

## FIRST REPLY RUSSIAN WISH FOR WAR AIMS

PRESIDENT WILSON RE-STATES  
ATTITUDE OF THIS NATION ON  
WAR OBJECTS

## NEITHER LAND NOR MONEY

Desire of New Russian Government  
for Attitude of Allies Promptly  
Met by America

Washington, May 23.—As America was the first nation fighting Germany to recognize new Russia, so America today is the first to respond to the new Russian provisional government's desire that the allies re-state their war aims. Such was the interpretation placed here today on President Wilson's war-aims letter to Congressman Heflin. It was pointed out that the policy most emphasized in this communication was that the United States does not seek monetary indemnities, nor additional land, and desires nothing for itself out of the war.

Those who viewed the president's letter in the light that it was particularly addressed to Russia, predicted today it would have great weight in Petrograd. The administration has been fearful the Russians would accept too readily German propaganda falsely representing the allies' position.

"I have again and again stated the very serious and long continued wrongs which the imperial German government has perpetrated against the rights, commerce and the citizens of the United States," the president wrote. "The list is long and overwhelming. No nation that respected itself or the rights of humanity could have borne these wrongs any longer. There is no hate in our hearts for the German people, but there is a resolve which cannot be shaken even by misrepresentation, to overcome the pretensions of the autocratic government which acts upon purposes to which the German people have never consented."

## FOREST FIRES MAY BE FIRE BUG'S WORK

St. Paul, May 23.—Arrests have been made and more are expected to follow on charges of starting forest fires which have destroyed thousands of dollars worth of timber in northern Minnesota. This was revealed after a secret session of the public safety commission with State Forester Cox, who has been investigating rumors of incendiaryism.

## ONLY CANNONADING ON BRITISH LINES

London, May 23.—Another lull seemed to prevail on the British front today. General Haig's report indicated heavy German bombardment of positions on the Hindenburg line firmly held by the British with a return of British shells, but otherwise only isolated fighting.

"Around Bullecourt throughout the evening and night our positions on the Hindenburg line were heavily bombarded," the statement said. "Our artillery replied vigorously. No hostile attacks developed. Southeast of Gavrelle early this morning, we carried out a successful raid. A number of Germans were killed. Our forces returned without casualties. North of Armentieres we took a few prisoners as a result of patrol encounters at various points."

## BEAN BILL IS HELD INVALID

Supreme Court Rules That Tax  
Measure Concerning Grant Lands  
Cannot Go on Ballot

The Bean Bill, purporting to be for the purpose of taxing the O. & C. grant lands, will not go on the ballot at the coming election.

A telegram received late yesterday by County Clerk Coburn from Secretary of State Ben W. Olcott advises him that the Supreme Court had held in the test case brought by Max Gehlar of Salem against the county clerk of Marion county, that the so called Bean bill was invalid. Attorney General Brown had forthwith advised Olcott that the said measure should not go on the ballot, hence Olcott's wire to Coburn, instructing him to omit from the ballot title numbers 302 and 303 from the June 4 election ballot.

This measure was one of the hotly contested matters before the last session of the legislature. It was openly charged on the floor of the House that it was in the interest of the railroads being designed as an effort to baffle the legal status of the government's effort to open the lands to settlement. Allen Eaton, veteran member of the House from Lane county led the fight against the bill while his colleague from the same county, L. E. Bean, was its sponsor and chief advocate.

## WARM WELCOME FOR PERSHING'S TROOPS

With the British Armies in France, May 23.—The tonnies got word today that General Pershing's seasoned veterans were soon to be fighting with them.

"Well, the kaiser's got another disagreeable surprise coming to him," remarked one mud-covered bombardier, from the front trenches as he rolled back of the lines for rest. "He did not know how quickly the United States could get troops to France."

Everywhere along the front soldiers and officers alike hailed the news of the Pershing expedition with delight. German guns were busy in the Ypres region today, and there was a small British raid in the neighborhood of Villiers-Guislainne. Otherwise there was no big fighting.

## WANT STATEMENT ON HOLDING AMERICANS

Washington, May 23.—The state department today demanded of the German government a statement of its attitude concerning the detention of Americans in Belgium and Germany. The department possesses definite information of the detention of a number of Americans. The demand for an understanding was made through the Spanish government and requested a "full and definite statement of the German government's attitude concerning the departure of American citizens."

## CABINET IN BRAZIL TALKING WAR MOVE

Rio de Janeiro, May 23.—President Braz called a special meeting of the cabinet today to discuss the sinking, presumably by a German submarine, of the Brazilian steamship Tijuca. Public excitement is at the highest pitch in view of almost universal belief that Brazil will change her break with Germany into a declaration of war.

