

TEUTON PROPOSAL BRANDED AS INSINCERE

ALLIES REFUSE TO CONSIDER PEACE PLAN OF GERMANY

PROTEST AGAINST ENEMY'S ASSERTION ATTEMPTING TO THROW ON ENTENTE RESPONSIBILITY FOR WAR.

DECLARE PROPOSITION IS LIKE MANEUVER OF WAR

Official Text Asserts Proposal Was Made in Order to Seek to Intimidate Neutrals—Affirms Peace Is Impossible Until Reparation Is Made.

Paris, Jan. 1.—Germany's peace proposal has been refused by the Allies. In a collective note branding the offer of the Central Powers as empty and insincere, the Allied governments insist that no peace is possible so long as they have not secured reparation for violated rights and liberties. They reiterate the objects they are fighting for, namely, the free existence of small states and maintain that any settlement must provide for the future security of the entire world.

The proposal of the Central Powers is termed not an offer of peace but a "maneuver of war." It is declared to be founded on "calculated misrepresentation of the character of the struggle in the past, the present and the future."

Outlines Belgium's War Aims. The note does not specifically outline the war aims of any of the Allied governments except Belgium. Before the war, it is pointed out, Belgium asked for nothing but to live in harmony with her neighbors. Assailed in spite of the treaties guaranteeing her inviolability, Belgium has taken up arms to defend her independence and her neutrality violated by Germany.

Note Delivered to Sharpe. The note was handed to U. S. Ambassador Sharpe by Premier Briand in Paris to be transmitted by the United States to the Central Powers. The note says: "The Allied governments of Belgium, France, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Montenegro, Portugal, Roumania, Russia and Serbia, united for the defense of the liberty of their peoples and faithful to engagements taken not to lay down their arms separately have resolved to reply collectively to pretended propositions of peace which were addressed to them on behalf of enemy governments through the intermediary of the United States, Spain, Switzerland and Holland."

Wished to Avoid War. "Before making any reply to the Allied Powers desire particularly to protest against the two essential assertions of the note of the enemy powers that pretend to throw upon the Allies responsibility for the war and proclaim the victory of the Central Powers."

"The Allied governments cannot admit an attempt to render sterile all tentative negotiations. The Allied nations have sustained for thirty months a war they did everything to avoid. They have shown by their acts their attachment to peace. That attachment is as strong today as it was in 1914. But it is not upon the word of Germany, after the violation of her engagements that the peace broken by her may be based."

Not an Offer of Peace. "A mere suggestion, without a statement of terms, that negotiations should be opened, is not an offer of peace. The putting forward by the Imperial Government of a sham proposal lacking all substance and precision would appear to be less an offer of peace than a maneuver of war. It is founded on the calculated misrepresentation of the character of the struggle in the past, the present and the future."

As for the past, the German note takes no account of the facts, dates and figures which establish that the war was desired, provoked and declared by Germany and Austria-Hungary.

Refused Disarmament Plan. "At the Hague conference it was a German delegate who refused all proposals for disarmament. In July, 1914, it was Austria-Hungary, who, after having addressed to Berlin an unprecedented ultimatum declared war upon her in spite of the satisfaction which had at once been accorded."

"The Central Empires then rejected all attempts made by the entente to bring about a pacific solution of a purely local conflict. 1239—W N—SIX

Hanning. "Great Britain suggested a conference; France proposed an international commission; the Emperor of Russia asked the German emperor to go to arbitration and Russia and Austria-Hungary came to an understanding on the eve of the conflict. But to all these efforts Germany gave neither answer nor acknowledgment."

Belgium Invaded by Empire. "Belgium was invaded by an empire which had guaranteed her neutrality and which had the assurance to proclaim that treaties were 'scraps of paper' and that 'necessity knows no law.' At the present moment these sham offers on the part of Germany rest on the war map of Europe alone, which represents nothing more than a superficial and passing phase of the situation and not the real strength of the belligerents."

"A peace concluded upon these terms

French Report is Discredited. Berlin, Jan. 2.—The French army headquarters report of December 23 speaks of a German surprise attack on the eastern slopes of Hill 304, on the Verdun front, "which was repulsed easily," writes the military critic of the Overseas News agency. "This is another example of the untrustworthiness of the French headquarters report, inasmuch as by the attacks on the slopes of Hill 304, valuable French positions were captured, and more than 200 prisoners were taken."

