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THE ALLIES' TERMS OF PEACE

Note Sent in Reply to Wilson's Proposed Peace Discussion Discloses for First Time the Only Terms on Which Peace Will Be Made, Namely, Restoration, Indemnification and Evacuation of Invaded Territories; Liberation from German Domination of Italians, Slavs and Rumanians; Expulsion of Turkey from Europe and Suppression of Prussian Militarism—Germany Sends Note to Neutrals Upon Allies' Refusal to Discuss Peace.

Special to The Toronto World.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—Declaring "It is impossible at the present moment to attain a peace which will assure them reparation, restitution and such guarantees to which they are entitled," the reply of the entente powers to President Wilson's recent peace note was received today by the American Government. The allied governments object to the implication in the president's note that the aims and purposes of the two groups of belligerents are the same, saying it "is in direct opposition to the evidence." The note says: "The objects of the allies in the war will not be made known in detail until the hour of negotiations," but then summarizes these objects as follows:

- Restoration and indemnification of Belgium, Serbia and Montenegro.
- Evacuation of the invaded territories of France, Russia and Rumania, with just reparation.
- Reorganization of Europe, founded upon a respect for nationalities, and guarantees against aggression."
- Restoration of provinces wrested in the past from the allies by force or against the will of their populations.
- Liberation of Italians, Slavs, Rumanians, from foreign domination.
- The expulsion from Europe of the Ottoman Empire and the enfranchisement of populations subject to the Turk.
- "It never has been the design of the allies to encompass the extermination of the German people," says the note.

The note is not taken to mean that no prospect of peace conference remains, since it is taken for granted that Germany is not willing to discuss terms on the basis laid down by the allies.

The full text of the note follows: "The allied governments have received the note which was delivered to them in the name of the Government of the U. S. on the 19th of December, 1916. They have studied it with the care imposed upon them both by the exact realization which they have of the gravity of the hour and by the sincere friendship which attaches them to the American people.

Pay Tribute to Sentiment.
In a general way they desire to declare their respect for the lofty sentiments inspiring the American note and their wholehearted agreement with the proposal to create a league of nations, which shall assure peace and justice through the world. They recognize all advantages for the cause of humanity and civilization which the institution of international agreements, destined to avoid violent conflict between nations, would prevent; agreements which must imply the sanctions necessary to insure their execution and thus to prevent an apparent security from only facilitating new aggressions. But a discussion of future arrangements for assuring a durable peace presupposes a satisfactory settlement of the present conflict; the allies have as profound a desire as the Government of the U. S. to terminate as soon as possible a war for which the central empires are responsible and which inflicts such cruel sufferings upon humanity.

But in their judgment it is impossible to obtain at this moment such a peace as will not only secure to them the reparation, the restitution and the guarantees justly due them, by reason of the act of aggression, the guilt of which is fixed upon the central powers, while the very principle from which it sprang was undermining the safety of Europe; and at the same time such a peace as will enable future European nations to be established upon a sure foundation. The allied nations are conscious that they are not fighting for selfish interests, but above all to safeguard the independence of peoples, of right and of humanity.

The allies are fully aware of the losses and suffering which the war causes to neutrals as well as to belligerents and they deplore them; but they do not hold themselves responsible for them, having in no way either willed or provoked this war, and they strive to reduce these damages in the measure compatible with the inexorable exigencies of their defense against the violence and the will of the enemy.

It is with satisfaction therefore that they take note of the declaration that the American communication is in no wise associated in its origin with that of the central powers transmitted on

Dec. 18, by the Government of the U. S. They did not doubt, moreover, the resolution of that government to avoid even the appearance of a support, even moral, of the authors responsible for the war.

Protect Against Assimilation.
"The allied governments feel it their duty to challenge in the most friendly, but also in the clearest way, the analogy drawn between the two groups of belligerents. This analogy, based on public declarations of the central powers, is in direct conflict with the evidence, both as regards responsibility for the past and guarantees for the future. President Wilson, in alluding to this analogy, did not, of course, intend to adopt it as his own.

