

QUESTION OF PEACE HANGING IN BALANCE

President Gives No Inking of Momentous Decision.

CAPITAL AT FEVER HEAT

Teutonic Proposals Generally Considered Cunningly Devised to Save Central Empires' Ruin.

BY ARTHUR SEARS HENNING. Washington correspondent of the Chicago Times.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—(Special.)—The question of peace with Germany on terms Germany is willing to accept or another year of war to enforce the full demands of the allied nations hangs in the air tonight.

President Wilson will answer this question on behalf of the United States and will exert a powerful influence in determining the decision of the allies, the most momentous decision the nation fighting Germany have been called upon to make.

The reply the President and the allies will make to the Teutonic peace proposals cunningly devised to save the central empires from ruin, constitutes the supreme test of the statesmanship of Mr. Wilson and the heads of the governments associated with the United States.

Speculation at Fever Heat. Speculation on the outcome is at fever heat in the Capital tonight and anxiety over the effect upon the best interests of the American Republic pervades official circles.

President Keeps His Own Counsel. In the greatest crisis of the war the fate of the Nation rests with Mr. Wilson and Colonel House, the two men of remarkably similar temperament and views, and they are keeping their own counsel.

An illuminating commentary upon this situation was furnished when a member of the Cabinet, generally consulted by the President on international relations, urged that the public be cautioned not to draw premature conclusions concerning the course of the President from a reading of the German reply to Mr. Wilson's interrogatories.

He tacitly admitted that he would not hazard a prediction whether the President would pronounce satisfactory or reject the Teutonic approaches.

Allies to Be Consulted. The general supposition in official circles is that the President will begin at once a discussion with the allies of the attitude to be adopted toward the effort of the central empires to obtain a compromise peace.

It is taken for granted that when the President does this he will also submit to the allied governments his views of the course that should be pursued by all the nations fighting Germany.

Rejoinder May Call for Proof. In some quarters there seems to be a disposition to believe Mr. Wilson may make a rejoinder to Germany before transmitting the peace proposals, a rejoinder challenging Berlin to furnish more acceptable proof that there has been a change in the German government making it responsive to the people and to demonstrate that the Prussian war lords who committed the tragic aggression upon peaceful nations are no longer in actual control.

The White House has given the press explicitly to understand that the President does not intend to engage in a note writing contest with the German government, and that with his interrogatories answered, a definite and final reply will be given to the central powers.

Official Views Sharply Divided. The views of officials on the German reply are sharply divided. On the one side are those who pronounced the President's interrogatories the profoundest statesmanship and who now hail the reply of the German government as a confession of defeat, a complete surrender to the Wilson principles of a democratic peace and a measure of the triumph of the President's policies.

On the other side are those who are alarmed by Mr. Wilson's entering into any discussion at all with the Huns, and who now pronounce the German reply exactly what they expected, a seeming compliance with all the conditions laid down which comes close to leaving the President in the hole he dugged for the Germans.

Such critics of the Administration say that the Germans have left only one loophole through which the President can crawl to demolish the Teutonic scheme to trick the allies into a compromise peace. That loophole is a refusal to treat with the Huns on the ground that the Prussian war lords, whose word the President has pronounced worthless, are still clearly in control of the German government, despite Berlin's claim of a liberalization of the Ministry.

Reply Was Unexpected. According to these critics it will tax the dialectic skill even of Mr. Wilson, who believes the German people held in thrall against their own interests, to negotiate this loophole plausibly.

It must be said in this connection that color to the views of the pessimistically inclined has been lent by the manifestations of surprise, if not shock, which the closest friends of the President have not been able to conceal.

The reply clearly was not what was expected by the ardent advocates of the President's policy. Firmly convinced of the insincerity of the German government they expected an evasive answer which would demonstrate the lack of good faith in the peace proposals and reflect the greatest credit on the statesmanship exposing the deceit.

The character of the reply has left them inarticulate save for the expressed

HUN SURRENDER NOT COMPLETE TILL GERMAN ARMY IS BROKEN

Destruction of Hohenzollern Instrument of War Only Guarantee of European and World Peace, Says French General.

