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75TH YEAR.

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TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

Spa, July 6th.—Whether the conference on the peace treaty breaks up tomorrow depends upon whether the Germans present a plan for disarmament, the immediate reduction of the German army from 200,000 men, and the surrender of upwards of 1,500,000 rifles in the hands of the people, as well as other arms. Mr. Lloyd George, speaking for the Allied Govts. at today's session, presented what may be called an ultimatum, but which Dr. Simmons, the German Foreign Minister, termed a "very positive demand". The German Ministers are in session tonight at a villa three miles from Spa, which is picketed by Gendarmes. Another meeting of the Germans will be held tomorrow morning. Dr. Simmons said this evening, "We do not know what we will do. The situation is too serious for me to make a comment on it. I would rather you did not press me". The impression among observers is that the Germans will present a plan. The German delegates do not appear to seem unwilling for their people to see how difficult the position is. The most dramatic moment of the session was when Mr. Lloyd George said: "I do not believe that the Germans intend to execute the treaty". The German Foreign Minister immediately interrupted, saying: "You have no right to make any such remark, we are trying to execute the treaty". Chancellor Fehrenbach, invoking the name of the Creator, cried "We are loyally trying to execute the treaty". The question of the execution of the military, naval and aerial clauses of the treaty was taken up immediately after the formal meeting of the Allied Premiers with the repre-

sentatives of Germany, begun at 4.30 o'clock this afternoon. The German Minister of Defence, Herr Gessler, who arrived wearing the Iron Cross and an arrogant air, explained the German situation in support of the contention of the German Govt. that it must have an armed force of 200,000 men to maintain order in the republic. He said there was little difference whether the force was labelled "Army" or "Police", provided the men were under control of the Central Govt. Herr Gessler insisted that the Allied plan for 15,000 police, broken up into small bodies under local control and without coordination, was insufficient to deal with the present situation in Germany, which, he said, resembled somewhat that existing after the thirty years' war. Armed bands in various parts of the country were pillaging and killing; they were armed not only with ordinary weapons, but with machine-guns which they knew how to use. These bands, continued the Minister, were so formidable that they could only be dealt with by considerable forces that could make a combined movement against them. Only last week a band of 50 or 60 issued from the Pomeranian Forest, raiding the surrounding country and village. A small force of police met the band, but was defeated. These bands, said Herr Gessler, are centrally organized and directed, they are financed by the Bolsheviks, and if Germany were to muster out of her army 100,000 men it is possible that many of them would enter the pay of the Bolsheviks. How can you feel that centrally organized forces can be dealt with by a police force that is not centrally organized and directed? he asked. "It takes England 100,000 men to hold Ireland". After Herr Gessler, Dr. Simmons, the Foreign Minister, added some remarks on the difficulties which might result from the precipitous demobilization of a large number of men from the economic standpoint. M. Delacroix, the Belgian Premier, and Mr. Lloyd George insisted upon the necessity of the Germans fixing an early and precise date for the execution of the treaty. Mr. Lloyd George even suggested that in the absence of a precise statement from the Germans, it might be preferable to close the conference. Finally it was decided after an explanation by Chancellor Fehrenbach, who assured the conference of the pacific intentions of the German people, to adjourn until four o'clock tomorrow afternoon to hear the precise

reply from the Germans. The official communique respecting the discussion, says, "The conference heard Herr Gessler and Dr. Simmons, who invoked the economic situation in justification of the delay in the execution of the treaty, and the impossibility of disbanding so rapidly troops who would swell the ranks of the unemployed. Mr. Lloyd George requires the German delegates to furnish certain details at the next sitting. After Chancellor Fehrenbach had assured the conference of the peaceful and non-revengeful sentiments of the German people, the conference adjourned until Wednesday."

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