BRYAN TO CEASE PACIFIST ACTIVITY IF WAR COMES

Likens Germany to Drunken Chauffeur Run Amuck on Sidewalk

PREFERS TO WAIT TILL PASSIONS COOL

Thinks Referendum Would Put Off Fighting Until Teutons Are Calm

[From The Tribune Bureau]

Washington, Feb. 4.—William J. Bryan intimated to The Tribune to-night that if war came he would cease his pacifist activities.

He issued a statement last night urging the American people to protest against war and ask the President to keep American ships and citizens out of the German war zone. The Tribune correspondent to-night asked him what course he would take if Germany by an overt act should force war with the United States, the possibility of which was indicated in President Wilson's message to Congress yesterday.

Postpone Settlement, He Urges

"I hope as earnestly as the President does," said Mr. Bryan, "that there may be no injury done to American citizens or American ships. My statement was issued to cover the possible contingency of an injury being done, notwithstanding Germany's promise to try to avoid injury.

"If injury is done it will be too late to reach the public, and the excitement may prevent deliberation.

"I believe that a large majority of the American people would prefer to postpone final settlement of any dispute until the war is over rather than go into this war. If a referendum can be secured, I think that an overwhelming majority would insist upon postponing final settlement, if necessary, to avoid war, until the European belligerents are able to act with the calmness with which we should act.

"It is to bring the matter before them in advance and give them a chance to think about it calmly that I have presented the subject as I have. I recognize that one person can accomplish but little, but it is the duty of each one to do what he can, and this seemed to me the most available line of action. The people who want war are active, and it behooves those who are opposed to war to manifest their interest in preserving peace, even though any belligerent on either side acts contrary to our rights.

Would Not Affect Rights

"It is no surrender of a right to postpone enforcement of it. For instance, if I am on the sidewalk and see a drunken chauffeur running his car toward me I know he has no right to come up on the sidewalk, but I would prefer to step aside and settle with him when he is sober, instead of standing on my rights and leaving my widow to settle with him.

"This war is so unprecedented that we are justified in abandoning precedent in our effort to keep out of it."

100-YEAR COLD RECORDS ARE BROKEN IN GERMANY

Zero Weather and Coal Shortage Cause Great Suffering

Berlin, Feb. 3 (via London, Feb. 4).—The almost unprecedentedly cold weather which has prevailed for a fortnight, causing great suffering and some deaths in all parts of Germany, was intensified to-day. The temperature hung just about at the zero mark in Berlin and fell far below it in West Prussia and the Rhineland district, where records for a century were shattered.

A majority of the canals and most of the rivers all over Germany are frozen solid, greatly hindering the movement of coal. Many office buildings in Berlin are gradually running out of coal, while hotels have closed all rooms not actually in use.

The military authorities, in an effort to assist in the transportation of fuel to cities, have lent both soldiers and horses. Teams are so scarce that one Berlin newspaper requisitioned four elephants to haul paper to its offices.

HAWSER TO KEEP HOSTILE VESSELS FROM NAVY YARD

Searchlights to Trap Any Craft—Visitors Barred from Sound Forts—Guards Increased

Navy yard searchlights played all last night along a big steel hawser stretched level with the water across the river entrance. Men worked all Saturday night stretching the barrier from the coal docks to Little Street, Brooklyn. Its presence did not become known until yesterday.

Officers explained that not even a rowboat could now enter the yard unobserved. Any craft, to get close enough to do any damage, would have to sever the hawser and would be picked up by the searchlights long before this could be done.

Meanwhile the yard continues to hum with the rush of work. Officers praised the men's patriotism when two ten-hour shifts, seven days a week, were established. Instead of becoming disgruntled, all offered to work as long as necessary. Work has been so rushed recently that officers asserted that the New Jersey could put to sea now. Every effort is being made to complete the repairs of the scout cruiser Birmingham, five submarines and the destroyers Sampson and Preston.

Between 1,000 and 1,500 skilled mechanics are needed, and the officers say that they do not know where they will be able to get them because of the high wages being paid in the industrial world. Many workmen are members of either the National Guard or the Naval Militia, and have asked for leaves of absence to serve their country in the event of war. Washington has been appealed to in this dilemma, and it is thought that some plan will be worked out by government officials whereby the men may be permitted to remain in the yard.

For the first time since the Spanish-American War, visitors were barred yesterday from the forts along Long Island Sound. Double sets of sentries are now on duty, night and day, at Fort Slocum, at New Rochelle; at Fort Schuyler and Willet's Point, and, acting on orders from Washington, extra gun drills are being held.

