

## ENGLAND'S CABINET FACES CRISIS

### LAST GRAND ORGY BEFORE SUBMARINES SWEAR OFF

#### Campaign of Destruction by Austrian Under Sea Boats Before Giving America a Final Answer.

### MANY ATTACKS WITHOUT WARNING

#### Reply to Second Ancona Note Will be Delivered This Week and is Expected to be Satisfactory and Final.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Whether Germany is repudiating its Lusitania agreement, or Austria is playing as close as possible to the edge of a break with the United States, were questions raised in Washington today by the new series of submarine attacks without warning in the past few weeks.

Following the sinking of the Italian liner Ancona and the Japanese liner Yasaka Maru, presenting fresh and serious complications, the destruction of the French liner Ville De La Ciotat, the Belgian freighter Minnie Bearnart, the Italian liner Porto Salvo and the British freighters Yeddo, Hadley, Emblem and Cottingham was viewed with concern.

Lack of warning for the Ville De La Ciotat, the Yasaka Maru was regarded as the most serious feature of the undersea onslaught.

The new submarine campaign was interpreted here as meaning only one of two things—refutation by Germany of her formal agreement with this nation to warn passenger liners, or an attempt to "drive" by the Austrians a flotilla before giving similar assurances to the United States.

Successful concealment of the nationality of the attacking submarines has added to this government's difficulties in fixing responsibility and taking action. The identity of the vessel attacking the Yasaka Maru is still unknown.

The state department today was planning inquiries to the German and Austrian embassies here as well as to American representatives abroad for information. German Ambassador Bernstorff has returned from New York today to resume negotiations regarding the Lusitania controversy.

The new attacks without warning, redoubled determination of officials to insist upon prompt subscription by Austria to the principles of international law.

If German, rather than Austrian submarines, are found to be responsible for the unwarmed torpedoing of

the Yasaka Maru and other liners, the state department was prepared to make prompt demand for an explanation for an apparent violation of Count Von Bernstorff's written pledge. Immunity from attack without warning, officials pointed out today, extends to all passenger liners regardless of whether or not American lives are lost or imperiled.

The Final Note. [By Carl W. Ackerman, United Press Staff Correspondent.] BERLIN, (via Amsterdam) Dec. 28.—The entire question of submarine warfare, as affecting the United States, may be cleared up within a few days, the United Press learned from authoritative sources today.

Austria's reply to the second Ancona note will be handed to Ambassador Penfield this week. Assurance comes from reliable quarters that it is "satisfactory and final."

There is a strong party in the dual monarchy that has insisted that friendly relations with America be maintained. This party apparently has the upper hand.

Government circles here profess to have little or no knowledge of the probable contents of the Austrian reply and it is declared that Austria acted entirely independently, without seeking Germany's advice, in framing the reply.

Twenty Year Sentence. [United Press Leased Wire Service.] DES MOINES, Iowa, Dec. 28.—Ed Wegner, Valley Junction saloon man, worth \$50,000, was sentenced to twenty years in state prison today by District Judge Dudley, after refusing a sensational argument for a new trial by Charles Bradshaw, Wegner's attorney, on the ground of improper action by the trial jurors. Wegner was convicted of robbing Charles Ashworth, a wealthy farmer, after tying him in a vacant room and demanding that he pay \$10,000 ransom for his release. Wegner's attorneys will appeal.

### PAN AMERICA WOULD JOIN IN FIGHTING AN INVADER

#### Government Ownership, Forest Conservation and Other Topics Discussed.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The probability of government ownership of railroads in all the Americas, was forecasted today by Charles Prouty, director of valuation of the interstate commerce commission, before the transportation section of the Pan-American scientific congress.

The return of money to private investors in public utilities in the future, Prouty said, "must be much in excess of the rate at which the government itself could borrow the money for providing the same utilities, and the question may finally become 'can the people afford to regulate their utilities or is it better that the government furnish the service first hand?'"

Dr. Chas. W. Elliot, president emeritus of Harvard, told the section on education that too little attention is being paid in the schools today to the sense of training.

