

## GERMANY REPLIES, SAYS PEOPLE RULE

### Unofficial Version of Note Reaches Washington.

## SIGNS OF SINCERITY APPEAR

### Administration Withholds All Comment Until Official Text Arrives.

## OUTCOME STILL IS IN DOUBT

### Message Received by Wireless Suspected of Having Been Garbled.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—Germany has replied to President Wilson with a note which, though no one is prepared to say that it will lead the President even to continue exchanges on the subject of an armistice and peace, has at least served almost to bring conviction here that the people of Germany actually are taking the reins of government and sincerely desire peace on any terms the United States and the allies are willing to give.

There was no intimation tonight of the attitude of the President and probably there will be none until the official text of the new German communication has been received.

### Official Note Due Today.

The President was in conference all evening with Secretary Lansing discussing the note as received by wireless late in the day.

Like the reply to the President's inquiries a week ago, this note was sent out from the German wireless stations and picked up in the allied countries many hours before the official text could move by cable. The official version probably will come tomorrow through the Swiss Legation here.

As received by wireless the note is believed to be slightly garbled in the important sentences regarding conditions for the evacuation of invaded territory and for an armistice.

### Awkward Move Seen.

Nevertheless it is regarded as an awkward attempt to meet the conditions laid down by President Wilson for consideration of an armistice.

And it makes the significant declaration that the government in Berlin no longer is responsible to a single arbitrary influence—the Kaiser—but is supported by an overwhelming majority of the German people.

This declaration is supported by the statement that constitutional reforms are in progress in accord with the determination of the people under which no government can take or hold office without the confidence of the majority of a Reichstag elected by universal, secret suffrage.

### Peace at Any Price Wanted.

It is accorded more consideration here because of confidential advices received only today indicating that the German middle classes have resolved to have peace at any price, and, if necessary, are prepared to get rid of the Kaiser, the Crown Prince and all military control.

Thus the belief is strengthened that the present note and those that have gone before are genuine efforts to obtain peace, and are inconclusive merely because the Germans conducting the exchanges are seeking to bargain for something better than the unconditional surrender they are prepared to give if pushed to the wall.

It is assumed also that they want gradually to prepare the German public for a realization of what has happened to the war lords' dreams of power so as to avoid a complete collapse of government.

Diplomatic observers point out that the President is at liberty with perfect consistency to make no response at this time, but to await developments; to await the performance of the promises of the Germans not to torpedo passenger ships, their implied promise to work no more destruction during their retreat from Belgium and France than military necessity requires, and finally to await further development of the political leaven that is evidently working toward the complete overthrow of military and autocratic power in the empire.

No one believes that an immediate cessation of hostilities is in sight. The opinion most generally held is

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## TEXT OF GERMAN NOTE AS RECEIVED BY WIRELESS.

In accepting the proposal for an evacuation of occupied territories, the German government has started from the assumption that the procedure of this evacuation and of the conditions of an armistice should be left to the judgment of the military advisers and that the actual standard of power on both sides in the field has to form the basis for arrangements safeguarding and guaranteeing this standard.

The German government suggests to the President that an opportunity should be brought about for fixing the details. It trusts that the President of the United States will approve of no demand which would be irreconcilable with honor of the German people and with opening a way to a peace of justice.

The German government protests against the reproach of illegal and inhumane actions made against the German land and sea forces and thereby against the German people.

For the covering of a retreat, destructions will always be necessary and they are carried out insofar as is permitted by international law.

The German troops are under most strict instructions to spare private property and to exercise care for the population to the best of their ability. Where transgressions occur, in spite of these instructions, the guilty are being punished.

The German government further denies that the German navy is sinking ships has ever purposely destroyed lifeboats with their passengers. The German government proposes with regard to all those charges that the facts be cleared up by neutral commissions.

In order to avoid anything that might hamper the work of peace, the German government has caused orders to be dispatched to all submarine commanders precluding the torpedoing of passenger ships without, however, for technical reasons, being able to guarantee that these orders will reach every single submarine at sea before its return.

As a fundamental condition for peace the President prescribes the destruction of every arbitrary power that can separately, secretly and of its own single choice disturb the peace of the world. To this the German government replies:

Hitherto the representation of the people in the German Empire has not been endowed with an influence of the formation of the government.

The constitution does not provide for a concurrence of representation of the people in decisions of peace and war. These conditions have just now undergone a fundamental change. A new government has been formed in complete accordance with the wishes (principle) of the representation of the people based on equal, universal, secret, direct franchise.

The leaders of the great parties of the Reichstag are members of this government. In the future no government can take or continue in office without possessing the confidence of a majority of the Reichstag.

