a barrage singing loudly;
"Where do we go from here, boys?"

Yanka Can See Germany.

The Americans fighting along the frontiers can look across the Moselle and see German soil. There is noth-

ing to indicate that their attack has

stopped, despite earlier announce-ments that the assault was for lim-

According to dispatches from the fighting front the Americans have

driven forward nearly nine miles at

So far as is known the firing line

now runs from Pagny on the Moselle and on the German border, straight

Fiyers Bomb Metz Railroads.

By capturing the salient the Amer-

icans, with some French aid, have not

only removed the menace of the Ger-

mans in this region, but have freed

a great number of French villages.

The map shows this number must

run to considerably more than twenty,

While the American First army was

pressing forward through St. Mihiel

salient allied aviators were intensively

bombing the German railroads around

Metz and Courcelles. The aviators also

attacked the Metz station and trans-

Baker and Pershing See Battle.

With the American Army on the

Lorraine Front, Sept. 14.—Away out

in an advanced observation post Gen-

eral Pershing, commander in chief of

the American army, and Newton D.

Baker, the American secretary of war,

watched the Americans smash their

way to victory on the battle front be-

General Pershing and Secretary Ba-

ker took up their station ir the muddy

rain-lashed post of observation before

the infantry went over the top in the

The Americans, supported by

great fleet of tanks, went forward with an irresistible rush, and three

lines of German entrenchments were

Yanks Strike First Big Blow.

With the American Army in France,

Sept. 13.—Gen. John J. Pershing's

American army—an all-American army

-struck its first blow Thursday in the

St Mibiel sector, and today the great

triangular salient winch projected into

the allies' lines between Verdun and

The attack, which started early in

the morning, extended on the south-

ern side for a distance of 12 miles,

from St. Miliel to Pont a Mousson

and northward from St. Mihiel for

distance of eight miles. French

troops, co-operating with the Ameri-

cans, struck at the southern point of

The offensive, the first struck on a

pretentious scale by the Americans,

is under the immediate direction of

American staff and is being executed

by American officers and troops.

Tanks, artillery, airplanes, even down

to the narrow gauge roads rushing for-

ward ammunition—all are American.

Prench Near Chemin Des Dames.

ern end of the Chemin des Dames de-

many quarters here the enemy soon

must give up part of this line, which

The French war office statement in

announcing that Marshal Foch's force

plateaus north and east of Vauxaillon

and Celles-sur-Aisne, reveals the grad-

ual progress toward the Chemin des

Dames, which now is less than half a

also have taken Mont des Singes.

North of Laffaux mill, the French

The Germans have come forward re-

peatedly in this region in an effort to

stay the advance of General Mangin,

week have slowly but surely been

driven back. The fierceness and stub-

bornness of their resistance, is shown

by the official announcement that the

prisoners in these recent operations.

On the British front Field Marshal

the lines have been thrown out until

and Sauchy-Cauchy, north of the Ar-

protects Laon from the south.

mile away at points.

ras-Cambrai road.

fenses until now it is believed in

General Pershing, was planned by the

the salient at St. Mihiel.

Nancy is crushed on both sides.

captured in a single bound.

tween the Meuse and Moselle rivers.

although many places are small.

ports with good results.

cold, wet dawn.

ited objectives only.

Verdun.

WILSON SCORNS AUSTRIA'S PLEA FOR PEACE MEET

Has Aiready Stated Terms Upon Which U. S. Will Consider Peace.

SPEAKS FOR ALL THE ALLIES

President's Reply to Hun Message Made Public Half Hour After Swedish Minister Delivered Text of Vienna's Note.

U. S. REPLY TO AUSTRIA

Washigton, Sept. 18.—Secretary Lansing issued the following statement: "I am authorized by the president to state that the following will be the reply of this government to the Austro-Hungarian note proposing an unofficial conference of belligerents:

"The government of the United States feels that there is only one reply which it can make to the suggestion of the imperial Austro-Hungarian government. It has repeatedly and with entire candor stated the terms upon which the United States will consider peace and can and will entertain no proposal for a conference upon a matter concerning which it has made its position and purpose so plain.'

Washington, Sept. 18.—President Wilson flatly rejected the Austro-Hungarian government's proposal for a peace parley.