"This," he said, "supplies the faculty of accurate observations and creates the habit of careful reflection and measured reasoning. The boys on the farm as well as in the city need it."

He declared government ownership or control of forests necessary, because private owners generally hold land for exploitation and not for the growing or preservation of the timber on it.

David James Hill declared all the countries of the Americas would bind themselves together in a determination to defend their independence in case of foreign aggression and that this position could be maintained.

Discussing the solidarity of the continent, Attorney General Gregory said:

"Let us be sure that the pen is not merely mightier than the sword, but that the aeroplane and the floating mine, it can subdue them to their lawful place."

Mankind's triumph over the forces of nature was the topic of an address by Secretary of the Interior Lane before the mining and geological section.

"There are times when nations who believe in themselves must fight," said Lane. "But let us not delude ourselves with the notion that civilization is the product of arms. The only excuse for war is to secure peace. The real battle of the centuries is not between men or nations, but between the enduranc and control is between man and physical nature. The world was made for a fighting man and none other."

Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo, in an address before the finance section, dwelt upon necessity of co-operation between the Americas.

"Out of the emergencies of the European war," said McAdoo, "permanent benefits may be created through better organization and more consistent fiscal systems throughout the western hemisphere."

### ENGLAND

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] LONDON, Dec. 28.—The British cabinet faced the gravest internal crisis of the war when it met shortly before noon today, with the conscription issue to be decided.

It was a current rumor that several ministers would resign, possibly before the day was over, unless the government agreed on some form of compulsory service. David Lloyd George, according to one report, threatened to quit last night.

On the other hand it was reported in many quarters that Premier Asquith and possibly Sir Edward Grey would leave the cabinet if the conscription advocates won today's battle. In that case it appeared certain that Lloyd-George would be elevated to the premiership of a new ministry. The issue, it was generally believed, will be decided today. Parliament meets tonight and unless a definite announcement is forthcoming from the cabinet council, the most bitter debate heard in commons in many months is certain to take place.

Opponents of Asquith are primed for their heaviest attack. They will insist that the government admit the failure of the voluntary recruiting system or produce figures to show the Derby campaign has been a success. It is possible that more serious charges than any yet made in parliament may be directed against the government in a new investigation of the Balkan and Dardanelles campaign. The ministry's policy of secrecy will be denounced as one of the chief reasons for failure. Lord Kitchener's administration of the war office may come under fire in an inquiry into the reasons behind the appointment of Sir William Robertson as chief of general staff and other recent radical changes.

To forestall attack of the conscriptionists, whose forces will be augmented by the critics of the Dardanelles and Balkan policies, the ministry must take decisive action today.

But acceptance of the conscription policy was equally certain to bring down on the heads of the ministers tonight the denunciation of the Irish party and labor leaders.

The Daily Mail is authority for the report that Lloyd-George threatened to resign. It said the minister of munitions told Premier Asquith that he would not continue in the cabinet unless Asquith kept his pledge to the married men. This pledge, as given out officially on November 11, follows:

"The premier pledged not only himself but the government when he stated that if the young men did not under the stress of national duty come forward voluntarily, other and compulsory means would be taken before married men were called upon to fulfill their engagement to serve."

Hinting at a wide split as the result of today's meeting, the Times, leading the campaign for conscription, declared editorially today:

"There are certain elements which cannot work together indefinitely and the cabinet seems to have reached the point when it must make a decision between one set of opinions and the other."

#### TROUBLE IN EGYPT.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—Energetic action is being taken by the British authorities in Egypt to suppress Senussi border raids. Dispatches from Cairo today said the Arab bands are being dispersed as rapidly as they are encountered by British forces and driven westward toward the frontier of Tripoli.

The Italian military officials, it was announced, will co-operate with the British in ending the border attacks on isolated Egyptian posts.

"West of Mount Medwa, New Zealanders and Sikhs drove the enemy forces west of Wadi Majid in a running fight Christmas day and an official dispatch from Cairo today, "In the Siwah district (southwest of Alexandria) we have been unable to discover enemy forces dispersed on Christmas day."

