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## WILSON SAYS NO!

## Germany's Peace Offer Refused---

## Armistice Cannot Be Considered.

And War Must Continue Until Germany Surrenders Unconditionally---  
Turkey's Note at Washington---Allies Begin New Attack in Flanders.

WASHINGTON, D.C., Oct. 14.

President Wilson to-day answered Germany's peace offer with a note declaring anew that there can be no peace with a German Government controlled by a military autocracy and no thought of an armistice while German atrocities continue on land and sea. President Wilson to-day informed Germany that the only condition upon which an armistice could be granted is that atrocities on land and sea must cease. He also gave notice that autocracy must be before peace can come. When the time to consider an armistice comes the President said the military advisers of the United States and the Allies will be consulted and no military advantage of the armies fighting the Central powers will be lost. The text of the President's answer follows: 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 justified the President in making a frank and direct statement of his decision with regard to the communications of the German Government of the 11th and 12th of October, 1918. 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 U. S. and the Allied Governments, and the President feels it his duty to say that no arrangements 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 the Allies in the field. He feels confident that he can safely assume that nothing but 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. At the very time that the German Government approaches the Government of the United States with proposals of peace its submarines are 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 forced withdrawal from Flanders and from France the German armies are pursuing a course of wanton destruction, which has always been regarded as a direct violation of the rules and practices of civilized warfare. Cities and villages are being destroyed and stripped of all they contain, not only that but often their very inhabitants. The nations associated against Germany cannot be expected to agree to a cessation of arms while acts of inhumanity, spoliation and desolation are being continued which they justly look upon with horror and with burning hearts. 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, destroy the peace of the world, or if it cannot be presently destroyed, at least its reduction to virtual impotence. 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. After, it is indispensable that the governments associated against Germany should know beyond 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 assurances of my high consideration.

(Sgd.) ROBERT LANSING.

Mr. Frederick Oederlin,  
Charge D'Affaires, Ad Interim,  
in charge of German interests in the United States.

## WAR REVIEW.

Peace talk pervades the air, but is falling on deaf ears as far as the allies in the field are concerned. Instead of a relaxation in the intensity of hostilities on what seemingly is a major scale are being carried out by the British, French and Belgians in Belgium, Flanders. Having cleared the old Leon salient, and made advances northward in Champagne, which are menacing the retirement of the Germans eastward toward the Meuse-Metz line, General Foch has ordered a drive in the Lys River region of Flanders towards Ghent, which threatens to break entirely the grip of the Germans in Belgium all the way from the center to the coast, and likewise to eliminate the big bulge in the line at Lille as its apex.

## NEW ATTACK OPENED IN FLANDERS.

WITH ALLIED ARMY IN FLANDERS, Oct. 14.—British, Belgian and French forces attacked at dawn this morning on a wide front in Flanders. The Allied troops are driving in the general direction of Ghent and Courtrai. The attack seems to be general, from Comines to the northward the troops of the nations went over the top after a crash bombardment only. There was no preliminary bombardment. It undoubtedly surprised the enemy. In the British formations were some of Great Britain's best troops and the forces of the French army of famous fighting organizations. The Germans appear prepared to retire to the Ghent lines. By the fury with which the attack was launched it is evident that the fighting armies are not paying the slightest attention to the peace talk. They seemed forward with all their dash characteristics.

tic of the recent operations. The blow in Flanders may prove to be Marshal Foch's master stroke. If the Allied progress is continued the Germans throughout a wide stretch of territory taking in the most important part of the Belgian coast, including possibly the important German submarine bases as well as the forces in the entire Lille salient will either have to get out or face a second Sedan. Reports from the advanced positions this morning indicated that the three groups of Allied troops were making excellent progress in the Belgian coast salient from which the Germans have been precipitately removing war materials for two weeks. Every foot of ground gained here also deepens the Lille salient. Success means that the enemy will be obliged to evacuate the region to the south as well as to the north of the front attacked. The attack would have been launched before now had the ground been ready. Immediately the Flanders attack began the British troops drove first for the Comines-Menin railway. No tanks are reported to be participating in this offensive. The Germans are numerically weak on this front, numbering fewer than 15 divisions, and these are in poor condition. It is known partly as the result of enemy graves counted that the Germans have suffered more than 100,000 casualties in the Lys salient in the past three months.

