GERMANY EXPECTED REJECTION OF OFFER WHEN IT WAS MADE

Advices Received in Diplomatic Circles in Washington Make Situation Plain.

PEOPLE ARE ADDRESSED

Teutons Believe Suggestion Will Bear Fruit Next Year When Enormous Casualty Lists Are Piling Up.

By John Edwin Nevin.

Washington, Dec. 13.—(I. N. S.)—Germany expected her peace suggestions might be rejected when she made them. Advices received in diplomatic circles here today make this very plain. But the suggestions are expected by the Teutons to bear fruit next year, when Germany hopes once more to be able to stand off a joint offensive by the entente armies on all fronts.

Germany's peace suggestions are addressed to the people of her enemies, not their officials, the confidential advices reaching here from Berlin say. And when the enormous casualty lists again are piling up, the Teutonic governments hope that yesterday's offer will be reconsidered.

The notes handed to the diplomatic representatives of the United States in the capitals of Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey have not yet reached Washington.

Conference at White House.

The president had Colonel E. M House as a White House guest. He sent for him yesterday when word came of Germany's offer to discuss peace terms. Colonel House returned to New York early this afternoon after a conference with Secretary of State Lansing.

The attitude of the Teutonic embassies in this country today was one of only slight hopefulness. The news from London, Paris and Petrograd was admittedly unfavorable.

It was stated in German circles that information received here today from Berlin indicated that Spain and Switzerland already have decided to urge the entente powers to "give serious consideration" to the peace suggestions of Germany. These nations will urge, these advices say, that because Germany has proposed no terms of peace the entente powers honorably can agree to participate in a conference to decide whether such terms cannot be agreed upon. It was reported that Spain and Switzerland will ask the United States and the Vatican to take similar action, but so far this report is without confirmation.

Embassies Remain Silent.

At the entente embassies a policy of silence was in vogue. It was pointed out that the present situation must be settled "at home," and careless talk here now would get those responsible into trouble. However, one of the leading entente diplomats outlined the situation, as he saw it, to a fellow member of the corps who is in his confidence. The latter wrote out his view for the benefit of the International News Service as follows:

"Germany is now at the highest point she can expect to attain in the present war. She has 'something to trade for peace.' The allies retain their superiority of numbers, of munitions, of supplies. They hold the seas despite the activity of the German submarines.

"The supplies captured in Roumania—and we grant they are enormous—are insufficient to avert suffering and near famine in the Teutonic nations. Neutral pressure will not be permitted to affect the judgment of the allies at this time. Germany feels she is in danger. The allies believe that victory is certain, even though it may be long delayed, now that both France and England have mobilized their wasted energy under Lloyd-George and Aristide Briand."

Officials and diplomats here do not look for the situation to crystallize before the first of next week, and the reply of the entente to Germany hardly will be made public for several days yet.

LONDON WOULD HAVE GERMANY COVER DAMAGES

(Continued From Page One.)

not on such a basis as proposed."

That answer was perfectly apparent today. It was reflected, not only in the newspaper comment, but in expressions from the people on the streets.

The nation looks to Lloyd-George next Tuesday to frame this answer. It cannot be a direct reply, since it is hardly expected England's consultation with her allies over what form the diplomatic answer shall be can be concluded that soon. But Tuesday will be Lloyd-George's first appearance as premier before the house of commons, and before news of the German proposal came he had been announced as ready to outline on that date the aims and purposes of the new cabinet.

Press and public alike look to Lloyd-George on this occasion to voice the nation's rejection of any peace which is based on Germany's idea of her victory.

Some Regard News Preposterous.

Germany's peace views, as given out by a German embassy official in Washington, were generally regarded as preposterous and unworthy of serious consideration here.

Lloyd-George's telegram to Premier Briand of France, together with the former's recent interview granted the United Press, portions of which were liberally reproduced in the British press today, were considered indicative of Britain's attitude toward Von Bethmann-Hollweg.

The only keynote of difference observable in editorial comment today was whether the allies, in their reply to the German note, should set forth therein their own terms upon which peace discussion would be considered. If the practical unanimity of opinion of the press and public means anything, the reply will be rejected.

Editorials Differ Widely.

Press comment ranged today all the way from the Daily Mail's suggestion that Von Bethmann-Hollweg is "no more entitled to the courtesy of a reply than an armed burglar in a private house," to that made by the Manchester Guardian, that negotiations should at least go as far as to ascertain Germany's exact terms.

