

INTERNATIONAL LAW TO GOVERN OUR SEA RIGHTS

U. S. Finds Declaration of London Operates No Longer.

QUESTION BY GERMANY BRINGS ANNOUNCEMENT

Washington, Nov. 23.—The complete breakdown of the Declaration of London as a system of rules of naval warfare to govern in the present war became known here tonight with the announcement that the United States Government has withdrawn its suggestion that the Declaration be the guide for the procedure of belligerents.

The United States Government has received notice on all belligerents that, as far as it is concerned, it will stand on its rights under the established principles of international law. This policy is already in force in connection with the numerous maritime seizures arising out of the conflict which have been the subject of discussion with Great Britain.

The reason given by the United States for this position was that some of the belligerents did not care to ratify the convention without substantial amendments. These proposed modifications, which were accepted in full by the United States, were of such vital importance that the United States could not be expected to attempt in any controversy which might arise with belligerents to base the position of the United States on the London convention.

Germany raises question. The announcement of this action by the United States came as the result of the making public by the German Embassy of the text of a memorial sent by the German Government to the British and French Governments, discussing the attitude of the British and French Governments toward the London Declaration.

The memorial pointed out the radical departure from the rules of the Declaration in the announcement that they would cease as a guide to the British Admiralty, with some modifications.

It is alleged by the Germans, however, that the British practice with regard to conditional and absolute contraband, the invocation of the "continuous voyage," the classification of contraband and disregard of the list of non-contraband contained in the London convention, the British rules as to blockade running, seizure of ships and the forcible removal from neutral ships of enemy citizens liable to military service, are not in accordance with the London convention rules, but "wanton disregard" of its principles.

Problem for neutrals. The concluding paragraph, which brought from the United States Government a statement of its position, was as follows: "The Imperial German Government considers it therefore of interest to learn which position the neutral Powers intend to take toward the attitude adopted by Great Britain and France contrary to international law, and particularly whether it is their intention to take measures against the acts of violence committed on land and sea against neutrals and German subjects and German property."

The German Government has strictly adhered to the rules of the Declaration of London, the neutrality of Great Britain and France have been such as to compel it to consider whether or not it could continue in such an attitude, particularly in view of the neutral Governments intend to permit such practices to go on.

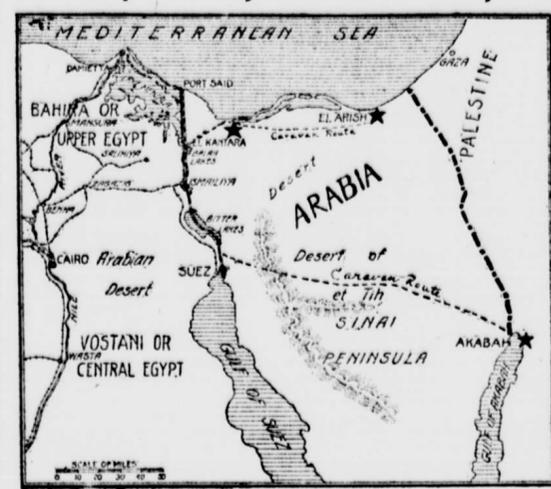
It is generally admitted that the Declaration of London has lost about all the effect it seemed three months ago likely to have on the conduct of the war, and has become merely an interesting document pertaining to international law.

Denies Germans may land. Home Secretary says few reach Liverpool from New York. London, Nov. 23.—In the House of Commons today Mr. J. H. Chamberlain (Conservative) asked Home Secretary McKenna whether he was aware that Germans constantly travel from New York and England. He said that between forty and fifty Germans who were on the Lusitania on her last homeward trip were permitted to land at Liverpool after a perfunctory examination.

Whitney Hospital in July. Paris, Nov. 23.—Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney's flying hospital is installed for the present in the College of July, a famous institution dating from the sixteenth century, in the town of July, not far from Compiegne.

The Bethania is condemned. Hamburg-American ship captured by British-Adjudged War Prize. Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun. Baltimore, Jan. 23.—A prize court has condemned the Hamburg-American steamer Bethania, which was captured in 1914 by a British cruiser on September 19.

Turks Reach Suez Canal; Report of British Defeat



The accompanying map shows the Suez Canal, the Red Sea and the zone in which the Turkish army of invasion is operating. The official report in Constantinople says that the Turks have won a victory over the British at El Kantara, about eight miles from the canal, and asserts that they have already reached the canal itself.

