

when we receive, after two or three or four or five days, any observations from the German delegation on any point of the treaty, we shall not wait until the end of the fifteen days to give our answer. We shall at once proceed in the way indicated by this document.

Paul Dutasta, secretary general of the peace conference, then delivered a copy of the treaty to Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau, head of the German delegation, who said, in reply:

"Gentlemen: We are deeply impressed with the sublime task which has brought us hither to give a durable peace to the world. We are under no illusions as to the extent of our defeat and the degree of our want of power. We know that the power of the German army is broken. We know the power of the hatred which we encounter here, and we have heard the passionate demand that the vanquishers may make us pay as the vanquished, and shall punish those who are worthy of being punished.

"It is demanded from us that we shall confess ourselves to be the only ones guilty of the war. Such a confession in my mouth would be a lie. We are far from declining any responsibility for this great war of the world that has come to pass. The attitude of the former German government at The Hague peace conference, its actions and omissions in the tragic twelve days of July [1914] have certainly contributed to the disaster. But we energetically deny that Germany and its people, who were convinced that they were making a war of defence, were alone guilty.

Germany Ready To Confess Wrong

"Nobody will want to contend that the disaster took its course only in the disastrous moment when the successor to the throne of Austria-Hungary fell the victim of murderous hands. In the last fifty years the imperialism of all the European states has chronically poisoned the international situation. The policy of retaliation and the policy of expansion and the disregard of the rights of peoples to determine their own destiny have contributed to the illness of Europe, which saw its crisis in the world war.

"Russian mobilization took from the statesmen the possibility of healing, and gave the decision into the hands of the military powers. Public opinion in all the countries of our adversaries is resounding with the crimes which Germany is said to have committed in the war. Here also we are ready to confess wrong that may have been done.

"We have not come here to belittle the responsibility of the men who have waged the war politically and economically, or to deny any crimes which may have been committed against the rights of peoples. We repeat the declaration which has been made in the German Reichstag at the beginning of the war, that is to say, 'wrong has been done to Belgium.' And we are willing to repair it.

Says Blockade Killed Hundreds of Thousands

"But in the matter of making war also Germany is not the only guilty one. Every nation knows of deeds and of people, which the best nationals only remember with regret. I do not want to answer by reproaches to reproaches, but I ask them to remember, when reparation is demanded, not to forget the armistice. It took you six weeks until we came to know your conditions of peace.

"Crimes in war may not be excusable, but they are committed in the struggle for victory, and in the defence of national existence, and passions are aroused which make the conscience of peoples blunt.

"The hundreds of thousands of non-combatants who have perished since November 11 by reason of the blockade were killed with cold deliberation after our adversaries had conquered and victory had been assured to them. Think of that when

"Impoverished Europe must desire that the reconstruction shall be fulfilled with the greatest success and with as little expense as in any way possible. This desire can only be employed. It would be the worst method to go on and have the work done by German prisoners of war. Certainly this work is cheap, but it would cost the world dear if hatred and despair shall seize the German people when they consider that their brothers, sons and fathers who are prisoners are kept prisoners beyond the preliminary peace in former penal work.

"Without an immediate solution of this question, which has been drawn out too long, we cannot come to a durable peace. Experts of both sides will have to examine how the German people may come up to their financial obligations to repair, without succumbing under their heavy burden. A crash would be a heavy burden. A crash would be a heavy burden. A crash would be a heavy burden.

"The vanquishers, as well as the vanquished, must guard against this

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you speak of guilt and of punishment.

Wants Neutrals to Conduct Inquiry

"The measure of the guilt of all those who have taken part can only be stated by an impartial inquest before a neutral commission, before which all the principal persons of the tragedy are allowed to speak and to which all the archives are open. We have demanded such an inquest and we repeat this demand.

"In this conference also, where we face our adversaries alone and without any allies, we are not quite without protection. You yourselves have brought us an ally—namely, the right which is guaranteed by the treaty and by the principles of peace.

"The Allied and associated governments have foresworn in the time between the 5th of October and the 5th of November, 1918, a peace of violence and have written a peace of justice on their banner. On the 5th of October, 1918, the German government proposed the principles of the President of the United States of North America as the basis of peace, and on the 5th of November their Secretary of State, Mr. Lansing, declared that the Allied and associated powers agreed to this basis, with two definite deviations.

Calls Wilson's Principles Binding

"The principles of President Wilson have thus become binding to both parties to the war—for you as well as for us, and also for our former allies. The various principles demand from us heavy national and economic sacrifices, but the holy fundamental rights of all peoples are protected by this treaty. The conscience of the world is behind it. There is no nation which might violate it without punishment.

