

WILSON GIVES PEACE TERMS

In Message to Congress President Presents Definite Peace Program of the United States

FOURTEEN CONSIDERATIONS DEMANDED

American People Ready to Give Their Strength and Highest Purpose In Final War for Human Liberty, Declares President Wilson

Washington.—President Wilson addressing Congress, delivered a re-statement of war aims in agreement with the recent declaration by the British premier, David Lloyd George. The President presented a definite program for world peace.

The President said: "Gentlemen of the Congress—Once more, as repeatedly before, the spokesmen of the Central empires have indicated their desire to discuss the objects of the war and the possible bases of a general peace. Parleys have been in progress at Brest-Litovsk between Russian representatives and representatives of the Central Powers to which the attention of all the belligerents has been invited for the purpose of ascertaining whether it may be possible to extend these parleys into a general conference with regard to terms of peace and settlement.

"The Russian representatives presented not only a perfectly definite statement of the principles upon which they would be willing to conclude peace, but also an equally definite program of the concrete application of those principles. The representatives of the Central Powers, on their part, presented an outline of settlement which, if much less definite, seemed susceptible of liberal interpretation until their program of practical terms was added.

"That program proposed no concessions at all either to sovereignty of Russia or to the preferences of the population with whose fortunes it dealt, but meant, in a word, that the Central empires were to keep every foot of territory their armed forces had occupied—every province, every city, every point of vantage—as a permanent addition to their territories and their power.

"It is a reasonable conjecture that the general principles of settlement, which they at first suggested, originated with the more liberal statesmen of Germany and Austria, the men who have begun to feel the force of their own people's thought and purpose, while the concrete terms of actual settlement came from the military leaders who have no thought but to keep what they have got. The negotiations have been broken off. The Russian representatives were sincere and in earnest. They can not entertain such proposals of conquest and domination.

"The whole incident is full of significance. It is also full of perplexity. With whom are the Russian representatives dealing? For whom are the representatives of the Central empires speaking? Are they speaking for the majorities of their respective parliaments or for the minority parties, that military and imperialistic minority which has so far dominated their whole policy and controlled the affairs of Turkey and of the Balkan States which have felt obliged to become their associates in this war? The Russian representatives have insisted, very justly, very wisely, and in the true spirit of modern democracy, that the conferences they have been holding with the Teutonic and Turkish statesmen should be held within open, not closed doors, and all the world has been audience, as was desired.

"To whom have we been listening, then? To those who speak the spirit and intention of the resolutions of the German Reichstag of the ninth of July, last, the spirit and intention of the liberal leaders and parties of Germany, or to those who resist and defy that spirit and intention and insist upon conquest and subjugation? Or are we listening, in fact, to both, unreconciled and in open and hopeless contradiction? These are very serious and pregnant questions.

Upon the answer to them depends the peace of the world.

"But whatever the results of the parleys at Brest-Litovsk, whatever the confusions of counsel and of purpose in the utterances of the spokesmen of the Central Powers, they have again attempted to acquaint the world with their objects in the war and have again challenged their adversaries to say what their objects are and what sort of settlement they would deem just and satisfactory. There is no good reason why that challenge should not be responded to, and responded to with the utmost candor. We did not wait for it. Not once, but again and again, we have laid our whole thought and purpose before the world, not in general terms only, but each time with sufficient definition to make it clear what sort of definitive terms of settlement must necessarily spring out of them.

"The moral climax of this, the culminating and final war for human liberty has come," said the President in ending his address, "and they (people of the United States), are ready to put their own strength, their own highest purpose, their own integrity and devotion to the test."

"Within the last week Mr. Lloyd George has spoken with admirable candor and in admirable spirit for the people and government of Great Britain. There is no confusion of counsel among the adversaries of the Central Powers, no uncertainty of principle, no vagueness of detail. The only secrecy of counsel, the only lack of fearless frankness, the only failure to make definite statement of the objects of the war, lies with Germany and her allies.

