

**REOPEN SERUM PLANT**

University Board of Regents Propose to Follow Governor's Recommendation—Funds Available.

Word has reached the State Railway Commission at Lincoln that more than 1,200 carloads of fine potatoes are stored in warehouses in Nebraska and cannot be placed on the market for lack of shipping facilities. Railroad officials, with whom the matter has been taken up by the railway commission, state that the trouble is due more to lack of motive power than to shortage of cars. They say there are plenty of cars in eastern Nebraska, but no engines to move them. Just now the government is giving priority to shipments of oil from Wyoming, which is badly needed for war purposes. About 100 carloads of oil move through Nebraska each day.

Spanish influenza has made its appearance in many counties in Nebraska and drastic measures have already been taken in scores of cities and towns to halt the spread of the disease. While the situation in some parts of the state is serious, health authorities say there is no cause for alarm.

In a further effort to curb the spread of the epidemic, Surgeon-General Hlue of the public health service at Washington suggested to all state health officers that schools and places of amusements be closed and public meetings be discontinued in all places where the malady becomes prevalent. All chapters of the American Red Cross have been notified to co-operate with state and local health authorities and to freely use its accumulated hospital supplies to fight the epidemic.

Nebraska men of the first draft participated in the famous St. Mihiel drive by which General Pershing put himself in a position to strike at Metz, biggest German munition center and one of the most strongly fortified cities in the world. General March, chief of staff, made known at Washington just the other day. He said the Eighty-ninth division, Camp Funston men, were in the front line of the famous drive.

Word has reached Food Administrator Wattles at Omaha that heavy shipments of military supplies to the American forces in France is responsible for the curtailment of wheat movement. Farmers are advised not to sell their wheat at less than government price because of this contingency.

Letters and telegrams are pouring into Washington by the thousands, according to reports, demanding that congress and the United States stand firmly for unconditional surrender of the German militarists, and many of them are from Nebraskans to representatives from this state.

On account of shortage of the hay crop in Fillmore county, a supply has been secured by County Agent Thomas, from Lexington. The shipment will consist of thirteen carloads, and will be taken by various farms, according to the order given the county agent.

Fremont is wrestling with a shortage of nurses as the result of the influenza outbreak. About 15 nurses from Fremont have entered the Red Cross or other war service within the last few months and physicians are unable to get nurses to handle cases.

The potash case, which is of so much interest to Nebraska, and which has been the cause of holding up leases made by the state board, and which was to have come up in the supreme court last week at Lincoln, has been postponed until the next sitting.

Grain men over the state estimate that the recent rains will be worth millions of dollars to Nebraska farmers. The ground, they say, has been put in excellent condition for plowing and that the moisture will sprout winter wheat already sown.

Jefferson county oversubscribed its quota for the Fourth Liberty Loan bonds on the first day by approximately \$5,000. The quota was \$428,000.

Live stock breeders of Clay county have formed an organization which will have for its purpose the bettering of purebred stock in the county.

Since the new potash plant began operation at Antloch a total of about 700 tons of potash a day is being produced in Nebraska.

On account of the scarcity of help, sugar factories in the western part of the state are using a good many women this year.

Potter, with a quota of \$20,000 in the Fourth Liberty Loan went over the top in a single day's campaign.

Cheyenne county oversubscribed its Liberty Loan quota in less than two days.

A 320-acre farm near Cedar Bluffs sold the other day for \$290 per acre.

After a campaign of one and a half days, Burt county went "over the top" in the Fourth Liberty loan drive. The county's quota is \$979,000.

Prospecting for oil in the vicinity of Potter, is to begin about Nov. 1. At least one well will be drilled by the company backing the project.

Much agitation is manifest in Sheridan county over the question of county division. Petitions are being circulated for a vote on the proposition.

Scottsbluff has issued a call for 100 men to work in the sugar industry. Factories are paying 37 1/2 cents an hour and giving eighty-four hours a week.

Plans are already under way for re-constructing the National Potash company plant, which was destroyed by fire at Antloch, with a loss of about \$300,000.

Nebraska's football team went down to defeat before the Iowa eleven at Lincoln by a score of 12 to 0. It was the first game of the Cornhusker team has lost to Iowa since 1929.

