

PEACE TREATY RATIFIED BY GERMAN ASSEMBLY

Resolution Adopted by Vote of 208 to 115—To Lift Blockade Next; "To Enter Upon 40-Year March Through Desert"

The resolution ratifying the peace treaty was adopted by the German national assembly Wednesday by a vote of 208 to 115, says a dispatch from Weimar.

The text of the ratification resolution as introduced in the national assembly consisted of two clauses reading as follows:

"The peace treaty between Germany and the allied and associated powers signed on June 28, 1919, and the protocol belonging thereto, as well as the agreement relative to the occupation of the Rhineland, signed the same day, are agreed to."

"This law comes into force on the day of its promulgation."

Most of the ministers were present at the meeting of the national assembly and there was a full attendance of deputies. Dr. Hermann Mueller, foreign minister, in introducing the government bills, explained that the hastening of the ratification order would bring about the lifting of the blockade.

"We are about to enter upon a 40-year's march through a desert," he said. "I can find no other term for the path of suffering fulfillment of the treaty prescribed for us."

Dr. Peter Spahn, leader of the Catholic center party, said: "We agreed to the treaty under hard compulsion, to save ourselves from anarchy and to preserve the fatherland from internal ruin."

Herr Kreiszig, socialist; Prof. that the day of Germany's liberation Scheueking, democrat; Dr. Traub, national party, and Herr Kahl, people's party, all violently protested the injustice of the treaty, and declared that the day of Germany's liberation would come.

These speeches were greeted with such turbulent applause and hand-clapping that the president of the assembly, Herr Fehrenbach, called attention to the fact that hand-clapping was against the rules and threatened to have the galleries cleared. The debate, however, proceeded, with similar speeches by other members and similar applause.

The national party introduced an amendment in favor of ratifying with the express reserve that the sanction of international law experts of repute should first be obtained concerning articles 227 to 230 and that a neutral court should be created to investigate the responsibility for the war.

Part 7 of the peace treaty, comprising articles 227 to 230, relates to penalties. Article 227 arraigns the former German emperor for a "supreme offense against international morality and the sanctity of treaties." The other article relates to the bringing before military tribunals of persons accused of having committed acts in violation of the laws and customs of war; to the handing over of these persons by Germany and to an undertaking by the German government to furnish all documents and information of every kind bearing on these offenses and violations.

In the course of the debate President Fehrenbach protested against Alsace-Lorraine being torn from Germany. He said that the treaty of 1871 simply made good what had been taken from Germany 150 years before. He hoped that the people of Alsace-Lorraine would preserve their German character, customs and civilization.

Ludendorff Again Heard From
Gen. Ludendorff has given an interview to a Milan newspaper in which he says:

"It is above all, a foolish peace, because it contains the germs of its own destruction. An attempt to suppress the German people will have the opposite effect. It will strengthen its will to preserve itself."

