

# THE NEWS-HERALD.

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## ENTENTE REJECTS GERMAN PEACE PROPOSALS

"Refuse to Consider a Proposal Which is Empty and Insincere"—War Aims Not Outlined.

In reply to the proffer of Germany to her allies for a peace conference, the entente allies, in a collective note declared that they "refuse to consider a proposal which is empty and insincere." The note was handed to the American ambassador, William Graves Sharp, by Premier Briand and was made public simultaneously in London and Paris. The entente allied governments insist that no peace is possible so long as they have not secured reparation for violated rights and liberties and the free exchange of small states and have not brought about a settlement for the future security of the world. The note declares that the proposal of the central powers is not an offer of peace, but a "war maneuver." It is declared to be founded on "calculated misinterpretation of the character of the struggle in the past, the present and the future."

The note does not specifically outline the definite war aims of any of the entente governments, except Belgium. Before the war, it is pointed out, Belgium asked for nothing but to live in harmony with her neighbors. Assailed in spite of the treaties guaranteeing her inviolability, Belgium, the note says, has taken up arms to defend her independence and her neutrality violated by Germany. Belgium's aim, which is declared to be the only aim of her king and government, is described as "the re-establishment of peace on justice. But they only desire peace which would assure their country legitimate reparation, guarantees and safeguards for the future."

The note, which is the joint act of Belgium, France, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Montenegro, Portugal, Roumania, Russia and Serbia, declares that the present strife was desired, provoked and declared by Germany and Austria-Hungary, and that Germany made no effort to bring about a specific solution of the troubles between Serbia and Austria-Hungary, and did not make any effort to bring about a peace concluded upon the German side would be only to the advantage of the central powers, says the note, while disasters caused by the war demand penalties, reparation and guarantees.

The German overtures are described as a calculated attempt to influence the future course of the war and to end it by imposing a German peace. The overtures also are said to have the effect of intimidating neutral public opinion as well as to stiffen opinion in the central powers worn out by economic pressure and crushed by the supreme effort which has been imposed upon their inhabitants.

"Finally," it is asserted, "these overtures attempt to justify in advance in the eyes of the world, a new series of crimes—submarine warfare, deportations, forced labor and forced enlistment of the inhabitants against their own countries and violations of neutrality."

## The Morganton Postoffice.

The local post office has just closed the most successful year since being established. The receipts for the year 1916 were \$11580.50, an increase over 1915 of \$970.56. This, it will be noted, gives us city delivery service as soon as the requirements of good streets and mail receptacles are complied with by the town and patrons. Christmas week, although the busiest in the history of the office, passed without a hitch in dispatch or delivery. All outgoing mail was in the office a half hour before train time was dispatched on each train and at no time was there the least congestion. The office was kept open Sunday evening and Christmas day for the delivery of Christmas packages and at closing time Christmas day there was not more than fifteen or twenty packages left in the office. As an example of the increase, more mail was received from one train than received any whole day during the week before Christmas last year, and the outgoing mail increased accordingly, there being an increase of at least 25 per cent in insured parcels.

Miss Ethel McGill spent Christmas at her home in Vermont.

## BEGINNING OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR 1917.

Democratic Caucus Tuesday Night Elected Sergeants, Clerks and Assistants.

Sergeants, clerks and assistants were all that took the attention of the first Democratic caucus Tuesday night, says the Raleigh correspondent to the Greensboro News. Murphy was chosen speaker by acclamation. Rufus Doughton made the nominating speech, Harry Grier of Iredell, presiding and Ned Pegram of Durham secretarying it. Governor Doughton put the accent upon Murphy's long service, his parliamentary power, his untainted Democracy, the Democracy of Jefferson, Cleveland, Bryan and Woodrow Wilson." The last was applauded.

Gallatin Roberts and Henry Page, Murphy's late opponents, and Harry Stubbs, escorted the new speaker in. The acceptance was brief. He thought he was progressive enough to be named among the forward-lookers, reactionary enough to avoid a runaway. He wants the 1917 assembly to be epochal.

