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INFLUENZA IS SPREADING.

Over Seven Hundred Cases Davidson County—Eighty-Three in Lexington.

Spanish influenza is spreading throughout the county by leaps and bounds. Sixteen physicians have reported 713 cases up to Tuesday morning. Of these, 31 pneumonia cases have developed and 6 deaths have already occurred from pneumonia as a complication of influenza.

In Lexington, eighty-three cases had been reported up to the noon hour yesterday, with six cases of pneumonia and two deaths.

The county and town authorities have adopted stringent regulations prohibiting all public gatherings of whatever nature. The use of the common drinking cup and common towel at public places is prohibited in the towns of Thomasville and Lexington. All these are vital and necessary measures, still, the effect of all the regulations that the authorities can adopt will be limited until the people themselves adopt precautionary measures. An outline of the necessary things for each family and each individual is published elsewhere in this issue. This summary of the modes of infection, precautions for safeguarding the individual and the public, and care of the patient embraces practically every essential thing in connection with the infection, control, and care of the sick. Please preserve the article and study it until every member of the family and all of your neighbors are familiar with every phrase in it, then get down to business and practice these precautions absolutely.

We have good reason to expect from ten thousand to fifteen thousand cases of influenza in Davidson county within the next few weeks. Plans are already matured to organize each school district, through its committee and teachers, for citizens' family aid, under the auspices of the American Red Cross, by direction of the Governor, the State Board of Health, State Department of Health, State Council of Defense and the United States Army School Committee and teachers are urgently requested to meet immediately in each school district, secure the names of all in the school district who are willing to give practical assistance, stipulating the number of hours a day and the number of days a week that they can devote to this in their own school district. Notice to this effect will be mailed to the teachers and committees as rapidly as the health department can get them out. Do not wait for this, however.

It is requested that a chairman who will remain in communication with the local committee and county health office. Call the health office at once and the earliest possible date for your community will be arranged for personal instruction of your members. The whole county can be organized within the next few days if everybody will get busy. The spread of the epidemic will be materially lessened, serious complications very largely avoided, sick families provided for in nursing and other essentials, and many human lives saved. This is too important to permit anything else to interfere with the preparation for a practical certainty. Get busy today. Do not wait for the school committees and teachers of the district, but let every interested citizen appeal to them at once and assist in the organization.

Fifteen physicians have been reached on the telephone in the last few hours. Every one of these physicians has stated emphatically that no serious complications have arisen among patients who have gotten immediately to bed, secured a physician quickly and followed instructions. It is becoming more and more difficult to secure physicians quickly, so all intelligent people must be instructed how to take precautions themselves and how to assist their neighbors. These workers will all be instructed carefully how to avoid the infection themselves in the greatest degree, and samples of appliances for this purpose will be furnished each community. This in itself is worth many times the effort for protecting your own families as well as assisting your neighbors. If we all act at once, make thorough preparation, and WORK TOGETHER intelligently, we may be able to avert a serious catastrophe, and will certainly do much good.

The average death rate is only one person out of four hundred cases. So far the death rate in Davidson county has been more than one death out of every one hundred cases. This is due entirely to lack of explicit information among the people. There is no other reason why Davidson county should have six times more deaths from a disease that in most cases is very mild except that the people generally regard it as of no consequence and fail to heed the warnings necessary to prevent fatal complications.

E. F. LONG,
County Health Officer.

County Schools, Churches, Etc. Closed.
The Davidson County Board of Health met yesterday morning and passed the following county-wide regulations, effective until October 25th, for further action.

"Prohibiting all schools, except schools for boarding students having dormitory accommodations that will maintain quarantine for the institution, moving picture shows, fair, circuses, and other public gatherings, including church services and Sunday schools."

"Spanish influenza, or its grippe, which is a reportable disease and every physician practicing in Davidson county is required to report every case within the County Health Office within three hours. Householders are required to report cases and to be vaccinated."

"Mr. A. J. McDonald was a guest at the State Hotel yesterday. He is the first person to be vaccinated."

SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED.

Board of Health and Town Commissioners Order Schools, Churches, Theaters, Etc. Closed.

The public schools of Lexington, all churches, theaters and other places of public gathering in the town are closed indefinitely, as a result of a joint meeting of the County Board of Health, Board of Town Commissioners, and Graded School Commissioners, held in the county courthouse last Saturday afternoon.

