



## GERMANY FEARS ALLIES ON WEST FRONT; RUSSIANS HEAR KAISER'S PEACE TERMS

### NO ANNEXATIONS AND NO INDEMNITIES ARE KEY TO NEW PROPOSAL

Von Kuehlmann Presides Over Russ-German Conference at Brest-Litovsk; Emperor Announces Intention to Attend if Agreement is Reached; All European Rulers May Be Invited.

Peace without annexations and without indemnities, the formula adopted by the German Reichstag in its peace resolution last July, is the keynote of the Russian peace terms now being discussed at Brest-Litovsk.

The Russian terms have been submitted to the representatives of the central powers, who have taken them under consideration.

#### NO ANNEXATIONS.

No compulsory annexation of territory seized during the war and immediate evacuation of it and no contributions to be required from belligerent countries are proposed by Russia. This is similar to the Reichstag resolution, which, however, was not accepted by Dr. Michaelis, who was then German imperial chancellor.

Russia suggests that countries deprived of their independence during the war be reinstated and that national groups not independent before the war shall decide their status by a referendum.

Germany scored a point in the selection of Dr. von Kuehlmann, its foreign secretary, as permanent chairman of the conference.

Emperor William, it is reported unofficially, intends to go to Brest-Litovsk, if the diplomats now there arrive at an agreement, to attempt to assemble all European rulers in a peace conference. The German ruler is said to have declared that everybody wants peace.

#### SUPREMACY EFFORT IN ITALY.

The heavy fighting which has marked the situation on the Italian northern front for the last few weeks has almost subsided and only local encounters have taken place along the line from Asiago to the Piave.

Indications are, however, that the Austro-Germans will again initiate a strong offensive in an effort to reach the plain, or the northern edge at least, before severe winter weather halts large scale operations.

Raid and local attacks have been carried out in the Ypres and Verdun sectors, on the western front. The Germans gained slightly in a local attack on the Ypres-Staden railway, but at all other points on both the British and French fronts they were repulsed. The artillery has been extremely active in the Ypres and Verdun sectors.

#### Palestine in Allied Hands.

General Allenby has begun successfully an advance along the Mediterranean coast north of Jaffa. Palestine, after crossing the Nahr El Auja, his troops on Saturday reached the plain of Sharon and captured ten towns near the Nahr El Auja.

General Sarraill, who has been in command of the allied armies on the Macedonian front for the last two years, has been recalled by the French government. He will be succeeded by General Guillaumat, who commanded the French forces in their brilliant stroke northeast of Verdun last summer.

#### Surgeons Barber and Stitt To Be Made Rear Admirals

Washington, Dec. 24.—Medical Directors George H. Barber and Edward R. Stitt, of the navy, will be promoted from the rank of captain to rear admiral as soon as congress re-assembles in recognition of distinguished services.

Dr. Barber is at the head of the naval hospital in Los Angeles, Colo., and Dr. Stitt is president of the naval medical school at Washington.

### The Weather

For Nebraska—Fair; cold wave in southeast portion.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday:

Hour	Temp.	Wind	Dir.
6 a. m.	21	W.	25
7 a. m.	21	W.	25
8 a. m.	21	W.	25
9 a. m.	21	W.	25
10 a. m.	21	W.	25
11 a. m.	21	W.	25
12 m.	21	W.	25
1 p. m.	21	W.	25
2 p. m.	21	W.	25
3 p. m.	21	W.	25
4 p. m.	21	W.	25
5 p. m.	21	W.	25
6 p. m.	21	W.	25

Comparative Local Record.

Year	High	Low	Wind	Dir.
1917	25	19	W.	25
1916	23	17	W.	25
1915	21	15	W.	25
1914	19	13	W.	25
1913	17	11	W.	25
1912	15	9	W.	25
1911	13	7	W.	25
1910	11	5	W.	25
1909	9	3	W.	25
1908	7	1	W.	25
1907	5	-1	W.	25
1906	3	-3	W.	25
1905	1	-5	W.	25
1904	-1	-7	W.	25
1903	-3	-9	W.	25
1902	-5	-11	W.	25
1901	-7	-13	W.	25
1900	-9	-15	W.	25

Reports from Stations at 7 P. M.

Cheyenne, cloudy.....	20	22	19
Denver, cloudy.....	20	19	16
Denver, cloudy.....	28	32	27
Des Moines, cloudy.....	24	24	21
Dodge City, part cloudy.....	20	24	20
Elmer, part, cloudy.....	24	27	20
North Platte, cloudy.....	14	14	10
Omaha, cloudy.....	16	27	16
Pueblo, cloudy.....	20	24	19
Rapid City, Snow.....	0	5	20
Salt Lake, pt. cloudy.....	44	48	40
Santa Fe, cloudy.....	42	46	40
Shelby, cloudy.....	4	8	10
Sioux Falls, clear.....	8	14	10
Valentine, cloudy.....	4	8	10

"T" indicates trace of precipitation.  
— indicates below zero.

— WELSH, Meteorologist