4,778,000 Men in U. S. Fit To Answer Call to Arms

Substitution of Women for Workers in Industries Would Mean Big Gain in Available Military Force, Mayor's Committee on Defence Reports

The executive committee of the Mayor's Committee on National Defence estimates that the normal military resources of the United States include 4,778,000 men between the ages of eighteen and forty-five who would not be exempt from service because of sickness, physical defects, industrial necessities or dependent families. By lowering standards or substituting women for men in industries, the number could be increased, says a report of the committee issued yesterday.

Applying the French standard of 1910, the committee found that 690,000 of the 900,000 men who reach military age in the United States annually would be fit for service. Under the stricter German standard of the same year there would be 459,000 available annually, the committee reported. It asserts that on this basis more than nine-tenths of the force of 1,500,000 recommended by the General Staff could be obtained by calling men of nineteen and twenty years.

The statement of the committee is as follows:

On the basis of the Federal Census of 1910 it is calculated that about 900,000 young men in the United States reach the military age every year. There are two ways of estimating what proportions of these are available for military service. First, to base the deductions upon the morbidity or sickness rate indicated by researches of the Public Health Service and various insurance companies and upon records of physical examinations at army recruiting depots; second, to base them upon the actual experience of other countries where universal military service prevails. The second method is probably the more reliable. France and Germany are the two countries whose records are here quoted for purposes of comparison.

France's Plan of Action

Because of her smaller population and of the desire to keep her force as nearly equal to Germany's as possible, France before the war did not enforce such strict physical standards as her neighbor.

In France the military class of 1910 consisted of 301,467 young men. After examination they were divided as follows:

Fit for active service	231,703
Less fit—assigned to auxiliary service	11,303
Unfit—exempted from all service	24,052
Final assignment postponed	34,409

In Germany in 1910 the young men coming of military age numbered 558,597, but only 51 per cent, or 285,455, were put in the fit for active service classification.

The task of estimating the total resources of the nation in men available for military service, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, inclusive, is more complex. For into this calculation there enter many uncertain factors. In addition to the morbidity rate and the physical rejection rate, there is to be considered the dependency of families and the need of men of mature years in the business and industry of the country.

In 1910 the males from eighteen to forty-five years old in the United States numbered 21,071,076. Although approximately 1,800,000 were aliens, and, therefore, ineligible for military service, the officials of the Census Bureau consider that the increase in population between 1910 and the summer of 1916 has about compensated for these.

Through a deduction of 2½ per cent for morbidity, the total of 21,071,076 becomes 20,544,300, and through a deduction of about 12½ per cent for physical defects, there is a further reduction to 18,007,080.

Men Needed at Home

The Census tables showing the number of men in various occupations—farmers, factory workers, miners, physicians, lawyers, railroad employes, clerks, public officials, and so on—have been carefully examined, and the effort has been made to reach an approximate estimate of the number that could be spared for military duty in a serious emergency. This leads to the estimate that 17,606,000 out of the 30,091,564 employed, or 58.5 per cent, could be brought into service, if needed. And this percentage, applied to the 18,007,080 physically fit between eighteen and forty-five years old, gives 10,535,940.

Still unconsidered, however, is marital condition, or dependency. Though unmarried men have dependents, there are married men who are in such circumstances that they can do military service without imposing hardship upon their families. How nearly the latter come to offsetting the former cannot be stated, even approximately. In this calculation all the single, widowed and divorced men are assumed to be available and all the married men unavailable.

Of the 21,071,076 men from eighteen to forty-five years old 45.35 per cent are single, widowed or divorced (43.35 per cent being single). If this percentage be applied to the 10,535,940—the figure arrived at after deductions for sickness, physical defects and industrial necessities—the number available for service becomes 4,778,050, or 22.7 per cent of the entire number of males from eighteen to forty-five. This is about one out of five.

In the attempts to estimate a nation's human military resources it has to be borne in mind that the result depends upon highly elastic factors. Upon the seriousness of the emergency which faces a nation must depend in a great degree the proportion of exemptions from military duty. Just as the United States, even under a system of obligatory service, might call out far fewer men than 4,778,050, so also—by the recruiting of older men, by the lowering of the physical standards and by the employment of women in occupations now open only to men—it could put a far greater number under arms.

The executive committee of this body is composed of Willard Straight (chairman), Cleveland H. Dodge, William N. Dykman, Major Francis G. Landon, John Mitchell, George W. Perkins, Henry L. Stimson, Alfred E. Smith and Alexander M. White.

