

ALLIES REPLY PEACE DESIRED BUT IMPOSSIBLE

Entente Nations and Belgium Declare That Reparation, Restitution and Guarantees for Future Must Be Assured—Appreciate Offer, But Further Steps Declined.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—The entente allies replying to President Wilson's peace note in a joint communication express the belief that it is impossible at the present moment to attain peace that will assure them reparation, restitution and such guarantees as they consider essential.

In a separate note, the Belgian government expresses its desire for peace, but declares it could only accept a settlement which would assure it reparation and security in the future.

Both of the communications, made public by the state department last night, are dated January 10, and were transmitted in translations from the French texts through Ambassador Sharp at Paris.

The translation of the French text of the entente note, as cabled by Ambassador Sharp at Paris, follows: "The allied governments have received the note which was delivered to them in the name of the government of the United States on the nineteenth of December, 1916. They have studied it with the care imposed upon them both by the exact realization which they have of the gravity of the hour and by the sincere friendship which attaches them to the American people.

"In general, they wish to declare that they pay tribute to the elevation of the sentiment with which the American note is inspired and that they associate themselves with all their hopes with the project for the creation of a league of nations to insure peace and justice throughout the world. They recognize all the advantages for the cause of humanity and civilization which the institution of international agreements destined to avoid violent conflicts between nations would prevent; agreements which must imply the sanctions necessary to insure their execution and thus to prevent an apparent security from only facilitating new aggressions. But a discussion of future arrangements destined to insure an enduring peace presupposes a satisfactory settlement of the actual conflict; the allies have as profound a desire as the government of the United States to terminate as soon as possible a war for which the central empires are responsible and which inflicts such cruel sufferings upon humanity. But they believe that it is impossible at the present moment to attain a peace which will assure them reparation, restitution and such guarantees to which they are entitled by the aggression for which the responsibility rests with the central powers and of which principle itself tended to ruin the security of Europe; a peace which would on the other hand permit the establishment of the future of European nations on a solid basis. The allied nations are conscious that they are not fighting for selfish interests but above all to safeguard the independence of peoples, of right and of humanity.

"The allies are fully aware of the losses and suffering which the war causes to neutrals as well as to belligerents and they deplore them; but they do not hold themselves responsible for them, having in no way either willed or provoked this war, and they strive to reduce these damages in the measure compatible with the inexorable exigencies of their defense against the violence and wiles of the enemy.

"It was with satisfaction, therefore that they take note of the declaration that the American communication is nowise associated in its origin with that of the central powers transmitted on the 18th of December by the government of the United States. They did not doubt, moreover, the resolution of that government to avoid even the appearance of a support, even moral, of the authors responsible for the war.

"The allied governments believe that they must protest in the most friendly but in the most specific manner against the assimilation established in the American note between the two groups of belligerents; this assimilation, based upon public declarations by the central powers is in direct opposition to the evidence, both as regards responsibility for the past and as concerns guarantees for the future; President Wilson, in mentioning it, certainly had no intention of associating himself with it.

"If there is an historical fact established at the present date, it is the willful aggression of Germany

and Austria-Hungary to insure their hegemony over Europe and their economic domination over the world. Germany proved by her declaration of war, by the immediate violation of Belgium and Luxemburg and by her manner of conducting the war, her simulating contempt for all principles of humanity and all respect for small states; as the conflict developed the attitude of the central powers and their allies has been a continual defiance of humanity and civilization. It is necessary to recall the horrors which accompanied the invasion of Belgium and Serbia, the atrocities imposed upon the invaded countries, the massacre of hundreds of thousands of inoffensive Armenians, the barbarities perpetrated against the populations in Syria, the raids of Zeppelins on open towns, the destruction by submarines of passenger steamers and of merchantmen even under neutral flags, the cruel treatment inflicted upon prisoners of war, the juridical murders of Miss Cavell and of Captain Fryatt, the deportation and the reduction to slavery of civil populations, etc. The execution of such a series of crimes perpetrated without any regard for universal reprobation fully explains to President Wilson the protest of the allies.