The Arabs are poorly equipped, according to Cairo reports, and flee when machine guns and field pieces are turned loose on them. By surprise night attacks they have attempted to overwhelm small British garrisons and obtain sufficient ammunition to continue their raids. The situation is being watched closely, Cairo reported today, but there are no indications of a general uprising.

#### Killed by Gambler.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Dec. 28.—Dick Wade, proprietor of a local gambling house, shot and killed "Skate" Young and seriously wounded John Luppy of Tulsa, Okla., when, he says, they attempted to rob him here early today.

Wade is under a penitentiary sentence for conducting a gambling establishment. He is on freedom, pending an appeal.

#### German Prince is Dead.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] LONDON, Dec. 28.—Prince Egon Zu Hohenlohe-Schillingfurst, son of the former German chancellor, is dead, according to a Central News dispatch from Amsterdam.

### GERMANY

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] THE HAGUE, Dec. 28.—A movement has been started in Berlin for the formation of a new party in the reichstag, according to information received here today from reliable sources. Its program will include efforts for an early peace and criticism of the government's handling of certain internal problems, particularly of the food supply.

Seventeen reichstag members are reported to have pledged their support.

#### OPERATION FOR KAISER.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—Swiss reports today said that an operation would be performed on the kaiser's throat within a few days. The reports were unconfirmed from Berlin. Similar rumors were circulated a year ago, only a few days before the kaiser returned to the front.

#### OFFICIAL REPORT.

BERLIN, (via wireless to Sayville, L. I.) Dec. 28.—Enemy monitors shelled Westende yesterday, killing three persons, including two women, the war office announced this afternoon.

"French troops attacked this morning near Hiroux," continued the official statement, "but details of the action are still lacking."

"German artillery shells stopped train movements at the Solons station. The French some time ago, probably to gain protection for the station, built a hospital close to the station and provided it with Geneva flags. It is possible that this hospital may have been hit in view of its proximity to the station."

"On the eastern front, Russian reconnoitering detachments were reported on the Beresina and northwest Czartorysk and near Berestany."

### RUSSIA

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PETROGRAD, Dec. 28.—The Russian destroyer Gromky is believed to have sunk a hostile submarine in a naval action off the Bulgarian Black sea coast, it was officially stated today.

"Our torpedo craft sank two enemy sailing vessels and bombarded the Bulgarian coast," said the official statement. "Several submarines attacked the destroyer Gromky, which cleverly evaded two torpedoes and repulsed the enemy. In this action it is believed one of the enemy's vessels was sunk."

The war office reported destruction of two small German ships in the Riga districts with the capture of twenty-two prisoners.

Russian troops in Persia have occupied the village of Ashadabad and have defeated a force of Persian rebels southwest of Teheran.

#### Epidemic of Tetanus.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] BLOOMFIELD, Iowa, Dec. 28.—On account of an epidemic of what is believed to be tetanus in the eastern part of the county, the Troy Consolidated school, and the Shuneman and Kinney rural schools have been closed.

The epidemic while much like grippe, has the earmarks of the form of tetanus which has recently been in evidence throughout various parts of neighboring states. While information has been meagre regarding the situation, it is learned, however, that the pupils are under a surgeon's care.

## \$3.00 PER YEAR

Will be the subscription price of The Daily Gate City by mail beginning February 1, 1916.

Increases in the cost of materials and wages, and additional expense in general operation and purchase of news makes it necessary to advance the price from \$2.50 to \$3.00 per year. The price per year on rural routes has been \$2.50.

The subscription price of the daily in the city remains the same—10 cents per week.

### FRANCE

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PARIS, Dec. 28.—The French liner Ville De La Ciotat was torpedoed in the Mediterranean because the Germans believed General Castelnau, French chief of staff, was aboard, according to Marseilles reports.

He recently spent a few days at Salonika in conference with General Savelle and military chiefs. He then returned to Athens presumably en route to Marseilles. The latest information had him at Athens.

Reports received here today from Marseilles, said the liner was sunk off the island of Crete and that about 200 passengers and crew were saved, eighty perishing.

