



## NATION ASKED TO STAY JUDGMENT

### Reply to Wilson's Inquiry Expected Tomorrow.

## QUICK ACTION IS PROBABLE

### Observers Are Forced to Admit That Armistice Is Considered Unlikely.

## ALLIES ARE OF ONE OPINION

### Executive's Note Said to Have Proposed Nothing Binding America or Its Allies.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—The Government asks the American people to withhold judgment on Germany's note until President Wilson has received the official communication and has had opportunity to consider it.

The official document had not been received in Washington tonight. It probably will be here tomorrow when the President confers with his advisors, among them Secretary Baker who returned today from the western battle front, undoubtedly prepared to give him some inside information on the broken condition of the German military power.

No official of the Government felt justified tonight in speaking to give public opinion in the direction of the views which are being formed.

### Prompt Action Is Expected.

The Associated Press is enabled today, however, to announce that these views rapidly are crystallizing and the next step will be taken promptly, probably sooner than may be expected.

President Wilson is expected to decide first if Foreign Secretary Solf's reply to the inquiries addressed to Chancellor Maximilian warrants him in presenting Germany's original proposal to the entente allies. It should be borne in mind that the President's inquiry merely was a move ad interim, in which he proposed nothing, bound himself to nothing, and merely asked some questions, which he declared required an answer before he could go further.

### Allies of One Opinion.

If he puts the proposition before the entente it undoubtedly will draw a quick reply. Dispatches last night from London quoting the London Express as announcing that the British, French and Italian governments had reached a unanimous decision for a line of common action, were regarded as being deeply significant.

Lacking official guidance on which to base prediction, observers are forced to record indications. The indications are that there will be no armistice, and that if the entente allies were disposed to agree to one they probably would demand as guarantees

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## HUN PLOT TO CONTROL RUSSIA IS APPARENT

### ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH NEW GOVERNMENT SCENTED.

### Secret Meetings, Attended by Chief of German Staff, Held by Ukraine Cabinet.

BY ARNO DOSCH-FLEUROT.  
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STOCKHOLM, Oct. 12, via London, Oct. 13.—(Special.)—My cable of October 7, asserting that it is one of Germany's plans to overthrow the Bolsheviks and set up a government composed of cadets and bourgeois is largely corroborated by the latest news from Russia.

An official wire from Petrograd today assures me that last Wednesday the Ukraine Cabinet held a secret meeting in the presence of the chief of the German staff, General Groener. The Ukraine press was forbidden to mention the meeting.

Simultaneously there was held in Kiev a conference of cadets and members of the old ex-Duma and Council of the Empire.

Both meetings discussed the question of the restoration of old, undivided Russia and the overthrow of the Bolsheviks.

There are also very strong rumors regarding the transformation of Ukraine into a monarchy.

## BERLIN MAY ASK SALVAGE

### German Press Oppose Evacuation Without Compensation.

BASEL, Oct. 13.—The trend of feeling in certain quarters in Berlin is indicated by articles appearing in the Lokal Anzeiger and the Deutsche Tages Zeitung.

Both these papers assert that Germany is in no wise disposed to evacuate conquered territory without compensation.

## CANADIAN STEAMER ASHORE

### Passengers Removed From Vessel With Water in Hold.

A CANADIAN PACIFIC PORT, Oct. 13.—Passengers were removed tonight from a Canadian steamer which grounded near here today.

A report from the wreck said the steamer has several feet of water in her hold.

## PRESIDENT RETURNS HOME

### Col. E. M. House, Confidential Adviser, Visits Him in New York.

NEW YORK, Oct. 13.—President Wilson, who arrived here Friday to participate in the Columbus-Liberty day celebration, returned to Washington today.

After breakfast Mr. Wilson received several callers at his hotel, including Colonel E. M. House.

## LAON IS ENTERED BY FRENCH ARMY

### La Fere and St. Gobain Massif Captured.

## ENTIRE HUN LINE CRACKED

### Smash North of Rhimes Takes Allies Far Into Enemy Territory.

## TORCH APPLIED TO LA FERÉ

### General Gouraud's Forces Continue Terrific Onslaughts in Champagne District.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, Oct. 13.—(Reuter's.)—Laon, the last of the group of natural obstacles forming the keystone of the German defense in France, has been taken without a fight.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, Oct. 13.—5 P. M.—(By the Associated Press.)—Laon was entered by the French troops today.

PARIS, Oct. 13.—The German stronghold of La Fere, together with a great part of the St. Gobain massif of which La Fere was a northerly outpost of the Oise, has been captured by the French, today's War Office statement announces.