This step was taken after a conference between the above Boards with the county Health Officer and several physicians of the town as to the best means of combating the spread of the present epidemic of Spanish influenza. At Saturday's meeting it was announced that were probably forty cases of the disease in Lexington, with many new cases being reported each day.

After the decision to close the schools, churches, theaters, etc., had been reached, the Board of Town Commissioners adopted the following ordinance:

"Section 1. That until this ordinance is repealed, it shall be unlawful to hold any public meeting or gathering, or to maintain, operate, or conduct any motion picture or vaudeville show, theater, or other entertainment; or to hold any Sunday school or church service or meeting, in the Town of Lexington.

"Section 2. That the public schools of the town of Lexington be closed until such time as this ordinance shall be repealed.

"Section 3. Any person, firm or corporation violating any provision of this ordinance shall be subject to a penalty of \$50.

"Section 4. This ordinance, being in the interest of public health and having for its purpose the prevention of the spread of Spanish or epidemic influenza in the town, shall go into effect immediately upon its passage."

After the ordinance was passed, Mr. Bowman introduced the moving picture show, which was closed up, the churches called in their announcements for Sunday services, and prominent speakers who were to have been here this week in the interest of the 4th Liberty Loan, were notified not to come. Among these speakers was Senator Kenyon, of Montana, who was to have spoken in the court house last night.

On last Thursday, the Town Commissioners adopted the following ordinance: "The use of the common drinking cup and other common articles for drinking water, such as articles or crockery in any drug store, cafe, restaurant, hotel, soft drink stand, store or other place of sale, or at any school, factory, shop, club, railway station, public hall, public institution or any place where the public gathers or is served is hereby prohibited. Any person, firm or corporation violating this ordinance shall, on conviction, be fined \$5 for each offense."

This ordinance shall be in effect on and after this date.

Volunteer Nurse Class.
At a call meeting of the Red Cross in the court room Saturday afternoon it was decided to call for volunteers to co-operate with public health service and the State Board of Health and prepare themselves for emergency nursing to aid in controlling the influenza situation. There are no trained nurses in town and those of other towns and cities are already overworked, looking after the victims of this disease at these places. A canvass was made Sunday afternoon and a number of women and young ladies agreed to take a special course of training at once, under the direction of Dr. Long, county physician, Miss Moore, trained nurse of Erlanger Mill Village and other resident physicians who were willing to assist.

The first lecture was given by Dr. Long in the court room Monday afternoon at four o'clock. Another was conducted by Miss Moore yesterday at the same hour.

The names we give below are those who have signed the following pledge and are expecting to attend the lessons and lectures so that they may be prepared to nurse any case of influenza in the city:

In consideration of the urgent demand for nurses incident to the present epidemic of influenza, and of the limited supply of nurses to meet this unusual demand, I hereby apply for enrollment in Lexington Township Red Cross Nurses Reserve Corps, and agree to accept such duty to service as may be made or approved by J. J. Scruell, District Committee on nurses, provided that I shall not be placed on duty for more than _____ hours out of twenty-four and shall not be called to service for more than _____ in a week.

Mrs. Minnie Layden, Mrs. J. B. Wright, Mrs. Chas. Young, Mrs. Paul Hinkle, Mrs. D. L. Brinkley, Miss C. Page Hunt, Miss Jessie Loumax, Miss Page Thomas, Miss Helene Thomas, Miss Helen Barshady, Mrs. J. T. Hedrick, Mrs. H. R. Baskette, Mrs. C. G. Harrigan, Mrs. J. C. B. B. Carter, Mrs. L. E. Miller, Mrs. Gertrude Hassner, Mrs. L. E. Miller, Miss Mary McCarry, Miss Annie Mable Propoy, Mrs. M. K. Booker, Mrs. J. Thompson, Mrs. Cliff Thompson, Miss Ross (Will).

\$175,000 SUBSCRIBED FRIDAY.

Great Crowd Gathers War Trophy Train at Lexington—Prominent Speakers Heard.

More than \$175,000 in Liberty Bonds was the amount reached by the citizens of Lexington and vicinity while the War trophy train was at the Southern depot last Thursday evening. The train was late and the crowd eager in their desire to see the relics and trophies on board, yet they greeted the speakers with enthusiasm and excitement ran high as soon as the opportunity was given them to subscribe to the Fourth Liberty Loan fund.

