

THE DUNN DISPATCH

VOL. V

THURSDAY, OCT. 17, 1918.

NUMBER 29

BERLIN APPEARS READY TO YIELD TO PRESIDENT WILSON

German Rumors Regarded in Washington as Shadow of Great Events Being Cast Before Them.

NO OFFICIAL WORD THAT KAISER HAS ABDICATED

Officials and Diplomats, Cautious and Conservative, by Nature and Practice, Regard With Incredulity the Intimations That One or All of Three Things Has Happened.

Washington, Oct. 16.—Tonight's news of Germany is everywhere regarded here as the shadow of great events being cast before them. There is in Washington no official word that the Kaiser has abdicated; or that he has been overthrown; or that Germany is ready to accept all of President Wilson's terms.

Officials and diplomats, cautious and conservative, by nature and practice, regard with incredulity the intimations that one or all of three things has happened. Of course, they all hope they have; they all know that one or all of them is inevitable.

The official opinion in the capital tonight is that the coming of these things is timed only by the unknown degree to which the German military power has been broken. There may be more information on that point in the chancelleries of England, France and Italy than there is in Washington.

When President Wilson's reply to the German peace proffer went forth Monday night it was predicted here that if it did not bring a complete and unconditional surrender of the military autocracy the German people themselves would force one. President Wilson's words were a plain invitation to the German people to take such a step and an ultimatum that there would be no peace with Kaiserism.

The coming hours will show how the heaven has worked; the intimations in today's dispatches from London, Paris and The Hague suggest the progress of the ferment.

SIGNIFICANT REPORT.

Most significant of all is regarded the report from Holland by way of London that Germany will immediately reply to President Wilson accepting all his terms and asking only guarantees for the interests of Germany and the German people. When the reply does come President Wilson's only course will be to forward it to the co-belligerents. The guarantee for the interests for Germany and the German people do not intervene as an obstacle if guarantee are thought of insincere terms. If they are put forth as another vehicle for a quibble, an opportunity for diplomatic evasion and trickery, or a negotiated peace they will meet only one reply.

If they mean guarantees for the majority and sovereignty of the Germany which is rightfully German always taking in the determination of the human beings concerned no obstacles is foreseen. If they mean guarantees for the right of the German people to live their lives under a peaceful responsible government which does not mean the life of the world, President Wilson's utterances on the subject, officials think, already have given the

such guarantees it is considered that hardly less could be expected of her. Guarantees for the interests of Germany involving only Germans, it was pointed out, are quite apart from the self-determination of the oppressed nationalities in Austria for which President Wilson has pledged the peace to secure opportunity for an autonomous development.

PEACE PARTY MAY BE IN CONTROL.

There always is the possibility that the conditions President Wilson has laid down as the basis for a peace already have come about in Germany. Diplomats noticed that Chancellor Maximilian sent a note, and that when the President answered with an inquiry it was Foreign Secretary Bolf and not the Chancellor who replied and that Bolf spoke of the new government which had been formed in Germany. It would not be without precedent if the peace party in Germany actually was in possession of an imperial receipt or other secret act renouncing the power of the Kaiser and his party when the reply to President Wilson's inquiry was sent. It would not be without precedent if the negotiation was with a maneuvering for the best possible terms and holding back the last card—the downfall of Kaiserism.

If the prerequisites for an armistice are accepted the arrangements will be made not by a mixed commission but by Marshal Foch and the co-belligerent commanders. These, as has been pointed out will be the means of taking from Germany every agency with which she could break her word if she would; the occupation by allied forces of each place as Strasbourg, Metz, and Coblenz; turning over to the allies of her fleet and submarine bases; with the recall of her submarines which today despatches hinted she was ready to do, and the surrender of munitions of war, undoubtedly also the agencies by which others might be produced, and probably the employment of the great war machine plants of Germany to repair the industrial damage done in Belgium and France. Seeing is believing, one official declared tonight and there will be no scraps of paper.

In a military sense Germany would be treated as an individual prisoner of war—disarmed and guarded. Allied forces placed in strategic positions could then by invasion of Germany, if necessary enforce any terms. The allied war council in which President Wilson holds one vote as has long been known has agreed upon these conditions as guarantees for supremacy of the allied armies.

It can be stated with official authority that should Germany agree to such an armistice the downfall of Kaiserism can easily be arranged at the peace conference without danger of accepting a negotiated peace. Allied forces would be in position to enforce the decisions of the peace council.

CHIEF QUESTIONS IN MIND.