His reply is perhaps without a preedent in history. It was made public within half an hour after the Swedish ninister delivered the official text of the note to the state department. The president's answer was issued in the form of a statement from Secretary of

Speaks for Allied World. sident, it is assumed, again ke for the allied world, and in so wrote "Finis" to the Austrian nove. His answer, couched in the clainest language, consisted of exactly 68 words as compared with the several thousand words that made up the long and ambiguous statement from Aus

The message, save for diplomatic ishments, was given over to the wedish minister in exactly the same terms as it appears above, for trans

ssion to Austria.

Saw Through Hun Trap. Chronologically the answer constitutes the fastest chapter in this country's war history, and there is a reason for this. It is that the United States. in common with its alies, saw through the hypocrisy of the Austrian note and r that hardly hid Ger nany's hand in the proposal, and thereore wished to dispose of it as rapidly as possible.

It was 6:20 o'clock at night when he Swedish minister, W. A. F. Ekengren, arrived at the state department the note. Two minutes later he left the office of Secretary of State Lansing, and 33 minutes later Mr. Lansing gave an audience to newspaper ondents and made public the president's reply.

"No Talking in Working Hours." Throughout the tabloid drama was enacted in much the same manner as desired by a certain American citizen, who sent a telegram to the White

His message was addressed to the president and said: "Sincerely hope your answer to Aus-

tria's peace proposal will be that we Americans do not talk during working The President's Terms

These terms, referred to in the reply dictated to the Austrian note, were clearly set out in President Wilson's Fourth of July speech at Mount Vernon, as follows:

"1. The destruction of every arbitrary power anywhere that can separately, secretly, and of its single choice disturb the peace of the world; or, if it cannot be presently destroyed, at

least its reduction to virtual impotence. "2. The settlement of every question. whether of territory, of sovereign, of economic arrangement of political relationship, upon the basis of the free acceptance of that settlement by the people immediately concerned and not We stand on one side and Germany on

upon the basis of the material interest | the other."

EXPLAINS PUZZLE OF HISTORY | ward with Assyria and that eastward Theory of Students as to Founding of Solomon's Kingdom Seems to Be

The answer was that there was at Worthy of Credence. It has always been a matter of some wonder to students of the ancient history of the East how such a kingdom Egypt was probably concerned with inas that claimed for Solomon could have existed in the tenth century B. C., with Assyria approaching the zenith of her powers to the southeast, with to have reared a kingdom and Solo

with Egypt. How could a small group of tiny tribes have suddenly sprung into a huge kingdom?

the time a temporary lull in the activities of the great powers. The Assyrians were busy in the east with Elam: ternal strife, and the Hittites had begun to fall. In this recession of the strong Saul and David were supposed the Hittites contesting the road west- mon to have expanded and glorified it.

RETAIN FAITH IN AMULETS | bered, in his novel, "The Talisman,"

Eastern Peoples, and Many of the West, Still Keep Bellef That Is Rooted in Superstition.

As the veneer of civilization is apled, the primitive and childlike wonler inspired by the occult tokens is ed. In the Middle Ages the ruppressed. In the middle Ages the little boxes to be engrossed on paper and put in little boxes to be worn on the person they many stories of the amulets by many stories of the amulets and talismans of the eastern peoples. The walter Scott, it will be remember amulet.

builds much of the tale about the wondrous jewel which could avert death and restore the wounded.

The Hebrews, with their deep-rooted belief in one God, strove through their priesthood to eradicate the use of the charms, and yet when they caused extracts from the sacred books to be engrossed on paper and put in

or advantage of any other nation or people which may desire a different YANKS CAPTURE people which may desire a different settlement for the sake of its own exterior influence or mastery. "3. The consent of all nations to be governed in their conduct toward each ST. MIHIEL; TAKE other by the same principles of honor 20,000 CAPTIVES and of respect for the common law of civilized society that govern the in-

dividual citizens of all modern states

in their relations with one another; to

the end that all promises and cove-

nants may be sacredly observed, no

prviate plots or conspiracy hatched, no

selfish injuries wrought with impunity,

and a mutual trust established upon

the handsome foundation of a mutual

respect for right.