"You will find us ready to examine upon this basis the preliminary peace which you have proposed to us, with a firm intention of rebuilding in common work with you that which has been destroyed, and repairing any wrong that may have been committed, principally the wrong to Belgium, and to show to mankind new aims of political and social progress.

"Considering the tremendous number of problems which arise, we ought as soon as possible to make an examination of the principal tasks by special commissions of experts, on the basis of the treaty which you have proposed to us. In this it will be our chief task to re-establish the devastated vigor of mankind, and of all the people who have taken part by international protection of the life, health and liberty of the working classes.

Asks Financial Aid of Victors

"As our next aim, I consider the reconstruction of the territories of Belgium and of Northern France which have been occupied by us and which have been destroyed by war.

"To do so we have taken upon ourselves the solemn obligation, and we are resolved to execute it to the extent which shall have been agreed upon between us. This task we cannot do without the cooperation of our former adversaries. We cannot accomplish the work without the technical and financial participation of the victorious peoples and you cannot execute it without us.

"The vanquishers, as well as the vanquished, must guard against this

Damage by Munich Reds Fixed at \$62,500,000

MUNICH, May 7 (By The Associated Press).—It is announced officially that the damage in Munich, incident to the Communist regime and its overthrow, amounts to 250,000,000 marks (nominally, \$62,500,000).

Frau Eisner, widow of the late Premier, has been arrested by the government forces.

menacing danger, with its incalculable consequences. There is only one means of banishing it—consolidation of the economic and social solidarity of all the peoples in a free and rising league of nations.

"Gentlemen: The sublime thought to be derived from the most terrible disaster in the history of mankind is the league of nations. The greatest progress in the development of mankind has been pronounced, and will make its way. Only if the gates of the league of nations are thrown open to all who are of good will can the aim be attained, and only then the dead of this war will not have died in vain.

"The German people in their hearts are ready to take upon themselves their heavy lot, if the bases of peace which have been established are not any more shaken.

"The peace which may not be defended in the name of right before the world always calls forth new resistance against it. Nobody will be capable of subscribing to it with good conscience, for it will not be possible of fulfillment. Nobody could be able to take upon himself the guarantee of its execution which ought to lie in its signature.

"We shall examine the document handed to us with good will and in the hope that the final result of our interview may be subscribed to by all of us."

At the Session Premier Clemenceau sat at the centre of the head table with President Wilson and the other American representatives on his right and David Lloyd George, the British Premier, and his colleagues on the left.

Major Bieniamie, commandant at the hotel, received the delegation and accorded such of them as wished to accept military honors of inspecting the guard. He then conducted them ceremoniously through the long corridor of the hotel to the conference room.

Envoy Asserts Germany Can Pay No Indemnity

Berlin Delegate Says Treaty That Imperils Teuton Economic Life Will Be Rejected

BERLIN, May 7 (By The Associated Press).—Dr. Theodor Melchior, of the German peace delegation, in an interview with the Versailles correspondent of the "Tageblatt," said that Germany can sign only such a peace as permits opportunity for the reconstruction of her economic life. The occupation by the Allies of the important districts producing raw materials, he said, would be equivalent to a "long, harrowing death."

"If our opponents cannot see this necessity then it is better to return empty handed. The German workmen already are burdened with an annual tax of 700,000,000 marks. An indemnity is out of the question, and the country would break to pieces if the sum mentioned in the French press is demanded."

Dr. Melchior said it was better to wait for the exact text before discussing the question further. He added that in the conference with Herbert Hoover the Allied representative had given an answer that "sounded earnest and convincing" of what would happen if the peace terms were not signed, but, the German delegates said, this was not for publication.

Herr Leiner, another member of the German delegation, told the correspondent that it was not unlikely the Germans would sign the treaty "if both sides were willing to make concessions."

Rug Recalls Monarchy

Tax Bills Following its usual custom, the Title Guarantee & Trust Company has prepared a preliminary edition of the New York State Income Tax Bill and Corporation Franchise Tax Bill. These important bills are now in the hands of the Governor. Copies can be had on application at any office of the Company. A final edition will be ready as soon as the bills are signed. TITLE GUARANTEE & TRUST CO. Capital \$5,000,000 Surplus \$11,000,000 175 Nassau Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 130 Fulton St., Jamaica 67 Jackson Ave., LICity 90 Bay Street, St. George, Staten Island

prevailed at its headquarters. The German plenipotentiaries, whose impatience at the indefinite deferment of the day of meeting led them, as revealed through German sources, to threaten to return to Berlin unless an early date was fixed for the ceremony were making the last personal preparations.

