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LAWLESS SUBMARINE CAMPAIGN IN SWAY

But There Has Been No Overt Act to Justify President Wilson Going Before Congress

SAFE CONDUCT IS ASSURED VON BERNSTORFF

It is Generally Conceded That the Torpedoing of the Steamer California Without Warning is Proof That Germany is to Continue to Conduct Lawless Campaign, in Defiance of Warning Issued by the United States—It is Believed That the Only Reason an American Ship Has Not Been Sunk is Because There is None in the War Zone.

Washington, Feb. 8.—The American government is still without official evidence of an overt act by Germany considered necessary to justify President Wilson in going before congress for authority to use necessary means to protect American seamen and people.

There is no longer any doubt that the ruthless submarine campaign is in full swing in defiance of the warning of the United States. Everywhere it is believed that if no American ship has been destroyed it is because American ships are lying idle in their harbors instead of plying their usual trade; if no American life has been lost it is due entirely to chance.

It also is generally conceded that on the basis of preliminary reports, the torpedoing without warning of the passenger liner California, with an American on board, makes out a clear case of technical violation of the rights of the United States.

President Wilson, however, is represented as determined not to plunge the country into war on a technicality. When he moves it will be on complete evidence of an outrage about which there can be no question. Then he expects to have the American people and congress behind him.

Unofficial despatches today told of the killing of an American negro sailor, named George Washington in the singeing of the British steamer Turino. Few details were given and the state department tonight had heard nothing officially. The incident will be considered as soon as reports are received.

To get in personal touch with all steps taken to prepare the country for whatever may come, the president left the White House this afternoon and made another quick look round of the state, war and navy departments, visiting Secretaries Lansing, Baker and Daniels. It was stated that he will continue this practice almost every day to save time.

When he returned to the White House it was stated officially that information on all the torpedoed vessels involving Americans wa being gathered as rapidly as possible, but that up to that time there had been no change in the situation. The president himself said that his visits were not due to any new development of importance.

Additional cause for uneasiness was given the government in the receipt of information regarded as confirming reports that Ambassador Gerard and American consuls in Germany virtually are being detained in Germany because of uncertainty in Berlin over the plans for Ambassador von Bernstorff and as a result of reports that German ships in American harbors had been seized. It is not understood that there has been any formal action in this connection, the German government merely delaying arrangements for the departure of the Americans.

Word was received from Great Britain and France during the day that safe conduct for German diplomats in this country would be arranged. This, as well as the fact that German ships here have not been seized, was communicated to the Berlin government and no further difficulty is anticipated.

From several neutral nations came information that while they would not break diplomatic relations with Germany they had sent or would send protests which would align them against the new campaign of ruthlessness. Again there were some suggestions of a combination of neutral nations either to prevent trouble between the United States and Germany or to make clean neutral rights, but no definite plans were made public.

In taking stock of a whole new world situation precipitated by the German pronouncement on February 1, officials Washington looks on the German action as having forced the severance of relations and brought this country to the verge of war; as having left 1,000,000 prisoners for whom this country was caring for in a serious condition and as having brought down on Germany the moral indignation of virtually all the rest of the world.

"LEAK" INQUIRY IS NEARING ITS CLOSE

Promised Sensation Failed to Develop Yesterday.

Washington, Feb. 8.—Another promised sensation in the "leak" inquiry flattened out today with the long-awaited testimony of Mrs. Ruth Thomason Visconti ,the mysterious informant on whose statement Thomas W. Lawson based some of his dramatic charges.

Declining to say publicly who told her that Secretary Tumulty and W. W. Price, a White House correspondent, profited by advance information on the peace note, Mrs. Visconti revealed to the investigating committee in confidence that all her information came from remarks of Price's young daughter.

Immediately afterward Price took the stand, reiterated his denial of profiting by information obtained in confidence and said he had reason to believe the rumor repeated by Mrs. Visconti started from chance observations by members of his family that he could have so profited.