"4. The establishment of an organ-

ization of peace which shall make it

certain that the combined power of

free nations will check every invasion

of right and serve to make peace and

justice the more secure by affording s

definite tribunal of opinion to which

all submit and by which every interna-

tional readjustment that cannot be

amicably agreed upon by the people

directly concerned shall be sanctioned."

While no reference to it was made

n the reply which the United States

government is making to Austria, it is

nown that one of the most objection-

able features of Baron Burian's propo-

sition was the secrecy suggested for

the "nonbinding" conferences. It was

realized by officials here that the pur-

pose was to barter away the rights of

various nationalities in star-chamber

proceedings, so that the victims would

British Chief Sees Trick.

British foreign secretary, giving his

personal viewpoints on the Austrian

peace note at a luncheon to visiting

"It is incredible that anything can

Coming after the recent speech of

Friedrich von Payer, the German im-

perial vice chancellor, Mr. Balfour said

this cynical proposal of the Austrian

government is not a genuine attempt

to obtain peace. It is an attempt to

"I cannot honestly, in the proposals

now made to us, as I have been able

to study them," Mr. Balfour said, "see

the slightest hope that the goal we de-

sire the goal of a peace which shall

be more than a truce—can really be

Cannot Divide Allies.

utterly unable to see that a conference

proposed by Austria could have the de-

Mr. Balfour said no one should take

upon himself the task of rejecting

with a light heart any proposal which

would shorten the length of the war.

He also declared that no coalition

ver had been so strong as the allied

coalition and that the enemy would

Might Have Great Value

Conversations such as were pro

posed by Austria-Hungary, Mr. Bal-

four said, undoubtedly would have

great value under certain circum-

stances. He said they would serve to

smooth out obscurities, such as ques-

tions of pride, but he declared that the

questions now between the belligerents

"I am not taking the proposals of

two years ago or of last year, but of

"The German vice chancellor, speak-

ing for the German government clear-

ly and without obscure verbiage

showed where Germany stood on the

question of Belgium, Alsace-Lorraine,

the German colonies, and the Brest

The foreign secretary said he agreed

with the Austrian note when its au-

thors pointed out that the whole of

civilization was at stake and that the

prolongation of hostilities was a risk-

was really dear to everybody inter-

Squeezing Russia for Millions.

The terms of peace and war were

so tremendous and the calamities im-

posed by the continuation of hostili-

ties so overwhelming, he said, that he

would never treat with disrespect any

It could not be more clearly set forth than it was by Von Payer last week

that Germany intended to pay no in-

demnity to Belgium, Mr. Balfour con-

tinued. He indicated, the foreign sec-

retary said, that Germany did not be

lieve in the principle of indemnities,

and yet at the same time she was

squeezing millions of dollars out of

for the wrongs Russia is supposed to

have done Germany. How can those

wrongs be compared with the devasta-

tion and ruin which Germany is wreak-

Regarding the question of colonies,

"The colonies are one question of

which there is no misunderstanding.

ing on Russia now?"

Secretary Balfour said:

"This," the speaker went on. "was

peace proposal.

Russia.

ested in the progress of mankind.

Litovsk and Bucharest treaties."

veek." Secretary Ballour said

not succeed in breaking it.

were definitely defined.

The foreign secretary said he was

Dominion journalists, said:

come of this proposal."

divide the allies."

attained."

sired end.

Objects to Peace Parley.

Town Won by Pershing's Troops Left Intact—Railroad Undamaged.

U.S. MEN ON FOE'S BORDER

All the Villages in Salient Taken Dur ing Opening Attack—Americans Ge Over Top Singing "Where Do We Go From Here Boys?"-Baker and Pershing See Battle.

Paris, Sept. 16.—Paris and London estimated that General Pershing had captured more than 20,000 prisoners in the St. Mihiel drive. The following dispatches show the bag already counted and that it is possible that this number may be much larger:

With the American Army in Lorraine, Sept. 16.—Capture of 15,000 prisoners, a mass of material and more than 100 guns in the St. Mihiel salient was announced by General Pershing.
"In the St. Mihiel salient we secured

have no knowledge of their fate until the desired results," the statement it was beyond recall. This system of said. "In 27 hours we liberated 150 barter was particularly denounced by square miles of territory, took 15,000 President Wilson in one of his prisoners, a mass of material and more than 100 guns." London, Sept. 18 .- A. J. Balfour, the

Guns Fire on Yanks. London, Sept. 16.—General Pershing's army continues to make fine progress. Since afternoon it has adanced from two to three miles on a 33-mile front, and the guns on the fortress at Metz have come into action

against it. The American line at noon ran through Norroy, on the Moselle, Hanmont, Dancourt and to Abaucourt, on the old line.