## GERMANY PLOTS PEACE BUT ON HER OWN TERMS

Dispatches From Many European Cities Show That Teutons  
Are Working for Peace on Terms That Will Give  
Them Belgium and French Iron Districts

London, May 23.—Germany is actually peace plotting again, after a lull in propaganda efforts to this end, consequent upon initial repulse of efforts to coax Russia into a separate compact. The Teutonic efforts to bring about the end of the war—on Germany's own terms—were revealed in dispatches received today from half a dozen European cities. Coming at a time when Premier Ribot's firm and unyielding statement of France's aims in the war were prominently displayed here, as well as additional statements as to America's position, there seemed scant likelihood of any headway in the German move.

France's formula for peace, as outlined by Ribot, was "no forced annexations and no contributions"—and "restitution and reparation," as well.

Amsterdam reported, as against this, the growth of a "Hindenburg peace" plan in Germany, presumably fostered by the junkerites, urging "no annexations and no indemnities," as a catch phrase, but, paradoxically, in the same connection, urging retention of French and Belgian iron districts and the Belgian coast.

From Rome came reports of secret peace "feelers," put forth by central powers' emissaries to allied representatives in Switzerland.

Other Holland advices detailed "generous terms," which, it was said, Austria-Hungary was about to offer Russia. These terms, it was reported, were for free passage to Russia through the Dardanelles, re-establishment of Poland as an autonomous unit and possibly a loan to the new Russian regime.

In the meantime, the "German-agitated socialist peace conference" at Stockholm is being actively boomed by the central powers' propagandists.

Universal approbation was given Premier Ribot's speech as epitomizing the allied aims and clearing up—for Russia's benefit—some of the questions involved in the "no annexations and no indemnities" phrase. Ribot made it clear that restoration of Alsace and Lorraine was not "annexation," and that there was a sharp difference between "reparation" which Germany must make for her destruction in France and Belgium and indemnities.

"No conquests and no covetousness," was the slogan which the French premier sounded.

## NAVAL MEN ENTHUSIASTIC OVER NEW ANTI-SUBMARINE INVENTIONS

Washington, May 23.—Actual tests of several exceptionally promising devices to solve the submarine menace are under way, it was announced by the navy department today. At least two inventions have undergone preliminary tests and are now being constructed on a large scale for use on ships. The first tests with the devices were made with models. The department then ordered them constructed on a larger scale for exhaustive tests. Officials of the department declared they were confident that one of the devices would be a "big thing."

"We are spending a great deal of money in having some of the devices constructed on a full-sized scale," said one officer. "Some of the inventions were put to an actual test and showed such promise that we gave the order for further tests." Although officials refrained from predicting that any of the devices

would solve the U boat problem, they frankly indicated that the navy consulting board was greatly encouraged. Several inventions submitted by Huds. n Maxim are being considered by the board. Maxim has been in consultation with the board and his inventions are to be tested some place on the Atlantic coast. Naval officials asserted that many other war inventions, in addition to anti-submarine devices, are under consideration.

It became known that Marconi, wireless inventor, who arrived as a member of the Italian war commission, will spend much time in consultation with the United States navy heads on anti-submarine devices.

Marconi will submit several plans he has been working on for some time. In Italian circles, where this information became known, it was stated significantly that the Italian navy had sunk thirteen submarines this week.

## AMERICA WILL DECLARE ATTITUDE ON PEACE TERMS AS SUPPORTING FRANCE

Washington, May 23.—The government plans before long to make a formal statement of its attitude toward the Russian soldiers' and workmen's slogan, "no annexations, no indemnities."

This statement, while not yet revealed, will doubtless take a form similar to that of French Premier Ribot's statement in Paris. The state department let it be known officially today that it "sympathizes" with Ribot's remarks.

This means, judging from Ribot's remarks, that the United States favors the return of Alsace and Lorraine to France and restoration and indemnities for the small nations, including Belgium, which Germany

has overrun. The American statement will be an individual pronouncement of position, though it would be in accord with the general ideas of the allies. This statement of America's views probably will include a more definite and concrete announcement of America's war aims than anything to date.

Soon after formation of the new coalition cabinet in Petrograd, it was announced in United Press dispatches that the ministry would endeavor to obtain from the allies the interpretation of the phrase "no annexations and no indemnities," and that President Wilson's aid would

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## ONE KILLED IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Joseph R. Smith, Local Mining Man,  
Killed When Automobile Turns  
Turtle Near Central Point

Joseph R. Smith, a prominent mining man of this city, was killed at about 10:30 Tuesday evening when his auto turned turtle on the Pacific highway a mile north of Central Point.

