

DECLARATION BELIEVED ALREADY IN HANDS OF COUNT VON BERNSTORFF

Members of German Embassy Prepare To Leave Country, as President Confers With Senators and Receives Assurances That House Will Support Him In Any Move

RUPTURE THOUGHT SURE

WASHINGTON, February 3.—Following a conference between the President and practically all of the members of the upper house of congress on the international crisis yesterday, Mr. Wilson called upon the senators to express freely their feelings. Without an exception they all assured him of their support even though, as some of them expressed it they might differ with him on matters of policy. The senators then filed past him as he stood in the President's room of the senate chamber, clapped his hand and repeated their promises of support. The President immediately afterward went to the White House. It was stated that it was the unanimous opinion of the President's advisers that the action of the United States would serve as a guide for all the other neutral nations.

WASHINGTON, February 3.—That a declaration of war by Germany against the United States may have already reached the United States and is ready for delivery should it be decided by President Wilson to sever diplomatic relations is the belief in some quarters here, confirmed by the fact that some members of the German embassy staff frankly state their belief that war is certain and are already considering means whereby they may reach their homes. That a severance of diplomatic relations will be the signal for war is conceded by the German embassy officials, who state that they see no reason whatever why such relations should be broken off unless the United States desires actively to engage in the war on the side of the enemies of Germany.

EXTENDS PERMISSION TO SHIPPING

Count von Bernstorff has notified the state department that he has received the authorization of his government to arrange with the American government for the safe passage through the blockaded zone of the one American passenger liner a week permit through the German note announcing the extension of the blockade. This liner must sail on a date to be specified and clear for the British port of Falmouth. Its course through the submarine lines must be as directed by the commanders of such submarines as may halt it. Count von Bernstorff announces that inasmuch as the American government must certify to him that the vessel carries nothing listed by the Germans as contraband, he will deal only with the government officials in the arrangements for the safe passage of the ship. He will not take up the matter in any way with any American shipowners.

WILL IGNORE INSTRUCTIONS

It is stated here that it is not probable that any of the steps suggested in the instruction to the German ambassador will be taken by the government, even should it be decided to continue diplomatic relations with Germany. Official Washington is convinced that the crash is only a matter of deciding how it shall come and whether at once or within a short time, immediately Germany has shown by some overt act that she intends to carry out her campaign of ruthlessness along the announced lines.

There is a unanimous opinion among the officials, including the President and the members of the senate, that the German challenge to the honor of the United States must be met. The President met with his cabinet yesterday, later Senator Stone, chairman of the committee on foreign relations, being called into conference. During the evening the President went to the Capitol to confer with the senators in a body.

REGARD BREAK A CERTAINTY

When, after a two-hour conference, the President left the Capitol, one senator announced that a diplomatic break was a positive certainty. The President himself refused to make any statement, telling the newspaper men that his visit to the senate was merely to "swap views." He declined to say whether or not there would be any definite action taken during the night.

Earlier, at the White House, the only response to the torrent of questions from the representatives of the press was a repetition of the words "There is nothing to announce."

The members of the cabinet, who had spent hours with the President, as sworn to secrecy as to the nature of the discussion of the day. One member broke the rule of silence to say:

SERIOUS DEVELOPMENT

"In the near future there will be a development of something very serious." Another said: "The last chance for peace has not yet gone. Germany has announced what she intends to do, but as yet she has not carried her words into effect—so far as we know."

It is known that the cabinet is unanimously of the opinion that the United States cannot countenance any invasion of American rights, such as Germany's campaign of ruthlessness proposed.

Today it is probable that a joint session of congress will be called to enable the President to address all the members. The advisability of calling such a session was one of the things discussed at the meeting of the cabinet.

POINDEXTER PROPOSES HUNDRED SUBMARINES

WASHINGTON, February 2.—Immediate construction of one hundred submarines, eighty for coast defense and twenty for a sea-ner, are proposed in a special bill introduced in the senate this afternoon by Senator PoinDEXTER of Washington. These are to be in addition to the eighteen proposed in the regular naval program, which is now pending.

LLOYD GEORGE CONFIDENT OF VICTORY TELLS WELSH

LONDON, February 3.—In spite of the "overwhelming burden" upon his shoulders, David Lloyd George, prime minister of Great Britain, is confident that the devices of the wicked one will be confounded. This statement was made yesterday in response to a municipal welcome at Crizeleth, Wales.

