

WEEK'S PEACE TALK, KAISER IS SILENT

Emperor Wilhelm Considers the Inquiry of United States for Several Days.

NO REPLY RECEIVED SO FAR

Chronology of Movement Revealed After Canvass of Officials, Diplomats and Others Directly Concerned in Incident.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13.—Emperor Wilhelm has had under consideration for several days, it was learned tonight, an informal inquiry from the United States government as to whether Germany desires to discuss terms of peace with its foes.

Up to a late hour no reply had come, but on his report depends to some extent whether or not the informal peace movement inaugurated last week ago tonight can be pursued further with Great Britain, France and Russia.

The inquiry was not a formal one such as President Wilson's original tender of good offices, but was an effort of an official character to determine whether Germany's reported willingness to talk peace was based on fact.

The chronology of the peace movement was revealed tonight after a canvass of officials, diplomats and others directly concerned in the incident. The story of the seven days of peace talk, as told by some of the principals, is substantially as follows:

Dinner with Spenser. Saturday, September 5.—Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, dined with James Spenser, the banker, at the latter's residence in New York.

Previous to the ambassador's conversation with the chancellor, Emperor Wilhelm had already known that President Wilson's tender of good offices, but had been noncommittal as to its acceptance.

Confers with Bryan. Sunday, September 6.—Mr. Straus arrived in Washington and went to the home of Secretary Bryan where they secretly conferred. The secretary communicated later with President Wilson. It was decided to get the German ambassador's consent to forward a report of the incident to Ambassador Gerard for discussion with the German foreign office.

Monday, Sept. 7.—The German ambassador reached Washington and conferred privately with Mr. Bryan. As a result of the conference the secretary called Ambassador Gerard to convey to Emperor Wilhelm an inquiry from the American government as to whether he desired to confirm the statement reported to have been made by him to the imperial chancellor and repeated by the chancellor to Count Von Bernstorff in private conversation.

Report the Incident. Copies of the message to Ambassador Gerard were sent by Secretary Bryan to Ambassador Page at London and Ambassador Herrick at Paris.

Tuesday, Sept. 8.—Secretary Bryan told the British ambassador, Sir Cecil Spring Rice, what had occurred in detail and learned that the ambassador similarly had made inquiry of his government to learn its attitude toward peace.

Cables Ambassador. Wednesday, Sept. 9.—Sir Edward Grey discussed with Ambassador Page the inquiry which the latter had received from Secretary Bryan. On the same day Sir Edward Grey cabled the British ambassador that as Great Britain, France and Russia had in the preceding week agreed not to make peace without common consent, the position of the triple entente was unanimous on the question of terms.

Allies' Victory Appears To Be More Complete Says General Joffre

PARIS, Sept. 13.—The following communication from General Joffre, commander-in-chief of the French army, was made public this afternoon: "The battle of the last five days has ended in an undeniable victory. The retreat of the first, second and third German armies is hastening before our left and before center in turn, the fourth German army is commencing to fall back to the north from Vitry-le-Francois and from Sermaise-les-Bains, in the province of Marne, seventeen miles east of Vitry-le-Francois."

Take Many Prisoners. "However, the enemy has left upon the battlefield many wounded and quantities of munitions of war. Also in gaining possession of the German general staff to Belgian accusations."

Invasion Must Be Driven Back. Thursday, Sept. 10.—The French ambassador called on Secretary Bryan, and it is understood, discussed the point of view of France. Ambassador Herrick coincidentally reported the earnest wish of France that there might be peace, but pointed out that until the French had driven the invaders from their territory and Belgium had been compensated, terms of peace could not be negotiated.

German Militarism Had Been Crushed. On the same day came personal messages from Emperor Wilhelm and President Poincare of France concerning the use of dum-dum bullets.

Friday, Sept. 11.—President Wilson and Secretary Bryan conferred on the general situation and it is understood, determined to await the reply of the German government to the inquiry sent on the previous Monday before acknowledging the two personal messages from Emperor Wilhelm and President Poincare. Should the emperor's reply be a favorable one, the president may take advantage of the message addressed to him to express a hope that the atrocities complained of may be ended through the making of peace.

WHY GERMANS IN BELGIUM DID SO MUCH REAL HARM

(Continued from Page One.)

I counted them. How about a little girl, 2 years old, who was shot while in her mother's arms by a Hun, and whose funeral I attended at Heyatopdenberg? How about an old man hung from the rafters of his home by his hands and roasted by a bottle built under him?"

Horrible, but "Was." The general seemed taken aback by the exactness of my data.

"Such things are horrible, if true," he said. "Of course, our soldiers, like the soldiers of all armies, sometimes get out of hand and do things which we never would tolerate if we knew it. At Louvain, for example, I sentenced two soldiers to twelve years' penal servitude each for assaulting a woman."

"Apronpos to Louvain," I remarked, "why did you destroy the library?" "We regretted that as much as anyone else," answered the general. "It caught fire from burning houses, and we could not save it."