2,501,333 IN U. S. BORN IN GERMANY

Almost Same Number of Natives of Austria-Hungary

Breaking off diplomatic relations with Germany Saturday meant a break with the birthplace of 2,501,333 of the nation's citizens. If Austria-Hungary is to be included the number is brought up to 4,171,915.

According to statistics collected by the Federal Census Bureau in connection with the 1910 census, the Austro-Hungarian and German born residents of the United States make 31 per cent of the foreign born population of the country. A big majority of this total have taken out their final citizenship papers, and owe no allegiance to the land of their nativity except such as grows out of sentimental feeling.

Contrary to popular belief, New York possesses the largest German population of any state in the Union. The German population for every state in the Union has been first in importance when compared to those of other nations since 1900, according to the census figures.

New York's German born citizens total 436,911, or nearly 5 per cent of the population of the state at the time this census was taken. In Wisconsin 6 per cent of its population were of German birth in 1910. It is believed that this proportion has increased since that date.

The centre of German population of the country, according to charts now in possession of the government—charts that are being revamped and revised by census experts to meet the present emergency—is in the North Central States, which include Wisconsin. More than 36 per cent of the entire foreign born population of those states is made up of German and Austro-Hungarian born.

The German born population of greater New York was 278,137 in 1910. This is but 14 per cent of the city's foreign born population.

The largest percentage of the city's German born residents live in Queens. The 1910 census showed 38 per cent of them living in that borough, 15 per cent of them in Brooklyn, 24.5 per cent of them in The Bronx, 22 per cent in Richmond, and but slightly more than 10 per cent in Manhattan.

Exactly half of Cincinnati's citizens were born in Germany. Other cities with large proportions of German population, in the order named, are as follows: Baltimore, Buffalo, Chicago, Detroit, Jersey City, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Newark, St. Louis and San Francisco.

Minnesota comes next to Wisconsin in German population, 5 per cent of its residents being German born. States having between 4 and 5 per cent of their populations so classified are Iowa, Nebraska, Michigan and New York.

In addition to its German born residents, New York State furnishes homes to 245,000 Austro-Hungarian born residents. Pennsylvania comes next, with a population of 251,774 from the two countries, and Illinois with 163,025.

The government at Washington is in possession of detailed charts showing where its foreign citizens from every country of the world live, facts concerning their occupation and tendencies. Many of these are being made the subject of close study and careful revision in view of the present crisis.

AMERICA FIRST, GERMANS PLEDGE

Representatives of 500 Societies Send Message to Wilson

"America over all!"

That was the sentiment expressed yesterday by representatives of some 500 German-American organizations who met in the Arion Clubhouse at Fifty-ninth Street and Park Avenue.

The meeting had been called some weeks ago to perfect the plans for a German-American bazaar which was to have been held in the Thirteenth Regiment armory in Brooklyn next month, but hardly had the meeting been opened when a resolution was introduced to the effect that during the present crisis "German-Americans of New York will forego all affairs of a frivolous or entertaining nature."

Instead of a discussion of the bazaar, the speakers, including some of New York's most prominent citizens of German descent, spoke in saddened tones of the imminence of war with the Fatherland and in the same breath pledged themselves to forget all bitterness, forget all past grievances and grudges and think only of their duty to the Stars and Stripes.

All for United States

There was Ludwig Nissen, the diamond and pearl importer; the Rev. Dr. William Popcke, pastor of Zion's Lutheran Church in East Eighty-fourth Street; Mrs. E. J. Dornhoefer, President of the German-American Ladies' Alliance of Manhattan and Queens; Henry Weismann, the Brooklyn banker, who is head of the German-American Alliance and chairman of the committee in charge of the proposed bazaar; Dr. Gustav Scholer, president of the Turn Verein; President Henry F. Haas, of the United German Societies of New York, and many others of equal prominence.

The speeches were all in German. Before adjournment was taken the following message was telegraphed to President Wilson:

"Mr. President: In the name of over 500 representatives of German, Austrian and Hungarian organizations, societies and fraternities with a membership of more than 100,000 and now assembled in Arion Hall at New York City, having sworn unqualified loyalty and allegiance to this country and its President, we pray and beg of you to make every effort to preserve peace."

Germans Are Patriotic

The same spirit was exhibited everywhere that Germans gathered. One of the largest American flags in the city fluttered from the roof of the Alps restaurant, in Sixth Avenue, near Fifty-seventh Street, and Old Glory waved atop of Luchow's, in Fourteenth Street. The Freundschaft Club, at 105 West Fifty-seventh Street, also flew the flag.