While the crowd gathered the Erlanger band entertained them with a number of choice patriotic tunes, and the whistles of the nearby furniture plants blew long and loud. Upon the arrival of the train a loud cheer was given by the great throng which had, by this time, gathered all around the station. Men and boys were on top of roofs, cars, and every platform, while the edge of the yard was surrounded with crowded automobiles.

Chairman Bowman, who had charge of the train, said he found the largest crowd in Lexington he had met anywhere on his tour. He told, briefly of the fine results the committee in charge had met in the towns they had visited and called special attention to the generous subscription made at Thomasville. He then introduced four heroes who had part in the great battle of Chateau Thierry, France. Two of these were French soldiers—Corporal Jambou and Private Phanschmidt. These two men were highly decorated with medals of honor, given them by their government, for bravery. The other two were American soldiers who had been sent home on account of disability. Private Bert Mitchell, of Texas, who had lost one eye in battle and Corporal Harry Rogers, of Oklahoma, who had not recovered from the effect of gas.

After these soldiers had been seated Mr. Bowman introduced the Hon. Cranville Jones, a distinguished author and speaker. Mr. Jones has been in Europe during the war and told of some things he had seen with his own eyes during his stay in that country. He said while war news was glorious at present the war was not at an end. Even though peace might be possible in the near future, yet our men and those of our allies must remain in camp and on the front for months. There cannot be any peace until Germany gets what she wants and all the wars. She cried for war, she wanted war, and we will let her have it until she cries for peace. While she could march over the land and pillage homes, ravage woman and murder children there was no complaint on her part, everything was as she thought it ought to be. He said he saw twenty-three little children whose hands had been cut off by the brute.

Upon being interrupted every few minutes by passing train he remarked that he was surprised to find himself in a place where he was never out of hearing of a passing train, but he knew those trains were loaded with army supplies for our soldiers to help end the awful struggle we are in. And he stepped aside, a little longer to say that there are now more than 1,000 miles of American railroad in France today with 500 such freight trains on them, to supply our troops and those of our allies with arms, food and ammunition.

He pleaded most earnestly, that every loyal citizen stand by the President and government and buy bonds and then buy bonds again, until the boys at the front came home victorious. The train was made up of four cars, one to be occupied by those in charge, two flat cars and one for trophies. The large field guns were stationed on the flat cars. They were observed with much interest as were the howitzers, helmets, gas masks, 14 inch shells, grenads, throwers and many other interesting things too numerous to mention.

If Your Number Here!

Police officers last Sunday secured the license numbers of ninety-three automobiles operating on the streets of Lexington. Of these, fifty-seven violated the Town Ordinances making it a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of five dollars to operate a motor vehicle at a greater rate of speed than 10 miles per hour within the incorporated limits on Sunday. The other 36 cars were driven at a speed within the law.

The officers were equipped with stop-watches and timed every car passing over the streets. Only a few owners of cars were recognized but license numbers of the automobiles were secured and sent to the Secretary of State at Raleigh Monday night.

When he sends the names back, warrants will be issued against the owners of every car which violated the speed law. Below is printed the license numbers of the cars which were operated over 10 miles per hour: 49,497; 18,549; 32,883; 17,741; 35,271; 55,914; 31,696; 27,329; 38,967; 47,365; 35,107; 65,636; 29,823; 43,611; 58,008; 32,846; 44,937; 33,598; 21,610; 41,811; 30,709; 35,261; 51,469; 26,214; 33,581; 55,580; 55,281; 37,353; 26,596; 44,520; 18,230; 49,411; 60,778; 17,784; 46,536; 35,538; 55,393; 50,230; 69,038; 35,414; 35,664; 37,563; 37,859; 27,502; 35,985; 18,713; 37,959; 18,264; 33,109; 27,744; 47,709; 48,709; 43,181; 58,125; 50,716; 48,859; D-870. 1.

The following cars kept within the prescribed speed limit, but are just as much violators of Uncle Sam's request to conserve gasoline as are the others: 17,940; 52,073; 19,183; 61,136; 50,627; 32,330; 42,077; 42,610; 35,574; 39,272; 22,409; 46,495; 32,468; 19,381; M. C. 489; 21,294; 38,674; 82,964; 62,078; 32,670; 44,545; 64,483; 33,203; 77,534; 43,633; 57,902; 30,510; 37,449; 77,237; 65, 73, 792; 42,604; 44,388; 32,876; 32,328; 44,611; D-870, 29.