The two chief questions in the minds of public men tonight are, is the German military power really so broken as to be ready to accept these terms? And the recurring question, what has become of the Kaiser?

Throughout the American capital there is the calm air of confidence mixed with the evidence of determination. People are reading the news bulletins at the windows and buying Liberty Bonds at the curbs.

When President Wilson sent the word to the country that there would be "no relaxation of any kind" he meant that no rumors of peace should undermine the fourth Liberty Loan; some of his friends believe he might have been thinking of making it a "Victory Loan," for it is a fact that if the Germans laid down her arms tomorrow the loan would have to go over for much of the money already has been spent and the millions of troops in Europe must be provided for until they can be returned home.

The President was reading the latest despatches tonight, making no comments and other officials were doing the same. The official air was surcharged with expectancy but it was the expectancy which would not be surprised if Germany rallied to go on for a while longer and make another attempt to save something from the wreckage.

There were no official indications of whether the German reply had been started for Washington, if indeed, it has been decided upon.

LIEUTENANT CAMPBELL

ranks as men fit for commissions. From Camp Jackson he went to the officers' training school at Camp Taylor, Kentucky, completing his civil life as Prof. A. C. Campbell, of Bule's Creek, but is now Lieut. Campbell, of the United States army. He has been at home on a furlough for a few days before a drafted man October 3rd, 1917, and at once became a member of his regimental band, and was stationed at Camp Jackson.

We were delighted to see here last week our friend who was known in civil life as Prof. A. C. Campbell, of Bule's Creek, but is now Lieut. Campbell, of the United States army. He has been at home on a furlough for a few days before a drafted man October 3rd, 1917, and at once became a member of his regimental band, and was stationed at Camp Jackson.

We congratulate our young friend on this promotion, and feel sure it was among those who by competitive examination were selected from the Harnett Post.

ALL EATING HOUSES TO BE REGULATED

Raleigh, Oct. 16.—A new program for all public eating places, effective October 21, is announced by the United States Food Administration. The new rules apply to all places where cooked food is sold to be eaten on the premises and affect 9,000,000 regular or occasional patrons.

The new regulations carry into effect the recent announcement of the Food Administration that fulfilling the American promise to the Allies to send them 17,500,000 tons of food this year the public eating places would be called upon "to undertake in many particulars a more strict program than last year."

The general plan of the Food Administration with regard to the conduct of public eating places has been reduced to twelve definite "General Orders." These twelve rules furnish the specific measures by which the Food Administration plans to carry out, so far as public eating places are concerned, the announced plan that for next year the American food program will be a direct reduction in the consumption of all food, particularly the staples, rather than a series of emergency regulations such as meatless and wheatless days and meals, and the substitution of one food for another.

The "General Orders" prohibit the serving of any bread that does not contain at least the twenty per cent of wheat flour substitutes, and of this Victory bread no more than two ounces may be served to a patron at one meal; if no Victory bread is served, four ounces of other breads, such as corn bread, muffins, Boston brown bread, etc., may be served. Bread served at boarding camps is excepted as is bread containing at least one-half rye flour. No bread is to be served until after the first course is on the table and no bread or toast may be served as a garniture.

Bacon is also barred as a garniture and only one meat may be served to a patron at a meal. Included in the definition of meat are beef, mutton, pork and poultry, but less than a half-ounce of meat is to be served to a patron at a meal.

Cheddar (American) cheese is limited to the same amount. No sugar bowls will be on the tables, a teaspoonful limits limit for a meal, and then only when asked for. Two pounds is the allowance to be observed for each ninety meals served, including cooking.

No waste food may be burned but all must be saved to feed animals or reduced to obtain fat.

Co-operation Relied Upon. The Food Administration relies on the hearty co-operation of the vast majority of hotel, cafe and other proprietors of public eating places to observe these regulations voluntarily, but is prepared to use the full force of its power against the few who would interfere with the success of the plan.

Attention is specially directed towards the conservation of bread and butter, cereals, meats, fats, sugar, coffee, cheese and ice, to fresh vegetables and fruits which should be served when possible, and to unnecessary suppers, teas, luncheons and banquets, which are condemned as "fourth" meals. The Food Administration desires as few fried dishes as possible.

Simplified Service Required. Simplified service, with meats and vegetables on one plate instead of in side dishes, and only necessary silverware, and simplification of the menu and the menu card are urged as means of saving not only food, but labor and paper. The general bill of fare should be abandoned because the great variety of dishes listed makes waste through spoilage. Simple bills for breakfast, luncheon and dinner with limited dishes, changed from day to day for variety, are recommended, also the use of vegetable salads, fruits, seafoods, made-over dishes and animal by-products, which save staples and utilize many available foods.

