

BELGIAN PEACE TERMS SENT TO POPE BENEDICT

Political, Economical and Territorial Independence Demanded

REPARATION IS AWAITED

Guarantee Must Be Given Invasion of 1914 Will Not Be Repeated

HAVRE, Jan. 23.—The Belgian government's peace terms, as far as they concern Belgium herself, set forth in her reply to Pope Benedict's peace note, are in substance, absolute political, economical and territorial independence.

King Albert in enclosing his reply, wrote a personal letter to the pope, which has just been published. The letter follows:

"Very Holy Father—I have taken note, with lively sympathy and interest, of the message your holiness was good enough to send to the heads of the belligerent countries the first of August and have hastened to submit it to my government, which has studied it with most serious and deferential attention. The result of that study has been recorded in a note which I am happy to communicate to your holiness.

"In associating myself with the wishes of the holy see that a just and durable peace may promptly put an end to the evils from which humanity and particularly the Belgian people, so ruefully tried, are suffering, I beg your holiness to believe in my filial and respectful attachment.

(Signed) "Albert."

The letter was dated December 27, 1917.

Belgian Note Given.

The note of the Belgian government says:

"The royal government, as soon as it received the message of your holiness to the heads of the belligerents, hastened to reply that it would study with the greatest deference the propositions the documents exposed in such elevating language.

At the same time it desired particularly to express its lively and profound gratitude for the particular interest the holy father manifested in the Belgian nation and of which the document was new and precious proof.

"At the outset of his message the holy father took pains to declare he had forced himself to maintain perfect impartiality toward all the belligerents, which renders more significant the judgment of his holiness when he concluded in favor of the total evacuation of Belgium and the re-establishment of its full independence and also recognized the right of Belgium for reparation for damages and the cost of the war.

"Already in his consistorial allocation of January 22, 1915, the holy father had proclaimed before the world that he reproved in justice and he condescended to give the Belgian government the assurance that in formulating that reprobation it was the invasion of Belgium he had directly in view.

Reparation Is Awaited.

"The honest people of all coun-

tries will rejoice with the Belgian government that the injustice of which Belgium was the victim and the necessity for reparation have been proclaimed and that the highest moral authority of Christendom remains watchful amidst the passion and conflicts of men.

"It was because of the gratitude felt on this account, which was augmented by the numerous charitable acts of the holy father in favor of so many Belgians, victims of the violence of the enemy, that the royal government has examined into the possibility of contributing in the measures depending upon it toward the realization of the double desire which inspires the pontifical message: To hasten the end of the present war and render a return of similar catastrophes impossible by the adoption of guarantees destined to assure the supremacy of right over force.

"At the beginning of September, the royal government informed his holiness that it must reserve decision regarding its action on the propositions contained in the message until the powers at war with Belgium had clearly made known their war aims. It added that in any case Belgium would make no pronouncement on general peace conditions and the reorganization of international relations except in full accord with the powers guaranteeing its independence, that have done honor to their obligations toward her and whose arms fight with hers for the cause of right.

"Nothing has modified the situation that existed at the moment the royal government made known that point of view to his holiness. However, Belgium seizes eagerly the occasion furnished by his holiness to repeat before the civilized world what it wrote nearly a year ago to President Wilson:

Invasion Is "Compensation."

"Before the German ultimatum Belgium aspired only to live on good terms with all its neighbors. She practiced with scrupulous loyalty toward each of them the duties imposed by this neutrality.

"How was she recompensed by Germany for the confidence she showed in her? If there is a country that has the right to say it took up arms to defend its existence it assuredly is Belgium. She desires passionately that an end be brought to the unheard sufferings of its population, but she would have kept only a peace that would assure her at the same time equitable reparation and security and guarantees for the future.

"The integrity of Belgium, the ter-

ritory of the mother country and colonies, political, economic and military independence without condition or restriction, reparation for damage suffered and the guarantees against a renewal of the aggression of 1914—such remain the indispensable conditions of a just peace so far as concerns Belgium. Any settlement that would not recognize them would shake the very foundations of justice, since it would for evermore establish that in international domains the violations of right create a claim for its author and may become a source of profit.

"Since the royal government a year ago formulated its conditions, it permits itself to recall that the reichstag voted resolutions called peace resolutions, the chancellors and ministers of foreign affairs have followed each other in the German man empire and more recently in the central empires, and have published notes replying to the message of his holiness, but never a word has been pronounced and never a line written clearly recognizing the indisputable rights of Belgium that his holiness has not ceased to recognize and proclaim."

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COMPANY M BOYS WRITE LETTERS

People Are Genial, Weather Good and Railroad Trains Show Speed

One of the members of Company M, writing under date of December 30, from Romsey, England, said that orders had just been received for the American troops to move to France. The order came while the letter was being written, and interrupted the writing. So it is likely that the move to France was made that day or the next.

