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NO. 150

AUSTRIA ASKS FOR PEACE CONFERENCE

SEPARATE PEACE OFFER TO BELGIUM

While Austria Proposes That Belligerents Meet to Discuss Peace in Neutral Country, Germany Offers to Withdraw From Belgium Provided That Country Remains Neutral for Balance of War, Thus Preventing Allied Invasion of Germany.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—Austria's peace discussion proposal reached the Swedish legation here late today and arrangements were made at once for its delivery to the state department. Secretary Lansing authorized the announcement that he would have a statement to make as soon as he could read the note.

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, Sept. 16.—While Austria was preparing her note to the belligerent nations, proposing that they meet in informal discussion of peace terms in a neutral country, Germany was making ready to make another offer of separate peace to Belgium. It is announced that the Belgian government has been approached with a proposal that if she will remain neutral during the remainder of the war, Germany is ready to withdraw to the frontiers that were violated in August, 1914.

It is affirmed from Berlin that the Austrian government acted on its initiative in sending out its proposals, but the offer of Germany to Belgium points to what may be said to be more than a co-incidence and probably a desperate "peace offensive" is now well under way.

Rejected by All
In London and Paris the offer of Austria was merely coldly received, while at Washington it was pointed out that the United States will not entertain any peace tentatives that can, at best, bring only a temporary respite from hostilities, and will leave Germany and Austria free to break the peace of the world at any future date.

Even in the German press there seems to be little hope that the allies will agree to meet representatives of the central powers. The newspapers of Berlin point out that similar steps by Germany and Austria have failed in the past and that while the people will no doubt be hopeful for a cessation of the struggle, there is little prospect of its early termination.

Order of Charles
AMSTERDAM, Sept. 16.—The note to which Austria-Hungary invites belligerents to a conference for discussion of peace terms is being distributed to a conference for discussion of peace terms.

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CALL ISSUED FOR 29,016 NEGRO TROOPS
WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—A draft call for 29,016 negro registrants, from 33 states, qualified for general military service and to entrain for national army camps September 25-27 was issued today by Provost Marshal General Crowder.

SERBS LAUNCH BLOW CAPTURING BULGAR HEIGHTS

Allied Troops Begin Offensive on Macedonian Front, Taking Important Hill Positions in Serbo-Greek Border East of Monastir Which Have Withstood Allied Efforts for Years.

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, Sept. 16.—Allied troops are on the offensive on the Macedonian front. Reorganized Serbian forces, aided by French units, are attacking the Bulgarian positions in the mountains on the Serbo-Greek border east of Monastir.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—Launching an offensive against the Bulgarians on the Saloniki front by the re-organized Serbian army, in cooperation with French forces, and capture of three strongly fortified Bulgarian positions, is announced in an official Serbian communication received here today from Saloniki.

AUSTRIANS ATTEMPT TO DIVIDE ALLIES DECLARES BALFOUR

LONDON, Sept. 16.—A. J. Balfour, the British foreign secretary, giving his personal viewpoints on the Austrian peace note to visiting journalists, said:

"It is scarcely possible that anything can come of this peace proposal."

He said he was utterly unable to see that a conference proposed by Austria could have the desired end.

Coming after the recent speech of Frederick von Payer, the German imperial vice chancellor, Mr. Balfour said:

"This cynical proposal of the Austrian government is not a genuine attempt to obtain peace. It is an attempt to divide the allies."

Mr. Balfour said no one should take upon himself the task of rejecting with a light heart any proposal which would shorten the length of the war.

He also declared that no coalition ever had been so strong as the allied coalition and that the enemy would not succeed in breaking it.

BERLIN COUNCIL FAVORS AN EARLY PEACE
AMSTERDAM, Sept. 16.—Socialist members of the municipal council of Berlin raised the food question in the council meeting Thursday, according to the Telegram. One speaker exclaimed, "It is time the war came to an end." The public gallery applauded loudly.

ALLIES PUSHING AHEAD ON MAIN BATTLE FRONT

French and British Creep on Towards Laon, Cambrai and Peronne—French Capture Vailly and Mont Des Singes—British Advance in Flanders, and West of Cambrai.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS, Sept. 16.—British and French troops on the main battle front in France continue their advance.

