

# The Watauga Democrat.

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## A DANGEROUS CRISIS AT HAND.

Bristol Herald Courier,  
Driven to bay, and therefore desperate, Germany declares her purpose to use every weapon at her command against her enemies. Beginning the 1st she resumed her illegal submarine warfare than ever before. Her warning was sent to the neutral nations, and for them the gravest situation of the war has suddenly developed.

Yet the neutral Nations, especially the United States, should not and may not have been surprised by such a development. It was to have been anticipated since the rejection by the Entente Powers of German's peace overtures, and more certainly since those Powers issued their statement of their aims and objects in this war and the terms upon which they regarded peace possible.

Germany made her peace proposals as a victor, but perhaps not as a Nation which felt that it could hold to the end the advantage it had gained. It is widely believed in this country that Germany's overtures were prompted by the realization that she and her allies had reached the zenith of their strength and power and must begin to weaken and give way if the war should continue much longer. Doubtless the same opinion prevailed in Entente countries, where Germany's sincerity was promptly questioned and the German Government was charged with resorting to a subterfuge to solidify sentiment at home and to win the sympathy of neutral powers.

Whatever may have been Germany's motive or reason, she signified a readiness to enter into a conference with her enemies for a discussion of terms of peace. According to her own explanation, she was prepared to continue the war indefinitely, but made her proffer in the interest of humanity and to wash her hands of responsibility and further bloodshed. The reply of the Entente powers, as contained in their joint statement to President Wilson, was not only an emphatic rejection of the proposal, but amounted to an announcement of a determination to prosecute the war until Germany was crushed. And, as was to have been expected, Germany now declares that she is fighting for existence and that she will hesitate at no means or methods at her disposal to defend herself, to defeat her enemies, to make the war more terrible and bring it more quickly to an end. Her statement and warning are received in the United States with serious misgivings.

The stage has been reached where Germany no longer regards the friendship or neutrality of the United States as of more value to her than the war she can make on British shipping. Another enemy will not increase the gravity of the situation for her, if she is free to wage the kind of war she considers to her advantage. Therefore, she will break the promise made to the United States, following the sinking of the steamer Sussex in the English Channel and resume her submarine warfare on a more extended scale. She has drawn wider sea zones around France and Italy and the British Isles, and will destroy without warning merchant vessels entering those zones. In retaliation for the Entente blockade of Germany, the German Government will establish a strict and merciless blockade of the Entente countries. She will maintain and enforce the blockade with submarines, which will sink merchant vessels without giving those on

board a chance to escape. She will attempt to starve the Entente countries as the Entente countries have attempted to starve Germany.

Unless the Administration at Washington has changed its attitude, the hour of the severance of diplomatic relations between the United States and Germany is at hand. Germany has made certain conditions under which Americans and other neutrals may travel through the war zones in safety, but she has made similar conditions before, and they were rejected by this Government. Germany abandoned her maritime policies when threatened by Washington with a severance of diplomatic relations. She will now return to that policy, and prosecute it with more fearful vigor. That either of the Entente Nations placed in Germany's position probably would follow the same course, does not alter the fact that this Government has declared that policy illegal and intolerable, and that Germany reverts to it in violation of pledges made to this Government to secure a continuance of friendly relations.

What will follow a severance of diplomatic relations, which now appears inevitable, can not be predicted with accuracy. It is hardly probable that the United States would take a conspicuously active part in the war, if war should be declared. The power to declare war rests with the Congress, and the Congress may find an honorable means of avoiding that calamity. But, undoubtedly, the gravest crisis of the war as it affects this country, has arrived.

Germany's note will fall upon the American people with stupefying effect. It is impossible for this government to tolerate the new rule which Germany seeks to impose.—Washington Post.

If this note is a bluff, it is certainly a most audacious one and will not terrorize neutral nations into taking the German view of the situation in Europe.—Age-Herald.

Woodrow Wilson's peace moves were what they purported to be, the last attempt to keep America out of war. Seemingly the attempt has failed.—Macon Telegraph.

The rationale of Germany's position is brutal, insanely brutal, in its utter disregard of the rights of neutral nations and in its brazen contempt for the demands of humanity and of civilization itself.—Lynchburg News.

