

CZERNIN ADVANCES PART WITH WILSON

Austrian Foreign Minister Invites President to Ascertain Entente Terms.

FREE POLAND ADVOCATED

Count Also Declares in Speech to Parliament That Austria Has No Intention of Demanding Territory From Russians.

Basel, Switzerland, Jan. 24.—A dispatch from Vienna says that during an address to the delegates of parliament, Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, declared that he considered President Wilson's latest proposition regarding peace as showing a perceptible approach to the point of view of Austria-Hungary.

That where these propositions concerned Austria-Hungary's allies, as in the case of Germany in Belgium, or Turkey, Austria-Hungary was faithful to her alliances and would fight to the end for the defense of her allies.

German Fears Explained.—"Poland ought freely and without influence, choose her lot," said Count Czernin.

He declared that he would gladly have seen Poland take part in the peace negotiations, but the Russian government did not recognize the present Polish governmental qualifications to speak the name of Poland.

Count Czernin explained Germany's unwillingness to evacuate occupied territories before a popular vote was taken, as because such evacuation would break up the organizations, communications, industries and administrations which are in German hands, with the result of producing anarchy.

Negotiations, declared the minister, need time, and he added, "when we have reached peace with Russia, general peace cannot long be prevented, notwithstanding the efforts of the entente statesmen."

Count Czernin declared that he must politely but categorically refuse President Wilson's advice on Austria-Hungary's internal administration. There was no parliament more democratic than Austria's, he said.

Conditions Are Wanted.—The foreign minister invited President Wilson to use his influence to induce the entente allies to declare the conditions on which they were willing to treat.

President Wilson's idea of a league of nations, according to Count Czernin, probably would encounter no opposition in Austria-Hungary.

SHIP BOARD DROPS FERRIS (Continued From First Page.)

tion which the commerce committee had heretofore obtained in confidence.

Mr. Sloan had other interesting testimony to offer today, but none so sensational. For instance, he said in effect that the Clinchfield Company made a "patriotic sacrifice" when it sold to the Government its contracts with Mr. Sloan for tonnage ships at an advance of \$100,000 over what it was to pay Mr. Sloan for the ships.

The sacrifice, so Mr. Sloan explained, arose through the fact that the Clinchfields, had they held the ships, could have made double the profit by selling to private purchasers. The Clinchfields also were "patriotic" according to Mr. Sloan, because they relinquished their "options" on 12 contracts with the Stearns for, although they profited to the extent of nearly \$400,000 in so doing, Mr. Sloan said they could have doubted that profit by building the ships and selling them to others. They had, he testified, bought four motorships from him at \$214,000 each and sold them to some mysterious buyer for \$400,000 each.

And the Stearns—Y's, they were patriots, too. Mr. Sloan knew it was not profitable to take Government contracts, but he testified that he allowed himself to be "trapped" upon to consent to do Government work, by Mr. Ferris and Mr. Barnett, of the Clinchfield Company.

Mr. Sloan said he had nothing to do with negotiating the Sloan contract with the Shipping Board; that had been done through the Clinchfield Company, which last April made a year's contract with him under which Clinchfield is to receive a 5 per cent commission on all business secured for the Sloan yards.

Changes Prove Expensive.—According to Mr. Sloan, there was justification for some advance by the Clinchfields in the price of their ships, for the plans for the ships were changed—the changes costing nearly \$50,000 per ship. He did not account for the other \$35,000 of the advance. Instead of feeling that money was unduly advanced to his company last June and July—some \$1,700,000 being the amount of the advance before construction was under way—Mr. Sloan thinks the Government has been unduly harsh and should have made advances with greater expedition. Also he did not approve of the manner in which the Shipping Board is operating his yard since it took possession in December, he said, of the yard.

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WELLES OR FIGHT, SAY TEUTONS TO SLAVS

Dispute Over New Frontiers Precipitates Break Between Two Governments.

EARLY DECISION EXPECTED

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PETROGRAD, Jan. 23.—The Russian delegates to the Brest-Litovsk peace conference have decided unanimously to reject the terms offered by the Germans.

The decision of the delegates was announced to the Associated Press tonight by M. Kameneff, a member of the Russian delegation.

Final decision as to peace or war, M. Kameneff said further, rested with the congress of soldiers and workmen's delegates, which was convened here tonight. The congress is expected to take up tomorrow the question of peace or war.

German Demands Sweeping.—Russia must give up Courland and all the Baltic provinces or the Germans will resume military operations and occupy Riga within a week, the German delegation at Brest-Litovsk representatives at the last session of the congress.

An adjournment was taken until January 25 to permit the Russians to consider the German terms.

Reports of the session indicate that the Germans took a definite stand, and most frankly outlined demands upon which they are insisting.

The secretary of the Ukrainian delegation gave out an account of the meeting. It says the Russians put a question to the delegates of the central powers as to what were the final peace terms.