The war program discourages the table hotel meal except when confined to few courses and small variety, as on the Continent. American plan hotels should require guests to write orders, and all menus should be in plain English, actually describing the food.

Mr. Hoover's Statement. "There is no prospect of a proper ending of the War before the campaign of the summer of 1919," says Mr. Hoover. "To attain victory we must place in France three and a half million fighting men with the greatest mechanical equipment that has ever been given to any army. While we expect the position on the Western front may be improved, from a military point of view, between now and then, there can be no hope of a consummation of the end that we must secure until another year has gone by."

The Food Administrator points out that this accomplishment in 1919 will save a host of American lives that will have to be sacrificed if the War

KAISER OUT IS RUMOR; HUNS ARE STILL LOSING

Unconfirmed rumors are in the air that Germany has capitulated and that Emperor William has abdicated. The rumors emanated from Dutch and Swiss sources, but as yet the German government has not officially informed either the Washington or London governments of its intention to acquiesce in their activity of hostilities laid down by President Wilson.

Meanwhile hostilities are proceeding without cessation and as in days past, the forces of the allies everywhere are defeating the enemy. In Belgium and France the British, American and French troops under King Albert are sweeping forward for further gains in the process of driving the invaders from Belgian soil, on the front in France the British, French and American are hard on the Germans and are making progress, although slowly, in understanding the treatment that is being offered.

Both in Serbia and Albania the enemy troops are riding the invaded districts of the Adriatic Sea and the Aegean Sea and are making considerable advances toward the enemy. The British and American forces are hard on the Germans and are making progress, although slowly, in understanding the treatment that is being offered.

BRITISH BEACH TRIFOLI. In the Adriatic the British forces have advanced far to the north and are now in possession of the coast of Dalmatia, having captured Tripoli near the Montenegrin coast, 45 miles north of the Adriatic Sea. By this maneuver the British are creating for the enemy a being caught between the British and the Albanians.

The great wedge of the allies in Flanders is being gradually extended outward all along the front of attack. Throughout, at the head of the railway leading to Bruges and numerous villages to the south, have been taken while Central, the junction point of the railway to Ghent, is almost entirely surrounded. Large numbers of prisoners and many additional guns have been captured by the British, French and British troops who are carrying on the operation.

DIGGING AFTER DOUIA. To the south of this region the British continue successfully their maneuver which has its main objective the capture of Douai and Lille and the blocking out of the big salient which is barring the way to Valenciennes and the German defense line in that vicinity. Here the Germans are continuing to withdraw, closely followed by the British who are within two and a half miles and three and three-quarters miles of Douai, respectively, southwest and west of the city.

In the Champagne region where the French and the Americans are driving their way northward further good gains have been made notwithstanding the furious efforts of the Germans to hold their line. Reheld, the important junction point for the railways running to Mezieres and other points inside the enemy-held territory is all but captured by the French. Eastward the Americans also have again pressed slightly forward.

REICHSTAG TO DISCUSS WILSON'S NOTE FRIDAY. Basel, Switz., Oct. 15.—The German Reichstag will meet on Friday to discuss President Wilson's note according to the German press.

continues until 1920. To strike the final blow in 1919 means that we must not only find the man, shipping and equipment for this gigantic army, but that our own army, the Allied armies and the civil population of the Allied countries must, in the meantime, have ample food if their strength is to be maintained. "We can do all these things," he declares, "and I believe we can bring this business to an end if every man, woman and child in the United States tests every action every day and hour by the one touchstone. Does this or that contribute to winning the war?"

COTTON SEED BAN FROM OCTOBER 17-26

Order issued by Food Administration to Relieve Congestion Held. "Cotton seed crushers, dealers, ginners or individual are prohibited from purchasing cotton seed, effective Thursday, October 17, through October 26, from cotton ginned within those days."

This order was issued by the State Food Administrator, Henry A. Page, Monday afternoon and is in lieu of a further "shut down" order. It is designed to relieve and prevent such a congestion of cotton seed in the hands of crushers, dealers and ginners as might result in the loss of food and food value through heating where the seed were improperly stored or damaged by exposure.

The new order means that while for the present gins will not be required to close down, they will not be able to gin except for farmers who are in position to take care of their own seed.

GYPSY SAYS WAR WILL END ON DECEMBER 5

He Also Predicts Kaiser Will Commit Suicide on November 25.

