WASHINGTON SEES LITTLE EARLY HOPE

Entente Note Is Regarded as One of Most Delicate Instruments Ever Penned.

MUCH FINESSE IS SHOWN

Tone, However, So Emphatic Allies Cannot Retreat Without Another Campaign-Germany Thought

to Leave Door Open.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11 .- The entente reply to President Wilson's peace note is regarded in all quarters here as put-ting an early peace practically out of the question, but still leaving an open door for the President to make further

The official view on first consideration is that it constitutes a complete answer to the President's note. German diplomats regard the reply as even more severe than they expected. They declared it evidence that the enemies

declared it evidence that the enemies of Germany are waging a war of conquest to crush and dismember her. The Germanic allies, they declared, never would agree to any such terms.

President Wilson's next move now becomes the center of attention. It will not be decided upon until a careful and detailed study of the replies of both central powers and the entente has been made.

Several Courses Open.

Several courses are open to the President. He may inform each side of the other's reply and in so doing may forward the documents without comment, or with some expression to advance the situation to the point of another ex-change. He may begin a series of confidential negotiations either through the Ambassadors here or through the Ambassadors at the foreign capitals. Also he may base his next step not upon the notes alone, but upon an esti-mate of the situation in the belligerent

Nothing has been decided and nothing will be decided without the most deliberate and mature consideration. It will not be unexpected if the curtain osserecy is drawn upon the next moves, because the situation has advanced to a stage where progress may demand stage where progress may demand absolute secrecy more than ever before. The entente statement of terms is resarded as presenting a legitimate opportunity for the President to take another step if he chooses to do so.

and suggestion and the painstaking choice of words and phrases convince officials that it will require more careful study than any document of war. Surprise was expressed that such a complicated, many-sided document, representing so many aims and points of view, could show such finesse and skill in the destine.

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Turkey and Bulgaria.

(Continued From First Page.) swer to them, but the imperial govern

"On the other hand, the hostile pow-ers always went further away from the realization of their plans, which, ac-cording to the declarations of their reponsible statesmen, were, among others, directed toward the conquest of

aries, produces a surprising effect.
"Our adversaries call the proposal of the four allied Teutonic powers a war maneuver. Germany and her allies must protest in the most energetic ashion against such a characterization falls responsible their motives, which were frankly explained. They were persuaded that "The accusat of their motives which were frankly explained. They were persuaded that a peace which was just and acceptable to all the belligerents was possible, that it could be brought about by an immediate, spoken exchange of views and that, therefore, the responsibility for further bloodshed could not be taken.
"Their readiness was affirmed with-

out reservation to make known their peace conditions when negotiations were entered into, which refutes every doubt as to their sincerity.

"Our adversaries, who had it in their handarto examine the proposition as to its contents, neither attempted an examination nor made counter proposals. Instead, they declared that peace was impossible so long as the re-establishment of violated rights and liberties, the recognition of the principle of nationalities and the free existence of small states were not guaranteed.

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it did not come as an enemy to Bei-gium, and asked it to spare the coun-try the terrors of war. Germany of-fered to guarantee the integrity and independence of the kingdom to the full Alsace-Lorraine and several Prussian provinces, the humiliation and diminution of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, the partition of Turkey and the mutilation of Bulgaria.

"In the face of such war aims, the demand for restitution, reparation and guarantees in the mouth of our adversaries produces a surprising affect. the royal British government in 1887 was resolved not to oppose the use of the right-of-way through Belgium un-

der those conditions.

"The Belgian government declined the repeated offer of the imperial government. Upon her and those powers which instigated her to this attitude falls responsibility for the fate which

against these calumnies.

"Germany and her allies have made an honest attempt to terminate the war and open the road for an understanding among the belligerents. The imperial government asserts the fact that it merely depended on the decision of our adversaries whether the road towards peace should be entered upon or not. The hostile governments deor not. The hostile governments de-clisted to accept this road. Upon them falls the full responsibility for the con-tinuation of the bloodshed.

'Our allied powers, however, shall Entente Sincerity Questioned.

"The sincerity, which our adversary denies to the proposals of the four allied powers, will not be conceded by the world to these demands if the world holds before its eyes the fate of the firsh people, the destruction of the liberty and independence of the Boer republic, the subjugation of Northern

ALLIES HOLD TIME NOT RIPE FOR PEACE

Restoration, Evacuation, Reparation Outlined as Among War's Supreme Aims.

EUROPE TO BE 'LIBERATED'

Belgium, in Separate Note, Says President Is Mistaken in Assuming Both Sides Have Same Objects in View.

(Continued From First Page.) cles of their defense against the violence and the wiles of the enemy. "It is with satisfaction, therefore, that they take note of the declaration that the American communication in nowise is associated in its origin with that of the Central Powers transmitted on December 18 by the Government of the United States. They did not doubt, moreover, the resolution of that Gov-ernment to avoid even the appearance

ernment to avoid even the appearance of a support, even moral, of the authors responsible for the war.

