

# The Laurens Advertiser.

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## PEACE PROPOSALS WERE MADE BY THE GERMANS YESTERDAY

### Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg Receives Representatives of the United States, Spain and Other Neutral Countries and Signifies Willingness on the Part of Central Powers to Enter Into Peace Negotiations Forthwith.

(Spartanburg Journal.)

Berlin, Dec. 12.—(By Wireless.)—Germany and her allies propose to enter forthwith into peace negotiations.

Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg received the representatives of the United States, Spain and Switzerland, the nations protecting German interests in hostile countries and gave them a note, which he asked that they bring to the knowledge of the hostile governments.

Proposals were also transmitted to the Vatican and all other neutrals. The propositions, which also are being made by Austrian, Turkish and Bulgarian governments, are appropriate to lasting peace, the chancellor told the neutral envoys. The semi-official news agency announcing the action said the note would be read in the Reichstag today by the chancellor.

The semi-official News Agency announcement said: "The chancellor this morning received one after another of the representatives of the United States of America, Spain and Switzerland, that is the states protecting German interests in hostile foreign countries. The chancellor transmitted to them a note and asked them to bring it to the knowledge of the hostile governments. The note will be read today in the Reichstag by the chancellor."

"The note said the four allied (central) powers propose to enter forthwith on peace negotiations. The proposition which they bring for such negotiations are according to their firm belief, appropriate for the establishment of lasting peace."

"To the governments at Vienna, Constantinople and Sofia were transmitted identical notes and also they were communicated with the Holy See and all other neutral governments."

### HOLLWEG'S STATEMENT.

London, Dec. 12.—A Berlin wireless said Chancellor Hollweg in the Reichstag announced that Germany and her allies "conscious of their responsibility before God, before their own nation and before humanity" have proposed to hostile powers to enter into peace negotiations.

### THE TERMS OF PEACE.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Berlin advices to the German embassy indicated the German peace terms generally propose the restoration of the status quo before the war with the exception of the establishment of independent kingdoms of Poland, and Lithuania. They are understood to propose the complete restoration of the occupied portions of Belgium and France in return for Germany's captured colonies and dispose of the Balkan situation in the peace conference.

### SURPRISE TO WASHINGTON.

Washington, Dec. 12.—News of Teutonic peace proposals was generally a distinct surprise here. There was no previous indication that the Central Powers were about to make proposals.

News was sent President Wilson immediately. Secretary Tumulty said here he could not comment until he learned how the entente allies had received the proposals.

The state department and diplomats received their first information through an Associated Press dispatch.

The officials assumed the nations addressed were merely asked to transmit the proposals. The United States will do this on receipt of official dispatches.

Such note is usually not made public. If the proposal is deemed one which both sides might negotiate the United States probably will urge its being taken up.

### TWO PRISONERS ESCAPE.

One is Apprehended Near Clinton, but the Other Has not been Caught.

Roy Vaughn, held for breaking into a store at Lydia mill at Clinton, and another young prisoner by the name of Lark, who escaped recently from the state reformatory, made their escape from the county jail Friday night about one o'clock and one of them, Roy Vaughn, still remains at large. Lark, who is a mere lad, was tracked to Clinton the same night by Rural Policeman Owens and City Policeman Blakely and caught just before he reached the city limits. Roy Vaughn, who was tracked in the direction of Fountain Inn, managed to elude his pursuers, Deputy Sheriff Owings and Policeman Davenport, and succeeded in making his escape. The two latter officers were traveling in a buggy and were not able to make as fast time as the other officers, who were driving a car of well known make.

The escape of the two culprits was discovered about midnight by City Officers Blakely and Reams as they were making their regular rounds. Their suspicion was aroused when they saw an improvised rope made of blankets hanging from one of the jail windows and at once aroused the deputy sheriff. The two prisoners were not found in their accustomed cells, so the search for them was immediately begun. The ground being soft from the rain which was then falling made it possible to locate their tracks some distance from the jail. Vaughn, who made a successful getaway, refurbished himself with dry underclothes and a shirt from Mr. Acy Todd's store at Darke-

dale Station. He also secured a shotgun there belonging to Mr. Len Yeargin besides a box of shells and a watch. The officers think he is an old hand at the game. Deputy Sheriff Owings followed clues as far as Greenville, but was unable to locate him there. However, he made use of his trip there by landing two negroes wanted for other crimes in this county.

A rather amusing incident in connection with the escape of the two prisoners was their evident disdain for the local jail, they having announced to Mr. Owings just the morning before that they expected to break out in a very short time. They made good their threat, using a back-saw that they had been able to secrete in their cells.