The enemy seems to be withdraw ing to some farther line which will protect the railway communications in the vicinity of Metz, which at present are under the long range fire of the Americans.

Metz Within Gun Range.

Paris, Sept. 14.—The outer forts of Metz are within gun range, the St. Mihiel wedge has been obliterated and more than 12,000 prisoners and nearly 100 guns have been taken, probably with more to come, as a result of the offensive launched by General Pershing's army between the Meuse and the Moselle. The Americans captured 20

Yanks Find St. Mihlel Intact. London, Sept. 14.-The town of St. Mihiel, which has been captured by the Americans, was left intact by the Germans. The Verdun-Commercy-Toul-Nancy railroad was not damaged, and this will be a great help to the entente allies. This railway follows the western bank of the Meuse river and runs through St. Mihiel. It is a double-track road, but has been under fire of German guns and useless where it ap-

proaches St. Mihiel, since 1914 Another valuable line of rail from Thiacourt to St. Mihiel, by which the Germans fed their troops in the salient, also was left intact. The operation of the Americans must garded as a big local success. All the objectives were reached.

Win Entire Salient. The entire St. Mihiel salient now has

been captured.

The railway from Verdun to Commercy. Toul and Nancy now is open to the entente allies.

All the villages in the St. Mihiel salient were captured by the Americans and the front in this sector was reduced from some forty miles to a little ing or sacrificing of a great deal that under twenty miles.

Reach the German Border.

The latest news from the St. Mihiel sector shows that the battle line now runs directly from Pagny on the Moselle river to Hatonville and along the foot of the heights of the Meuse. Pagny, a town on the Moselle river, is on the western border of Germany.

In addition to the 12,000 prisoners who have been counted large numbers of Germans are still coming out.

German Claims Not Borne Out. The claim made by the Germans in the official communication that they foresaw the evacuation of the St. Mihiel salient and prepared for it for as many years as the war has lasted hardbut in the local fighting here for ly is borne out in view of the number of prisoners and guns taken. At the same time the fact that very few stores were left behind appears to indicate that the Germans had prepared to quit

the ground. Yanks Renew Attack at Dawn. With the American Army in Lorraine, Sept. 14.—General Pershing's troops continued their steady advance of La Basse. Farther to the south against the St. Mihiel salient throughout the night. They reached and even posts have been re-established at Oppy passed the objective set for them.

Prisoners continue to pour in. The

Kaiser Tells Soldiers "Enemy Charging Upon Us From All Parts of the Earth."

Amsterdam, Sept. 12.-Emperor William, on replying to a message from the German National Soldiers' union, is quoted by the Cologne Gazette as saying: "I am firmly convinced that the members of the German Soldiers' union will exert all the powers of their

WARNS OF SUPERIOR FORCES | home front and, like our glorious comrades in the field, will not in the vicissitudes of war, let themselves be turned from their will to victory and steadfastness by the enemy's superior forces and reprehensible methods of combat. The military and moral strength and the unanimous determination of the German people will succeed, with God's help, in breaking the more and more openly manifested will to destruction of the enemy, who is charging upon us from all parts of the personal influence in support of the earth, and in guarding the fatherland."

HUNS PREPARE TO RETREAT | equipment of the arsenal there, which

Vast Amount of War Material Removed From Town of Doual-

Washington, Sept. 12.—Systematic evacuation of the town of Doual, one of the important forward bases of the cribed in official advices reaching Washington. A vast amount of war material is being taken out of the town, the report says, including the tablished.

was the largest establishment of the kind maintained by the enemy in the northern region of his advanced lines. The advices state that the removal of this equipment has been in progress more than ten days and that the equipment at the Brayelle airdrome near Doual also was being taken further to being taken with equipment at an enemy aviation field at Lecelles, near St and. That field was especially es

the Germans hade only one counterattack in an attempt to stem the onrushing fide of Americans. The Germans, however, began their protective barrage too early. They gave the Americans warning of what was coming and General Pershing's men were completely prepared for the counterattack when it started. MERICAN GOVERNMENT EX POSES THE TREACHERY OF Sing "Where Do We Go From Here?"
After the American artillery had reached a drumfire intensity the American soldiers went over the top behind LEMINE AND TROTZKY.