BY GENERAL M. G. MALLETERRE. Of the French Army. Copyright, 1918, by the French Publishing Company, New York World, Published by arrangement.

PARIS, Oct. 13.—(Special.)—From question to question, reply to reply, and retirement to retirement, Germany hopes to escape at least cost an imminent catastrophe. That which Berlin politicians want above all is to save all possible of their armies and prevent the invasion of German countries.

In the precise formula laid down by President Wilson, one question was quickly seized upon by the reptile German press as possibly affording ground for conversation and discussion.

"Is Germany disposed to evacuate all countries invaded by her armies?" Necessity makes law! And in the same way she invaded Belgium as a preliminary she would willingly agree to evacuate Belgium and the French provinces, if all she had to do were to retire her armies therefrom, remove them beyond her frontiers.

Move Would Be Good One. And those armies would do well by that move. They would escape the terrible pressure of the allied armies.

Withdrawn in good order in Alsace-Lorraine and Luxembourg they would gain the time required to re-form themselves with the class of 1920 and men in home depots, and would await battle at the threshold of the empire.

Beyond doubt an evacuation of this kind, with arms and equipment, is neither according to the letter, nor spirit of President Wilson's formula. But there must be no evacuation. The American and allied press has made the necessary commentaries so that nobody can be unaware of this. It cannot be a question of free evacuation with the honor of war.

Bulgaria Furnishes Example. The Bulgarian capitulation furnishes the essential conditions of an armistice. Thus Bulgarians announce that 65,000 Bulgarians have arrived to complete the mass of prisoners taken during battle.

It would be difficult to oblige German armies fighting west of their frontiers to make themselves prisoners as was done to our soldiers at Sedan and Metz in 1871. We could not prevent retreat—retreat is a complete surrender.

Therefore our consent to evacuation lacks practical sense if unaccompanied by a contract to leave all material of combat in the invaded territories.

And how can this be adequately controlled? Now, it isn't possible to let these armies, I repeat, get away tranquilly with arms and equipment. You cannot place confidence in the word of Germany.

Only One Course Possible. The reply to these questions is made in advance. It is essential that the allied armies enter German territory and occupy that which is necessary for indispensable guarantees and penalties. Already an American newspaper has determined an exact account of the French and Belgian territories that have suffered the torture of invasion.

It cannot be otherwise. The capitulation of Germany will not be complete until her conquered armies have been disarmed and conducted to the other side of the Rhine, where they will be the force of the allied armies, the canon of Foch, or by guaranteed retreat.

The whole secret of victorious peace lies in this: The imperial army which has been the instrument of war and Hohenzollern domination, must be broken. Dissolution of the military force of the empire is the only guarantee of European and world peace.

Let us not confound a vague formula of military triumph with reality. If the instrument be irreparably broken, if there should follow the political dissolution of Germany and the democratic reconstitution, the future society of nations would gain in security and social development.

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WAR EFFORTS MUST NOT SLACKEN—BAKER

Secretary, After Trip to Battle Front, at Home. HARDER BLOWS DEMANDED

Plans Making for War on Greater Scale—American People Must Support Boys at Front.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—Secretary Baker, after a trip to the front in France and a visit to allied capitals, arrived today at an Atlantic port and reached Washington tonight. John D. Ryan, director of aircraft production, who went abroad with the Secretary, also returned.

The Secretary brought only the message that the liberty loan "must go over the top" whatever the result of peace proposals. His own explanation of his trip shows that it was taken to pave the way for war on a greater scale.

People Must Back Army. "The Army has done and is doing all that a proud and grateful citizen could ask," Mr. Baker said tonight.

"The Army has done and is doing all that a proud and grateful citizen could ask," Mr. Baker said tonight. "and the time has come for us to put in every ounce of our strength to assure its complete victory."

Whatever the result of the peace proposals, the War Department must proceed at full speed with its supplies and the people must support the Army until the boys are back with the fruits of victory safe and assured.