The Von Hindenburg notification of a new campaign of frightfulness makes it too late for "solemn warnings." The strict accountability warning two years now means severance of relations, then war.—Danville Register.

Great Britain has directed against Germany a war of starvation, the intent being proclaimed in and out of parliament. Germany now claims the privilege of retaliating in kind. It is to be assumed, therefore, that the evil and inevitable day has come and that the Washington government will presently sever diplomatic relations with the Berlin government.—Greensboro News.

This—And Five Cents. Don't Miss This. Cut out this slip, enclose five cents to Foley & Co., Chicago, Ill., writing your name and address clearly. You will receive in return a trial package containing Foley's Honey and Tar compound for coughs, colds and croup; Foley Kidney Pills and Foley Cathartic Tablets. Sold every where.

## Leather Famine Predicted.

A Los Angeles, Cal., special says:

Dealers' greed and a leather famine threaten to make a barefoot nation of the United States within the next two years.

Shoe dealers and manufacturers predict that before the end of 1917 the price of women's fancy boots will be \$35. per pair, and that all other foot wear will be correspondingly high. Ere long a pair of all leather shoes will be a curiosity in this country.

Heretofore most of our shoe material has been imported from South America. The United States furnishes only 25 per cent of our leather.

But blood-red Europe, having in spite of the war lost no whit of its business acumen, has contracted for the entire output of South America for the next two years. And the irony of the thing is that they clinched the deal with American capital—money loaned by greedy Wall Street and the American banking interests.

Substitutes for leather are being used by shoe manufacturers in this country wherever possible. In the next few years the American people will be divided into classes by their shoes!

The very poor, for instance, if they wear shoes at all, will wear a clumsy, cheap brogan, such as graces the feet of peasants in many foreign countries. And the middle classes will be marked by the cloth uppers of their foot gear, while fancy, high topped leather boots will be left to the very rich.

"The problem that is now facing the American shoe manufacturers," says the man with the information regulating shoes is to create a leather shoe that will be substantial and at the same time stylish, and which also will be within reach of Mr. Average Man's pocket-book.

"Shoe manufacturers of this city have come nearer accomplishing this than have Eastern makers. The "openwork shoe," which has become so popular for summer wear throughout the country, and which is a product of this city, will be put on the market with a few variations in the near future for \$2.50 per pair.

"This shoe, however, has practical value for year round wear only in that portion of the country where the weather is mild enough to permit it. Nevertheless, the popular shoe of the future will be built along these lines, and undoubtedly it will have undisguised wooden heels!"

## Sloan's Liniment for Stiff Joints.

Rheumatic pains and aches get into the joints and muscles, making every movement torture. Relieve your suffering with Sloan's Liniment; it quickly penetrates without rubbing, and soothes and warms your sore muscles. The congested blood is stimulated to action; a single application will drive out the pain. Sloan's Liniment is clean, convenient and quickly effective, it does not stain the skin or clog the pores. Get a bottle today at your druggist, 25c.

The deepest river flows with the deepest sound.

## Prefers Chamberlain's.

"In this course of a conversation with Chamberlain Medicine Co's representative today, we had occasion to discuss in a general way the merits of their different preparations. At his suggestion I take pleasure in expressing my estimation of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. I have a family of six children and have used this remedy in my home for years. I consider it the only cough remedy on the market, as I have tried nearly all kinds."—Earl C. Rose, publisher Hamilton County Republican News, Syracuse, Kan.

## A Bill That Should Be Defeated.

Editorial from Greensboro News.

The newspaper of the state, both small and large, have cooperated finely, generously, with the medical leadership of the state for years past, in a campaign of education in Sanitary matters. If the medical authorities had given the newspapers an opportunity of considering the proprietary remedies bill that they are now attempting to whip through the legislature, it is not at all probable that there would have been a chance for this bill. This uncandid course, this elaborate strategy, whatever merit it may have as strategy, or generalship, is amazingly unfair, and arbitrary, and autocratic.

It has been suggested that the man enterprise here is to find revenue for the state board of health at the expense of the newspapers of the state. This the Daily News is loath to credit; yet that legitimate advertising interests are ruthlessly and recklessly jeopardized is one of the outstanding facts of the situation.