"The members of this club are American citizens," said an official of that organization, "and no other flag save that of America ever has flown from our staff, and no other ever will wave from it."

U.S. CONSCRIPTION URGED BY TAFT

What Would Be Our Situation but for the English Navy? He Asks

NEED STRONG ARMY TO BE INDEPENDENT

Year's Service for Every Man Between 19 and 24, Is His Demand

William Howard Taft urged the adoption of conscription in the United States yesterday. This was his answer to the question: "What would be our situation to-day if the English navy were not between us and Germany?" which he put to an audience of 1,500 persons yesterday at the Academy of Music, Brooklyn.

"Can we afford to or wish to rely on the protection of another nation always?" he continued. "We should look ahead with broad vision and adopt measures that should make us independent. There is always danger that even now the sense of protection that the forces of the Allies afford us as a barrier to a German offensive may lull us into a false security and weaken our sense of duty to ourselves.

"It is said we cannot use an army in this war. Of all guesses that of limiting the extent or demands of a war is the least reliable. We must resolutely form a strong army. Conscription has, until now, been of doubtful expediency, because opposition to it might have halted all plans for reasonable preparation. Now that the war is on us, however—now that the people see the necessity—why should we not take advantage of this state of public mind and do that which justice and real democracy require?

Duty of Every Citizen

"Military service is part of the duty of every citizen. Very little service of any kind in behalf of the general government or the state has been exacted from the great body of our people. Conscription is needed to teach our millions of newly created citizens the duty of loyalty and to discipline our restive young men and teach them respect for authority.

"A voluntary system takes the flower of the youth of the country, anxious to sacrifice themselves, and leaves behind those who can only be dragged in by ultimate recourse to law.

"Require at least a year's service with the colors from every man between the ages of nineteen and twenty-four. This need not interfere with volunteer enlistments by capable men under forty.

"The absolute necessity for military preparedness for self-protection is one of two lessons of profound importance the American people should find in the coming of the European war. We have had no desire for a difficulty with Germany, we have done her no wrong, and yet, in violation of our rights, she proposes to do that which, if we value our honor and our vital interests, we must resist by force.

"The second lesson is that we are now so close to Europe that a European war as general as this is certain in the end to involve us, and that it is as much our interest as that of the European nations that an international police be organized for avoiding such a war. The United States must prepare itself to assume a just share in the burden of maintaining such a plan.

Isolation a Thing of the Past

"This war is a notice to us that the isolation we have heretofore enjoyed is a thing of the past and that in our preparations to meet the needs of this present war we should have constantly in mind a preparation to take our proper part in the councils of the world and in the world's joint action to prevent the recurrence of another such disaster to the human race."

Mr. Taft, who is president of the League to Enforce Peace, then spoke at length in favor of a peace league of nations. It was not proposed, he said, that nations should be forced to obey judgments or recommendations of an international court or commission, but only that nations must submit their disputes to the court and await its decision before going to war. This would avoid, he said, all hasty, impulsive warmaking.

"Mr. Roosevelt has condemned this plan with tremendous emphasis," said Mr. Taft. "He attributes all sorts of bad motives to those who are proposing it. I've got so used to that I don't mind it now. Mr. Roosevelt also says he invented the idea. Perhaps he did; I don't know. But if so, I don't know why he now condemns it, unless the answer is to be found on the cover of 'The Metropolitan Magazine,' which reads: 'The League to Enforce Peace Is Mischievous, Unless—By Theodore Roosevelt.'"

"In this crisis we are going to rally behind our President, to do everything a country can do to vindicate its rights and show we are a moral people, willing to make sacrifices to establish a moral principle," said Mr. Taft in conclusion. "But in doing all this we should lay the broad foundation for a change of policy. We should be willing to accept our full share, as a member of the family of nations, of the burden necessary to avoid the recurrence of a dreadful war."

The address was given under the auspices of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences.

AMERICAN LINER MAY SAIL TO-DAY

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bridged by a narrow gangplank, over which the prospective travellers had to walk one at a time.

Each person boarding the ship was asked a variety of questions and all hand baggage was examined before it could be taken aboard.

The same sort of precautions were observed at the Cunard Line pier when the Carmania left at 3 p. m. for Liverpool. Sealed instructions from the British Admiralty transmitted to the British naval attaché at the British Consulate were given to Captain Charles shortly before the Carmania's gangplank was hauled ashore. When he clears Sandy Hook the skipper will then read his orders and lay his course in accordance with the instructions from London.

