

WILL ASK GERMANY TO EXPLAIN

MAY BREAK WITH GERMANY IMMEDIATELY WITHOUT AWAITING EXCHANGE OF NOTES

In Case of Proof That Submarine Was Responsible for Wrecking of the Unarmed, Unwarned Liners.

CONGRESS AND PUBLIC TO BACK WILSON

While English Reports Insist That It Was a Torpedo, America Will Not Act Until Officially Informed.

[By Robert J. Bender, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Whether the United States, on proof that the Sussex and Englishman were victims of German torpedoes, will first allow diplomacy to take its course, or whether relations shall be broken off immediately, today was discussed by President Wilson with his cabinet and with Senator Stone, his chief congressional adviser on foreign affairs. Both cabinet members and Senator Stone were expected to tell the president he would be backed by congress and the public if he should take the more drastic course.

Meanwhile the state department was gathering every bit of possible evidence in line with the determination of President Wilson not even to make an inquiry of the German government until all phases of the question had been conclusively examined by this government.

It seemed likely that the attitude of congress will make unnecessary a message from the president if he should determine to break off German relations. From being rather a drag on the administration's foreign policy—as in the case of the armed merchantmen decree—congress appeared to have become a spur to urge the president on. Among senators who are more affected by public opinion perhaps than state department officials, there was little doubt but that the public is convinced the two boats were torpedoed and that even a disavowal of the act and promises for the future would be taken doubtfully.

When the president determines to break off relations, it is believed he will send congress a note announcing his intention and explaining incidents which determined his course of action. He will not seek authority to act from congress and his memorandum will come after, instead of before, the act—as when he recognized Carranza. He will express the hope that congress approves his action.

While it is generally believed here that Germany will disavow both attacks, if proof is made that her submarines were responsible, the nature of the kaiser's disavowal must differ from other German utterances if diplomatic relations are to continue. In view of other German statements and promises, it is believed the submarine commander responsible must be definitely named to the world and the fact of his adequate punishment established to the satisfaction of the United States.

One course that has been given consideration is that of breaking off re-

lations with Germany in case the torpedoing of the Sussex is established and then leaving it to Germany to bring about a restoration of such relations by her own acts.

Some officials incline to the belief that Germany would make her punishment of the submarine commander her reparation for damage done and her assurance for the future so satisfactory that it would be proper to resume diplomatic intercourse.

While the Sussex case appeared today to be the probable basis for the break with Germany, the reported torpedoing of the British ship Englishman with one American crew member missing, served to aggravate the tenuous-American situation.

Reports on it were meagre, due, it was believed, to the fact that foreign officials are more interested in the passenger ship Sussex than in the horse ship Englishman.

The state department believes there is no attempt to withhold information and that all facts will be available soon.

Cases involving American passengers have always attracted more attention than cases concerning American sailors. Actually, however, the loss of an American sailor's life is regarded as more serious than the death of a passenger, inasmuch as a sailor's occupation requires him to travel on the sea.

Will Ask Germany.
WASHINGTON, March 28.—President Wilson and the cabinet decided to ask Germany for any knowledge she may have concerning the wrecking of the Sussex by an explosion.

Inasmuch as evidence in hand has practically convinced the state department the Sussex was torpedoed by a submarine, the inquiry to Berlin is expected to go forward soon.

This decision was reached in the face of much feeling among some cabinet men, that if the Sussex were a torpedo victim, there was no necessity for asking the nationality of the submarine, since only German submarines have infested the water in which the disaster occurred.

The administration's attitude toward the suggestion that disavowal will be promptly forthcoming from Germany if one of her submarines was guilty, was not changed by the cabinet session. It is still apparent that the disposition of the white house and state department is to demand something more than disavowal and that

EXPECT WAITE TO CONFESS POISONING OF HIS RELATIVES

Insanity Will Probably be Defense of Accused When His Trial is Held.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
NEW YORK, March 28.—Dr. Arthur Warren Waite is today expected to confess to District Attorney Swann that he murderously poisoned his millionaire father-in-law, John E. Peck of Grand Rapids.

offers she has received to continue her stage work.

"I have nothing to worry about now," she said. "I have told the district attorney everything I know about Dr. Waite and I am willing to tell it to the grand jury."

The fact she was with Dr. Waite when he purchased the deadly culture of tuberculosis and typhoid did not disconcert her.

