

HERE IS THE GUN THAT'S ROUTING THE BULGARS



The photo shows one of the famous long range 155mm French field guns awaiting its turn to take a smash at the Bulgars and their Teutonic allies on the Macedonian front.

Wilson Surprises All By Appeal To Belligerents To Discuss Peace Terms

Washington, Dec. 20.—President Wilson has appealed to all the belligerents to discuss terms of peace. Without actually proposing peace or offering mediation the president has sent formal notes to the governments of all the warring nations suggesting that "an early occasion be sought to call out from the nations now at war such an avowal of their respective views as to the terms upon which the war might be concluded, and the arrangements which would be deemed satisfactory as a guaranty against renewal or the kindling of any similar conflict in the future as would make it possible frankly to compare them."

Wholly without notice, and entirely contrary to what administration officials have described as his course, the president last night despatched the notes to all the belligerents, and to all the neutrals for their information.

This latest development in the rapidly moving world events toward a discussion of peace, was not permitted to become known until tonight, when the notes were well on their way to the American ambassadors in the belligerent capitals, and probably already in the hands of some of them.

It was a most distinct surprise to all official Washington, which had been led to believe that, with the formal transmittal of the proposals of the Central Powers, the officers of the United States would await further moves between the belligerents themselves, and that certainly, in view of the speech of Premier Lloyd George and the announcement in Russia, France and Italy, further action by neutrals would depend upon the careful and delicate moves of the belligerents.

Nowhere on the surface appears any indication of the history-making events which diplomats generally are convinced must have transpired since the German allies brought forth their proposals to dispel the generally prevalent belief that such an action on the part of President Wilson would be unacceptable to the Entente Powers.

British embassy officials declare they were utterly taken by surprise, were wholly unable to explain it, and were emphatic in their statement that no exchanges whatever had passed through the embassy here as a preliminary.

The wish and hope of the German powers that President Wilson would intercede in some way has long been well known, and has been conveyed in different ways to the White House.

The attitude of the Entente Allies, as expressed by their statesmen, and certainly until recently in official advice to the American government, has been that a peace offer by the United States would be considered almost the next thing to unfriendly.

"The president of the United States instructed me to suggest to the (here is inserted a designation of the government addressed), a course of action with regard to the present war which he hopes that the government will take under consideration as suggested, a most friendly spirit, and as coming not only from a friend, but also as coming from the representative of a neutral nation, whose interests have been most seriously affected by the war, and whose concern for its early conclusion arises out of a manifest necessity to determine how best to safeguard those interests if the war is to continue."

Special to Central Powers.

At this point the texts vary. In the notes to the Central Powers this paragraph follows next:

"The suggestion which I am instructed to make the president has long had in mind to offer. He is somewhat embarrassed to offer it at this particular time, because it may now seem to have been prompted by a desire to play a part in connection with the recent overtures of the Central Powers. It has, in fact, been in no way suggested by them in its origin, and the president would have delayed offering it until those overtures had been answered but for the fact that it also concerns the question of peace, and may best be considered in connection with other proposals which have the same end in view. The president can only beg that his suggestion be considered entirely on its own merits, and as if it had been made in other circumstances."

Variation to Entente.

In the note to the Entente Allies the following paragraph takes the place of the one just quoted:

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Then all the notes proceed identically as follows:

"The president suggests that an early occasion be sought to call out from all the nations now at war such an avowal of their respective views as to the terms upon which the war might be concluded, and the arrangements which would be deemed satisfactory as a guaranty against its renewal, or the kindling of any similar conflict in the future, as would make it possible frankly to compare them."

What about the Belgian Children's Christmas?

This is not an appeal to give the children of our Ally the same kind of a Christmas that our own little ones expect, with Santa Claus and toys and candy. They have given up hope of that till after the war.

It is simply a call for food—for enough bread and soup to stop the pangs of hunger that hundreds of them feel every day.

The cost of a moderate size turkey—of two or three boxes of chocolates—of one of the many presents we have formed the habit of giving to those who do not need them, will feed a Belgian family a whole month!

Don't you think the money will do more good if this year you give some of it to the Belgian Relief Fund? Will it not be more pleasing to Him whose birth we celebrate? Send your contribution weekly, monthly or in one lump sum to Local or Provincial Committees, or

SEND CHEQUES PAYABLE TO TREASURER
Belgian Relief Fund
59 St. Peter Street, Montreal.

The Greatest Relief Work in History.
JAS. H. FRINK, TREASURER OF PROVINCIAL BELGIUM RELIEF COMMITTEE, ST. JOHN (N. B.)

