

The Big Stone Gap Post.

VOL. XXVI,

BIG STONE GAP, WISE COUNTY, VA., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1918.

No. 42

Germany Accepts Terms of Peace Made by Wilson

Full Text of the German Communication in Reply to President Wilson's Inquiry.

"In reply to the questions of the President of the United States of America the German government hereby declares, the German government has accepted the terms laid down by President Wilson in his address of January eighth and in his subsequent addresses on the foundation of a permanent peace of justice. Consequently its object in entering into discussions would only be to agree upon practical details of the application of these terms. The German government believes that the governments of the powers associated with the government of the United States also take the position taken by President Wilson in his address. The German government in accordance with Austro-Hungarian government for the purpose of bringing about an armistice, declares itself ready to comply with the propositions of the President in regard to the evacuation. The German government suggests that the President may occasion the meeting of a mixed commission for making the necessary arrangements concerning the evacuation. The present German government, which has undertaken the responsibility for this step toward peace, has been formed by conferences and in agreement with the great majority of the Reichstag. The chancellor, supported in all his actions by the will of this majority, speaks in the name of the German government and of the German people.—Berlin, October 12, 1918. (Signed) SOLF, State Secretary Foreign Office."

Germany and Austria

Both Represented in New Reply to President Wilson.

(By the Associated Press.)

Germany declares itself ready to comply with the propositions of the President of the United States with respect to the evacuation of occupied territories and in this associates itself with Austria.

Dr. W. S. Solf, the newly appointed foreign secretary, in replying to President Wilson's recent note accepts the terms laid down by President Wilson in his recent addresses "on the foundation of a permanent peace of justice." Future discussions, the reply asserts, would be for the purpose of agreeing upon the application of these terms.

The present German government, it is further announced, assumes the responsibility for this step towards peace and has the support of the great majority of the Reichstag. The Imperial Chancellor, declares the note, speaks in the name of the German government and of the German people.

The President of the United States, it is suggested, may occasion the meeting of a mixed commission to make arrangements for the evacuations.

Allies Are in Accord

Opposed to Any Armistice Without Every Guarantee and President's Answer to Be Speedy and Positive.

London, Oct. 14.—While certain developments are taking place, the Central News Agency says it learns, it can be said that the British government will resolutely oppose the granting of an armistice to Germany unless absolute guarantees, both military and naval, are forth coming.

Washington, Oct. 14.—The official text of Germany's reply to President Wilson reached the Swiss legation here this morning, and the Swiss Charge, Frederick

CALL FOR NURSES

The Red Cross is making an urgent appeal for nurses. Any woman who can help in the epidemic will please ring up 'phone 220 or 62.

considered to be significantly connected with the word from London that the British government is inclined to oppose the granting of an armistice until complete guarantees of both a military and naval nature comes from Germany.

This development, reported in Associated Press dispatches from London, probably has some relation to the announcement Saturday that Great Britain, France and Italy were agreeing upon a common line of action.

The President and Mr. Lansing had been considering the German communication since Saturday night, when the unofficial text reached them.

PRESIDENT SOUNDS

DOOM OF KAISERISM

Washington, Oct. 14.—President Wilson has answered Germany's peace proposal with a decision which not only fulfills the expectations of supporters of his diplomacy but also dispels the fears of those who predicted he would substitute victories at arms with defeats at diplomacy.

No peace with Kaiserism! Autocracy must go; no armistice can even be thought of while Germany continues her atrocities on land and sea; one cannot be considered unless it is fully dictated by the allied commanders in the field in such terms as absolutely provide safeguards and guarantees that Germany's part will not be a scrap of paper.

This in a few words is the President's answer. If it does not bring a capitulation which may be more than unconditional surrender allied diplomats and American officials believe it may cause a revolution in Germany.

Beyond question it speaks for

the Entente Allies as well as the United States.

The dispatch of the President's reply was followed by the issue of this formal statement at the White House by Secretary Tamm:

"The government will continue to send over 250,000 men with their supplies every month and there will be no relaxation of any kind."

Germans in Retreat

British and Americans Pouring Through Breach Between St. Quentin and Cambria.

Paris, Oct. 11.—A quarter of a million Germans now are in full retreat between Cambria and St. Quentin, with the allies hot at their heels, according to the battlefront reports that came in through the night. At some points the advance has exceeded fifteen miles in the last two days.

This forward movement of the allies is regarded as the first step in the great general retreat of the Germans which now seems inevitable, for it is doubtful whether General Ludendorff has such fortified positions on the upper Oise, and Sambre canal as to permit him effectively to resist the exploitation of the victory of the last two days on the allied side.

The success in the Cambria-St. Quentin section of the front was in a large measure made possible by the splendid achievements of General Gouraud's men and the Americans from Rheims to the Meuse. Because a break in that part of the front would have much worse consequences for the enemy than anywhere else, the Germans concentrated most of their reserves there. General Gouraud not only succeeded in holding them there—in itself a valuable service—but notwithstanding the difficult country and the powerful artificial defenses, he has made, and is continuing to make, wonderful progress, thus enhancing the victory farther west.