ALLIES' DEMAND IN BELGIUM'S BEHALF

Paris, Jan. 1.—Attached to the Entente Powers' joint reply to Germany's peace proposals, as made public here, is the following declaration with reference to Belgium:

"In virtue of the international treaties signed by five great European powers of whom Germany was one, Belgium enjoyed before the war a special status, rendering her territory inviolable and placing her, under the guarantee of the powers, outside all European conflicts."

"She was, however, in spite of these treaties, the first to suffer the aggression of Germany. For this reason the Belgian government think it necessary to define the aims which Belgium has never ceased to pursue while fighting side by side with the entente powers for right and justice."

Fulfills Duty as Neutral. "Belgium has always scrupulously fulfilled the duties which her neutrality imposed upon her. She has taken up arms to defend her independence and her neutrality violated by Germany, and to show that she remained faithful to her international obligations."

"On the fourth of August, 1914, in the Reichstag, the German Chancellor admitted that this aggression constituted an injustice contrary to the laws of nations, and pledged himself in the name of Germany to repair it."

"During two and a half years this injustice has been cruelly aggravated by the proceedings of the occupying forces, which have exhausted the resources of the country, ruined its industries, devastated its towns and villages and have been responsible for innumerable massacres, executions and imprisonments."

Germany Removes Basis for Parley. "At this very moment, while Germany is proclaiming peace and humanity to the world, she is deporting Belgian citizens by the thousands and reducing them to slavery."

"Belgium before the war asked for nothing but to live in harmony with her neighbors. Her king and her government has but one aim—the establishment of peace and justice. But they only desire peace which would assure to their country legitimate reparation, guarantees and safeguards for the future."

"Germany, by failing to offer reparation and to make restitution, removes in advance any basis for her parleys for peace."

It would be only to the advantage of the aggressors, who, after imagining that they would reach their goal in two months, discovered after two years that they could never attain it."

Outrages Demand Penalties. "As for the future, the disasters caused by the German declaration of war and the innumerable outrages committed by Germany and her Allies against both belligerents and neutrals, demand penalties, reparation and guarantees for the future."

"Germany avoids mention of any of these."

"In reality these overtures made by the Central Powers are nothing more than a calculated attempt to influence the future course of war and to end it by imposing a German peace."

Would Create Disension. "The object of these overtures is to create disension in public opinion in the Allied countries. But that public opinion has in spite of all the sacrifices endured by the Allies already declared its answer with admirable firmness and has denounced the empty pretense of the declaration of the enemy powers."

"They have the further object of stiffening public opinion in Germany and in the countries allied to her, one and all severely tried by their losses, worn out by economic pressure and crushed by the supreme effort which has been imposed upon their inhabitants."

"They have endeavored to deceive and intimidate public opinion in neutral countries, whose inhabitants have since made up their minds where the initial responsibilities lie, and are far too enlightened to favor the designs of Germany by abandoning the defense of human freedom."

Refuse to Consider Proposal. "Fully conscious of the gravity of this moment, but equally conscious of its requirements, the Allied governments, closely united to one another and in perfect sympathy with their peoples, refuse to consider a proposal which is empty and insincere."

"Once again the Allies declare that no peace is possible so long as they have not secured reparation for violated rights and liberties, the recognition of the principle of nationalities and of the free existence of small states; so long as they have not brought about a settlement calculated to end once and for all forces which have constituted a perpetual menace to the nations and to afford the only effective guarantee for the future security of the world."

ALLIES PLAN REPLY TO PRESIDENT'S PEACE NOTE

Note to Be Similar to That Sent to Berlin—France and Great Britain Agree to Draft.

Paris, Jan. 2.—The reply of the Allies to the peace note of President Wilson will follow the same course as the answer to the Central Powers. Great Britain and France already have agreed in draft, which has been submitted to the other members of the Allies and their approval will be handed to the American ambassador, William G. Sharp, in Paris. The original draft, like the reply to the Central Powers, will be written by the French authorities after consultation with the Allies of France.

MEXICO BUYS WAR SUPPLIES

Carranza Sends Million Pesos Gold to Japan for Munitions. El Paso, Dec. 31.—The Carranza government lately has transmitted a million pesos gold to Japan for war munitions. It was learned here from a well informed source. One shipment of munitions already has been received, according to this source, and the second is due. It is said to consist of artillery shells and field guns, including anti-aircraft cannon.

TEUTONS ANSWER PRESIDENT'S NOTE; ASK CONFERENCE

GERMANY IN FORMAL REPLY TO AMERICAN PEACE SUGGESTIONS PROPOSES MEETING OF DELEGATES OF BELLIGERENTS.

AN IMMEDIATE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS IS SUGGESTED

Berlin Joined By Austria, Turkey and Bulgaria in Urging Conference—Readiness to Collaborate with U. S. to Prevent Future Strife Hinted.