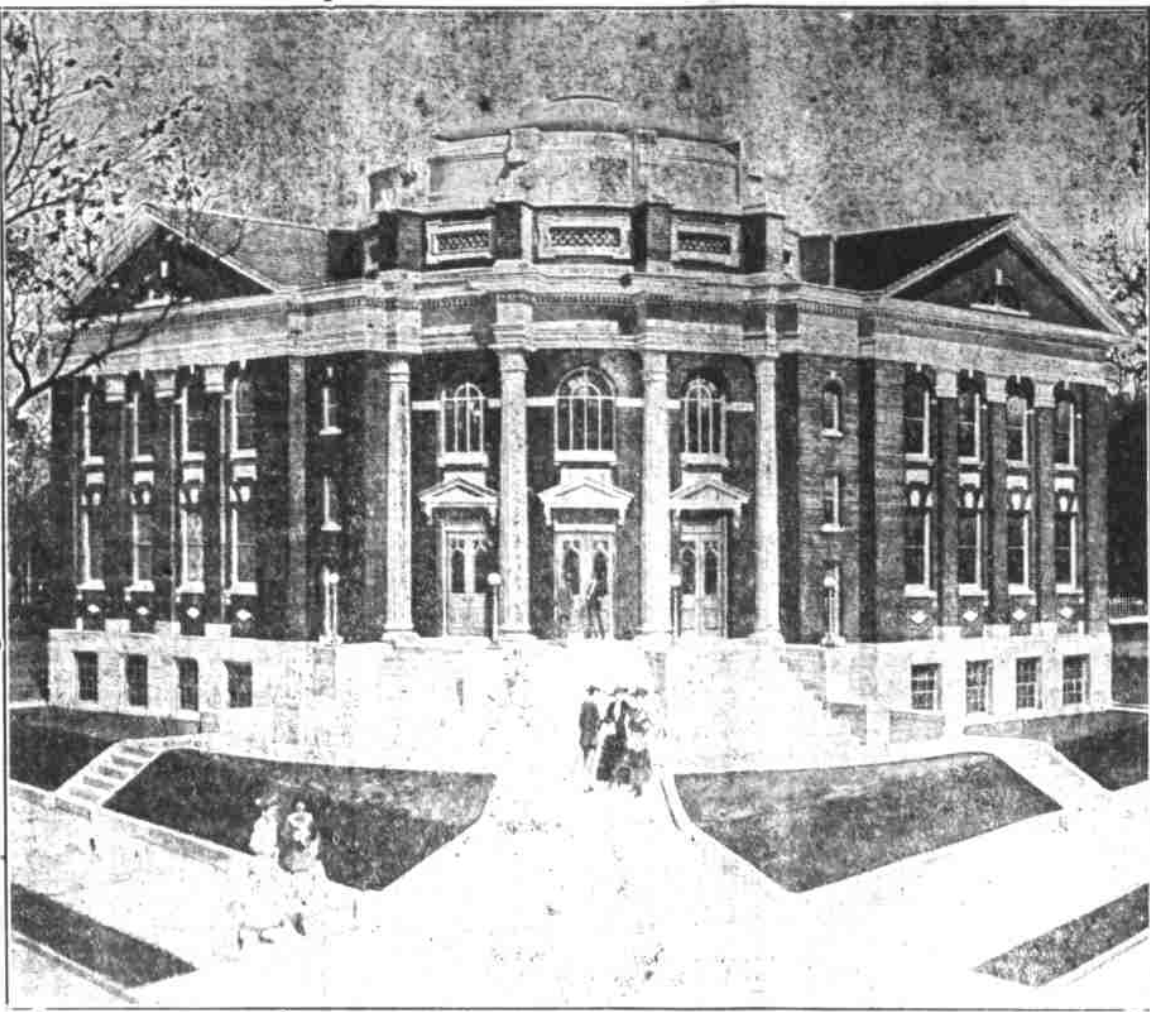
Ludendorff went on to say that the war was lost not only to Germany and Austria, but also by the entente, which was unable to work out a stable peace.

MEN URGED TO RETAIN THEIR WAR INSURANCE

Men who "earned the right to government insurance" are urged by President Wilson to retain their policies permanently, converted into such forms as they personally desire. In a wireless message from the George Washington directed to the "nation's fighting forces" and made public by the war risk bureau, the President said:

"If it were possible I should welcome the opportunity to speak to each of you who, by service in the great war, earned the right to government insurance, and urge the wisdom of continuing this unusual protection to your dependents and yourselves. The government will transform your policies, in whole or in part, from term insurance, arranged as a war measure, to such permanent forms as you may desire, and I urge your acceptance of the government's protection which the generous terms of these policies afforded. You have an exclusive right to this insurance because you served your country in its great crisis, and I am sure that in the years to come you will consider your government insurance policy as a physical reminder that in the war with Germany you wore the uniform of your country."

District Conference to be Held Here Next Week.



First Methodist Church, Lenoir, N. C.

The Statesville District Conference will convene in the First Methodist church of Lenoir next Monday, the 4th, at noon, and continue until Wednesday at noon. There will be sessions of the conference each morning and afternoon, and preaching services at 11 a. m. and at 8:30 p. m. The public generally is invited to all of these services.

