

GERMANY PROPOSES PEACE NEUTRALS MAY URGE ACCEPTANCE

The United States, Spain and Switzerland Selected to Transmit Germany's Proposal--Terms That May Be Basis of Peace Proposition.

News dispatches from Berlin say that Germany proposes peace to Allies.

The imperial chancellor, Dr von Bethmann-Hollweg, speaking for the German empire and its allies, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey, announced in the reichstag that he had given to the diplomatic representatives of Spain, the United States and Switzerland, a joint note addressed to Germany's enemies, proposing to them to enter into peace negotiations.

The chancellor did not announce the terms upon which Germany and her allies will make peace. Nor are they contained in the note he handed to the three diplomats for transmission to the entente powers. The only reference he made to them was that they had the object of "guaranteeing the existence, honor and liberty of evolution" for nations extending the offer and "are according to their firm belief an appropriate basis for the establishment of everlasting peace."

This reference is contained in the note addressed to the allies. The representatives of Spain, the United States and Switzerland were selected for the transmission, because these countries represent the entente interests in Germany and the countries of her allies.

Simultaneously with the issuance of the note to the allies Germany sent a communication to Pope Benedict, through the German minister to the vatican, Dr Otto von Muehlberg, notifying the pontiff of Germany's peace move, eulogizing the Holy Father for his efforts in behalf of peace during the last two years and expressing the confidence that Germany's initiative "will find a friendly welcome on the part of His Holiness and that the work of peace can count upon the precious support of the Holy See."

Throughout the chancellor's speech, and both in the note to the entente and that to the pope, emphasis is laid upon these chief points: That the peace move is made "in full harmony" with each of Germany's allies.

That not weakness, but strength, coupled with solicitude for civilization and humanity, prompt the offer of peace.

That if this offer falls upon deaf ears in the entente countries, the responsibility of the terrors that a further prolongation of the struggle are bound to bring is solely that of Germany's enemies. The German Empire, he declared, "declines every

responsibility for this before humanity and history."

His closing words were: "We are ready for fighting, and ready for peace."

Based upon information from their home governments, the entente diplomats believe Germany's terms are in general about as follows:

Restoration of Belgium, with the condition which would practically leave it under German control and probably give over the port of Antwerp to Germany.

Restoration of the occupied portions of Northern France, but with economic control, which would guarantee to Germany supplies of iron and other raw materials drawn from there.

Domination of Mesopotamia by Germany and Austria to give them a path to the Persian Gulf and break England's gateway to India and Egypt.

To award to Bulgaria all of Serbia as far south as Nish, which would take from Serbia as much territory as she gained in the Balkan Wars.

They expect Germany will demand the return of her African colonies or at least propose to exchange them for the French colonies.

Turkey's interests are considered a minor affair and not fully developed in consideration of peace.

The attitude of the Balkan nations of the Germanic allies, it was explained, will be set forth in the notes that have been dispatched from Sofia and Constantinople; nothing of them is known at the Balkan legations here, except that Bulgaria probably will expect to get Macedonia and Dobruja, which formerly belonged to her, making the Danube the boundary between Bulgaria and Rumania and shutting the latter from the Black sea.

Automobile To Be Given Away.

If you want an automobile for your child's Xmas FREE, call at Dr Brockington's Drug Store and spend your money for your Xmas presents. Stationery; Chocolate Candy, the best in holiday boxes; Perfumery, best in fancy bottles; Holly Tissue and Poinsettia Paper, Toilet Sets, etc. I give away free with every 5c purchase a 5c coupon, \$1 purchase 20 coupons, &c. Call and examine this beautiful \$10.00 automobile. FREE to the one holding the most tickets on the first day of January, 1917.

DR W V BROCKINGTON.

Children, send in your letter to Santa Claus at once.

CEDAR SWAMP NEWS NOTES.

Local, Personal and Religious Chronicles.

