

GERMAN MILITARISTS TRY TO FRAME REPLY TO PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Thus Far Struggle Between Them and Pacifists to Influence Kaiser Even.

SITUATION KNOWN HERE

Summed in Official Circles in Washington That Kaiser's Reply Will Be Satisfactory.

By John Edwin Nevins.

Washington, June 19. (U. P.)—German militarist party was reported tonight to be making its final effort to dominate the Kaiser's reply to the American demand that Germany modify its methods of submarine warfare.

Berlin advisers say the battle for control was such that if diplomacy won the outcome must be reflected on Germany's international relations.

The big question, of course, was whether Germany would acquiesce in the contention that Americans are entitled to the freedom of the seas. Behind such acquiescence was the possibility that the door would be opened for negotiations to establish a "modus vivendi" ending for all time England's so-called "starvation blockade."

President Wilson has received from Ambassador Gerard full particulars of the struggle between German militarists and pacifist elements. So far it is agreed the conflict has been a draw.

On the outcome, it is said, depends the answer to the questions whether Grand Admiral von Tirpitz, submarine warfare is to go forward unchecked, except insofar as concessions are made to the United States, or whether Germany shall openly state that she is ready to end it for all time in return for the lifting of the allies' "starvation blockade."

According to the best information obtainable here, the Kaiser will be appealed to as "the court of last resort." Each side thinks he will endorse its view. President Wilson, officials who are in touch with him declare, believes the final reply to the American note will say Germany wants to accept the entire American viewpoint and will agree at the outset that American rights on the high seas are not subject to any interference.

The White House denied emphatically tonight that this government has suggested to Germany at any time that she delay her answer to the United States until after President Wilson returns from Cologne. He will leave here next Thursday night for the "summer capital," but if the note reaches here while he is away, it will be sent to him direct and he will be in accordance with arrangements between Ambassador Gerard and the Berlin foreign office.

Organized Gang of Thieves Suspected

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Mr. Knapp reports that thieves last night visited the machines of two of his friends who had called at his residence at North and Commercial streets. The robbers made a hasty escape in their truck when they were detected tampering with the cars. A spark coil was found to be missing from one of the autos.

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Baker Schools Will Be Much Improved

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EXPERT REVIEW OF THE WAR

New York, June 19.—(U. P.)—The retreat of Russia's southeastern Galicia army this week in Bessarabia is the first step in the development of a new military situation containing possibilities of vast influence on the outcome of the war. Bessarabia is a Russian border province which forms the eastern part of the northern boundary of Rumania. Its culture and its aspirations are far more Rumanian than Slavonic. Fifty per cent of the people are Rumanians and the rest belong to half a dozen different races. Rumania's nationalist aspirations include the annexation of Bessarabia and the cessation of the territory has been made part of Rumania's prize entering the war with the allies.

Rumanian Situation Significant.

If Bessarabia is overrun by the Austro-Germans, the province may be offered to Rumania by the two powers. In return for her continued neutrality, or Rumanians may anticipate the conquest of the province and agree to its transfer to Rumania as part of the price of Rumania's armed help; or, most important of all, the occupation of Bessarabia by the enemy may cause the Caid to agree to separate terms of peace, in order to keep his empire intact. Should Galicia become wholly lost to Russia, the only hope the Slavs will have of securing territorial compensation at the end of the war must be based on the success of the Russian operations in the Caucasus or the capture of Constantinople by the French and English. There is no present indication that either of these campaigns is progressing favorably. If, therefore, the Bessarabian operations are pressed by the Austro-Germans after a complete victory in Galicia, influence may appear in Petrograd powerful enough to compel the government to retire from the war.

Russian Newspapers Criticize Czar's Allies.