Rev. W. A. Newell, the wide-awake and able presiding elder of the district, will preside, which fact assures a lively and interesting session throughout.

The territory embraced by the conference is from Mooresville to Lenoir, embracing the counties of Iredell, Catawba and Caldwell, with a membership of more than 13,000. Numerically this is the largest district of the Western North Carolina Conference, except one—the Winston. There are twenty-five pastoral charges in the bounds of the district.

In the Centenary drive the apportionment for this district was \$194,000, and the final round-up amounted to about \$240,000. Mr. Horace Sisk of Lenoir, was the district director in this campaign, and to his energy and organizing ability much credit is due.

Belonging to this conference there are 48 preachers, pastors and local, and 134 lay delegates, six of the lay delegates being women. A number

of prominent visitors from our schools and connexional work are expected to be present also.

The Lenoir people are looking forward with pleasure to the gathering and entertainment of these religious workers.

The charges of Caldwell county, with their pastors and delegates, are as follows:

Dudley Shoals—Rev. R. C. Reavis, J. W. Looper, G. F. Sherrill, A. C. Flowers, W. E. Povey, D. C. Flowers.

Granite Falls—Rev. G. H. Allen, D. H. Warlick, D. W. Yount, D. V. Drum, P. S. Moore, H. C. Forbes, W. H. Nelson.

Lenoir Station—Rev. R. D. Sherrill, E. C. Ivey, J. P. Blackwell, G. M. G. Fort, F. E. Steele, J. L. Nelson.

Lenoir Circuit—Rev. Elmer Simpson, G. T. Perkins, E. C. Hensel, J. C. Rader, H. C. Sudderth, G. A. Tuttle.

South Lenoir—Rev. D. A. Lewis, R. W. Shell, N. M. Hilton, A. L. Mallard, N. E. Johnston, G. H. Cra.

Rhoads—Rev. John H. Green, H. B. Huss, E. A. Rockett, T. C. Leonard, L. B. Costner, L. P. Killian, R. L. Sullivan.

North Lenoir—Rev. J. M. Price, H. H. Hoover, M. A. Williams, J. R. Steele, G. C. Bush, J. R. Parker, Rev. Ivey Hickman.

CALDWELL ROAD BONDS CAN BE SOLD

The recent election, in which the citizens of Caldwell county voted by an overwhelming majority for a bond issue of \$250,000 for good roads, was held under the 1917 law. The technicality which made it illegal to sell the bonds under the 1919 law does not interfere with the legality of the election under the 1917 act.

The county commissioners have assurance that they will secure a buyer for the bonds at 5 per cent, which is the limit of the law. This being the case, the bonds are advertised for sale elsewhere in this issue of the News-Topic.

The rate of the bond under the 1917 act, with interest not exceeding 5 per cent, meets the approval of the State attorney general, with whom Clairman F. H. Coffey of the board of county commissioners has had full correspondence.

Indications now are that the bonds will be sold after 30 days' notice, and some definite work toward securing good roads for Caldwell county will be done in the near future.

THE STATE'S HIDDEN WEALTH

(Charlotte Observer)

The Lenoir News-Topic brings information of the possible revival of silver mining in Caldwell county, where in years past that industry flourished, but which had been of so long a period of abandonment that all traces of former activities were obliterated. It appears that an Ohio silver mining expert who had been prospecting in Alabama there learned of the possible better prospects in the once-productive fields of Caldwell county and was wise enough to make investigation. The Lenoir paper says this prospector has notably uncovered the original mine, but has "struck" 15 paying veins within a radius of five miles. The prospect appears so good as to give encouragement to the organization of a company to work the mines. The hopes of the Observer are revived. So long as the State has to depend upon the perfunctory "investigations" of government "experts" sent out at intervals to make search for gold and silver, tin, copper and coal—and oil—in North Carolina, just so long will nothing be done. The latest report carried back to Washington by governmental tin "experts" showed on its face that the investigators were prejudiced in advance against this section and did not want to make a favorable report, discounting whatever evidence of tin ores that might have been brought to their attention. It has been the same way with the gems and minerals in general. Tiffany of New York has found an abiding source of supply in the western sections of the State of the finest gems and he makes continual draft on these gem fields, taking particular pride in showing visitors to his establishment the array of gems which come from this State. With the minerals of various kinds, some of which were in painful demand by the government in war days, it is the same way. Individual parties find abundant supplies here, where the government appears to overlook the opportunity. It actually favors importation of minerals from foreign countries that are here in greater quantities and of infinitely better quality and variety.