Cedar Swamp, December 11:-- Mrs R W McCutchen, who has been at McLeod's infirmary for treatment, has returned home. Her friends sincerely hope that she has entirely recovered from the malady which necessitated an operation.

Mr Walter B Brown has purchased what is known as the Spann place from Cooper Bros. This place joins the Cedar Swamp church and school property and the location makes it a valuable piece of real estate. Mr Brown is a good citizen and is remembered as one of the tobacco growers who sells at such fancy prices on the Kingstree market.

Mr Willie Foxworth and family have moved back from the White Oak section to the home of Mr T J Phillips, in this community, after being away for two or three years.

Messrs Rob and Frank Snowden, from Cape Charles, Va, and Delmar, Delaware, are at home for the Christmas holidays. They report quite a pleasant trip through the country, crossing Chesapeake Bay at Norfolk, thence to Richmond, Petersburg, and by way of Raleigh, N C, traveling along the National Highway until they reached Hamlet, N C, and thence to Darlington, Florence, Kingstree, a distance of six hundred and forty-four miles in less than five days without a mishap in Mr Snowden's Overland roadster.

A merry party, namely, Misses Jane Ervin, Everette McCullough, Mabel Tyler, Georgie Rembert, Opena Haddock, Dolerise McNeil, Sadie Snowden, and Messrs Thad and Manly McCullough motored to Salters Friday evening to attend the Christian Endeavor convention at that place.

The citizens and school patrons of this community had a get-together meeting at the school building Friday night, and after discussing matters relative to school affairs in general, decided that the patrons should supplement the school fund to the amount of two hundred forty-five dollars by private subscription which was quickly subscribed. Our teachers are indefatigable in their efforts as to the advancement of the school and optimistic in their plans for the improvement of the building and sanitary arrangements of the premises, and only ask the cooperation of those whom this work is intended to benefit in order to attain success.

There will be services at the Methodist church next Sunday afternoon conducted by the new preacher, Rev Godbold. W E S

Will Money Take Root?

If you want to see how money will take root and grow just go to the Bank of Williamsburg and "plant" a dime in the new Christmas Banking Club they just opened to accommodate the people of this community who want to start to save money.

This dime will grow in fifty weeks, before Christmas next year when you will feel the need of ready money, into \$127.50.

The little Christmas Banking Club book which the Bank of Williamsburg will give you or any of your friends free will show you when to make your weekly deposit and how much you put in in order to get, in fifty weeks, the \$127.50.

Whole families are joining this Christmas Banking Club. It's the best thing that ever struck town to show us all how to really save money and get ahead. It gets us into the banking habit--the best habit anyone can learn. Money planted in the bank will surely grow if we let stay in the bank what we put in, and keep on adding to it. "Every little bit added to what you've got makes just a little bit more."

You can "plant" only a nickle in the Christmas Banking Club and in fifty weeks have \$63.75. You must put in ten cents the second week, fifteen cents the third week and so on, increasing the amount you deposit only a nickle each week. The biggest sum you put in at one time is only \$2.50. You will hardly believe this until you look into the little Christmas Banking Club book which the Bank of Williamsburg will furnish you and every member of your family free.

The "kiddies" can join the one-cent or the two-cent club and in fifty weeks have \$12.75 or \$25.50.

Every boy, girl, man and woman in this community should join this Christmas Banking Club. It's a good thing.

AUTOMOBILE FREE

Who wants this Automobile? We will give away absolutely FREE the Child's Automobile now on exhibition in our show window, JANUARY 1, 1917. Come and see us and let us explain our method in making some little boy or girl absolutely happy. Every cash purchase of \$1.00 or every \$1.00 paid on account between Monday, November 27, and Sunday, December 24, will give you a chance to win this Automobile. Come in and see us and get your chances.

Kingstree Hardware Co.

Coffins and Caskets

We Lead; Others Follow

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR INSTITUTE

Inspiring and Delightful Meeting Held at Salters.

