

Peace Drive

Is Launched by the German Chancellor.

Washington, Oct. 7.—A powerful movement is apparently under way in Germany for a general armistice and peace. The new German chancellor, Prince Maximilian, of Baden, is reported to have proposed or to be on the eve of proposing a general suspension of hostilities, the appointment of plenipotentiaries to meet at a neutral place for the discussion of a league for arbitration and disarmament and the forwarding of a request to the Entente Allies for their terms. It is furthermore reported that the German chancellor has expressed his willingness to accept President Wilson's fourteen peace conditions.

Austria-Hungary through its minister at Stockholm is requesting the Swedish government according to advices from Berne to transmit to President Wilson a proposal for a general armistice with the Entente Allies on land and sea and in the air and start without delay negotiations for peace. These negotiations are to be based on the terms set forth by President Wilson.

A new peace note to be issued by Baron Burian, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, it is announced will declare that all of President Wilson's terms have been accepted by the dual monarchy.

And finally from Berne comes the announcement that Germany, Austria-Hungary and Turkey intend simultaneously to approach President Wilson with the object of having him make representations with the other Entente Allies for a general armistice and negotiations looking to peace.

The American troops in the sector between Rheims and the Meuse are engaged in extremely heavy fighting. Joined up with Gouraud's army they are driving the Germans before them at a quickening pace. French troops are reported to have reached Bethenville which is seven miles beyond the former line.

American and French troops that area evidently in preparation for a retirement to the French frontier. Heavy explosions also have been heard.

With the French covering the western outlet of the Grand Pre gap through the Argonne forest, the Americans in an advance of three miles between the Meuse and the Aire are closing up the eastern entrance to the pass. General Pershing's men in smashing blows Saturday realized a considerable advance all along the front and took

Get Into the Big Drive

The Fourth Liberty Loan marks the grand attack on Germany. It is a mighty impulse, started by the men and women here, which will cross the sea and be carried into the camp of the enemy by Pershing's fighting men.

In this drive the coal miner faces responsibility and opportunity.

He has a responsibility to buy bonds to the limit that our men may have shells, guns and other war necessities in abundance. He has a further responsibility to mine coal, and more coal, to guarantee the making and shipping of these necessities, for which he has lent money to his government.

No man will refuse to lend his dollars to his country. Make those dollars count by digging more coal, for fuel is the basis of everything in war.

Behind the fighting men stands the coal miner. Back up the fighting man with your money and your coal.

Every added ton will help make the Fourth Liberty Loan as effective as all good Americans wish to be. Every added ton will be a patriotic contribution to the nation's cause, to say nothing of its helping you to carry your share of Liberty Bonds.

Buy Liberty Bonds and put the Fourth Loan over the top. Mine coal and put the production mark over the top.

WISE COUNTY

Must and Will Do Its Full Part in the Fourth Liberty Loan.

Big Stone Gap, Va., Oct. 7, 1918

To all Directors:

It seems to be imperative today, that we should base our Liberty Bond Sales on the allotment for Wise county of \$760,000 based upon the banking resources, and population's patriotism.

Quite a number of the directors through the state have protested on this increase, but substance of a letter that I received today indicates that we should go ahead and get the \$760,000, and as it seems to be the sentiment generally from officials, that this loan is to go nearer eight billion than six billion, it is not for us to reason why, but to go ahead and get the allotment as suggested by our State Chairman, and with that idea in view, we have revised the allotments to each bank on about the following figures as the basis as your allotment for the sale of Liberty Bonds of the Fourth issue:

Appalachia	.....	\$195,000
Wise	.....	57,000
Big Stone Gap	.....	54,000
Coburn	.....	147,000
Norton	.....	224,000
St. Paul	.....	82,000

Reports received indicate that these allotments can be handled, for the reason that three of the towns have made a little more than these allotments, as our State Chairman says, banking resources are only one factor in a fair distribution of the loan, and that population must be given more weight than in former loans. The further advice, that the unusual delay of the announcement from the Treasury Department has made it difficult to explain this situation, and the only thing that we have got to do is to make our county allotment for \$760,000 and then argue about it afterwards, and I suggest that those towns, and the banks who are able to go way beyond their allotment, do so to help out some of the sections where they may not make it.

We suggest on authority of the State Chairman, that we not only make a strenuous campaign to get in everything, but that we try to have subscriptions raised wherever possible.