Allan Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Jones of this city, wrote his people from France on January 3. Allan is with the headquarters company; so it is to be presumed that all the Salem boys were transferred to France about the first of January.

Writing on American Y. M. C. A. stationery, headed "On Active Service With American Expeditionary Force," December 29, and mailed at Romsey, England, one of the members of Company M writes to his people in Salem. Following are some extracts:

"This England is a very pretty country, and we like the English people fine."

"Have seen lots of interesting things since leaving Salem, Oregon, and seemingly many more to come."

"We may not be here very long, but only hope the rest of Europe is as rich in scenery and populated with as genial and courteous people as is England."

"We can see where the words 'Merry England' were grouped, as all seem to be pleasure bent in spite of the sadness. It looks funny to see the girls go along the roads and streets with cigarettes in their mouths."

"The weather is not nearly as cold and disagreeable as in the east. Am now at a rest camp, and the routine is easy."

"Have seen practically no good woods or timber since leaving western Oregon, and wood was very scarce in the east and is still more so here."

"Though queer and different, the English railroads are very good and speed up a lot."

"Don't worry."

WHOLE FAMILY HELPS FARMER

H. T. Allison of Yamhill, However, Fears Shortage at Harvest Time

"I am all right so far this season, as regards labor on my farm," said H. T. Allison of Yamhill county, in the office of his brother-in-law, Percy M. Varney, the Salem constable.

"And," he added, "I will tell you why I am not short-handed just now. It is because my entire family is helping with the work but when the time comes to plant more seed and harvest the grain now coming up in fine shape, I will have to have more help, even with all the machinery on my farm."

"It may be that I can get the help I want near my farm in Yamhill, but I don't bet for all my neighbors are in the same boat, trying to get in sight of farm laborers."

"Your idea here of raising pigs by boys and girls is a brand new one to me, and I think when I get home I

LAST DAY of CLOTHING Record Sale BENJAMIN BRICK

will see if our bank in Amity will not adopt a similar policy, for it sure is a winner, not only for the banks, but teaches the boys and girls methods of breeding and raising hogs, and our principal product in Yamhill, outside of wheat and oats, is hogs. And more hogs must be raised than ever before in the history of the country if we are to come anywhere meeting the demands of the government.

"And there is another strong point made by the boys and girls in Marion county and that is organizing themselves into clubs or companies and battalions to help pick berries this coming season, which will be here before we know it."

by the provost guard for drunkenness. Where and how they obtain liquor, in the face of the laws and regulations prohibiting its sale to men in uniform, is one of the things that the army authorities propose to find out.

The drug traffic is another matter that, according to the officer detailed for the work of cleansing the city, is to receive particular attention.

The captain detailed for the work said also that the military authorities intend to use every effort to detect and prosecute those persons who buy from the soldiers army clothing and equipment, the proceeds of which are sometimes spent for liquor or drugs, he says. He will also take measures strictly to enforce the law that prohibits civilians from wearing any part of the recognized uniform of a soldier.

The last announcement is causing considerable apprehension in Hawaii as leather puttees are declared by army authorities to be included in the articles forbidden to be worn by civilians, and in this country virtually all plantation managers, foremen and other "bosses" as well as engineers and many other persons habitually wear leather puttees and find them practically a necessity on account of the nature of the country and of their work.

Fears have been expressed that, on account of moral conditions, soldiers might be forbidden to visit Honolulu as was done at Camp Lewis by General Greene, but the action of the military authorities in taking into their own hands the cleaning up of the city apparently obviates this danger.

The Ministry of Munitions of Great Britain has arranged to give free instruction to women in general machine work, core making, electrical work, aeroplane woodwork, draftsmanship, and optical instrument work.

A Man of the People.

Representative Scott Ferris of Oklahoma, who is training for the Senatorial race, is a man of the people. Ferris was down in the Osage country looking after some cattle land when night overtook him and he stopped at the home of a renter for shelter and food. When breakfast was served, all of the members of the household poured their coffee into their saucers to let it cool, and Ferris did likewise. A few moments later, according to a friend who accompanied Ferris, two of the women folk were overheard discussing the congressman.

"He seems plain, don't he?" one said.

"Yep, he does," the other replied. "He saucers his coffee just like anybody that wasn't stuck up would."

Elitha Hanson in Cartoons Magazine.

HONOLULU TO BE CLEANED UP

Military Authorities Take Action to Make City Safe for Soldiers

HONOLULU, T. H., Dec. 19.—(By Mail.)—Honolulu is to be cleaned up by the army, to make the city safe for soldiers.

Announcement to this effect was made yesterday by military authorities, who stated that the movement and the endorsement of Brigadier General John P. Wisser, commanding the Hawaiian department.

An officer from Schofield barracks whose name is withheld at his request in order that the offenders may not know whom to avoid, has been detailed for the work, and he asserted yesterday that the job was to be a thorough one.

Many soldiers, are taken to the police station every night and booked

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