Berlin, Dec. 27.—Germany has proposed a meeting of delegates of belligerents in its answer to President Wilson's peace note.

Its formal reply to the American peace suggestion was made in a note handed to United States Ambassador James W. Gerard at Berlin and at the same time to the American diplomatic representatives at the capitals of the other Central Powers—Vienna, Sofia and Constantinople.

To Prevent Future Wars.

The note also hints that the "great work of prevention of future wars can only be begun after the end of the present struggle of nations," and declares "when this moment shall have come," Germany will be "ready with pleasure to collaborate entirely with the United States at this exalted task."

The German note holds the "most appropriate road to reach the desired result," is an immediate meeting of delegates of belligerent states at a neutral place."

Text of Germany's Reply.

The text read: "The high-minded suggestions made by the president of the United States of America in order to create a basis for the establishment of a lasting peace has been received and considered by the imperial government in the friendly spirit which was expressed in the president's communication."

"The president points out that which he has at heart and leaves open the choice of the road."

"To the imperial government the immediate exchange of views seems the most appropriate road in order to reach the desired result. It therefore begs, in the sense of its declaration made on Dec. 12, which offered its hand for peace negotiations, to propose immediate meeting of delegates of the belligerent states at a neutral place."

"Also the imperial government is of the opinion that the great work of prevention of future wars can be begun only after the end of the present struggle of nations."

"It (the German government) will, when this moment shall have come, be ready with pleasure to collaborate entirely with the United States at this exalted task."

The answer finishes with the usual terms of international politeness.

U-BOAT VICTIMS REACH HOME

Sailors on Ships Sunk by Submarines Arrive at New York.

New York, Jan. 2.—One hundred and twelve men from American steamships sunk by German submarines have arrived here or the Spanish steamer Alicante from Barcelona. Seventy-nine were on board the Columbia, attacked last November on a voyage from France to Italy. Thirty-three escaped when the Chemung went down off Cape Gata, Spain, in the same month. Some of the arrivals are Americans.

FRENCH GIVE JOFFRE SWORD

Committee of Notables to Present Field Marshal With Baton.

Paris, Dec. 31.—A committee composed of the most famous persons in the French literary, artistic, and scientific worlds, and diplomats of the Allied powers, has been formed to present General Joffre a field marshal's baton and a sword of honor.

Tourist Resort Burns.

August, Ga., Jan. 2.—Hampton Terrace Hotel, a winter tourist resort in North Augusta, was destroyed early by fire. The loss is estimated at \$600,000.

Whitman's Second Inaugural.

Albany, Jan. 2.—The second inauguration of Charles S. Whitman as Governor of New York today is expected to be one of the most brilliant events of its kind in the state's history.

New War Minister Named.

Jassy, Roumania, Jan. 2.—The war minister in the reconstructed Roumanian cabinet is Vintila Bratianu, a brother of J. J. C. Bratianu, the premier.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



GERMANS TO MAKE MORE GUNS IN 1917; PEACE HOPES FADE

THOUSANDS OF CANNON AND MACHINE GUNS WEEKLY TO BE RESULT OF MIGHTY MANUFACTURING EFFORT.

TEUTONS EXPECT SHIFT ON WESTERN WAR FRONT

Year Expected to Be One of Privations As Far As Internal Conditions Are Concerned—New Offensive on Verdun Front is Planned—Von Hindenburg Makes Appeal.

Berlin, Jan. 3.—Many thousand guns each week is the measure of the mighty manufacturing effort which Germany is now making for the campaign of 1917—an effort upon which all the manhood of the nation which can be spared from the front and regular occupations, is being concentrated under the universal labor service law.

Counting four months before the probable renewal of the world war in full vigor, these figures mean a new immense supply of cannon of all calibers to meet the admittedly gigantic effort which the Allies are expected to make in this, the third year of Kitchener's prophesy to turn the scale of battle.

Munition Needs Great. Along with these guns German factories are turning out corresponding quantities of ammunition. And the production of machine guns, each of which virtually replaces a platoon of men, has been placed on a scale far beyond that of the past year.

The campaign of 1917 will, it is already evident, be fought as a wide extension and development of the Somme battle, with even a heavier concentration of artillery over a far wider front and with lines literally bristling with machine guns. Confidence that their opponents will be unable to break through this wall of steel and fire is not only expressed by officials, but is manifested right down into the ranks of the common people.