If this report is true the most important line of communication between Great Britain and Australia, her dependencies in the East and also with Japan is in danger of destruction. The canal is not protected by fortifications and an invading army of any size would probably be able to destroy at least part of it with ease.

Constantinople Tells of Surrender of Egyptian Police Near El Kantara. London, Nov. 23.—An official communication made public yesterday in Constantinople says that Turkish troops have reached the Suez Canal. The statement says:

Turkish troops have reached the Suez Canal. Fighting has occurred between Kantara and Teutebe, both thirty kilometers (18 1/2 miles) east of the Suez Canal and near Kantara Teo (probably El Kantara).

English officers and many soldiers, as well as many wounded, were taken prisoners. Troops of English camel riders and Egyptian police surrendered.

A news agency report on the situation coincides with the official statement and adds that the English suffered heavy losses and took to flight.

[El Kantara is a port on the right bank of the canal about twenty-five miles south of Port Said and on the caravan route between Egypt and Syria.]

Suez is Danger Spot. Britons Consider Canal Most Vulnerable Point in Empire.

The Suez Canal has been described as the most vulnerable point in the British Empire. It is England's chief line of communication with Australia, with India and with other British dependencies in the East, not counting its value in the relations with Japan. Slightly less than 100 miles in length, the Suez Canal is even more important to Great Britain than is the Panama Canal to the United States.

In any plan of war between Turkey and Great Britain the Suez Canal would naturally be the first object of attack by the Ottoman army. For a long time the Porte has been preparing for such a move and it is estimated that 150,000 Turkish soldiers have been concentrated in Syria for an invasion of Egypt. That Great Britain realized the seriousness of the situation was shown by the recent appointment of Sir John Maxwell to the supreme military command of Egypt.

A long time ago an agitation was begun to have the canal adequately prepared against an invasion. It was proposed to put the province of El Arish, comprising the desert of Tih and the Peninsula of Sinai, in a state of defense in order to prevent injury to the canal by an enemy.

The difficulty in the way of a realization of this plan has been the fact that Egypt has been until now a theoretical dependency of the Ottoman Empire, the Khedive ranking at Stamboul as hereditary Governor-inferior in grade to the Grand Vizier and the Grand Eunuch of the Seraglio. The Khedive himself is known to be Turkophile, preferring the Porte to England, which he has always hated.

In addition to this there has been a very considerable pro-Turkish element in Egypt which, with the ruler, with the raised very serious objections to the use of the revenues of the nation to fortify the canal against the Turks, who, in all probability, would have constructed such an action as a hostile step.

The territory over which the Turks must cross to get to the canal is easily traversable, especially with such conveyances as motor lorries with which the Germans have made such progress in France and Belgium, and with which the Turkish army is equipped. It has been estimated that all the warships which Great Britain could spare from other points of contact would not be sufficient to protect the canal from at least partial destruction at the hands of a few thousand Turkish soldiers, led by the skillful German military engineers. And apparently Great Britain has not enough available land forces to make the protection against a partial attack.

About the only practicable way to protect the canal, it has been pointed out, in the present circumstances, would be to take the offensive and try to prevent the Turkish army from ever reaching the canal.

Turks Take Artvin. British Lose 750 Dead at Shatt-el-Arab, Is Report. Berlin, Nov. 23, by wireless to Sayville, L. I.—Official reports given out in Constantinople and reaching here today relate the continued successful Turkish advance upon Batum, the Russian port on the Black Sea.

BERLIN REPORTS FLEET REPULSED

General Staff Says British Squadron Driven From Coast.

CLAIMS ARGONNE GAINS

Berlin, by wireless to London, Nov. 23, 3:20 P. M.—The German General Staff issued the following official communication today:

Fighting continues at Nieuport and at Ypres. A small British squadron twice approached the coast, but was driven off by our artillery. The British naval guns had no effect.

In the forest of the Argonne we are gaining ground step by step, one trench after another and one point of support after another being wrested from the French and a number of prisoners being taken daily.

A violent reconnoitering expedition against our position on the east of the Moselle River was made ineffective by our counter attacks.

In East Prussia the situation remains unchanged. In Poland the appearance of Russian reinforcements is postponing a decision of the front daily.

In the region to the east of Czestochowa and to the northeast of Cracow the Austro-German offensive was maintained.

DENIES FRICTION.

Austrian Chief of Staff Reported as Standing by Germans.

Berlin, by wireless to Sayville, L. I., Nov. 23.—The official press bureau gave out the following information today:

Baron von Hoetzendorf, Chief of Staff of the Austrian army, has sent a telegram to the Lokaleszeitung in which he denies as laughable, if not malicious, the reports of friction between the German and the Austrian military leaders.

