

**SHOCKED BY THE NEWS.**

**German National Assembly Learns Who Controls the Situation.**

The party speeches in the national assembly which had been set down for Monday afternoon, says a Berlin dispatch, suffered a rude interruption by the outcome of the new armistice negotiations. The general outlines of the new terms were known early today, and it was no surprise when President Fehrenbach announced that the speeches and arguments would be deferred so that Matthias Erzberger head of the German armistice delegation might give a personal explanation of what happened between his departure and his unexpectedly quick return today.

Herr Erzberger, noticeably wrought up and laboring under a strain, began with the announcement that the delegates were entitled to know at the earliest possible moment the full details of the negotiations. He then read the terms, and the house listened in almost agonized silence. The slightest stir or noise brought angry hisses; the assembly never had been one tithe so still.

The members of the house stirred uneasily as he finished and stopped for breath. Before continuing his explanation, Herr Erzberger interjected:

**"Fateful Hours."**

"It is my wish that you may never have the fateful hours I have had. We on the armistice commission have had to bear untold responsibility."

He then referred to the unfortunate, well-nigh fatal, delay in the arrival of the terms at Weimar, and went into details on Marshal Foch's ultimatum, which, he said, he was assured was framed with the unqualified approval of President Wilson.

Herr Erzberger told of the efforts to secure modifications, but said Marshal Foch had been sternly insistent on the acceptance of the terms.

He touched only briefly, but clearly, on his successful protests against Polish incorporation of Silesia and his unsuccessful efforts to save Birnbaum, Bentschen and other German towns. He emphasized that the Allies would take over the responsibility of keeping the Poles in check and give guarantees for the safety of the Germans on the Polish side.

**Wilson's 14 Points Prevail.**

To Herr Erzberger's protests Marshal Foch replied that all were purely military measures and in accordance with President Wilson's 14 points.

Herr Erzberger protested likewise against the indeterminate extension of the armistice, but Marshal Foch brusquely declined to make any alteration, and insisted upon inclusion of a clause which gives him power to promulgate any order to Germany at will.

Herr Erzberger then demanded whether the short, indeterminate condition of the armistice might lead to an early peace, to which Marshal Foch replied: "I think so; I assume so."

The minister said the difficulties had been greater because the negotiations had become sharper and more acute recently, and a long discussion demonstrated that nothing more would be changed.

**Confidence in Foch.**

The minister assured the assembly:

"I have confidence that Marshal Foch's given word will be kept."

Herr Erzberger said that he had achieved almost no results in his efforts to have German prisoners released, beyond a promise by France and England each to send back 2,000 badly wounded men. He then read the German note which he presented to Marshal Foch, as the armistice terms were signed. He had had a sad mission with few happy results.

"The world knows," he concluded, "that we do not want a new war and cannot conduct one. The world will condemn the entente for its severity."

**An Eye on the Future.**

Maggie had a new baby brother, which everyone agreed was such a baby as had never been seen before. One day the baby was being weighed and Maggie asked what that was for. "Oh," said her father, "Uncle George has taken a great fancy to baby, and he's offered to buy him for a shilling an ounce."

Maggie looked startled. "You're not going to sell him, are you daddy?"

"Of course not, precious," answered daddy, proud to see his little girl loved her brother so.

"No. Keep him till he gets a bit bigger," the child went on; "he'll fetch more money then."—Tit-Bits.

**Music and Mars.**

"They say singing men make great fighters."

"I have known it for many years," murmured the grand-opera manager, wearily.—Washington Star.

**THE SULTAN MUST GO.**

**Greek Statesman Wants to Take Constantinople From Turks.**

The Morning Post publishes an interview granted its Paris correspondent by Venizelos, who is quoted as replying as follows when questioned as to the future of Constantinople: "There are two solutions. The league of nations could intrust a single nation with control of Constantinople and the straits, which together would be formed into a separate administrative area, or the league itself could administer it, appointing a governor for that purpose, who might hold office for five years. But whatever solution be adopted, one thing is certain: the sultan must go. He can make his capital at Konia or at Broussa, but he must not stay in Constantinople.

"Even if he were deprived of the Caliphate—and with the creation of an independent Arab kingdom, that is exceedingly likely—he would still be a source of trouble to all powers like France and England who have large Mohammedan populations, if he were allowed to remain in Constantinople.

And further, it is very important that he should be removed now by the peace conference actually sitting in Paris, for it is necessary to make it clear to all the world that Turkey is losing her capital, in which, by the way, the Turks form the minority, as a direct result of having entered the war. Turkey chose to be Germany's ally, and must pay the price of Germany's defeat."

"I asked Mr. Venizelos." The Morning Post writes, "if he thought it likely that the mandatory system would be applied to any European or Asiatic territory, and other than those to which the conference had already applied it. He was very cautious in his reply, and suggested that it might be applied to districts where a mandatory could not claim close relationship with the population of the territory in question. For instance, he insisted that in the case of the disputed islands in the Aegean, Greece could not be satisfied with the position of a mandatory-over islands the population of which was entirely Greek."

"Mr. Venizelos is obviously of the opinion that irredentist territories will return to the motherland without any intervention, mandatory or otherwise of the league of nations." In regard to England's acceptance of the mandatory system regarding the captured German colonies, Mr. Venizelos is quoted as saying: "I do not wish to enter into any controversial point, and I hope, and I believe, a solution will be reached, which will satisfy the claims, say of Australia, without destroying the validity of the principle. But I cannot help thinking that England, in taking this step, has led the way, and has, in so doing strengthened her own position and that of the league of nations."

"Mr. Venizelos," The Morning Post correspondent writes further on, "thinks like a good many other people in Paris, that the conference made real progress last week, and that the somewhat pessimistic feeling which existed at the end of the previous week's deliberation, has given way to a more confident outlook."

**Surrender of the Germans in Africa.**

The surrender of General Von Vorbeck Lettow, the German commander in East Africa, with his command of about 5,800 Europeans and natives which took place on November 15 is graphically described by the Rhodesian Herald. According to this paper, General Von Lettow's command included 400 armed natives, machine gun carriers, a medical unit and numerous women who had followed their husbands through the hardships of years of campaigning. The surrender took place on the Chambezi river near Kasama, Rhodesia.

The surrendering troops were formed into three lines and General Von Lettow read his formal surrender to General Edwards. Von Lettow then ordered his native troops to lay down their arms but the Europeans among them were allowed to retain theirs in recognition of the hard fighting they had experienced. The natives were then marched away to the internment camp.

"It was a most impressive spectacle," says the Herald. The surrendering forces numbered 1,555 Europeans, 4,277 natives and 819 women. The men were all veterans of a hundred fights while the women who had gone through long campaigns were carrying huge loads and many of them had children during the war. The native carriers came in singing with undisguised joy at the thought that their labors were ended.

**Beating Orphus.**

Orphus of old could make a tree or a stone move with his music; but there are piano-players today who have made whole families move.—Boston Transcript.

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