

AMERICA IN NOTE TO BRITAIN CALLS BLOCKADE ILLEGAL

COMMUNICATION COVERS BRITISH INTERFERENCE WITH TRADE SINCE BEGINNING OF EUROPEAN WAR.

U. S. CANNOT SUBMIT TO CURTAILMENT OF RIGHTS

Insists That Relations Between This Country and Great Britain Be Governed by Rules of International Conduct and Not by Policy of Expediency.

Washington, Nov. 9. — The United States in its latest note to Great Britain just made public here, covering exhaustively British interference with American trade since the beginning of the European war, declares that the so-called blockade instituted by the Allies against enemy countries on March 11 is "ineffective, illegal and indefensible." Notice is served that the American government "cannot submit to the curtailment of its neutral rights" and it cannot "with complacency suffer further subordination of its rights and interests."

Ambassador Page, to whom the note was sent by special messenger for delivery to the London foreign office was instructed by Secretary Lansing "to impress most earnestly" upon the British government that the United States "must insist that the relations between it and his majesty's government be governed, not by a policy of expediency but by those established rules of international conduct to which Great Britain in the past has held the United States to account, when the latter nation was a belligerent engaged in a struggle for national existence."

Champions Neutral Rights.
Declaring the United States "unhesitatingly assumes" the task of championing the integrity of neutral rights, the note proclaims that the American government will devote its energies to the task, exercising always an impartial attitude.

The body of the note is divided into 15 points, dealing with all phases of the contraband question, seizures and detentions, prior to, as well as after, the so-called blockade was instituted, and announces that a separate communication will be sent soon, dealing particularly with the "propriety and right of the British government to include in their list of contraband of war certain articles which have been so included."

British Methods Not Justified.
In conclusion, after an argument on the law and facts, Secretary Lansing says:

"I believe it has been conclusively shown that the methods sought to be employed by Great Britain to obtain and use evidence of enemy destination of cargoes bound for neutral ports and to impose a contraband character upon such cargoes are without justification; that the blockade, upon which such methods are partly founded, is ineffective, illegal and indefensible; that the judicial procedure offered as a means of reparation for an international injury is inherently defective for the purpose; and that in many cases jurisdiction is asserted in violation of the law of nations. The United States therefore cannot submit to the curtailment of its neutral rights by these measures which are admittedly retaliatory and therefore illegal in conception and in nature, and intended to punish the enemies of Great Britain for alleged illegalities on their part. The United States might not be in a position to object to them if its interests and the interests of all neutrals were unaffected by them, but, being affected, it cannot with complacency suffer further subordination of its rights and interests to the plea that the exceptional geographic position of the enemies of Great Britain require or justify oppressive and illegal practices."

U. S. Cites Precedent.

"The government of the United States desires, therefore, to impress most earnestly upon his majesty's government that it must insist that the relations between it and his majesty's government be governed, not by a policy of expediency, but by those established rules of international conduct upon which Great Britain in the past has held the United States to account when the latter nation was a belligerent engaged in a struggle for national existence. It is of the highest importance to neutrals not only of the present day, but of the future that the principles of international right be maintained unimpaired."

U-Boats Sink Allied Vessels.

Paris, Nov. 8.—German submarines passing the strait of Gibraltar, sank the French steamship Dahra off Arzew Thursday night and the steamships Calvados, French, and Ionian, Italian off Cape Ivi. It has been announced that the crews of the Dahra and Ionian were saved. Details concerning the Calvados loss were lacking. The steamship Dahra is of 2,127 tons. Its owners are Delmas Freres of La Rochelle, France. The only Ionian of fiscal year listed in the Allied liner of this line.

SCANDINAVIAN NEWS

SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT HAPPENINGS IN FAR OFF NORTHWEST.

ITEMS FROM THE OLD HOME

Resume of the Most Important Events in Sweden, Norway and Denmark—Of Interest to the Scandinavians in America.

SWEDEN.

A long semi-official statement has just been published with a view to reassuring public sentiment regarding relations between Russia and Sweden over the question of Russia's extensive fortifications in the Aland islands. The statement merely announces that Russia informed Sweden fully regarding the nature and object of these defenses before beginning them. Presumably the defenses are not to be maintained after the conclusion of peace.