Although only fourteen official German representatives and five correspondents attended the meeting in the Trianon Hotel, the remaining members of the German delegation, now all of 250, were as excited as if they also had been assigned a role in the day's great ceremony.

Privileged guests were admitted inside the external barriers and lined both sides of the avenue up to within a short distance of the entrance to the Trianon Hotel.

Chasseurs Guard Door Automobiles bringing the allied delegations deposited them inside the courtyard of the hotel. At the main entrance door there was a platoon of the 28th Battalion of Chasseurs.

The French authorities established a special postoffice at the Trianon for the benefit of souvenir gatherers. Letters and postcards will be stamped with a special commemorative postmark, inscribed: "Versailles Congress, 7-5-19."

Elaborate Stage For Presentation

Great Hall at Versailles Rearranged to Seat the Added Peace Envoys

VERSAILLES, May 7 (By The Associated Press).—Elaborate preparations were made for the historic occasion of handing the peace terms to the Germans in the Trianon Hotel today, both in and outside the building.

Outside there was a small army of gendarmes, who formed a barrier against the approach of such persons as were not entitled to enter the room where the momentous scene was to be enacted. Inside everything was in readiness for the meeting between the Allied and associated delegates with the German plenipotentiaries, although the early morning hours had witnessed a rearrangement of the great hall, for orders had been received to prepare seats for eighty delegates, instead of for fifty-eight, who were expected yesterday to comprise the maximum delegation.

The French functionaries busied themselves with the task of stretching out tables to accommodate the extra guests and laying a new rug to fit the altered dimensions. The increase of the delegations was effected at the cost of space which had been assigned to the press.

Aside from the great men gathered in the hall, the most striking feature was a large antique rug of bright, almost garish, colors, which was brought from the Château Versailles to cover the open space in the centre of the hollow rectangle of the peace table.

Although dating from the time of Louis XIV the rug is in a perfect state of preservation. It is known as a "Savonnerie," and it served to brighten the entire room. The rug was the only link in the conference chamber connecting to-day's ceremony with the time when France was a monarchy.

The day, which was the anniversary of the sinking of the Lusitania four years ago, dawned bright and clear.

Those who measure history by the day called attention to the fact that 177 days had passed since the armistice was signed and 109 days since the Allied and Associated Powers began their deliberations at Paris, the fruit of which was the peace treaty presented to-day.

Leading Papers Believe Treaty Stern, but Just

"World Safeguarded" and "Most Drastic Terms" Used in Editorials in "World" and "Times"

"Volkszeitung" Is Angry Will Please Socialists and Democrats in Germany, "German Herald" Says

Following are extracts from the editorial comment in some of the leading newspapers of the United States on the peace terms handed to the German delegates at Versailles yesterday:

NEW YORK "New York Times"—"Against the German peril the world is made safe; that is, the all-important part of the instrument. The safeguards are ample; the bonds which the treaty puts upon Germany leave her without power to harm her neighbors.

"Germany forfeits much territory—the spoil of former wars and forays. The atonement exacted by the treaty is very much to the anguish of jingoes in Allied countries, failed of realization."

NEW YORK "New York World"—"The sternest and most drastic terms ever imposed on a great nation were formally presented to the German plenipotentiaries at Versailles yesterday. Germany will have to accept the moral yoke of German imperialism, which it was never intended to be broken."

"The terms imposed upon Germany are light in comparison with the terms that the Germans would have imposed had they triumphed. The world had no future whatever for France, except as a fourth-rate country, and all Europe would have been under the moral yoke of German imperialism. No such fate is inflicted upon the Germans. There still is a future for a united Germany under the terms of this treaty, right and just as they are, provided the Germans set to work honestly to repair the colossal wrong committed by their former imperial government and take advantage of the opportunities that are open to them under republican institutions. They can live and develop at peace with a world which has organized for peace and is devoting its best effort to the guarantee of peace."

"There are bitter drops of humiliation at the bottom of the cup of defeat that the Germans must drink, but they are not so bitter as the bitter drops for the formation of a world which cannot will say that the treaty was framed in a fury of blind, relentless revenge."

"Taking the treaty in connection with the League of Nations, the great outstanding fact is that the imperialistic system which has cost the world so much blood and treasure is ended for all time. The world is free from the feudal system. The Germans can share with the rest of mankind in this victory of the world, which is the supreme triumph of the world."