The Carmania carried only eighteen passengers.

Following is the list of first class passengers who were booked to leave aboard the St. Louis:

Baron Akerhielm, Baroness Akerhielm, Mr. C. A. Montague Barlow (M. P.), H. G. Barrie, W. Banister, H. I. Beaver, Bayard Bowie, W. T. H. Boyd, E. W. Brown, Lady Burbidge, Miss A. H. Cole, George R. Cowell, Mrs. Ernest Craig.

Giovanni Davis, the Rev. P. J. De Strycken, C. A. De Witt, Mrs. D. R. Dingwall, Miss Jean Dingwall, A. C. Dodge, L. M. Doherty, Mrs. L. F. Donohue, Dr. J. Gehrung, A. Georgescu, Mrs. W. H. Gooden, Mr. Guthrie, A. C. Hay, Mrs. Hay, William A. Hazard, Mrs. R. H. Henderson, W. Herbert, Mrs. Herbert, A. M. Hollaman, A. A. Holland, Stanley Holme, Miss Clara B. Hyde, Alfred D. Ironside.

George Jackman, L. Jackel, Miss Margaret Johnston, Arthur Jones, M. Kaneco, N. H. Kennedy, Mr. Kirton, Mrs. J. B. G. Lester, Oscar Lewisohn, I. R. Lines, Max Lipsey, W. C. Lyons.

W. R. McCulla, Miss Helen Mack, W. Marston, W. W. Mendenhall, J. F. Mongiardino, W. L. Morkill, Mrs. Morkill, A. R. Myers, Miss Gertrude Myers, Andrew E. Murphy, Garrett J. Nagle, T. Nakal, Miss Dorothy Neff, A. G. Northcott, W. A. Notman, J. B. Omond, H. W. Orndorf.

J. H. Patton, John T. Philips, Mrs. F. W. Pinkerton, Mrs. Ralph, Miss Ralph, Gordon L. Rand, Ernest Reckitt, Mr. Reid, W. Reville, Mrs. W. J. Rout, Miss Rout, E. A. Robinson, Mr. Rogers, Charles C. Ruckitt.

R. G. Sams, the Rev. F. D. Sargent, Henry Sewell, J. Simmons, Alexander Smith, Nathaniel Snow, Albert J. Speigman.

John T. Taylor, W. W. Taylor, W. Train, Miss Mary E. Travers.

W. G. Wallace, Robert Walsh, Hugh Walters, John J. Walters, Martin D. Watrous, F. Willoughby-Smith, John H. Wilson, G. E. Winants, Miss M. M. Winants, H. B. Wolcott.

EXPLOSION INQUIRY SOON

Jersey Grand Jury Will Seek Responsibility for Kingsland Blast

The Bergen County (N. J.) grand jury will begin its investigation of the Kingsland explosion some time this week. Officials of the Canadian Car and Foundry Company have already been served with subpœnas.

Mayor Arthur A. Clay of Union Township, in which Kingsland is situated, has been insistent that the facts of the accident be considered by the grand jury.

"I don't propose to let the company avoid its responsibilities," he said last night. "I have found that the munitions plant exceeded the limit set by law in the storage of explosives on the premises. They also stored goods of this nature which were not their own output."

SHIPS SAILING FROM U. S. FOR WAR ZONE

The following steamships sailed from American ports yesterday for the war zone:

From—	Ship.	For.
New York	Manhattan (Br)	London
" "	Carmania (Br)	Liverpool
" "	Rochambeau (Fr)	Bordeaux
Baltimore	Kenmore (Br)	Leith
Port Eads	Mundaka (Span)	Cette
Charleston	Zambra (Br)	Foreign ports

TEUTON CREWS KEPT ON SHIPS

Continued from page 1

offices and the other to the Hamburg-American offices. After a brief stop there they reversed their march, piled into the Patrol and steamed away. Chief Hayes, of Hoboken, who had learned of their arrival, was just in time to bid them goodby when he arrived at the piers, breathless, to inquire about the invasion.

Inspector Ryan led about 100 policemen in plain clothes to the piers at 133d Street and the Hudson River, where other German liners lie. Policemen also visited the boats in the Bay belonging to German or Austrian lines and Austrian steamers moored off Eighteenth Street, Brooklyn. The activity of the police was said to constitute a kind of patrol to guard against violence.

The real reliance of the government is believed to rest on the work of the immigration inspectors. No German or Austrian seamen will be permitted to leave the piers without submitting to the usual course of aliens, including examination before the Special Board of Inquiry at Ellis Island.

