "The World"

Words Called Solemn

"Voices Accurately and Clearly People's Demand," Asserts "The Herald"

Newspapers of New York City comment as follows on the President's reply to the German note:

THE WORLD

"With language plainer and more solemn than was ever before used in a communication of this kind, the President repeats his assertion that the government of Germany which instigated this war is not to be trusted, and expresses serious doubts as to the claims recently made in Berlin that those now pretending to be in control there have a different inspiration or a greater responsibility to the people. If the United States must deal with the military masters and monarchial authorities of Germany, he concludes, it must demand, not peace negotiations, but surrender."

"In this the President takes a position which is absolutely unassailable. He is dealing to-day not with a government of a people but with an army, represented by a civil organization dependent wholly upon its will. That government is without respect even at home and, made as it was, to meet an emergency, everybody knows that the power which brought it into being is able as quickly to bring it to an end."

THE TIMES

"The great force and emphasis of the words with which President Wilson begins his reply to the German note of October 21, declaring that he had received the solemn and explicit assurance of the German government that it unreservedly accepts the terms of peace laid down in his address of January 8 and his subsequent addresses, may suggest he is in receipt of other and more definite commitments of the German government than those which have come to the public knowledge. However that may be, it is a surrender and nothing short of a surrender that he now demands of Germany as the condition to which she

must assent before peace can be discussed.

"The plain meaning of the President's answer is that if Germany is not ready to lay down her arms then the war which the civilized world is waging against her must continue until she is forced to lay them down. The acceptance of these terms of surrender, as the President points out, will be the best concrete evidence of Germany's unqualified assent to the principles and conditions of peace to be set forth in his successive addresses."

THE HERALD

"In announcing to Germany this policy of leaving all questions of an armistice in the hands of the military commanders, President Wilson also makes it clear that the only armistice he would feel justified in submitting for consideration would be one which would leave the United States and the powers associated with her in position to enforce any arrangements that may be entered into, and to make removal of hostilities on the part of Germany impossible."

"Which means that Germany is not going to be allowed to withdraw her troops in safety from France and Belgium, to be re-formed at the German frontier as a wall of safety."

"In this, as in his plain notice to Prussians that it must surrender, the President accurately and clearly voices the demand of the American people."

Construes Wilson Note As Surrender Demand

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Oct. 23.—The Globe Democrat will say tomorrow:

"What the President says about an armistice is couched in different language, but it means a demand for surrender. He does not even concede an armistice. This is the crux of the entire situation. If Germany is vanquished it must submit. If the present government is insincere the President made it plain that no other terms are obtainable."

Submission Would Mean Surrender, Baltimore View

BALTIMORE, Oct. 23.—"The Baltimore American" will say tomorrow:

"The only