

Wilson May Preside at Peace Table

Allies Probably Will Ask Him to Attend and Assume Charge

Versailles Favored As Conference Site

Premiers Soon to Meet There to Lay Out Peace Programme

(Special Dispatch to The Tribune)
WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—The Premiers of the Allied powers will shortly assemble in Versailles to examine the different problems relating to peace. It is quite probable that the future international conference will take place in Versailles.

This announcement was received through official channels from Paris today, and it is believed to forecast an early assembly of the Allied chiefs and Colonel House, representing the United States.

The meeting at Versailles, it is indicated, will decide upon the time and the seat of the peace congress. The views of the American government on these matters will be presented by President Wilson, either through Colonel House at Versailles, or through the State Department in exchanges with the Allied governments.

Nothing has yet been settled with regard to the time the conference will meet. Reports that Germany, through her popular government, is urging that an early date be set for the congress were not officially confirmed, but it is believed that all parties and interests to the country, as well as other enemy countries, are anxious that the conference assemble at the earliest possible moment in order that they may know their future status, territories and obligations, and that they may set about the task of national rehabilitation, political as well as material.

It is understood also to be the desire of the Allies and America that there be no undue delay in completing the preliminary arrangements. But the physical dispositions alone to be made before the congress meets, such as special facilities for communication by

Clemenceau in Letter to Poincare Salutes the Dead Who Saved France

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—A radio from Paris to-day gives the text of a letter to President Poincare from Premier Clemenceau, as follows:

"My Dear President:
"At the time when the long series of victories to which your patriotic energy so greatly contributed ended in the capitulation of the enemy, let me send to you, and also ask you to transmit to Marshal Foch, commander in chief of the Allies' armies; to General Pétain, commander in chief of the French army; to all generals, officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers, the expression of my gratitude and of my admiration.

"From July 15 France has followed with an intense emotion the brilliant successes won by the Allied troops which precipitated the retreat of the German army. The captive populations have been liberated. The disconcerted enemy left behind an enormous amount of men and material, and the number of prisoners taken exceeds all historical record. This morning an armistice, setting Alsace-Lorraine free, and allowing the Allied armies to occupy, in guarantee of rights to be exercised, a vast part of the German territory, has been signed.

"In these hours of national joy and pride, my thoughts are for the heroes who have fallen on the battlefields of Namur and Charleroi; for those who on the banks of the Marne victoriously stopped and repelled the invasion; for those who in the long and painful days of the trench warfare displayed such a stubborn confidence; for the intrepid defenders of Verdun; for the soldiers of the Yser, of the Somme, of the Aisne, of Champagne, of the Vosges; for those who laid down their lives for their country; for those now disabled owing to their wounds; for all those who, still in service, are rewarded for their indefatigable efforts and their undaunted valor.

"They have all contributed to the final victories. They have all brought a stone to the splendid triumphal arch under which the conquerors will soon pass.

"None of their deeds of valor was accomplished in vain. Nothing done by them in their endeavors to serve the country was fruitless.

"The glory of France is made of their prolonged ardor, of their abnegation, of their sufferings, and of their blood.

"I salute the dead with a respectful emotion.

"Let me ask you to transmit to the living the congratulations which, in the name of France, I send them from my inmost heart."

land, water, cable and telegraph, are prodigious, and will require considerable time to complete. The site to be chosen for the conference will be among the first decisions to be made, so preparations may be put under way. The Allied powers and America must immediately, before the questions to come up at the peace conference can be adequately discussed with a view of arranging the programme, dispose of pressing problems relating to the execution of the armistice. But since these matters will, to a large extent be left in the hands of the military and naval authorities, the diplomats may soon be freed of other duties to attend to the business of the conference.

May Extend Armistice
The armistice period expires in thirty days. But it can be renewed, and it is believed to-day that it would be renewed, and that the peace conference would not be able to meet before January, possibly the latter part of that month.