"They consider that the note which they sent to the United States in reply to the German note will be a response to the questions put by the American government, and according to the words of the latter, constitute a public declaration as to the conditions upon which the war could be terminated."

"President Wilson desires more; he desires that the belligerent powers openly affirm the objects which they seek by continuing the war; the allies experience no difficulty in replying to this request. Their objects in the war are well known; they have been formulated on many occasions by the chiefs of their diverse governments. Their objects in the war will not be made known in detail with all the equitable compensations and indemnities for damages suffered until the hour of negotiations. But the civilized world knows that they imply in all necessity and in the first instance the restoration of Belgium, of Serbia and of Montenegro and the indemnities which are due them; evacuation of the invaded territories of France, of Russia and of Rumania with just reparation; the reorganization of Europe guaranteed by a stable regime and founded as much upon respect of nationalities and full security and liberty (of) economic development which all nations, great or small, possess as upon territorial conventions and international agreements suitable to guarantee territorial and maritime frontiers against unjustified attacks; the restitution of provinces or territories wrested in the past from the allies by force or against the will of their populations; the liberation of Italians, of Slavs, of Rumanians and Techo Slaviques from foreign domination; the enfranchisement of populations subject to the bloody tyranny of the Turks; the expulsion from Europe of the Ottoman empire, which has proved itself so radically alien to western civilization. The intentions of his majesty, the emperor of Russia regarding Poland, have been clearly indicated in the proclamation which he has just addressed to his armies. It goes without saying that if the allies wish to liberate Europe from the brutal covetousness of Prussian militarism, it never has had design, as has been alleged, to encourage the extermination of the German peoples and their political disappearance. That which they desire above all is to insure a peace upon the principles of liberty and justice, upon the inviolable fidelity to international obligation with which the government of the United States has never ceased to be inspired.

"United in the pursuits of this supreme object the allies are determined individually and collectively, to act with all their power and to consent to all sacrifices to bring to a vigorous close a conflict upon which they are convinced not only their own safety and prosperity depends, but also the future of civilization itself."

"The translation of the Belgian note, which was handed to Ambassador Sharp with the entente reply follows: "The government of the king, which has associated itself with the answer handed by the president of the French council to the American ambassador, on behalf of all, is particularly desirous of paying tribute to the sentiment of humanity which prompted the president of the United States to send his note to the belligerent powers, and it highly esteems the friendship expressed for Belgium through its kindly intermediation. It desires as much as Mr. Woodrow Wilson to see the present war ended as early as possible.

"But the president seems to believe that the statesmen of the two opposing camps pursue the same objects of war. The example of Belgium unfortunately demonstrates that this is in no wise the fact. Belgium has never, like the central powers, aimed at conquests. The barbarous fashion

in which the German government has treated, and is still treating, the Belgian nation does not permit the supposition that Germany will preoccupy herself with guaranteeing in the future the rights of the weak nations which she has not ceased to trample under foot since the war, let loose by her, began to desolate Europe. On the other hand, the government of the king has noted with pleasure and with confidence the assurances that the United States is impatient to co-operate in the measures which will be taken after the conclusion of peace, to protect and guarantee the small nations against violence and oppression.

"Previous to the German ultimatum, Belgium only aspired to live upon good terms with all her neighbors, she practiced with scrupulous loyalty towards each one of them the duties imposed by her neutrality. In the same manner, she has been rewarded by Germany for the confidence she placed in her, through which from one day to the other, without any plausible reason, her neutrality was violated, and the chancellor of the empire when announcing to the reichstag this violation of right and of treaties, was obliged to recognize the inequity of such an act and pre-determine that it would be repaired. But the Germans, after the occupation of Belgian territory, have displayed no better observance of the rules of international law or the stipulations of The Hague convention. They have, by taxation, as heavy as it is arbitrary, drained the resources of the country; they have intentionally ruined its industries, destroyed whole cities, put to death and imprisoned a considerable number of inhabitants. Even now, while they are loudly proclaiming their desire to put an end to the horrors of war, they increase the rigors of the occupation by deporting into servitude Belgian workers by the thousands.