## COMMENTS ON WILSON'S ANSWER

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—President Wilson has answered Germany's peace proposal with a decision which not only fulfills the expectations of supporters, but also dispels the fear of those who predicted he would substitute victories at arms with defeats at diplomacy. No peace

with Kaiserism. Autocracy must go. No armistice can even be thought of while Germany continues her atrocities on land and sea. One can not be considered unless it is fully decided by the Allied commanders in the field in such terms as absolutely provide safeguards and guarantees that Germany's part will not be a scrap of paper. This in a few words is the President's answer. If it does not bring a capitulation which may be more than an unconditional surrender Allied diplomats and American officials believe it may cause a revolution in Germany. Beyond question it speaks for the Entente Allies as well as the United States. The despatch of the President's reply was followed by the issue of the formal statement at the White House by Secretary Tumulty. The government will continue to send over 250,000 men with supplies every month, and there will be no relaxation of any kind outside of the formal phrases of a diplomat. That

was President Wilson's word to the world that he had no thought of stopping the fighting at this stage. The Senate chamber rang with the applause of Senators as the President's answer was read a few minutes after it had been announced at the State department. Senator Lodge, the President's chief critic in his course until to-day issued a statement expressing his gratification at the President's decision. Opinion at the capital and throughout official Washington was unanimously in approval. The official note which will convey the President's decision to the German government and more important to the German people was delivered to-day by Secretary Lansing to the Charge of the Swiss Legation who has been acting as the intermediary. It was given out publicly by Mr. Lansing at the State department at six o'clock this evening. Those who contend the President's decision arranges the situation for something more than unconditional base it on the argument that he has

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now passed the stage where he might have accepted a surrender of the German military and naval forces, and left the Hohenzollern on this throne. Mr. Wilson, according to this view has now finally informed the German people that if they want peace they can only attain it by getting rid of the Kaiser and his system. An armistice it is true might come first, and the details of the downfall of the German autocratic government might be arranged later. But this is what an armistice would entail. First, a stop to the atrocities on land and sea and systematic destruction and devastation in the wake of the retreating German armies then the disarmament of all the German forces and the deposit of their arms and munitions at points to be chosen by the Allied military commanders. Then the occupation by Allied forces of certain German cities or strongholds of strategic importance. Probably also the occupation of all the submarine bases. A turning over of the German fleet. In short it would entail a taking from Germany of everything with which she might break her word to an armistice. From that point the United States and the Allies might proceed to dispose of what remained of Kaiserdom if the German people have not done it before as President Wilson in his note plainly invites them to do while nowhere in these notes does the President openly join with the Entente statesmen the demand that the chief criminals must be delivered up for trial. The press confidants point out that he plainly subscribed to the document that the guilt of bringing on the world war is personal. It will be noted that the President completely rejects the German suggestion for a fixed commission to arrange an evacuation and reminds the militarists that they will accept the terms laid down by Marshal Foch and the associated commanders in that they will have no part in framing them. He makes it plain that he does not accept the new German Government headed by Chancellor Maximilian as anything less autocratic, anything less a creature of German militarism than its predecessors and warns the German people that unless they destroy it the Allied armies will do so.

MUST BE RETURNED TO FRANCE.  
WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.  
One outstanding point which does

## HONEST OPINION

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not appear in the President's note, a point of which the world has been asking questions can be answered tonight, when the President declared that the wrong done to France when Germany took Alsace Lorraine should be righted he meant that Alsace Lorraine should be returned to France.

## WEEK'S CASUALTIES.

LONDON, Oct. 14.

British casualties reported for the week ending to-day numbered 38,710 divided as follows: Killed or died of wounds. Officers 552, men 6,337; wounded or missing, officers 1,741, men 26,480.

(Continued on 7th page.)

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