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WIRE DISPATCHES

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GERMANY AND HER ALLIES PROPOSE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

WOULD LEAVE SITUATION ABOUT AS IT WAS WHEN WAR COMMENCED

GERMANY ASKS HER NOTE BE SUBMITTED TO ALLIES

Chancellor Asks Negotiations Begin at Once and Hands Note to Representatives of United States, Spain and Switzerland, With Request They Be Sent to Allied Nations—Other Teuton Allies Send Like Requests

Berlin, via Sayville wireless, Dec. 12.—Proposals by the central powers that peace negotiations be entered into forthwith were made in notes handed to representatives of neutral countries which are representing Germany in belligerent nations today.

Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg called the diplomatic representatives of the United States, Spain and Switzerland to his office, one after the other, and handed this note to them. The full text of the note will be read in the reichstag today. The chancellor asked the neutral nations which represent Germany and her allied powers at the capitals of the nations with which she is at war to bring these proposals to the attention of Germany's enemies.

The propositions which Germany advances in these negotiations are, according to Germany's belief, appropriate for the establishment of lasting peace.

The governments at Vienna, Constantinople and Sofia transmitted identical notes.

The text was also communicated to the vatican at Rome and to all other neutral powers.

The exact text of the first announcement of Germany's intention, as wirelessed by the Official Press Bureau today to neutral countries, was as follows:

"The chancellor this morning received, one after the other, representatives of the United States of America and Spain, and Switzerland—that is, of the states professing German interests in hostile foreign countries. The chancellor transmitted to them a note and asked them to bring it to the knowledge of the hostile governments. The note will be read, complete, today in the reichstag, by the chancellor. In the note, the four allied powers propose to enter forthwith into peace negotiations. The propositions which they bring for such negotiations are, according to their belief, appropriate for establishing lasting peace. The governments of Vienna, Constantinople and Sofia transmitted identical notes. The text was also communicated to the Holy See and to all other powers."

Abbe Marlin



Rev. Wiley Tanager has had trouble with his shoes ever since he came out flat footed for Wilson. The old-fashioned horse trader that had a run away boss, any woman could drive now has a son who has a practically new car that has only been driven seventy-five thousand miles.

VON MACKENSEN IS PUSHING FORWARD ON THE RUMANIAN FRONT

Has Captured 10,000 Prisoners in Three Days—Fighting Still in Progress

Berlin, via wireless to Sayville, Dec. 12.—Occupation of Urziceni and Mladva by German forces under Field Marshal Von Mackensen was announced in today's official statement of the Rumanian campaign.

The army group of Field Marshal Von Mackensen—especially the Ninth army, in the last three days captured from the Rumanians more than 10,000 prisoners, several cannon and much field material. Fighting progressed on the whole front, the statement declared.

Fighting on the Somme Berlin, via wireless to Sayville, Dec. 12.—On the battle field of the Somme the fighting activity of our artillery which since the end of November had considerably diminished was temporarily increased again in the afternoon, said today's German official statement.

Along the east bank of the Meuse and near Moselle there was strong cannon and mine throwing firing without infantry activity. Entente troops suffered one more severe sanguinary reverse on both banks of the river yesterday, today's official statement of the Macedonian fighting declares.

Every day, with desperation, the entente troops, especially the Serbians, storm against the German and Bulgarian positions on both banks of the Cer, the statement commented. Also yesterday they suffered there one more severe sanguinary defeat.

Kaiser Notifies Troops Berlin, Dec. 12.—Kaiser Wilhelm notified his troops in the field today that he had made peace proposals to the enemy.

Soldiers, his message said, "in agreement with sovereigns of my allies and with consciousness of victory, I have made an offer of peace to the enemy."

Whether it will be accepted is still uncertain. Until that moment arrives you will fight on.

WHEAT SPECULATORS GIVEN HARD JOLT

News of Peace Proposals Greases Skids and Price Drops 10 Cents

Chicago, Dec. 12.—Announcement of Germany's peace terms caused a sensational decline in wheat today, compared with last night's close, December last 10 3/4 cents, May 9 3/8 cents and July 5 cents, December closed at \$1.54; May \$1.05 3/4 and July \$1.43. The market closed very weak, heavy declines being registered in the last hour.