A number of newspapers point out the desirability, in view of the manner in which Germany made her offer, that the allies, in replying, clearly enunciate their own aims in the war, for the benefit of the world's opinion; that the terms on which the allies are willing to enter peace negotiations be clearly set forth. Such comment holds that only in this way can responsibility for the continuance of the war—which responsibility Germany obviously seeks to place upon the allies—be turned upon the central powers.

One Advocates Negotiations.

Among numerous interviews with public men gathered by the London press, there is only one advocating acceptance of Germany's proposition and immediate entrance into negotiations. That is the opinion voiced by Philip Snowden, the empire's leading pacifist, who considers that the allies will incur an awful responsibility if they decline. It is at least their duty, he holds, to see whether the German proposals contain the possibility of ending the war on conditions reasonable and as far as possible satisfactory to everybody.

There was considerable opinion that the note was merely "a clever Teutonic trick" for the purpose of starting discussion among the allies and possibly thus to create dissension.

COMPLETE APPROVAL OF WARNING TO ALLIES IS VOICED BY GERMANS

Berlin, Dec. 13.—(U. P.)—If Germany's bid for peace is rejected by the entente powers, it is certain the central empires will not take the initiative again to end the war.

The public today voiced complete approbation of the imperial chancellor's solemn warning in the reichstag yesterday that if Germany's enemies continue the war, it is because they have conquest in mind. Such a belief imbues the general public with an inflexible determination to fight on to the bitter end against any dismemberment of the fatherland.

The hopes of the German people are whole-hearted, but if the present proposal is scorned, the rejection of the plan for a discussion of terms would serve to cement the empire more fully in its determination and to dispel peace talk and speculation which has been current.

Berlin newspapers were not sanguine today that the peace offer would be accepted, although applauding the chancellor's steps. The comment of Editor Theodore Wolff of the Tageblatt is typical:

"If the opposing governments should decline the peace overtures or disdain them as a sign of weakness and suffering, the people will ask themselves whether they are not being driven senselessly and without urgent need to new sacrifices and renewed massacres.

"The German people, if their opponents answer in the negative will see clearly it is their duty to bear the heavy burden, or heavier burdens, so long as there is no possibility of agreeing upon an acceptable and sensible peace."

Die Post warns the entente: "If Germany's hand is refused, her fist will soon be felt with increased force."

The editorial also suggests that Germany's own peace offers indicate there is no necessity of neutral nations' offers of peace.

GERMAN PEACE NOTE WRITTEN PERSONALLY BY KAISER, IS REPORT

London, Dec. 13.—(I. N. S.)—The Rotterdam correspondent of the Daily Telegraph understands that a German peace note, which was handed to the envoys of the United States, Spain and Switzerland and to the Vatican as well, was written by the kaiser.

His telegram follows:

"I understand the notes were handed to the ambassadors of the neutral powers last evening. This was done by the chancellor in the name of the kaiser. The chancellor had returned from field headquarters on Saturday. The note was drafted personally by the kaiser after a conference at headquarters with King Ludwig of Bavaria, Von Bethmann-Hollweg and Dr. Zimmermann, the foreign secretary. The leaders of political parties in the reichstag were not let into the secret until this morning when they were received by the German foreign secretary. The majority of the reichstag deputies were in the dark until the very last moment."

Some of the military critics believe that a formal rejection of Germany's peace proposals will result in methods of warfare by land and sea more ruthless than those yet attempted in the world conflict. It had been intimated by Von Hindenburg, the German chief of staff, that a rejection of peace overtures would open the door for unlimited and drastic efforts to bring about victory. It is possible, and many persons believe very probable, that Germany's first step in this direction will be the inauguration of a relentless submarine warfare upon allied shipping.

PREMIER OF CANADA SAYS THERE SHALL BE NO TRUCE BUT PEACE

Saskatoon, Sask., Dec. 13.—(U. P.)—It is the determination of the people of this land—of the peoples of the British empire—that there shall be no truce, the statement of Sir Robert Borden, premier of Canada, at a great meeting here, was generally hailed today as Canada's official and popular response to the German peace proposals.

"There shall be peace," he said, "which means peace for many years to come. That is the spirit of the people of Canada, and it is the spirit of her men at the front, in the hospitals and in training."

The premier's statement was greeted with a tumult of applause.

PEACE NEARER, VIEW TAKEN IN EDITORIALS OF AMERICAN PRESS

(Continued From Page One.)

things stand in the way of an early ending of the war. Generally, editorial comment expresses the belief that the peace proposal will not be acceptable to the allies.

