

GERMANS KNOW HELPLESSNESS, SAYS SIMONDS

Play for Time Game to Hold Support of People, He Declares.

By FRANK H. SIMONDS
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PARIS, May 27.—During the last few days the belief has grown in Paris that before signing the peace treaty the Germans will force the allies to make a military demonstration. The Germans since the receipt of the peace terms have been carrying on active propaganda and agitation against signing. Their purpose was to produce an impression on the world and on the allies that would lead to the modification of the terms. This demonstration recalls exactly the movement in Italy on the Fiume question a few weeks ago.

Tactics Create Puzzle.

But, exactly as in the Italian case, popular agitation in Germany has exceeded expectations; and, conceivably, the desires of the government, which finds itself in the presence of a general popular agitation against the terms of peace, facing the dilemma of refusing to sign and precipitating allied military operations, or signing and provoking a domestic disturbance, the extent of which it cannot foresee.

In this situation, Paris believes that the Germans may refuse to sign, adopting the attitude of the Russians at Brest-Litovsk. Then the allied armies on the Rhine will be set in motion, the blockade will be renewed again, and when these steps have been taken in the presence of this irresistible menace the German government will sign.

In signing, it can explain to its own people that it has bowed to force.

It should be recognized that Germany has no capacity to resist nor any desire to fight. The German military machine is for the time being, at least, powerless. In the presence of the great and splendidly equipped and munitioned allied armies the Germans can make no resistance and any attempt to resist would inevitably mean the transforming of parts of Germany into devastated areas, like those in northern France. But it is conceivable that the Germans, so often mistaken in similar matters, may believe that the allies, faced with the problem of a new military operation, would do a military operation.

Workings of German Mind.

What is much more likely, however, is that the Germans believe, first, that to save the domestic situation, it is necessary to yield to force and force plainly perceived by the German people; and, secondly that in thus yielding to force, they will reserve what at least can be regarded later as the right to refuse the terms because he signed them only under military threat.

We are not on the edge of a new war, whether the German signs or not. New battles and new campaigns like those of the last four years are out of the question. The occupation of more German territory is possible, but even this is likely to be restricted. Once the allied armies from Cologne to Kiel are set in action, German capitulation will unquestionably be prompt and complete. But, on the other hand, the German delegates may not dare to sign and go home. The German government may not dare to face the German people, having consented to the signature of the treaty of peace, in advance of a threat of force by the allies. Paris still finds many well-informed observers who believe that the Germans will sign outright early in the second week in June. The storm of denunciation and threat coming from Germany does not disturb anybody. There is full recognition of the fact that Germany can no more resist the treaty terms than could France resist Bismarck forty-eight years ago. It is fully recognized that what the German is endeavoring to do is to make propaganda all over the world in his old, familiar fashion, and seeks to enlist in his behalf so-called liberal and radical opinion of the world, but it is equally clearly recognized that the result of German agitation at home may be such that the government, in order to survive, may have to go through the motions of yielding to force.

Last Stage of Negotiations.

In any event we are in the last stage of the German phase of the peace negotiations. The German answer will be in hand May 29. The allied answer will follow in the next week and with

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OMER G. WHELAN
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It will go a polite but unmistakable request for the final German answer in the second week of June. If this is refused, or is unfavorable, negotiations will be transferred from the council of four to Marshal Foch, the armies on the Rhine will begin to advance, and then it will be simply a question of how far they will have to go before they meet the German surrender party.

It remains possible that the Germans may break off negotiations before the end of their time, but this is unlikely because if there be a large popular protest in Germany against signing, there is a considerable minority insisting on a signature, and there is a universal recognition that Germany cannot defend herself. Moreover, the hope that the allies would show themselves with a divided front at Versailles or betray any reluctance to resort to force, if necessary, has been extinguished by the progress of events. Germany knows now that she is helpless, that her conquerors are united and that the only modification in the conditions of peace that she can obtain must be obtained by direct negotiations at Versailles, and cannot be attained by passive resistance.

Paris Calmly Waiting.

We have had many periods of profound pessimism in Paris, many acute and dangerous crises. The present situation does not recall any of these.

Whether Germany signs or refuses to sign is a matter of interesting speculation, but not a source of anxiety. Paris is calmly awaiting Germany's decision, with the recognition that the decision will not affect the situation created by the formulation of the terms of peace. Whether Germany signs or does not sign everyone knows she does not mean to perform and everyone recognizes that only under pressure will the terms be carried out. The hope of a settlement that would automatically end the condition of war has disappeared. The prospect of peace, of conciliation is recognized to have vanished. During the next fifteen years what the allies get out of Germany will be exactly conditioned on the pressure they are able to exert on Germany, but if there have been any disillusions inevitable under the circumstances, the German attitude at the moment and German action in the immediate future do not constitute such disappointment. At least the allies are fully united in the present emergency. They have adequate power, complete concord, and are awaiting the German's action with perfect equanimity.

COMMITTEE TO SELECT PASTOR APPOINTED

In order to select by committee a successor for the Rev. F. W. Rohlfing, who has resigned from St. Paul's Lutheran church of this city to enter a pastorate in Mansfield, Ohio, the church vestry in session last evening appointed the following men and one woman to conduct the selection: John Klute, William Klott, Clifford Plehl, Thomas Allen and Mrs. Ida Bartel.

West Manchester, O.