When the news broke just after the opening the market longed poured their grain into the pits and prices shot downward. Later, speculators saw the possibility that terms Germany might offer would not be acceptable to the allies and buying seat prices up moderately. The opening was lower by two points, except in the case of December, which opened 6 3/4 cents below yesterday's close, December was later 1 1/2 down below today's opening at \$1.57 1/2; May down 4 5/8 cents at 1.09 3/8 and July down 1 7/8 at \$1.44 7/8.

Transport Summer Ashore Off Barnegat

New York, Dec. 12.—The United States transport Summer is ashore off Barnegat, N. J. Wireless messages from the vessel, which went ashore in the fog last night, indicated early today she was expected to be floated again before evening. The sea is light and the Summer was resting easily, according to her reports.

PROPOSALS FOR PEACE STIR THE ANIMALS IN NEW YORK'S MENAGERIE

Bears Get After Bulls and All Stocks Feel Effect of Raid

New York, Dec. 12.—Chancellor Hollweg's announcement that Germany had formally proposed peace caused a near panic in Wall street today and prices on the stock exchange broke two to five points.

In spite of the mad rush of bears to sell, the stampede apparently had been halted an hour after the Berlin flash appeared, by the belief of conservative traders that the announcement does not mean peace is near.

Anglo-French bonds, which yesterday dropped to a new low level, advanced 1 1/2 to 93 1/2 as the result of the Hollweg announcement. Great Britain and Ireland five per cent sold up half at 98 3/4 and City of Paris six per cent bonds sold at 95 1/4.

More than a million shares had been dumped into the market at noon and of this total 200,000 shares was U. S. Steel common, which dropped from 123 3/8 to 119 1/4, then moved uncertainly between that figure and 120.

The crash carried Bethlehem Steel down 96 points to \$600, but aside from this "war bride" leader prices held remarkably steady and fractional recoveries had been made at noon.

It was reported that many traders who believed the market was due for a slump, following several weeks of general upward movement, had sold short and made big killings today. On the other hand, small speculators who had bought for a rise, saw their margins wiped out and their accounts closed.

In the foreign exchange market German marks and Vienna kronen, both of which sold at new low records yesterday, advanced today. Mark cables were quoted at 66 1/2, against 65 3/4 yesterday, and kronen rallied from 10.82 to 11.20.

The scene on the curb was of great activity and barking of orders on a glistening pavement while darkened skies alternately spilled sleet and snow. The curb brokers jostled one another, clad in raincoats and wearing "alike" hats of various colors, the colors denoting their firms.

It was Bruins Innings. New York, Dec. 12.—Bear traders raided the stock market with success in many quarters during the first 20 minutes trading today, sending U. S. Steel to 122 1/2, off nearly a point, and causing recessions of a point or more in most of the more active stocks.

UNITED STATES NOT TO ACT UNTIL FULLY INFORMED

Will Forward Notes at Once If That Is All That Is Asked

BUT WOULD HESITATE IN MAKING SUGGESTIONS

Would Have to Consult Other Neutrals Before Taking Any Action

By Carl D. Groat. (United Press staff correspondent.)

Washington, Dec. 12.—If Germany's peace proposals are such that she merely wishes the United States to act as courier in transmitting them, this government will pass the proposals along without any comment of her own.

On the other hand, if Germany's proposals are that the United States itself, along with other neutral nations, shall make proposals in their own name in Germany's behalf, the administration will study the proposal before taking action.

This does not mean, however, that the United States would not transmit the proposals under the second plan. These facts were officially revealed at the state department shortly after Secretary Lansing was shown United Press dispatches from Berlin saying that Germany had initiated a peace move.

Insofar as the United Press dispatches show, Germany's course, officials pointed out, is unprecedented. For that reason, Secretary Lansing was unwilling to commit himself as to the United States' attitude.

If Germany's offer involves merely the use of the United States as a messenger, the state department will send along her note as a matter of course and diplomatic courtesy.

But a larger question is involved in case Germany wants neutral nations to do the sounding out or to make definite proposals. In that case the attitude of the allies, tested out by public opinion abroad and by secret American diplomatic investigation, will have a broad bearing upon what this government does.

SOME SUGGESTED CABINET CHANGES

Will All Stay With Exception of Attorney General Gregory

Washington, Dec. 12.—"I will recommend next fall," is Secretary of the Navy Daniels' significant statement at the house naval committee hearing, which was today credited here as being his informal way of setting at rest reports and rumors that he would quit his post.

