

WEATHER.  
North and South  
Carolina: Fair to  
night and Saturday.

# THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

10 Pages  
Today

FULL LEASED WIRE SERVICE

VOL. XXIV. No. 14.

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 1918.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## STILL HOPING FOR A PEACE WITH RUSSIA

Czernin and Hertling Express Confidence in Outcome of Negotiations

MORE RECONCILED TO ALLIES' CLAIMS

Some General Ground for Agreement is Found in Speeches of Wilson and Lloyd-George

Peace negotiations between Austria-Hungary and Russia, on the basis of no annexations and no indemnities will be continued and, in the opinion of Count Czernin, Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister, peace between the two nations can be assured if Russia maintains the same attitude. This declaration, coupled with the statement by Chancellor von Hertling before the main committee of the Reichstag yesterday that Germany, too, hopes to reach a "good conclusion" with the Russian delegates at Brest-Litovsk indicates complete confidence on the part of the Central Powers as to the final success of their separate Russian plans. In view of the demands of the German delegates that Courland and the Baltic provinces be given up by Russia and the declaration of Count Czernin that the dual monarchy will demand no annexations and no indemnities, a question of policy is raised that enshrouds further negotiations at Brest-Litovsk in doubt.

On the question of a general peace, Count Czernin is quoted as having told the Reichstag that he considered President Wilson's latest peace proposals as an approach to the Austro-Hungarian point of view. While there were several points in which Count Czernin said, yet there remains the fact that Austria-Hungary, as the ally of Germany, would fight to the bitter end in defense of her alliance. He expressed the opinion that once the Central Powers have reached peace with Russia that the belligerent nations would be forced to conclude a general peace, despite the efforts of their statesmen to the contrary.

Before the main committee of the Reichstag yesterday Chancellor von Hertling also discussed peace with Russia, but without making mention of the reported demands of the German delegates for the annexation of Courland and other territory. The Chancellor said that the negotiations at Brest-Litovsk had been resumed and that he held fast to the hope that peace could result.

Both the German Imperial Chancellor and the Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister remarked on the change in the tone of the recent speeches of President Wilson and Premier Lloyd-George, but the former disagreed with certain foreign newspapers that Mr. Lloyd-George's speech could be interpreted as either showing an earnest desire for peace, or friendship for Germany, declaring that the contrary of the British Premier seemed to indicate Germany guilty of all possible crimes. Referring to President Wilson's speech the Chancellor said there was no difference between Germany and the United States regarding the freedom of the seas.

Renewal of assurances of Japan's allegiance to her alliance with Great Britain and the other Allies has been made by Count Terauchi, the Japanese Premier. In an address at the opening of the Diet, the Premier declared that Japan held herself responsible for the maintenance of peace in the Far East. The Russian situation, the Premier said, was causing Japan great anxiety and he expressed the hope that a stable government would be established without further loss of time.

Abandonment of the plan to overrun the Venetian plains seems to have been decided upon by the Austro-German armies as is indicated in the retirement from the Piave river, westward, due to the constantly increasing attacks by the Italians and their French and British allies. On other fronts intense bombardments are reported from several sectors and infantry and air raids continue on an extensive scale.

### HEALTH CONDITIONS AMONG SAMMIES

Washington, Jan. 25.—Health conditions among American troops in France for the week ending January 23 show only a slight change. The total of all men off duty for illness or injury whether their cases were serious enough for hospital treatment or not, was 55.1 per thousand, as against 54.1 the preceding week. It was 47.6 for all troops in the United States.

