

# PRESIDENT WILL NOT DEAL WITH FOE AUTOCRACY

Wilson Refuses to Concede German Government's Request for Armistice.

## ALLIES ARE HORRIFIED

Cessation of Hostilities Impossible While Acts of Inhumanity, Spoliation and Desolation Shock Civilized World.

Washington, Oct. 15.—President Wilson answered Germany's peace proffer with a note declaring anew that there can be no peace with a German government controlled by a military autocracy and no thought of an armistice while German atrocities continue on land and sea.

This statement was made at the White House: "The government will continue to send over 250,000 men with their supplies every month and there will be no relaxation."

President Wilson's Answer. The text of the President's answer follows:

"The unqualified acceptance by the present German government, and by a large majority of the reichstag, of the terms laid down by the President of the United States of America in his address to the Congress of the United States on the 8th of January, 1918, and his subsequent addresses, justifies the President in making a frank and direct statement of his decision with regard to the communications of the German government of the 8th and 12th of October, 1918.

"He feels confident that he can safely assume that this will also be the judgment and decision of the Allied governments.

"The President feels that it is also his duty to add that neither the government of the United States nor, he is quite sure, the governments with which the government of the United States is associated as a belligerent, will consent to consider an armistice so long as the armed forces of Germany continue the illegal and inhuman practices which they still persist in.

"At the very time that the German government approaches the government of the United States with proposals of peace its submarines are engaged in sinking passenger ships at sea and not the ships alone, but the very boats in which their passengers and crews seek to make their way to safety; and in their present enforced withdrawal from France and Flanders the German armies are pursuing a course of wanton destruction which has always been regarded as in direct violation of the rules and practices of civilized warfare. Cities and villages, if not destroyed, are being stripped not only of all they contain, but often of their very inhabitants.

"The nations associated against Germany cannot be expected to agree to a cessation of arms while acts of inhumanity, spoliation and desolation are being continued which they justly look upon with horror and with burning hearts.

"It is necessary, also, in order that there may be no possibility of misunderstanding, that the President should very solemnly call the attention of the government of Germany to the language and plain intent of one of the terms of peace which the German government now has accepted. It is contained in the address of the President, delivered at Mount Vernon, on the Fourth of July last. It is as follows: "The destruction of every arbitrary power everywhere that can separately, secretly and of its single choice disturb the peace of the world; or if it cannot be presently destroyed, at least its reduction to virtual impotency."

"The power which has hitherto controlled the German nation is of the sort here described. It is within the choice of the German nation to alter it. The President's words just quoted naturally constitute a condition precedent to peace, if peace is to come by the action of the German people themselves.

"The President feels bound to say that the whole process of peace will in his judgment depend upon the definiteness and satisfactory character of the guarantees which can be given in this fundamental matter. It is indispensable that the governments associated against Germany should know beyond a peradventure with whom they are dealing.

"The President will make a separate reply to the royal and imperial government of Austria-Hungary.

"Accept, sir, the renewed assurance of my high consideration.

ROBERT LANSING.

### Belgians Demand Reparation.

Paris, Oct. 15.—The committee of the Belgian Socialists' federation has reported to the main body a resolution unanimously adopted by the committee and by delegates of the Belgian Workmen's federation, in which the principle is asserted of territorial defense and the elimination of all imperialistic aims. The resolution demands the liberation of Belgium and reparation for the damage it has suffered. The resolution declares in favor of political liberty in Belgium.

# AMERICAN ARTILLERY IN ACTION BEFORE METZ



Ever since the cleaning out of the St. Mihiel salient the fortifications of Metz have been under the fire of the American artillery.

## STRIKES BODY BLOW

Wilson's Reply to Germany Is Powerful Document.

American and Allied Diplomats Believe Note Will Create German Revolution.

Washington, Oct. 15.—Germany's peace offer has been answered by President Wilson with a decision which not only fulfills the expectations of supporters of his diplomacy, but also dispels the fears of those who predicted he would substitute victories at arms with defeats at diplomacy.