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1—View in the ruins of Lens just after the British recovered it; a large shell is seen exploding in the distance. 2—Marshal Foch and King Albert arranging for the opening of the drive in which the Belgians drove back the Huns. 3—General Berthelot, commander of the French forces operating north of Reims.

**NEWS REVIEW OF THE GREAT WAR**

**Germany's Tricky Peace Move Is Bailed by President Wilson's Diplomacy.**

**ARMIES OPPOSE ARMISTICE**

**Cambrai Captured and Huns' Defensive Line Smashed, Compelling General Retreat—Yanks Successful in Champagne—Beirut Occupied by the French.**

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

Prince Max of Baden, the new imperial chancellor of Germany, requesting President Wilson to arrange for an armistice and a subsequent discussion of peace terms, and stating that Germany accepted the president's 14 points as a basis for the negotiations, evoked three separate and distinct replies. President Wilson answered that he could not suggest an armistice while the German armies were outside the boundaries of Germany, and then asked whether the German government accepted the terms laid down by him and whether its object in entering discussions was only to agree upon the practical details of their application; furthermore, he wanted to know whether the chancellor was speaking merely for the constituted authorities of the empire who have so far conducted the war.

The people of all the allied nations, soldiers and civilians alike, answered Prince Max with a tremendous shout of "Unconditional surrender."

Marshal Foch responded with one of the most powerful attacks of the allied armies, capturing the important city of Cambrai, smashing a 20-mile-wide breach through the Hindenburg line, and forcing back the German armies all along the line from Verdun to the sea.

Nearly all authorities agree that the chancellor's proposal was insincere; that the request for an armistice was made merely to give the military command a chance to reorganize the shattered armies, and that Prince Max knew the suggestion for a peace conference, as he made it, would be rejected, giving him the opportunity to say to the people of Germany: "I have offered to end the war on the enemy's own terms and he refuses. The German nation now must unitedly fight on."

At first there was some disappointment because President Wilson did not reject the German proposal swiftly and bluntly, but a little consideration has convinced almost everyone that he evaded a trap and by his direct questions put the German diplomats in a position of the utmost difficulty. At the same time he left the door open for ultimate negotiations, after Germany has accepted his 14 points and given full guarantees. As for the armistice, he did not agree to that even were the German armies to be withdrawn from all occupied territories, recognizing the fact that the declaring of an armistice is up to the military commanders. The president's note was fully approved, probably in advance, by the allied governments, and was given the highest praise by the press in England and France as well as America.

Any agreed cessation of fighting at this time, short of the abject surrender of the central powers, would bitterly disappoint the soldiers of the allied armies and the people who are hankering them up. Foch's forces have the Germans on the run, and if they are permitted to follow up the Huns on their retreat to the Meuse they will destroy a large part of their effectiveness and capture probably half of their material. On the other hand an armistice would permit the Huns to retire within their borders with their armies intact and prepared to maneuver effectively behind their shortened and powerfully fortified lines. Amnited by a spirit, not of vindictiveness, but of retributive justice, the men of the allied armies feel that no peace should

be granted Germany until her cities, her towns and her people have suffered some of the horrors of war that her brutal soldiers have inflicted on Belgium, northern France and Serbia. The absolute unrepentance of the Huns for their outrages is shown by their action in looting and wantonly destroying the towns in France from which they are being driven and in their practice of carrying away with them thousands of the helpless inhabitants who are forced to work for them like slaves. The formal warning of France that there would be retribution for these shameful deeds has been disregarded, and if adequate punishment is not inflicted there will be a general feeling that justice has miscarried.

President Wilson and his confidential advisers, it is said, still believe the German people will rise in revolution and oust the Hohenzollern crew, and his inquiry as to whom Prince Max represents is significant in that connection. The chancellor, in his speech to the reichstag, undertook rather feebly to demonstrate that recent political changes actually had put the people in power and that he was their representative. But all that was looked on as bunk.

The diplomatic situation resolved itself down to this: The German government must either admit defeat and surrender on allied terms, or it must confess that the chancellor was not acting in good faith. That is the hole in which President Wilson has placed Prince Max and his associates.