If there is an historical fact established at the present date, it is the wilful aggression of Germany and Austria-Hungary to insure their hegemony over Europe, and their economic domination over the world.

By her declaration of war, by the instant violation of Belgium and Luxembourg, and by her methods of warfare, Germany has proved that she systematically scorns every principle of humanity and all respect due to small states. More and more, as the struggle has progressed, has the attitude of the central powers and their allies been a constant challenge to humanity and civilization.

Is it necessary to recall the horrors which accompanied the invasion of Belgium and Serbia; the atrocious regime imposed upon the invaded countries; the massacre of hundreds of thousands of innocents; the barbarities perpetrated against the population of Syria, the raids of zeppelins on open towns, the destruction by submarines of passenger steamers and of merchantmen even under neutral flags, the cruel treatment inflicted upon prisoners of war, the juridical murders of Miss Cavell, of Capt. Fryatt, the deportation and reduction to slavery of civil populations, etc. The execution of such a series of crimes perpetrated without any regard for universal reprobation fully explains to President Wilson the protest of the allies.

Declaration Already Made.
They consider that the note which they sent to the U. S., in reply to the German note, will be a response to the questions put by the American Government and, according to the exact words of the latter, constitute "a public declaration as to the conditions upon which the war could be terminated."

President Wilson desires more; he desires that the belligerent powers openly affirm the objects which they seek by continuing the war; the allies experience no difficulty in replying to this request. Their objects in the war are well known; they have been formulated on many occasions by the chiefs of their diverse governments. Their objects in the war will not be made known in detail with all the equitable compensations and indemnities for damages suffered until the hour of negotiations. But the civilized world knows that they imply in all necessity and in the first instance the restoration of Belgium, of Serbia and of Montenegro and the indemnities which are due them; the evacuation of the invaded territories of France, of Russia and of Rumania, with just reparation; the reorganization of Europe, guaranteed by a stable settlement, based alike upon the principle of nationalities, on the right which all peoples, whether small or great, have to the enjoyment of full security and free economic development and also upon territorial agreement and international arrangements so framed as to guarantee land and sea frontiers against unjust attacks; the restitution of provinces or territories wrested in the past from the allies by force or against the will of their populations; the liberation of Italians, of Slavs, of Rumanians and of Teheco-Slovagues from foreign domination; the enfranchisement of populations subject to the bloody tyranny of the Turks; the expulsion from Europe of the Ottoman Empire, which has proved itself so radically alien to western civilization. The intentions of his majesty the Emperor of Russia regarding Poland have been clearly indicated in the proclamation which he has just addressed to his armies. It goes without saying that if the allies wish to liberate Europe from the brutal covetousness of Prussian militarism, it never has been their design, as has been alleged, to encompass the extermination of the German peoples and their political disappearance. That

which they desire above all is to insure a peace upon the principles of liberty and justice, upon the inviolable fidelity to international obligation with which the government of the U. S. has never ceased to be inspired.

United in the pursuit of this supreme object the allies are determined, individually and collectively, to act with all their power and to consent to all sacrifices to bring to a victorious close a conflict upon which they are convinced not only their own safety and prosperity depends, but also the future of civilization itself.

The Note From Belgium.
The translation of the Belgian note, which was handed to Ambassador Sharp with the entente reply, follows:

The government of the king, which has associated itself with the answer handed by the president of the French council to the American ambassador, on behalf of all is particularly desirous of paying tribute to the sentiment of humanity which prompted the president of the United States to send his note to the belligerent powers, and it highly esteems the friendship expressed for Belgium thru his kindly intermediation. It desires as much as Mr. Woodrow Wilson to see the present war ended early as possible.

But the president seems to believe that the statements of the two opposing camps pursue the same objects of war. The example of Belgium unfortunately demonstrates that this is in no wise the fact. Belgium has never, like the central powers, aimed at conquest. The barbarous fashion in which the German Government has treated, and is still treating, the Belgian nation does not permit the supposition that Germany will preoccupy herself with guaranteeing in the future the rights of the weak nations which she has not ceased to trample underfoot since the war, let loose by her, began to desolate Europe. On the other hand, the government of the king has noted with pleasure and with confidence the assurances that the United States is impatient to co-operate in the measures which will be taken after the conclusion of peace to protect and guarantee the small nations against violence and oppression.