"If there is a country which has the right to say that it has taken up arms to defend its existence, it is surely Belgium. Compelled to fight or submit to shame, she passionately desires that an end be brought to the unprecedented sufferings of her population. But she could only accept a peace which would assure her, as well as equitable reparation, security and guarantees for the future."

"The American people, since the beginning of the war, have manifested its most ardent sympathy. It is an American commission, the commission for relief in Belgium, which, in close union with the king and the national committee displays an untiring devotion and marvelous activity in revivifying Belgium. The government of the king is happy to avail itself of this opportunity to exhibit its profound gratitude to the commission for the relief as well as to the generous Americans, eager to relieve the misery of the Belgian population. Finally, nowhere more than in the United States have the abductions and deportation of Belgian civilians provoked such a spontaneous movement of protestation and indignant reproach.

"These facts, entirely to the honor of the American nation, allow the government of the king to entertain the legitimate hope that at the time of the definitive settlement of this long war, the voice of the entente powers will find in the United States a unanimous echo to claim in favor of the Belgian nation, innocent victim of German ambition and covetousness, the rank and the place which its irreproachable past, the valor of its soldiers, its fidelity to honor, and its remarkable facilities for work assign to it among the civilized nations."

AIRSHIPS SEARCH FOR LOST AVIATORS

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Jan. 12.—Whatever efforts are made to determine the fate of Lieutenant Colonel Harry G. Bishop and Lieutenant W. A. Robertson, Jr., the two missing army aviators who left the North Island navigation field last Wednesday morning on a non-stop flight to Calexico, will be directed solely by Major General Baron, in command of the twenty-first infantry battalion camp at Calexico, according to Colonel W. A. Glassford, commander at North Island. Colonel Glassford this morning stated that the army officials here would take no part in the search, unless requested to do so by the war department.

In the event of orders being received from Washington, Colonel Glassford stated that at least two airplanes would be sent on flights over that portion of Lower California where the missing aviators are feared to be lost, provided that the necessary permission to make the flights over Mexican territory is received from Governor Cantu of Lower California. This permission, it is believed, could be secured without trouble, as Cantu has always heretofore evidenced a warm feeling toward Americans.

CHAMBERLAIN'S BILL SELECTIVE CONSCRIPTION

Military Preparedness Measure Offered by Oregon Senator Requires All Males Between 18 and 23 to Mobilize at Call of President and Take Military Training.

(By GILSON GARDNER).
WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—What Secretary of War Newton D. Baker calls "selective conscription" is provided for in the bill urged by Senator George E. Chamberlain, now the subject of hearings before the senate committee on military affairs.

Under this proposed law every male citizen between the ages of 18 and 23, who could not get specially excused, would have to mobilize at the call of the president and every male citizen of these ages would be compelled to take military training—a minimum of twenty days a year for six years.

The "selective" feature is contained in the paragraphs which provide excuses. If one is a sailor he need not take training; or a school teacher or a Quaker or near sighted or a cripple, or if one can present a certificate from the family doctor that training would be bad for the heart—all these would tend to modify the "universal" character of the requirement. Those left when these tests had let out the exceptions, would number about 600,000. This is what the general staff estimate in their appeal for a law requiring a full year of intensive military training.

As a matter of fact, neither the training nor the service would be universal by about five exceptions to one selected. But the one selected by the military authorities would have to serve. That is where the new law would differ from the present volunteer plan.

Section 21 provides that "The president is authorized to mobilize the citizen army and navy, in time of war, or threatened war, insurrection or rebellion or when the public safety demands it."