SHAPE OF A HAT MAY SETTLE FATE

Row of White Buttons On Dress Another Thing That May Decide Bomb Trial

SAN FRANCISCO, February 3.—The exact shape of a hat and the alleged presence of a row of white buttons on a dress today, by a picturesquely dramatic turn in the testimony, became part of the life-and-death issue in the trial of Thomas J. Mooney, charged with complicity in slaying the ten victims of the explosion during San Francisco's "preparation" parade last July. The hat and the dress were worn, the defense claims, by the wife of the accused man, the wife swearing that her husband was with her over a mile away from the scene of the explosion, at Steuart and Market Streets. Mrs. Mooney declares the dress and hat worn by her can be identified as the same garments worn by the woman shown in the photograph taken of the roof of a building some distance from the scene of explosion. The defense is trying to show that it would have been impossible for Mooney and his wife to have reached Steuart and Market Streets from where they were on the roof. In the photo a street clock is shown with its hands pointing to one minute after 2 in the afternoon, a few minutes prior to the explosion. The prosecution declares that the photograph corroborates its own story of Mooney's movements. Mrs. Mooney is to be given a separate trial later.

NIPPON PROTESTS ANTI-ALIEN BILL

Representations Made In Washington Against Idaho and Oregon Laws Serious

WASHINGTON, February 2.—Japan's representation to the United States government against the Idaho and Oregon state legislative bills, modeled along the California anti-alien law, are considered no less serious than those made against the California act, though in the present case the representations are informal. It is represented to Washington that the state of feeling in Japan is serious and that Japanese statesmen wishing to preserve friendly relations fear that the legislation may force the home situation beyond their control.

MATAI'S SAILORS ARRIVE ON NIAGARA

Five American seamen, survivors of the wreck of the Union Steamship Company's vessel Matai at Rarotonga arrived in Honolulu yesterday by the Niagara, being left here because of it being the first American port touched by the steamer. They are S. Karpoff, H. Leavy, J. Callahan, M. Amenda and T. McLaughlin.

Their statement made yesterday was not complimentary to the treatment received from the steamship company which had employed them and they consider the efforts of the American vice consul at Auckland the only thing that got them any redress at all, which after all did not amount to much more than transportation here. They had to defray their own expenses in Auckland, by state, while waiting relief.

In view of the British law against desertion, they advise all American seamen to stay away from British vessels at least while the law holds good.

STEAMER TORPEDOED

MADRID, February 3.—The steamship Algorta has been torpedoed. Twelve of the crew were saved.

BERLIN EXPECTS TO SINK MILLION TONS OF SHIPPING EVERY MONTH

BERLIN, February 3.—That the unrestricted use of submarines against the merchant shipping of Great Britain will result in an aggregate sinking of about 1,000,000 tons (gross) of vessels a month is the expectation in official circles here.

This, of course, means a great increase over the present losses. It is estimated that between 11,000,000 and 12,000,000 tons are available for the use of England.

An official statement issued yesterday said that during December 152 hostile merchant ships, totaling 329,000 gross tons, were lost by the war activities of the Central Powers. Of these, 240,000 tons were English. Besides sixty-five neutral ships of 89,500 gross tons were sunk on account of transportation contracts to and from enemy ports. The December result therefore totals 415,500 gross tons.

GERMANY OUTLINES ROUTES FOR SHIPS

Says Hospital Vessels of the Entente Allies "Must Be Kept" In Certain Bounds

BERLIN, February 2.—The German government has convincing evidence in hand that hostile hospital ships have been frequently misused for the transportation of ammunition and troops. The government has communicated these proofs to the British and French governments by diplomatic means. At the same time it has declared that passage of hospital ships on military routes of the hostile army engaged in France and Belgium within the lines of Flamborough head and Terschelling, on one hand, and the Thames and Land's End on the other hand shall be no more so treated. The hostile powers are free to use hospital ships for the transportation of wounded and sick army members on routes outside this district. In case they are further misused, hospital ships, as against nations' law the barring of other sea routes is reserved by the imperial government.

New York's Harbor Officials Ready For Emergencies

NEW YORK, February 3.—Upon receipt of special instructions from Washington, Collector of Customs Dudley Field Malone conferred with the police and representatives of the department of justice. Questions relating to a "possible emergency" were discussed. Mr. Malone has increased his forces 1200 men now being under his command. Police boats and four guard tugs are waiting at the dock with steam up for immediate sailing. It is learned that several commanders of German refugee vessels have refused to allow inspectors to go below the main decks of their ships.