The whole course of the government in this matter has been brought to a head by complaints that members of the German crews have been disappearing from the ships of late.

Captain to Test Law

Captain Julius Gebauer, of the Pennsylvania, formerly commander of the Vaterland, probably will be the first to test the efficacy of the new order. He sought to leave his vessel last night and was stopped by Daniel Schwartz, an immigration inspector. Captain Gebauer declared that he had taken out his first papers and still desired to become an American citizen.

He produced the papers. Schwartz inspected them and discovered that Captain Gebauer had not reported to an American consul every five years as required. Captain Gabauer thought that he ought not to be thwarted in his zeal to become an American by a mere technicality. Schwartz agreed with him, but said that it was a matter for the Special Board of Inquiry to decide. The captain said that he would go before it to-day.

The order restraining aliens to their ships is not to interfere with the visits which friends and relatives have been accustomed to make. They will be permitted to come and go as heretofore, except that they will be subject to the surveillance of the customs and immigration men. When it was first promulgated the order caused some confusion because of the number of Sunday callers on the vessels who immediately made haste to get off, thinking that all on board were to be interned.

It is estimated that German and Austrian sailors in this port number between 2,000 and 2,500. The neutrality squad contains from 800 to 1,000 men.

Engines Made Useless

The engines of the Kaiser Wilhelm II, in Hoboken, have been damaged so seriously that it will require months to repair them, according to a deck steward, who confided the information to a newspaper man outside the pier yesterday afternoon. The steward, Henry Meyer, mistook the reporter for a former employe of the North German Lloyd Line. He was hurrying away with a trunk and satchel because he believed the United States marines would seize the steamship to-day.

"How's the machinery on board the Kaiser Wilhelm?" asked the reporter, keeping up a pretence of acquaintance with Meyer.

"On the bum," replied Meyer.

"Quit your kidding, Meyer," said the other.

"No, on the level. The cylinders are full of emery dust, and the fine parts have been demoralized by sledge hammers. Say, it will take two years to put 'em into shape again. If you don't believe it, wait until the United States authorities try to turn the propellers. You'll see I'm telling the truth," Meyer replied earnestly.

Meyer said he was going to visit his sister, but he didn't say where she resides.

Captain in Seclusion

Persons seeking Captain Moller, in charge of the North German-Lloyd piers, were told that the captain was "not in." Two young Germans in charge declined to tell where he was or when he might be expected back. They denied that the ships had been damaged in any way, but eventually admitted that they would not divulge any occurrences on board under any consideration.

United States Marshal Bolschweiler, of New Jersey, is quartered in Hoboken with other Federal officers who comprise the neutrality squad. The Hoboken police kept up their usual vigil of the ships, expecting momentarily, they said, to be relieved by the marines.

Collector Malone's inspectors visited the disabled Austrian freighter Himalaia again yesterday at the Newark Port Terminal. There was a rumor that there were arms aboard the vessel, the machinery of which had been dismantled, as inspectors discovered on Saturday. A further inspection, it is said, showed that the Himalaia has been so badly damaged that it would take at least six months to get her in shape for service. Whether arms were found aboard of her could not be learned.

That the machinery was deliberately wrecked Wednesday night after the receipt by Captain Sciotlich of a special delivery letter is the belief around the terminal, the boy with the letter reaching the pumping station, over a mile from the dock, about 9:30 o'clock.

According to John L. McGee, a watchman, it was customary for all hands aboard to be in bed by 9 o'clock. Wednesday night was no exception, he said. But after the receipt of the letter, McGee says, when he again visited the dock after 1 o'clock Thursday morning, he saw somebody on the deck, the light of a cigar or cigarette being visible. There was great thumping below deck at the time, McGee declares, as if somebody was using a sledge or crowbar. When he got close enough he called to the person on deck, who did not reply, but at once disappeared below deck. Late last night more hammering was heard aboard the ship, according to McGee.

Not Considering Seizure of Teuton Merchantmen

Washington, Feb. 4.—Persistent reports of impending seizure of German freight and passenger ships warbound in American ports led to an authorized statement for the government to-night that such a step was not even under consideration.

It was pointed out that while port authorities would take necessary precautions to protect property and safeguard navigation, for the government to seize these ships, in Americans harbors as visitors under their own flag, would be an aggression which might be construed as hostile to Germany.

Collectors of customs have been instructed by the Treasury Department to be particularly careful in the present emergency. To meet the problem resulting from members of the German crews deserting and coming ashore the Immigration Bureau is coöperating with the customs officers.