Then the fur flew in the clerkship elections. For principal clerk, John Pearson nominated Alex Lassiter, 18 years assistant to T. G. Cobb and Ellis Gardner asked the caucus for "God's sake give Frank 60 days of political freedom." Henry Page urged it to give Lassiter the slavery he sought and the first ballot was a tie, 47 each. The next gave it to Lassiter 52 to 41.

Otis Shell, of Dunn, was made engrossing clerk.

J. H. Moring, of Wake, was re-elected sergeant-at-arms over Mewborn, of Greene, 52 to 39.

E. J. Jenkins, Y. B. Howell, Sid Moore and J. D. Gunter were nominated. The first ballot failed. Jenkins easily won the second. David P. Dellinger was re-elected without opposition.

In the senate, Harding, of Pitt, was made president pro tem of the senate. Senator McNider presided and Senator Long, of Alamance, was secretary.

David Castor, of Cumberland, again was made sergeant at arms and Jno. W. Alexander, of Clay, assistant. Cecil Broughton, of Troy, went breezily through as the reading clerk. R. O. Self, having no fight as principal clerk. I. W. Hughes, of Beaufort, was elected engrossing clerk.

## Death of Mrs. Jennie Seagle.

On Christmas morning at 3 o'clock, Mrs. Jennie Grant Seagle died at the home of her niece, Mrs. Jennie Hogan. For over a week she had been seriously ill and because of her advanced age little hope of her recovery was entertained.

The funeral services were held on Tuesday morning at the Methodist church, the church to which Mrs. Seagle was such a loyal and devoted member and for which she worked so faithfully for so many years, conducted by Rev. E. E. Williamson. The pall bearers were her grand-nephews.

Mrs. Seagle was 82 years of age. She was Miss Virginia Grant, of Davie county. The only surviving member of her immediate family is her brother, Mr. A. T. Grant, of Mocksville, her only sister, Mrs. J. A. Claywell, having died last year. Her son, Mr. Jacob C. Seagle is a prominent business man of Lenoir, but he was reared in Morganton. The husband and father died nearly fifty years ago. He is remembered by older citizens of the town as a capable architect and builder.

No old lady of the town was more loved and highly respected than Mrs. Seagle, whose lovely Christian character and spirit of kindness and charity touched and helped many lives. Quiet and with never a pretence of show her life was an inspiration and her memory a lovely heritage for her family and friends.

## Bill For Universal Training.

A definite plan for universal military training will be laid before Congress this month in the shape of a bill formulated by the general staff of the army, accompanied by complete estimation of cost as compared to the present volunteer system. In the hearings before the military committee of the House of Congress five of the 22 members asserted their belief in the theory of universal service, while two emphatically declared against such a system.

## CHARLES CROWNED KING OF AUSTRIA.

With All the Pomp and Splendor of Mediaeval Ceremony the Emperor Takes Oath.

Emperor Charles of Austria was crowned king of Hungary at Budapest Saturday with all the pomp and splendor of mediaeval ceremony. Neither war's grim sorrow nor knowledge that Hungary's soldiers are bitterly contesting their way on two or more fronts dimmed the glory of the ceremonies. They lasted throughout the day and until late in the evening.

At nine o'clock the new emperor was formally invested with the crown. Franz Josef's youthful successor to the crown of the dual monarchy was garbed in the gala uniform of a Hungarian field marshal, a costume gorgeous in its glittering jewels and his own orders and decorations.

The administering of the oath took place in front of the parliament building in the presence of his people. They lined the streets in dark masses, brightened here and there with flags, and cheered the royal couple to the echo. The king's carriage from the palace to St. Matthews church, where solemn religious services was held, was drawn by sixteen horses, amid continuous roar of cannon salutes and the cheers of the people.

A mounted pageant followed the king's carriage, and in the gorgeous procession also were representatives of royalty of all the Central Powers and neutral nations and diplomats.