#### MANY GERMAN OFFICERS.

[By William Philip Simms, United Press Staff Correspondent.] WITH THE FRENCH ARMY IN ALSACE, Dec. 28.—An unusually large percentage of German officers have been captured by the French in the fighting on Hartmannswillerkopf.

A French officer who escorted me to the village where the prisoners were awaiting transportation to the interior, complimented a German captain on that fact.

"That proves," he said, "that your officers are where they belong, fighting among their men."

Some of the French officers, proud of their achievements in the Alsace fighting, were angry because Berlin officially denied the French claim that twenty-three German officers, 1,360 men were captured in the Hartmannswillerkopf fighting. To disprove this statement they had the German prisoners file by. There were 1,368 unwounded men in line by actual count. It was stated that several who had proven refractory had been ordered to their quarters.

"There were many Jaegers among the prisoners. The French officers asserted that on the whole, Germans recently captured in Alsace have been poorly trained, indicating that Germany is now using many men previously deemed unfit."

#### OFFICIAL REPORT.

PARIS, Dec. 28.—Violent artillery fighting along the Vosges front, was reported in this afternoon's communique, which reported no other developments of importance on the western front. French gunners were advancing enemy troops to return to their trenches on the southeastern slopes of Hartmannswillerkopf.

### ITALY

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] BERLIN, Dec. 28. (Via wireless to Sayville, L. I.)—Sensational rumors are current in northern Italy, including one report that the Italian king was wounded by an Austrian grenade and is in the hospital, according to travelers from Italy. Another report is that a general close to the king was executed for maintaining close relations with the enemy.

The Italian people, according to advices to the Berlin papers, are so weary of the war that if the right leader arose, the government would be forced to make peace, despite her pledge to the allies.

### BALKANS

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] SOFIA, (via Amsterdam) Dec. 28.—Bulgaria will never restore to Serbia conquered Macedonian territory which properly belongs to the Bulgars, Czar Ferdinand told parliament today.

In a speech from the throne, the czar formally opened the parliamentary session with a review of Bulgarian victories against the Serbs and Anglo-French. Princes Boris and Cyril attended the opening session.

#### Arraignment Postponed.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Arraignment of eight officials of the steamship companies owning or chartering the tragedy ship Eastland, scheduled for today in the federal court has been postponed until January 22, Federal District Attorney Chas. Lyne announced today.

#### Davenport Saloons to Fight.

DAVENPORT, Iowa, Dec. 28.—Local liquor dealers have at last decided to make a fight on the repeal of the mulct law and at least two saloons will open their doors on January 3.

County Attorney Jebens has been notified that liquor dealers propose a fight on the law and Attorney General Cossom will be in Davenport Monday to aid in the preliminary legal tilt.

### COLONEL HOUSE SETS SAIL WITH BOY-ED ON BOARD

#### President Wilson's Confidential Agent Insists That He is Not Going to Europe on a Peace Mission.

### WHITLOCK IS RETURNING TO BELGIUM

#### Recalled German Naval Attache Takes a Shot at American Newspapers Before He Leaves.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The Holland-American liner Rotterdam sailed for Europe today with Colonel E. M. House, confidential agent of President Wilson; Minister to Belgium Brand Whitlock and Captain Karl Boy-Ed, recalled German naval attache, aboard.

Colonel House is en route to Europe to put American ambassadors abroad in closer touch with the attitude of the American government on international affairs. He denied just before sailing that his visit was for the purpose of sounding out prospects for peace.

"I hope that the American press and public will not speculate further as to the object of my visit abroad, but will accept the statement which I have previously given out and which covers all the facts," he said. "I want to repeat that my trip has absolutely nothing to do with any peace proposals."

The statement to which Colonel House referred, was made to the United Press when the fact that he was to make another trip to Europe in behalf of the president, became known.

"I'm going to Europe at the request of President Wilson and the secretary of state for the purpose of talking with some of our ambassadors in order that they may have more intimate knowledge of this government's attitude regarding phases of international questions and obtain from them their point of view," said Colonel House. "It is not advisable to bring home at this time any of our ambassadors from the belligerent countries. It has been found impossible to convey or obtain by cable or correspondence quite the correct atmosphere."