The Country is Ruined.
Previous to the German ultimatum Belgium only aspired to live upon good terms with all her neighbors; she practised with scrupulous loyalty towards each one of them the duties imposed by her neutrality. In the same manner she has been rewarded by Germany for the confidence she placed in her, thru which, from one day to the other, without any plausible reason, her neutrality was violated; and the chancellor of the empire, when announcing to the reichstag this violation of right and of treaties, was obliged to recognize the iniquity of such an act and predetermined that it would be repaired. But the Germans, after the occupation of Belgian territory, have displayed no better observance of the rules of international law or the stipulations of the Hague convention. They have by taxation, as heavy as it is arbitrary, drained the resources of the country; they have intentionally ruined its industries, destroyed whole cities, put to death and imprisoned a considerable number of inhabitants. Even now, while they are loudly proclaiming their desire to put an end to the horrors of war, they increase the rigors of the occupation by deporting into servitude Belgian workers by the thousands.

If there is a country which has the right to say that it has taken up arms to defend its existence, it is assuredly Belgium. Compelled to fight or to submit to shame, she passionately desires that an end be brought to the unprecedented sufferings of her population. But she could only accept a peace which would assure her, as well as equitable reparation, security and guarantees for the future.

Grateful for Relief.
The American people, since the beginning of the war, have manifested for the oppressed Belgian nation its most ardent sympathy. It is an American committee, the commission for relief in Belgium, which, in close union with the government of the king and the national committee, displays an untiring devotion and marvelous activity in revictualing Belgium. The government of the king is happy to avail itself of this opportunity to express its profound gratitude to the commission for relief as well as to the generous Americans eager to relieve the misery of the

Belgian population. Finally, nowhere more than in the United States have the abductions and deportations of Belgian civilians provoked such a spontaneous movement of protestation and indignant reproach.

These facts, entirely to the honor of the American nation, allow the government of the king to entertain the legitimate hope that at the time of the definitive settlement of this long war the voice of the entente powers will find in the United States a unanimous echo to claim in favor of the Belgian nation, innocent victim of German ambition and covetousness, the rank and the place which its irreproachable past, the valor of its soldiers, its fidelity to honor and its remarkable faculties assigned to it among the civilized nations.

GERMANY'S NOTE TO NEUTRALS

Blames Belgium for Its Fate, Says England Violated Rules of War, and Places Upon Allies Responsibility for Continuance of Bloodshed.

BERLIN, Jan. 11, via Sayville.—Germany today handed neutral governments a note concerning the reply of the entente to the German peace proposals, the Overseas News Agency announces. It is first stated, says the news agency announcement, that the German Government has received the reply of the entente to the note of Dec. 12, containing a proposition to enter at once into peace negotiations. The note then continues:

"Our adversaries declined this proposition, giving as the reason that it is a proposition without sincerity and without importance. The form in which they clothe their communication excludes an answer to them, but the imperial government considers it important to point out to the governments of neutral powers its opinion regarding the situation.

"The central powers have no reason to enter into any discussion regarding the origin of the world war. History will judge upon whom the immense guilt of the war shall fall. History's verdict will as little pass over the encircling policy of England, the revengeful policy of France and the endeavor of Russia to gain Constantinople as over the instigation of the Serbian assassination in Sarajevo and the complete mobilization of Russia, which meant war against Germany. Germany and her allies, who had to take up arms for defense of their liberty and their existence, consider this their aim of war, as obtained.

"On the other hand, the hostile powers always went further away from the realization of their plans which, according to the declarations of their responsible statesmen, were, among others, directed towards the conquest of Alsace-Lorraine and several Russian provinces, the humiliation and diminution of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, the partition of Turkey and the mutilation of Bulgaria.