Financiers and publicists who today analyzed the situation revealed a division of opinion, a majority declaring peace is brought nearer, but is not an immediate possibility, because peace at this time is unacceptable to the allies.

Excerpts from some of the leading editorials follow:

New York World—It may be taken for granted that the terms proposed by the imperial chancellor will not be acceptable to the allies.

New York Sun—The complete "restoration of Belgium" is a phrase that needs to be defined.

Philadelphia Ledger—Germany apparently is playing not so much for peace as for conciliation of neutral opinion.

Philadelphia Telegraph—Peace may still be far away, but it has not been so near at any time since the war began.

Boston Transcript—It is not expected that the entente will listen with any sort of eagerness to the suggestion.

"Great Bluff," Says Italian.

San Francisco Examiner—The vitally important thing is that peace proposals have been officially made by one of the warring groups. In this crucial hour the counsel of humanity is the counsel of self interest.

San Francisco L'Italia—The allies are just at the beginning of their efforts and therefore it was prudent and far-seeing (for Germany) to attempt the great bluff.

San Francisco Chronicle—There is nothing to prevent the arrangement of a truce. Much depends on whether the allies can hold together in the peace negotiations.

Washington Post—Germany chooses a most inopportune time in which to propose peace negotiations.

No Compromise, French Comment.

Milwaukee Sentinel — Speculation about the outcome will be rather futile until it is learned whether Germany's advances will find the entente allies in a more receptive mood than was indicated in the recent bellicose statement by the new British premier.

Courrier des Estats Unis (French)—No compromise with the bandits who have set Europe on fire and, their dastardly stroke having failed, would seek a truce to prepare for new aggression.

New York Staats Zeitung—With victory ensconced on her standards, Germany can well advertise to the world the terms upon which she is prepared to deliver peace to it.

Kind of Peace Called Issue.

Oscar Straus, former ambassador to Turkey, declared the important point at issue is what kind of a peace is to be maintained after the present war is over.

President Hibbing of Princeton characterized the terms as unsatisfactory and likely to result in another war.

Henry Clews, New York banker, declared his belief that the proposals mean eventual peace.

Lewis L. Clarke, president of the American Exchange National bank, thought the allies would not accept the proposals.

Scandinavian Press Hopeful.

Copenhagen, Dec. 13.—(I. N. S.)—The general tone of the Scandinavian press with regard to the peace overtures is more hopeful than confident.

"Recent indications in London, Paris, and Petrograd," says the Politiken today, "do not indicate that the allies wish peace, or that they are ready to start negotiations. Therefore, a refusal would not be surprising, although it will be difficult for the allies to make an absolute refusal."

That the allies will not immediately reject the overtures is the gist of an article in today's Stockholm Dagens Nyheter. The paper says it learns this from "authoritative sources."

NEWSPAPERS OF PARIS REFLECT RIDICULE AND INDIGNATION AT OFFER

Paris, Dec. 13.—(I. N. S.)—Ridicule and indignation at Germany's peace proposals are reflected in Paris newspapers today.

"Mere talk," is the conclusion reached by the Matin. "Germany merely says for the hundredth time that she never desired war, that she wishes only to protect her rights, and that if her enemies will not listen she will throw the blame of further bloodshed upon them. The device is too obvious. It could not deceive anyone but the most ignorant."

The Petit Journal says:

"We know that the people at Berlin are not so naive as to imagine that the allies are likely to swallow this clumsy bait. The German move aims at something else beside genuine peace. * * * It is because Germany knows she cannot win that she desires to end the war."

The Figaro frankly calls the whole situation "a trap."

"As soon as we lay down our arms," it states, "and peace parties shall have been formed in France, Russia and England, then Germany will enlighten us on the terms she now calls made. Such is the trap. The maneuver is too clumsy to be worthy of indignation."

DIPLOMATS CONSIDER GERMAN PEACE MOVE AS A MASTER STROKE

(Continued From Page One.)

transmit the note to Foreign Secretary Balfour in London before specific orders were received from Washington. It was estimated here it would probably be several days before the note was officially in all belligerent hands.

The Tageblatt today cautiously says that everyone should support the move with full power, since it is perhaps the first step toward peace.

Neutrals Not Mediators.

The Vossische Zeitung explains that neutral nations in this instance do not act as mediators, but merely as carriers of the proposal.

None of the editorials in today's newspapers mention annexation of any of the territory which Germany has conquered as being concerned in the peace proffers. A majority of the editorials and news articles were not overly hopeful that the government's step would bring peace.

Hope for Victory Is Light.