The first Christian Endeavor institute of Williamsburg county was held at Salters in the afternoon and evening of December 9. Fifty delegates were registered from the four visiting societies--Indiantown, Cedar Swamp, Trio and Mulberry. The Salters society acted as host and entertained in the town hall, giving the visitors a delightful time.

It was an inspirational meeting, led by Mr Bert Corcoran, State President of Christian Endeavor. The afternoon session was given over to business, after which the guests were invited to the upper floor, where a sumptuous banquet was served.

The evening session, led by Miss Lillian Salters, was addressed by Miss Janet Jaeger, supervisor of the Florence district; Mr Glenn McKnight, superintendent of the Charleston district; Miss Hannah Plowden of Trio, secretary of Junior work, and Miss Emma Cooper of Indiantown.

Christian Endeavor in Williamsburg county is progressing rapidly. It is only about five months old, and there are now five flourishing societies. Mr Corcoran, the State president, is well known in this section and has the love and esteem of all the Endeavorers in South Carolina. Salters is an excellent place to hold an institute. A rising vote of thanks and appreciation was tendered the Salters people for their hospitality and the institute is ready to accept another invitation there.

LINES FROM LANES.

Wedding Bells--Delightful Entertainment--Personal.

Lanes, December 11:--The marriage of Miss Mattye, daughter of Mr and Mrs James Egerton, to Mr L F Brabham of Charleston, which takes place in the Baptist church Tuesday evening, will be of interest to their many friends in and around Lanes.

Miss Belle Plowden spent the weekend with her parents in Manning. Mrs E E Ulmer of Columbia stopped over on her way home after an extended visit to her mother, Mrs W D Bryan, at Bryan.

Mr and Mrs John Langford of Ridgeland have returned home after a visit to their daughter, Mrs Willie Brown, their little grandson "Billie" accompanying them.

Miss Mae Graham spent the weekend with Misses Nonie Brown and Emma Hipp.

Mrs M L Baggett spent several days last week with her daughter, Mamie, at Chicora college.

On Saturday afternoon from four till six, Mrs Maria Salters and Miss Nonie Brown delightfully entertained about three dozen of their friends at the Lanes Hotel at a linen shower in honor of Mrs Audie Brown, who is soon to move into her new bungalow on Church street.

The color scheme of green and white was beautifully carried out in the artistically arranged ferns, palms and narcissus in the parlors and hall.

As the last guests arrived and all were assembled in the west parlor, a messenger boy came in bearing a telegram for Mrs Brown which read: "Perishable package by today's express, attend to same at once."

(Signed) "BUNGALOW FAIRY."

Just as the reading of the telegram was finished, little Elizabeth Brown and Moultrie McCullough came in drawing a child's express wagon, in which was seated little Madder under a small Japanese umbrella with the packages around her. These packages revealed many lovely and useful articles in the form of towels, tray cloths, centerpieces, etc. Near the close of the afternoon a

dainty salad and sweet course with mints was served.

Those assisting Mrs Salters and Miss Brown were: Mr Frank Baggett, Misses Emma Hipp and Belle Plowden.

Live Stock Sale at Lake City.

Lake City, December 13:--The auction sale of live stock held here on the 7th instant was a success, considering that the summer past was very hard on cattle and the further fact that this sale was the first thing of the kind undertaken in this section. There were several buyers from various sections; and the number of people present--those who had stock to sell, those interested in the venture and those brought by curiosity--was well up in the thousands. Some of the hogs brought fancy prices, and a few cows went off as high as 9 cents gross. The amount of money passed was about five thousand dollars. The promoters of the sale announce that for the future similar sales will be held at regular intervals.

The second primary election held Tuesday resulted in selecting the following ticket for the regular election on December 20, to-wit: Mayor, S B Rodgers; Aldermen, Ashton H Williams, ward 1; G L Dickson, ward 2; Walter Holland, ward 3; W M Severance, ward 4; Hayden J McKenzie and J P Matthews, at large.