REGISTRATION BOOKS OPEN.

Who Must Register—Books Close October 20th—Registrars for Lexington.

The Registration Books for the November election are now open. The books close at sunset, Saturday, October 20th. Open each day, Sunday excepted, from 9 a. m. to sunset; and on Saturday at the polling or voting place.

Young men who have come of age since last election and those who have moved into the county or who have moved from one township or precinct to another must register. To register you must be 21 years old and a citizen of the State two years, the County six months, the township or precinct four months. If you have moved from one township or precinct to another within four months of the election you must register and vote in the township or precinct from which you have moved. You must have paid your 1917 poll tax on or before May 1, 1918, if subject to such tax, or you cannot vote.

The Greensboro public road, Main street and the Salisbury public road divide Lexington township into North and South Lexington precincts. If you live North of this line see Mr. C. H. Hargrave, registrar, at Mr. W. O. Burgin's law office, if south of this line see Mr. Fred O. Sink, Registrar, at the Varner Building.

United War Work Campaign Opens.

The United War Campaign, of which Mr. J. T. Hedrick is chairman for Davidson county, is now well under way, the various committees having been appointed and plans being made for the raising of Davidson County's \$14,400 for this purpose. Below is the Executive Committee and the officers and chairmen of the various committees named to prosecute the work in this county: Executive Committee—J. M. Gamewell, Dr. J. C. Leonard, H. B. Varner, G. W. Montcastle, J. R. McCrary, Lexington; Frank S. Lambeth, Austin; A. H. Ragan, Archibald; John Reynolds, Thomasville; Prof. G. L. Reynolds, Denton.

Campaign Secretary—H. T. Link, Lexington.

Campaign Treasurer—J. E. Foy, Lexington.

Chairman of the different Committees—Publicity, Fred O. Sink; Speakers, W. L. Crawford; Advertising, Dave Leonard; Industrial Division, George L. Haskin; Chairman of Public Schools of Davidson County, Prof. S. G. Hasty; Lexington Township Committee, W. J. Spivey.

Chairman Hedrick has addressed a letter to Prof. Hasty, in which the latter is requested to appoint one teacher in each public school in Davidson county to act as chairman of the school. School children will not be expected to solicit funds, but they are expected to give all they can afford to this fund. Teachers of the various schools are asked to make a list, giving the names of each pupil enrolled and mail said list to Prof. Hasty on or before November 15th. All funds secured are to be turned over to the treasurer, J. E. Foy. The chairman of each school is asked to write Mr. Hedrick on November 15th, giving the total amount of subscriptions secured in their schools to that date.

Women to Begin Y. W. C. A. Campaign.

A meeting of the Civic League was held in the Red Cross room Wednesday afternoon of last week to lay plans to take a part in the coming Y. W. C. A. campaign which is to begin in November. Mrs. T. W. Bickett, of Raleigh, wife of Governor Bickett, is now in France studying Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. work at the front and it is expected she will have returned early in November. She will be active State Chairman of the campaign.

Mrs. James Adderton, president of the Civic League, presided at the meeting Saturday afternoon, and after reading a letter from the secretary of State Executive Committee, Miss Kate Johnson, she explained the work more fully to the ladies present. All members of the Woman's Clubs and Societies of Lexington are solicited in the coming campaign. It is expected that the following committee from these organizations will co-operate with the Civic League. Mesdames, R. L. Burkhead, H. S. Radcliffe, Charles Young, J. C. Leonard, G. W. Montcastle and Clayton Walker from the Missionary societies of the churches; Mrs. Ray McCrary, the Club of the Twelve; Mrs. Richard Bragaw, the Sorosis Club; Mrs. S. W. Finch, D. A. R., and Miss Camille Hunt, U. D. C.

A speaker has been invited to come, at an early date, to address the women of the town and to organize the work.

Company "I" Loses Another Member.

Marvin Lambeth, a private in Co. L, Thomasville, was killed in action on the fighting line in France, according to notices received by his father, William Lambeth, of Randolph county, last Thursday. Young Lambeth was a nephew of Col. Frank S. John W. and R. L. Lambeth, of Thomasville. This is the fourth member of Co. L to lose his life in the service "over there."