The Morgen Post, carrying a "streamer" headline: "We extend the hand of peace," says: "See, see, there is a light in the darkness. Its ray is weak and it flickers backwards and forwards in the storm, spray and wind.

"Will this small ray grow into a bright gleaming glow to lighten and warm mankind?

"We do not know today—but we dare hope for the victory of light over darkness.

"We hope in the holy days approaching mankind may be released from the hands of darkness."

An editorial in the Voerwarts, captioned "Humanity Question — Peace," points out Germany's conditions of peace as honor, existence, freedom and development."

AUSTRIA'S EMPEROR PRAYS BLESSING OF ALMIGHTY ON STEP

London, Dec. 13.—(I. N. S.)—"I pray that the Almighty may bestow his blessing on this step," said Emperor Karl Franz Josef of Austria-Hungary in a proclamation to his troops, notifying them that a peace move had been started by the central powers.

The complete text of the statement as received here from Vienna follows:

"With God's gracious assistance and the royal allies' bravery and endurance, we have created a situation whereby the final victory is no longer doubtful. In an endeavor to give back to the people the blessings of peace, I and my illustrious allies have attempted to bring about an honorable peace.

"I pray that the Almighty may bestow blessings on this step, but I am convinced you will continue to fight with the heroism you have in the past, until peace is concluded and the enemy crushingly beaten."

"Fighting Dan" Gets Ousted by Grocers

Dan Kellaher, east side grocer and known as "Fighting Dan," has been ousted from the Grocers & Merchants association, according to action taken by the association's board of directors last Friday night. He was ousted on the grounds that he is a member of the Independent Retailers' association, whose purposes are antagonistic to the Grocers & Merchants' association, an officer of the latter association said Kellaher still holds his stock in the association, as that cannot be taken from him, but he will be barred from all meetings. This action of the association is said to be but an incident in a grocers' war which promises to become decidedly heated.

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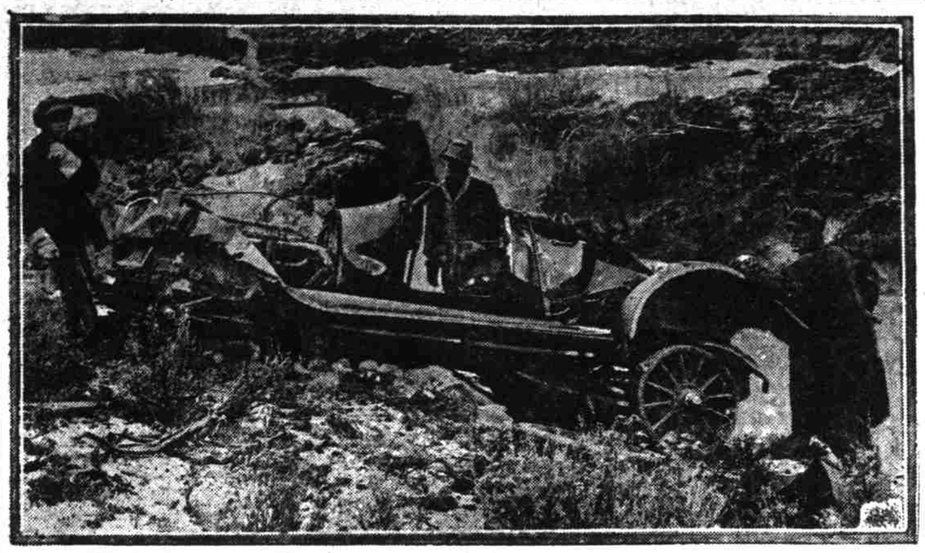

Wreck of the automobile that plunged from grade to edge of Crooked river.

Redmond, Or., Dec. 13.—The automobile that carried N. A. Southwick to his death was scrapped in its 200-foot plunge from the grade at Trail Crossing to the edge of Crooked river. Max Cunning editor of Metolius who was also seriously injured has been taken to Portland for treatment. Denton G. Burdick the third occupant of the car is doing fairly well and will probably recover.

Funeral services for Mr. Southwick were held here Tuesday the Masonic lodges of Redmond, Prineville and Bend conducting them. Prineville Masons came in automobiles and those from Bend in a special train. The body of Mr. Southwick was sent to Detroit, Mich., his former home, for interment.

ROADS AND ROAD LAWS TAKE UP JUDGES AND COMMISSIONERS' TIME

Government Cooperation With States Is Outlined by Federal District Engineer.