Berlin telegrams assert Russian newspapers are severely criticizing the western allies for not developing sufficiently powerful offensives to prevent the Germans concentrating large forces in Galicia. During the week, the French have tried continuously to make progress north of Arras, and the English at the end of the week began an attack near La Bassée. But no important advances have been secured, although the Germans have lost tremendous numbers of men. The Germans announce the French are as reckless of their life in their Arras offensive as they were last winter in Champagne, when they suffered 40,000 casualties to save the Russians who have been trapped for the second time in East Prussia. The French are now displaying almost unique bravery and dash, but the German defensive strength is fully the equal of that put forth by the allies during the battle of Flanders.

Lemberg Defenses Very Inferior.

The operations against Lemberg this week began to reach their climax. The Slavs are making a final stand almost at the city gates, but they have little hope of success for the Lemberg defenses are greatly inferior to those at the San, so recently demolished by the Austro-Germans. Lemberg itself is not a fortified camp like Przemyel. It is an open town which depends on field operations for its defense. If Lemberg falls, only two more large Russian cities will remain to be taken before the entire province passes back into Austrian possession. They are Tarnopol and Brody, within a few miles of the Russian border, in eastern Galicia. Twenty-five per cent of the population of Brody are Jews and the town is frequently called "Little Jerusalem."

Italy has now completed the fourth week of her belligerent activity, without a success that can be received enthusiastically at home. The military plans of the Italian army have probably been disarranged, but this fact no longer accounts wholly for the miserable efforts being put into the northern and eastern offensives against the Austrians. Italy's progress, in fact, is much slower than was Russia's last summer. The Austrians are developing a far better defense against Italy than they did last year. The French are now displaying almost unique bravery and dash, but the German defensive strength is fully the equal of that put forth by the allies during the battle of Flanders.

GREAT SEA BATTLE EXPECTED SOON IN AUSTRO-ITALIAN WAR

Exchange of Shells in Running Fight Between Huge Ships Last Night.

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INDEPENDENCE DAY WILL BE OBSERVED

Portland Press Club's Big Excursion to Bonneville to Be Held Sunday, July 4.

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SURFACING COUNTY HIGHWAYS TO BE ON IN FULL BLAST SOON

Contracts Awarded Thursday Now Only Await Signatures of Contractors.

ASSEMBLING EQUIPMENT

Disposition of St. Helen's Road on Which Bids Expected, Estimated to Be Settled This Week.

Two of the five contracts for hard surfacing the main highways of the county were executed yesterday. They were those of Oscar Huber who was awarded the contract for the Powell Valley road and the Warren Construction company, the successful bidder on the Sandy road and Columbia river highway.

Due to the delay in preparing the remaining three contracts, those of the Montague-O'Reilly Co., Clark-Henry Construction company and Boyd John-Arnold Co. and Hans Pedersen on account of the clerical work involved, the formality of their signing was postponed until tomorrow. Details agreed upon and sureties approved by the board of county commissioners.

Each contractor is to sign a construction contract and a maintenance contract for a term of ten years for a nominal consideration. With the construction contract he is to furnish a surety bond guaranteeing two years workmanship and material and with the maintenance contract he is to give a surety company bond for five years and a personal bond for another five years.

County to Be Protected.

The contracts have been carefully drawn with the view of securing full protection for the county and relieving it of all care of the improved roads for the next ten years.

Mr. Huber will begin preliminary work on the Powell valley road and the Warren Construction company on the Sandy road tomorrow such as selecting locations for mixing plants and assembling equipment. Clark-Henry Construction company, who have the Base Line contract, are bringing equipment from Eugene and will be ready to begin in a day or two. By the end of the week the work will be in full swing on all the roads which are to be improved.

County Force to Be Increased.

The work now necessitates an increase of the county's engineering force, as there will have to be engineers to provide the contractors with grade stakes and inspectors to inspect the material, the mixing and laying of the pavement.

Many applications are being received for these jobs which require technical knowledge.