Among those reported missing at the front are Bennett Cornelius, Raymond Westermarland and John Hall, of Thomasville. The last two were privates. Cornelius was a corporal in the Thomasville Co. They went to France with their Company last spring.

Senator Simmons Has Influenza.
A Washington Special, dated Monday, says: Senator Simmons was confined to his home today with a severe cold and fever. He has the symptoms of a mild case of influenza, but is not regarded as in danger. Representative Charles Klippel has practically recovered from his attack of the same disease. The senator and both Klippel and Simmons are in the hospital at the base hospital at the front.

HON. FRANK G. ODELL SPEAKS.

"Kultur" is All Germany Invented—Whole Nation Instructed and Treacherous—No Peace.

Hon. Frank G. Odell, of Omaha, Nebraska, and member of the Federal Land Bank, addressed the citizens of Lexington and Davidson county on the public square Saturday afternoon. He has been touring North Carolina during the past few weeks delivering patriotic lectures. We give, below, a few extracts from his discourse.

"It is no part of my purpose at this time to wave the flag or recite the historic glories of the Republic. Time is too precious for perfunctory oratory or phrase-making. Our sons are fighting to the death in France on the far-flung battle line of democracy and the writing of history's most resplendent page awaits the hour when their sacrifice shall be complete and their valor meet its reward in the liberation of the world."

"After a few remarks, of a genial nature, he took up the German nation as his subject. They are only mobs and hordes, he said, and make great claims for themselves that are egotistic in the extreme.

KULTUR IS THE ONLY GERMAN INVENTION.

"The only modern invention of note to be credited to Germany is 'Kultur,' and that, they are welcome to bring the invention of gunpowder and printing by the Chinese before the Teuton emerged from primitive savagery down to the present, he has been an imitator and not an originator. Scan the notable inventions of the past two centuries—the steam engine, stationary and locomotive; the steamboat; the iron clad; the submarine; the torpedo; the abraded shell; the dirigible, both by wire and wireless; the telephone; the typewriter and adding machine; the phonograph and the electric light; the moving picture; the aeroplane; the utilization of illuminating gas; the discovery of high speed tool steel and its adaptation to modern automatic machinery—in fine, the entire catalog of inventions which have lightened labor and speeded up the progress of the world—not a single one in the category of modern invention is of German origin."

"The only thing in which the Teuton race has shown aptitude is in claiming with typical Teutonic egotism the product of greater minds and using the processes devised for human progress for the destruction of life."

"Hereafter let us take our inspiration for progress from the intellectual leadership of liberty seeking peoples and not from a nation of beetle-browed, hog-jawed Egoists, who have his inspiration from 'Kultur,' insubstantial cheese, sauer kraut and lager beer."

THE CITIZEN'S DUTY.

"The duty of the citizen is clear. The line is drawn. You are for America or against her. If you are true to your citizenship you will support your Government in this righteous war with every dollar of your substance if need be. If you are of military age and fit for service you are already enrolled in the great army of the Nation's volunteers. There must be no shirking, no flinching, no weariness. Sacrifice and hardship may be ahead of us. Overtures of peace will be cunningly framed to make the Teutonic alliance secure in its rape of civilization. This cannot be endured."

"The illustrious President of our nation has spoken the conditions of peace and these have been accepted as the voice of our united allies. When peace is made, it will be made on these terms. Germany must and will accept such a peace as will safeguard the right of all peoples to free government and give guarantees of future decency and observance of human rights."

Until that day comes we shall continue to war with the whole might of this nation. Germany has appealed to force and the President has spoken our answer—'Force. Force without stint or limit' until this world is made a safe place for woman and babies to live in."

THE INTELLECTUAL INSPIRATION OF LIBERTY.

"The thing I wish most to get into your minds is this: Liberty develops intellect. Autocracy enclaves and dwarfs both body and mind. God forbid that we should boast. No nation can justify claim a monopoly of brains. But the lovers of liberty have flocked to our shores from every land, inspired by the primal dream of mankind. Here they have found room and encouragement for development of the most brilliant intellectual progress and the greatest scientific and industrial organizations of the ages, under the freest and best government that ever existed. Get your Americanism on straight! The only supremacy that Germany can rightfully claim is in the art of wholesale murder, with special reference to woman and children."