### Protracted Meetings Close.

The protracted meetings which have been in progress at the First Presbyterian church for several weeks came to a close Sunday night with services participated in by all the other congregations of the city. Rev. Geo. W. Belk, who has been conducting the services, preached one of his most forceful sermons and many were visibly affected. The meeting was very helpful from many standpoints, the membership of the church being largely augmented and the spirituality of the congregation greatly revived. Thirty members were added to the church roll Sunday morning. Rev. Belk not only made a strong impression in the city as a preacher and evangelist, but made numerous personal friends as well. The singing, under the direction of Mr. Lowry, was an attractive feature of the services.

### MEAT INSPECTION SUBJECT OF WARM DISCUSSIONS

Local Butchers Object to Local Health Officer and Meat Inspector, Officer Upheld.

Monday afternoon the City Council and Board of Health held the second joint meeting within a week to consider complaints being registered by the butchers of the town against Health Officer Franks. Also for the second time the Council went on record as supporting the health department and Mr. Franks.

The friction between the butchers and the health officer, a long standing affair, apparently came to a head last week when the council and health department met in joint session to consider a specific complaint brought by Mr. Don Irvin, a local butcher, against the health officer. It was charged by Mr. Irvin that the health officer had condemned and destroyed two hogs which a local veterinary surgeon had declared fit to eat. Members of the board of health absolved Mr. Franks from the charge, stating that Mr. Franks had acted upon their direction, three of them having visited the city slaughter house and condemned the meat. It was pointed out by members of the board who had examined the hogs that a number of infected places were found on them. To prevent friction, however, the board of health recommended and the council adopted the recommendation to allow the health inspector and the butchers to call for expert advice in case of a disagreement in the future. The joint session adjourned with the trouble apparently amicably adjusted.

Friday afternoon the former trouble broke out again when Officer Franks hesitated to pass a hog carcass belonging to Mr. John Armstrong, the marketman on West Main street. Mr. Franks, according to the statement of Dr. Ferguson before the joint session yesterday, refused to put the official stamp of approval upon the hog, but offered to arbitrate the matter as provided for at the council meeting.

Mr. Armstrong agreed to carry the hog to Clemson college and have it passed on there. Accordingly Mr. Franks and Mr. Armstrong carried the carcass to Clemson college and a veterinary surgeon there pronounced the infection as local and the meat as harmless in the unaffected portions. Upon their return from Clemson, Mr. Armstrong notified Health Officer Franks that he would no longer recognize his authority and refused him access to his market.

Although Mr. Armstrong was not at the meeting of council Monday afternoon, it was understood that the council met to consider his demand that Mr. Franks be discharged on the grounds of incompetency. Upon the convening of the council Dr. Ferguson, of the board of health, reviewed the case as substantially outlined above. He pointed out that the health officer had not acted upon his own responsibility in either case at issue, having received direct instructions from the board of health to condemn and destroy Mr. Irvin's two hogs and that he had gone no further in Mr. Armstrong's case than submitting the matter to arbitration. In support of Mr. Franks' competency, Dr. Ferguson quoted a letter from the health officer of Greenville in which that gentleman confirmed the diagnoses of three livers sent there by Mr. Franks. Dr. Ferguson said that the board had unanimously passed a resolution of confidence in Mr. Franks and asked the council to sustain them in their position. Alderman Watts offered some objection to the retention of Mr. Franks in the interest of peace and harmony, but upon a motion by Alderman Fowler the council went on record as endorsing the board of health and its nominee, Mr. Franks.

In the course of the meetings, different members of the Board of Health, Dr. Ferguson, Dr. Teague and Mr. Monroe, pointed out that it was not to be expected that the health officer and the butchers would agree and that were they to agree on all cases the officer would more than likely prove a useless burden upon the city. The matter had resolved itself into the question, they said, whether the Board of Health or the butchers were to run the health department of the city. They intimated that if they were not upheld in this instance that they would tender their resignations.

### RED CROSS SEALS AS BUSINESS GETTERS

Large Life Insurance Company Makes Purchases Solely for Business Reasons.

To enable their policy holders to live as long as possible was the sole reason for a large life insurance company buying last month 43,000 Red Cross Christmas seals at one time. This firm made the statement that their action was dictated solely by business reasons, and that they could not for any reason claim any credit on the score for philanthropy. They believed it good business on the following grounds:

That presence of tuberculosis means a greater financial loss to the community, and its greatest ravages are found among the poor.