Smith and Jas. T. White, local manager of the Oregon Gas and Electric company, were on their way to Medford to get some fishing tackle belonging to White. With them were two young women of this city, one of whom had her arm broken and the other escaped with bruises. They had reached a sharp turn in the road as it mounts a short hill just north of the old Myers place, when, in some manner not explainable by White, the auto suddenly turned completely over. Smith was crushed across the abdomen and died in about five minutes, remaining conscious and talking with White until near the end.

Dr. Dow, of Central Point, was called but arrived too late to do anything for the unfortunate man. Coroner John Perl, of Medford, arrived shortly after and took charge of the remains. An inquest will be held probably today.

Smith had lived here about a year, coming from Chicago, Ill. He is heavily interested in mining property in the Preston Peak district, being manager of the Del Norte Claim Holders' association and secretary-treasurer of the Tri-Metals Mining company. He was about 40 years of age.

## PLAN FOR PUSHING LIBERTY LOAN SALE

San Francisco, May 23.—Oregon, Washington, California and Nevada are thoroughly organized to promote the sale of liberty bonds, it was announced by the liberty bond committee here today. Nevada completed its organization yesterday.

A big step toward bringing the bond issue close to everyone was accomplished in San Francisco late yesterday when the board of education agreed to have every teacher devote 15 minutes a day talking to school children on the government's needs. Each member of the school board took a \$100 bond.

## BERLIN SAYS FRENCH SUFFER HEAVY LOSS

Berlin, via London, May 23.—A heavy, sanguinary blow was inflicted on the French in the repulse of their attacks from Laville to Aux Bois, today's official statement declared. The assaults were made in the morning and repeated in the evening, being marked by stubborn hand-to-hand fighting.

## CRISIS IN HUNGARY; MINISTRY RESIGNS

Amsterdam, May 23.—Count Tisza's ministry has resigned, according to Buda Pest dispatches received here today by the Central News.

There have been frequent rumors of late of friction in the Hungarian cabinet, responding to the unrest in Hungary and progress of the peace movement. Count Stephen Tisza has been pricey councillor and president of the council—as the Hungarian cabinet is called—since 1913.

## DELEGATES GATHER AT STOCKHOLM

SOCIALISTS MEETING AT SWEDISH  
CAPITAL WILL SOON BE  
UNDER WAY

## FRENCH AND ENGLISH ABSENT

All Central Powers Fully Represented  
Indicating Gathering Is Another  
German Peace Move

Stockholm, May 23.—Delegates already here in advance of the German-called socialist peace conference, began figuring today on the possibility that representative socialists for belligerent countries might lose their freedom, if not their lives, when they return home, as the price of their attendance on the meeting. So far only delegates from Scandinavian nations and Bulgaria and Austria are here. Daily conferences are held between these groups. Every persuasive effort is being made to coax attendance of English and French delegates. The socialists would also like to know exactly how the American delegates will stand at the meeting.

Secretary Huysman of the international socialist bureau, cabled Morris Hillquit, chairman of the American delegation, seeking light in advance on the American feeling. In the meantime Dutch and Scandinavian socialist leaders said they were obtaining written peace terms of all belligerent nations—from their respective socialist delegates, those terms to be announced at the conference.

Lack of information from German and Russian delegates as to the date of their arrival here, still prevented any announcement today of the exact date of the meeting.

Americans in Stockholm pointed out as likely to increase the suspicion of allied nations that the Stockholm conference was a German move, that the German government has credited all its delegates; that Austrian and Bulgarian representatives are here and that the Turkish legation has specifically designated Turkey's committee. The central powers, therefore, are all represented. So far, it appears certain that only the Russian delegates of the allies will be on hand.

## PLENTY OF RIFLES FOR AMERICAN ARMY

Washington, May 23.—America is ready for the war so far as rifles are concerned. Frank A. Scott, chairman of the general munitions board of the Council of National Defense, today issued the following statement.

"We are in a position now to assure the country that rifles and ammunition will be ready for American troops as fast as they can be raised and otherwise prepared for foreign service. There are on hand more than enough rifles for the rifle-carrying men of an army of approximately a million, and arrangements have now been made to provide for the arming of a larger force and for the reserve which the wastage under modern war conditions makes necessary. Plans have been completed to take advantage of the small-arms factories developed in our country as the result of the European war, and convert them to our use. In addition the government arsenals are being expanded. In general it may be stated that small arms, including ammunition, can be provided for practically any number of men that the country may call to the colors."