

GERMANY NOT DEFEATED.

(Continued from page 3, column 2.)

word from the chief court marshal that the Emperor would receive me at the palace in Berlin on the morning of August 10. I drove in a motor into the courtyard of the palace and was there escorted to the door, which opened on a flight of steps leading to a little garden about 50 yards square, directly on the embankment of the River Spree, which flows past the royal palace. As I went down the steps the Empress and her only daughter, the Duchess of Brunswick, came up. Both stopped and shook hands with me, speaking a few words. I found the Emperor seated at a green iron table under a large canvas garden umbrella. Telegraph forms were scattered on the table in front of him, and basking in the gravel were two small dachshunds. I explained to the Emperor the object of my visit, and we had a general conversation about the war and the state of affairs. The Emperor took some of the large telegraph blanks and wrote out in pencil his reply to the President's offer. This reply, of course, I cabled immediately to the State Department. The document is as follows:

"10-VIII 14.

"For the President of the United States personally:

"1. H. R. H. Prince Henry was received by his Majesty King George V in London, who empowered him to transmit to me verbally that England would remain neutral if war broke out on the Continent involving Germany and France, Austria and Russia. This message was telegraphed to me by my brother from London after his conversation with H. M. the King, and repeated verbally on the twenty-ninth of July.

"2. My ambassador in London transmitted a message from Sir E. Grey to Berlin saying that only in case France was likely to be crushed England would interfere.

"3. On the thirteenth my ambassador in London reported that Sir Edward Grey in course of a 'private' conversation told him that if the conflict remained localized between Russia—not Serbia—and Austria, England would not move, but if we 'mixed' in the fray she would take quick decisions and grave measures; i. e., if I left my ally, Austria, in the lurch to fight alone, England would not touch me.

"4. This communication being directly counter to the King's message to me I telegraphed to H. M. on the twenty-ninth or thirtieth, thanking him for kind messages through my brother, and begging him to use all his power to keep France and Russia—his allies—from making any war-like preparations calculated to distract my work of mediation with H. M. the Czar. In the evening the King kindly answered that he had ordered his Government to use every possible influence with his allies to refrain from taking any provocative military measures. At the same time H. M. asked me if I would transmit to Vienna the British proposal that Austria was to take Belgrade and a few other Serbian towns and a strip of country as a 'main-mise' to make sure that the Serbian promises on paper should be fulfilled in reality. This proposal was in the same moment telegraphed to me from Vienna for London, quite in conjunction with the British proposal: besides, I had telegraphed to H. M. the Czar the same as an idea of mine before I received the two communications from Vienna and London, as both were of the same opinion.

"5. I immediately transmitted the telegrams vice versa to Vienna and London. I felt that I was able to tide the question over and was happy at the peaceful outlook.

"6. While I was preparing a note to H. M. the Czar the next morning, to inform him that Vienna, London, and Berlin were agreed about the treatment of affairs, I received the telephones from H. E. the Chancellor that in the night before he Czar had given the order to mobilize the whole of the Russian Army, which was, of course, also meant against Germany; whereas up till then the southern armies had been mobilized against Austria.

"7. In a telegram from London my ambassador informed me he understood the British Government would guarantee neutrality of France, and wished to know whether Germany would refrain from attack. I telegraphed to H. M. the King personally that mobilization being already carried out and could not be stopped but if H. M. could guarantee with his armed forces the neutrality of France I would refrain from attacking her, leave her alone, and employ my troops elsewhere. H. M. answered that he thought my offer was based on a misunderstanding; and, as far as I can make out, Sir E. Grey never took my offer into serious consideration. He never answered it. Instead he declared England had to defend Belgian neutrality, which had to be violated by Germany on strategical grounds, news having been received that France was al-

KAISER FORCED WAR.

Ex-Senator Condemns Those Who Would Create Anti-War Sentiment.

Bennettsville, Aug. 8.—Former United States Senator John L. McLaurin, of this city, has been doing all in his power to assist in presenting to the people of Marlboro county the importance of food production and conservation of all products and resources, and of cooperating in every way possible with the government in its plans at this time. Realizing the effectiveness of his work, some of his personal friends who have differed from him at times on political questions have suggested to him the propriety of his making his position known to the State at large. The News and Courier correspondent learning today that Senator McLaurin had written Mr. D. R. Coker a letter in accordance with his suggestion of friends, requested a copy for publication. It is as follows:

Mr. McLaurin's Letter.

Bennettsville, S. C., Aug. 7, 1917.

Mr. David R. Coker, Hartsville, S. C.

Dear Mr. Coker: I notice that

opposition is being fomented against

our State doing its full part in this

world war. I regard this as the

most momentous epoch since the birth

of Christ, and it seems to me that the

fate of popular government is going

to depend upon what the United

States may be able to do within the

next year. The administration at

Washington did all in its power to

keep out of war, but Germany forced

it upon us by the use of cruel and in-

human methods.

I am too old to volunteer for ac-

tual service in the field, but I am

perfectly willing to do anything in

my power to aid in this cause. I am

writing to you as chairman of the

Council of State Defense, because you

might hesitate to call upon me be-

cause of the fact that our political

affiliations have been different. In

the light of the great events which are

transpiring petty factional politics

seem very small to me.

We might as well understand that

the stake is the domination of the

world either by an autocracy under

German rulers or a democracy under

United States leadership. Who doubts

that if England and France were

conquered that we would not have to

fight Germany as soon as she could

mobilize the resources of the con-

quered peoples? Is it not more sensi-

ble to fight when we are ready and

not when Germany is ready? The

success of Germany means the nega-

tion of every governmental principle

in which we believe.

Germany means to keep Belgium,

Poland and Northern France, making

a vast military empire of middle Eu-

rope. She will control the Balkans

and the Dardanelles and take toll of

all traffic with Asia. She will reor-

ganize and dominate Russia, and in

her own good time send vast armies

to attack the United States and force

an indemnity so great that we will

not have homes in which we live.

I believe that we will be called

upon to make great sacrifices; all of

the nations will suffer; but the fires

of war will burn away the dross and

out of it will come a finer and higher

civilization. Germany has outraged

the conscience of the world by her

brutality to women and children in

all of the conquered countries, to say

nothing of her ruthless submarine

warfare. She is bound to go down

before a world in arms.

If you can use me in any way, my

services are at your command.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) JNO. L. MC LAURIN.

WILL REDUCE PRICE OF BREAD.

Food Administration Announces Plan

For Control of Wheat.

Washington, Aug. 12.—The food

administration announced tonight its

plan for controlling wheat, flour and

bread, revealing that the government

is prepared to take over the whole

1917 wheat harvest if necessary to

conserve the supply, obtain just prices

for American fighting forces and their

allies and reduce costs to the general

public in the United States.

Establishing of buying agencies at

all the principal terminals, licensing

of elevators and mills, fixing of a

price to be considered fair, regulation

of the middleman and of grain

exchanges with the elimination of

trading in futures, are the chief fea-

tures of the plan. The licensing will

begin September 1.

The minimum price of \$2 for wheat

fixed by Congress does not become ef-

fective until next year, but the ad-

ministration proposes to exercise a

very thorough control over this

year's crop through powers conferred

under the food and export control

bills.

Read the Herald, \$1.50 per year.

ready preparing to enter Belgium, and

the King of the Belgians having re-

fused my petition for a free passage

under guarantee of his country's

freedom. I am most grateful for the

President's message.

"WILLIAM, I. R."

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