The La Fere-Laon railroad line has been crossed on the high ground between Danzig and Versigny, about two and one-half miles east of La Fere.

The northern and eastern sections of La Fere are burning.

Notable progress has been made by the Italian and French along the line to the east, where the French have reached Amfontaine, which is 15 miles north of Rheims.

The entire German line from St. (Concluded on Page 2, Column 1.)

## FINN GOVERNMENT TURNS ON GERMANY

### DEMAND MADE THAT TROOPS BE WITHDRAWN.

### Republican and Socialist Newspapers Favor Union With Entente Powers.

STOCKHOLM, Oct. 13.—The Finnish government has asked Germany to withdraw her troops from Finland. The request was recently delivered to General Von Der Goltz, German high commander in Finnish territory.

The Republican and Socialist papers of Finland have begun an agitation in favor of an approach by Finland to the entente, alleging that the recent policy of the government in connection with Germany has been unneutral.

## NOTE IMPRESSES VATICAN

### Demand for Guarantees Only Natural, Says Official Organ.

ROME, Oct. 13.—The Osservatore Romano, the Vatican organ, says that President Wilson's note to Germany caused a great impression at the Vatican. The Holy See desired the war to end, and, says the paper, it was natural that the entente should ask for guarantees of the matter of an armistice.

The speech of the German Chancellor, the paper adds, showed that he considered himself responsible before the German people.

## VESSELS TO HONOR ALLIES

### Distinguished Diplomats Will Attend Launching Ceremony.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—Two fabricated ships, the Allies and the Consort, named by Mrs. Woodrow Wilson in honor of the allies, will be launched Monday from the yards of the Submarine Boat Company, at Newark, N. J. The ceremony will be attended by a distinguished company of diplomats.

## ALLIED FORCES TAKE NISH

### Capital of Serbia Occupied by Entente Armies.

BERLIN, via London, Oct. 13.—Nish, the capital of Serbia, has been occupied by entente forces, the War Office announced today.

Capture of Nish means the severance of the only railroad link between Germany and the Ottoman empire.

## SPAIN TO INDEMNIFY SELF

### Decision Reached to Seize German Ships in Spanish Ports.

PARIS, Oct. 13.—Spain, according to advices received by the Temps from the Spanish frontier, has decided to seize German ships in her ports to the extent of 15,000 tons, in indemnification of Spanish shipping losses.

## 500 PERSONS DIE IN FOREST FIRES

### Duluth District Scene of Great Holocaust.

## THOUSANDS ARE HOMELESS

### Scores of Hamlets and Ranch Homes Are Wiped Out in Cluquet Region.

## TRAIN HAS NARROW ESCAPE

### Enemy Agents Are Suspected and Incendiaries Are Driven From Shipyards.

DULUTH, Minn., Oct. 13.—With probably 500 persons dead, thousands homeless and without clothing, and with property damage mounting far into millions of dollars, whole sections of Northern Wisconsin and Minnesota timberland tonight are in smoldering, fire-stricken areas, with only the charred ruins of abandoned, depopulated towns to accentuate the general desolation.

Some reports indicated that the list of victims may reach 800 or 900. At a late hour tonight 196 bodies had been brought here, and reports from Moose Lake indicated that the death list in that vicinity alone might reach 300.

### Enemy Agents Suspected.

Twelve thousand homeless and penniless refugees, all in need more or less, of medical attention, are quartered in hospitals, churches, schools, private homes and in the Army here, while doctors and nurses sent from surrounding communities attend them, and nearly every able-bodied man in the city has been conscripted to fight the flames which now are reported to be dying away.

Reports that the holocaust resulted (Concluded on Page 8, Column 2.)

## 150 LIVES LOST IN PORTO RICO QUAKE

### ALMOST EVERY TOWN IN ISLANDS DAMAGED.

### Reports of Great Losses in Santo Domingo From Tremor Received at San Juan.

SAN JUAN, P. R., Oct. 12.—(By the Associated Press.)—One hundred and fifty lives were lost in yesterday's earthquake in Porto Rico. It was estimated by Governor Yager today.

Almost every town in the islands reports damaged property and scattering fatalities.

There are unconfirmed reports here of great damage in Santo Domingo from the earthquake.

## CHINA ASKS WILSON'S AID

### President Urged to Mediate Between Contending Forces.

PEKIN, Oct. 13.—(By the Associated Press.)—The recent suggestion that President Wilson be invited to mediate between the contending forces of North and South China has been followed by a growing movement among the Chinese favoring allied control, through a reorganization loan of China's finances.