Mrs. Horton still maintains the innocence of her relations with Dr. Waite in the Plaza studio. Her husband Harry Mack Horton, believes in her, implicitly, referring to her as a "dove in a flock of crows."

FRANCE

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
LONDON, March 28.—No infantry actions occurred on the western front last night, Paris dispatches reported today. German and French artillery engaged in lively exchanges northwest of the fortress.

THE FATE OF EUROPE.

PARIS, March 28.—The fate of Europe for many decades, if not centuries, will be settled before adjournment tonight of the allies' great war conference.

The sessions were resumed today at the foreign office in the room called the "hall of the clock." In the same session was held the historic congress of Paris in 1856, following the Crimean war.

The allied chiefs at today's sitting were to complete the pooling of their military, economic and political resources. Before tonight the ring about the central empire will be tightly closed. The details of the plan worked out here may not be made known until years after the war has ended.

"The allies," said the Temps, "are fully aware that harmony of operations on all fronts is the price of victory. They are willing to make mutual sacrifices."

"When the conference adjourns tonight, the world's military preparations for war will be completed. All resources will be in play. The allies will be able to hasten, under the best conditions, the end of the nightmare that has been weighing down civilization for twenty months."

"Germany is aware of her danger. The Verdun drive was her mightiest attempt to stave off defeat. Failing at Verdun, she must now await chastisement."

CAPTURED ALL.

PARIS, March 28.—French troops captured an enemy works in the Parroy woods, fifteen miles east of Nancy, killing or capturing all the German occupants, the war office announced this afternoon. The French then withdrew after blowing up the position.

Aside from this skirmish on the Lorraine front, the night was calm. An artillery duel in the region of Malancourt, northwest of Verdun, was the only activity on any of the fronts around the fortress.

ENGLAND

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
LONDON, March 29.—The British steamer Empress of Midland has been sunk. All aboard her were saved.

SERIOUS STRIKE.

LONDON, March 28.—Grave strikes among the machinists at Clyde, are holding up the manufacture of big guns, Christopher Addison, under secretary for munitions informed the house of commons this afternoon.

The strikes were inaugurated for the purpose of forcing the government to repeal the conscription act and other measures, Addison said. Six agitators have been removed from the factories and the government is con-

GERMANY

[By Carl W. Ackre, United Press Staff Correspondent.]
BERLIN, March 28.—Bent on saving themselves, a forced retreat on a front of more than 100 miles, the Russians are renewing their attacks against Von Hindenburg's armies with great fury.

The Slavs have suffered no greater losses since the memorable retreat from the Dunajec began nearly a year ago. But German officers pointed out today that it is absolutely necessary for General Kuropatkin to continue the attacks or else admit defeat.

During Von Hindenburg's great offensive of last year, he drove the Russian line down the northern and eastern slopes of the Riga of land, extending in a curve from Riga to south of Dvinsk. The German field marshal halted his drive when the czar's troops had fallen back to lowland positions, knowing that nature would come to his aid in the spring.

Within a few weeks, the spring thaw will set in in the northern country. The Russian trenches in the lowlands will be flooded and it will be necessary to withdraw the whole Slav line.

The Germans will suffer somewhat from the floods, but will not be forced to give ground to any considerable degree. For this reason the Russians are wasting ammunition extravagantly in an effort to seize positions on higher ground before the spring freshets begin.

Despite the fury of the Russian attack, the utmost confidence prevails here. A German officer, writing to relatives from the Villa sector on March 18, said that the Russian marksmanship was so poor and the German defenses so well constructed that his battalion though under heavy fire all day, lost but two killed and seventeen wounded.

Officers report that the Russians have changed tactics, officers now charging with their men. In previous fighting, not more than one officer was captured to every 300 men. The ratio now averages one officer to sixty men.

Reports from the western front say that artillery exchanges are now spreading to sectors which have been quiet for several months as if an indication of heavy spring fighting.

ENEMY OFFENSIVE.

BERLIN, March 28.—The fighting around St. Etier, where the British launched heavy attacks against the German lines, is developing into what may prove to be a strong enemy offensive, the war office reported this afternoon.

The British are continuing their attacks, though they have made no further important gains. It is thought possible here that British troops, taking advantage of improved weather conditions on this sector, may be planning a drive aiming to force the withdrawal of German troops from Verdun.