Mrs. Frank Campbell and Charles Campbell and family of Eldorado, were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Clete Emerick. . . . William Wooten and family visited Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Ivie Marsh. . . . Joe Shawmon and family spent Sunday with New Madison relatives. . . . David Horn is on the sick list. . . . Mrs. Dan Blakely returned Saturday from a week's visit with her mother at Yorkshire. . . . Daniel Aydelot returned to Dayton Monday after several days' visit with friends at this place. . . . Carl Smith and family of West Alexandria spent Sunday afternoon with Mrs. Mary E. Leas. . . . Mr. and Mrs. John Hoffman visited Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Sam Jones at Gorden and with relatives at Brookville. . . . Roy Poe and family of Lewisburg were guests of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Poe. . . . Leon Less and son J. Albert and Sam Frankel made a business trip Monday to Greenville. . . . Miss Grace Judy of Dayton was the guest of her mother, Mrs. J. M. Studebaker. . . . Sunday, Mrs. Cora Less and daughter Mary, spent Monday afternoon at Lewisburg. . . . G. G. Williams of Fountain City and Miss Myrtle Trone visited friends at Camden Sunday. . . . Odes Gangwer and family of Charles Elker and family of New Madison and Arthur Brinley and family were visitors at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Will Gangwer recently. . . . Misses Treva Howell and Lucile Morris spent Sunday with Fern and Flossie Woolf. . . . Mr. and Mrs. John Gauch entertained Mr. and Mrs. James Petry of Otterbein. . . . Mrs. Lurena Trump and Mrs. L. O. Trump and children to dinner, Sunday. In the afternoon they attended memorial services at Twin Creek chapel and visited with Mrs. Marguerite Gilliland at the home of her son, Clarence Gilliland, at Castine. . . . Isaac Christman and daughter Freda, visited from Friday until Sunday with Newton Fitzwater and family at Peru, Ind. . . . The Trump family reunion will be held on Thursday, June 5, at the home of L. R. Geeting at New Carlisle, Ohio. . . . Mrs. Clara Gard of Canton, O., is visiting Mrs. J. F. Radabough. . . . John Smith who recently returned from overseas, arrived home Tuesday of last week.

The Ladies' Bible class of the Christian church will hold the regular class meeting Thursday evening, June 5, at the home of Mrs. J. G. Frank. The missionary committee will have charge of the evening's program. . . . Mrs. L. O. Trump and children arrived here Friday from Cherubusco, Ind., for an extended visit with relatives here and at Arcanum. . . . A number from West Manchester attended memorial services Sunday afternoon at Twin Creek chapel. The Rev. Hiley Baker of the Eaton Christian church delivered the address. . . . Miss Juanita and Ruth Houk and Mrs. Everett Swartzell of Farmersville called on Mrs. C. E. Barnes Sunday afternoon. . . . Miss Sylvia Trone of Dayton, was a week-end visitor at the home of her mother. . . . Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Davison visited last week with relatives at Frankton and Anderson, Ind. Mrs. Davison remained for a more extended visit. Mr. Davison returning Sunday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Charles Morris were Sunday visitors at the home of John Protzman and wife at Verona. . . . Miss Helen Thomas Allen and Mrs. Ida Bartel.

Leas of Dayton spent Sunday here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Less. . . . Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Creager, R. H. Siler, Mrs. Eliza Brown and Mrs. Charles Morris will attend the Prentiss County Sunday school convention to be held at Gratis, on Wednesday, May 28. . . . Father's Day will be observed on Sunday, June 1, at Christian church. . . . George Hawk and daughter Jocinda and Ruth and Mrs. Everett Swartzell of Farmersville, were guests of Mrs. Eliza Brown Sunday. . . . Mrs. Martha McClure of Eldorado and Mr. and Mrs. McClure and wife of Dayton were also visitors at the Brown home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Locke entertained to Sunday dinner at Harley Juday, who was mustered out of service at Camp Sherman and arrived home Saturday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rauck, mother of Prof. Rauck at Doddridge Chapel Sunday.

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Antioch, O.

Mr. and Mrs. William Miles spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. James Peter. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Harry Potter and baby visited last week at Grandview farm. . . . Mr. and Mrs. John Bennekin were at the Lester Bennekin home Thursday evening. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Pfeifer and daughter and Vera Bowers and Peter Willis and Gra Flora were Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Huffman and family. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Huffman and family were Richmond visitors Saturday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Ed Weidner and family were Sunday dinner guests at the Aaron Weidner home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Wysong and Lillian spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Taylor and family. . . . Stephen Wysong and family attended Thursday the funeral of Lucile Neardon of Richmond, daughter of Mrs. William Neardon, who is Mrs. Wysong's sister. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Russ Brown were Sunday guests at the Neardon Deaton home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Toney and children spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Dunham Hart of Sugar Valley. . . . Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Clark were Hamilton visitors Sunday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wilson and daughter spent Thursday at the A. C. Clark home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Hazen McIntyre were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. George Swope and family. . . . Mr. and Mrs. John Blair and Mrs. Art Longman and sons spent Sunday at the Raymond Kenworthy home. . . . Mrs. Raymond Kenworthy and daughter visited Mrs. Charles Handley on

the National road, Thursday. . . . Rich White and daughters spent Sunday at the Ed White home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Henry Murr and Mr. and Mrs. John Murr and Mr. and Mrs. John Snyder were entertained Sunday at the Geo. Fairney home. . . . Miss Fio Fairney spent several days with Dayton relatives last week. . . . Lew Linch and son of Rushville, Ind., spent Saturday at the Adam Trunk home. Ralph returned home with them to spend Sunday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Adam Trunk were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. William Litchiser. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Aradine Tucker spent Sunday in Dayton at the home of the latter's sister. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Joe Apgar were Sunday guests at the Naylor Hickey home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Roy Doty of Gratz were Sunday guests at the Joe Apgar home. Mrs. Apgar returned after a visit with them. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Neal Geeting were Sunday visitors at the Jake Zimmerman home. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Russell Park and child spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. John Newman and family.

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