The Chinese regard President Wilson's liberty loan speech as having a direct bearing upon their situation and the hope is expressed that he may be induced to take action.

A Pekin dispatch of October 7 said the suggestion that President Wilson be asked to mediate in Chinese affairs had been made by a newspaper of that city.

## "IMPERIAL" IS DROPPED

### London Notes Significant Point in Germany's Reply.

LONDON, Oct. 13.—One of the most significant points in Germany's reply to President Wilson is that it is the first important German diplomatic communication since the German Empire was proclaimed at Versailles in 1871 which has not spoken in the name of the imperial German government.

"The German government" is an absolutely new phrase, and the omission of the word "imperial" is unprecedented.

## DUAL MONARCHY AT ISSUE

### Austro-Hungarian Delegations to Hold Plenary Sitting October 15.

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 13.—The Austro-Hungarian delegations have been convened for a plenary sitting on October 15, a Vienna telegram announces.

The delegates are the constitutional bodies comprising members of both the legislative bodies of both Austria and Hungary. Their duty is to examine into the requirements of the common services of the dual monarchy.

## EDITORS WITNESS HISTORY MAKING

### American Party in Zone of Great Events.

## SEA TRAGEDY MARS VOYAGE

### Ill-Fated Otranto One of Ships of Squadron With Which Visitors Sailed.

## ALLIED VICTORIES BIG NEWS

### England Exerting Systematic Effort to Cultivate Good Will of U. S.

BY EDGAR R. PIPER.  
(Editorial Correspondence of The Oregonian.)

LONDON, Oct. 12.—(Special Cable.)

The American editors who left the United States about September 25 at the invitation of the British Government to visit Great Britain, the grand fleet and the war front, arrived safely early in the present week after a voyage of unusual hardship because of severe storms and other unpleasant conditions.

One of their squadron, the Otranto, was lost with many lives.

### News of Day Big.

The visitors came in the midst of great events. The allies have been continuing their victorious advance on all fronts. Cambrai has been captured, the Americans have won signal victories along the Meuse, Turkey has followed Bulgaria in suing for peace and Austria is said to have notified its ally that it must surrender.

### U-Boat Blows Deal.

Along with this stirring news, however, comes the sinking of the Japanese passenger liner Niramaru off the Irish coast and the wanton and destructive attack on the mail steamer Leinster, with over 500 victims.

These disasters, particularly the latter, are particularly exasperating to the British people. They are universally denounced as evidence that Germany will pursue its policy of terrorism and murder to the last.

### Lusitania Outrage Exceeded.

The Leinster affair is even less excusable than the destruction of the Lusitania, since there can have been no possible suspicion on Germany's part that the Leinster was carrying war materials of any kind. If any thought has existed that Germany has been tender on account of Irish feeling, it is removed by the Leinster tragedy.

"Brutes they were when they entered the war," said Mr. Balfour, "and brutes they remain."

### Early End Not Expected.

Allied successes and the obvious decline of German military power have caused much speculation as to the probable early ending of the war, but the military experts, newspapers and public men unite in warning against any such notion.

"Carry on," is the cry. "Feed the guns" is the slogan, for a long campaign is under way throughout the empire. Germany is not beaten until she is beaten, and the supreme effort is yet to be made.

England is frankly making a systematic endeavor to cultivate American good will. Appreciation of American services in the war and acknowledgment of their indispensable nature are common on every hand.

### Editors to See for Themselves.

That is the idea behind the official invitation to the American editors to come and see for themselves what Great Britain and her allies are doing. It was the motive for a great meeting held Thursday, when Viscount Grey, former Foreign Secretary, supported the plan for a league of free nations. His speech was largely discussion of President Wilson's views on that subject and an indorsement thereof.

"Peace," said Earl Grey, "is in sight but not within reach. President Wilson's reply to Germany seems both firm and wise. We want to know where is the seat of real power in Germany. A league of nations cannot be a substitute for the successful termination of the war. It must arise out of such a determination.

### League's Functions Defined.

"A league of nations could arrange for international force to exercise pressure when necessary on the (Concluded on Page 8, Column 1.)

MAP OF WORLD-WAR ZONE, SHOWING DISTANCES TO CAPITALS OF CENTRAL POWERS TO BE WON OVER BY ALLIED FORCES.



—Drawn by C. L. Smith, for The Oregonian.