The situation around Verdun and in the whole region between the Meuse and Moselle remains unchanged.

On the eastern front, the Russians continued their attacks last night in the region of Postav, but without result.

The Germans repulsed a Russian attempt to reconquer positions taken on Sunday's fighting near Lake Narocz.

Two Bodies Recovered.

BLUFFFIELD, Va., March 28.—Bodies of two miners, victims of an explosion of gas today in the King Coal and Coke company mine at Vivian, W. Va., were taken from the workings.

Sixteen men, all badly burned, were rescued.

VILLA IS NOT SAFE YET ALTHOUGH FAR IN LEAD

Carranza and American Troops are Right on His Heels and Prospects are Good for His Capture.

IN FULL FLIGHT FOR THE MOUNTAINS

U. S. Soldiers Have Penetrated 300 Miles Into Mexico, Where Aviators are Doing Scout Duty.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
EL PASO, Texas, March 28.—An official message locating Villa yesterday at El Oso, were the principal developments of the last twenty-four hours in the Mexican situation.

A number of bandits were driven away from the Fabens ranch of G. B. Kelly, ex-mayor of El Paso, by two small detachments of the Eighth cavalry and four Texas rangers. About 100 shots were exchanged in a running fight of several hours before the Mexicans escaped across the border in the darkness.

The raiders obtained nothing. General Gavia of Juarez made public the following message from General Francisco Bertan, commander of the Carranza garrison at Maderia: "Villa is at El Oso. Believe that Colonel Cano is one of our chiefs closest to Villa. Both ours and the American forces harrasing Villa constantly."

The latest official advice from the American expedition told of Villa in full flight southwest toward the foot hills of the Sierras, with American detachments in his wake. Mexican residents in districts where Villa was once an idol, gave his pursuers news of his route and supplied the food stuffs at record high prices in American money. Army flyers having established a base 120 miles south of Lubian, headquarters of Brigadier General Pershing, were engaged in scouting with the vanguard of the expedition nearly 300 miles from the border.

The advanced base presumably is equipped for a considerable infantry and artillery force to support the vanguard.

The problem of transporting supplies to the base camps continues acute with army officials here still in expectation of momentary permission to use the Mexican lines from Juarez. Further word was anxiously awaited in El Paso of the situation at Torreon where foreigners were last reported to be preparing for flight to the border. News that General Canto Reyes and 1,500 Villistas had captured Viesca, thirty miles from Torreon, had caused a panic among the foreigners.

Sheriff Peyton Edwards, after an investigation, announced today that he was unable to account for reports of the raid on the Kelly ranch. Edwards said the ranch was not molested.

Mr. Kelly insisted that his foreman, L. M. Baker, saw the bandits in the act of rustling cattle about dusk yesterday and summoned troops stationed

at the nearby Wingo ranch. Duffy said his Mexican caretaker was assaulted by the raiders.

Fear of an Outbreak.

GALVESTON, Texas, March 28.—Wireless reports from Tampico today state that no outbreaks have occurred, but fear of anti-American demonstrations persists and a feeling of tension is apparent.

The yacht Wild Duck of the Gulf Refining company left Tampico yesterday for Fort Arthur, Texas, with a large number of refugees, the majority of whom are the wives and children of oil operators in the Tampico field.

Supply Train Problem.

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, March 28.—Supply trains between Columbus, N. M., and General Pershing's field base at Casas Grandes were sped up this afternoon as problems became more severe.

Two more companies of auto trucks, each consisting of twenty-seven machines, are being rushed to Columbus for immediate use. Further additions to available transportation equipment will be made immediately, to maintain communication with the front.

The tremendous work of keeping the sand-logged road open, requires the combined efforts of all the army engineers in the southwestern division. General Funston said this morning that his engineers are fighting under heavy odds against the possibility of a tie-up. The idea of using crude oil to surface the highway has been suggested, but it is believed this is impracticable because of the difficulty of transporting the oil.

No reports were received from General Pershing today, but the belief at headquarters is that Villa is now south from El Oso ranch. Reports of bandit raids near El Paso met with derision when called to General Funston's attention.

"That's probably another product of El Paso rumor factory," he said.

"We have no reports of action or trouble at any point. All we can do is continue to wait and hope that our line of supplies will be unbroken."

Censorship Tightened.