WITNESSES IN LEAK PROBE CONTRADICTED

Testimony of F. A. Connelly Disputed At Hearing

NEW YORK, February 3.—The testimony of F. A. Connelly of F. A. Connelly & Company, Washington correspondent of Hutton & Company of New York, was disputed today during the course of the "leak" hearing before the house rules committee. Every telegraph operator in the employment of Hutton disputed Connelly regarding the sending of the resume of the President's note. Connelly had said the information was mere rumor, given him by persons whose names he could not remember. Boiling, the President's brother-in-law, is a member of Connelly's firm.

JAPANESE LINER DETAINED BY FRENCH AUTHORITIES

TOKIO, February 3.—The Iyo Maru, a big Nippon Yusen Kaisha liner on the European route has been detained by French authorities, according to dispatches from Paris. The directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, yesterday asked the Japanese government to take steps to ascertain from the French government the status of the case, and the reason for the move. The Japanese government has ordered the Japanese ambassador at Paris to investigate the matter immediately.

SNOW IN NIPPON

TOKIO, February 2.—It is still severely cold here and many reports of heavy snow storms have been received from various districts throughout Japan. The Emperor Yoshihito accompanied by the empress will leave here today for Hayama, imperial winter palace. They will stay there for about one month.

FIRST VICTIM IS A RELIEF SHIP Vessel For Belgium Sunk By Diver

LONDON, February 3.—The steamer Euphrates, chartered by the Belgian Relief Commission was the first victim of Germany's new submarine "war of ruthlessness." The announcement of her destruction by a German submarine was made late last night by the Lloyd's agency. It was followed shortly afterward by the announcement of the sinking of the neutral steamer Jerv, belonging to Norway, and which was blown out of the water by a torpedo.

Other despatches to Lloyd's earlier in the day said that the Norwegian steamers Fortia and Hecla have been sunk and their crews landed. The steamer Ravensbourne, which is unlisted and about which nothing is known, has been sunk and three of the crew lost. Daily sailings of liners and freighters between Norwegian ports and England were stopped, and the Swedish postoffice department has issued an order instructing postmasters to decline to accept mail for the United States, on account of the stoppage of steamers.

The shortage of coal already looms up as a serious problem in Sweden. It is feared that many factories will have to close down because of lack of fuel. The municipality of Christiania yesterday commandeered all fuel and is putting the inhabitants on rations.

TAFT LAYS BLAME ON KAISER Declares Germany Has 'Flouted Decency'

WASHINGTON, February 3.—In an address delivered before the League to Enforce Peace last night—an address which he had carefully prepared—Former President Taft left the source of high speech to declare that "if the United States is drawn into war it will be the fault of Germany, which has flouted the decent respect of mankind and ignored the laws of humanity repeatedly." By her defiance of those principles of justice and humanity which the rest of the world has come to hold dear, and which should obtain between civilized nations, she has alienated most of the neutral nations. The President and congress should be made to realize that in dealing with this situation which concerns our honor and our interests, they have the solid backing of the entire nation. May God give them good deliberance and help in leading the nation, which is so unprepared for struggle out of this menace.

GERMANY'S DIVER THREAT STIRS FEAR IN NEUTRAL NATIONS OF THE CONTINENT

LONDON, February 3.—Despatches to The Times yesterday tell of the grave concern which the new submarine crisis has brought to the neutral countries of Europe, especially to the Scandinavian countries. The despatches say that the Danish war insurance office has suspended underwriting. It fears there will be such a shortage wrought on Danish shipping by the German U-boats that the war risk bureau cannot stand the losses, and rates are at a prohibitive height. The German note has had another effect—that on passenger traffic. Fearful that within a few days the operations of the U-boats may close down passenger sailings, there is a rush of Americans here and in France and Italy to secure passage home on the first available steamer. Many are expecting to depart within the next fortnight.

Philadelphia's Collector Aided By Naval Officers Enforce Neutrality

PHILADELPHIA, February 3.—Preparations are being made here by the collector of customs in cooperation with the navy authorities to enforce neutrality. The destroyer Joust of the United States Navy is stationed under orders to prevent passage of vessels that do not have proper clearance. Two vessels flying the British flag and two flying the Swedish flag sailed into the forbidden area. There is unusual activity at the navy yard at League Island. Supplies have been loaded upon the Prairie. Reserve battleships are being overhauled. Guards have been doubled about the interned German converted cruisers Kronprinz Wilhelm and Prinz Eitel Friedrich.