A crowd that jammed the committee room to hear the sensational resume of capital gossip which it had reported Mrs. Visconti might attempt to put into the record did not conceal its disappointment at the brevity of her testimony. The few questions asked here were confined sharply to the rumors of the leak and after she left the stand it was announced that she would not be recalled.

Tonight congressional interest in the inquiry had lapsed almost to the point of apathy and there was a definite feeling that another week probably would see its conclusion.

SWEDEN HAS REJECTED WILSON'S SUGGESTION

Is to Follow Strict Neutrality as Long as is Possible.

Stockholm, via London, Feb. 8.—The Swedish government rejects President Wilson's suggestion that other neutral countries join with the United States in severing diplomatic relations with Germany and declares its intention to follow the strictest neutrality so long as it is possible. Sweden's reply was delivered to the American minister today.

PRINCETON STUDENTS FORM PROVISIONAL BATTALION.

Are to Become Familiar With Manual of Arms.

Princeton, N. J., Feb. 8.—Nearly one thousand students of Princeton university have joined the provisional battalion which was established here several days ago for the purpose of affording the undergraduates an opportunity to become familiar with the manual of arms. Drills in open and close formations will begin early next week under Captain Heintzelman of the United States army.

Plans are also under way for the establishment of an aviation school at Princeton, it was announced.

Cabled Paragraphs

Death of Rear Admiral Oskar Hansa.

London, Feb. 8, 5.45 p. m.—A Vienna despatch, says Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent, announces the death of Rear Admiral Oskar Hansa, commander-in-chief of the Austro-Hungarian navy. Death was due to pneumonia.

French Reward for Capturing Submarines.

Paris, Feb. 8, 5.00 p. m.—The French navy league has opened a subscription list to establish a fund for the reward of vessels capturing submarines. The navy league has contributed 10,000 francs.

BATTLE FORTY MILES BELOW CHIHUAHUA

Between General Marguia's and Villa's Main Column.

El Paso, Texas, Feb. 8.—A battle between General Francisco Marguia's forces and Villa's main column began at Santa Rosalia, forty miles below Chihuahua City, late today, according to word received in Juarez tonight. No details were given.

Another report received here said a bandit band last night burned the railroad station at Monetebuma, about half way between Juarez and Chihuahua City.

HEN THAT LAID 331 EGGS IN ONE YEAR

World's Record -Made by a Single Comb Ancona.

Toledo, Ohio, Feb. 8.—A world's record in egg laying is claimed for "Queen Bess," a single-comb Ancona hen, the property of A. E. Ridenour of this city. According to announcement made by the owned today "Queen Bee" laid 331 eggs from February 1, 1916 to February 1, 1917.

Ten Vessels Sunk in Past 24 Hours

BY GERMAN SUBMARINES IN THE WAR ZONE

ENEMY AND NEUTRAL

The British in the Somme Region of France Are Keeping Up Their Offensive in Effort to Push Forward Toward Bapaume.

The British in the Somme region of France are keeping up their new offensive against the Germans in their efforts to push forward toward Bapaume. Southeast of Bapaume, along the Bapaume-Peronne road, they have taken the highest point of Sailly-Saillisel Hill and captured a number of Germans and one machine gun. Along both sides of the Ancre, west of Bapaume, further progress has been made, including the capture of a trench near Grand Court, where a goodly gain was made Wednesday.

On the other parts of the front in France and Belgium the fighting continues to be carried out by means of artillery and small attacks by raiding parties.

Teutons Active in Macedonia.

The Teutonic allies in Macedonia have shown activity along the entire front, according to the latest French official communication. This probably means that the intensive fighting of some time ago will soon be resumed in this theatre.

On the eastern front comparative calm prevails from the Baltic to the little in Rumania. In the Carpathians near Kirlibuln, however, Petrograd reports the capture of first line Teutonic allied trenches which were held by the Russians despite counter-attacks.

Rome reports the failure of an Austrian attack against the Italians in the Sugana valley and the smashing of Austrian batteries on several sectors by the Italian big guns.