The counties contiguous to Mecklenburg could furnish mineral sands and pottery clays to supply the na-

THE CROWN PRINCE SAYS "CAN HAVE MY DEAD BODY"

"The allies can have my dead body; I will myself decide on my life or death," the former German crown prince is quoted as having said in discussing a possible demand for extradition, according to a dispatch from Amsterdam. This statement was said to have been made to a Dutch official who talked daily with the former crown prince. According to this official Frederick Hohenzollern is in excellent health. He takes motorcycle trips daily and frequently visits both the rich and the poor on the island of Wieringen.

tion, but the production of this sand is killed by the tariff-tinkers. The government could draw upon North Carolina for an appreciable quantity of copper, iron, coal and tin, to say nothing of gold and silver, if it would only take the trouble to come for it, abandoning reliance upon the reports of official agents, for it is a fact established by experience that private investors following upon the heels of the "expert" investigators have found what the experts have reported does not exist. The mica deposits in the western part of the State could be developed into a commercial supply that would make the country independent of any other source, and yet what the experts have seen is not the possibilities under ground, but the surface scrap heaps. In some sections of Jackson county the public roads are in natural macadam of mica. It is in that section, too, that the public highways are top-soiled in the hardest of abrasive material, being the outcropping of the garnet beds. The government has made calls for feldspar, and yet private corporations are the only agencies taking advantage of the enormous supplies which are to be had in Mitchell and surrounding counties for the loading.

But some day these vast resources of western North Carolina in minerals, precious metal and gems are going to be developed. Private initiative, however, must for a time, it seems, be the reliance, and through these private agencies the development is likely to become of so pronounced a character as to at last receive recognition by the government.

MR. BAKER REFUSES TO REVIEW ALL SENTENCES

Recommendation by Lieut.-Col. Samuel T. Ansell of the judge advocate general's department that the case of every military prisoner now under sentence be sent to the board of review, of which he is head, for a re-examination, has been disapproved by Secretary Baker. Certain specific cases will, however, be examined again with the object of determining whether further clemency should be allowed.

Secretary Baker said that the 11,000 military prisoners returning from France under arrest would be given the same opportunity for having their cases reviewed. It was originally intended, he said, to have this done by officers of Gen. Pershing's staff. Rapid withdrawal, however, of the American expeditionary force caused a change of plans and the same board which reviewed cases in this country will act on those from overseas.

TOTAL FRENCH LOSSES, BOTH KILLED AND MISSING

The total French losses in killed and missing on land and sea, as officially established up to the day of the armistice, Nov. 11, 1918, amounted to 1,366,235. These figures were given to the chamber of deputies by Deputy Louis Morin in a report on the disposal of the effects of missing men. The losses of the French army were 1,089,700 killed and 265,800 missing, or 16.2 per cent of the total mobilized force of 8,410,000. The losses of the navy totaled 10,735, of which 5,521 were killed and 5,214 are missing. The losses in the navy were 4.19 per cent of the complement.

FRENCH AND ITALIANS IN A PITCHED BATTLE

Tension between the French and Italians in Fiume exploded Tuesday, when, unfortunately, there was a real battle in the street between soldiers and marines of the two countries, according to a special cable from Milan to the Greensboro News. Civilians participated and assisted the French. There were ten killed and many wounded. The situation is considered very grave.