It is understood that President Wilson has prepared, or is preparing for presentation to the peace congress, a scheme for the proposed league of nations, and that the central idea of it will be a world court for the adjudication of all adjustable disputes between nations (submission of cases to the court being mandatory) and that the fleets of the signatory powers will be employed as the police force to see

Irish Party Asks President to Help Country's Future

Says Rights Are Those of Small Nations for Which War Was Fought

Commons Rejects Plea

Appeal Says Associated Powers Can Justly Have Voice in Matter

LONDON, Nov. 12.—The Irish party issued an address to-day appealing to President Wilson to aid in a settlement of the Irish question in accordance with his principles that all nations, large and small, have a right to free determination of their own form of government.

A demand in this respect made in the House of Commons to-day was voted down.

"Can any one doubt," says the address, "that the nation of Ireland comes under the category of small nations for whose rights you so eloquently plead or that the present government of Ireland by Great Britain, against the will of Ireland, comes under the scathing condemnation you have given to such exercises of wrong."

"We claim that the war must be observed from your standard of broad vision justice, for the creation of a new world of freedom everywhere in all nations; that the war is to build up a new world that is safe for democracy; that this fact, an issue of the war, makes the liberation of Ireland, as well as of other small nations, a duty in which the associated powers have a right to a voice.

"Every national question to-day is international unless the world is to abandon a league of nations to maintain the future peace and universal justice."

"We implore you not to relax your efforts to make the war not a mere triumph of nation over nation or of armies over armies."

Reds Seize Helgoland and Grand Fleet

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represent the whole country as soon as possible.

The dispatch adds that questions concerning a constituent assembly will not arise until after consolidation of the institutions formed by the revolution has been secured.

The formation of the new German republic was proclaimed by Philipp Scheidemann from the steps of the Reichstag Building. A Zurich Associated Press dispatch confirms the fact.

AMSTERDAM, Nov. 11.—The entire German North Sea fleet and the island base of Helgoland are in the hands of Soldiers' Councils, according to a telegram from Bremen.

Field Marshal von Hindenburg is not in Holland, according to a telegram from the semi-official Wolff Bureau of Berlin. He remains at main headquarters and adheres to the new government.

A Soldiers' Council has been formed at the front and will submit its demands to Field Marshal von Hindenburg to-morrow.

The telegram adds that Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria, commander of the German northern army group, has not fled, as some reports have declared.

German troops at the Beverloo camp, in Belgium, have mutinied and are marching with their guns toward Holland.

Fighting broke out once more in Berlin on Sunday afternoon, according

Many German Petty Rulers Lose Thrones

GERMANY'S petty rulers are fast following the Kaiser and his son in relinquishing their hereditary rights. Following are the fallen:

King Wilhelm II, King of Württemberg—Abdicated November 8.

King Friedrich August III of Saxony—Dethroned.

Grand Duke Friedrich August of Oldenburg—Dethroned.

Grand Duke Friedrich Franz IV of Mecklenburg-Schwerin—Abdicated.

Duke Ernst August of Brunswick, the ex-Kaiser's son-in-law—Abdicated.

Prince Heinrich XXVII, of the younger branch of Reuss—Reported to have abdicated.

King Ludwig III of Bavaria—Fled, his kingdom becoming a Socialist republic.

Grand Duke Ernest Ludwig of Hesse—Reported to have been arrested.

And the Socialists, who control now, demand the expulsion from power of all the rest.

to a message received here. It centered around Schloss Square and was going on at the time the dispatch was sent.

German Socialists and Independent Socialists have reached an agreement to form a joint Cabinet from both parties, according to a Wolff Bureau announcement. This Cabinet, it is said, consists of Philipp Scheidemann, Vice-President of the Reichstag; Herr Landsburg, member of the Reichstag; and Herr Gettier, Socialists and Hugo Haase, Richard Barth, editor of the "Vorwärts," and Wilhelm Bittmann, member of the Reichstag. Independent. Each departmental minister is to be supported by two Socialists, one from each party.

