

permission had been given, though part of the despatch had been deleted. It was ascertained that the deleted part contained a reference to Mr. Bryan, including the words of the address. Mr. Bryan made a statement here the day after the break in favor of a referendum on the question of war with Germany.

The fact of this decision aroused comment today in view of Secretary Daniels' relations with Mr. Bryan. The State Department also was consulted with reference to this despatch and gave its sanction. Apparently, however, it was not realized by some of the officials that the despatch might be regarded as a misinterpretation of this Government's attitude.

It suggested ways in which Germany might provide an opening for further negotiations by offering to refrain under certain conditions from sinking American ships and concluded with the statement, "My informant is sure that the United States is not for war. That such a statement should have been allowed to go through with the sanction of the State Department has occasioned considerable anxiety. The explanation is made, however, that as the country is not at war with Germany it did not feel like imposing too severe restrictions upon what merely purported to be a newspaper despatch.

There is reason to believe that this despatch of Dr. Barthelme, sent as it now appears through the assistance of Mr. Bryan and his friend Dr. Kirchwey, had more or less to do with inspiring the German proposal just made through the Swiss Minister. This despatch was sent February 6 and undoubtedly received consideration immediately by the German Foreign Office, particularly in view of the fact that the despatch had been coming through at that time from this country.

Despatch by Bernstorff.

While it has been suggested that Count von Bernstorff was consulted by those interested in this move, and had a hand in the arrangements, nothing has been produced to show this. Count von Bernstorff has denied he either directly or indirectly was in touch with Mr. Bryan or Dr. Kirchwey.

The chief informant attached to the incident is that he calculated to cause embarrassment to the President by undermining, through the information it pretended to impart, the stand the President had taken with respect to the U-boat blockade.

It amounted to informing Germany that this was a nation of divided counsels and that therefore a solution might be found without interfering with the effectiveness of the German U-boat campaign, whereas the whole aim of the President and his advisers has been to show Germany that complete abandonment of this illegal warfare was demanded by the American people.

That any American would have had a hand in this, or indirectly, has aroused resentment here, in spite of the fact, as admitted by Secretary Daniels, that permission was given for the transmission of this despatch after the intervention of Dr. Kirchwey.

Dr. Barthelme was a caller again on Counselor Polk today. It is understood that his status has been cleared up by discussion by officials and that he will no longer have the right of entering the State War and Navy Building. It is also understood that Dr. Barthelme is likely, as a result of what has happened, to take passage with Count von Bernstorff on the Frederick VIII. on Wednesday and that a number of his speeches of this kind will go to Germany.

JAILING OF SEAMEN AMAZES CAPITAL

Continued from First Page.

Diplomatic Ambassador Gerard refused to consider when the German Foreign Office, after the United States had broken relations, sent it to him in the form of a protocol with the intimation that if he did not attach his signature, Americans in Germany might be held as hostages to insure good treatment of Germans in this country.

The document, submitted in French, is being translated for the consideration of President Wilson and Secretary Lansing. Officials familiar with its nature said it apparently was so different from the original treaties that it virtually would constitute a new one. Strong doubt was expressed that the United States would enter into negotiations on the subject. As it is understood now, confirmation by the Senate would be necessary even if the Executive branch of the Government desired to agree to such a protocol.

Safe Conduct for Ships.

Most important among the new provisions suggested by Germany is one expanding the exemption from seizure in case of war between the two countries of "merchants and their effects" to an exemption specifically mentioning enemy ships which are in port at the time of the outbreak of war and which either must be left free in port or given safe conduct to their own ports, presumably even in face of a blockade conducted by hostile Governments.

Sections also are added forbidding interference or restrictions upon the liberty or freedom of movement of enemy nationals, and reaffirming the old provisions allowing merchants nine months to close up their business affairs. In part the United States already has adhered to the spirit of the old treaties. Official statements have been issued at the President's direction declaring that German warbound ships here would not be seized or used, even in case of war, and that bank deposits and other personal property of Germans also would be immune.

Only Four Interned Vessels.