## WASHINGTON SEES LITTLE PROGRESS TOWARDS PEACE

Speeches of Czernin and Hertling Not Regarded Very Hopeful Signs

HERTLING APPEARS WORSE THAN USUAL

German Premier Takes on More Uncompromising Attitude—Czernin's Speech Conciliatory

Washington, Jan. 25.—Based on the short cabled outlines of the speeches the German and Austrian Premiers today to their respective Parliaments, the opinion is expressed by officials here that no substantial advance towards the final peace sought by all has resulted from these declarations. It is true that that of Count Czernin, the Austrian Premier, appears to be more conciliatory in tone than previous utterances from that quarter, but beyond vague statements that the possibilities of peace negotiations are contained in the address of President Wilson and Lloyd-George, there is no suggestion of a surrender of any of the extreme contentions of the military elements in the Central Powers. The statements by Count Czernin, the Austrian Premier, of any claim against Russia for indemnity or annexation, it is noted, does not extend to other nations. As for Poland, the declaration that the population would decide its own fate, is read here in the light of the action already taken by the Central Powers to set up a sham kingdom of Poland, which, in reality is nothing more than a dependency of Austria and Germany.

That the sharp difference between the belligerents over Alsace-Lorraine continues is evident from Von Hertling's speech, for his declaration that "there could be no talk of the cession of Alsace-Lorraine" is the answer to Lloyd-George's demand that these provinces must be permitted to decide their own fate and President Wilson's expressed statement in the eighth point of his 14 peace aims that "the wrong done to France by Prussia in 1871 is should be righted."

When the German Premier appears to commend President Wilson's declaration in favor of freedom of the seas, he passes without comment over the very important condition in Mr. Wilson's statement which denies such freedom to nations which may break treaties and require punishment by other nations. This condition was expressly framed to meet the case of a country like Germany which brings on an unjust war and therefore denies Von Hertling's demand for free navigation "during time of war as well as in peace."

The German Premier's concise statement that the question of Russian evacuation concerns only Germany and Russia is in direct conflict with President Wilson's sympathetic expressions in regard to Russia as well as his precise demands that the people of occupied territories may arrange their future.

### BURLESON APPOINTED FOR ANOTHER TERM

Washington, Jan. 25.—Renomination of Postmaster General Burleson was confirmed by the Senate late yesterday within a few minutes after the question had been taken up in executive session. There were rumblings of opposition, but nothing came from them.

In renominating the Postmaster General, President Wilson wrote a letter to Vice President Marshall saying he had just been informed that a specific law limited the term of the Postmaster General to four years.

Better Situation at Newport News. Newport News, Va., Jan. 25.—Moderation in the temperature here has tended to relieve the bunkering situation considerably. Ice in the coal cars has thawed, thus enabling the railroads to resume dumping on some what of a normal basis. Ice in the river and Hampton Roads is yet interfering with bunkering ships in the stream from lighters.

## DETAILED ACCOUNT OF BREST-LITOVSK PEACE DISCUSSION

Leon Trotsky Says Position of Austro-Germans is Now Made Clear

DECLARES GERMANY CHANGED HER TERMS

Hoffmann's Statement of Annunciation Plans I From Proposition of December 25

Petrograd, Thursday, Jan. 24.—A detailed account of the Brest-Litovsk conference session following General Hoffmann's bold statement of the aims of the Central Powers, was presented by the Smolny Institute today. Leon Trotsky, addressing the conference, declared that "the position of the Austro-Germans is now absolutely clear." Continuing, the Foreign Minister said: "Germany and Austria seek to cut off more than 150,000 square versts from the former Polish kingdom of Lithuania, also the area populated by the Ukrainians and White Russians, and further they want to cut into territory of the Letts and separate islands populated by the Estonians from the same peoples on the main land. Within this territory Germany and Austria wish to retain their reign of military occupation, not only after the conclusion of peace with Russia, but after the conclusion of a general peace. At the same time the Central Powers refuse not only to give any explanation regarding the terms of evacuation, but also refuse to obliterate themselves regarding the evacuation.

The internal life of these provinces lies therefore for an indefinite epoch in the hands of these powers. Under such conditions any indefinite guarantees regarding the expression of the will of the Polish, Letts and Lithuanians are only of an illusory character. Practically it means that the governments of Austria and Germany take into their own hands the destiny of their nations."