No peace with kaiserism, autocracy must go; no armistice can even be thought of while Germany continues her atrocities on land and sea, nor shall one be considered unless it fully is dictated by the Allied commanders in the field in such terms as absolutely provide safeguards and guarantees that Germany's part will not be a scrap of paper. This, in a few words, is the President's answer.

If it does not bring a capitulation which may be more than an unconditional surrender, Allied diplomats and American officials believe it may cause a revolution in Germany. Beyond question it speaks for the Entente Allies as well as the United States.

## MILITARY POWER IS BROKEN

German Army Reported to Be Under Civil Control.

London, Oct. 15.—German military power has already been placed under civil control in a complete and permanent fashion, so far as politics is concerned, according to an interview with Mathias Erzberger, the Centrist leader of the Reichstag, sent out by the German government wireless service.

## TURKEY WILL SEEK PEACE

Inform Austria Military Situation Furnishes Reason.

Amsterdam, Oct. 15.—The first step taken by the new Turkish cabinet, headed by Tewfik Pasha, says a dispatch from Vienna to the Weser Zeitung, was to dispatch a note to Austria-Hungary to the effect that owing to the military situation Turkey was obliged to conclude a separate peace with the Allies.

## LUXEMBURG MAKES APPEAL

Asks President Wilson to Protect its Rights.

Amsterdam, Oct. 15.—The government of Luxembourg has appealed to President Wilson for protection of the rights of the country, according to official dispatches received here.

## HEAVY BRITISH CASUALTIES

Losses for Week Ending Oct. 14 Total 35,710.

London, Oct. 15.—British casualties reported for the week ending Oct. 14 numbered 35,710, divided as follows: Killed or died of wounds—Officers, 582; men, 6,937. Wounded or missing—Officers, 1,741; men, 26,480.

## Red Cross Ship at Archangel.

Washington, Oct. 15.—Arrival at Archangel of a relief ship which left an American port in August with 4,000 tons of food, drugs and other supplies for Allied soldiers and destitute civilians in Northern Russia, was announced by the American Red Cross. The cargo was valued at a million and a half dollars. The amount originally appropriated for relief at that point, Maj. C. T. Williams of Baltimore, formerly a member of the Red Cross commission for Roumania, was in charge of the party.

## FOE ABANDONS REGION OF LAON

German Forces Are Expelled From St. Gobain Forest and La Fere.

## ITALIAN TROOPS ACTIVE

Americans Engage in Intense Artillery Duel Between Aire and Meuse Rivers, Blasting Machine Gun Nests to Bits.

London, Oct. 15.—Laon, La Fere and the entire St. Gobain region have been abandoned by the German forces. After reoccupying Laon the French have advanced until their line now runs from the Oise river above La Fere to the eastern end of the Chemin des Dames.

Italian troops participated in the advance and are now engaged on the hills north of the Ailette river. At this particular point the German lines have been pressed back or have been withdrawn so that a sharp angle has been created.

## Allies Reach Hunting Line.

French and British forces have virtually reached the Hunting line east of Cambrai and St. Quentin. British units are reported at Solesmes, while the French further south are within four miles of Guise.

The Hunting line runs from Antwerp to Ghent and thence to Tournai, Conde, Valenciennes, Solesmes, Guise, Rethel, Vouziers, Dun sur Meuse and then down the base of the St. Mihiel salient to the Moselle, where it joins the old front running through Lorraine and the Vosges to the Swiss frontier.

On the Champagne front General Berthelot is less than five miles from Rethel, while further east General Gouraud has taken Vouziers, but has not penetrated much further north of that place. Americans fighting in the Argonne region are through the Kriemhilde line, but their progress there is slow.

## British Threaten Valenciennes.

Douai is virtually reached by the British, while to the north the line turns off sharply to the east. Should Douai fall, the British will be able to advance on Valenciennes.

The Oise river has been crossed by the French to the east of La Fere at Origny.

In Albania the Italians have captured Kavaya, a town 12 miles south-east of Durazzo.

Allied forces have occupied Nish, the Serbian stronghold, the German official statement admitting that the Teutonic armies had retired to the heights back of the city in face of the terrific Allied thrusts.

Americans Wreck Machine Guns.