CHANCELLOR'S POSITION

Berlin, via London, Dec. 12.—"If in spite of today's offer of peace and reconciliation, the struggle between the nations should continue, Germany and her allies are resolved to continue the war to a victorious end, but they solemnly decline every responsibility before humanity and history," was one of Chancellor Bethmann-Hollweg's outstanding declarations in the reichstag today.

GEORGE MAY OUTLINE ENGLAND'S COURSE

English Officials Say Partial Disarmament Must Be Peace Feature

FIRST ENGLISH COMMENT

London, Dec. 12.—Today's peace proposals are not likely to affect the course of the war, declared the London Evening Star in the first published comment on Germany's peace move. "Unless the central powers' new found consciousness of responsibility to God has brought them to the stage of surrendering Constantinople and the straits to Russia and restoring Alsace and Lorraine to France, the evacuation of occupied territories and the making of due reparation, today's proposals are not likely materially to affect the war," declared the Star.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Premier Lloyd-George will "discuss" Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg's peace proposals when the former addresses the house of commons in the view of British embassy officials here today.

These officials said they believed the premier might outline England's ideas on peace proposals. Pending his coming speech, the embassy referred to Lloyd-George's recent statement to the United Press for England's ideas on peace. They had no reason to believe, they said, that Lloyd-George's views on that subject had changed since then.

Speaking privately, embassy officials said when given the German embassy's forecast of Germany's peace terms, that the important question of limitations of armament or perhaps partial disarmament must not be omitted if any discussion is to be initiated and continue for any length of time.

Another official said that the whole principle of continuing the war is to convince the German people of the "evil German militarism." Whether the German people yet realize that "evil" is the question which England must decide before she can talk peace, he said.

OTHER NATIONS KEEP EYES ON AMERICA

Deeply Interested In What It Will Do Toward Financing China

Tokio, Nov. 25.—(By mail.)—Foreign powers interested in China and her riches are turning watchful eyes towards America and her inclination, recently shown, to take a hand in financing the Celestial republic. This has been illustrated by the action of the Four Power Land Group—Germany being no longer considered a member—in addressing an inquiry to the Chinese department of finance concerning the loan concluded by the Continental Commer-

NATIONS WOULD BE LEFT AS THEY WERE WHEN WAR BEGAN

Would Restore Belgium, Partially Restore Rumania and Serbia

TO EVACUATE FRANCE AND MAKE POLAND FREE

German Colonies To Be Restored, Some Changes in Balkan Lines

Washington, Dec. 12.—Germany's peace proposals, according to a German embassy official, will include a suggestion that the territorial status of the nations engaged be returned "practically" to what it was before the war started.

The exceptions are establishment of independent kingdoms of Poland and Lithuania and some readjustment of international boundaries in the Balkans. On the latter question, it was said, the situation is so complicated that it is hard at this time definitely to suggest anything like positive terms that would be accepted by all belligerents.

The one concrete suggestion made is that Bulgaria probably will want the return of the territory she lost in the second Balkan war, and it is supposed Germany guaranteed this when Czar Ferdinand cast his lot with the central powers.

The peace terms, the United Press' informant said, include the evacuation of northern France, restoration of the kingdom of Belgium, at least a partial restoration of Rumania and the return to Germany of her lost colonies.

The factors which are said to have led to the German peace proposals at this time are: The favorable military position of the central powers. The fact that the winter at hand will necessitate cessation of hard fighting for three months.

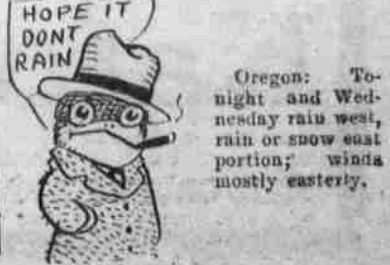
A desire to "smoke out" the allies to announce just what they are fighting for. Desire to convince the world and the German people wherever they are that Germany is not fighting a war of territorial conquest.

Desire, if war continues, to let the world know Germany will not be responsible for further bloodshed. The peace terms outlined, the German official intimated, are not necessarily Germany's final proposition.

The important question is to find out whether the allies will talk peace, said the official. "Germany" makes the proposal in order to find out whether it may be more reasonable to stop fighting before either side is able to get in what Lloyd-George called, in his interview with the United Press, some days ago, "a knock out."

Regions having a semi-arid climate can produce alfalfa successfully in nearly all types of soil and through a wide range of temperatures.

THE WEATHER



Oregon: Tonight and Wednesday rain west, rain or snow east portion; winds mostly easterly.