FACTS FULLY SUBSTANTIATED

Decuments and Photographs Prove Absolutely That Leaders Betrayed Russia — Germanya Plotting Against U. S. in 1914 Also Revealed.

Washington.—Through the commit tee on public information the United States government has submitted to the world, in a series of official docu ments, absolute proof that Lenine and Trotzky, the bolshevik leaders, are the paid tools of Germany and betrayed Russia for Hun gold.

west through Hattenville, thence northward along the foot of the heights of the Meuse to the region of Secured in Russia by Edgar G. Sisson, representing the committee (who was in that country during last winter, 1917-18) these documents not only show how the German government through its Imperial bank paid its gold to Lenine, Trotzky, and their immediate associates to betray Russia into deserting her allies, but give added proofs that Germany had perfected her plans for a war of world conquest long before the assassinations at Sarajevo. which conveniently furnished her pre-

Hun Plots Against America.

These documents further show that before the world war was four months old, and more than two years before the United States was drawn into it (in 1914), Germany already was setting afoot her plans to "mobilize destructive agents and observers" to cause explosions, strikes, and outrages in this country, and planned the employment of "anarchists and escaped criminals" for the purpose.

Almost ranking in their sensational nature with the notorious Zimmerman note proposing war by Mexico and Japan upon the United States, these documents lay bare new strata of Prussian intrigue, a new view of the workings of kultur to disrupt the allies standing between the world and kaiserism. They disclose also a new story of human treachery for gold.

The intrigue appears to have been carried down to the last detail of arrangement with typical German sys

Revolution Staged by Berlin,

Not only do the disclosures prove that Lenine, Trotzky, and their band are paid German agents. They show that the bolshevik revolution, which threw Russia into such orgy of murder and excesses as the world seldom has seen, actually was arranged by the German general staff.

They show how the paid agents of Germany betrayed Russia at the Brest-Litovsk "peace" conference: how Ger man staff officers have been secretly received by the bolsheviki as military advisers; how they have acted as spies upon the embassies of the nations with which Russia was allied or at peace; how they have directed the bolshevik foreign, domestic and economic policy wholly in the interest of radation of Russia.

Originals of documents, photographs of originals, and typewritten circulars some of them marked "very secret" or "private." and many of them bearing the annotations of the bolshevik leaders themselves; some of them con-London, Sept. 17.—By slow but retaining references to "Comrade Trotzlentless advances the French under ky" or "Comrade Lenine" comprise the General Mangin are forcing the Gerrecord. mans from their positions at the west-

Some of the originals, it is shown although deposited in the archives of the bolsheviki, were required to be returned later to representatives of the German general staff in Petrograd that they might be destroyed.

have taken Vailly, on the north bank BELGIUM WILL STAND FIRM of the Aisne, and have occupied the

> Consul Vermeren Declares His Country Never Will Consider Peace Offers From Germany.

> Chicago.-Dr. Cyrille Vermeren, consul for Belgium, said concerning the offer of peace made to his country by Germany:

"Belgium will never consider any peace proposals or offers of any kind from Germany. Just what restitutions Germany must make to Belgium s up to the United States. The government of Belgium is perfectly willing to leave it to Uncle Sam, feeling French have taken more than 3,500 secure that the United States will demand and obtain for the country that Germany so wantonly and ruthlessly Haig's men have advanced eastward destroyed, justice and fair play. I from Ypres, and in the neighborhood don't lay a great deal of stress on the sincerity of Austria-Hungary's peace proposal, as that power is entirely dominated and under the influence of Germany. Time will tell, however."

> When Soft Answer Doesn't "Go." A soft answer turns away wrath except when little Willie's schooltead asks Willie what he has in his desk that is causing so much amus and little Willie's answer is so soft the teacher doesn't understand the first time. There is very little wrath turned away in this case.