Damages Awarded.

In the case of Haselden, plaintiff, against the Atlantic Coast Line railroad, defendant, for damages sustained by Mr Haselden here on August 16 when a freight train ran into his automobile, in which he and two of his children were riding when crossing the railroad at the Main street crossing, asking twenty-five hundred dollars damages, the jury found a verdict for the defendant for five hundred dollars. The plaintiff was represented by Messrs Kelley & Hinds, and the defendant company was represented by L W Gilland and LeRoy Lee, Esqs. This being the last case court adjourned sine die Friday.

IN SOCIETY'S REALM.

Esteemed Bride-Elect Honored at Delightful Functions.

Mrs W N Jacobs entertained a number of friends at a chafing dish luncheon in honor of Miss Jimmie Britton Tuesday morning from 11 to 1 o'clock. A delightful three-course menu was served, during which little Miss Mary Wayne Jacobs, daughter of the hostess, presented Miss Britton with a lovely hand embroidered guest towel. After lunch the guests were invited into the music room, where several vocal selections were charmingly rendered by Miss Selma Thorn in her usual inimitable manner. Those enjoying Mrs Jacobs' hospitality were: Mrs Belle Blakely, Misses Jimmie Britton, Ora McFall, Emma Cooper, Selma Thorn and Essie Blakely.

Mrs N D Lesesne was hostess to the members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy Friday afternoon from 4:30 to 6:00 o'clock. An additional feature to the regular meeting was a handkerchief shower in honor of Miss Jimmie Britton, this being her last meeting with this chapter of the U D C. Immediately after the regular business had been transacted, little Miss Margaret Lesesne, wearing raincoat and cap, entered the room, carrying a parasol, showered with dozens of lovely crepe de chine and linen handkerchiefs. Delicious refreshments, consisting of fruit gelatine, with whipped cream and cake, were served, buffet style, by the hostess, assisted by Miss Emma Cooper. Among those present were: Mesdames E O Taylor of Greeleyville, D C Scott, W L Taylor, R B Smith, W G Gamble, Misses Jimmie Britton, Agness Erckmann, Emma Cooper, Mable and Belle Harper.

The Civic league will hold a parcel post sale and oyster supper at Lewis' old store at 5 p. m. Friday.

Milk for sale in any quantity, 10c per quart. P S COURTNEY. 11-23-tf



Give
Something Useful.
We've got lots of
Useful
Presents.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING, AND ARE NOT YOU COMING TO OUR "HARDWARE" STORE TO SEE WHAT "WE" HAVE WHICH WILL MAKE CHRISTMAS GIFTS?

IN OUR STORE A LITTLE MONEY WILL BUY LOTS OF PRESENTS:

COME IN AND SEE.

OUR PRESENTS ARE BEST: THEY STAND THE TEST.

King Hardware Company.

The Popular Hardware Store

We will welcome you in our National Bank

MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM OF BANKS

JUST BECAUSE OURS IS A NATIONAL BANK IS NO REASON WHY WE CANNOT MAKE YOU "FEEL AT HOME" WHEN YOU COME IN. TRY IT.

WE ARE HAPPY OVER BEING A MEMBER BANK OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM OF BANKS. WE CAN TAKE OUR SECURITIES TO OUR CENTRAL RESERVE BANK WHEN WE WANT TO AND GET OUR MONEY.

SO CAN YOU COME TO US WHEN YOU WANT TO AND GET YOUR MONEY.

PUT YOUR MONEY IN OUR BANK.

WE PAY 4 PER CENT INTEREST ON SAVINGS ACCOUNTS.

Farmers & Merchants National Bank.

"ABSOLUTELY SAFE" LAKE CITY, S. C.

Authorized by Federal Reserve Board to Act as Administrator, Executor, Trustee and Registrar.