Submarines Active.

Enemy and neutral ships aggregating 21,505 tons have been sunk by German submarines during the past 24 hours. Ten vessels in all were sent to the bottom during this period, six of them British steamers of an aggregate tonnage of 16,738. The neutrals sunk were a Norwegian ship and a Swedish steamer. A French trawler and a Russian ship were the other victims of U-boats.

41 LIVES WERE LOST WITH STEAMER CALIFORNIA

Five Killed by Explosion and 26 Drowned in Launching of Boats

London, Feb. 8, 7:40 p. m.—The British passenger steamer California of the Anchor Line, bound from New York for Glasgow, was torpedoed at 9 o'clock Wednesday morning off the Irish coast and sank in nine minutes, with the loss of 41 lives. The stricken ship was able to send out S. O. S. calls and help arrived promptly. Nevertheless 5 persons were killed by the explosion and 36 were drowned in the launching of the lifeboats.

The news of the sinking of the California reached London yesterday afternoon, before the survivors had arrived on land, but publication was not permitted till more than 24 hours later.

The California was an armed liner, carrying a single 4.7 gun mounted on the stern. The gunner was just training the weapon on the spot where oil bubbles had revealed the presence of the underwater enemy when a torpedo struck the port side with an explosion so violent that most of the people aboard were thrown off their feet, five being killed and a score injured. The submarine fired a second torpedo, in an appearent effort to accelerate the sinking, but the second shot missed, although both torpedoes were fired from a distance of less than 300 yards.

There was only one American aboard the California and he is among the survivors.

YOUNG MAN HELD BY IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS

Had in His Pocket a Notebook Containing Names of American Vessels.

Newport News, Vr., Feb. 8.—A young man giving his name as Wolfgand Berger and according to the authorities admitted German nationality, was arrested here today and is being held by immigration officials for examination. Officers said he had in his possession a notebook containing the names of many American vessels, including warships.

Berger, it was said, told the officers that he deserted from the German steamer Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse in New York three years ago and that he had not worked since, but visited many Atlantic coast ports, sustaining himself by begging.

To Allay Anxiety of German Subjects

PRESIDENT WILSON TO SEE THEIR RIGHTS ARE PROTECTED

IN THE EVENT OF WAR

Assurance is Given That Neither Their Bank Deposits Nor German War-Bound Vessels in American Ports Are to be Seized.

Washington, Feb. 8.—A formal statement giving assurances that the government has no intention of seizing bank deposits or other property belonging to any foreign subject—even in the event of war—was issued by the state deartment today with the approval of President Wilson.

To Relieve Anxiety of Germans.

The statement was prompted by the anxiety of German subjects in some sections regarding savings deposits and by the many reports in circulation regarding the intention of the government concerning war-bound vessels in American ports. It makes no specific reference to the Prussian-American treaty of 1828, which provides for the immunity of such property but which has been regarded as of doubtful validity, saying merely that the government will in no circumstances take advantage of a state of war to take possession of property to which international understanding and the recognized law of the land give it no just claim."

Conduct of U. S. to be Above Criticism

The decision is understood to be in furtherance of President Wilson's determination that there shall be nothing in the conduct of the United States to warrant criticism, rather than indicative of any specific inclination to acknowledging the validity of disputed provisions of the old treaty. Officials did not comment on a press despatch from Berlin, saying Ambassador Gerard had been asked to secure a ratification of the treaty, but previously they had indicated that such a suggestion would find no response here under present conditions.

The department's statement follows:

No Bank Deposits Will Be Seized.

"It having been reported to him that there is anxiety in some quarters on the part of persons residing in this country who are the subjects of foreign states lest their bank deposits or property should be seized in the event of war between the United States and a foreign nation, the president authorizes the statement that all such fears are entirely unfounded.

Will Respect All Rights.

"The government of the United States will in no circumstnces take advantage of a state of war to take possession of property to which international understandings and the recognized law of the land give it no just claim or title. It will scrupulously respect all private rights alike o fits own citizens and the subjects of foreign states."