PARISIANS CHEER WILSON DECISION

People Brave Bitter Cold to Read Bulletins Announcing Break

PRESIDENT HAILED AS A WORLD HERO

His Picture and "Old Glory" Arouse Enthusiasm in City's Theatres

By FRED B. PITNEY

[By Cable to The Tribune]

Paris, Feb. 4.—News of the rupture in diplomatic relations between the United States and Germany has caused the greatest joy in Paris and throughout France. The feeling is that it will greatly aid the cause of the Allies and have the effect of shortening the war.

Announcement of the rupture was made known in bulletins posted in the windows of the large morning papers on the Boulevards Montmartre and Avenue de l'Opéra. Despite the cold, raw day, the coldest in years, soldiers on leave and promenaders stopped to read the bulletins. These told that passports had been handed to Bernstorff.

Many were at first inclined to doubt the accuracy of this statement, but the heading "Official" left no doubt in the minds of the majority, who gave many evidences of their joy. Expressions such as "Wilson did well," "That will help some" and what might be translated as "Bully" were heard.

Americans Plan to Enlist

The afternoon papers, with large scare heads, soon made their appearance with dispatches from Washington, New York and elsewhere, and before long the news was in general circulation, and everywhere there was joy at the momentous decision of the United States.

At the dinner tables in restaurants toasts were drunk to America and the Americans who were present were singled out for special attention.

A number of Americans already are talking of enlisting should the situation develop to the point where their services may be required. The feeling is that the action already taken necessarily will lead to graver consequences. It is felt that the seizure of German ships by the American government and other developments will result in German reprisals that will make war inevitable.

There was an immense amount of joyous comment everywhere. The people talked of the war being shortened by many months, of the possibility that mid-summer might see it over, or absolute and quick victory. President Wilson's portrait and the Stars and Stripes were flashed on many screens, and Sunday afternoon assemblages in the moving picture houses all over Paris cheered. Groups surrounded the newspaper kiosks and the boulevards, waiting for the earliest editions, and then stood around reading them.

Wilson a Popular Figure Now

President Wilson has suddenly become one of the most popular figures in French minds.

Soldiers at railroad stations, returning from leave, were among the most earnest readers of the afternoon papers. Great satisfaction at the action of the United States is felt among leading Frenchmen, but there is no disposition to comment formally on events. A wave of cordial good feeling is shown everywhere.

The American Embassy ceased to look after German interests from 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, under instructions from Washington. The embassy has not yet been informed as to who will take charge of the interests of the Central Empires.

A staff of forty persons at the American Embassy has been managing the accounts of 35,000 civilian prisoners, Germans, Austrians, Turks and Bulgarians, receiving money from their home countries, and also of the prisoners of war confined in a hundred different military camps. This work has been immense in detail and often delicate questions are raised. The embassy also has had to do with the food supplies to the French population in the invaded districts of France.

Sharp Deters Travellers

The ambassador, William G. Sharp, has telegraphed to the consul at Bordeaux to advise Americans on the point of departure to defer their sailing. This is the same counsel given to Americans inquiring at the embassy to-day. Probably a hundred Americans called at or telephoned to the embassy and expressed their satisfaction over the decision taken by President Wilson.

The news was received joyfully by the Americans at the headquarters of the field ambulance service and among American aviators training at Buc. The newspapers publish textually the President's speech before Congress and articles upon the military and naval resources of the United States, as well as very considerable editorial comment.

"La Liberté" "History will say of act an incontestible grandeur," says Wilson, the pacifist, that he was too proud, not to fight, but to give way, and that, placed between solicitude for national honor and apprehension for the unknown consequences—perhaps formidable—he did not want a humiliating peace.

"His case resembles that of the King of the Belgians. Albert I might have been able to avoid the avalanche that menaced him by resigning himself to a state of vassalage. No more than he did Mr. Wilson think a single instant of breaking his word and making his country an object of derision."

The paper cautions the public against unmeasured hopes, saying:

"Public opinion should not, however, indulge in unreserved expectations. A diplomatic rupture is not war. It is, perhaps, a step leading to it, but it is prudent not to anticipate. Let us limit ourselves to noting the great act of which we are the happy witnesses, because it vindicates humanity. It brings us, besides, a considerable moral support and very important economic help.

"Let us not ask anything else for the moment. Let us turn our anxious regard toward neutrals, such as Spain, that are fighting for existence, and to whom Mr. Wilson has just pointed out the road to follow."