North of the Aisne the French have captured Vailly and nearer the Chemin Des Dames have stormed Mont Des Singes, an important hill position.

Astride the Scarpe the British have pushed forward new posts, while along the Ypres-Comines canal, southeast of Ypres, they have advanced on a front of two miles. West of Cambrai and around St. Quentin the activity has lessened after the British capture of Maissemy.

Now the British are creeping north near the Hindenburg line in Picardy. Maissemy, northwest of St. Quentin, has been taken from the Germans who were also forced out of Holnon wood, farther south.

The German retirement in the Flanders area is still going on, the British pressing closely on the heels of the enemy as he retreats. His forces from the perilous salient into which he rushed last April.

East of the Ailette and south of the Aisne close contact with the enemy is being maintained.

Nikolai Lenin, the Bolshevik premier of Russia, has sent a note to the people's commissaries and soviets announcing that the Bolshevik government is helpless and that it must form a defensive and offensive alliance "with another power." He adds that the Russian people must not "recoil" from an alliance with imperialists.

Advance in Flanders
LONDON, Sept. 16.—British troops last night advanced north of the Arras-Cambrai road, establishing posts in the vicinity of Sauchy-Cauchy and Oppy. Field Marshal Haig reported today.

On the Flanders front the British pushed ahead in a successful minor operation on both sides of the Ypres-Comines canal on a front of more than two miles.

Nearing St. Quentin
WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, Sunday, Sept. 15.—(By the Associated Press.)—Maissemy, a village five miles northwest of St. Quentin, has been captured by the British.

This adds another important position to those recently taken along the ridges west of St. Quentin.

Southeast of Holnon wood the British also improved their lines slightly. Fighting of a local nature continues on the northern battlefront near La Bassée, where the enemy has been forced to give ground steadily.

British gunners bombarded the Hindenburg line fiercely for hours yesterday and heavy enemy losses were inflicted. German gunners maintained an intense fire in the Gouzeaucourt sector and deluged Havrincourt with explosives yesterday.

The sun came out warm this morning, drying rapidly the water-logged ground over which it was becoming.

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BRIDGEPORT STRIKERS RETURNING TO WORK
BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Sept. 16.—Hundreds of the strikers of Bridgeport munition factories, acting independently, returned to work today. The mass meeting this afternoon is expected formally to declare the strike at an end and thus recognize Wilson's demand that the munitionists return to work.



LIEUT. E. G. CHAMBERLAIN

HERO A.C.
First Lieut. Edmund G. Chamberlain, marine corps aviator, was recommended for the Victoria Cross and the Congressional Medal of Honor for downing five hostile airplanes and disabling two while on a flight as guest of a British air squadron on July 28. Landing with a disabled engine behind the Illm lines, he dispersed a company with his machine gun and took one prisoner. When he reached the airbase he asked that his exploit be kept secret, as he feared a reprimand because he was on furlough.

GERMANS LOSE HEAVILY IN EFFORTS TO STOP FRENCH

WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, Sunday, Sept. 15.—(By the Associated Press.)—The sacrifices the Germans are making to stop the slow but steady advance of General Mangin's forces toward the Chemin Des Dames are evidenced by the larger number of the enemy dead found on the field of Saturday's and Sunday's operations. The number of prisoners which increased during the day to more than 3,500 also is very large for the length of front attacked.

The dead are thickest around Laiflux mill and east of Vauxaillon where the enemy countered violently today in a vain effort.

General Mangin's troops not only maintained their gains but pushing on from Vauxaillon, captured the plateau to the southeast, which gives them a strategic ground of great importance. Extending the field of battle to the south the French also made appreciable gains by occupying Mennejean farm and ground considerably east of that position. Further south they took by storm Hill 169 north of Celles-Sur-Aisne.

The Germans came back repeatedly in strong force all along this front and fought stubbornly but with no other result than to increase their extremely heavy losses.

Further advances by the French on the high ground west and south of the Chemin Des Dames will make the German positions there very precarious.