APPLES, ORANGES, FIGS AND PRUNES

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"FRUIT-A-TIVES" is the only medicine in the world that is made from the juices of fresh ripe fruits. Thus, it is manifestly unfair to say, "I won't take Fruit-a-tives because I have tried other remedies and they did me no good." On the other hand, the fact that "Fruit-a-tives" is entirely different from any other preparation in the world, is just why you should give it a fair trial, in any trouble of the Stomach, Liver, Bowels, Kidneys or Skin. "Fruit-a-tives" is composed of the active principle of fruit and the greatest nerve tonic ever discovered. 50c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size, 25c. At all dealers or sent postpaid by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

pare them. He is indifferent as to the means taken to accomplish this. He would be happy himself to serve, or even to take the initiative in its accomplishment, in any way that might prove acceptable, but he has no desire to determine the method or the instrumentality.

One way will be as acceptable to him as another, if only the great object he has in mind be attained.

All in One Class.

"He takes the liberty of calling attention to the fact that the objects which the statesmen of the belligerents on both sides have in mind in this war are virtually the same, as stated in general terms to their own people and to the world. Each side desires to make the rights and privileges of weak peoples and small states as secure against aggression or denial in the future as the rights and privileges of the great and powerful states now at war. Each wishes itself to be made secure in the future, along with all other nations and peoples, against the recurrence of wars like this, and against aggression or selfish interference of any kind. Each would be jealous of the formation of any more rival leagues to preserve an uncertain balance of power, or of multiplying suppositions; but each is ready to consider the formation of a league to insure peace and justice throughout the world."

"Before that final step can be taken, however, each deems it necessary first to settle the issues of the present war upon terms which will certainly safeguard the independence, the territorial integrity, and the political and commercial freedom of the nations involved."

Interest of United States.

"In the measures to be taken to secure the future peace of the world the people and government of the United States are as vitally and as directly interested as the governments now at war. Their interest, moreover, in the means to be adopted to relieve the smaller and weaker peoples of the world of the peril of wrong and violence is as quick and ardent as that of any other people or government. They stand ready, and even eager, to co-operate in the accomplishment of these ends, when the war is over, with every influence and resource at their command. But the war must first be concluded."

"The terms upon which it is to be concluded they are not at liberty to suggest; but the president does feel that it is his right and duty to point out their intimate interest in its conclusion, lest it should presently be late to accomplish the greater things which lie beyond its conclusion, lest the situation of neutral nations, now exceedingly intolerable, and lest, more than all, an injury be done civilization itself which can never be atoned for or repaired."

"The president, therefore, feels altogether justified in suggesting an immediate opportunity for a comparison of views as to the terms which must precede the war."

For Thin, Nervous MEN AND WOMEN nothing equals or compares with the rich food properties in

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It makes other foods do good. It sharpens the appetite; stimulates the circulation and helps overcome catarrhal troubles. If you are rundown, anemic or nervous, the benefits you will receive from Scott's Emulsion will surprise you.

Scott & Bowne, Toronto, Ont.

cede those ultimate arrangements for the peace of the world which all desire, and in which the neutral nations, as well as those at war, are ready to play their full responsible part. If the contest must continue to proceed, forced towards undefined ends by slow attrition, until the one group of belligerents or the other is exhausted, if million after million of human lives must continue to be offered up until, on the one side or the other, there are no more to offer; if resentments must be kindled that can never cool, and despair engendered from which there can be no recovery, hopes of peace and of the willing concert of free peoples will be rendered vain and idle.

"The life of the entire world has been profoundly affected. Every part of the great family of mankind has felt the burden and terror of this unprecedented contest of arms. No nation in the civilized world can be said, in truth, to stand outside its influence, or to be safe against its disturbing effects. And yet the concrete objects for which it is being waged have never been definitely stated."

Only in "General Terms."

"The leaders of the several belligerents have, as has been said, stated those objects in general terms. But, stated in general terms, they seem the same on both sides. Never yet have the authoritative spokesmen of either side avowed the precise objects which would, if attained, satisfy them and their people that the war had been fought out. The world has been left to conjecture what definite results, what actual exchange of guarantees, what political or territorial changes or readjustments, what stage of military success even, would bring the war to an end."

"It may be that peace is nearer than we know; that the terms which the belligerents, on the one side and on the other, would deem it necessary to insist upon are not irreconcilable as some have feared; that an interchange of views would clear the way at least for conference, and make the permanent concord of the nations a hope of the immediate future, a concert of nations immediately practicable."

"The president is not proposing peace; he is not even offering mediation. He is merely proposing that soundings be taken in order that we may learn, the neutral nations with the belligerent, how near the haven of peace may be for which all mankind longs with an intense and increasing longing. He believes that the spirit in which he speaks and the objects which he seeks will be understood by all concerned, and he confidently hopes, for

a response which will bring a new light into the affairs of the world."

The note to the Entente group will be delivered to Great Britain, France, Italy, Japan, Russia, Belgium, Montenegro, Portugal, Roumania and Serbia. That to the Central Allies will be delivered to Germany, Austria, Hungary, Turkey, and Bulgaria.