"The issues of life and death hang upon these definitions. No statesman who has the least conception of his responsibility ought for a moment to permit himself to continue this tactical and appalling outpouring of blood and treasure, unless he is sure beyond a peradventure that the objects of the vital sacrifice are part and parcel of the very life of society and that the people for whom he speaks think them right and imperative as he does.

"There is, moreover, a voice calling for these definitions of principle and of purpose which is, it seems to me, more thrilling and more compelling than any of the many moving voices with which the troubled air of the world is filled. It is the voice of the Russian people. They are prostrate and all but helpless, it would seem, before the grim power of Germany, which has hitherto known no relenting and no pity. Their power, apparently, is shattered. And yet their soul is not subservient. They will not yield either in principle or in action. Their conception of what is right, of what is humane and honorable for them to accept, has been stated with a frankness, a largeness of view, a generosity of spirit and a universal human sympathy which must challenge the admiration of every friend of mankind; and they have refused to compound their ideals or desert others that they themselves may be safe.

"They call to us to say what it is that we desire, in what, if in anything, our purpose and our spirit differ from theirs; and I believe that the people of the United States would wish me to respond with utter simplicity and frankness. Whether their present leaders believe it or not, it is our heartfelt desire and hope that some way may be opened whereby we may be privileged to assist the people of Russia to attain their utmost hope of liberty and ordered peace.

"It will be our wish and purpose that the processes of peace, when they are begun, shall be absolutely open and that they shall involve and permit henceforth no secret understandings of any kind. The day of conquest and aggrandizement is gone by; so is also the day of secret covenants entered into in the interest of particular governments and likely at

some unlooked-for moment to upset the peace of the world. It is this happy fact, now clear to the view of every public man whose thoughts do not still linger in an age that is dead and gone, which makes it possible for every nation whose purposes are consistent with justice and the peace of the world to avow now or at any other time the objects it has in view.

"We entered this war because violations of right had occurred which touched us to the quick and made the life of our own people impossible unless they were corrected and the world secured once for all against their recurrence. What we demand in this war, therefore, is nothing peculiar to ourselves. It is that the world be made fit and safe to live in; and mainly, that it be made safe for every peace-loving nation, which, like our own, wishes to live its own life, determine its own institutions, be assured of justice and fair dealing by the other peoples of the world, as against force and selfish aggression. All the peoples of the world are in effect partners in this interest and for our own part we see very clearly that unless justice be done to others, it will not be done to us. The program of the world's peace, therefore, is our program, and that program, the only possible program, as we see it, is this:

"I. Open covenants of peace, openly arrived at, after which there shall be no private international understandings of any kind, but diplomacy shall proceed always frankly and in the public view.

"II. Absolute freedom of navigation upon the seas, outside territorial waters, alike in peace and in war, except as the seas may be closed in whole or in part by international action for the enforcement of international covenants.

"III. The removal, so far as possible, of all economic barriers and the establishment of an equality of trade conditions among all the nations consenting to the peace and associating themselves for its maintenance.

"IV. Adequate guarantees given and taken that national armaments will be reduced to the lowest point consistent with domestic safety.

"V. A free, open-minded and absolutely impartial adjustment of all colonial claims, based upon a strict observance of the principle that in determining all such questions of sovereignty the interests of the populations concerned must have equal weight with the equitable claims of the Government whose title is to be determined.

"VI. The evacuation of all Russian territory and such a settlement of all questions affecting Russia as will secure the best and freest co-operation of the other nations of the world in obtaining for her an unhampered and unembarrassed opportunity for the independent determination of her own political development and national policy and assure her of a sincere welcome into the society of free nations under institutions of her own choosing; and, more than a welcome, assistance also of every kind that she may need and may herself desire. The treatment accorded Russia by her sister nations in the months to come will be the acid test of their good will, or their comprehension of her needs as distinguished from their own interests, and of their intelligent and unselfish sympathy.

"VII. Belgium, the whole world will agree, must be evacuated and restored, without any attempt to limit the sovereignty which she enjoys in common with all other free nations. No other single act will serve as this will serve to restore confidence among the nations in the laws which they have themselves set and determined for the government of their relations with one another. Without this healing act the whole structure and validity of international law is forever impaired.