With the American First Army, Oct. 15.—An intense artillery battle is raging between the Aire and the Meuse. It continued throughout the night and was growing in violence. The American guns apparently dominated the situation. The solid mass of machine gun nests which oppose our advance between the two rivers was rapidly being blasted to bits.

Heavy German attacks east of the Argonne were broken up by American counterattacks.

The Yanks met the Boches midway between the two lines, wielding the bayonet and tearing the enemy waves to shreds.

## Race Riot in Brooklyn.

New York, Oct. 15.—A fight between a negro and a white man in Brooklyn precipitated a riot in which two negroes received mortal injuries, 18 policemen were stabbed or cut, many civilians suffered minor hurts and several soldiers and sailors who were to restore order are believed to have been injured. Fifty shots were fired in a running gun battle. A number of negroes are said to have been hit during their fighting retreat, but to have made good their escape.

# BERLIN REFUSES TO RATIFY PACT

Inform London That Prisoner Exchange Agreement Will Not Be Accepted.

## BRITISH BLOOD BOILS

London Officials Are Determined to Take Drastic Steps to End Maltreatment of War Prisoners in Germany.

London, Oct. 15.—Holland has communicated to the British government the German government's decision not to ratify the Anglo-German agreement for an exchange of prisoners unless guarantees are given against the internment and deportation of Germans in China.

The British government has informed Germany that it cannot concede this point, but is prepared to ratify the agreement subject to the withdrawal of this condition.

Great Britain is determined to take drastic steps to bring the maltreatment of British war prisoners to an end and accordingly has demanded that Germany redress the grievances forthwith.

Unless these requirements are accepted within four weeks the British government will take, in concert with the Allied governments, such measures to treat prisoners of war in accordance with the rules of international law.

Steps also are being taken to secure better treatment of prisoners in Turkish hands. General Allenby has been instructed in the event of an armistice and unconditional return of British prisoners would be required.

Great Britain demands the immediate removal of British prisoners to a distance of not less than 30 kilometers (about 18 1/2 miles) behind the firing line, proper and humane treatment of prisoners in German occupied territory and elsewhere and that Germany permit representatives of the government of Holland forthwith to visit and inspect occupied territory behind the German line with a view to ascertaining that the grievances complained of are redressed. Germany must undertake that no British prisoner of war henceforth shall be employed underground in salt mines.

## NINTH DISTRICT OVER TOP

Claims to Be First in Oversubscribing Liberty Loan.

Minneapolis, Oct. 15.—The Ninth Federal Reserve district claims the honor of being the first in the United States to oversubscribe its allotment of Fourth Liberty Loan bonds.

The district's allotment was \$210,000,000. A. R. Rogers, chairman, wired the Treasury department at Washington that this district's county chairmen now hold signed subscription cards totaling \$212,110,350.

This report, so far as can be learned, makes the Ninth first.

## ADMIRE AMERICAN TROOPS

British General Praises Division Operating With His Army.

With the British Armies in France, Oct. 15.—General Rawlinson, command the Fifth British army, with which Major General Lewis' American division is operating, telegraphed General Lewis:

"The gallantry of your infantry and the precision with which your staff arrangements worked out have filled me with admiration. It has given me pleasure to report your unequalled success to Field Marshal Haig."

## PRINCE MAXIMILIAN MAY QUIT

Retirement of German Chancellor Regarded as Inevitable.

London, Oct. 15.—The resignation of Prince Maximilian of Baden as German chancellor is probable, according to reports from Holland. They quote the Berlin National Zeitung as saying the chancellor's retirement is regarded in certain circles as inevitable.

## FRANCE NAMES CONDITIONS

Germany's Power to Do Harm Must Be Ended First.

Paris, Oct. 15.—France is unanimously determined not to negotiate with Germany until the latter's power to do harm is completely ended. It is semi-officially announced.

## War Risk Bureau Asks \$134,000,000.

Washington, Oct. 15.—The War Risk Insurance Bureau has asked Congress for \$134,000,000 additional to pay family allowances and allowances of soldiers during the present fiscal year. Previous appropriations aggregated \$141,000,000.