"The 'citizen army' above referred to, is all males between 18 and 23 who have taken the military training provided for—'all' who cannot get excused.

There are three bills awaiting the attention of congress. The Chamberlain bill with its "selective conscription" plan, with other features providing for training school boys from 11 years up; the so-called Moseley bill, drawn for the National Security League by Captain George Van Horn Moseley; and the bill now being perfected by the general staff and the army war college.

The Moseley bill is modeled on the German plan. It would make military service compulsory and require six months training every year for a period of years.

The general staff's bill would also make military training universal and compulsory and would require a year in barracks. This bill follows closely the provisions of the German system.

The senate committee is listening to arguments on all sides of the army problem. Most of the speakers, however, are professionals in the military line who frankly favor conscription in place of the volunteer plan, and universal training with a minimum of exceptions.

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 12.—According to a Vienna dispatch to the Vossische Zeitung of Berlin, Premier Clem-Martinio is preparing to convene the Austrian parliament.

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ASHLAND AND VICINITY

Supplementary to the Fruit & Produce association's reports heretofore made public, detailed figures show that 51 cars of fruit and vegetables were shipped by the corporation the past season. Apples led with 27 cars. These sales footed up \$35,781. Of merchandise, 15 cars were imported, and the sales of folor and feed, spray material, etc., aggregated \$11,466. Growers of fruit and produce were paid \$22,984 in cash. Assets of the association are \$13,000, with liabilities of \$3500.

Mrs. Lettie Harvey of this city, residing on B street, was a step-daughter of Mrs. Artemesia Merriman who died at Medford recently, aged 87 years.

At the union meeting which marked the week of prayer, a committee to be made up of one member from each church was appointed to perfect the organization of a branch of the Red Cross society in this territory.

The Congregational church at its annual meeting January 10 elected Mrs. Olive Swedberg, clerk; W. P. Powell, treasurer; Mrs. Elise Dickerson, treasurer of benevolence; Mrs. Myrtle Drake, organist. New trustees are Dr. F. G. Swedberg and L. E. Stennett. Deaconsess are Mrs. Elizabeth Powell, Mrs. Rose Patty and Mrs. Mary Stennett. Officers of the Ladies' Aid are: Mrs. Hattie Walker, president; Mrs. Rose Patty, vice-president; Mrs. Hazel Spencer, secretary; Mrs. Elise Dickerson, treasurer. Sunday school activities are directed by Mrs. Hazel Spencer, superintendent; Miss Kathleen Silver, secretary; Don Dickerson, librarian; L. E. Stennett, treasurer, and Miss Mary Spencer, superintendent of the primary department. Preliminary to the business meeting at the church, the Ladies' Aid served a fine dinner at the manse, complete in all its appointments.

George A. McLean and family of Colgate, Alberta, will occupy the Cove ranch, east of Ashland, a property formerly owned by the late A. W. Silsby, and which Mr. McLean recently purchased.

Mrs. Maple Miesner of Klamath Falls, Mrs. Maggie Piel and her daughter, Emma, of Medford, all relatives of Emil Peil of this city, visited him early in the week at the family home on Granite street.

Trinity Guild's officers for the ensuing term include Mrs. G. W. Loomley, president; Mrs. Frank Foltzy, vice-president; Mrs. G. H. Hedberg, treasurer; Mrs. W. W. Usher, secretary.

Mrs. Samuel D. Cairns of Springfield, Or., is visiting her sister, Mrs. J. R. Casey, on her way home from a trip to southern California, where she has been visiting numerous relatives.

Walter L. Toozie of Salem—he of the loud voice who during the presidential campaign apotheosized Hughes—has very appropriately been elected reading clerk of the senate, now in session in the capital city.

Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Silsby of Klamath Falls have gone south for a vacation trip during the winter months in California, after a visit with relatives here. Mr. Silsby was a former resident of Ashland and is a Southern Pacific engineer on the Klamath Falls branch.