PARENTS GET GRUELLING

Speakers at Convention Place Blame for Delinquency of Neglected Children.

The discussion of the State Association of County Judges and Commissioners today was all about roads and road laws.

What the government proposes to do in the way of cooperation with the states was outlined by L. I. Hewes, district engineer of the office of public roads, and the amount of federal aid to be received from forest reserves was explained by B. J. Finch, senior highway engineer.

State Engineer Lewis made a plea for a business organization for highway road work, making it standard and uniform all over the state.

District Attorney Evans of Multnomah county detailed his experience in trying to unravel the tangled skein of the Oregon road laws.

At the afternoon session Governor Withycombe spoke on "State Highways," and O. Laurgaard, a member-elect of the legislature from Multnomah county, reported suggestions on the recodification of the state road laws.

Care of County Wards.

The care of county wards, indigent poor and delinquent juveniles and the administration of county farms and widows' pensions were subjects considered yesterday.

Dealing with juvenile delinquency, there was general assent that parents should be held to a stricter responsibility for their children. County Judge Bushey of Marion put it: "If the state is to take control of the children it should take control of the parents."

Judge Springer of Crook county said he would advocate the arrest of some parents on a charge of contributing to the delinquency of their children and would force these parents to work on the roads like other criminals.

Robison Opens Debate.

The discussion on juvenile delinquency was opened by Charles W. Robison, deputy district attorney of Multnomah county, who said that the chief trouble is that juvenile courts are run on theories instead of practical common sense. Instead of being an aid to the parents the courts have been substituted for parents, he said, and advocated holding parents responsible for and punishing them for their children's delinquency.

A great problem, he said, in handling juvenile delinquency was as to where to place the delinquent. He characterized reform schools as training places for crooks.

Parents Called Irresponsible.

Irresponsibility of parents was said by Judge Bushey to be the chief cause of delinquency. Judge Springer agreed with him and added that no delinquent child should be committed to any institution, receiving support from the state, which did not render a full account of the conduct of the child and cost of maintenance.

Mrs. Millie R. Trumbull, head of the state's child welfare bureau, declares that if the public got back to the notion that the home is the proper places to develop children there would be less need of new public institutions.

County Farms Treated.

Discussion of the management of county farms and care of indigent poor was opened by former Governor Oswald West with the suggestion that a state home for aged poor be established to which the counties could commit its indigent, paying their proportion of the cost, with the object of reducing overhead expense.

Ex-Governor West took occasion to remind the county authorities that the 6 per cent tax limitation law would produce ample revenue for legitimate state expense, but that it would do more than anything else to reduce boards and commissions. He advised that a county could disregard any state claim for more than 6 per cent increase.

Two Institutions Favored.

Commissioner Gard of Jefferson county believed that it would be well for the state to take care of the indigent poor, but he thought that there should be at least two such institutions, one in eastern and one in western Oregon.

Commissioner Nichols of Douglas county said that nothing would be gained by turning the duty over to the state. He thought that county judges are overworked. He hoped that the coming legislature should make them probate and juvenile judges and establish a board of commissioners as in Multnomah county.

Cleeton Discusses Pensions.

Judge Cleeton of Multnomah read a paper on widows' pensions. He suggested amendments to the present law providing a simple, definite procedure and defining the degree of delinquency. A distinction should be made, he thought, between mothers who have non-income bearing property and those who have no property at all. There should also be a slight increase in pension to mothers who have more than one child, he said.

Mrs. Trumbull did not agree with him in the suggestion that the county judge and commissioners should have more discretion in administration. "The more discretionary power given public officials," said she, "the less justice." She asserted that the claim that the pension law would diminish the number of children committed to public institutions had not been substantiated.

The greatest need, she said, in the administration of the law was sympathy based on scientific knowledge. Either the present law should be repealed, she thought, or it should be amended to make its operation as definite as possible. She suggested amendments in definiteness. They will be submitted to the committee on resolutions.

In his opening address to the convention President Rufus C. Holman said that in the matter of county relief it seems that there is much duplication of effort, equipment and investment.

The session was formally opened with an address of welcome by S. B. Huston and a response by Judge McKnight of Linn county. About 50 judges, commissioners and surveyors were in attendance at yesterday's session. Larger attendance is expected today. The session will be devoted to roads.

N. Lorenz of Coquille Dies, Aged 80 Years

Marshfield, Or., Dec. 13.—N. Lorenz, pioneer business man of Coquille, died Tuesday of paralysis, at the age of nearly 80 years. He was in business at the county seat for 30 years and was succeeded by his son.

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