The responsibility of the Chancellor of the empire to the representation of the people is being legally developed and safeguarded.

The first act of the new government has been to lay before the Reichstag a bill to alter the constitution of the empire so that the consent of the representation of the people is required for decision on war and peace.

The permanence of the new system is, however, guaranteed not only by constitutional safeguards, but also by the unshakable determination of the German people, whose vast majority stands behind these reforms and demand their energetic continuance.

The question of the President, with whom he and the governments associated against Germany are dealing, is therefore answered in a clear, unequivocal manner by the statement that the offer of peace and an armistice has come from a government which is free from any arbitrary and irresponsible influences; it is supported by the approval of an overwhelming majority of the German people. SOLF.

## GIANT FLAGPOLE WRECKED

### Timber 360 Feet Long Breaks While Being Put Into Position.

CAMP LEWIS, Wash., Oct. 21.—(Special.)—What is said to be the longest flagpole in the world—360 feet—was smashed in four places Sunday while an attempt was being made to hoist it off the ground into an upright position opposite the big athletic field. Several attempts had been made to raise the gigantic timber off the ground, but only yesterday did the donkey engine manage to get the long stick started. When it was approximately five degrees in the air the cables parted and the timber was smashed. At least 25,000 soldiers watched the unsuccessful procedure. A flag 400 feet had been prepared for the pole.

## BRITISH ATTITUDE BARS COMPROMISE

### To Bargain With Germany Held Unthinkable.

## STERN JUSTICE DEMANDED

### Mayors of 50 English Cities Go on Record.

## NORTHCLIFFE PROBES NOTE

### Shameless Falseness in Regard to Enemy Outrages on Land and Sea Pointed Out.

LONDON, Oct. 21.—As a proof of the futility of German attempts to weaken the will of the British people by peace talk, the Daily Telegraph publishes a series of messages from the Mayors of more than 50 English and other towns, representing every phase of municipal life. They all breathe but one spirit, namely, that there must be no compromise with the foe.

The following are messages from a few of the principal towns:

Birmingham—Germany must be required to accept the terms imposed by the allies and stern justice must be meted out.

Bradford—After what Germany has done, there must be no compromise. It is absolutely essential that there should be British supremacy of the sea.

Cardiff—Any compromise with Germany would be fatal. The German navy must be handed over.

### On to Berlin Demanded.

Hull—The allied troops should occupy Essen and march to Berlin.

Blackburn—To bargain with the Germans is unthinkable after the history of the past four years.

Blackpool—The Germans asked for a good hiding and deserve to get it.

Canterbury—In no circumstances must we make peace until every man and woman in Germany who has been brutal to our prisoners has been punished and reparation given for all the damage.

Exeter—Let Germany surrender at the bar of the world's justice and receive just sentence for her crimes and give guarantees for her future good conduct. The allies will be just but dare not be generous.

Hythe—In this town "no compromise" is nailed on our mast.

### Prussian Selfishness Cited.

Lord Northcliffe, commenting on Germany's reply tonight, said:

"A hasty perusal of the German note reveals that, with truly Prussian selfishness, no mention is made of Austria-Hungary or Turkey. It seems to me that the document may be read either as a means to gain time or as a confession of a state of affairs militarily and economically worse than we know."

"The German government may be hoping to exploit the conditions of the

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## BOCHE TO BUILD UP RESERVE BY RETREAT

### MEN IN LINE WILL BE CUT DOWN ABOUT ONE-THIRD.

### Estimates Indicate That Germans Will Have Available Million Men to Ward Off Allied Blows.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE AND BELGIUM, Oct. 21.—(By the Associated Press.)—The retreat of the Germans to the line of the Meuse, if such a retreat can be accomplished successfully, will, without taking account of prisoners they may still lose in the operation, enable them to economize about one-third of their total forces in line, according to the best information obtainable as to the strength and disposition of the German forces over the entire front. The retreat will shorten the line about 17 miles whether it be prolonged from the frontier of France to Antwerp by way of Brussels or to the Holland front, or along the line of the Meuse in Belgium.

The Germans are supposed to have about 30 divisions in reserve. With the release of troops from the shortened line, their reserves would be more than doubled, less the losses sustained in the meantime. Besides these reserves behind the front, it is supposed that the 1920 contingents remain, while the number of wounded actually recuperable for immediate service on the new line is estimated at about 150,000.

The forces the enemy would be able to call upon for operations after the retreat, on this basis, would approach, if not exceed, a million men. This number is susceptible to important variations depending upon the eventual extension of operations to parts of the front now inactive, where the first line is held by only a thin covering of troops.