It was at St. Matthews church where the most gorgeously glittering assemblage met—the new king and queen representatives of royalty and of all nations not at war with Hungary. There also assembled the members of parliament, all garbed in the national costume of Hungary or their army uniforms. Parliament had previously assembled early in the morning.

King Karl wore the ancient crown of St. Stephen continuously from shortly before ten o'clock until noon. This emblem of royalty, blackened and battered by age and by theft in previous ages by Turks and revolutionists, weighs a little more than five pounds.

## Died While On Visit.

Mrs. Adeline Falkner, aged 86 years, died Friday before Christmas at the home of her great-niece, Mrs. Will Cannon, near Hartland. She was on a visit to Mrs. Cannon when stricken again with paralysis. She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Jasper Craig, of Caldwell county, and several grand-children and great grand-children. The body was taken to Caldwell county Saturday for burial.

## Rev. Hilton Leaves on Annual Northern Trip.

The Rev. George Hilton left Morganton yesterday for his annual missionary trip in the North and expects to be away for five weeks. During that time Grace Episcopal church will be closed for services as will also St. Stephen (colored) and St. Margaret's (cotton mill) missions. As to the latter Sunday school will go as usual.

At Grace church it will be discontinued until the Rector returns, owing to the departure also from town of Mr. J. H. Hall, who has been in charge of the Episcopal Sunday school since he came to Morganton.

Plans and drawings have arrived from Mr. H. J. Hardenbergh, architect, of New York City, for the contemplated new church for St. Margaret's mission. It is hoped the building will be commenced in the spring.

## Community Christmas Tree.

The third annual community Christmas tree which was held on the Court House square Christmas night, by the United Charities, was a great success. The tree was resplendent with electric lights and the coming of Santa Claus gladdened the hearts of all the little children. The Christmas moving pictures furnished by the Charlotte Observer added much to the occasion.

Mr. C. B. Webb, of Statesville, has been appointed to a position in the office of Senator Simmons, chairman of the Senate finance committee, and has gone to Washington to take up his work.

## GERMANY'S ANSWER TO WILSON'S PEACE NOTE.

Proposes a Conference—Made Immediate Answer.

Germany replied immediately last week to President Wilson's peace note.

Following is the reply of the Central powers to the President's suggestion that each of the belligerents state their contentions:

The high-minded suggestions made by the President of the United States of America in order to create a basis for the establishment of a lasting peace has been received and considered by the imperial government in the friendly spirit which was expressed in the President's communication. The President points out that which he has at heart and leaves open the choice of roads.

"To the imperial government an immediate exchange of views seems to be the most appropriate road in order to reach the desired result. It begs, therefore, in the sense of the declaration made on December 12, which offered a hand for peace negotiations, to propose an immediate meeting of delegates of the belligerent States at a neutral place.

"The imperial government is also of the opinion that the great work of preventing future wars can be begun only after the end of the present struggle of the nations. It will, when this moment shall have come, be ready to collaborate entirely with the United States in this exalted task."

## GLEN ALPINE NEWS ITEMS

Correspondence of The News-Herald.

I knew a man once by the name of Dred Boone, a literal descendant of Daniel Boone. When you met Dred and asked him how he was, his invariable reply, "I am full of aches and ailments." People are crying out about the high cost of living, forgetting the fact they get more for their work, and everything the farmers have bring high prices. Work is plentiful and there is no excuse for idleness on the part of any one, but some today can see no good in the times. There is more money today than we have ever had in the history of our nation and less excuse for grumbling. The farmer, the backbone, once the bottom rail is on top. Twenty years ago I bought eggs in the stores at Morganton four dozen for twenty-five cents, ham meat for ten cents a pound, corn 40 cents per bushel, selling now for \$1.25. Too many are leaving the farms for the town and factories and are crying like poor Dred, "everything too high."

Last week Lem Farris and Bob Lowdermilk went to Raleigh to take the Pasteur treatment. They carried the head of the dog which bit them for examination. A letter was received here stating the dog was mad. They will have to stay 21 days before being released. It is to be hoped no serious results will follow. They are both poor hard working men with families.