There are two classes of German ships in American ports. Those interned are war vessels such as the commerce raiders Prinz Eitel Friedrich and Kronprinz Wilhelm, and such naval vessels as the gunboats Comorant at Guam and Geier at Honolulu. The crews of these vessels, as well as the ships, being part of the German naval forces which have taken refuge in neutral harbors, are interned as prisoners for the duration of the war under international law and The Hague conventions.

The status of the warbound German merchantmen is different, and so is the status of their crews. The merchant ships are not interned in any sense of the word, but are remaining in harbor for refuge. They are free to put to sea at any time and take their chances with enemy warships. Their crews are in the same status as any other aliens coming to the United States. Any one of them may be admitted to the country upon fulfilling the immigration requirements.

Mayor Seizes Coal Cars.

EAST LIVERPOOL, Ohio, Feb. 12.—With the city facing a coal famine, following in the wake of a blizzard, Mayor W. F. Orr seized four carloads of coal which were standing on a Cleveland & Pittsburgh Railroad siding and notified coal dealers that he was ready to distribute the same for local consumption. The coal will be sold and the Mayor will hold the money obtained. A lawyer claims ownership of the confiscated product.

HOLLAND COWED BY FIVE GERMAN CORPS

Massed Armies at Her Frontier Prevented Indorsement of Wilson's Stand.

PLANNED BEFORE BREAK

Berlin Also Advised That Dutch Plan to Avert an Invasion Is Weak.

COPENHAGEN, via London, Feb. 12.—Five German army corps concentrated on the frontier of Holland furnish a fairly convincing explanation, in default of other reasons, for the failure of the Dutch Government to adopt the policy toward Germany recommended by President Wilson on account of the German submarine campaign.

That German troops were assembling in fairly large numbers in the vicinity of the Netherlands border had been the subject of gossip in Berlin military circles for several weeks before Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg's announcement of the new submarine campaign. Their presence there at a time when Germany was talking of peace instead of a policy that would weigh most heavily upon neutral interests was explained as a precautionary measure or characterized as part of a plan for the distribution of strategic reserves for the spring campaign.

Explanation Is Doubtful.

Such reserves usually are concentrated at a spot well behind the battle front where there are good railway lines for moving them to a menaced point on the front as soon as the location of the opponents' main effort definitely is established. Accordingly, some doubt was raised concerning the latter explanation.

Whatever the cause of the concentration, a large force of German troops was on the Dutch border when Germany's announcement of the new submarine war and President Wilson's appeal to neutral nations to join with America in protecting neutral interests against Germany brought to the foreground the question of Holland's possible action in reply to the German campaign.

German bayonets emphasized the economic and political reasons why Holland is unwilling to follow counsel which it was feared might have drawn the little kingdom into the war.

Rumors were heard too in neutral quarters in Berlin that a fleet had been discovered in Holland's strategic scheme of defense against Germany which, as is known, involves flooding parts of the country in front of the selected first line of defense. According to these reports it had been discovered that attempts to flood these districts would lay under water a far greater area than had been contemplated and would throw the general scheme of Holland's defense into confusion.

Fleet Also a Menace.

The position of Holland was to a greater or less extent the position of the other neutral countries contiguous to Germany, all being more or less open to attack by the war-hardened veteran legions of Germany, and all having before their eyes the examples of Belgium and Serbia, and lastly, Rumania.

The story of troop concentration in southwestern Germany in the vicinity of the Swiss frontier has been the common property of the Swiss and Entente press for weeks, though the Swiss perhaps are better able to protect their mountain land than other small neutrals. Denmark, whose land frontier is open

and whose defenses centre in the fortified camp around Copenhagen, is forced to reckon, in addition, with the existence of the strong German fleet, which is in complete control of the eastern Baltic, as well as with the Zeppelin menace.

Rumania Used as Warning.

An interview appearing in a Berlin newspaper the day after President Wilson's appeal to the neutral countries was published attributed to "a military diplomat" summed up these military dangers of the European neutrals and held before their eyes the warning of Rumania's lot.

No less convincing economic reasons militated against the acceptance by these Powers of President Wilson's invitation to make common cause with the United States. Shivering Denmark and Norway, on the scantiest coal rations and with a stoppage of British coal supplies utterly dependent on Germany for necessary fuel, as well as many raw materials and manufactured products, could see the dangers of a step which would cut off imports from the German side as well and leave them economically hungry between the devil and the deep sea, if the two combatant groups may be thus described.