The greatest blow delivered by the allied armies last week was between Cambrai and St. Quentin. There Field Marshal Haig's tireless forces, re-enforced by American divisions, tore a 20-mile gap through the strongest of Hindenburg's boasted defenses, capturing dozens of villages and many thousands of prisoners and on Wednesday occupied the long and desperately defended city of Cambrai. The Huns, in full flight, blew up most of Cambrai and burned Bohain, Marcq and many another beautiful town, but the allies did not even stop to extinguish the flames. The enemy apparently was attempting to reconstitute his lines back of the Selle river from Le Cateau to Solesmes, so Haig's troops, led by the cavalry, pushed rapidly forward and the big guns followed so fast that they kept the Huns always under fire. Only the German machine gunners put up a creditable defense, the riflemen who could be overtaken generally surrendering willingly. Prisoners said the German plan was to retreat to the Valenciennes line and then to the Meuse, and it was evident the retirement of the German armies from France was well under way. They will fight all the way back to their borders, of course, but the country is open and the tanks and cavalry of the allies will have daily increasing opportunity to do their part. The Germans still have the strength to maintain a fairly orderly retreat, and if the war is ended by a military decision, it is admitted the Huns may be able to postpone that inevitable event for many months. When they do reach the Meuse they will be behind powerful defenses, but the nature of those defenses is known to the allied commanders, and so far as the fortifications there are concerned, the immense sum just asked of congress for American artillery may be taken to indicate the tremendous concentration of gunfire that will be used to batter them to pieces.

While their comrades were helping the British in the great drive in the Cambrai region, the American First Army was exceedingly busy west of the Meuse. For many days the doughboys battled their way through the Argonne forest, and at the northern end of it they went up against a concentration of Huns gathered for the defense of the Kriemhilde line. Pausing to permit their artillery to pour a rain of shells on the German positions for 19 hours, the Yanks advanced to the attack Wednesday, and by a brilliant and swift advance broke through the enemy line. To the right of them other troops forced their way through the Canal wood, and this made possible the storming of the Mamel trench of the Kriemhilde position. The engineers were advancing right along with the infantry, clearing the way through the entanglements. Important heights south of the Marcq were captured, and the Yankees joined hands

with the French at Laucou. East of the Meuse also the Americans were going forward, and, at the time of writing, these movements, as well as those all along the line, were still progressing.

These operations in France were steadily crushing the great German salient whose apex was near Laon, and the French were maintaining a continuous pressure on both sides of that city. They also were compelling the further retirement of the Huns who still remained south of the Aisne between Neufchatel and Vouziers.

The American air service on the front of the First army clearly demonstrated its superiority during the week. Huge aggregations of bombing planes continually flew over the enemy front lines, communications, back areas and troop concentrations, doing incalculable damage, while the pursuit planes kept the air clear of Hun machines.

The Serbian army kept up the unremitting pursuit of the Austrians in Serbia as the Bulgarians withdrew from that country, or surrendered, according to their agreement. Before the end of the week the Serbs were quite close to Nish and moving ahead steadily. To their west, in Albania, the allied troops made considerable progress. The Italians took Elbasan after crushing determined resistance by the Austrians, and then continued their advance northward.

The occupation of Beirut by French marines only accentuated the troubles of Turkey. The cabinet resigned, after a peace note was said to have been started on its way to President Wilson, and Tewfik Pasha, it was reported, would be the new grand vizier. His sympathies are rather with the allies, and there is little doubt the sultan himself would be mighty glad to get out of the war on the best terms obtainable. London was convinced Turkey had notified Germany it intended to make peace and that the kaiser tried to stave this off by the proposal of the chancellor.

Austria-Hungary was in a condition almost of panic and was nervously awaiting the outcome of Prince Max's effort. Reports from Vienna said the ministerial council had decided to introduce national autonomy "in order to make President Wilson's stipulation an accomplished fact." Among the people of the empire the movement to proclaim the separation of Hungary and Austria was making great headway. Meanwhile the Bohemian leaders were conferring and preparing to declare the independence of their country and its separation from Austria-Hungary, and, knowing the dangers of such action, made their wills and settled their personal affairs.

Boris, who has succeeded to the throne of Bulgaria on the abdication of his father, Ferdinand, adheres to the terms of the surrender made by his armies, and has ordered Germany and Austria to quit his country within a month. Already the rail connection between Vienna and Constantinople seems to be effectually broken.