The Fourth Liberty Loan is not progressing as well as it should in some parts of the country, and while the pace set in Wise county is far better than the pace generally through the country, we are not justified in slacking up even when we make this \$760,000 quota, because the records we will make in Wise county this week will be an incentive in every county in the state of Virginia, in addition to the counties surrounding us, and I plead with you chairmen, not to leave a stone unturned to raise every dollar that is possible to raise regardless of the allotment, because our county has the money and we should feel that we should go over the top with just as many hundred thousand dollars as we can, because there may be some weak point in the line, and as Wise county is one of the strong points in Virginia, we ought to show we can hold up the line when the others are wavering. I ask you all to make another canvass and don't stop at figures but go as far over the top as energy and patriotism will enable you to go, as this loan is the most important loan, coming at the most important time, than any loan this government has ever asked for, and the very fact, that the country generally is lagging behind on the loan, ought to be the very incentive that will make us in Wise county show the balance of the state that we are taking to this loan better than we have taken to any of the previous three loans.

This extra assessment is about equal to a 43 per cent. additional over the assessment made you on banking resources, however, in localities where your population and your ability to earn permits, don't stop at the 43 per cent. additional assessment but go as far as you can, so as to help out another town in the county who may not be able to make the 43 per cent. excess—in other words, there is no stopping on the sale of this loan; there is not a top, and we are asked to go as far as our patriotism and our money will allow us to go, placing both our money and our credit to swell our subscriptions to the greatest amount possible in all communities.

At the suggestion of our County Chairman, Mr. C. S. Carter, I write you this letter.

Yours very truly,

R. E. ALSOVER, Vice Chairman
of the Liberty Loan Organization for Wise County.

additional villages and heights from the Germans. The enemy resistance was most stubborn as on this front the Germans are crushing in the southern wall of the German defenses with heavy blows along the front from west of Rheims to the Meuse.

In the north, under the menace of the British pressure from Flanders to north of St. Quentin

the enemy has set fire to Dual and other towns and villages in as on this front the Germans are standing on the Kreimeide line, the last of their prepared defenses.

The Americans are advancing toward Sedan and the great communication line upon which German security on the present front depends. This important railway is only 18 miles from the American front.

On both sides of the Suippe the Americans and French troops under General Gouraud rapidly are driving the Germans from the heights dominating the Champagne region east of Rheims. The Germans are retiring to the river Arnes, but the Americans already have reached that stream at Steinne. Northwest of Rheims the French have forced several crossings of the Aisne canal, endangering the German rear in Champagne. A German retirement on a considerable front to a depth of at least five miles in Champagne is not unlikely as result of successes of Generals Gouraud and Berthelot.

From St. Quentin north to the Lys on the front before the important bases of Cambrai,

Douai and Lille, the British are exerting strong pressure. The Germans are endeavoring to hold on to their positions until the work of devastation in the rear is completed.

North of St. Quentin the British have driven further eastward the apex of the salient at Beaurevoir and on Saturday captured 1,000 prisoners.

In Belgium the forces under King Albert maintain their pressure. Since September 28 the Belgian, French and British have advanced nine miles on a 25 mile front and has taken 10,500 prisoners and 350 guns.

Stop Influenza

Epidemic Can Be Halted by Preventing Any Public Meetings.

Washington, Oct. 7.—The only way to stop the spread of Spanish influenza is to close all churches, schools, theaters and public institutions in every community where the epidemic has developed, in the opinion of Surgeon of General Blue, of the Public Health Service.

"There is no way to put a nationwide closing order into effect," said Dr. Blue today, "as this is a matter which is up to the individual communities."

In some states the State Board of Health has this power, but in many others it is a matter of municipal regulation. I hope that those having the proper authority will close all public gathering places if their community is threatened with the epidemic. They will do much towards checking the spread of the disease.

"Dr. Blue said that Delaware, yesterday was recorded among the three Eastern States free of the disease, now had reported an epidemic. All public gatherings have been forbidden there and the schools, theatres and churches ordered closed."

"Our call for physicians has been generously answered," Dr. Blue said, "but it will be necessary for us to extend that call to localities far removed from the districts in which the disease is raging. The call will be extended as soon as it is necessary for us to have the services of more physicians."

The death rate in army camps at home for the week ended September 27 was 34.4 per cent., an increase of 30 per cent. over the preceding week, and due to influenza and pneumonia, and public health service weekly report today stated. There were 1,010 deaths as compared with 172 the week previous."

A question which time only will decide is whether France will become Americanized or whether our American boys will become Frenchified.

The Kaiser must have found long ago that it is much easier to start war than to stop it.

Cash and Coal Mean Shells; Shells Mean Soldiers Saved

Two supports are holding up our boys in France. They are money, which comes from those who buy Liberty Bonds, and shells, which depend on coal from American mines.

Every additional purchase is a blow which you aim directly at the Kaiser.

Aside from the increased earnings, which will help you carry your bonds, you will be making sure that some Yankee soldier "over there" will guarantee delivery of your smash at the Hun.

Liberty Bonds mean the feeding, clothing and maintaining of the American boys in France.

More clean coal means guns and shells, millions or billions if need be, to save the lives of those boys and to speed up final victory.

Dig into your pockets for your money—and then dig into the mines for your country.