Dr. J. C. Reasoner, dental surgeon, left this week on his return to India, after a visit with the family of Geo. Ganiere, Mrs. Ganiere being his sister. He will sail from Seattle on a Japanese liner, going by the way of Yokohama and Singapore, through the Straits Settlements.

The park commission has been reorganized with G. S. Butler as president; Mrs. Marie Vampel, vice-president; F. E. Watson, secretary. Geo.

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Taymer and W. A. Patrick, retiring members of the board, have been tendered a vote of thanks for services well performed.

Arthur Conklin of Grants Pass, and a heavy holder of Ashland realty, has removed to Eugene and is associated with the leading firm of Peterson, Skothem & Co., real estate and insurance agents of that city. One of Conklin's chief investments here is the Vendome property, formerly occupied as a rooming house and later on by the Polytechnic school. The site of this building is an eligible one, located right in the center of town and at the junction of several main thoroughfares.

The city council will solve the transportation shortage by investing in an auto truck which will be mainly used in the long haul activities connected with the mineral springs requirements.

Anton Hilty, nephew of Louis Hilty, and a former employe of the Southern Pacific, has returned to the central west for the time being, and is engaged in lead mining, with headquarters at Joplin, Mo. Reports indicate that he has struck it rich in this new occupation.

In the readjustment of city official salaries, C. W. Fraley, street commissioner, will receive a flat remuneration of \$75 per month hereafter, instead of an hourly wage under the Adamson law. J. R. Pettenger, composite employe, who is half policeman and the other half fireman, will receive the same compensation on the basis of an equally divided levy between the two departments.

The Fruit & Produce association will hold an adjourned meeting in the city hall on Saturday, January 13, at 2 p. m. Among other business officers will be chosen by the board of directors.

Business is looking up in the police department. Instead of so many hoboes being impounded, four head of stock are being restrained from running at large in the city's concentration camp, subject to redemption, as the ordinance provides. The animals are all Jersey heifers, with light, dark, black and red complexions, respectively.

The Wednesday Afternoon club has reserved the historic date, February 22, for the "staging" of an old-fashioned New England supper.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Poley have gone to southern California for a month's vacation stay in Los Angeles and vicinity.

Mrs. W. W. Usher of this city has been honored by the Parent-Teacher circles of Jackson county as their candidate for state superintendent of the Mothers' Congress and Parent-

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To whom it may concern: I am free from the rheumatism. You can be the same by taking treatment from Gim Chung, the herb doctor. My rheumatism was so bad that it made me so weak I could scarcely get up when I was down and the pain I suffered one could hardly know unless one had the same disease. I was truly disgusted and disgusted with life in my condition and trying to live. Now to any friends that care to be cured and would like to be free try the herb doctor. He can certainly relieve in a very short time. Very truly yours, MRS. M. L. KOLE.

Mrs. Bertha Remington, Westwood orchard, had stomach trouble. The doctor said she had had dead bone in her jaw and that nothing but an operation could save her, so she came to the Chinese doctor and he cured her in two weeks.—Mrs. Fannie Miller.

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Teacher association, which meets in Eugene next fall. The honor was all the more interesting, due to the fact that the choice was unanimous.

Mrs. Alice Jilison, representing the International Rescue Workers' association, will speak in the Christian church, Friday evening, January 12, on "Our National Curse." The public is invited and admission will be free.

Miss Marian Towne of Phoenix speaks on "Laws Governing Women in Oregon," at a joint meeting of the Political Science and other federated women's clubs, at Auxiliary hall on Chautauqua grounds, Wednesday afternoon, January 17. A general attendance is requested.

W. W. Bryan of Los Angeles is the party who has purchased one of Rev. J. S. Smith's residence properties on Woolen street. He will be here within a few weeks to occupy it. The sale was made by the Beaver Realty agency.

The city has disposed of three electric transformers to Sacramento parties for \$1100. These were machines held in cold storage at the local substation, having never been used.

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