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SHOWS GULF ON PEACE QUESTION

Czernin's Speech Illustrates Distance Between Central Powers and United States.

DRAWN OUT BY WILSON

Militaristic Governments Are Placed on Defensive—America Full-Fledged Belligerent.

(By David Lawrence.) (Copyright, 1918, by New York Evening Post Co.)

Washington, April 5.—Few things better illustrate the distance between the central powers and the United States on the making of peace than Count Czernin's belated reply to President Wilson's speech of Jan. 24.

More than two months have elapsed since the rather conciliatory words of the president were uttered, not, however, as Count Czernin and many Americans erroneously supposed, because of an intention to terminate the struggle prematurely...

That was the fundamental purpose of the president's public exchanges of views with Count Von Hertling and Count Czernin, but the result thereof is also expressed by the president in that same message to Bishop Henderson, when he said: "But unless our means a complete and convincing program of justice, upon which a lasting peace really can rest..."

If Count Czernin has any doubts on the subject of what the president means by his speech of Jan. 24, the message to Bishop Henderson, which he cabled abroad, probably will enlighten him.

For Two Reasons.

It ought to be a guide, moreover whereby statements of the central powers may hereafter weigh the purpose and desire embodied in Mr. Wilson's expressions on the subject of peace. He has hitherto conceived it to be his duty not to ignore any authoritative expression from the central powers, which deal with the subject of peace, for two reasons: First, the peace offensives of the Teutonic powers are launched for the purpose of deluding their own peoples, as well as the peoples of the allied powers, and, unless explicitly refuted, may be misunderstood by the masses; and, second, because by repeating and making clear to Americans and the whole world the ideals for which the United States is fighting, the morale of the entire cause will be sustained, and a more vigorous prosecution of the war itself can be accomplished.

But the president's remarks that as yet, "we have had no evidence" that the utterances of the central powers rest on a "complete and convincing program of justice," can be taken as Mr. Wilson's final judgment of the peace drive started by Germany and Austria two months ago, and his attitude toward peace today.

Count Czernin's theory that the president was not concerned about driving a wedge between Austria and Germany, but really was eager to make peace through Austria as an intermediary, is so absurd that it hardly caused more than a ripple.

Naturally the Austrian chancellor would not admit that anything said by the president would separate Austria from Germany or stir up internal dissension in the dual monarchy. But such reports as were received here from neutral countries contiguous to the central powers indicated that Mr. Wilson's remarks had more of that effect than anybody here really supposed would be the case.

That he put the militaristic governments of Germany and Austria on the defensive before the independent socialists and liberals has been demonstrated in several ways, than one since the president's speech of last January.

To Impress the Masses.

The German drive on the western front is considered by many official observers here to have been the direct consequence of the failure of the United States and the entente to respond to the Teutonic maneuvers for a compromise peace.

It was actuated, indeed, so many people here believe, by the desire to impress the masses that peace can be gotten by the sword. But here again the utter lack of understanding of the meaning of the present conflict to the United States and the entente allies befogs the vision of the German militarists.

For just as the peace drive failed, so will the military offensive fall far short of its objective. So far as President Wilson is concerned, the peace drive need have no doubts. He is perhaps the most belligerent of all the allied statesmen. His activity in the war councils of the allies, the influence of his appointment of Gen. Foch and a unified command, the dispatch of many more troops from America to Europe than had been planned and counted, less other acts not yet chronicled will prove clearly that far from bringing about any weakness on this side that would lead to a premature peace the German and Austrian statesmen and militarists have by their combined efforts made of America a full-fledged belligerent, anxious to carry the fight through to the point where the only kind of peace that will be discussed will be that which recognizes absolutely the principles enunciated by President Wilson and allied with them and not vagaries of German and Austrian origin.

STORIES OF ATROCITIES COMMITTED BY RED GUARDS

Bodies of White Guards Mutilated in Indescribable Fashion—Many Poison Themselves.

Stockholm, April 5.—An infantry attack on Tammerfors, Finland, has begun, according to the Vasa correspondent of the Dagens Nyheter. The reports from Swedish correspondents contain stories of terrible atrocities committed by red guards. The bodies of scores of white guards have been found mutilated in indescribable fashion. An American told the Associated Press correspondent that he had seen fourteen bodies which had been treated in a horrible manner. Many of the white guards, especially officers, carry capsules containing poison for use in the event of their capture. Red guards also accuse the white

guards of atrocities. Correspondents with Gen. Mannerheim's army admit that the red guards are regarded as murderers and are shot when captured. If, as is frequently the case, they are found in possession of dum-dum bullets, these are used in executing them. According to a dispatch from Vasa dated yesterday the white guards captured the eastern part of Tammerfors yesterday morning notwithstanding desperate resistance and captured a thousand prisoners and a quantity of locomotives, wagons and provisions.

GOVERNOR OF KENTUCKY ENTERTAINED IN ATLANTA

Atlanta, Ga., April 5.—Gov. A. O. Stanley, of Kentucky, and the governor's official staff were entertained at a dinner here last night by members of the staff of Gov. Hugh Dorsey, of Georgia. Gov. Stanley and his party left later in the evening for Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, Miss., where Kentucky soldiers are in training.

A reception had been planned for the Kentuckians but because of the absence of Gov. Dorsey, who was suddenly called to Washington, it was abandoned.

RUSSIAN WARSHIPS AND SUBMARINES BLOW UP

This Action Was Taken by Commanders to Prevent Capture by German-Towns Bombaraded.

Petrograd, April 5.—Several Russian warships, including four submarines in the harbor of Hango, were blown up by their commanders who feared capture by the Germans.

The mayor of Sukhum-Kale reports that Black sea fleet torpedo boats are bombarding and looting towns along the coast.

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