The Aland islands are located at the mouth of the Gulf of Bothnia and within artillery range of Stockholm. They have always been a source of anxiety to Sweden, lest Russia should at any time go back on her agreement with England and France not to fortify them. A rumor that Russia contemplated such a fortification created great excitement in Sweden a few years ago, and the good offices of the British government were sought to induce Russia not to take the step. Presumably Russia did not intend it; at any rate, it was not done.

During the last few months the scare has been raised again, this time by a small political section known as the activists. The activists urge the continuance of neutrality by Sweden, but urge that it be accompanied by a certain pressure toward Russia, to obtain as a price of neutrality certain concessions particularly regarding the Aland islands.

The activists were the first to call public attention to the fact that certain military preparations had been begun by Russia on the islands, and they doubtless influenced a correspondent of a Christiania newspaper to write an article, recently published, revealing the fact that the Russian minister had thought it wise to assure the Swedish foreign minister that any such measures of defense would not be maintained after the close of the war.

What the nature of the Russian defenses is has not been stated, but they are understood to be merely sufficient to prevent the invasion of the islands by German warship crews who might use them as a base for operations in neighboring waters.

The fruitless ending of the Anglo-Swedish negotiations, begun last July for the purpose of settling various commercial questions which are an outgrowth of the war, is commented on generally by the newspapers. Papers of all shades of opinion say that the outcome of the negotiations will not mean any Anglo-Swedish tension, and express the hope that loyalty and understanding of each other's demands, the latter in any case being a positive result of the conversation will enable a continuance of mercantile connections between Sweden and Great Britain during the war.

Several coal licenses, which have just been granted by Great Britain to Sweden are said to have made a good impression.

The talk of a new farmers' expedition to Stockholm will not go down. The grievance of those who are demanding such a demonstration is that the middlemen take more than their due share out of the necessities of life. The difference between the price paid by the millers for grain and the price they charge for their flour is said to be abnormal. The bakers are the next in order to charge too much for their services. It is supposed that the government might easily demonstrate what would be a reasonable charge by handling goods between the producer and the consumer.

The government is going to limit the production of potato and grain whisky to 19,000,000 quarts for the next year.

The oleomargarine factories of Sweden are well supplied with raw materials for the balance of this year.

The Swedish Red Cross has ordered 15,000 woolen blankets to be used on the trains carrying invalids through Sweden between Germany and Russia.

King Gustaf's moose hunt at Huneberg was successful. Afterwards he went to Skabersjo, where he shot and killed two deer.

Replying to a question asked by Sir John Rees, the minister for India has stated that Dr. Sven Hedin still remains as a Knight of the Order of the Empire of India, in spite of his open and well-known hostility to England.

A proposition to put an embargo on the exportation of lingen berries was turned down by the government.

The department of health is of the opinion that hypnotic performances should not be permitted at public gatherings.

DENMARK.

Danish farm property has increased in value as a result of the European war until farms are now being sold almost daily at a price 50 per cent higher than what they would have brought nine to twelve months ago. The appreciation of the farm property is due, of course, to the unprecedented profits on agricultural products. In the matter of horses, the scarcity is so serious that the government during the last six months has prohibited the exportation of them, and the farmers have been getting on in many instances with the small, but vigorous Iceland horses, when they have been able to get them.

American plays are coming into such favor in Denmark that the manager of one of the Copenhagen theaters has announced his intention of devoting a whole season to American drama, with the exception of a few English plays. The popularity of the American plays is attested by a number of other theaters, and as for the American moving picture productions, these are being shown in hundreds of Danish amusement houses.

Prices on all kinds of food have advanced enormously in Denmark and, for some few articles, they are even higher than in the belligerent countries. The most necessary articles of food have advanced 100 per cent and others 40 to 80 per cent. One of the most unusual features of the situation is the fact that Denmark, which has been known throughout the world as a pork and butter producing country, has lately begun to import large quantities of pork from America.

A dispatch from Copenhagen given out by the Overseas News agency, says that Lieutenant Commander Layton of the British submarine E-13 has fled from that city, breaking his parole.

Lieutenant Commander Layton was commanding officer of the E-13, which grounded on the Danish island of Saltholm in August. The British admiral reported the E-13 had been attacked while helpless by two German torpedo boats, resulting in the death of 14 men. The remaining members of the crew were interned in Denmark.

Germany apologized to Denmark for the attack on the E-13 in Danish waters.