Three more "victories" by the murderous German U-boats are to be recorded. The Irish mail boat Leinster, the Japanese liner Hirano and the American cargo steamship Ticonderoga were torpedooed. The total loss of life was estimated at more than 900. In the case of the Ticonderoga about 230 were killed, most of them by shrapnel fire after the boat had ceased to resist.

One painful result of the German peace offensive was the decided slowing up of the campaign for the fourth Liberty loan. Presumably because many short-sighted people thought peace was at hand and the money would not be needed, subscriptions to the \$3,000,000,000 loan were distressingly slow in coming in. All the agencies engaged in the campaign redoubled their efforts and the American public was loudly warned that the Hun peace talk must be disregarded and the money must be raised. Uncle Sam needs those six billions and he will get them, and he will need and will get much more. In all probability, before peace is declared and the armies are disbanded, if the people refuse to lend the government all the money it needs, at a good rate of interest, it has other ways of getting funds, and it will adopt them.

**TOWNS FIRE SWEEP**

GREAT TIMBER FIRES IN NORTH KILL HUNDREDS.

**THOUSANDS MADE HOMELESS**

Cloquet and Nine Other Minnesota Cities in Ruins—Earthquake Shakes Porto Rico.

Duluth, Minn., Oct. 15.—With probably 800 persons dead, thousands homeless and without clothing, and with property damage amounting far into millions of dollars, whole sections of northern Wisconsin and Minnesota timber land are smoldering, fire-stricken areas, with only the charred ruins of abandoned, depopulated towns to accentuate the general desolation.

The bodies of 106 victims lie in Duluth morgues. Hundreds more, along the roads leading to Duluth and Superior, lay where they fell when overtaken by the fire.

Twelve thousand homeless and penniless refugees all in need more or less, of medical attention are quartered in hospitals, churches, schools, private homes, and in the army here, while doctors and nurses sent from surrounding communities attend them, and nearly every able-bodied man in the city has been conscripted to fight the flames which now are reported to be dying away.

Reports that the holocaust resulted from the work of enemy agents have been circulated. Definite confirmation is not yet available but it has been learned that incendiaries were driven away from a local ship yard when the fires in Duluth and Superior were burning at their height.

Until a careful census of the burned area is taken no accurate estimate can be made either of the loss of life or extent of property damage. The fires in Duluth and Superior, it is said, destroyed property valued at more than \$1,000,000.

Physicians feared an increase in the influenza epidemic as the result of exposure and privation.

**Quake Rocks Porto Rico.**  
San Juan, P. I., Oct. 15.—At least one hundred and fifty persons lost their lives in the earthquake, which rocked Porto Rico Friday. Almost every town in the islands reports damaged property and scattering fatalities. Reports from the interior are coming in slowly, because of broken communications.

**The German Reply to Wilson.**  
Washington, D. C., Oct. 15.—Germany, reply to President Wilson's inquiry declares Germany is ready to accept President Wilson's peace terms, evacuate the invaded territory, as a prerequisite to an armistice and that the bid for peace represents the German people as well as the government. Although on its face the text of the German note seems to be a complete acceptance of President Wilson's terms the people of the United States and the allied countries should be cautioned against accepting it as such a compliance of the president's demands as will mean immediate cessation of hostilities.

The text of the German note follows:  
"In reply to the question 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 8, and in his subsequent addresses on the foundation of a permanent peace of justice. Consequently, its object in entering into discussions would be only 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 the 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 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 president's government which has undertaken the responsibility for this step towards peace, has been formed by conference and in agreement with the great majority of the reichstag. The commission, reported in all of his actions by the will of this majority speaks in the name of the German government and of the German people."

**Thousands Are Released.**  
With the Anglo-American Forces East of Cambrai, Oct. 15.—Nearly 10,000 French civilians have been liberated from the Germans by the advancing British and Americans. Four thousand civilians were found in Bohain alone. They were in a pitiful condition, having been without food for three days when rescued. Two thousand five hundred civilians rescued at Caudry rushed from the town as the British stormed toward it, waving their arms. Germans had robbed them of all their belongings.

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