TELEGRAPH WIRE CUT ALONG MEXICAN RAILWAY

Railroad Bridges Have Been Burned South of Juarez.

El Paso, Texas, Feb. 8.—Telegraph wires have been cut and railroad bridges burned along the line of the Mexico Northwestern railroad, south of Juarez, it was learned tonight. The damage is said to have been done by Villa followers. Refugees from the Mormon colonies in the country recently vacated by General Pershin's force express uneasiness concerning those remaining behind. Government authorities do not credit the report that Villa is coming toward Juarez and say they have reasont to believe he is trying to work his way south of Chihuahua City into Durango.

SWITCHMEN OF CHICAGO ARE NOT TO STRIKE

Mutual Agreement Reached Between Managers and Yardmen.

Chicago, Feb. 8.—Possibility of a strike, involving about two thirds of the switchmen employed in Chicago, was averted at midnight tonight when a joint committee of railroad managers and representatives of the yardmen announced that a "mutual agreement" had been reached.

The demands of the men were based on five specific grievances, concerning discipline and operation. While details of the agreement are not made public, it was stated that the demands of the men had been satisfied.

A strike vote taken by about 5,000 switchmen, affiliated with the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, was nullified by the action of the conference, according to the brotherhood officials.

B. & M. EARNED SURPLUS OF $4,787,974 FOR THE YEAR

Equivalent to 11.64 Per Cent. of the Road's Common Stock.

Boston, Feb. 8.—The Boston and Main railroad, which is now in temporary receivership, earned a surplus of $4,787,974 for the year ending December 31 after all charges, including leased line rentals, had been paid, according to a report made public today. It is equivalent to 11.64 per cent. on the road's common stock, after preferred dividend requirements.

SAFE CONDUCT FOR COUNT VON BERNSTORFF

So Far as It is in the Power of the British Government.

London, Feb. 8, 9 p. m.—Count von Bernstorff, the former German ambassador to the United States, will be given a safe conduct so far as it is within the power of the British government to do so. This announcement was made tonight by the foreign office. It followed a conference between A. J. Balfour, secretary for foreign affairs, and Ambassador Page.

The American ambassador called on Mr. Balfour and the two were closeted for nearly an hour. Both were noncommittal on the subject of their deliberations, but it is believed they related solely to the request of the United States government for the safe conduct of Ambassador von Bernstorff for at the conclusion of the conference the foreign office authorized the announcement of Great Britain's determination to accede to Washington's request which was made two days ago. At the same time the foreign office cabled its decision to the state department at Washington.

It is said that Great Britain is ready to grant Count von Bernstorff safe conduct but that it could not guarantee the former ambassador's safety against the acts of his own countrymen. The British government has expressed itself as anxious to meet the state department's wishes and decided that it would do all in its power to carry them out.

SHIPS CAPTAINS ASKED TO BE MORE OBSERVANT

Those Who Sight Real or Imaginary Submarines.

Boston, Feb. 8.—Ship captains who sight real or imiganary submarines were requested by the Boston navy yard today to obtain specific and accurate information regarding such craft, if reports to naval authorities are to be given credence. This statement was issued in connection with the report to the yard last night what appeared to be a submersible of foreign nationality has been seen off Marblehead.

"Captains of coastwise vessels sighting a craft of unusual characteristics," the statement said, "should take particular pains to investigate closely in order that any roports made may be of a positive nature based on near-to and specific investigation. Such a report will merit serious attention and be of real value.

Full Shore Privileges For German Crews.

Boston, Feb. 8.—The crews of six Berman steamers tied up here who had previously been ordered confined to their ships, today were allowed full shore privileges and immigration inspectors were withdrawn from special duty.

Condensed Telegrams

The steamer Lapland arrived at New York from Liverpool.

Switzerland has taken over German interests in Great Britain.

Government shipping rates were increased from 125 to 900 per cent.

Exports from Spain to the United States for 1916 were valued at $35,453,377.