Mr. Will Scott has been quite sick with a bad case of pneumonia. He has had a trained nurse from Asheville with him.

Mr. C. B. Bright, from Charlottesville, Va., is here visiting his parents.

Mr. W. B. Garrison, who was hurt in a wreck near Statesville the last of November, is back from the Billingsby hospital at Statesville, much improved and speaks in the highest terms of his treatment there under the special care of Dr. T. V. Cloninger of the hospital corps.

The largest frost I have ever seen in this or any other county was last Saturday morning. Not much trouble to the imagination to believe you were looking at a quite respectable snow.

The road commissioners of Silver Creek township are hard at work and at a meeting held here last Saturday decided to put on four gangs of men today and push the work to completion. The amount to be expended is the twenty-five thousand dollars of bond issue voted by the township.

Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Parker and daughter, Miss Margaret, spent Christmas pleasantly at Lexington, Durham, Seven Springs and Faison.

Mrs. Sid Bright and Mrs. Stevens are still on the sick list.

Mr. Price Simpson, one of "Uncle Sam's Jackies," was home recently on a furlough to see his people.

Mrs. Bessie Puett, daughter of Mr. J. W. Simpson, and wife of Mr. Will Puett, was buried here last Saturday. She was 28 years old and leaves a

## THE ALLIES PEACE TERMS

As Briefly Summarized and Officially Set Forth in the London Spectator.

The Spectator, a conservative London paper, devoted the greater part of last Saturday's issue to answering President Wilson's question as to what are the peace terms of the entente allies. Briefly summarized, the principal demands as outlined by the Spectator follow:

"The peace terms are to start from the status quo before the war, thus including the evacuation of the whole of northern France, Belgium and Montenegro. Alsace-Lorraine is to go to Denmark and Posen, Polish Prussia and Austrian Poland are to be added to the new sub-kingdom of Poland, which the czar has pledged to create.

"The Slavs of Bosnia, Herzegovina, Dalmatia, Croatia, etc., are to be created into a new kingdom.

"Bohemia is to be an independent state.

"The Roumanian section of Transylvania to be added to Roumania. The whole Austrian Tyrol, plus Trieste, Istria and the other portions of Austria, which are Italian in blood or feeling, to be added to Italy.

"Turkey to yield Constantinople and the straits to Russia.

"The Armenians to be put under Russian tutelage.

"The Arabs to be freed, while Syria, Asia-Minor and Mesopotamia are to be given external protection guaranteeing tranquility.

"The German colonies to remain in the hands of the entente. Moreover, a money indemnity for the ruin Germany has done in Belgium, France, Serbia, Montenegro, etc.

"As regarding shipping, Germany to make reparation in kind for all ships of commerce destroyed, ton for ton, neutral shipping to be replaced only after all the demands of the allies have been satisfied.

"The German navy to be handed over and distributed among entente nations.

"As a guarantee against future war, the allies are to insist upon the democratization of the German government.

"The Kiel canal to be neutralized, under an international non-German commission, including the entente countries, the United States and other neutrals."

## HOMICIDE IN CALDWELL.

Deb. Culbertson is Charged With Slaying Bill Mooney Near Mortimer.

Deb. Culbertson, who shot and instantly killed Bill Mooney near Mortimer a few days before Christmas, was bound over to court under a \$5,000 bond. At the preliminary hearing the defendant claimed he was compelled to shoot Mooney to save his own life and that of his brother.

According to the testimony brought out there seemed to have been trouble of long standing between the two men, but there was no testimony produced that either of the men had threatened the life of the other, nor did any of the witnesses swear they saw Culbertson fire the fatal shot. There were two or three eye-witnesses present when the shooting took place and when placed on the witness stand neither of them swore who fired the shot that killed Mooney.