Friedrich Ebert and Hugo Haase will be the chairmen of the political cabinet.

The provisional government, composed of all parties formed at Karlsruhe, has issued a proclamation, announcing that Baden will remain part of the German Empire, according to advices from Berlin.

The fortress of Posen is in the hands of the workers and soldiers and the military authorities have placed themselves at the disposal of the council.

Ten thousand railway men have decided to maintain railway traffic in Germany.

The Soldiers' and Workmen's Council has decreed that all work shall be resumed on Tuesday. The Bourse is closed at present.

In Saxony the Cabinet ministers have announced that elections will be held in which both men and women will vote.

The Grand Duke of Hesse has been placed under preventive arrest, according to a Darmstadt dispatch to the Dusseldorf "Nachrichten."

In addition to the Wolff Bureau, the Socialists are now represented by three newspapers, the "Vorwärts," the "Lokal Anzeiger," formerly the Emperor's favorite newspaper and now rechristened the "Red Flag," and the former semi-official organ, the "North German Gazette," which has taken the new title of "The International."

The revolutionary movement is continually spreading. Königsberg, Frankfurt-on-Main and Strassburg are now controlled by the Soviets. It is officially reported that there are no disorders.

The statement issued by the Berlin Soldiers' and Workers' Council says that all public services have been placed under the control of the Council and that all the leading offices are being filled by the comrades. The administration, it adds, is retained, "but its leaders are inspired with the new spirit of liberty."

The foundation of the new German republic was proclaimed by Philipp Scheidemann from the steps of the Reichstag building.

COPENHAGEN, Nov. 12.—The Bavarian War Minister has gone to Wendenburg Castle, to which the royal family has retired, to induce the King to release officers and soldiers from their military oath, says a dispatch received here from Munich.

Only Socialists to Hold Office in New German Government

COPENHAGEN, Nov. 11.—Germany's new provisional government will be all Red. Which is to say, the bourgeois parties will not be represented in it. This will not be because of their unwillingness to participate, but because the Socialists after a conference with the representatives of the former majority party in the Reichstag definitely refused to permit the bourgeois to enter the new government.

The plan is to give the Independent Socialists the Vice-Chancellorship and two other secretarial posts. There are indications, however, that the Independents will demand more, but their demands have not as yet taken definite form. It is significant that the majority of the multitude of proclamations issued daily are addressed to "comrades" rather than to "citizens" and that references are no longer made to "the People's Republic," but to "the Socialist Republic."

Four Billions Is Germany's Debt To Belgian Nation

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—According to another statement issued by the legation, Belgium's bill for compensation now exceeds \$4,000,000,000. It will take Germany more than a generation to make complete reparation, in the opinion of experts here.

The most recent report compiled by officials of the Belgian government says Germany extracted from Belgium, in war levies alone, \$44,000,000 up to 1918, and war levies comprised only a small part of the wealth taken from the Belgian nation by the invaders.

Belgium Demands Full Independence As Future Status

Gives Notice It Will Not Submit to Continuance of Guaranteed Neutrality

Condition Intolerable Will Not Permit a Return to German Supervision Formerly Existing

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—The Belgian Legation in an official statement to-day announced that Belgium will no longer submit to a status of "guaranteed neutrality," which existed before the war. It aspires to "complete independence; to the rights common to all free peoples."

"The note of December 24, 1917," said the statement, "addressed by the Belgian government to the King in reply to the pontifical message, advanced as one of the indispensable conditions of a just peace, so far as Belgium is concerned, 'political, economical and military independence, without condition or restitution.'"

"These words are explicit. The Belgian government is opposed to the re-establishment of obligatory, permanent neutrality, which would fetter its freedom of action without insuring peace to the nation. It aspires to complete independence, to the rights common to all free peoples."