## WOODEN VESSELS LEAKING

### Australia Stops Wheat Shipments to United States in New Boats.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 21.—(Special.)—Owing to the unreasonable amount of cargo damaged in new wooden vessels, the Australian government will no longer permit any wheat to be shipped to the United States in these vessels built since the beginning of the war.

Shippers say large portions of the cargoes of wheat coming from Australia were damaged by the hulls leaking. A prominent shipper, just returned from Washington, says the Government has decided to discontinue placing engines in vessels of wooden construction on this coast and that all the new type vessels will have to be windjammers or else no more can be built.

## 91ST IS NOW IN ACTION

### Division Which Trained at Camp Lewis Helps Push Huns Back.

TACOMA, Wash., Oct. 21.—A cable from France today brought the information that the 91st Division from Camp Lewis is now in the thick of fighting in France. The message said that Captain Bradbury, who was Adjutant of the 91st Regiment when the division was stationed at Camp Lewis, has been seriously wounded. The cable was sent to Mrs. Bradbury, who is making her home in this city while her husband is in France. This is the first intimation that the boys of the 91st have been in action against the Germans.

## HE CAN'T GET BY IN ANY DISGUISE.



## NAVY IS ACTIVE IN NUMBER OF FIELDS

### Mine Barrage in North Sea Laid by Americans.

## FLYING STATIONS ARE BUILT

### Oil Pipeline Across Scotland a Part of Navy's Work.

## HAULAGE WILL BE SAVED

### Assistant Secretary of Navy Roose- velt Returns From Europe and Tells of Achievements.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—Construction of the North Sea mine barrage against submarines, agreement to lay an oil pipeline across Scotland, establishment of naval aviation stations from the Spanish border to the English Channel and other details of the work of the American Navy in foreign waters were given to the public today by Assistant Secretary Roosevelt, who recently returned from a visit to Europe.

"The American people seem to have very little idea of the extent of our naval activities abroad," said Secretary Roosevelt. "The tendency is to think merely of the convoying and patrol work our destroyers and other vessels are doing and the presence of our battleships with the British fleet. But, important as this is, it is only a part of our activities."

## Mine Barrage Is Record Task.

The building of the North Sea mine barrage was one of the biggest things ever accomplished in ordnance work, Mr. Roosevelt said. In turning out material for it a number of plants in this country were kept busy for months. Several American bases were established on the British coast to lay and handle the mines.

To save haulage of oil, the American Navy has undertaken to construct a pipeline across Scotland.

"All the way from the Spanish border clear around to the English Channel," said Mr. Roosevelt, "we have established aviation stations so spaced that the entire coast line is covered by seaplanes and dirigibles. These stations were built almost entirely by our sailors. At each station there is an average of 200 to 300 men. This aviation force and our patrol vessels have been doing such splendid work that for the past six months there have been practically no sinkings within 50 miles of the French coast. We hope to extend this patrol zone to 100 miles."

In Northern France, in co-operation with the British and Belgians, Secretary Roosevelt said there had been established what is known as the northern bombing group, composed of a number of aviation units which did much to prevent the Germans from using Zeppelins and Ostend as submarine bases.

An American naval force co-operation (Continued on Page 3, Column 4.)

## KAISER MUST YIELD, SAYS EDITOR HARDEN

### CROSS MUST BE TAKEN UP, HOWEVER HEAVY.

### "When Fortress Can No Longer Be Held It Is No Dishonor if Com- mander Surrenders."

(By the Associated Press.)  
AMSTERDAM, Oct. 21.—"We are alone. When a fortress can no longer hold it is no dishonor if the commander surrenders. The Kaiser must take up his cross of concluding quickly necessary peace and accepting whatever is hard. Let the Kaiser declare himself ready and let him fit himself with new Germany as her first citizen."

This utterance by Maximilian Harden, addressed to several people in Berlin yesterday, was loudly applauded.

Herr Harden, whose plain-spoken language in Die Zukunft, of which he is editor, has caused suspension of that journal on several occasions, was permitted, according to the reports of his address, to speak freely and without hindrance.

His remarkable declaration respecting surrender and "the Kaiser's cross" followed a review of the situation in which he pointed out that Bulgaria was occupied, Turkey's fate was sealed and Austria-Hungary was out of the fight.