The First Regiment, Connecticut National Guard is short 471 of war strength.

The Commercial Cable Co. announced that the censorship at Honolulu had been abolished.

Fire destroyed the plant of the Standard Garment Co., of Columbia, Pa., at a loss of $100,000.

Judge Robert M. Douglas, son of Stephen A. Douglas, died at his home at Greensboro, N. C., aged 68.

Gold coin to the amount of $700,000 was withdrawn from the sub-treasury for shipment to South America.

Articles of incorporation were filed at Dover, Del., by the Inland Steel Co., with a capital stock of $30,000,000.

The City Council of Hoboken passed a resolution approving President Wilson's action in breaking with Germany.

The plant of the Potteries Milling & Mining Co., at East Liverpool, Ohio, was destroyed by fire at a loss of $100,000.

Nearly 700 industrial plants in western Pennsylvania will assist the government in every way possible in case of war.

The House approved the conference report on the $60,000,000 fortifications bill passed by the Senate, with minor amendments.

Michael Cazin, the French artist, was killed by the accidental explosion of a bomb aboard vessel anchored in a French port.

A bill authorizing the Governor to draft men to fill the ranks of the National Guard was introduced in the Vermont House.

Secretary of War Baker congratulated General Pershing and the men of his command on the work that they have done in Mexico.

The first British steamer to arrive at Baltimore in nine days was the Rytor, Captain Dingle, which arrived yesterday from Huelva, Spain.

Senator Underwood before the Senate Finance Committee urged a tax of two cents a pound on oleomargerine as a means of increasing the revenue.

By a vote of 16 to 6 the New Hampshire Senate defeated a bill giving women the right to vote in presidential, state, county and town elections.

The United States Goverment signed a contract with the Bartlett-Hayward Co., of Baltimore for the delivery of about $5,000,000 worth of shells.

Indictments were returned against the four persons charged with conspiracy to poison Premier David Lloyd-George and Minister Arthur Henderson.

Only one vessel passed out of the Virginia Capes for the war zone yesterday—the British steamer Penlee, with wheat from New Orleans to Avonmouth.

The Royal Dutch West Indian mail steamer Prins Frederik Hendrik, which left New York Sunday for West Indian ports, returned with her machinery out of order.

Senator Weeks introduced an amendment to the naval bill to name the six new battle cruisers John Paul Jones, MacDonough, Decatur, Perry, Farragut and Dewey.

The First Battalion of the 10th Regiment, Albany's unit of the National Guard, entrained for points down the Hudson, where they will assist in guarding public property.

William H. Paterson, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, called on President Wilson and assured him its members stood behind him in the present situation.

Embargo on all shipments of food and practically everything with the exception of coal from Cleveland and all points west of Buffalo was declared in effect by the New York Central Railroad.

Thirty prisoners in the Tombs, N. Y., awaiting trial presented a signed petition to Warden John Hanley that they be allowed to enlist for service in case the President issues a call for volunteers.

Governor Edge of New Jersey signed a bill passed by the Legislature providing an emergency appropriation of $100,000 for use of the State in completing equipment of the national guard and naval reserve.

The Department of Commerce received a cable from the American Consul-General at London stating that the minister of munitions issued an edict permitting no person to deal in lead except under license.

A rush for first citizenship papers at the naturalization office here that began Monday morning has already broken all records for any previous entire month. A total of 183 applications had been made yesterday.

The daylight saving bill recently passed by the Federal Parliament of Australia provides that all clocks throughout Australia shall be put forward one hour at the end of September and put back again one hour at the end of March each year.

Sugar Workers to Strike.

Philadelphia, Feb. 8.—Several hundred workers employed at the three sugar refineries in this city are on strike for an increase in wages. They demand an increase from 25 cents an hour to 35. Representatives of the companies said today they could not grant the increase without raising the price of refined sugar.

Guard of Wireless Plant Reinforced.

Tuckerton, N. J., Feb. 8.—United States marines guarding the large wireless plant here which covers 100 acres, were reinforced today by a third detachment under command of Lieutenant E. A. Richenstein.