Wilson, N. C., Oct. 5.—Peace will be declared on December 5 following the suicide of the Kaiser on November 25, according to a gypsy fortune teller who was traveling on a train between here and Rocky Mount Friday. This information was imparted to two Wilsonians who were on the train. One of the men had given the gypsy a quarter and told the fortune teller that he would give him \$25 to tell him when the war would end.

"My friend," was the response, "it is impossible for you to carry out your offer as you have only 43 cents on your person and your friend can help you but a little—he has only \$2.00, and when the train arrives in Wilson, your home town, will be the last time we will meet in this world."

The crowd insisted that the Wilsonians take inventory of the cash in hand, which they did and found that the gypsy had made no mistake in his calculations.

"It is important to you the desired information, viz.: On November 25, of this year, the Kaiser will commit suicide, and on December 5 peace will be declared."

School Suspended at Bule's Creek. Bule's Creek, N. C., Oct. 14.—To prevent the spread of the influenza, there being a few mild cases here, school has been suspended until Monday, October 21.

JOHNSTON COUNTY FAIR HAS BEEN CALLED OFF. Smithfield, Oct. 14.—The Johnston county fair was called off by the directors this morning on account of increased influenza cases in Johnston and other patronizing counties. With just one week before the opening of the directors and health authorities decided that the fair situation was not improving fast and there was nothing to do but call off the fair.

No recorder's court tomorrow as Judge F. H. Brooks went to bed with the flu today.

THE LOST BATTALION SPURNED OFFER OF SAFETY. "Go to Hell" Shouted Whittlesey. When Germans Sent Note Pleading For Surrender.

With the American Forces North-west of Verdun, October 9 (Associated Press)—The brightest spot in the heroic story of the now famous "lost battalion," which belonged to the 77th Division, as yet untold, was the climax to the fourth day of the siege of the troops in the Argonne Forest.

When the men had been for a long time without food and almost wholly without ammunition, and when many were weak from exhaustion, but not one despairing, an American who had been taken prisoner by the Germans suddenly appeared at the little camp surrounded in the valley.

The man had been sent blindfolded from the German headquarters with a typewritten note to Major Whittlesey, reading: "Americans, you are surrounded on all sides. Surrender in the name of humanity. You will be well treated."

Major Whittlesey did not hesitate a fraction of a second. "Go to hell!" he shouted. Then he read the note to those around him, and his men, despite their weariness and hunger, and in imminent danger every moment, cheered loudly that the Germans heard them from their observation posts.

That is the stuff of which men are made—our men.

THE BAN ON PLEASURE RIDING SUNDAYS HAS BEEN LIFTED. Washington, Oct. 18.—Fuel Administrator Garfield today lifted the ban on gasoline Sundays effective at once.

TEXT OF PRESIDENT WILSON'S OFFICIAL REPLY TO GERMANY

Washington, Oct. 14.

"Sir: In reply to the communication of the German government dated the 12th instant, which you handed me today, I have the honor to request you to transmit the following answer:

"The unqualified acceptance by the present German government and by a large majority of the Reichstag of the terms laid down by the President of the United States of America in his address to the Congress of the United States on the 8th of January, 1918, and in his subsequent addresses justify the President in making a frank and direct statement of his decision with respect to the communication of the German government of October 11th of this year: 'Autocracy Must Go!'

"It must be clearly understood that the process of evacuation and the conditions of an armistice are matters which must be left to the judgment and advice of the military advisers of the government of the United States and the Allied governments, and the President feels it his duty to say that no arrangement can be accepted by the government of the United States which does not provide absolutely satisfactory safeguards and guarantees of the maintenance of the present supremacy of the armies of the United States and of the Allies in the field. He feels confident that he can safely assume that this will also be the judgment and decision of the Allied governments.

"The President feels that it is also his duty to add that neither the government of the United States nor, he is quite sure, the governments with which the government of the United States is associated as a belligerent, will consent to consider an armistice so long as the armed forces of Germany continue the illegal and inhuman practices which they still persist in.

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proposals of peace its submarines engaged in sinking passenger ships at sea, and not the ships alone, but the very boats in which their passengers and crews seek to make their way to safety; and in their present enforced withdrawal from Flanders and France the German armies are pursuing a course of wanton destruction which has always been regarded as in direct violation of the rules and practices of civilized warfare. Cities and villages, if not destroyed, are being stripped of all they contain—not only that, but of their very inhabitants. The nations, associated against Germany cannot be expected to agree to a cessation of arms while acts of inhumanity, spoliation and desecration are being continued which they justly look upon with horror and with burning hearts.