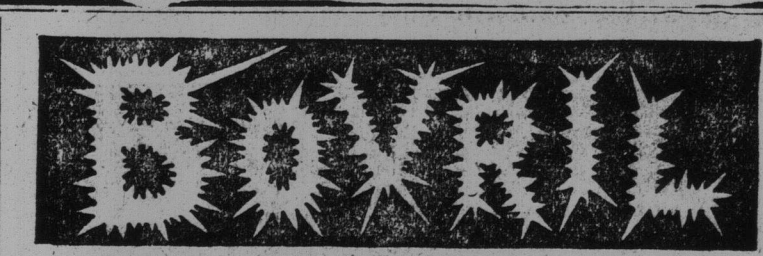
It is being delivered to all neutral governments for their information.

Believe Reason for Action.

Diplomatists consider it incredible that the president would bring forward such a proposal at such a time, unless he had reason to believe it would receive respectful consideration at the hands of all the belligerents and, above all, would not prejudice the position of the United States as a possible mediator.

The German embassy view, consistently hopeful that proposals of the Central Allies would lead to a discussion of peace, was expressed in this authorized statement by Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, as follows:

"Now," said he, "I am perfectly convinced that there will be a conference."

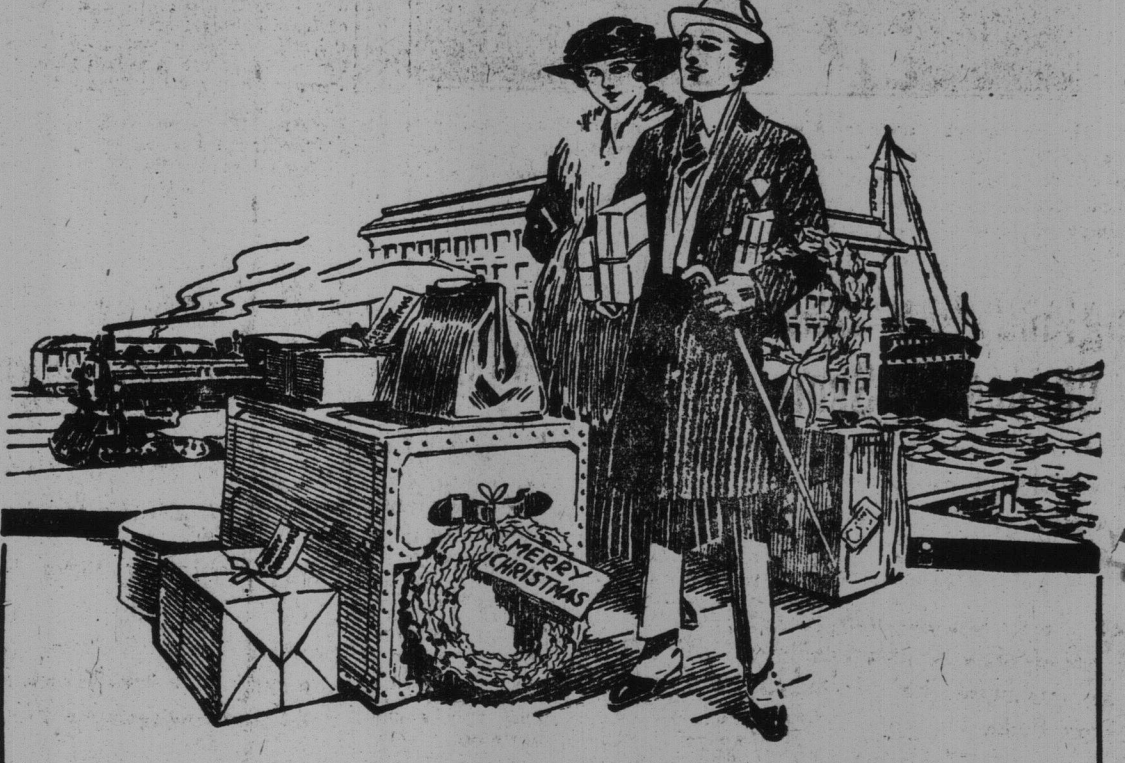


Scientific tests prove it to possess a great body-building power.

statement by Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, as follows:

WHERE ISLAND PRODUCE GOES. The S. S. Halifax sailed from Charlottetown for Boston Thursday, says the

Charlottetown Guardian, taking probably the largest cargo of produce she has ever carried from this port. It comprised seven thousand bags of potatoes and turnips or about twenty thousand bushels. This is her last trip to the island this season.



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Surely you haven't forgotten to include luggage in your Christmas list. You may have thought it too expensive a gift, but you'll be surprised how far your money goes here.

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You get nothing but quality luggage here. No matter how far it travels or how roughly it is handled, it will come through in good condition. An excellent Christmas line now on display.

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