The Indications "Fish is brain food." "Judging from that, I know some people who must live on a steady diet

Defective Camouflage "Teacher" had gone to the movies with a bachelor who chose young associates as a sort of camouflage for his own age. The next morning she received the following greeting from one of her pupils: "Oh, teacher, I saw, you at the show last night. Was that

Pity the Drum Major. Our sympathy always goes to a man who is drum major. How does he ever ive up to the job when he isn't parad-ing?—Washington Sentinel.

your papa with you?"

BRIBED BY KAISER Provost Marshal General Makes Appeal to Employers.

> In a communication intended for the In a communication intended for the guidance of employers of labor and other representatives of industry, in the matter of their responsibility in the classification of new registrants, under the selective service act, Provost Marshal General Crowder says: I have noticed, in the general ex ssions of the public attitude which reach this office, two frequent features which lead me to the present com-ments. One of these features is the belief that the process of awarding de-ferred classification to a registrant requires merely the filling out of the questionnaire, and that the selective ervice boards will perceive the propriety of making the deferment, with out the assistance furnished by the registrant's formal claim indicating the deferment desired. The other feature is the employer's failure to realize his responsibility to intervene in aiding the board's determination, and therefore to inform himself fully on all the considerations which should affect the decision as to deferment.

1. As to the first mentioned belief, it must be pointed out that if it were universally acted upon, the process of classification would be seriously hampered and delayed. Someone must indicate that the individual case is one which should arrest the special attention of the boards in respect to the registrant's occupational status. The boards do not possess a superhuman

Boards Will Make Examination.

The boards will de all that they possibly can, on their own initiative, to reach a just decision by a complete ex-Amination of the questionnaire, even where no claim is expressly made. A registrant is therefore at liberty, if he sees fit, to trust to the scrutiny of the boards to discover the necessity for his deferment.

Nevertheless, the boards will wel-come and will need all the aid that can be furnished by the indication of a claim made for deferment.

2. Why should the employer, or other third person, in such cases, make the claim? Because the employer in this situation represents the nation, because (in the statutory phrase) the maintenance of the military estublishment or of national interest during the emergency" requires that some well-advised third person should look after that national interest, which the registrant himself may not have sufficiently considered

It is often forgotten that the selective draft is only one element in the depletion of a particular industry's man-power. second and large ele-ment is found in the voluntary withdrawals for enlistment; how large this is may be seen from the circumstance that the total inductions by draft have reached some 2,000,000, while the total enlistments in army and navy amount to some 1,400,000-nearly three-quar ters as many. A third element, very large, but unknown as to its precise extent, has been the transfer of labor power from one industry to another, namely, into the distinctively war industries offering the inducements of higher wages. How relatively small. in actual effect, has been the effect of the selective draft is seen in the fact that, for all the occupations represented in the 8,700,000 classified regis trants of January, 1918, the percentage of the entire industrial population represented by the class 1 registrents amounted to only 6 per cent. It ran as low as 3 per cent for some occupations, and correspondingly higher for some other occupations; but the national average was only 6 per cent. Any notably larger depletion in particular industries must therefore have been due, partly to enlistments, and in probably greater degree, to voluntary ransfers into other industries.

Must Remember Nation's Needs. These other influences are therefore to be kept in mind by employers and others, in weighing the question whether the best solution, in the national interest, is to ask for the deferment of individuals or groups of men. Such deferments may assist the immediate situation in the particular establishment; but they merely force the army and the navy to seek elsewhere for the same number of men thus deferred. The quantitative needs of the military forces are known and imperative; and any given quantity of deferments will ultimately have to be made up by the depletion of some other occupation. Thus it becomes the employer's duty to consider these aspects of deferment, in seeking that solution of his own problem which best

comports with the national interest. The keynote of purpose for all of us ought to be, and I am sure will be, that wise and profoundly significant phrase in the act of congress under which we operate, "the maintenance of the military establishment or the effective operation of the military forces or the maintenance of national laterest during the emergency.

Would Return It. It was a very hot day and the kindcearted iceman had given a little girl a piece of ice. A newsboy asked her for it, but she refused to give it up. "Aw shucks!" said the boy. "I'll give it back to you—I only want the juice out of it."—Boston Transcript.

Of Course, Ma! "Jimmie," called ma, "why are you running around the yard like that? You are out of breath." "Well, I know it," panted James, "an' that's the reason. I'm trying to catch it."