That it is more logical to spend money to get rid of the disease than to reflect the cost of supporting its victims in an increased tax rate.

That the affliction of the bread winners of the family with the disease means lowered efficiency and less earning capacity, which in turn means a lessened power to provide the proper nourishment and environment to successfully combat its growth, and that this incapacity often throws his family upon the public charge.

That no one makes a profit upon a dead man but the undertaker, and he makes it only once, whereas a live man is a constant source of profit to every one with whom he does business, and the more alive and the more prosperous he is and the more business he does, the greater are the profits of those with whom he deals.

### BIG SHIPMENT OF MAXWELLS

Mr. J. W. McKee Announces the Shipment of a Solid Trainload from Detroit.

Mr. J. W. McKee, president of the Laurens Motor Car Company, distributors of Maxwell cars in this state, announced Saturday that he had just completed arrangements for the shipment of a solid trainload of fifty cars of Maxwells, 150 automobiles in all, to this state within the next few weeks. Mr. McKee stated that he completed booking the orders for them Saturday and immediately wired in the big order to Detroit. He said that this was the first shipment of a solid trainload of automobiles ever made to South Carolina, attesting to the popularity and selling qualities of the car. The shipment will be made to Columbia and the cars distributed to the various agencies over the state from that point. Mr. McKee speaks very optimistically over the outlook for spring business and says that the business being built up on Maxwell cars is very gratifying.

### Mrs. Jane Todd Dead.

Mrs. Jane Todd, mother of Mrs. J. O. C. Fleming, of this city, and Mrs. A. Y. Thompson, of Ora, died at her home in Due West yesterday morning. Interment was made at Due West and was attended by Mrs. Fleming, Mrs. Thompson and their families. Mrs. Todd was in the 87th year of her age and death was due largely to complications incident to mature age. Before her marriage she was a Miss McClintock and was widely connected in this county. She was known as a most consecrated Christian woman and her departure caused widespread sorrow among those who knew her.

### TEACHERS MET SATURDAY

Regular Monthly Meeting of Teachers Association Held Saturday.

The Laurens County Teachers' association held its December meeting Saturday at the graded school building. President B. L. Parkinson presided, and the meeting was opened with exercises conducted by Miss Annie Workman, normal teacher in the city school. The first part of the programme was then entered into, which was the practical teaching of presentation of poetry as demonstrated in three departments of the Laurens school—primary, intermediate and high school. This was a most interesting feature and highly instructive to the members of the association.

The association then reassembled in the auditorium where it was addressed by Miss Madaline Spigener of Columbia, president of the State Rural improvement association. She was followed by Mrs. E. V. Frierson, supervising teacher for Laurens county.

### ENGLISH WAR CABINET FINALLY ANNOUNCED

Government Will Practically be by a Cabinet of Four.

London, Dec. 10.—The official list of the new ministry issued tonight follows the unofficial forecast with two or three minor changes. Mr. Lloyd George, Lord Milner, Earl Curzon, Bonar Law and Arthur Henderson form what is officially termed the war cabinet, while the others who ordinarily have been designated as cabinet ministers, are called heads of departments.

An important point in this novel organization is that it concentrates far more power in the hands of the prime minister than the British system has ever known before. Mr. Lloyd George's proposals to Premier Asquith were for a war council, of which the premier should not be a member although he should have the power of passing on its work. Mr. Lloyd George has not hesitated to the position more closely resembling a dictatorship than he was willing to give his predecessor.

The war cabinet will hold daily sessions, directing the prosecution of the war and the freedom of Mr. Lloyd George, Lord Milner and Mr. Henderson from departmental duties will allow them to devote all their time to the war council, the work of the exchequer and government leadership in the house of commons will absorb most of Mr. Bonar Law's time, and attendance on the house of lords will necessitate Earl Curzon's absence from the council, so that Mr. Lloyd George, Lord Milner and Mr. Henderson will be the chief directors of the war.

For practical purposes, the government will be by a cabinet of four.

A meeting of the privy council will be held tomorrow for the swearing in of the ministers. The prime minister will make a speech in the house of commons Tuesday in which he will declare the policy of the new government, and a bill will be introduced enabling the members to take their seats without going through the formality of a new election which the law demands when a member accepts a position under the crown.

The complexion of the new government is 12 Liberals, 15 Unionists, three Laborites and the presidents of the Board of Trade and Education and the shipping controller, who have been attached to no parties.

Sir Robert Finlay's renunciation of the pension attached to the office of lord high chancellor, will be a popular stroke. The lord chancellor draws 10,000 pounds in office and a pension of 5,000 pounds after his retirement. There has been much discussion over the cost of this largely ornamental office recently. Four retired chancellors are now drawing pensions.