Change Expected in West. Another expected development of 1917 is a change in the center of gravity on the western front. The Somme battle has swept its way into comparative quietude and military experts here believe recent advances point to a transfer of the Allies' main effort most likely to Verdun, where the French recently have concentrated on extending their original size the salty port west of the Meuse—the most obvious point as that nearest to the heart of Germany.

Candidate for Governor Dies. Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 31.—Joseph P. Fonton, candidate for governor of Missouri at the last election on the "Prohibition and Progressive" ticket, died at a local hospital.

Allies Defy "Powers of Darkness."

London, Jan. 2.—The morning newspapers comment on the joint note of the Allies in a manner similar to their previous criticisms of the note of the Central powers, the emperor of Russia's declaration with regard to peace and the speeches of the political leaders. The Morning Post describes the note as a document in which "ten nations have defied the powers of darkness and once more have pledged themselves to fight to the end" and says it is a "moral victory of extraordinary moment to civilization."

CONGRESS TO HOLD NIGHT SESSIONS TO COMPLETE TASKS

MEMBERS RETURN TO WASHINGTON AFTER HOLIDAYS, READY FOR HARD WORK ON ACCUMULATION OF LEGISLATION.

FIGHT ON ADAMSON LAW MAY MEAN EXTRA SESSION

Attitude of Brotherhood Officials is Known to Be Antagonistic to President's Program—Revenue Deficit Looms up—Appropriation Measure to Be First Action.

Washington, Jan. 3.—Congressmen are back in Washington from their Christmas holiday, prepared to get down to hard work on the accumulation of legislation that must be dealt with before adjournment, March 4.

Appropriation measures will be considered in the Senate immediately, the Indian bill probably being first. Committees are paving the way for consideration of railroad measures, a corrupt practices bill and other general legislation.

The House, which already has passed five appropriation bills, still has nine more to work and will approach its task vigorously with night sessions in prospect for the near future.

Extra Session Not Favored.

Returning members who were re-elected do not look with favor toward an extra session and declare they are willing to work night and day to avert one. They insist that none will be necessary unless action on the railroad legislation should be held up.

Upon the reconvening of Congress chief interest will center in hearings before the Senate Commerce committee on President Wilson's recommendations for legislation to supplement the Adamson law, which was enacted to become effective January 1, and the constitutionality of which will be argued in the supreme court next week.

Representatives of the railroad men's brotherhoods, the railroads of the country and the public have been invited before the committee to express their views.

The attitude of the brotherhood officials is known to be antagonistic to the President's recommendation that Congress enact a law that would make railroad strikes unlawful pending a period of investigation by an official board of inquiry, should mediation by a board of conciliation fail to settle threatened trouble.

Railroad employes say that such a law, modeled after the Canadian disputes act, would mean compulsory arbitration and involuntary servitude and that it would operate as a legal ban on the right to strike.

LEAGUE OF PEACE NOT APPROVED BY ROOSEVELT

Believes Plan is Backed by Selfish Motives in Both London and Berlin.

New York, Jan. 2.—"Germany is obviously anxious to end the war, so long as it can be ended to her advantage; and it seems likely that with this end in view she will encourage and praise her dupes on this side of the water in the movement for a League to Enforce Peace. England seems likely to take the same position; or perhaps from similar reasons; more likely for reasons of home politics, in order to placate or fool the English pacifists. Both Berlin and London will act in their own interests."

Theodore Roosevelt in an article in the Metropolitan magazine makes this assertion to illustrate his viewpoint and his conception of the movement to organize an international peace enforcement league.

MODEL IS FOUND SLAIN; POLICE OBTAIN CLUE

Body of "Perfect Woman" Discovered in Philadelphia Apartment—Prominent Business Man Suspected.

Philadelphia, Jan. 2.—Dressed in blue silk pajamas, the body of Grace Colbert Roberts, 22 years old, art model and "perfect woman," has been discovered in her apartments here. She had been murdered.

In her role as a model, the slain woman had posed for a silk stocking ad which has been displayed in street car cards all over the country.

The name of the man who tortured and then killed the woman is now in the hands of the police and, according to detectives, will lead to a man standing high in business circles of Chicago and this city. Detectives followed the trail to Chicago.

Arizona Governor is Inaugurated.

Phoenix, Ariz., Jan. 2.—Thomas E. Campbell, republican, was inaugurated governor of Arizona Monday. There were no inaugural ceremonies for Governor G. W. P. Hunt, incumbent, who claims the office, but when Governor Campbell went to the executive offices he found them locked. Governor Campbell delivered his inaugural address to a great crowd that filled the capitol grounds. There were no serious disturbances. Scores of armed deputies were scattered throughout the assemblage.