COLUMBUS, N. M., March 28.—Tightening of the censorship at General Pershing's base and activity among a large body of troops here today, preparing for some unknown movement, were believed today to forecast important developments in the pursuit of Villa. Censorship will

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Election Results in Iowa Cities At the Polls on Yesterday

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
DES MOINES, Iowa, March 28.—John Mac Vicar, elected mayor in yesterday's election by a vote of 3 to 1 over Lewis E. Royal, will have to decide the question whether the next two years will be liberal or strict law enforcement. Thomas Fairweather, caseball owner and Harry B. Frase, former county auditor, are liberal councilmen-elect; John W. Budd and Ben Woolgar, the other two councilmen, are for law enforcement. This will force Mac Vicar to cast the deciding vote in the selection of the councilmen to run the public safety and other departments.

Fred German, the only councilman renominated two weeks ago last on the election ticket, Joe Meyer, Walter Irish, E. C. Carlson and J. E. Mershon endorsed by the bar association for the first municipal judges were elected.

Other state results are: Ames, Parley Sheldon, mayor for twenty-two years, was defeated by George Baker 470 to 354.
Sioux City—R. J. Andrews defeated Mayor Smith for re-election by 1,200

For councilmen: Rudolph Berronds and Joe W. Lewis re-elected and B. L. Taylor and A. B. Erickson won.
Waterloo—W. R. Law defeated R. C. Thompson for mayor by 454.
Cedar Rapids—Mayor Louis Roth was re-elected mayor over J. F. Rail by 287. Councilmen elected are: Louis Zika, Martin Evans, Fred Lazell and K. D. Kennedy.

Mayor Cross Defeated.

BURLINGTON, March 28.—James M. Bell defeated Mayor W. C. Cross for mayor in the city under the commission plan yesterday by a majority of 462. Albert J. Cockrell was the only member of the present administration to be re-elected and was third in the list of candidates for councilman with a vote of 2,568. The other three members of the council will be Frank Cann, Ed. Matsch and Oscar F. Schlamp. Ed. Matsch, a popular West Hill grocer, showed the esteem in which he is held in Burlington by leading the entire ticket with 8,062 ballots to his credit. His nearest rival was Oscar Schlamp with 2,872 votes. Frank Cann, who has previously served in the city council as super-

tendent of accounts and finances, came back with a vote of 2,505. In all probability he will act in this capacity again. Bert Cockrell, who has made a good superintendent of streets and public improvements, will in all likelihood keep his same office.

Dr. Paisley is Elected.

FARMINGTON, Ia., March 28.—The independents won everything in the election. The following men were elected:
Mayor—Dr. C. L. Paisley.
Assessor—S. B. Beatty.
Treasurer—A. H. Hartrick.
Councilmen—J. W. Woodworth, W. M. Mackintosh, C. J. Wendt, C. H. Kelly, F. W. Knapp.

Result in Bloomfield.

BLOOMFIELD, Ia., March 28.—E. N. Bezenberger was re-elected mayor of Bloomfield by a plurality of 137. H. C. Leach was his opponent.

Mayor Sioux City.

SIoux CITY, Ia., March 28.—R. J. Andrews was elected mayor of Sioux City by a majority of approximately 1,200 votes. A total of 9,350 ballots were cast.

STORY OF A REFUGEE WHO FLED FROM MEXICO

Villa Robbed Him of Everything, But His Life and His Little Boy.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.]
COLUMBUS, N. M., March 28.—After a hike of eighty-seven miles over the desert, little "Jim" Dick, the five year old son of an American rancher, has found a home in the hearts of the American soldiers on the border.

"The little fellow," precocious for his years, and nifty as the toughest border veteran, has been adopted as the ward of the border guard.

His father, J. B. Dick, has been given a place as night watchman. The bronze faced men in khaki found time for sentiment when the boy came trucking into Columbus, clinging to his father's hand. Both were at the point of exhaustion and Jim was being fairly dragged over the last leg of the journey.

"Give the kid some water, for God's sake," gasped the man. His lips were cracked and purple; his nostrils rimmed with alkali dust. An officer caught little Jim as the boy fell limp in the sand, and tipped a canteen to his lips.

"Jim and I had nothing much left, but we scraped together a sack of flour, side of bacon and a canteen of water, wrapped in a blanket. Then we beat it. We covered twenty-eight miles the first day. It sure was hell. But the boy held out until late in the afternoon without a whimper. "We rolled up together in a blanket

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