HOUSE ACTS UPON WAR REVENUE BILL

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—All other business displaced, the house today got down to real work on the \$8,900,000,000 revenue bill. Consideration of amendments began under rule limiting members to five minute speeches on each amendment. Leaders were confident of passing the bill not later than Friday.

PEACE PROPOSAL RAISES AUSTRIAN MARK

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 16.—The Austro-Hungarian peace proposal caused excited speculation in foreign currency Sunday stated to have run into the millions.

BRITISH REGARD AUSTRIAN PEACE OFFER AS SHAM

Press Pronounces Proposal to Free Belgium as Another Brest-Litovsk Scheme—Result of Enemy Appreciation of American Military Participation in War.

LONDON, Sept. 16.—Austria's invitation to the belligerents to meet in informal peace discussions is indignantly rejected by the London morning newspapers. The offer of peace to Belgium is regarded as a shameful insult.

"The Austrian note does not bring real peace any nearer," says the Express. "Preliminary conditions to peace have been stated over and over again by the allies and there is not the faintest suggestion that the central powers will agree to any one of these conditions. They who draw the sword are scheming to save themselves from perishing by the sword. The disingenuousness of the note betrays the fact that it originated in Wilhelmshaven."

Relative to the offer of peace to Belgium the Express says:

"This is another Brest-Litovsk scheme and part of the same plan for preserving the power of the Hohenzollerns."

After referring to the sinking of the Galway Castle as a co-incidence of the offer of peace the newspaper says:

Will Not Shake Hands
"The allied peoples will not shake hands. They will not be friends nor will they agree to any hole in the corner negotiations. Democracy now is at the helm of the world's affairs. Militarism is tottering and if the German people wish to save themselves from falling with it they must insist on the preliminary conditions which alone make useful talk possible."

"Our peace terms have been made abundantly clear," says the Post. "When Germany and her dependents are ready to accept them they can let us know."

The pacifist Daily News in the sole exception to the prevalent tone. Anticipating general rejection of the Austrian proposals, it says that responsible, sober-minded men should nevertheless face the proposals squarely.

Americans Celebrate
American residents of London celebrated the American victory in public places last night.

Londoners, informed by special editions of the continued progress of the American attack and the Austrian peace offer, displayed exuberance and hopefulness in marked contrast with the gloom of the summer months. It was felt that with the American army fighting under the guns of the fortress of Metz and with Austria making an official bid for peace, things at last were really moving in the desired direction.

Austria's note in the hands of the government, together with information that Germany has made a direct offer of peace to Belgium.

Little Impression
It is needless to say that these peace feelers make little impression on either the government or the people. They are pointed out, however, as a revelation of speedy enemy appreciation of the meaning of American military participation in the war. Political circles believe that Germany realizes she soon will be compelled to

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CARDINAL FARLEY REPORTED SINKING FAST

MAMARONOCK, N. Y., Sept. 16.—Cardinal Farley, archbishop of New York, who suffered a relapse on Saturday after partial recovery from an attack of pneumonia, may sink at any moment into a dying condition, it was announced today.

154 LOST ON GALWAY CASTLE SUNK BY U-BOAT

Passengers, Mostly Women and Children—Steamer Topped Without Warning—Explosion Causes Ship to Buckle—Onrush of Water Tremendous—One Life Boat Smashed.

PLYMOUTH, England, Sept. 16.—Pathetic scenes were witnessed here when hundreds of survivors of the torpedoed steamer Galway Castle were landed at 7 o'clock on Thursday morning. The passengers were mostly women and children and it is believed that whole families have been lost.

Among the survivors were little tots scarcely able to walk, crying for their parents. Parents were searching for news of children, and women were vainly seeking lost husbands. It mattered nothing that warm dry clothing was distributed to take the place of sooty attire, survivors snatched before they left the ship. Their one thought was to get news of relatives and friends.

Ship Buckles When Hit
There seems no reason to doubt that the vessel was torpedoed without slightest warning. The explosion occurred between the engine room and the stoke hold, which is taken to rule out any possibility that the ship struck a mine. The explosion caused the ship to buckle in a most extraordinary manner. She was injured at the extreme bottom and was bent and torn clear to the upper deck and seemed likely to break in two at any moment. The inrush of water was tremendous.