"In the face of such war aims, the demand for restitution, reparation and guarantee, in the mouth of our adversaries, produces a surprising effect.

"Our adversaries call the proposal of the four allied (Teutonic) forces a war manoeuvre.

Make Another Protest.
"Germany and her allies must protest in the most energetic fashion against such a characterization of their motives, which were frankly explained. They were persuaded that a peace which was just and acceptable to all the belligerents was possible, that it could be brought about by an immediate spoken exchange of views and that therefore the responsibility for further bloodshed could not be taken.

"Their readiness was affirmed without reservation to make known their peace conditions when negotiations were entered into which refute every doubt as to their sincerity.

"Our adversaries, who had it in their hands to examine the proposition as to its contents neither attempted an examination or made counter proposals. Instead, they declared that peace was impossible so long as the re-establishment of violated rights and liberties, the recognition of

the people of the nationalities and the free existence of small states were not guaranteed.

Sincerity is Questioned.
"The sincerity, which our adversaries deny to the proposals of the four allied powers, will not be conceded by the world to these demands if the world holds before its eyes the fate of the Irish people, the destruction of the liberty and independence of the Boer republic, the subjugation of northern Africa by England, France and Italy; the suppression of Russian alien nations, and also the violation of Greece, which is without precedent in history.

"Against the pretended violations of the laws of nations by the four allies (Teutonic) those powers are not entitled to complain, which from the beginning of the war trampled on justice and tore to pieces the treaties upon which it is built. England already during the first weeks of the war repudiated the London declaration, the contents of which had been recognized by its own delegates as a valid law of nations, and in the further course of the war violated in the most severe fashion also the Paris declaration; so that by her arbitrary measures for warfare a condition of lawlessness has been created.

"The war of starvation against Germany and the pressure exercised in England's interest against neutrals are not less scandalously conflicting with the rules of the laws of nations than with the commands of humanity.

"Likewise, contrary to the laws of nations and incompatible with the usages of civilization, are the use of colored troops in Europe and the extension of the war into Africa, which was done by a breach of existing treaties and which undermines the prestige of the white race on that continent. The barbarous treatment of prisoners, especially in Africa and Russia, and the deportation of the civilian population from eastern Prussia, Alsace-Lorraine, Galicia and Bukovina, are further proofs of how our adversaries respect justice and civilization.

Puts Blame on Belgium.
"At the end of their note of Dec. 30 our adversaries point out the special situation of Belgium. The imperial government is unable to acknowledge that the Belgian Government has always observed the duties which were enjoined upon her by her neutrality. Already before the war Belgium, under England's influence, sought support in military fashion from England and France, and thus herself violated the spirit of the treaty which she had to guarantee her independence and neutrality.

"Twice the imperial government declared to the Belgian Government that it did not come as an enemy to Belgium, and asked it to spare to the country the terrors of war. Germany offered to guarantee the integrity and independence of the kingdom to the full extent, and compensate for all damages which might be caused by the passage of the German troops. It is known that the British Government in 1837 was resolved not to oppose the use of the right of way thru Belgium under those conditions.

"The Belgian Government declined the repeated offer of the imperial government. Upon her and those powers which instigated her to this attitude falls the responsibility for the fate which befell Belgium.

"The accusations about the German warfare in Belgium and the measures taken there in the interest of military safety have been repeatedly refuted by the imperial government as untrue. Germany again offers energetic protest against these calumnies.

Evading Responsibility.
"Germany and her allies have made an honest attempt to terminate the war and open the road for an understanding among the belligerents. The imperial government asserts the fact that it merely depended upon the decision of our adversaries whether the road towards peace should be entered upon or not. The hostile governments declined to accept this road. Upon them falls the full responsibility for the continuation of the bloodshed.

"Our allied powers, however, shall continue the struggle in quiet confidence and with firm trust in their right, until peace is gained which guarantees to their nations honor, existence and liberty of development, and which to all the nations of the European continent gives the blessings of co-operation in mutual respect and understanding to co-operate in the solution of the great equal rights together for the solution of the great problems of civilization."