## Greek Troops Complimented.

Athens, Greece, Oct. 15.—Greek troops that participated in the recent offensive which resulted in the surrender of Bulgaria, have been highly complimented by the general in command of the British troops in Macedonia. He sent the following order to the Greek troops who fought at Dobruja: "On this first occasion when Greek soldiers have fought at the side of British troops, I desire to express my admiration for the way in which they accomplished the most arduous task."

# ALLIES CAPTURE CITY OF ROULERS

British, French and Belgian Forces Also Carry Their Lines On Toward Courtrai.

## CAPTURE 10,000 HUNS

American Troops Advance Well Past Kriemhilde Position West of Meuse—Enemy Said to Be Making Rapid Retreat.

With the American Forces northwest of Verdun, Oct. 16.—Units of the Second American Army, which began operations Oct. 12 under command of Major General Robert L. Bullard, repulsed a German raid on their positions.

London, Oct. 16.—Savagely attacking the German lines in Belgium, British, French and Belgian forces have captured Roulers and carried their lines far toward Courtrai and Thourout. In reports from the front there are indications that the German lines have been pierced and that the enemy is retreating rapidly.

## Americans Advance.

On the other extreme of the battle-line American troops have carried their lines well past the Kriemhilde position west of the Meuse river. They are now holding a front that runs from north of Cunel, north of Romagne and thence northwesterly to the vicinity of St. Georges, at which village it turns to the southwest and meets the French lines at Grandpre. French and Italian forces are slowly sweeping the Germans back out of the Laon salient. They are now well to the east of the Laon-La Fere railroad and have kept up a steady pressure against the enemy along the Oise valley to the northeast of La Fere.

## Tends to Outflank Whole Line.

The Allied blow in Belgium appears to be one which may have a direct bearing on the course of the mighty battle that is raging over the battle-line from Dixmude to Verdun.

The progress made against the Germans on the first day of the offensive seems to indicate that it is possible for the Allies to press eastward and outflank both the German submarine bases to the north and the whole German Meuse to the south.

Belgian, French and British forces under King Albert are now within two miles of the important rail center of Courtrai. The Allies also dominate with their guns the railroad running from Lille to the Belgian coast by way of Courtrai and thus hamper, if they have not cut off, all rail communication between Ostend and Lille. The German resistance in Flanders appears to be only for the purpose of delaying the Allies until the evacuation of Belgium can be completed.

## Take 10,000 Prisoners.

Belgians, British and French participated in the assault between Dixmude and Wervicq. More than 10,000 prisoners already have been taken.

## TRANSPORT SINKS AT ITS PIER

Ship is Filled With Soldiers, But No Loss of Life Reported.

Hoboken, N. J., Oct. 16.—Shortly before the American transport America, formerly the German trans-Atlantic passenger steamship, America, was about to sail for Europe with soldiers and supplies, the vessel foundered at its pier.

In the early morning darkness, while the troops aboard were sleeping, the America settled with its keel in the mud, leaving only three of its eight decks, together with parts of the funnels, above water. So far as known there was no loss of life.

Troops were placed on guard outside the pier and details regarding the sinking were denied to inquirers. The cause of the accident remained a mystery, even to navy department officials.

## HINDENBURG WOULD ACCEPT

Said to Have Advised Conformity With Wilson's Terms.

Washington, Oct. 16.—It was Field Marshal von Hindenburg himself and not the supposedly pacifist premier, Prince Maximilian, who caused the German government to accept President Wilson's peace terms and seek an armistice, according to advices which reached Washington through official sources, by way of a neutral country.

## DEMAND THAT KAISER QUIT

Reported That German Socialists Insist on Abdication.

Zurich, Oct. 16.—The socialist congress at Munich unanimously adopted a resolution favoring the abdication of the kaiser and the crown prince, according to the Munich Nach Richten.

## Debarcation Ports Meet Needs.

Washington, Oct. 16.—Commenting on the changes which had occurred in France regarding the American preparations, Secretary Baker emphasized the great success which has attended the efforts to improve port facilities. The progress which has been made is "marvelous," he said, and facilities for unloading ships now are ahead of the ships themselves, so there are frequently open berths at the great debarcation ports. No serious outbreak of influenza has occurred among the troops in France.