Hoffmann Defines Frontier.—General Hoffmann, one of the German delegates, replied by opening a map and pointing out the following line which they insisted should constitute the future frontier of Russia: From the shores of the Gulf of Finland to the east of the Moon Sound Islands to Valk, to the west of Minsk, to Brest-Litovsk.

This completely eliminates Courland and all the Baltic provinces. The Russians asked the terms of the central powers in regard to the territory south of Brest-Litovsk. General Hoffmann replied that a question which they would discuss only with Ukraine.

M. Kameneff, a member of the Russian delegation, asked: "Reveal to Be Seized Within Week." "Supposing we do not agree to such conditions—what are you going to do?" General Hoffmann's answer is reported to be: "Within a week, then, we would occupy the Baltic provinces."

The Russians then asked for a recess, which was granted reluctantly. The Germans declared it was the last postponement to which they would consent.

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PETROGRAD, Jan. 24.—Forty persons were killed and 200 wounded in riots in Moscow on Tuesday during a demonstration at an anniversary celebration of "Bloody Sunday."

PETROGRAD, Wednesday, Jan. 23.—The Bolshevik authorities today arrested scores of persons, including party leaders whom they charged were involved in a revolutionary plot organized among the majority faction of the Social Revolutionists in the Constituent Assembly which controlled the assembly in the single session which was held before it was suspended.

PETROGRAD FACES FAMINE Crisis Due to Food Scarcity, Civil War and Ruble Depreciation.

PETROGRAD, Jan. 23.—Petrograd is on the verge of famine. Our purpose now is to make it come gradually, not suddenly, to have an organized famine, so to speak, as Madame Smith-Falkner, a member of the food control committee, in an interview yesterday with the Associated Press in connection with the reduction of the bread allowance.

She said that the chief causes of scarcity of food are the war, civil war and depreciation in the value of the ruble.

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"THE STORE THAT UNDERSELLS BECAUSE IT SELLS FOR CASH" FOR OUR 898TH Bargain Friday Sale

Prices Are Away Down! You Have Choice From a Wonderful Assortment of SILK REMNANTS

At One-Half Remnant Prices—Our determination to entirely close out all short lengths and remnants is backed up by this great half-price sale of Silks.

LOW PRICE—IS the Dominating Feature of This FINAL REDUCTION SALE of Women's Suits and Dresses at \$13.95

Please do not judge these splendid garments by the price we've named at this season-end sale, for they are correct in style, faultless in making and fashioned of good materials.

Most Wonderful Waist Values at 29c A clearance of broken lines and those that have become soiled or mussed from display or handling—a sale that will be simply irresistible to any economical woman.

Extra!—For Friday Women's Umbrellas At Half Price

For Friday Women's Kid Gloves At 98c Pr.

Extra!—For Friday Children's Hosiery At Half Price

A final clearance of all broken lines in one and two-clark Kid Gloves in styles with plique or overseams. Tan in sizes 6 1/2, 6 3/4, 7, 7 1/2, 8, 8 1/2, 9, 9 1/2, 10, 10 1/2, 11, 11 1/2, 12, 12 1/2, 13, 13 1/2, 14, 14 1/2, 15, 15 1/2, 16, 16 1/2, 17, 17 1/2, 18, 18 1/2, 19, 19 1/2, 20, 20 1/2, 21, 21 1/2, 22, 22 1/2, 23, 23 1/2, 24, 24 1/2, 25, 25 1/2, 26, 26 1/2, 27, 27 1/2, 28, 28 1/2, 29, 29 1/2, 30, 30 1/2, 31, 31 1/2, 32, 32 1/2, 33, 33 1/2, 34, 34 1/2, 35, 35 1/2, 36, 36 1/2, 37, 37 1/2, 38, 38 1/2, 39, 39 1/2, 40, 40 1/2, 41, 41 1/2, 42, 42 1/2, 43, 43 1/2, 44, 44 1/2, 45, 45 1/2, 46, 46 1/2, 47, 47 1/2, 48, 48 1/2, 49, 49 1/2, 50, 50 1/2, 51, 51 1/2, 52, 52 1/2, 53, 53 1/2, 54, 54 1/2, 55, 55 1/2, 56, 56 1/2, 57, 57 1/2, 58, 58 1/2, 59, 59 1/2, 60, 60 1/2, 61, 61 1/2, 62, 62 1/2, 63, 63 1/2, 64, 64 1/2, 65, 65 1/2, 66, 66 1/2, 67, 67 1/2, 68, 68 1/2, 69, 69 1/2, 70, 70 1/2, 71, 71 1/2, 72, 72 1/2, 73, 73 1/2, 74, 74 1/2, 75, 75 1/2, 76, 76 1/2, 77, 77 1/2, 78, 78 1/2, 79, 79 1/2, 80, 80 1/2, 81, 81 1/2, 82, 82 1/2, 83, 83 1/2, 84, 84 1/2, 85, 85 1/2, 86, 86 1/2, 87, 87 1/2, 88, 88 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