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SUMTER, S. C.

### CLAIM TERMS ARE MORE THAN THEY CAN STAND

German Delegation Nowhere in Its Paper Asserts That Germany Will Refuse to Sign the Treaty

#### WILLING FOR SACRIFICES

But Says Germany, as a Nation, Cannot Undertake to Sign Terms She Cannot Carry Out.

Washington, June 1.—Germany, although realizing that she must make sacrifices to obtain peace, is convinced that the executions of the peace treaty as drawn "are more than the German people can bear."

Count Von Brockdorff-Rantzau, head of the German peace delegation, thus sums up the attitude of the German nation towards the proposed treaty of peace in a note to the Allied and associated powers, outlining various German counter proposals. The German note, delivered to Premier Clemenceau, president of the peace conference, last Thursday, was made public tonight by the State Department.

#### Says Terms Impossible.

The German delegation nowhere in its note asserts that it will refuse to sign the present treaty, but declares on behalf of the German nation that "even in her need, justice for her is too sacred a thing to allow her to stoop to achieve conditions which she can not undertake to carry out."

Exclusion of Germany from the league of nations, the note asserts,

means that in signing the peace treaty Germany would be executing a "decree for its own prescription, nay, its own death sentence."

The German people, the note says, have been disappointed in their "hope for a peace of justice which had been promised," and stand "aghast" at the demands made upon them by the "victorious violence of our enemies."

#### What Germany Agrees To.

Outlining its counter proposals the German delegation, agrees to reduction of Germany's army and navy on condition that Germany be admitted immediately to the league of nations; to renounce Germany's sovereign rights in Alsace Lorraine and Posen, but as to all other territories which Germany is called upon give up the principle of self determination effective at once, is asked; she also agrees to subject all German colonies to admit Germany to the league of nations, but under German mandatory and to make the indemnity payments as required, but in amounts that will burden the German taxpayer no more heavily than the taxpayer of the most heavily burdened State among those represented on the reparations commission.

The note declares Germany is willing to pool her entire merchant marine with that of the associated powers, neutral participation in the inquiry as to responsibility for the war is asked.

#### Would Mean Slavery.

Although the exaction of the cost of the war has been expressly renounced, as yet Germany, thus cut in pieces and weakened must declare herself ready in principle to bear all the war expenses of her enemies, which would exceed many times over the total amount of German State and real assets. Meanwhile her enemies demand in excess of the agreed conditions reparation for damage suffered by their civil population and in this connection Germany must also go bail for her allies. The sum to be paid is to be fixed by our enemies unilaterally and to admit of subsequent modification and increase. No limit is fixed save the capacity of the German people for payment, determined not by their standard of life but solely by their capacity to meet the demands of their enemies by their labor. The German people would thus be condemned to perpetual slave labor.

#### Economic Life Impossible.

In spite of the exorbitant demands, the reconstruction of our economic

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Manning, S. C.  
May 28th, 1919.—27-6t-c.

life is at the same time rendered impossible. We must surrender our merchant fleet. We are to renounce all foreign securities. We are to hand over to our enemies our property in all German enterprises abroad, even in the countries of our allies. Even after the conclusion of peace the enemy States are to have the right to confiscate all German property. No German trader in their countries will be protected from these war measures. We must completely renounce our colonies, and not even German missionaries shall have the right to follow their calling therein. We must thus renounce the realization of all our aims in the spheres of politics, economics and ideas.

#### Internal Affairs.

Even in internal affairs we are to give up the right to self determination. The international reparation commission receives dictatorial powers over the whole life of our people in economic and cultural matters. Its authority extends far beyond that which the empire, the German federal council and the Reichstag combined ever possessed within the territory of the empire. This commission has unlimited control over the economic life of the state of communities and of individuals. Further, the entire educational and sanitary system depends on it. It can keep the whole German people in mental thralldom. In order to increase the payments due by the thrall, the commission can hamper measures for the social protection of the German worker.

#### Sovereignty Abolished.

In other spheres also Germany's sovereignty is abolished. Her chief waterways are subject to international administration. She must agree to treaties, the contents of which are unknown to her; to be concluded by her enemies with the new States on the east, even when they concern her own functions. The German people is excluded from the league of nations, to which is entrusted all work of common interest to the world.

Thus must a whole people sign the decree for its own prescription, nay, its own death sentence.

Germany knows that she must make sacrifices in order to attain peace. Germany knows that she has, by agreement, undertaken to make these sacrifices, and will go in this matter to the utmost limits of her capacity.

#### What Germany Offers.

One—Germany offers to proceed with her own disarmament in advance of all other peoples, in order to show that she will help to usher in the new era of the peace of justice. She gives up universal compulsory service and reduces her army to 100,000 men except as regards temporary measures.

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towards mankind.

Two—In territorial questions Germany takes up her position unreservedly on the ground of the Wilson program. She renounces her sovereignty right in Alsace-Lorraine, but wishes a free plebiscite to take place there. She gives up the greater part of the province of Posen, the district incontestably Polish in population, together with the capital. She is prepared to grant to Poland, under international guarantees, free and secure access to the sea by ceding free ports at Danzig, Königsberg and Memel, by an agreement regulating the navigation of the Vistula and by special railway conventions. Germany is prepared to insure the supply of coal for the economic needs of France, especially from the Sarre region, until such time as the French mines are once more in working order. The pre-incontestably Polish in population, to-wig will be given up to Denmark on the basis of a plebiscite. Germany demands that the right of self-determination shall also be repeated where the interests of the Germans in Austria and Bohemia and concerned.

She is ready to subject all her colonies to administration by the community of the league of nations if she is recognized as its mandatory.

Three—Germany is prepared to make payments incumbent on her in accordance with the agreed program of peace up to a maximum sum of 100,000,000,000 gold marks—20,000,000,000 on May 1, 1926, and the balance (80,000,000,000) in annual payments, without interest. These payments shall in principle be equal to a fixed percentage of the German imperial and State revenues. The an-

nual payment shall approximate to the former peace budget. For the first ten years the annual payments shall not exceed 1,000,000 of gold marks a year. The German taxpayer shall not be less heavily burdened than the taxpayers of the most heavily burdened State among those represented on the reparation commission.

Germany presumes in this connection that she will not have to make any territorial sacrifices beyond those mentioned above, and that she will recover her freedom on economic movement at home and abroad.

#### Reconstruction Work.

Four—Germany is prepared to devote her entire economic strength to the service of reconstruction. She wishes to cooperate effectively in the reconstruction of the devastated regions of Belgium and Northern France.

To make the loss good the loss in production of the destroyed mines in Northern France up to 20,000,000 tons of coal will be delivered annually for the first five years and up to 8,000,000 tons for the next five years. Germany will facilitate further deliveries of coal to France, Belgium, Italy and Luxembourg.

Germany is, moreover, prepared to make considerable deliveries of benzol, coal tar and sulphate of ammonia, as well as dyestuffs and medicines.

Five—Finally, Germany offers to put her entire merchant tonnage into a pool of the world's shipping, to place at the disposal of her enemies a part of her freight space as part payment of reparation, and to build for them.

#### To Replace River Boats.

Six—In order to replace the river boats destroyed in Belgium and Northern France, Germany offers river craft from her own resources.

Seven—Germany thinks that she sees an appropriate method for the fulfillment of obligations to make reparation conceding prompt consideration in industrial enterprises.

(Continued on Page 7.)

### Professional Cards

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