Captain Dyer ordered the boats lowered and issued life belts to all passengers. One boat was swamped, another was damaged because the falls became fouled and another was swept back against the liner by a wave and smashed by the propeller. Another narrowly escaped a similar fate.

154 Are Missing
Of the passengers on the British liner Galway Castle, sunk by a German submarine on Thursday, 151 are missing. The number of passengers on the steamer was 748 instead of 960, as at first supposed.

Backward Movement
PARIS, Sunday, Sept. 15.—While the Americans are operating in Lorraine toward the northeast the battle has extended far down into the Vosges region. The German staff is seeking to rectify its lines there. The forced retreat at St. Mihiel caused a backward movement along the heights of the Meuse. This double recoil will establish the allied lines in stronger positions over a very wide front.

LENINE SEEKING DEFENSIVE TREATY WITH GERMANY

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 16.—Hints that the Bolshevik government of Russia, may seek alliances with other powers are contained in a note addressed to the peoples' commissaries and soviets by Nikolai Lenin, the Bolshevik premier, printed in the Pravda of Petrograd and republished in the Lokal Anzeiger of Berlin. The note reads:

"The position on the Czecho-Slovak front is becoming more dangerous daily. We are daily becoming increasingly convinced that alone we are powerless. For the soviet government there is only one way out, namely to conclude a defensive and offensive alliance with another power."

"In order to save the power of the workers and peasants, we must not even recoil from an alliance with imperialists."

ENGLISH COLONIES TO SIT IN WAR CABINET
LONDON, Sept. 16.—Under a new official arrangement, the dominions are to send to London permanent representatives to sit in all regular meetings of the war cabinet. Arrangements are also under way for the representation of India, which has furnished many troops, in the war cabinet regularly.

YANKS PLAN ASSAULT ON 'KRIEMHELD'

Americans Busy Consolidating Positions Won Last Week Preparatory to Resumption of Offensive—Victory Dislocates German Lines From Verdun to Swiss Border—Yanks Under Fire of Guns at Metz—Attack Just Right to Spoil Plans.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS, Sept. 16.—Along the battle line American attention is directed chiefly at the front in Lorraine, where the Americans are under fire from the fortress of Metz and are apparently making ready for a drive against the "Kriemheld" line, to which the Germans withdrew from the St. Mihiel salient. From this front American forces are on the threshold of Germany.

The victory of General Pershing's men has had more than a merely local effect. German lines to the southeast have been weakened by the terrific blow dealt along the heights of the Meuse, while to the northwest, the Germans are forced to adapt themselves to the new menace which has taken from them the cornerstone of their post at Verdun.

The aerial and artillery arms have been active on the new American front southwest of Metz. The enemy guns have been hammering the American lines, but no infantry attacks have developed. Allied aviators have bombarded railroad centers and other military targets in the Metz area while enemy airmen have bombed some places within the American lines, including St. Mihiel.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN LORRAINE, Sept. 16.—1:30 p. m.—(By the Associated Press.)—Activity of the German artillery increased somewhat during the forenoon today. No infantry attacks, however, were made. Intense artillery activity marks the operations early today. The Germans have not resisted minor movements calculated to consolidate the American line, which now has become firmly fixed.

Towns Attacked
Allied night bombing airplanes Sunday night dropped more than 17 tons of bombs on Courcelles, Elrange, Saarbrücken, Boulay, Bull, Conflans and other points. The bombs dropped on Conflans were directed against the

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MOONEY LOSES RETRIAL APPEAL

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 16.—The petition of Thomas J. Mooney for permission to seek a writ of error from the United States supreme court following the refusal of the lower courts to grant him a new trial was denied by the California supreme court today. This is the last step he can take in the state courts.

The court said it was without authority to grant the petition as it had overruled past petitions on which the present petition was predicated.

The petition is to be presented to the United States supreme court, Maxwell McNutt, counsel of record for Mooney, announced.