Trotsky declared that he was glad now the Central Powers were speaking frankly, stating that General Hoffmann's condition proved that the real aims were built on quite a different level to the principles recognized on December 25, and that real or lasting peace was only possible on the actual principle of self-definition. "It is clear," Trotsky declared, "that the decision could have been reached long ago regarding peace aims if the Central Powers had not stated their aims differently from those expressed by General Hoffmann."

Dr. Von Kuehlmann, German Foreign Minister, replied to Trotsky, declaring in principle that General Hoffmann's aims were the same as those advanced on Christmas. Throughout the negotiations, he said, the Germans had kept in view the ethnological boundaries, but also the actual boundaries of the old Russian Empire. He said that the Central Powers intended to permit free self-definition, scoffing at the theory that the presence of troops would prevent this.

Regarding evacuation, Dr. Kuehlmann said that it must be taken up with the newly-born self-defined governments. "If General Hoffmann expresses the terms more strongly," said Dr. Von Kuehlmann, "it is because a soldier always expresses stronger language than diplomats. But it must not be deduced from this that there is any dissension between us regarding the principles which are one whole and well thought out."

Dr. Kuehlmann consented to Trotsky's request for a postponement of the conference, declaring, however, that it would be much pleasanter if they could finish the negotiations now as the former recess brought about many misunderstandings.

### NORFOLK SHIPPING IS NOT RELIEVED

Norfolk, Va., Jan. 25.—Because of the cold weather and ice conditions, shipping here has not been relieved to any extent by the order of Dr. Garfield. Coal brought here to dump for cargoes and bunkers of waiting ships is so frozen that the cars cannot be dumped until manual labor is used to break up the solid carloads into their former pieces. As a result 118 ships are today awaiting bunker coal before they can sail. Government priority orders also have a deterrent effect on relieving the situation. The Washington boat was unable to sail last night because no coal could be obtained. During the five days the industries were shut down one pier which normally dumped 30,000 tons daily reported that barely 1,000 tons a day was the record for that period.

## FAMILY OF FIVE GENERATIONS



Left to right (seated) Mrs. Margaret Varron, Miss Arline Alberta Pokorny, Mrs. M. Varron Fargo. Standing: Mrs. Albert Fargo Reid and Mrs. Madeline Reid Pokorny. Three generations in a family, even in these days of short lives, are not unusual. Four generations are rare, but to New York goes the distinction of having a family with five generations, represented, all well and happy. The five links in the noteworthy human chain are all represented by the gentle and apparently longer surviving sex.

## SECRETARY BAKER ASKS COMMITTEE TO HEAR ANSWER

Wants to Make Full Reply to Senator Chamberlain's Charges

SAYS STATEMENT IS DUE TO THE PUBLIC

Declares That the Situation is Such That All Should Know the True State of Affairs

Washington, Jan. 25.—Secretary Baker today asked the Senate Military committee for a hearing at which to answer the charges of Senator Chamberlain.

Secretary Baker sent the following letter to the Senator: "My Dear Senator Chamberlain: "The questions which have arisen with regard to the conduct of the war require an explicit statement from me for the information of your committee and generally for the information of Congress and the country."

"I feel that in justice I owe such a statement to the splendid officers and men of the army who have forgotten themselves and labored with self-sacrifice and, as I think, success in the building of a great army. "It is due also to the great number of men of business and of affairs who have accepted the invitation of the War Department to come to Washington, and brought their business experience, their talents and their judgment to the work in hand. And I think the people of the country are entitled to have at large a summary of what has been done by America in the war."

"I, therefore, respectfully request that your committee arrange an opportunity for me to make such a statement, and that the time and place be fixed as to enable all members of the Senate and the House of Representatives who are so disposed to attend. "If this request can be complied with I shall be happy to be advised at your earliest convenience of the time and place."