Colonel House and Whitlock were the first of the notables to arrive at the Holland-American pier. Whitlock and Mrs. Whitlock were escorted to the liner by a sergeant of the Hoboken police.

Colonel House said he would first visit Ambassador Page in London and would then see Ambassadors Sharpe and Gerard in Paris and Berlin. He said it was doubtful if he would go to Vienna. He expects to be gone six weeks or two months. It is understood the foreign governments have been advised of Colonel House's mission and have expressed their approval.

Whitlock said he would go direct to Brussels. The minister said he felt

much better physically than when he returned from Belgium.

Captain Boy-Ed attracted great attention when he arrived at the dock. The recalled attache was quickly surrounded by a crowd of friends.

Captain Boy-Ed gave out a prepared statement at the pier bitterly denouncing newspapers that have made charges against him, naming particularly the Providence Journal. He expressed appreciation for the hospitality accorded him before the outbreak of the war, and continued:

"While our enemies have been and are being supplied from this country with all the means of death dealing munitions of war without which they would long since have been overcome, I have been denounced from one end of the country to the other for having been concerned at the outset of the war in chartering ships to provision our cruisers at sea with coal and food, as though it were a crime, instead of being, as it is and has been considered to be by your courts, a strictly lawful act."

"The ships that brought coal and provisions from Hong Kong to Admiral Dewey's fleet during the Spanish-American war in 1898 were cleared for Macao and China and not for the American warships at sea and in their clearance papers it was stated that their cargo consisted of scrap iron."

"It is my heartfelt hope that the United States and Germany, which have so many common interests, always will maintain their friendly relations, that peace will come soon and that the abatement of passions will enable all Americans to have for Germany and Germans the same good will as formerly."

"I say goodbye to all my personal friends in this country, which have so many common interests, always will maintain their friendly relations, that peace will come soon and that the abatement of passions will enable all Americans to have for Germany and Germans the same good will as formerly."

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(Continued on page 5.)

### SWEDEN IS WARMING UP TO THE FORD PEACE MISSION

#### Citizens Take Part in Meetings and Newspapers Show Friendly Attitude.

[By Charles P. Stewart, United Press Staff Correspondent.] STOCKHOLM, Dec. 28.—The people of Sweden are "warming up" to the Ford peace mission. The peace leaders last night addressed the largest and most enthusiastic meeting encountered since the Oscar II sailed from New York, the hall being unable to accommodate the crowd.

Comment of the Stockholm press was distinctly favorable today. K. P. Arnoldson, a Nobel peace prize winner, told the Stockholm audience that too much should not be expected of the Ford enthusiasm.

"Movements like this work gradually," he said, "but nevertheless it is the duty of Swedish citizens to lend the Ford mission their support."

Louis P. Lochner, the principal speaker, admitted that the delegates themselves were incompetent to formulate a possible basis for peace, but he said they intended to ask belligerent nations for advice. He repeated the statement that Mme. Schwimmer had assurances from several neutrals

and belligerents that the present mission would meet with their approval.

Dr. Chas. F. Aked, of San Francisco, declared that despite these assurances, President Wilson was averse to immediate action. He cited, however, Miss Jane Addams, William J. Bryan and others as supporters. There was more verbal scuffling today. The new managing committee has found many American delegates are not attending the meetings, but hiking off on sightseeing tours. They were warned today that they must be present.

The committee is not on the best terms with Judge Ben B. Lindsey of Denver. In defiance of their orders, Judge Lindsey is going ahead with his efforts to find homes for war orphans and arranging meetings. He has the approval of Ford himself, he declares, and will not change his plans.

Harold Saugerud of Christiania, joined the peace party today. He is the first Norwegian delegate to arrive. The newspapers print Christiania dispatches asserting that the use of the names of certain Norwegians as delegates was unauthorized.

The American minister has cabled Washington for permission to extend the delegates' passports so they may cross Germany en route to The Hague, instead of going by ship.