War Work Must Proceed. "Whatever the result of the peace proposals, the War Department must proceed at full speed with its supplies and the people must support the Army until the boys are back with the fruits of victory safe and assured."

Allies Closely United. "Many questions involving co-operation on the part of several governments (Germany) have been satisfactorily settled."

American Valor Praised. "Of the military situation he said: 'The battle St. Mihiel started the present triumphant advance of the allied armies.'

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LITTLE SATISFACTION FELT IN ACCEPTANCE BY GERMANY

Press of United States Inclined to View Appearance of Acquiescence with Suspicion and Many Papers Cry for Punishment.

IDAHO Statesman, Boise.—All signs indicate that Germany, worn out by more than 56 months of warfare, is ready for surrender. This is the thing for which we have been hoping and fighting, but the general feeling will be one of disappointment if the war is not carried to German soil.

The Denver Post.—Many differences may appear to upset all peace plans and it may seem as if justice to permit the German people to escape severe physical punishment for the awful crimes they have committed against the other nations.

Spokane Spokesman-Review.—On its face the German note is disarming to the American people who have demanded an emanation from Potsdam, it is on the face of it, and even in tone, an unconditional surrender.

Chicago Tribune.—While the German army is still in formidable being, enter into discussion is to invite disaster. An armistice purchased at the price of mere evacuation of invaded territories would be an excellent bargaining for Germany. We should be foolish, indeed, to grant it, for it would leave Germany stronger than she is at this moment.

Milwaukee Sentinel.—Unless this note is a mislead lie and a treacherous trick and an emanation from Potsdam, it is on the face of it, and even in tone, an unconditional surrender.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.—The German government is but little changed in personnel, not at all in character. Its proposals are submitted to America's associates in this war to establish justice and permanent peace throughout the world?

St. Louis Republic.—Who knows whether the German reply is a sham or an honest step toward peace? Nobody in America has the means for knowing the truth.

Westliche Post (St. Louis).—Without any observation of qualification the German government accepted the principles laid down by the President. Germany is sincere and will not this time resort to any intrigue as apparent from the text of the note.

Salt Lake City Tribune.—The reply on its face means unconditional surrender, according to the view of Secretary M. Adoo. If the President interprets in that manner, peace is at hand.

Louisville Courier-Journal.—The man in the White House must draft the program of civilization and civilization deals with the despots; that he and his colleagues of the allied governments will permit the Hun to retire to his bloody lair still a belligerent is unthinkable.

Zurich has been closed. Since the beginning of the epidemic 19,000 cases, with 550 deaths, have been reported in the Swiss army.

There are 26,000 cases at Zurich.

"STUMEZE" TABLETS BINGO! STOMACH DISTRESS DISAPPEARS!

Solid Stomach Comfort For Only Two Bits Guaranteed!

Today—now—make your stomach glad! Make your stomach your best friend! Don't run the risk of becoming a chronic dyspeptic.

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WRIGLEYS TOBACCO. We will win this war— Nothing else really matters until we do! Wrigley's Spearmint, Wrigley's Doublemint, Wrigley's Juicy Fruit.

CONGRESS TO TALK PEACE GERMAN PROPOSALS EXPECTED TO OVERSHADOW ALL ELSE.

Nine Billion Dollar Army Emergency Appropriation Bill is Nearly Ready to Be Reported.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—With little important legislation planned for the week, discussion of the German reply to President Wilson's note is expected to overshadow all other matters when Congress convenes tomorrow.

While the Senate committee will act without delay on the measure, Majority Leader Martin said tonight the bill could not be taken up in the Senate before next week. Meanwhile the House probably will continue its three days' recess.

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NORTHWEST HEADQUARTERS SAN FRANCISCO BELLEVUE HOTEL Rooms With Bath \$2 Per Day Upward Under management of AL LUNDBORG

SPANISH 'FLU' TOLL GROWS

More Than 19,000 Cases of Disease Reported in Switzerland.

Victrola His Master's Voice Four Fine New Red Seal Records From October List. McCormack, Heifetz, Schumann-Heink, Caruso and De Luca.