At Bryrup a meteor was seen on the northern sky while the sun was shining, which proved that it must have been unusually bright. It left a bright trail in its wake. When it came within 25 degrees of the earth it exploded into several pieces and disappeared. It was also seen by people working in the harvest fields at Vrads and Love. Some of these claimed that they heard a noise as of distant thunder. On account of the brilliant daylight the phenomenon was visible for only about ten seconds.

Aerolit is the name of a new explosive invented by K. V. Neilsen, a young engineer. It costs only half as much as dynamite, and can be handled far more easily. When not confined it burns like dry peat. Large quantities of it have been ordered for the army.

NORWAY.

In view of the fact that much boasting has appeared in the press with regard to the endurance of soldiers of the march, it may be of special interest to tell what Expressman Mathiesen of Kvalvedalen, who is sixty-five years old, has managed to accomplish as a pedestrian. He started on foot from Lardalsoren, Sogn, across the mountains, his destination being Christiania. At several places he had the best of chances to travel by rail or steamer. But he stuck faithfully to the wagon road, and after an eight-day walk he arrived in Christiania without any mishap. He averaged about thirty English miles a day, carrying a load of about twenty-four pounds. This was certainly well done for a man of sixty-five.

When a freight train from Drammen arrived at Sande station the second conductor, Mr. Engerud, was missing. Some men were sent back to look for him. He was soon found. But he was in a strange plight, walking about aimlessly, and he was utterly unable to give an account of what had happened to him. He was taken to Drammen, where competent physicians explained that some kind of concussion of the brain had deprived him of his memory. Only some slight bruises were visible on his body. He had no doubt fallen off the train, but no one knows exactly how it happened.

Captain Christensen of Heen has celebrated his thirty-five year jubilee as captain of the railway steamer on Adal river and Lake Sprillen. He has made 5,250 trips between Heen and Sorum, making a distance of fully 400,000 English miles. Christensen is seventy years old, but is still active and vigorous.

As an indication of the activity of the Drammen exchange it is mentioned that one broker recently cleared \$800 in one day as his commission. In order to reach this amount he had to negotiate deals amounting to about \$400,000.

A rare species of hare was recently killed between Tonset and Evikna. The color of its fur was dark blue. It is claimed to be first specimen of its kind ever killed in the country. It finally landed in the zoological museum at Christiania.



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(HERE IS A SAMPLE VERSE)

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A Wisconsin Case

Mrs. Andrew Nelson, 423 Evergreen Ave., Kenosha, Wis., says: "Kidney complaint kept me in misery for years. I was often confined to bed and couldn't move without help. Physicians said an operation was the only thing that would relieve me. I finally gave up doctoring and used Doan's Kidney Pills. I passed several gravel stones and from then on, improved until I was cured."
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VERY MUCH IN WRONG "BATH"

Guest's Mistake, It Will Be Understood, Was Not a Thing to Be Wildly Advertised.

Smythe's mistake, which is described in an English contemporary, must have been disconcerting, to say the least.

"You'll find your bath in the out-ouse."

Thus he had been directed the night before at the little inn where he was stopping, and that is why he was now in his dressing gown, pushing open the outhouse door. It was dark, but there was the tub, and it would do. He hopped in. In the middle of his abutions the red-faced landlord thrust his head in at the door. In the dim light he failed to see the man in the tub.

"Water quite nicely warm, thanks," observed Smythe, "but it's a trifle muddy."

"Muddy he hanged!" roared the landlord, bursting in suddenly. "Your tub's in the next place. Get out of it, you blitherin' idiot! Not a word of this in the 'ouse! That's my 'ome-brewed ale you're a-washin' in!"

Thought Umbrellas Unmilitary.

Umbrellas and khaki seem a most unlikely combination; yet one instance is recorded of British soldiers taking their umbrellas into action, according to the London Chronicle. On December 10, 1813, during the battle of the Nive, the Grenadier guards captured a redoubt outside Bayonne. While they were in possession of this Wellington passed by and noticed that the officers had umbrellas up to protect themselves from the heavy rain.

He sent back his aide-de-camp, Lord Arthur Hill, to tell them that "the duke does not approve of the use of umbrellas in action. The guards' officers may, if they please, carry umbrellas even in uniform when on duty at St. James; but in the field it is not only ridiculous, but unmilitary."

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