This with reference to the original bill. There have been numerous amendatory suggestions; there is no way for the newspapers and the people of the state to know just what is about to happen to them. We hear of proposals that seem altogether to ignore the federal laws. There are others that appear wildly impracticable.

The substitute offered by the pharmacists for their own governance, and passed by the senate, inasmuch as it would extend the operation of the principle in the federal law to intrastate business, is an unobjectionable measure for which some present necessity may exist, and necessity for which might at any time arise. This would make unlawful the sale of any proprietary or patent medicines purporting to cure certain diseases for which, it is well known, there is no cure at the present.

Much as has been said, it is learned, in the rhetoric which has been employed to becloud this issue, of the intent of the physicians' bill toward remedies in which alcohol is contained. This must be almost wholly disingenuous, and is certainly unworthy, in the case of a measure for which a body of scientists stand sponsor. There are numerous enactments, state and federal, that fully cover the phase of the business, that are enforced and observed. The very essence of the original bill, moreover, is to compel publication of the formula and statements of the ingredients. The statement on each package of amount of alcoholic content is fully secured by laws now in force.

The newspapers of North Carolina should at once advise themselves as fully as may be, under the disabilities and embarrassments that have been carefully created, of the nature and indicated effects of this astounding legislative proposal. If they will do so evidence will point to the conclusion, we think, that it is a piece of folly, freighted with injury.

## Inactivity Causes Constipation.

Lack of exercise in the winter is a frequent cause of constipation. You feel heavy, dull and listless, your complexion is sallow and pimply, and energy at low ebb. Clean up this condition at once with Dr. King's New Life Pills, a mild laxative that relieves the congested intestines without griping. A dose before retiring will assure you a full and easy movement in the morning. 25c, at your Druggist.

## Washington Preparing For Reunion.

Birmingham Age-Herald.

Although the Confederate reunion, to be held in Washington, is more than four months off—June 4th—preparations are well under way. This will probably be the last reunion, but whether it is or not, it is safe to assume that it will be the last big one.

Not only is the Washington committee of arrangements busy every day in the week with details but veteran camps in every State of the South are perfecting plans for moving on to the national capital. Also the railroads are giving a great deal of publicity to the forth coming event.

The lines traversing this part of the South with eastern connections—that is to say practically all the lines—are making announcements which appeal to the sentiment of the old soldiers who fought for the lost cause. One railroad company is stressing the fact that its trains run thru historic battle fields of Virginia, taking in a view of the crater near Petersburg and the fortifications around Richmond. Another company calls attention to the fact that the veterans who travel on its road will ride over one stretch of 48 miles which was built by Confederate soldiers, and which has remained, perhaps, the most permanent monument of any work done by the Confederacy. It is the line between Greensboro, N. C., and Danville, Va.

When the war began there was no railroad connecting the old Richmond and Danville with the North Carolina system of roads. A railroad official in sketching the situation, says the Confederate authorities saw the strategic value of such a line, "and were able to bring to bear sufficient pressure to overcome the obstacles which had previously stood in the way of its construction owing to the rivalry of North Carolina and Virginia, each State seeking to protect its own railway interests."

The rail necessary for the construction of the Greensboro-Danville connection was procured by tearing up other lines. At the close of the war the 48-mile stretch was confiscated by the United States as one of the assets of the Confederacy and there was prolonged litigation before the Richmond and Danville received it.

This section has been double tracked and but few changes were found necessary.

## After the Grip What?

Did it leave you weak, low in spirits and vitality? Influenza is a catarrhal disease, and after you recover from the acute stage much of the catarrh is left. This and your weakness invite further attacks.

## The Tonic Needed is Peruna.

First, because it will assist in building up your strength, reinvigorating your system and quickening all functions. Second, because it aids in overcoming the catarrhal conditions, helping dispel the inflammation, giving the membranes an opportunity to perform their functions.

Thousands have answered the question after grip by the proper use of this great tonic treatment. You may profit by their experience.

Liquid or tablet form—both safe and satisfactory.

THE PERUNA CO. Columbus, Ohio



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