"This status will give Belgium from foreign control and give her the right to make such arrangements for her defence as would seem, under the given conditions, to be the most effective and to regulate, furthermore, according to her own interests, her economic relations."

"Belgium must be allowed freedom to determine her own destiny; she must be free to adopt of her own volition a policy which shall keep her outside of the great international competitions and permit her, if some new danger should threaten, to take any necessary measures to defeat the hostile designs directed against her."

"The future of the country will depend on the wisdom and the will of the nation, as well as on the constant interest of all the great powers in a free, strong Belgium. The interest of the powers in the maintenance of her independence is in itself a substantial and durable guarantee which treaties add but a formal external confirmation. What weight and what confidence, for example, could Belgium attach to the renewal by Germany of an agreement which has been so brutally and cynically broken? Such a promise would be purely derisive."

"Moreover, the events of the last four years render the return to the status quo of 1869 impossible. It would entail a perpetual intrusion by Germany upon the domestic life of the nation. The enemy, the Germany of an agreement yesterday would call to keep a jealous watch over the execution of the obligations which he had imposed upon the country and would subject it to the régime of suspicion under the investigation intolerable to public opinion, and certain to cause serious difficulties."

Karl Quits Throne, Vienna Says Officially

Continued from page 1

here at 10 o'clock this morning, northward bound. A tremendous crowd of sightseers had gathered, but the platform was strongly cordoned and William Hohenzollern did not show himself.

His destination is said to be Amerongen, about twenty miles from Utrecht, where Count Bentinck has a country seat. But it is not possible to say where he will finally remain, for in order to avoid the curious he may have to keep to the train for a couple of days.

AMSTERDAM, Nov. 11.—The German Kaiser made an inglorious entry into Holland, according to reports from Eysden. At 7:30 o'clock Sunday morning ten travel-stained automobiles driven by Prussian officers were seen coming slowly through the fog along the Vise-Maastricht high road. The last Belgian village, Moulain, which is almost on the border line, was still asleep. The noise of the motors brought out a crowd of curious villagers.

The former ruler of Germany was dressed in the uniform of a general, with an officer's cap, and carried a sword. The erstwhile martial figure was huddled and bent on a walking stick, while his eyes stared straight ahead.

The Dutch frontier guards stopped the cortege. After some brief formalities the automobiles were conducted to the railway station at Eysden. Dutch cavalry and military cyclists formed a cordon about the station.

Crowds of Belgian refugees swarmed around the station crying: "A bas Guillaume! Assassins!"

An imperial train arrived at the station an hour later. It consisted of fourteen cars, and William Hohenzollern, who had walked up and down the railway platform, entered the train and changed to civilian clothes.

Arrangements for the reception of the Germans were made by General Van Hut, side-de-camp to Queen Wilhelmina, who went to German headquarters last week.

The Amsterdam "Tijd" learns that the former German Emperor's flight was decided upon after receipt of the armistice terms at headquarters and the German government's communication on this subject. Although the Emperor, despite pressure, refused for a time to sign the abdication proclamation on behalf of himself and family, he realized that the end had come.

On hearing the armistice terms the Emperor bitterly reproached the supreme army command, declaring that he had been misled. One general advised against the Emperor's flight as unworthy. Field Marshal von Hindenburg designated General von Falkenhayn, the former chief of staff, to accompany the Emperor, with whom was his youngest son.

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New Rumanian Government Reported at War With Huns

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Taft and Walsh, Joint Chairmen, Tell Cabinet Board No Longer Needed

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—Abolition of the War Labor Board as soon as cases now in process of disposition are completed was recommended to Secretary Wilson to-day by William H. Taft and Frank P. Walsh, joint chairmen.

The joint chairmen, in their letter, said the President had created the board to promote maximum production during the war, and that the end of hostilities had removed the reason for its existence.

About 100 cases now are in progress of disposition by the board and should be disposed of, the chairmen said, because a large number of the awards will be retroactive. Three hundred unheard cases are pending.

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