The Messagero, a newspaper published in Rome, whose tone is favorable to France, declares that the French army is suffering badly from the effects of the cold weather and that the hospitals are overcrowded.

The Austrian press estimates the result of the Austro-Hungarian war loan at over two billion crowns (\$400,000,000).

DESOLATION IN HAMBURG

Hotel Rooms Can Be Had for Little, Says Correspondent.

London, Nov. 23.—A correspondent of the Daily Express, who has been investigating conditions in Germany, says he finds Hamburg utterly desolate. Rooms at the best hotels can be had at half the usual prices. The Germans, he says, buy everything on the idea that the fight is to continue a long time, especially against the hated English.

Prices, except for some imported articles, such as rice, tea and cocoa, have not risen more than 15 per cent. throughout Germany. The correspondent says:

"I noticed an absence of silver and an utter lack of gold."

15,000 RUSSIANS TAKEN.

Austria Also Says 18,000 Servians Are Prisoners.

Washington, Nov. 23.—The Austro-Hungarian Embassy gave out the following despatch from the Vienna Foreign Office:

The Austrian troops in Russian Poland have captured 15,000 prisoners. In Serbia our offensive continues. In spite of the strong resistance of the fortified positions of the enemy and enormous difficulties of ground caused by weather, two thousand four hundred and forty captives were taken in the latest encounter. Total Serbian prisoners during fighting since November 5 reaches 13,900."

CAPTURED GERMANS STARVING.

Prisoners Taken by France Ask to Be Sent to London.

Paris, Nov. 23.—German prisoners taken at St. Omer were found to be starving. Among the number taken at this place were forty officers. They said they had all been forced to advance by the threat of firing on them with machine-guns, which were trailed behind them.

These prisoners demand that they be sent to London. They have a great outcry to see the city, and are not afraid of harsh treatment by the British.

VON HAUSEN IN SANITARIUM.

Amsterdam, Nov. 23.—The Cologne Gazette says that Gen. von Hausen, who was displaced as commander of the Second Army in September by Gen. von Elnem, has been sent to a sanitarium at Partenschirchen.

Zouave Hero Saves Bridge From Enemy

French Prisoners Give Lives to Cause Destruction of German Column.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun. Paris, Nov. 23.—A note appended to the official communiqué issued this afternoon says:

"A few days ago in Belgium a German column marched on the Dri Gracht bridge, forcing before them a group of French Zouaves whom they had taken prisoners. The men in the French trenches ceased firing when the Germans forced their captives to cry out, 'Cease firing.' When the Zouaves were very near the bridge one of the prisoners cried out in a commanding voice, 'Tirez, nom de Dieu' (Open fire, in the name of God)."

"The French trenches involuntarily fired a volley at the command, with the result that every Zouave was killed. All the Germans were then finished off with machine-guns. The name of the Zouave hero is unknown, because when the French charged and took the bridge they could not tell his body from the others which littered the floor of the structure."

"GERMANY NO LONGER FEARED."

Ferrero Says Marne Victory "Changed Something in World."

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun. Paris, Nov. 23.—Giulio Ferrero, the historian, who is in Paris, speaking of the victory in the battle of the Marne, said in an interview:

"That day changed something in the world. Europe no longer feared Germany. It was an event whose astounding consequences will result in the history of the world."

INSIST ANTWERP MUST PAY.

Germans May Imprison Official in Default of \$10,000,000.

Amsterdam, Nov. 23.—The Handelsblad says that the Germans are still insisting that Antwerp pay a war fine of \$10,000,000. The deputy Burgomaster has refused the demand unless he is assured that the Germans will make no further requisitions for supplies.

It is feared that M. Franco, the deputy, will be made prisoner and sent to Germany as was M. Max of Brussels, unless some solution of the question is found soon.

PRISONERS PLANNED TO FLEE ISLE OF MAN

Rioters in British Camp Plotted Escape to Neutral Country.

London, Nov. 23.—The Manchester Guardian says that the rioting in the alien detention camp at Douglas, Isle of Man, in which five prisoners were killed and twelve wounded, was part of an organized plan to overpower the guards, seize a sailing vessel in the harbor and escape to some neutral country.

Extra guards have been placed in the camp and the number of men permitted at one time in the dining room, where the outbreak occurred, has been reduced.