The contractors are also being overwhelmed with applicants for employment of laborers and time keepers. The board of county commissioners will decide this week on the disposition to be made of the St. Helen's road. It is thought that some plan can be worked out so as to bring the cost of hard surfacing it within the amount which has been appropriated or else provide additional funds from another source.

Want Various Types Tried.

The lumbermen have made a proposition that the road be divided into five sections for the purpose of laying as many different types of pavement. In order to test their wearing qualities under similar traffic conditions. They have asked that one section be allotted to wood blocks which they will guarantee for a term of ten years. It is the intention of the commissioners to hard surface the road in some way.

"POLITICAL BIRDS" WINGING ABOUT FOR THE CHOICE CRUMBS

Circuit Judgeship Focal Point for Keen Eyes of Harbingers of Spring Primaries.

There is a weather beaten, time worn saying that "the early bird catches the worm."

There have been many early political birds that didn't catch a worm, but that is no deterrent to other early birds.

A ready sign of an early spring are in evidence in political circles. A number of early birds have appeared. The most attractive "worms" are the circuit judgeships.

At the next election three circuit judges and one county judge are to be selected. The terms of Circuit Judges McGinn, Kavanaugh and Gatens expire, and also the term of County Judge Cleeton.

McGinn has told friends he will not run again. Kavanaugh, Gatens and Cleeton are expected to be candidates for re-election.

W. M. (Pete) Davis is letting his friends know that he is going after McGinn's place. John B. Cleland, formerly circuit judge, Frank S. Grant, formerly city attorney, George Tawell, formerly municipal judge, and George J. Cameron, formerly district attorney, are reported to be quietly lining up their forces in readiness for the Republican primaries next spring, when three nominations for the circuit judgeships will be made.

Over in the Democratic camp it is considered a foregone conclusion by the friends of Judge Gatens that he will be renominated by the Democrats. There is even a movement on foot among his Republican friends to have his name written in for a Republican nomination also.

It is reported that George Cameron is out for Judge Gatens's place.

Another Democratic possibility for the circuit judgeship is Municipal Judge John H. Stevens. He has won popularity presiding over the municipal court and his friends have urged him to get into the race for the higher office.

It is reported that Fred Olson, formerly justice of the peace, will be a candidate for county judge.

Stepping out of the realm of judicial matters, it is also known that friends of Judge Sam White, Democrat, are encouraging him to get into the race for congressman from the third district, comprised of Multnomah county, next year. He is giving the matter consideration.

In the Republican camp the name of Judge E. V. Littlefield is being mentioned as a probable candidate against Congressman McArthur in the next Republican primaries. The name of Conrad P. Olson is also on the list of those who may seek congressional honors.

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Twenty Nurses Receive Diplomas

Twenty nurses received diplomas at the graduation exercises of the St. Vincent's hospital held in the hospital auditorium Thursday night. The Most Reverend Archbishop Christie presented the diplomas and Dr. E. J. Kane delivered the address. Following a splendid musical program was given. The graduates followed: Ida May Lugt, Pueblo, Colo.; Edith Marie Chambers, Hillsboro; Effie Pearl Tost, Portland; Anna Viola Phillips, Portland; Gertrude Beatrice

Dyke, Portland; Rosa Mary Loeffel, Washougal, Wash.; Sadie Pearl Hubbard, Newberg, Or.; Gladina Holm, Portland; Annie Mary Rooney, Portland; Martha Elise German, Berne, Switzerland; Idelette Reue, Leola, South Dakota; Sarah Margaret Kelly, Kalama, Wash.; Jennie Cuthbert Brouillard, Moscow, Idaho; Rita Elizabeth Mayne, Nampa, Idaho; Agnes Elizabeth Kennedy, Salt Lake City, Utah; Anna Charlotte Holmstrom, Salem; Frances Olivia Risch, Dufur, Or.; Ethel Ivy Gusterson, Astoria, Or.; Sophie Equila Ritter, Portland; Elisabeth Heim, Portland.

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