R-34, SUPER-DIRIGIBLE IS FIRST TO CROSS ATLANTIC

Completes Trip from Scotland to Mineola, N. Y., After an Aerial Voyage of 108 Hours and Twelve Minutes

Great Britain's super-dirigible, the R-34, first lighter-than-air machine to cross the Atlantic, anchored at Mineola, N. Y., at Roosevelt field at 9:54 Sunday, 1:54 Greenwich mean time, after an aerial voyage of 108 hours and 12 minutes, which covered 3,310 knots or approximately 3,600 land miles.

Passing through dense banks of cloud, with the sun and sea visible only at rare intervals, the R-34 was forced to cruise 2,050 knots to reach Trinity Bay, N. F., from East Fortune, Scotland, and 1,080 knots from there to Mineola.

When the super-dirigible arrived at Mineola she had left only enough petrol to keep her moving 90 minutes longer. Her crew, almost sleepless for four and a half days, were weary almost to the point of exhaustion, but happy at the successful completion of their epoch-making trip.

Haggard, unshaven, their eyes bloodshot from the long vigil and lines of care bitten deep into their faces, Maj. G. H. Scott, the commander, and his officers showed plainly the effects of the anxious hours through which they lived Saturday while they were cruising over the far reaches of Canada and the bay of Fundy, beset by fog, heavy winds and terrific electrical storms.

"It seemed as though the atmosphere was haunted by 5,000 devils," said Lieut. Guy Harris, the meteorological officer.

With the R-34 long overdue at its destination, petrol supply running low, and buffeted by strong head winds, Maj. Scott decided Saturday while over the bay of Fundy to send a wireless call to the American navy department to be prepared to give assistance if it were needed. This was merely a measure of precaution and did not indicate discouragement.

While destroyers and submarine chasers were racing to her assistance the R-34 was plugging steadily ahead on the way to Mineola. Once clear of the bay of Fundy the atmosphere hoodoo which had beset the craft from the time it took the air was gradually left in its wake and the landing was safely made at Mineola.

Not in the mere record of miles covered is to be found the real romance of the R-34's aerial voyage to America. The full story of this great adventure, this gamble against the elements, is revealed only through the human incidents of the trip, chronicled in the form of a log by Brig.-Gen. Edward M. Maitland, official observer for the British air ministry.

This story—a Jules Verne tale come true—was written while the giant dirigible was leaving the ground at East Fortune, while it was passing out of sight of land, while it was battling its way across the Atlantic and eluding electrical storms in the northland, while it was slipping safely down the shore line of Long Island to its anchorage at Mineola.

It is an intensely human story, set down in simple, unaffected style. In it is described the feelings of men starting on a great adventure—cheerfully confident in the face of a hundred dangers. In it is described the courage of red-blooded men fighting their way through oceans of clouds and fog. In it is described the resolute daring of men calculating coolly just how much fuel, already greatly shortened, they could expend in dodging tempests which might dash them to destruction. In it is described the fighting spirit of aerial adventurers combating to the last situation which might force them to call for assistance. But nothing is to be found in the log of the great joy which must have surged up in every man's breast when they dropped anchor victoriously—safe at the end of a 3,600-mile voyage.

"When flying at night there is always a feeling of loneliness on leaving the ground," reads an entry made after the airship hardly had taken the air, but it is followed almost immediately by a description of the first breakfast in the air, which ends: "In the adjoining compartment the graphophone was entertaining the crew with the latest jazz tunes."

Then comes an account of sleeping in hammocks aboard a service airship, with a word of caution for the unwary sleeper. "There is only a thin outer cover of fabric on the under side of the keel on each side of the walking way, and the luckless individual who tips out of this hammock would in all probability break right through this and soon find himself in the Atlantic."

There follows a series of word pictures of cloud formations, showing that, as in the case of Alcock and Brown, the R-34 was at times floating between two layers; of wireless messages breaking through these cloud banks to bring cheer to the adventurers; of meals cooked over exhaust pipes, and engine repairs made with chewing gum; of the discovery of a feline stowaway aboard by a superstitious member of the crew—and then the sighting of the ice fields and Newfoundland, with terse observations of aerial navigation.