Banishing Trouble tion of human Quick is the succe events; the cares of today are seldom the cares of tomorrow; and when we lie down at night, we may safely say to most of our troubles: "Ye have done your worst, and we shall meet no more."-Cowper.

st Keep a Middle Course. It is hard to say whether mixture of contemplations with an active life, or retiring wholly to con disable and hinder the mind more.-

CAN SERVE NATION U.S. TO SPURN AUSTRIA'S BID FOR PEACE MEET

Enemy's Military Strength Must Be Crushed Before Allies Take Action.

SENDS NOTE TO EACH NATION

Vienna Government Would Have Rep resentative From Each Belligerent State Meet in Some Neutral Country and Exchange Views of Peace.

Washington, Sept. 17.—Austria is cracking and instead of wasting time with worse than useless peace talk now is the time to strike her hardest. This was the view expressed in official quarters here when word came in press dispatches from Amsterdam that Austria-Hungary had proposed "nonbinding" peace discussions between the

belligerent nations on neutral ground. Secretary of State Lansing said that this move was expected here as the next step in the Teutonic peace offensive, but he declined to comment upon it for publication.

The German theory all along has been that if the allies could be induced to enter a peace parley, allied military operations would be slowed down, pacifist and defeatist sentiment in allied countries revived, and a peace forced eventually on terms satisfactory to the Tentons.

Every utterance of German states men is patently based on the assumption that the peace trenty will be determined by the enemy territory held by the belligerents, and they disclose themselves chiefly interested in trading Belgium and northern France for Russia and the restoration of the German colonies. Hence the eagerness in Berlin and Vienna to bring about peace while the central powers still hold territory good for trading pur-

Hun Leaders Fear Drives.

The Germans are prosecuting their peace offensive on a scale, and German statesmen are couching their peace utterances in a vein that betravs fear of the ultimate outcome of the allied drives which have turned the tide and sent the Huns scampering to their rear lines. But the tide has barely turned, and Germany is not yet half defeated, so that any peace written now would be a German peace, leaving the Teutons a greater menace to the western democracies than ever

before. Consequently there is every confidence in Washington that President Wilson and the heads of the allied nations will turn a deaf ear to the Austrial proposal for a peace parley and to any other move to bring about peace before the German military menace is

blotted out. "The answer to the Austrian proposal will be given at Metz," said one

government official.

Begs for Exchange of Views. Amsterdam, Sept. 17.-In extending an invitation to all the belligerent governments to enter into n discussions at some neutral meeting place, the Austro-Hungarian government stated that the object of the conference would be to secure an exchange of views which would show whether those prerequisites exist which would make the speedy inauguration of peace negotiations appear

promising." The Austrian proposal, which is announced in an official communication telegraphed here from Vienna, suggests that there be no interruption of the war and that the "discussions would go only so far as considered by the participants to offer prospects of

The proposal calls for all the belligerents to send delegates for a "confidential and unbinding discussion on the basic principles for the conclusion of peace, in a place in a neutral country and at a near date that would yet have to be agreed upon."

The proposal says the conference would be one of "delegates who would be charged to make known to one another the conception of their governments regarding those principles and to receive analogous communications. as well as to request and give frank and candid explanations on all those points which need to be precisely defined."

The government announces that a note embodying its suggestions had been addressed to the various belligerent powers and that the Holy See had been apprised of the proposal in a special note. The governments of the neutral

states also had been made acquainted with the proposal.

Navy Hero Killed Ashere. Washington, Sept. 17.—Russell C. Jones, Kansas City, Mo., seaman second class, United States navy, was killed on September 11 at Port Arthur, Tex., while attempting to rescue people from a burning hotel.

99 Years for Slaying Father. Springfield, Mo., Sept. 17.-Virgil Wilkes, nineteen years old, charged with the murder last November of his father, Georges Wilkes, near Verona was convicted and sentenced to 99 rears in prison.

Public Utilities in Danger. Washington, Sept. 17.—Public utilities throughout the country are in a critical state financially and can bear no further tax burdens, the senate finance committee was told by Philip A. Gadsden.

Flour Mill Closed. Madison, Wis., Sept. 17.—The state food administration closed the flour mill, elevator and warehouse of the R. T. Koenig company at Water for six violations of the federal food