"VIII. All French territory should be freed and the invaded portions restored, and the wrong done to France by Prussia in 1871 in the matter of Alsace-Lorraine, which has unsettled the peace of the world for nearly fifty years, should be righted, in order that peace may once more be made secure in the interest of all.

"IX. A readjustment of the frontiers of Italy should be effected along clearly recognizable lines of nationality.

"X. The peoples of Austria-Hungary, whose place among the nations we wish to see safeguarded and assured, should be accorded the freest opportunity of autonomous development.

"XI. Rumania, Serbia and Montenegro should be evacuated; occupied territories restored; Serbia accorded free and secure access to the sea; and the relations of the several Balkan States to one another determined by friendly counsel among historically established lines of allegiance and nationality; and international guarantees of the political and economic independences and territorial integrity of the several Balkan States should be entered into.

"XII. The Turkish portions of the

present Ottoman empire should be assured a secure sovereignty, but the other nationalities which are now under Turkish rule should be assured an undoubted security of life and an absolutely unmolested opportunity of autonomous development, and the Dardanelles should be permanently opened as a free passage to the ships and commerce of all nations under international guarantees.

"XIII. An independent Polish State should be erected, which should include the territories inhabited by indisputably Polish populations, which should be assured a free and secure access to the sea, and whose political and economic independence and territorial integrity should be guaranteed by international covenant.

"XIV. A general association of nations must be formed under specific covenants for the purpose of affording mutual guarantee of political independence and territorial integrity to great and small states alike.

"In regard to these essential rectifications of wrong and assertions of right we feel ourselves to be intimate partners of all the governments and peoples associated together against the imperialists. We can not be separated in interest or divided in purpose. We stand together until the end.

"For such arrangements and covenants we are willing to fight and to continue to fight until they are achieved; but only because we wish the right to prevail and desire a just and stable peace, such as can be secured only by removing the chief provocations to war, which this program does remove. We have no jealousy of German greatness, and there is nothing in this program that impairs it. We grudge her no achievement or distinction of learning or of pacific enterprise such as have made her record very bright and very enviable. We do not wish to injure her or to block in any way her legitimate influence or power. We do not wish to fight her either with arms or with hostile arrangements of trade, if she is willing to associate herself with us and the other peace loving nations of the world in covenants of justice and law and fair dealing. We wish her only to accept a place of equality among the peoples of the world—the new world in which we now live—instead of a place of mastery.

"Neither do we presume to suggest to her any alteration or modification of her institutions. But it is necessary, we must frankly say, and necessary as a preliminary to any intelligent dealings with her on our part, that we should know whom her spokesmen speak for when they speak to us, whether for the Reichstag majority or for the military party, and the men whose creed is imperial domination.

"We have spoken now, surely, in terms too concrete to admit of any further doubt or question. An evident principle runs through the whole program I have outlined. It is the principle of justice to all peoples and nationalities and their right to live on equal terms of liberty and safety with one another, whether they be strong or weak. Unless this principle be made its foundation no part of the structure of international justice can stand.

"The people of the United States could act upon no other principle, and to the vindication of this principle they are ready to devote their lives, their honor, and everything that they possess. The moral climax of this, the culminating and final war for human liberty has come, and they are ready to put their own strength, their own highest purpose, their own integrity and devotion to the test."

GERMANY FACES BIG CRISIS

Gap Between Political Parties Becomes a Chasm Too Wide to Be Bridged.

Amsterdam.—The German throne itself may be hanging in the balance. The German government is confronted by one of the greatest crises in its history as a result of the conflict between the political government and the high command of the army, and the necessity of making a decision that will solve the gigantic problem rests with the kaiser himself.

If the German papers correctly mirror the situation, the test which the Bolsheviks have made of Germany's attitude toward the principle of no annexations has thrown Germany into political turmoil.