United States Special Train

With Captured War Trophies Will Be in Big Stone Gap at Southern Depot Today from 8:35 to 10:35 A. M.

The war exhibit train will stop in Big Stone Gap this morning at the Southern depot from 8:35 to 10:35. The exhibits on this train will consist of captured German guns, trench mortars and small arms; French and American guns, equipment and machine guns; gas masks; mines.

Among the crew on this train is Gunner A. L. Colston, son of the Rev. A. L. Colston, a former Richmond minister. He is a member of the Royal British Field Artillery and has seen eleven months' service in the war zone. He is on furlough in this country, granted after he was wounded.

Among the speakers on the train is Thomas Brooks Fletcher, one of America's foremost dramatic orators, who is devoting his time to making speeches in behalf of the Fourth Liberty Loan this month, and anyone who has an opportunity to hear him should take advantage of it.

For twelve years Mr. Fletcher has been addressing audiences all through America, at the same time editing his paper, The Marion, Ohio, Tribune. No lecturer in America has a more remarkable record for return dates—many communities insisting on hearing all of his fine lectures.

The contributions which Fletcher has made in helping to win the war are numerous. Although he spends much of his time during the entire year traveling, he carries his typewriter with him wherever he goes, and on the train, at the depots, at the hotels, he "pounds out" editorials for his newspaper. These are replete with patriotic sentiment, abounding in facts and figures showing the necessity for whole-hearted and unlimited purchase of Liberty Bonds and War Savings Stamps, and for the liberal support of the Y. M. C. A., Red Cross and other war department activities.

Another speaker is Sergt. Gustave Rabier, a Liberty Loan orator who wears the War Cross with two citations, and a stripe for a wound received at the battle of Butte du Mesnil in the Champagne in June, 1916. He also fought at the battle of Artois and at Fort de Vaux near Verdun.

This English-speaking soldier, will be accompanied by another soldier who has rendered distinguished service in the French colonies. This man's name is Marcel Muller, who has had five years duty in Africa, being wounded once and winning the military medal for exceptional service and the Colonial medal.

This is a chance of a life time to see and hear men who are fighting the Hun and protecting our home and all who possibly can should avail themselves of this rare opportunity.

School Children

To be Enrolled in the Production of Coal Campaign.

Greensburg, Pa., Oct. 2.—Sixty thousands Westmoreland county school children are to be enrolled in the coal production campaign. Every boy and girl in the public and parochial schools of the district were today urged by teachers to use their influence to keep every miner at work six days each week and to appeal to their fathers, brothers and friends to produce a greater coal tonnage.

Sixteen hundred public school teachers today received a request from Robert C. Shaw, county superintendent, asking them to urge the cause of coal production in the schools. Similar letters went to parochial school teachers from Father Gilbert. In every school in the county an appeal from James S. Amend, district production manager, was read to the children. Each child was asked to take home the appeal for increased production and tomorrow will be asked the result of his appeal. Then will come daily production talks by the teachers.

These appeals to the children will be made throughout the school year.

"While you cannot go to the trenches, you can do something right here at home to help win the war," Amend said in his appeal to the children. "Your

government has asked every miner in the United States to use his pick as a weapon to defeat the Kaiser. Every ton of coal means more soldiers to France to fight for a free world. Every ton of coal means that your brothers, fathers and friends who are fighting over there will keep warm and be properly fed this winter. It means clothing, fuel and ammunition for the guns.

"If the children of Westmoreland county do their duty in this war, they will help defeat the German rule that has meant suffering and sorrow to hundreds of thousands of children in Europe. If you fail, the big brothers, the cousins and fathers who are fighting over there must wait for food that does not come—food that is delayed because there is no coal for the ships. It means your brothers and friends in the American army must retreat—a word the American soldier has never learned—and all because there was no coal for the munition plants.

"When you go home tonight, ask daddy to dig a little more coal tomorrow, to work a little harder—for you and for America. Ask your brothers and friends to work harder, too. Ask them not to stay away from the mines—because idleness today means suffering for the boys and girls of France, Belgium and Italy tomorrow. Talk about it at supper—in a good-night kiss—and at breakfast. Ask mamma to help, too. It is your chance to be a real soldier. Ask daddy to hit the Kaiser with his pick. The pick in the mine is the best attack for America. This is your chance to fight—in appeal for coal—more coal. Don't stop until the war is won."

Clarence C. Burns bombarded Coburn and Big Stone Gap with Liberty Loan speeches the week-end. Clarence Burns is nobly standing behind the boys in the trenches, giving of his money, and practically all of his time, and with his whole heart and soul into the cause he makes a speech that has given him considerable prominence, and he is much in demand in all parts of the district, receiving invitations almost daily to address Liberty Loan meetings.—Lebanon News.

Germany will continue praying, but she will soon begin to pray for peace instead of victory.