HOLLAND-AMERICAN LINER WARNED

Steamer Ryndam Was About to Enter War Zone When Warned by a German Submarine

SHIP NOW SAID TO BE RETURNING TO NEW YORK

At the Offices of the Line in New York Nothing is Known of the Cause of the Return—Wireless Message Was Received Telling That the Vessel Was Returning to New York—No Decision Has Been Reached Regarding the Sailing of the American Line Steamships St. Louis and St. Paul.

New York, Feb. 8.—The Holland-American Line steamship Ryndam, which sailed from New York for Rotterdam, January 29, with the American consular agent at Luxemburg and nearly a hundred other cabin passengers, and which was reported last night to be returning to this port, was warned by a German submarine to turn back when about to enter the "war zone," according to unofficial advices received here today.

A wireless message from a passenger on board the Ryndam contained this information, it was stated by a person closely connected with the steamship service, here. The Ryndam was on her way to Rotterdam by way of Falmouth and was within fourteen hours steaming of the latter port when she swung around for the return trip to American waters.

At the office of the Holland-American Line it was said that no word of the ship or the reason for her return had been received, other than a cable message from Rotterdam, announcing her turning back to New York. The message conveyed the impression, the officials said, that the master of the ship has taken the action on his own initiative and had so advised his owners by wireless.

This action by the captain, the officials added, was clearly within his rights, as full responsibility for the safety of his ship and passengers devolves on him while at sea and he would be expected to take any necessary precaution.

The Ryndam is under command of Lieutenant Commander W. Krol of the Holland naval reserves. The ship is expected to reach New York Saturday or Sunday unless she is compelled to put into Halifax or Bermuda for coal.

P. A. S. Franklin, president of the International Mercantile Marine company, announced late today that no decision had been reached regarding the sailing of the American Line steamships St. Louis and St. Paul. Mr. Franklin declared there was nothing to add to his statement of yesterday that the sailings of the ships had been indefinitely postponed.

Reports that preparations were under way to arm the two vessels were denied at the office of the line, as were rumors that the government would be asked to relieve the line of its mail contract. A number of applications from discharged naval and army gunners for positions on the vessels were received today. None of the applications was accepted, it was said.

AMBASSADOR GERARD STILL IS IN BERLIN

Date of Departure of American Diplomats Has Not Been Fixed.

Berlin, Wednesday, Feb. 7., by Wireless to Sayville, Feb. 8.—The date of the departure of Ambassador Gerard has not been fixed. The German authorities are making every endeavor to assure him and members of the American embassy all possible facilities for forwarding private telegrams. No serious concern is felt here as to the safe departure of German officials in the United States.

This information is contained in an announcement made public today by the Overseas News Agency, which follows:

"The date of the departure of the American ambassador has not yet been fixed. The number of persons for whom passports must be secured is rather large and therefore this work will require some time. Every endeavor is being made to assure the ambassador and the personnel of the embassy all possible facilities for private telegrams.

"While the American residents accept loyally the decision of their government, many of them regret the breaking off of rlations with Germany without provocation. A number of Americans, among whom are several newspaper correspondents, have decided to stay in Germany until further developments."

GERARD'S ACTION IS APPROVED IN WASHINGTON

In Refusing to Enter Into Negotiations With German Foreign Office.

Washington, Feb. 8.—Ambassador Gerard's refusal to enter into any negotiations with the German foreign office is approved by the state department as the only possible course for him to pursue in view of his status of a private citizen. Any communication from the German government regarding a treaty or any other subject would have to be carried out through the Spanish diplomatic representatives in Berlin who are looking after the interests of America in Germany.

The basis of the German proposition to reaffirm the old treaties which, among other things, provide that in case of war the citizens of either country in the other's territory shall have nine months in which to dispose of their property and leave, is found in the fact that this course was necessary to continue the conventions in existence a a result of the enactment of the seamen's act by congress several years ago. That act terminated all treaties containing provisions in conflict with the new legislation for the protection of seamen. It was provided, however, that other sections of the treaties not relating to the sailors might be continued in force if the governments with whom thees treaties were made by the United States expressed the willingness to the exclusion of the objectionable matter.