"The allied governments believe that they must protest in the most friendly but in the most specific manner against the assumption established in the American note between the two groups of beiligerents; this assumption, based upon public declarations by the Central Powers, is in direct opposition to the evidence, both as regards responsibility for the past and as concerns guarantees for the future. President Wilson in mentioning it certainly had no intention of associating himself with it.

Willful Agression Charged. "If there is an historical fact established at the present date it is the willful aggression of Germany and Austria-Hungary to insure their hegemony over Europe and their economic dom-ination over the world. Germany proved by her declaration of war, by the immediate violation of Belgium and the immediate violation of Beigium and Luxemburg, and by her manner of conducting the war, her simulating contempt for all principles of humanity and all respect for small states; as the conflict developed the attitude of the central powers and their atlies has been a continual defiance of humanity and civilization. Is it necessary to recall the horrors which accompanied the invasion of Beigium and Serbia, the atrocious regime imposed upon the inatrocious regime imposed upon the in-vaded countries, the massacre of hun-dreds of thousands of inoffensive Ar-

England's interest against neutrals are not less scandalously conflicting with the rules of the laws of nations as with the commands of humanity.

If the laws of nations as with the commands of humanity. tion of Belgium, of Serbia and of Mon-tenegro and the indemnities which are "Likewise, contrary to the laws of nations and incompatible with the usages of civilization, are the use of colored troops in Europe and the extension of the war into Africa, which skill in the drafting.

Officials also were pleased with the friendly tone of the note and the consideration shown to American purposes. First the indirect criticism of the construction of the construction

"The intentions of His Majesty the Emperor of Russia regarding Poland have been clearly indicated in the proclamation which he has just addressed to his armies. It goes without saying that if the allies wish to liberate Eu-rope from the brutal covetousness of Prussian militarism, it never has had design, as has been alleged, to encompass the extermination of the German peoples and their political disappear-ance. That which they desire above all is to insure a peace upon the principles of liberty and justice, upon the inviolable fidelity to international obligations with which the Government of the United States has never ceased to

"United in the pursufts of this su-"United in the pursuits of this su-preme object the allies are determined, individually and collectively, to act with all their power and to consent to all sacrifices to bring to a vigorous close a conflict upon which they are convinced not only their own safety and prosperity depends, but also the future of civilization itself." il sacrifices to bring to a vigorous for Relief in Belgium, which, in close conflict upon which they are only included not only their own safety and prosperity depends, but also the uture of civilization itself."

The translation of the Belgian note, the King is happy to avail itself of this

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to defend its existence, it is assuredly Belgium. Compelled to fight or sub-mit to shame, she passionately desires that an end be brought to the unprece-

dented sufferings of her population. But she could only accept a peace which would assure her, as well as

which would assure her, as wen as equitable reparation, security and guarantees for the future.

"The American people, since the beginning of the war, have manifested for the oppressed the Belgian nation its most ardent sympathy. It is an American commission, the Commission for Relief in Belgium, which in close

inhabitants.

the thousands.

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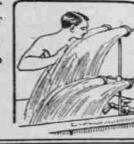
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e were not offered terms, but a baited with fine words. It would "Previous to the German ultimatum trap batted with fine words. It would suit Germany to have peace now on her own terms. We all want peace, but it must be a real one."

The Rome conference was under no delusions, Mr. Lloyd George continued, as to the magnitude of the task of the allies, but felt no doubts as to the results. The whole situation was probed, the difficulties were faced, and arrangements were made to deal with Belgium only aspired to live upon good terms with all her neighbors; she practiced with scrupulous toyalty towards each one of them the duties imposed by her neutrality. In the same man-ner che has been rewarded by Germany for the confidence she placed in her, through which from one day to the

through which from one day to the other, without any plausible reason, her neutrality was violated, and the Chancellor of the empire, when announcing to the Reichstag this violation of rights and of treatles, was obliged to recognize the iniquity of such an act and pre-determine that it would be repaired. But the Germans, after the occupation of Belgian territory, have displayed no better observance of the rules of international law or the stipulations of The Hague convention. They have, by taxation as heavy as it is arbitrary, drained the resources of the country; they have intentionally ruined its industries, destroyed whole cities, put to death and imprisoned a considerable number of inhabitants.

The whole situation was probed, the difficulties were faced, and the dram, all the allies felt, he declared, that if victory was difficult, defeat was impossible.

The Premier said that the grim resolution of the entente allies at the result on fer entente allies at the result on fermion of the entente allies at the result on fermion of the entente allies at the result of the entente allies at the result of the entente allies at the result of the entente allies felt, he declared, that if victory was difficult, defeat was impossible.

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risoned a considerable number of abitants.

Even now, while they are loudly claiming their desire to put an end the horrors of war, they increase rigors of the occupation by deportint servitude Belgian workers by thousands.

With proper support at hand, he continued, the armies would cleave the read to victory during 1917. The best security for future peace, Mr. Lloyd George said, would be obtained when nations banded themselves together to number the reace breaker. "Even now, while they are loudly proclaiming their desire to put an end to the horrors of war, they increase the rigors of the occupation by deportpunish the peace breaker

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