"But why did you burn Louvain at all?" I asked. "Because the townspeople fired on our troops. We actually found machine guns in some of the houses."

And smashing his fist down on the table: "Whenever civilians fire on our troops, we will teach them a lasting lesson. If women and children insist on getting in the way of bullets, so much the worse for women and children."

About the Zeppelins. "How do you explain the bombardment of Antwerp by Zeppelins?" I queried. "Zeppelins have orders to drop their bombs only on fortifications, and soldiers," he answered.

"As a matter of fact," I remarked, "they destroyed only private houses, innocent civilians and several women. If one of those bombs had dropped 200 yards nearer my hotel, I would not be smoking one of your excellent cigars today."

"That is a calamity, which, thank God, did not happen," he replied. "If you feel for my safety as deeply as that, general," I said earnestly, "you can make quite sure of my coming to no harm by sending no more Zeppelins."

Appeals for Fairness. "Well, Herr Powell," he said, laughing, "we will think about it." And he continued gravely: "I trust you will tell the American people, through your great American papers what I have told you today. Let them hear our side of this atrocious business. It is only justice that they should be made familiar with both sides of the question."

I have quoted my conversation with General Von Hoelst as nearly verbatim as I can remember it. I have no comments to make. I will leave it to the readers of the World and The Bee to decide for themselves just how convincing

FRENCH REOCCUPY TWO LOST CITIES

Recover Luneville and Soissons, According to Official Communication at Paris.

RETREAT OF GERMANS STILL ON

Tentons Are Also Reported to Be Evacuating Southern Part of Province of Alsace in the East.

LONDON, Sept. 13.—A dispatch to the Reuter Telegram company from Paris says the French reoccupied Soissons, department of Aisne, at 6 o'clock Saturday evening.

Retreat Continues. PARIS, Sept. 13.—An official communication issued tonight says: "First—On our left wing the general retreat of the Germans continues before the French and British forces who have reached the lower courses of the Aisne."

Second—Likewise in the center the German armies are retreating. We have crossed the Marne between Epernay and Vitry-le-Francois. On our right wing the enemy has in like manner begun today a retiring movement, abandoning the region around Nancy. We have reoccupied Luneville."

Service on the Northern railway, which was interrupted by the German invasion, is gradually being resumed between Paris and the more distant suburbs. The road from Havre to Paris has been reopened.

Evacuating Southern Alsace. MILAN, Italy, Sept. 13.—(Via Paris.) A dispatch to the Corriere Della Sera from Basel, Switzerland, says that the Germans are evacuating southern Alsace.

Germans Take Two Hundred Thousand

ROTTERDAM (via London), Sept. 13.—A dispatch to the Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant from Berlin says that the number of prisoners of war now in Germany is about 200,000. Among these prisoners are 1,330 Russian officers and 51,479 privates; 46 Belgian officers and 30,230 Belgian privates, and 160 English officers and 7,530 privates. The captives include two commanding generals of the French army, two commanding generals of lesser rank of the Russian army and the Belgian commandant at Liege.

Indigestion and Weak Stomachs. Take Electric Bitters. It gives an appetite, strengthens the digestive organs, lessens the work of liver and kidneys, and cures all ailments.—Advertisement.

Censor Thinks Kale and Beans in Message are Proof of Conspiracy

NEW YORK, Sept. 13.—"Kale all gone, wire thirty beans at once," was a message causing the imprisonment in Germany of Dr. Alexander Becker, instructor at the manual training high school in Brooklyn, who arrived here today. The telegram was sent from Bienna, Italy, by Dr. Becker's colleague, Prof. Edouard San Giovanni. When the German censor at Markirch, in Alsace, intercepted this message the strange words evidently aroused his suspicion. "Kale" looked somewhat like "Kehl," a town in Baden-on-the-Rhine, and "beans" bore some resemblance to "bombs." Apparently the censor concluded that Dr. Becker was implicated in a plot to blow up the big bridge at Kehl. He was kept in a cell for thirty hours. Then he was given twelve hours to leave Germany, and fled to Switzerland.

Three weeks later, when Dr. Becker met Prof. San Giovanni in Naples, the latter explained that as soon as the war broke out the bank in Bienna, where he had deposited all his funds, closed. He had friends in the telegraph office and did not wish them to know his predicament, so when he appealed to Dr. Becker for funds he had used American slang.

Berlin Sends Word Through the French Capital of Retreat

PARIS, Sept. 13.—A Havas dispatch from Bordeaux gives the following official communication issued at Berlin: "The news is received from headquarters that the army situated east of Paris and which had advanced across the Marne was attacked by a superior force of the enemy proceeding from Paris between Meux and Mont Mirail."

The battle lasted two days, resulting in heavy losses on both sides. The French troops advanced and our troops retreated, followed by columns of strong French troops. "The situation in the region of the Vosges remains without change. In eastern Prussia, fighting has recommenced. The news is received from the army commanded by the crown prince that the forts south of Verdun have been bombarded since Wednesday by heavy artillery."