Yesterday General Gouraud's forces advanced still farther toward the important junction of Vouziers, while the Americans pushed forward and joined the French south of Grandpre, thus completing the conquest of the Argonne forest.

The result of Marshal Foch's skillful strategy is that the region of Laon and the St. Gobain massif has become so dangerous that the evacuation of this vast and important pocket in the near future seems imperative.

In order to conserve paper the government has limited the usual fall output of novels. We shall not object. Every one who reads the news from abroad realizes that nowadays truth is far more interesting than fiction.

One person in six throughout the nation subscribed for the Third Liberty Loan. Let us make it one in five for the Fourth Loan.

Preparing to Combat With Influenza Epidemic

On Sunday morning there was a joint meeting of members of the Town Council and citizens of the town, with Mayor Horsley acting as chairman, the purpose of which was to discuss the conditions existing and expected to develop as a result of the epidemic of Spanish influenza. According to Dr. Barringer, special health officer sent here to review the situation, we are due to have approximately 1700 cases of the disease in this immediate locality, so it at once becomes apparent to every thinking person that drastic steps must be taken to prevent a further spread of the malady and an overwhelming mortality among those already sick.

A Central Committee, composed of Mayor Horsley, Mr. Bliss and Mr. R. B. Alsover, was formed in which was vested, by vote of the Town Council and Board of Health, almost unlimited authority in the matter of handling this most threatening situation. Special officers will be employed to enforce the ordinance always in existence against spitting on the sidewalks, and to prevent the forming of crowds on the streets, in the drug stores, postoffice, or at any other point within the town limits.

Under this Central Committee will be working the entire personnel of the Red Cross, the Associated Charities and the Community League. The Red Cross will have charge of all public nursing, with Miss Minnie Fox, as Chairman of the committee. This committee will advise the Home Service Department of the Red Cross of the different needs of each case that comes under its care, and this department will confer with Mrs. R. B. Alsover, acting for the Associated Charities, when clothing and drugs are needed, and with Mrs. R. E. Taggart, representing the Community League, when any destitute case or family is in need of food.

It will perhaps be well to advise the members of the Community League now of the part they will be expected to play in this work. The Food Committee, consisting of Mrs. Taggart, Mrs. Irvine and Mrs. Howard will from time to time, as the necessity arises, call on the various members to help make and distribute broth and other foods for the sick, and if the epidemic assumes the proportions expected of it, an emergency kitchen will be established in the Domestic Science room of the school building where any girl or woman will be given an opportunity to show just how far her patriotism extends.

The three doctors have promised to report all cases of influenza to the Home Service Department, where a record will be kept of every case, the best source of supply of nurses being among those who have recovered from the disease and thereby obtained immunity for a period of from two to four months.

To all those, both men and women, who have so longed for the glamor and glory of service in France, let us say that the opportunity has been brought home to you to show just how truly you desire to sacrifice yourself on the altar of your country, and this you can do by stepping into the places of the nurses who have gone three thousand miles from home to serve America on the battlefields of France. Let every woman who can volunteer for public nursing in the crisis that is surely coming, and prove herself worthy of the greater sacrifices or those noble ones abroad, to whom our danger would hardly seem a grievance.

Volunteers will be welcomed at the Home Service Department, 'phone 220.

Buy More Bonds

Washington, Oct. 10.—Secretary McAdoo today appealed to every citizen to double his loan subscription to match the achievements of the allied armies in France.

"The brilliant victories of our British, American and French forces yesterday," said the Secretary, should impel every patriotic American immediately to double his subscription to Liberty Bonds.

"That is way to put the Fourth Liberty Loan over quickly, and that is best way to strengthen the fighting power of these brave men who are moving with such irresistible dash and success against the Huns. Let everyone double his subscription today, and let everyone who has not subscribed make his subscription today. Don't put it off. Let our boys and our comrades in the battle line know that we are fighting with the same enthusiasm and determination here as they are over there, and more than all, we appreciate, as well as glory in, what they are doing, not by words, but by deeds."

Secretary Baker is in France studying the aircraft question. He will undoubtedly find that it presents an excellent field for study.

Looking back at French fields the Germans see a flaming sword at the gate of their lost Paradise. They will never enter again.

The Fourth Liberty Loan.

The campaign for the Fourth Liberty Loan begun September 28th and closes October 19th. The amount is for six billion dollars, and the American people, therefore, are called upon to raise a larger sum of money in a shorter length of time than ever before. There is need, therefore, for prompt action—prompt and efficient work and prompt and liberal subscriptions.

We have a great inspiration for a great effort. The news from the battle front inspires every American heart, not only with pride and patriotism but with a great incentive to do his or her part. There is no shirking, no shifting of the individual burden, no selfishness by American soldiers in France; there should be none here. We are both supporting the same country and the same cause—our Army in one way, ourselves in another. There is the harder part but at least we can do our part as promptly and loyally and efficiently as they do theirs.

Back the Fighting Men with The Fighting Loan.

A salient? When the Yanks have been in France a little longer "there won't be no such animile."

The news from abroad is certainly encouraging. But it is not yet quite time to beat the sheilds into plowshares and swords into pruning hooks.

Men who usually read novels have been reading questionnaire instead. It is almost as long as a book and of enthralling interest.