### ANOTHER "KILLED IN ACTION"

Washington, Jan. 25.—General Pershing today reported another American soldier killed in action on January 23, but no details. The man killed was Private Fred P. Thompson. His brother lives in Georgetown, Ills.

## GERMANY TO KEEP ALSACE-LORRAINE SAYS CHANCELLOR

Von Hertling Says Territory is Purely German and Not a Conquest

HE ASKS FOR NEW TERMS FROM ALLIES

Proposals of Wilson and Lloyd-George Unsatisfactory—Reply to Points Laid By Wilson

Berlin, (via London), Jan. 25.—Count von Hertling, the Imperial German Chancellor, in his address before the main committee of the Reichstag said the question of the limitation of armaments was quite open to discussion. The Chancellor added that the financial position of all European countries after the war would probably operate most effectively for the solution of this problem.

Count von Hertling contended that Alsace-Lorraine was almost purely German territory, which had been severed from Germany by violence. When Germany, in 1870, claimed the land "thus criminally wrong from her," it was not the conquest of alien territory, the Chancellor declared, but what today is called dis-annexation. There is no difference between Germany and President Wilson regarding the freedom of the seas, Count von Hertling said. He added that the thorough freedom of navigation during time of war, as well as in peace, was one of Germany's main demands. It being eminently important for future free navigation that England should be made to relinquish her strongly fortified points of support on international sailing routes, such as Gibraltar, Aden, Hong Kong and the Falkland Islands.

The Chancellor declared that Germany did not wish annexations by violence but the question of Northern France could be discussed only by France and Germany. He asserted there could be no talk of the cession of Alsace-Lorraine. The Chancellor demanded that the leaders of the nations at war with Germany set forth new proposals. The terms outlined by President Wilson and Premier Lloyd-George contained certain principles which could be accepted by Germany, he said, but the concrete proposals were unsatisfactory.

Commenting on the 14 points in the program for world peace set forth in President Wilson's address to Congress, the Chancellor said an agreement could be obtained without difficulty on the first four points. Regarding the fifth point, the Chancellor said:

(Continued on Page Nine.)

## ASKS ALLIES TO PROPOSE NEW TERMS

ADMINISTRATION TO MAKE REPLIES TO CHAMBERLAIN

The First Answer is Expected Saturday From Secretary Baker

HOUSE AND SENATE ALSO TO HEAR MORE

Senator James and Representatives Kent and Glass Are Expected to Defend War Department

Washington, Jan. 25.—With the capitol still ringing with Senator Chamberlain's reiteration of charges of inefficiency in the War Department and his declaration that President Wilson did not know the truth when he accused the Senator of distortion of facts, few developments in the controversy over the administration's conduct of the war were expected until tomorrow. Then, Secretary Baker has indicated, he will make his own answer to the House Military Committee, disclosing as much of the War Department's work as military expediency will permit.

Administration replies to Senator Chamberlain's assertion, made in a three-hour speech yesterday in answer to President Wilson's recent statement defending the War Department, probably will be delivered in both the Senate and House next week. It is known that Senator James will be ready when the Senate reconvenes on Monday and Representative Dent, chairman of the House Military Committee, and Representative Glass, who take up the administration's case in the House.

## MUCH DISSATISFACTION IN THE GERMAN NAVY

A Deserting Lieutenant Says Serious Outbreaks Have Occurred Recently

London, Jan. 25.—A German naval engineer with the rank of lieutenant, who has deserted from Kiel, according to an Amsterdam dispatch to the Daily Express, states that dissatisfaction among the men of the German fleet is much more serious than in the army. He asserts there have been important revolts, generally among the crews of mine sweepers.

Three weeks ago a squadron of mine sweeping trawlers entered Hamburg after an expedition in which three men were lost in an encounter with the British and one of the trawlers was damaged. Before the men were permitted to go ashore, according to this account, they were notified they must report back for duty within an hour. They asked time for rest. The Hamburg commandant refused, whereupon 150 men declined to obey the order.