Serbs Yield to Give False Information

LONDON, Sept. 13.—The Prague newspaper Bohemia, according to an Amsterdam dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company, publishes an interview with a badly wounded Austrian captain concerning the Serbian methods of warfare. The Austrian says that many Serbians surrendered merely in order to give misleading information to their captors or to commit assassination. Some of the prisoners threw hand grenades at the Austrians, accompanying them and managed to escape by the excitement created by such an unexpected attack.

Germans Move Troops From the East to West

LONDON, Sept. 13.—A dispatch to Lloyd's News from Petrograd, dated Saturday, says that the Germans again are moving troops from the eastern field of operations to the west.

Servians Go North To Join Armies With Russian Columns

LONDON, Sept. 13.—A dispatch from Niall, Serbia, to the Exchange Telegraph company says: "Following their capture of Semlin, the Servians acting in harmony with the plans of the Russian general staff, are preparing to march on Budapest, where they will unite with Russian columns, which are advancing westward. This will constitute a menace to the German flank. The Servians are leaving the bulk of the work in the invasion of Bosnia to the Montenegrins."

GERMAN OFFICERS SUFFER HEAVILY IN THE FIGHTING

ROTTERDAM (via London), Sept. 13.—A dispatch from Berlin says that the total losses sustained by the Germans, including the twenty-first casualty list, which has just been published, are given as 4,326 dead, 8,331 seriously wounded and 4,342 slightly wounded. The number of officers killed and wounded was extremely high. The ratio of the wounded to the dead was about two to one, which is also extreme, the usual ratio being five to one. It is not known to what date the list extends.

Washington Affairs

The Interstate Commerce commission ruled that freight rates on salt from Michigan fields to western states were prejudicial as compared with rates from Chicago and Milwaukee. Readjustment was ordered on rates from Chicago, Detroit and Akron to Ohio river crossing. House confers on the Clayton anti-trust bill. Senate amendment relating to the exemption of labor unions from the operation of Sherman anti-trust law, and restricting the use of injunctions in labor disputes. The conference will continue next week, consideration of amendments to the price discrimination tying clause contract and interlocking directorate prohibitions.

COLD WEATHER. Frost will soon be here. Have you any coal in your bins? If not, telephone us for a load of our EXCELLO LUMP, the Blue Flamed Near-Anthracite, \$5.00 per ton. Lasts, Heats and Satisfies. We are exclusive agents. Olympic Coal, all sizes \$6.50. Coal Hill Lump (Illinois) \$6.00. Coal Hill Nut (Illinois) \$5.50. Comet Lump \$5.00. Cherokee Nut \$5.00. These prices will probably be good for all season. But get started with us NOW. Every ton of our coal is guaranteed. If not satisfactory, we remove it free of charge. Coal Hill Coal Co. 211 SOUTH 10TH STREET. Telephone D-978.

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AMUSEMENTS. IF IT'S AT THE GAYETY IT'S GOOD. Devoted to Strictly Clean, Classy MUSICAL BURLESQUE. TWICE DAILY ALL WEEK Mat. Today. We've all heard the song, "Oh, You Million Dollar Doll". It was good and we wouldn't mistake it with. But no more, as we now have the real, live, flesh-and-blood article—T \$1,000,000 DOLLARS. Featuring the Two Sams, LEWIS & DODY. In a Two-Act Musical Farce, "THE PHONEY DETECTIVE". Wonderful Cast of Principals, including FLORENCE BELMONT, EDDIE NELSON, Walter Johnson, Florence Talbot, Marcelle Cherie, Cliff Worman, and the BABY DOLL BEAUTY CHORUS. DEAR READER: In their forsaking vaudeville burlesque, they forsaking vaudeville burlesque, they forsaking vaudeville burlesque. This is Lewis & Dody's first plunge into the big business of vaudeville. And that Eddie Nelson party—I'll leave it to you and you'll simply imagine a sure "comer". E. L. JOHNSON, Manager Gayety. Evenings, Sunday & Holiday Mats. 10c, 25c, 50c and 75c. Week Mats. 15c and 25c. A Few Day Mats. 10c and 25c. Buy your tickets at any of our ticket agencies. LADIES 10c DAY MATINEE. TICKETS 10c DAY MATINEE. Baby Carriage Garage in the Lobby.

Orpheum. Douglas 494. Phone. ADVANCED VAUDEVILLE. This week "Taking Things Easy." Minnie Allen, Woodman & Livingston, The Randall, Harry Green, H. B. Martin, Jack & Paris, The Orpheum Travel Weekly. Prices: Matinee—Gals. 10c; best seats (except Saturday and Sunday) 15c; Nights—10c-20c-30c-75c. Last Call For Redpath Entertainment Series Tickets. Better Get One Today. They May Be All Gone By Tonight. Main downtown ticket office, Brandeis Picture Dept. Branch offices, Meyers-Dillon Drug Store, Hospe Music Store and Hayden Bros. Music Dept.

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