Must Be Destroyed or Made Impotent. "It is necessary, also, in order that there may be no possibility of misunderstanding that the President should very solemnly call the attention of the government of Germany to the language and plain intent of one of the terms of peace which the German government has now accepted. It is contained in the address of the President delivered at Mount Vernon on the Fourth of July last.

"It is as follows: 'The destruction of every arbitrary power anywhere that can separately, secretly and of its single choice disturb the peace of the world; or, if it cannot be presently destroyed, at least its reduction to virtual impotency.'

"The power which has hitherto controlled the German nation is of the sort here described. It is within the choice of the German nation to alter it. The President's words just quoted naturally constitute a condition precedent to peace, if peace is to come by the action of the German people themselves. The President feels bound to say that the whole process of peace will, in his judgment, depend upon the definiteness and the satisfactory character of the guarantees which can be given in this fundamental matter.

Must Know With Whom We Are Dealing. "It is indispensable that the governments associated with Germany should know beyond a peradventure with whom they are dealing.

"The President will make a separate reply to the royal and imperial government of Austria-Hungary."

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurance of my high consideration. (Signed.) ROBERT LANSING.

Mr. Frederick O. Ederlin, Charge d'Affaires ad interim, in charge of German interests in the United States.

Mrs. C. S. Hicks, who has been critically ill for the past two days at her home in Duke, is reported better this morning.

CONDITIONS IN CENTRAL POWERS REPORTED TO BE IN A CHAOTIC CONDITION

Advice Received Officially in Washington Through Neutral Countries Tell This Story.

Hindenburg. It is Declared, Was The Chief Promoter of The Peace Overture and Had Stated That Germany Lacked Material and Men and Was Compelled To Seek Cessation of War; President's Note is in Berlin By This Time But No Intimation Yet As To What Will Follow.

Washington, Oct. 15.—Internal political conditions in Germany and possibly in Austria-Hungary as well as the military situation on the western front are expected to determine the nature and time of the German reply to President Wilson's communication of yesterday, definitely closing the door to peace negotiations with German autocracy. The President's note probably already has reached Berlin through the Swiss foreign office.

Chaos in Germany. Reports reaching Washington today through official sources by way of neutral countries not only indicated the existence of almost chaotic conditions in the Central Powers, but also said that it was Field Marshal Von Hindenburg himself who was responsible for the German government accepting the President's peace terms and seeking an immediate armistice.

Von Hindenburg the "Fascist." It was said that at a recent meeting of the military leaders of the parties in the Reichstag, Von Hindenburg boldly declared that Germany must have peace at once on the best terms she could get. He said the army no longer had the necessary munitions and men to do anything but surrender, and he said that the

had come to try first for an armistice and then for peace and he argued that this could be put in the light of a concession to the demands of the socialists and pacifists in Germany. Prince Maximilian, the Chancellor, is reported to have strongly opposed such a course, dreading a reaction against the junker element by the socialists, but imperial approval was given Von Hindenburg's plan and the request for peace followed.

Reply. When? No indication has been given us as to when replies will be made by President Wilson to the Austrian and Turkish appeals for peace. It is understood that there is no ground for the apprehension which has arisen in Austria that the President would refuse to reply to Premier Burian's appeal because of the autocratic character of the Austrian government. It was said that this might well figure in a final peace proposal, but would not operate to prevent the consideration of an armistice which Austria seeks.

The same is true of the Turkish appeal, and, which not officially stated, it is believed that the prime reason for delaying replies to both these applications is to afford time for the President's response to Germany's peace proffer to filter to the masses in Austria and Turkey through the rigorous censorship that exists.

In the meantime attention now is centered on the military situation and renewed efforts to furnish the armies clothing in the central powers all the men and material needed to achieve a military victory in the field.

RURAL CARRIER EXAMINATION. The United States Civil Service Commission has announced an examination for the County of Johnston North Carolina, to be held at Goldsboro on November 9, 1918 to fill the position of rural carrier at Selma and vacancies that may later occur in the above-mentioned county. The examination will be open only to male citizens who are actually domiciled in the territory of a post office in the county and who meet the other requirements set forth in Form No. 1977. This form and application blank may be obtained from the office mentioned above or from the United States Civil Service Commission at Washington, D. C. Application should be forwarded to the Commission at Washington at the earliest practicable date.

During the continuance of the present war the Commission will, in accordance with the request of the Post Office Department, admit women to rural carrier examinations upon the same conditions as men. By direction of the Commission. JOHN A. McLENNON, President.