To the Voters of Davidson County.

Mr. M. Irvin Thompson, of Tyro township is running for sheriff of Davidson county on the Democratic ticket. In behalf of Mr. Thompson I would like to state to the voting public that I have known him all his life. He is from one of the oldest, strongest and most patriotic families in the county. He is a young man of fine business ability, with a clean moral life back of his active in church and church affairs. He is a trustee in the church at Tyro and a very active worker. From my dealings with him I would consider him a man in whom anyone could place confidence and trust and one who could hold the confidence of the people at large. He possesses all the good traits of manhood and citizenship. There is no reason why he would not make Davidson county one of the best sheriff's offices in the State. If you will vote for him in the public election, we will be glad to have him as our sheriff."

NEWS FROM THE FRONT.

Peace Proposals Not Popular—German Lines Give Way Over Vast Area—Hindenburg Resigns.

The readers of The Dispatch will find, in another column, the full text of peace proposals made by the German Emperor and German Chancellor to the Allies and President Wilson. We hope they will read and study them carefully. In commenting on them some of the special correspondents to the daily papers give expression in the following tone:

"While Germany and Austria-Hungary are clamoring for peace, the entire allied governments thus far are paying scant heed to the proposals, but their armies are pressing forward to further victories on all fronts. Officially no cognizance has yet been taken of the request of Prince Maximilian, of Baden, the new German chancellor, or that of the Austro-Hungarian government for an armistice on land, on sea and in the air, and the commencement of peace negotiations, for President Wilson, to whom the dual and highly similar proposals are addressed, is not in receipt of them."

Unofficial opinion, however, indicates that the request will fall upon deaf ears and that no peace is possible for the Teutonic allies except through unconditional surrender and acceptance to the full of the terms President Wilson has announced.

The Kaiser's address to the German army and navy announcing the peace offer probably attracted more attention in Washington than the offer itself. In spite of his still arrogant tone, it was realized this was the nearest thing to a renunciation of sullen-rattling that ever has come from him. His admission that the Macedonian front has "crumbled" was looked upon as significant and even his declaration that "our front" will not be broken was called singularly modest from such a source.

One thought concerning the German peace offer that found expression in many quarters was that the Germans, in launching their effort just at this time, probably hoped to affect the fourth Liberty Loan by creating the idea that the end of the war is at hand.

It is believed, however, that their effort will have the directly opposite effect. Officials were confident that the American people will even more generously over-subscribe the loan now as one means of convincing the Kaiser that there shall be no peace except a victorious one.

All eyes in France turned toward America—to Washington and Wilson. "What will President Wilson's reply be?" the people are asking and wondering, now that they know that the central empire, particularly Germany, are seeking the cessation of hostilities and peace through the President of the United States.

The feeling is growing that the central empire, bent upon the greatest gamble of all times, have attempted to bring about by one stroke the termination of their losing game by trying to seek the good office of President Wilson as intermediary.

As Paris emerged from the churchless boulevards or sought temporary abode in cafes bathed in sunshine and everywhere one heard no longer the familiar and hopeful cry of "We shall get them" but the satisfied and contented exclamation "We have got them."

Unconditional surrender characterizes the general sentiment in Paris on the demand for peace sent by the central powers to President Wilson. It is felt here that Germany and her allies have not gone far enough in their request to the President for an armistice, and that although they have the remainder of the world is satisfied that he speaks not alone but with the military masters of Germany in acquiescence, the next logical step would be the withdrawal of every German from every foot of occupied territory.

From that point the allies might begin to test the sincerity of Germany's willingness to continue to the world peace preserving program.

No one in Washington even as much as gives a thought to any proposal that the victorious troops of Great Britain, France, Italy and the United States should halt in an armistice while a "discussion" is conducted. There might be an armistice of the same nature as was given to Bulgaria, an armistice of unconditional surrender.

As stated above the allies continue to press forward at every point along the front and the Germans are forced to give ground before them. They are gradually withdrawing from Belgium to the south, the Americans and French are having to put up a stiff front to overcome the desperate resistance of the German line, but they are steadily forcing him back toward the German border. They are advancing toward Sedan, the great communication line upon which German security on the present front depends.