The dining room of the camp gives access through the kitchen to the only part of the camp not enclosed by barbed wire. The prisoners in the kitchen are said to have been aware of this and on Wednesday last they started a longer strike which developed into a demonstration against England. The trouble was suppressed, but not until the Union Jack had been torn down.

The signal for the outbreak on Thursday was the throwing of a chair through a window. The prisoners in the dining room, about 250 in number, then rushed for the kitchen doors, which were guarded by only six soldiers. The guards fired a volley into the crowd, which speedily broke and fled.

The correspondent of the Manchester Guardian says that the prisoners hoped to take enough weapons from the guards to hold the rest at bay while the sailors in the camp prepared a sailing vessel for flight. The medical officer at the camp assured him that the food was sufficient, but it was admitted that a consignment of potatoes had been damaged by an additional cause of a mild frost, which a number of well-to-do Germans and Austrians who were detained in the camp were allowed to purchase their own food and therefore had better fare than the ordinary prisoners.

to 750 dead and several thousand wounded. Artvin, Transcaucasia, is in the government of Kutais, thirty-four miles southeast of Batum. It has a population of about 10,000.

STOP TURKS AT BATUM.

Sultan Has 300,000 Men on the Caucasian Front.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun. London, Nov. 24.—A despatch from Petrograd to the Daily Chronicle says there are 300,000 Turkish troops on the Caucasian front between the Persian front and Batum. They have repeatedly attempted to enter Batum. Their advance on the shore road has been checked by five Russian warships and by the complete destruction of the Turkish town of Khopu, just over the border.

The Turks are better armed, equipped and led than in the Balkan war.

TURKS EXPEL SERVIANS.

Two Aids of U. S. Envoy Ordered From Constantinople.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun. London, Nov. 23.—The news has been received in Sofia from Constantinople that two members of the Servian Legation in Constantinople, who were assisting the American Ambassador to protect Servian interests, have been notified to quit the city within forty-eight hours.

The Turkish Government closed today all British, French and Russian consulates, consular and church offices in the city. It is reported that the Government has appropriated all enterprises belonging to citizens of nations allied against Turkey.

BRITISH CLAIM GAINS.

Basra's Governor Flees With Turks Up Tigris, Is Report.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun. London, Nov. 23.—The official Press Bureau issued the following statement tonight:

"The recent operations on the Persian Gulf have been crowned with even greater and more rapid success than was anticipated. After the signal defeat inflicted on the Turkish forces on November 15 and 17 they abandoned all further resistance at that point and fled, leaving eight guns and many wounded in our hands."

The Valls (Governor) of Basra and Bagdad accompanied the defeated Turkish forces in the night flight up the Tigris. Basra was occupied on Saturday by naval and land forces. All the British residents in Basra are reported safe."

SERVIAN DEFENDERS WINNING.

Austrians Admit Successful Opposition to Invasion.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun. Vienna, via Rome, Nov. 23.—It is officially admitted that the Servians have occupied well chosen, fortified positions and that they are successfully opposing the Austrian invasion of Serbia.

The advance of the Austrians is most difficult, owing to the floods in the rivers and the fact that the mountains are covered with three feet of snow.

SWISS EXPEL AMERICAN.

Dr. Riffart Deported for His Pro-German Activities.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun. Paris, Nov. 23.—It is reported from Geneva that Dr. Riffart, a naturalized American, president of the Society of Egyptian Patriots, editor of the Egyptian Nationalist, a daily contributor to a Germanophile Swiss paper and the author of "England in Declension," has been expelled from Switzerland on account of his pro-German activities.

INSPECT CAMPS IN ENGLAND.

U. S. Government Agents End Tour of France and Germany.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun. London, Nov. 23.—Chandler Hale and C. R. Anderson, the special representatives of the United States Department, who have been investigating the prisoners camps in France and Germany, have now started on a tour of the English concentration camps.

Capt. Sydney Clonm, the former American naval attaché here, and Mrs. Clonm, have gone to Paris.

Recovered From Operation Which It Was Thought Would Bar Him. Linn, Miss., Nov. 22.—Henry Cabot Lodge of Nahant will be a candidate for reelection as United States Senator in 1916, according to a report from his home to-night shortly after the Senate and Mrs. Lodge left for Washington, where they will spend the holiday.

Macy's advertisement for men's winter overcoats. Features a large illustration of men in overcoats and a dog. Text includes 'Macy's', 'MEN'S WINTER OVERCOATS', 'Specially Priced \$19.75 In Thirty Smart Styles', and 'The Models The Fabrics'.