"It is one of the most cruel ironies that this war, which was begun to maintain an impossible Austria, should be ended by the declaration of that self-same Austria that it cannot exist," continued Herr Harden. "We must shoulder the consequences of the step taken October 5. There is no shame in accepting the consequences of acts which one has committed. We must make sacrifices. The Emperor also must make sacrifices. He must first adapt himself to the new Germany and content himself to represent the nation. He must remove from his successors all possibility that they will be harmful to the nation. Then he must bear his own part of the cross and conclude rapidly the necessary peace and take upon himself the task of accepting the onerous conditions involved in that."

"We must withdraw the German troops to the empire's frontiers and henceforth demand that the Reichstag assent to any declaration of war."

## ALCOHOL ALLY OF "FLU"

### Those Stricken Officially Warned Against Use of Liquor.

NEW YORK, Oct. 21.—A warning to Spanish influenza sufferers against the use of alcoholic beverages was issued tonight by Dr. Loyal S. Copeland, Health Commissioner, who declared alcohol tended to increase the danger from the disease.

There is a period in the treatment of pneumonia, Dr. Copeland added, however, when the use of alcohol as a stimulant produces good results.

## SUICIDE FIRST KILLS MULES

### Teamster, Told Brother Is Dead, Shoots Animals and Self.

SIoux FALLS, S. D., Oct. 21.—Worried because he believed his soldier brother was dead, Hayes E. Moon, a teamster, today shot and killed his two mules and then killed himself.

He had written a letter to his brother which was returned with the inscription "Deceased."

## KIEL FULL OF SUBMARINES

### U-Boats From Belgian Coast Con- geat German Harbor.

GENEVA, Oct. 21.—Kiel harbor is unable to accommodate all the submarines which have returned from Ostend and Zeebrugge during the last week, and some are lying off shore, according to advices received here.

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## ALLIES SLAM BACK FOE EVERYWHERE

### Hun Yields From Holland To Below Valenciennes.

## BOCHES FIGHT BITTERLY

### British, French and Belgians Close In on Ghent and Other Vital Positions.

## RIVER SCHELDT IS REACHED

### Entente Forces Find Enemy Entrenched in Great Con- crete Forts in Belgium.

WITH THE ALLIED ARMIES IN BELGIUM AND FRANCE, Oct. 21, 11 A. M.—(By the Associated Press.)—In heavy fighting throughout last night and today in a heavy rain, the Germans everywhere were driven still further eastward. In Belgium the allies are three miles from Eecloo, and in the whole vast stretch between Courtrai and the Dutch border the British, French and Belgians are pushing the Germans before them, closing in toward Ghent, less than seven miles away.

In the center of the battle area the British are on the west bank of the Scheldt for more than 10 miles, north of Tournai, in front of which city the Germans are resisting stubbornly with machine guns.

### Valenciennes Is Nearer.

Frontally the British have reached positions two miles from Valenciennes. Northwest of Valenciennes they have entered the great Vicogne-Raismes forest. In the region northwest of Lille the British are pushing out in the general direction of Le Quesnoy, fighting every foot of the way.

The Germans here and there in Belgium have held out strongly in enormous concrete forts from which the guns have been removed. These forts were used by German machine-guns and in some cases it required shells from heavy guns to crack them. More prisoners have been captured, the Third Army taking over 2500 yesterday.

WITH THE ALLIED ARMIES IN FRANCE AND BELGIUM, Oct. 21, 4 P. M.—(By the Associated Press.)—The great battle in Flanders and Northern France passed into its second phase today. The first phase was completed when the Lille salient was eliminated and the Germans were driven out of Western Belgium, so that the line all the way from the frontier of Holland to the Oise Canal is virtually a straight one.

This having been accomplished, the Belgians, British and French in the north started a sweeping movement today pivoting on a point about east of Courtrai. The object of this appears to be the clearing of the enemy from his front in Northern Belgium and at the same time to threaten his extreme right flank.

## Germans Fight Hard.

The key position at the south is in the region below Valenciennes. At both places the exhausted German divisions, whose ranks have had great holes chopped into them by terrific blows, are fighting desperately. The German commanders are sacrificing many men in their endeavors to hold ground, but in both sections the allied troops have made appreciable gains. Scores of additional villages have been reclaimed and numerous prisoners and large quantities of supplies have been captured.

In the center of the battle area the British kept thrusting out everywhere and gradually during the day moved forward toward the west bank of the Scheldt with increasing celerity. The Germans have taken advantage of the natural protection offered by this stream and its canal and marshy borders.

## Boches Prepared to Flee.

The Germans have their cannon close to the roads and on them, so that when it becomes necessary to withdraw the guns, they can get away in a hurry. In their retreat they have resorted to every known means to delay the bringing up of artillery, but without effect.

At present, however, the allies are not hampered in the least, for the (Continued on Page 7, Column 1.)