VON BERNSTORFF PARTY TO SAIL FEBRUARY 13

German Government Requested to Assure Safe Passage Through War Zone.

New York, Feb. 8.—The German government has been asked by the Scandinavian-American Line to assure safe passage through the recently defined war zone for the steamer Frederick VIII, on which Count von Bernstorff, the former German ambassador, and his party will sail for home on February 13. The assurance, officials of the line here said today, is requested in addition to the safe conduct through the blockade zone asked for by the American state department and promised by Great Britain and France.

"We have cabled our home office in Copenhagen for instructions," one of the officials said. "Until we do get orders to sail, the Frederick VIII and the Hellig Olav, now in port here, will remain at their docks. We have been asked through the state department for about 200 reservations for the returning ambassador and his party, and that number has been provided. We will, however, take other passengers in addition."

SHIPYARDS ARE TO BE SPEEDED UP TO THE LIMIT

Double Crews Are Working on Battleships at Newport News.

Washington, Feb. 8.—Construction of navy craft by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock company, the Fore River Shipbuilding company and the Electric Boat company will be speeded up to the limit of the plants. Work on two battleships at the plant of the Newport News company at Secretary Daniels' suggestion already is proceeding under double crews and the offers of the other two companies to take similar steps met today with the secretary's hearty approval.

At the Newport News plants it is estimated that the battleship Mississippi, recently launched, can be completed by mid-summer instead of January 1, 1918, as called for in the contract. The keel of one of the four new battleships recently contracted for will be laid on the slip vacated by the Mississippi instead of a merchant vessels, as had been intended.

Representatives of the Fore River and Electric Boat company called on Mr. Daniels today, offering to rush the work on destroyers and submarines for which they have contracts, setting aside other private work to that end. They were told to go ahead at full speed. The plan is to get the vessels launched as soon as possible, freeing stocks for the new set of destroyers and submarines to be authorized in the pending navy bills. Details as to the time that can be saved have not been worked out.

Warlike preparations now virtually are completed at the navy department pending the enactment by congress of the proposed legislation under which the president may commendeer private plants and, after that, the president's decision to exercise this authority.

SHORE LEAVE FOR GERMAN CREWS IN NEW YORK

To Be Granted Hereafter Under Certain Restrictions.

New York, Feb. 8. — Officers and members of the crews of the German steamships tied up here since the outbreak of the European war hereafter will be given shore leave under certain restrictions, it was announced by the customs authorities tonight. The men, who have been fined to their ship by orders from Washington since the severance of diplomatic relations with Germany will be allowed to leave their vessel on passes singned by their commanders, with the understanding that they return before midnight of the same day, it was said. It was asserted the new ruling was in accordance with instructions from Washington.

USE OF CONVICT LABOR IN MANUFACTURE OF MUNITIONS

Suggested by Pennsylvania Prison Labor Commission.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Feb. 8.—The attention of Governor Martin G. Brumbaugh was called to the possible use of convice labor in the manufacture of munitions, should an emergency arise, in a communication forwarded to the governor today by the state prison labor commission. The commission pointed out that there are 3,000 men in Pennsylvania penal institutions who could be used in the manufacture of munitions and war supplies.

Census Taking on Supplies.

Bremerton, Wn., Feb. 8.—The cruisers South Dakota and Frederick, at the Puget Sound navy yard, have been ordered to take aboard supplies for their full complement of 900 men for nine months. The cruisers have been in reserve, with less than half their full number of officers and men.

Distress Signals from British Steamer

Boston, Feb. 8.—A cablegram, announcing the arrival at St. Nazaire, France, of the British steamer Arrino, reported in distress January 31, was received here tonight by the France and Canadian Steamship company, which operates the vessel. The Arrino carried munitions for the French government