It is reported generally that General von Ludendorff, as leader of the former group, has gone so far as to threaten the resignation of himself and Field Marshal von Hindenburg if further countenance is given even to such views as those advanced by men of the type of Dr. von Kuehlmann and Count Czernin, the German and Austrian foreign ministers.

At the same time, the views of von Kuehlmann and Czernin fail to satisfy the German Socialists, who regard their middle-of-the-road policy as trickery, and who are determined that the spirit of the Reichstag resolution must be followed sincerely and without qualification or reserve.

FOOD DEPARTMENT MAKE INSPECTIONS

DECEMBER ACTIVE MONTH FOR STATE FOOD INSPECTORS, WHO VISITED MANY PLACES.

PROSECUTE LAW VIOLATORS

Grocers, Hotels, Restaurants, Meat Shops, Bakeries, Drug Stores and Fruit Stands Are Among the List Most Frequently Prosecuted.

Nashville.—The report of the Tennessee department of food and drugs shows that during the month of December, 55 days were devoted to inspection work by the department, equivalent to an average of 3.2 men in the field for each of the seventeen working days. The inspectors visited fourteen towns, distributed over twelve counties. Eighteen concerns were prosecuted for violating various laws administered by this department.

Food handling establishments visited numbered 1,028, and hotels visited were eight, making a total of 1,036. Of the food handling establishments inspected 286 were groceries, 198 restaurants, 274 soft drink stands, 119 meat shops, 16 fruit stands, 25 bakeries, 23 confectioneries, 17 candy factories and 44 drug stores; the remainder were lunch stands, produce houses, ice cream stands and other miscellaneous food handling establishments. Sanitary orders were issued in 331 places; 697 establishments were passed as o. k.

In the course of these inspections four lots of food were condemned as unfit for use. Of this there were 44,912 pounds of flour, 90,000 pounds of Irish potatoes and ten pounds of canned sauce.

Under the drug store liquor law six investigations were made and under the anti-narcotic law two investigations were made.

Prosecutions under the sanitary food law were: Chattanooga, three guilty, each fined \$10 and costs; Nashville, eleven guilty, seven fined each \$10 and costs and four cases compromised.

Prosecutions under the food and drug law were: Chattanooga, one guilty, fined \$10 and costs; Nashville, one guilty, fined \$10 and costs.

Two were prosecuted and found guilty under the drug store law at Pulaski, and each was bound over to the grand jury.

Correction notices were issued at five of the eight hotels visited, the other three being passed as o. k.

The food and drug laboratory reported twenty food samples and four drug samples tested during the month. Thirteen food samples and two drug samples were recorded as illegal.

Insurance Revenue Increases.

The comparative statement of receipts of the department of insurance from 1911 to 1917, inclusive, issued by Insurance Commissioner L. K. Arrington, shows an increase over 1916 in the gross income of that department of \$51,429.27. Mr. Arrington's report also shows a decrease in expenses for the year of \$43.77.

All sources of income for the department show material increases with the exception of interests deposits, which show a decrease. This, however, is due to the fact that the insurance commissioner now remits the treasury all funds on hand at the end of each month, with the exception of department expense funds; whereas, formerly all funds were held for a longer period of time, thus increasing the interest earnings to the credit of the department.

The financial condition of the department of insurance as compared with former years reflects much credit on the administration of Commissioner Arrington. Mr. Arrington succeeded W. F. Dunbar as insurance commissioner in 1915; previous to that time he was a deputy in the insurance commissioner's office.

State Has 184 Coal Mines.

The Bon Air Coal Company reports to Fuel Administrator W. E. Myer that following several days of idleness, owing to a lack of cars, its mines are again in operation, having received a supply of cars from the N. C. & St. L. Railway.

He also received a report from Chief Mine Inspector Shifflett, in which he states that 184 coal mines are in operation in Tennessee, with the miners working four days a week. The report sets out that in 1916 the number of mines in operation in the state was 126, or 78 less than 1917. These 126 mines produced about 6,000,000 tons of coal in 1916, whereas the 184 mines operated in 1917 produced 7,500,000 tons.