Neutrals Resist Blackmail

"La Presse" says: "The Germans are decidedly bad psychologists. According to their own confession, they have unchained redoubled piracy with the sole object of impelling the neutrals to intervene more energetically in favor of a German peace. But here are the neutrals who resist the blackmail.

"A rupture of diplomatic relations is not equivalent to a declaration of war, but under the present circumstances constitutes an action of exceptional gravity. By driving the United States to this extremity Germany has made sterile the pacific action of President Wilson.

"If the words of Aristide Briand, characterizing as 'a war manœuvre' Germany's offer of peace, required confirmation, the events of to-day suffice for that. Now, what are the other neutrals going to do? Will they incline before Germany's menaces, or will they face her ounder the guide of the Star-Spangled Banner?"

Moral Support of U. S. Aids Allies, Italy's View

Rome, Feb. 4.—Up to noon to-day the American Embassy had no official confirmation of the rupture of relations with Germany. The Ambassador, Thomas Nelson Page, visited the Foreign Minister, Baron Sonnino, and had a long discussion with him on the situation.

Experienced statesmen remarked with reference to the severance of diplomatic relations: "What America is giving us is moral support and fraternal sympathy, which encourages us to feel certain of final victory."

The news from the United States has caused great enthusiasm throughout the country. The entire Italian press expresses gratification in having the United States on the side of the Entente which, it declares is the "side of law, liberty and honor."

U. S. RED CROSS IS MOBILIZED

Chapters Throughout the Country Ordered to Prepare for War Relief

VOLUNTEER DOCTORS AND NURSES WANTED

265 Telegrams from National Headquarters Outline Plans

The American Red Cross mobilized yesterday, obeying an order from Washington.

Two hundred and sixty-five telegrams were sent out yesterday morning from the national headquarters, directing immediate preparations for active war relief, "in view of present events and possible developments." The chapters were told to organize first aid classes, get hospital equipment ready, have surgical supplies on hand, and enlist volunteer nurses and doctors at once.

"The central committee desires each chapter immediately to make adequate preparation to carry out the work for which the Red Cross is chartered by Congress," the telegrams read, in part. "Make tentative arrangements, capable of quick completion. Central committee, realizing opportunity of service to country, bespeaks every effort for complete and thorough organization for possible needs."

Equipment To Be Prepared

The commands included the packing and getting ready for shipment of a supply of bandages and hospital garments and the appointment of the following committees: Finance, hospital, comfort bags, packing and shipping, publicity and information, motor service and sooperation with outside organizations.

"We are ready for any action we may be called upon to take," Mrs. J. V. Cameron, executive secretary of the New York County Chapter of the Red Cross, said last night after a meeting of the executive committee. "We have a large amount of supplies on hand."

In session at 130 East Twenty-second Street the committee of the New York Chapter, which has handled so large a proportion of the European relief, determined that "a critical situation exists. The country is not involved in war. We are hopeful that any such calamity may be avoided. It is impossible, however, to say just what service the Red Cross may be called upon to render to the United States."

Enrolments for service may be made at 130 East Twenty-second Street, at the Fifth Avenue Branch, 411 Fifth Avenue; the West Side Branch, 2158 Broadway, and The Bronx County Branch, 470 East 161st Street.

Base Hospital Units Organized

Base hospital units have already been organized in Manhattan by the Red Cross, and with one exception they are completely equipped for service in the field. They are the Bellevue Base Hospital Unit, the German Base Hospital Unit, the Mount Sinai Hospital Unit, the New York Hospital Unit, the New York Post Graduate Hospital Unit and the Presbyterian Hospital Unit.

Henry James presided over the meeting yesterday.

A committee on coöperation with other agencies was appointed, consisting of Mr. James, Mrs. Leonard Wood, Mrs. William Kinnicutt Draper and Newcomb Carlton.

GERMANY A WILD BEAST, JAPANESE PRESS SAYS

World Must Unite to Crush Her, Their View—U. S. Action Welcomed

Tokio, Feb. 4.—Japanese newspapers, in their comment on the severance of diplomatic relations by the United States with Germany, compare Germany to a wild beast which has turned savagely against the whole world, which must unite to crush her for the good of all.

Some of the newspapers express the belief that Germany's aim is to terrorize neutrals in an endeavor to bring about a quick peace, which they say is now imperative to her. They foresee that the rupture in relations will be followed by the entry of the United States into the war for the sake of "honor and humanity."

The "Nichi Nichi" says that a declaration of war by the United States "would be a noble contribution to world civilization and justice beside which Lincoln's war of liberation would shrink into insignificance."

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