Instead of finding expressed at this exuberance of captain and crew, it is

PRESIDENT WILSON AGAIN IS IN THE UNITED STATES

Arrived at Hoboken Pier Tuesday Afternoon and is Greeted by Big Crowds; Full Text of Speech

President Wilson returned to the United States Tuesday, and, in his first speech delivered on American soil since the peace treaty was signed, declared that the peace concluded at Paris was "a just peace, which, if it can be preserved, will safeguard the world from unnecessary bloodshed."

The only reference the President made to his political opponents was when, in referring to the negotiations at Paris, he said: "I am afraid some people, some persons, do not understand that vision. They do not see it. They have looked too much upon the ground. They have thought too much of the interests that were near them, and they have now listened to the voices of their neighbors. I have never had a moment's doubt as to where the heart and purpose of this people lay."

The President arrived at the Hoboken army pier shortly before 3 o'clock. The army transport George Washington, on which he sailed from Brest, was escorted by the boy by the battleship Pennsylvania and more than a score of destroyers and smaller naval craft. On the New Jersey shore, the state which first honored Mr. Wilson with a political office, were massed 10,000 school children who welcomed the chief executive of the nation with the strains of the national anthem.

Through the lines of the children, all dressed in white, the President passed to the ferry which carried him to the Manhattan side of the river. He arrived in New York at 4:15 p. m., where he was greeted by the official reception committee, headed by Gov. Smith and Mayor Hylan. From the ferry terminal to Carnegie Hall, a distance of about three miles, the presidential party passed through streets lined with cheering thousands of men, women and children who thronged the sidewalks and filled every available window and roof top.

From the upper windows of the business skyscrapers great showers of confetti rained upon the President and Mrs. Wilson, literally millions of scraps of paper floating through the air carrying this motto: "Everybody's business. To stand by our government. To help the soldier get a job. To help crash bolshevism."

When Mr. Wilson stepped to the front of the stage in Carnegie Hall the band began playing the national anthem, but was drowned in the cheers of the several thousand men and women in the audience, who refused to resume their seats until the President had signalled several times for silence. Mr. Wilson was obviously under the strain of deep emotion when he began to speak, and his voice was noticeably hoarse.

The full text of the President's speech follows:

"Fellow countrymen: I am not going to try this afternoon to make you a real speech. I am a bit alarmed to find how many speeches I have in my system undelivered, but they are all speeches that come from the mind, and I want to say to you this afternoon only a few words from the heart.

"You have made me deeply happy by the generous welcome you have extended to me, but I do not believe that the welcome you extend to me is half as great as that which I extend to you. Why, Jerseyman though I am, this is the first time I ever thought that Hoboken was beautiful."

"I have really, though I have tried on the other side of the water to conceal it, been the most homesick man in the American expeditionary force, and it is with feelings that it would be vain for me to try to express that I find myself in this beloved country again. I do not say that because I lack in admiration of other countries."

"There have been many things that softened my homesickness. One of the chief things that softened it was the very generous welcome that they extended to me as your representative on the other side of the water.

(Continued on page eight)

remarked that the airmen think they would like to stop at Newfoundland and Nova Scotia some time for shooting and fishing, as the forests and lakes viewed from the air hold promise of much game and fish.

Then comes a more anxious entry: "The petrol question is becoming decidedly serious."

And again: "For some little while past there has been distinct evidences of electrical disturbances."

Then comes a description of two thunderstorms successfully evaded—"set down quite simply as they occurred and more or less in the form of a diary," as Gen. Maitland promised at the head of his log.

A dispatch from Mineola says the British dirigible R-34 left Roosevelt field shortly before midnight Wednesday on her return cruise to Scotland. The great ship, held in leash by 1,000 American balloon men, was released at 11:55 o'clock and floated leisurely up to a height of 200 feet with her motors silent. The motors then began to whirr and the craft, nosing upward, headed for New York. Three great searchlights playing on the ship made her clearly discernible to the thousands who had gathered to bid her bon voyage.