In the north the Germans have set fire to a number of towns and villages in their retreat which evidently means a retirement from the French front. Heavy explosions have also been heard in this vicinity. The German authorities have been notified by the Allies that if burning of French territory continues the same treatment will be served her upon their entrance into German territory.

Encouraged by the great victories and wide areas taken by the Americans and British the Italians have begun an offensive in the south to drive the enemy from Le Ferre and Laas. Several hundred German prisoners have been taken by the French front. In the Macedonian country the Allied troops have compelled the Austrians to withdraw from Elassaba and several other positions in central Serbia have been taken by the French. It has been officially announced that twenty-one thousand Turks have been taken prisoners and the British began their drive in Pa-

WILL REJECT PROPOSALS.

President Wilson Concurring With the Allies—Has Probably Formulated His Reply.

President Wilson is concurring with the premier of the entente nations over the form of answer to be made to Germany's latest peace proposals. The indications are that it will not be dispatched for a day or two.

While there may be some question as to the form of the reply there is no question whatever as to its nature. It may not use the short and forcible term "unconditional surrender" which would reflect the sentiment which has come from the spokesmen of the nation, but it is sure to convey to the German government clearly the fact that nothing less than the terms already laid down can be accepted, and that those terms cannot be made merely "the basis for negotiations." As to an armistice, such a step would be looked upon as suicidal and not be thought of.

It is very clear that the reply will be not only an answer to Germany but a statement for the historical record of the world. It is realized on every hand that a rejection of a peace offer must be a convincing one and one which will justify the prolonging of the war to the ends sought. It is realized that it must be convincing to the people of Great Britain, France, Italy and the United States, so that they may be warned against the insidious danger of throwing away the hard won victory so near their grasp, and at the same time leave no opportunity for the military leaders of the central powers to lure their people on to more bloodshed and sacrifices.

David Lawrence, writing for the New York Evening Post and Greensboro Daily News says: "The United States government will not accept any peace proposal from the present governments of Germany and Austria. Some day, when the German and the Austrian peoples eliminate the men and the systems which brought on the European war, there will be peace—but not until then."

Germany and Austria may announce until somebody that they are in accord with President Wilson's 14 terms, but it is not words but action that must guarantee such an acceptance. Germany, when it suited her purpose, once before arranged a peace treaty, at Brest-Litovsk, that had democratic provisions in it, and only a fortnight later the German military establishment brushed it, arrogantly aside, with certainty that there but Germany would not do the same if the allies now relaxed their victorious war machinery and talked peace? Who is back of the German peace offer, the old regime or the German people? And if it is the German people, then they must choose other spokesmen than the present personnel.

Emperor Asks for Peace.
Emperor William Sunday issued a proclamation to the German army and navy in which after announcing that the Macedonian front had crumbled, he declared that he had decided, in accord with his allies, to again offer peace to the enemy.

The text of the emperor's proclamation reads: "For months past the enemy with enormous exertions and almost without pause in the fighting has stormed against our lines. In weeks of struggle, often without repose, you have had to persevere and resist a numerically far superior enemy. Therein lies the greatness of the task which has been set for you and which you are fulfilling. Troops of all the German states are doing their part and are heroically defending the fatherland on foreign soil. Hard is the task."

"My navy is holding its own against the united enemy naval forces and is unwaveringly supporting the army in its difficult struggle.

"The eyes of those at home rest with pride and admiration on the deeds of the army and the navy. I express to you the thanks of myself and the fatherland."

"The collapse of the Macedonian front has occurred in the midst of the hardest struggle. In accord with our allies I have resolved once more to offer peace to the enemy but I will only extend my hand for an honorable peace. We owe that to the heroes who laid down their lives for the fatherland, and we make that our duty to our children."

"Whether arms will be lowered is a question. Under them we must not slacken. We must, as hitherto, exert all our strength to hold our ground against the onslaught of our enemies."

"The hour is grave but, trusting in your strength and in God's gracious help, we feel ourselves to be strong enough to defend our beloved fatherland."
(Signed) "WILHELM."

CHANCELLOR SENDS NOTE.

The text of the note forwarded by the Imperial German chancellor, to President Wilson, through the Swiss government follows: "The German government requests the President of the United States to take in hand the restoration of peace, to liquidate all the belligerent states of this request and invite them to send plenipotentiaries for the purpose of opening negotiations."

"It accepts the program set forth by the President of the United States in his address to Congress on January 8, and in his later communications,