Fighting For Her Life Germany Will Ignore United States

BERLIN, February 3.—The feeling of the nation apparently is reflected in the leading journals of the country, which are almost a unit in their expressions of determination to stand fast no matter what action may be taken by the United States. Evidently a possible breach of relations and the more probable consequence of such a move by the Washington government, has been discounted by the people, and they are willing to stand by their government in this matter. The Frankfurter Zeitung in its comment on the situation said that "a few men in high places would have to take the responsibility for the decision that has been made, and must answer for their acts to their own people and to history."

The Cologne Gazette, in speaking of "the possibility of America's breaking with Germany over the submarine crisis" declared that "adverse action by the United States can not make any change in the attitude of Germany or in the intention of this government. We are in no position to consider alien interests for we are fighting for our very life."

SOLDIER DIVER IS BADLY HURT OFF OUTRIGGER CLUB

Another accident occurred yesterday at the Outrigger club diving platform, where George H. Chamberlain of Rockford, Illinois, was killed January 14. Sgt. J. Cleverley, Battalion B, Sixth Field Artillery, who has been living in town while on furlough, cut his head severely, jammed his teeth into his gun and sprained his neck in diving. Sgt. James Maier, Company M, Third Infantry was watching Sergeant Cleverley dive, being immediately behind him, and, upon seeing Sergeant Cleverley rise bleeding, rescued him and held him above water until a surfboard was taken to the place. Sergeant Cleverley was given medical attention at Fort De Russy. The water at the diving platform is notoriously shallow.

WAREHOUSE EMPLOYEE CAUSES BIG EXPLOSION

TOKIO, February 3.—An employe in one of the warehouses is believed to have caused the big explosion of munitions on the Yokohama hatohar in which a hundred persons were killed or wounded.

GOVERNMENT HERE BUSY PREPARING FOR CRISIS

Washington Sends Order To Local Department To Take Steps To Meet Any Possible Development of International Situation

PEARL HARBOR AND ALL ISLAND POSTS GUARDED

Army and Navy Officers Decline To Discuss Instructions, But Hints of Intense Activity Leak Despite Their Earnest Efforts

GENERAL military activity was commenced on this island yesterday afternoon, such as would be taken by a nation apprehensive of war. Orders were received by most departments of the federal government directly reflecting the attitude of Washington. The port has been placed under the guard of the cruiser St. Louis. Stringent military precautions have been taken at Pearl Harbor and at all garrisons on the island. The only public announcement from any officer came from Collector of the Port Raymond Sharp. "I have notified the commanders of all vessels in the harbor," he stated, yesterday afternoon, "that when leaving the port they must sail by the cruiser St. Louis now off the channel and display their international signal number. The cruiser, upon receiving word from the customs house, by wireless, that the vessel has been properly cleared will permit her to proceed. This word will usually be forwarded to the St. Louis before the vessel leaves her harbor."

The first two vessels to be affected by this order were the British steamer Niagara, and the American steamer Minnesotta. The first left at half-past five o'clock and the latter at half-past six o'clock, sailing by the cruiser as instructed, displaying their signal and tipping their ensign in salute as they passed. "I have received other orders," continued Collector Sharp, "but they are confidential. I can tell you nothing about them."

It is assumed on good authority that the collector of the port has been fully instructed in advance of any contingency that may arise in connection with the international crisis. The presence of the St. Louis is stated, a part of a general policy whose enforcement was ordered in all ports by the treasury department at the request of the navy department, and is not directly due to the presence of German refugee steamers in this port. The presence of these vessels at the local wharves focused attention on the waterfront and the fact that they have ill, at various times in the past three days, had steam up, led to the surmise that they would attempt to leave the harbor. The Fifty-fifth Company of Coast Artillery was down from Fort De Russy yesterday afternoon on short notice and stationed at Fort Armstrong, the post closest to the waterfront and commanding the channel to sea. Patrols from the artillery were in town yesterday evening gathering up the men of certain companies and taking them back to their units. At all army posts last night all military guards were doubled. No one was admitted past the lines without a special written pass. Marine guards were stationed about the naval station at Pearl Harbor. The crisis was reflected in the faces of army and navy officers, who agreed that the country "was on the edge of a volcano." The situation is looked upon in these quarters with the utmost gravity.

RICE CROP LARGE

TOKIO, February 4.—The rice crop of Japan for 1916 was the best in the last seven years according to figures published yesterday.

TEUTONIC BAG OF PRISONERS AND BOOTY LAST MONTH BIG

BERLIN, February 3.—During the month of January the Central Powers captured 20,000 prisoners and 100 machine guns. There was great success in aerial battling and work. These statements are from the Overseas News Agency and were issued yesterday.

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