## Morganton Negro Youth Killed in Charlotte.

Thos. E. Fleming, a son of S. Fleming of Morganton, and a student at Biddle University, the colored educational institution at Charlotte, was killed day by a rock thrown by Clarence Bennett, another student. The affair happened on the campus of the university. Fleming's neck was broken by the rock. Bennett disappeared after the killing. Fleming's body was brought to Morganton for burial.

husband, father and mother, sisters and brothers and one little boy six years old. She was an attractive woman of a lovable disposition and will be missed by a large circle of relatives and friends. Rev. A. C. Swofford, of the M. E. church, conducted the burial services, of which church she was a member for several years.

J. A. P.

Glen Alpine, Jan. 1, 1917.

Mr. and Mrs. Key, of Bridgewater, spent several days last week with Mr. and Mrs. B. S. Gaither.

## BRIEF NEWS ITEMS FROM OVER THE STATE

A Glance of Happenings During the Week in Different Sections of North Carolina.

There are now 35,000 licensed automobiles in the State, an increase of 11,000 in six months. The number running on "license applied for" cars is unknown.

Dependent families of convicts in North Carolina, 615 in number, received \$10 each from the funds of the State's Prison for the Christmas season. The board took this action upon recommendation of Governor Craig.

H. C. Niven, 16 years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Niven of Waxhaw, Union county, died in a Charlotte hospital from injuries received in an automobile accident Christmas Day. Seven young men were in the car when the machine turned over.

Mr. Sanford Martin, editor of the Winston-Salem Journal, has been appointed by Governor-elect T. W. Bickett as his private secretary. He will assume his duties early in January but will continue to direct the editorial policy of the Journal.

The little three-year-old daughter of Postmaster N. M. Lancaster of Vanceboro, was burned to death Saturday afternoon, Dec. 23. One of her playmates had in her hand an electric sparker, the sparker igniting the little one's clothing, and she was horribly burned before the fire could be extinguished.

The livery stables of Smith Bros. & Stanfield, at Concord, were burned Christmas night. Twenty-two horses and mules, six automobiles, a number of vehicles, a lot of feed, etc., were burned with the building. Loss about \$10,000 and no insurance. Origin of fire unknown. Eighteen of the horses belonged to drovers who were stopping at the stable.

In the House of Congress on the 21st Republican Leader Mann lead in paying respects to Representative Page of North Carolina, who retires from Congress after this session. Chairman Fitzgerald of the appropriations committee spoke in high terms and the House gave rousing applause to the high tributes paid the industry, fidelity and ability of the North Carolinian.

Dr. Clarence Poe has been selected by the North Carolina Library Commission to succeed Dr. L. R. Wilson, of Chapel Hill, as member of the commission. Dr. Wilson, who was chairman of the commission, has tendered his resignation on account of ill health. During the absence of Dr. Wilson, Mr. C. C. Wright, of Wilkes county, has been acting chairman.

C. P. Leith, formerly in the employ of the Southern Public Utilities Company of Charlotte and charged with embezzling \$1,500 of the company's funds by padding payrolls, was arrested recently at Toronto, Canada, and has been brought back to Charlotte for trial. He had enlisted in the Canadian militia for service in the European war, when arrested. Leith is a native of Scotland and has lived in this country 12 years.

The result of a fire which totally destroyed the home of J. C. Adcock at Cummock, Lee county, on the afternoon of Dec. 21st, Miss Ruth Lindley, the 20-year-old daughter of Daniel Webster Lindley of Guilford College, was fatally burned. While kindling a fire in an open grate Miss Lindley's dress became ignited and as she rushed out of the room flames from her burning clothing set fire to curtains in the room. The flames spread so rapidly that they were soon beyond control. Miss Lindley was principal of the Cummock High School and boarded in the home of Mr. Adcock.

The summary of the condition of State banks at the close of business November 15, compiled by the corporation commission, shows an increase in total resources for the year of 34.9 per cent, the figures being \$118,212,308 this year and \$87,660,524 a year ago. Four hundred and thirty-seven banks and 25 branch banks are included in the summary. The increase in bank deposits for the year was \$25,575,099. Of the deposits reported last November, \$48,091,956 are subject to check, \$7,680,381 demand certificates of deposits, \$11,464,354 time certificates of deposit and \$19,874,981 savings deposits.