An hour later a lieutenant named Wegner arrived and ordered the men to return to their boats. They refused. The lieutenant was shot at the men and struck two of them, the dispatch continues. He was thrown into the water and left to drown.

The commandant who had watched the mutiny dispatched a motor boat carrying two machine guns which fired into the crowd of sailors, killing 44 and injuring 73. The others were arrested and sentenced to terms of imprisonment varying from five to 20 years.

Forbes is Chairman. Washington, Jan. 25.—Allen B. Forbes, of New York, member of the bond selling firm of Harris, Forbes & Co., has been appointed chairman of a board of three advisors to the Federal Reserve Board to pass on applications for approval of securities.

Chancellor Hertling Agrees With Certain Points of Wilson's Speech

ANNOUNCES TERMS IN NEGATIVE WAY

Hertling Does Not Specially Suggest Grounds for Peace, Mostly Discussing Proposals

Count von Hertling, the German Imperial Chancellor, in answering the recent speeches of President Wilson and Premier Lloyd-George, announced in the Reichstag main committee that Germany would not give up Alsace-Lorraine under any circumstances. As to Belgium, the Chancellor said Germany did not desire any forcible annexation of her territory. Regarding occupied French territory, he declared that while Germany did not desire annexations of it by violence, he would discuss the question of this territory only with France. The evacuation of Russian territory could be discussed only with Russia, he announced. He expressed agreement with certain points in President Wilson's speech and invited new proposals from the Allies.

Count Czernin, the Austria-Hungarian Foreign Minister, in an address before the Reichstag, also replied to the speeches of the British and American executives. He also wished to desire to continue the exchange of peace views with the Allies. In particular, he thought such exchanges between Austria-Hungary and the United States were desirable. There was no great incompatibility between the interests of these nations in the opinion and an exchange of views between them might open the way to the other nations to join the conciliatory discussions.

Chief interest centers in the announcement of Germany's terms which are defined for the most part in a negative way, however. The German Chancellor stated specifically that Germany agreed with the first four points in President Wilson's world peace program which cover the abolition of secret diplomacy, freedom of the seas, equality of trade conditions and reduction of national armaments. The Chancellor thought some difficulties would be met regarding the fifth point which treated with colonial adjustments and asserted the principle that the interests of the population concerned must have equal weight with the claims of the government whose title was to be determined.

While Austria was primarily concerned with points 9, 10 and 11 in President Wilson's speech, Chancellor von Hertling pointed out that Germany's interests would be defended energetically where they were involved. These points touch upon the readjustment of the Italian frontiers along clearly recognizable lines of nationality, free opportunity for the autonomous development of the peoples of Austria-Hungary and with the Balkans question, including demands for the evacuation of Rumania, Serbia and Montenegro with free access to the sea for Serbia.

The Chancellor was notably specific in his treatment of the Alsace-Lorraine question, declaring this territory was originally German, that it had been taken by force from German possession and that the cession of 1871 was merely a restoration.

While Count von Hertling found Premier Lloyd-George more conciliatory in his recent speech than formerly, showing more of inclination for negotiations, he did not consider him yet as giving due consideration to Germany's political, economic and cultural position, while he was found "charging her with being guilty of all possible crimes."

As to the question of a league of peace, the Chancellor said Germany would be ready to discuss that after all the other questions had been settled.

Count Czernin, Austria's spokesman, in his address, dealt at some length with the Russian question. He declared that Austria-Hungary did not desire a metre of territory nor a centime of indemnity from Russia and thought there were not differences enough in the Russian and the German viewpoint of self-determination to justify an abandonment of the negotiations now in progress at Brest-Litovsk. The Polish question, he declared, must not delay the bringing about of peace by a single day.

Austria and Germany were in view. (Continued on Page Nine.)