T. P. O'Connor gives notice of a motion in the house of commons for the formation of a series of commissions in parliament, on the French model for cooperation with the ministers in conducting the war.

### OFFICERS INSTALLED.

Public Meeting and Installation of the Officers of the Eastern Star.

An impressive installation service and an enjoyable public meeting of the Adah chapter, O. E. S., were held in the Masonic hall Monday evening, being attended by a large number of friends of the chapter members. Mrs. Lou H. Monk, Worthy Grand Matron, and Miss Nancy L. Bennett, Grand Lecturer, were present and contributed much to the enjoyment of the evening. After the installation services, a musical program was rendered and delicious refreshments were served. The following officers were installed:

Miss Lucia Barksdale, W. M.  
Mr. Marion Simpson, W. P.  
Mrs. Douglas Gray, Asst. M.  
Miss Hattie Kate Easterly, Conduetress.  
Miss Roberta Dorroh, Asst. Conduetress.  
Miss Ethel Langston, Treas.  
Miss Annie Childress, Secty.  
Mrs. J. N. Richardson, Adah.  
Mrs. James Sullivan, Ruth.  
Miss Louie Eichelberger, Esther.  
Mrs. S. G. McDaniel, Martha.  
Miss Clara Switzer, Electa.  
Miss Maggie Peterson, Marshal.  
Miss Esther Fowler, Organist.  
Mrs. Wm. Solomon, Warder.  
Mr. James Sullivan, Chaplain.  
Mr. Robt. Eichelberger, Sentinel.

## RETURNED SOLDIERS, GIVEN WELCOME

### Large Crowd Met Them at the Train.

### TURKEY SUPPER GIVEN AT HOTEL

### Browned and Tanned by Their Life in the Open, the Laurens Boys Return to their Homes and are Gladly Received by Relatives and Friends.

Tanned by the Texas sun and with health invigorated by the outdoor life, the members of the Traynham Guards, the crack local military company, returned home last Wednesday afternoon, happy to be among their friends and relatives again but none the less pleased at their experience in camp life. The boys arrived on the afternoon train from Columbia where they had been mustered out the day before and were met at the station by a large crowd gathered to greet them. Although but a few hours definite notice had been given of their expected arrival, the news soon spread around the city and the boys were given a fitting welcome.

After a short time allowed the men to greet members of their families and friends at the depot, they were formed in line and marched to the army, their soldierly bearing and healthy countenances being the subject of much favorable comment. After "shucking off" a few marching accoutrements there, the company appeared on parade in front of the court house and drilled for about a quarter of an hour, going through the military maneuvers with clock-like precision and neatness. The unanimous opinion was that they drilled like regulars and that the country had in them a band of soldiers which it might well boast and be proud of.

Although many of the soldiers were anxious to get to their homes in the country and in adjoining towns, they remained in the city until five o'clock when they were guests of the city at the Laurens Hotel, where a bountiful turkey supper was served, the company being met here by the members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, the Daughters of the American Revolution and citizens of the town. Mayor J. C. Owings and other citizens escorted them to the hotel and assisted in entertaining during the supper. Miss Julia Ivy, regent of the Henry Laurens chapter, D. A. R., invoked the blessing upon the meal. On account of the desire of many of the men to leave for their homes as early as possible, no speech making was indulged in, the welcome being indicated by deeds rather than by words.

The health of the company was excellent while away from home. With the exception of the slight indisposition suffered by most of them on account of vaccination soon after entering camp at Columbia, no sickness of any kind was had. The fare furnished by the government, while not calculated to appeal to a delicate sense of taste, was substantial and plentiful and the men showed no ill effects from it. In fact, to the open air and nutritious food is largely attributed the splendid health they enjoyed while in camp. Every man returned with a ruddy appearance, a healthy glow on the cheek and an increased avoirdupois. The average gain in weight of the men in the company was said to be about fifteen pounds.

The members of the company had more tales to tell of rabbits, toads, snakes and sand than they had of Mexicans, though they said there were more than enough even in El Paso. They were not allowed to cross into Mexico, so they had little experience with the Mexicans on their native heath. A few of the more venturesome crossed over the line in disguise, but did not remain long at a time, so their tales were rather brief on that score. However, they said that the regular sentry service at the border bridges gave to the border a warlike air. Many of the men expressed the opinion that the United States would have trouble on the border yet and when Uncle Sam called they would be "ready to go". They expressed themselves as being

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