"New York Sun"—"Harsh as were the terms exacted of France by Bismarck after the Franco-Prussian war, the terms handed yesterday by the Allies to the representatives of their conquered adversaries are far more harsh. It is right that they should be very much harsher. There is no such thing as a free lunch, and as in many other parts of the world a widespread sentiment that no punishment can be too severe, no measures of repression too drastic, for the nation responsible for the immeasurable evils that have come upon the earth since the summer of 1914.

Without going to that extremity, but admitting that no punishment can be overpunishment for the criminals guilty of the greatest crime in the world's experience, and that the innocent in Germany must inevitably suffer just as the innocent elsewhere have suffered through Germany's general acquiescence in the crime of the war's authors, it may at least be inquired whether the penalty should extend to generations unborn. It is easy enough to say offhand that the sins of the fathers shall be visited upon their children and their children's children. But this doctrine of hereditary misfortune scarcely has a precedent in international jurisprudence.

"The Germany of the present has a heavy burden of crime to expiate. The Germany of the future has a tremendous burden of atonement to bear. Wise statesmanship looks ahead."

"New York Journal of Commerce"—"And now to complete the terrible awakening of Germany come the stipulated terms of peace—far less drastic than those which would have been prescribed by a victorious Germany to the vanquished nation, but sufficient severe to cripple the German people

for decades, if not generations, to come. For the German people militarism has become an impossible luxury, and their most pressing necessity is how to recover the conscience and the will that centuries of mechanical obedience have atrophied."

NEW YORK "Herald"—"We know exactly what quotation the conservative press in Germany—including newspapers still unrepentant to the new order of things—will use as a caption for its editorials on the peace treaty. It is the Latin saying, 'Exoriare aliquid nostris ex ossibus ultor.' In English, 'Out of my bones shall my avenger arise.' This verse was quoted by the Great Elector when he, just 240 years ago, signed the peace of St. Germain—whereafter he smashed the pen, used in affixing his name, on the table with full force.

"While, as aforesaid, the conservative newspapers will indulge in similar historical reminiscences, the Democratic and Social Democratic journals will declare that the peace treaty assumes just the shape they had good reason to anticipate. Besides, they will not forget to mention the name of the rabid Pan-Germans who, while Germany's military successes accumulated, were busy with their propaganda in general and who forced the government into a course whose results now may be clearly seen.

"There will be plenty of opportunity in the days immediately ahead to examine the several clauses of the treaty. Presently it may be said that it represents the result of a compromise between the victors and the vanquished, amidst a faction which wished to impose upon Germany terms incomparably harder. All of us may recall that in the beginning there was talk of setting up a monarchy in Germany—a Rhine Republic, and also of completely independent South German states; of ceding Heligoland to England, of retaining all prisoners of war until the reconstruction of the devastated districts in Belgium and France had been completed; of adventurously high indemnities, and other ice things, all of which very much to the anguish of jingoes in Allied countries, failed of realization."

NEW YORK "Volkszeitung"—"The peace treaty, just published in an abridged form, is the result of representatives of the German Republic will sign in a couple of weeks, causes little surprise. It fulfills all expectations with which it has been awaited. Had the Central Powers been victorious, they would have imposed upon the Allies just as severe terms as are now being imposed by the Entente powers on Germany. It is a triumph for the Allies, but it is a triumph for the German Republic, too. It is a triumph for the peace of the world, and it is a triumph for the peace of the world."

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Queen Mary's Brother May Govern Canada Earl of Athlone Expected To Be Appointed Successor To Duke of Devonshire

LONDON, May 7.—It is understood that the Duke of Devonshire will soon retire as Governor General of Canada, and "The Mail" says that the office will be offered the Earl of Athlone, brother of Queen Mary, who would have succeeded the Duke of Connaught as Governor General of Canada had it not been for his duties with the British Army.

The Duke of Devonshire was appointed Governor General of Canada on June 27, 1916, and was installed in office on November 11, 1916.

The Earl of Athlone was born April 14, 1874, and is the son of the Duke of Teck. He was educated at Eton and later became a general staff officer with the rank of brigadier general. He served in Matabeleland in 1896 and with the Seventh Hussars in South Africa in 1900, being mentioned in dispatches during his service there. He was appointed Governor General of Canada in 1914, but did not take office. He was created Earl of Athlone on July 17, 1917. He was married on February 19, 1904, to Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, daughter of the late first Duke of Albany.

Plane Takes 25 Passengers To Three-Mile Altitude PARIS, May 6.—The giant Farman airplane Goliath, which has been flying between Paris and Brussels, last night ascended to a height of 5,100 metres (approximately 16,732 feet) while carrying twenty-five passengers. The ascent was made in one hour and fifteen minutes and the descent in twenty-five minutes.

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