All in all the Foreign Minister of one of the Scandinavian States seems to have put the matter quite plainly from his point of view when he remarked to the American representative who appeared with President Wilson's note and a request for an answer: "Why, you can write it yourself."

STARVATION DIET RULES IN GERMANY

(Continued From First Page.)

fish, fresh, smoked, dried or canned. And here the problem of cost is added to that of monotony. The writer paid in Berlin \$1.25 a pound for ordinary lake trout and \$4 cents a pound for small fresh water bass. Dried salted fish costs 36 cents a pound, and smoked fish \$1.92 to \$2.40. Smoked goose breast costs \$3 to \$3.50 a pound, and boiled shrimp are 72 cents.

Cards for Sardines.

Once in every four or five weeks the city authorities place on the market small tins of sardines, one of which may be bought on presentation of the municipal "Lebensmittelkarte," or provision card. Each family, no matter of how many members, has only one of these cards. The sardines thus sold may be had for about 48 cents for the small tin. In the open market they cost from 67 cents for sardines in tomato sauce, to 72 cents for sardines in oil.

One smoked herring, from six to eight inches long, costs 29 to 32 cents. A can of alleged shredded veal bought by the correspondent was more than half gelatin and cost 72 cents. Its gross weight was a pound.

Pepper costs \$2 a pound, and small raisins \$1.08. Saccharine dissolved in water has taken the place of sugar for sweetening coffee and tea in private homes as well as restaurants. Milk is ordinarily available in limited quantities only for invalids, the very aged and small children.

\$1,000 MONTHLY TO BELGIANS.

Chamber of Commerce Also Will Give More for Relief.

The New York Chamber of Commerce has voted for Belgian relief \$1,000 a month, up to \$10,000 for the current year, unless something shall develop to cause the contribution to be countermanded by the executive committee. The gift is in response to an address by Herbert C. Hoover, chairman of the Commission for Relief in Belgium.

The executive committee has also planned to solicit special contributions from its members, agreements to pay certain sums each month being especially desired. The chamber will notify other commercial organizations of this action in the hope that they will follow the example.

BRITAIN SPENDING \$29,000,000 DAILY

Bonar Law, Asking Credit of \$2,750,000,000, Puts War Cost at 21 Billions.

CONFIDENCE IN FUTURE

Army 14 Times Its Size at the Start of War, Chancellor Tells Commons.

LONDON, Feb. 12.—At what great and increasing cost Great Britain is fighting for victory was shown today in the House of Commons when A. Bonar Law, Chancellor of the Exchequer, asked for two new notes of credit aggregating \$2,750,000,000. Great Britain is spending nearly \$29,000,000 a day, and since the war began has spent the enormous sum of \$1,000,000,000.

The average daily expenditure is mounting steadily, Bonar Law said, and is now \$3,000,000 a day greater than in the first sixty-three days of the financial year, which ends March 31. The cost of food has risen, due in part at least to Germany's greater submarine activity than even before "unhappiness began" at the rate of \$950,000 a day, and munitions cost more.

Asked whether the Entente could bear the burden of winning the war despite these great expenditures, Bonar Law said he had every confidence in the future and that the new loan of \$2,750,000,000, called the "victory loan," would be a success. The number of applications and the amount applied for by the general public are greater than ever before, he said.

Debt May Reach \$19,500,000,000.

The Chancellor said the total expenditure since the beginning of the war was \$21,000,000,000. At the end of the current year the nation's debt would stand between \$19,000,000,000 and \$19,500,000,000. Advances to allies and dominions would be approximately \$1,950,000,000.

The Chancellor pointed out that the total votes of credit for the current financial year would amount to \$3,750,000,000. He said that was in excess of the estimate of Reginald McKenna, Chancellor of the Exchequer under the Asquith government, and that the increase was due to additional expenditures for munitions and advances to the allies and dominions. There also had been an increase in expenditures for the army, but it was proportionate with the increase in the number of troops, the army being fourteen times as large as when the war began.

The amount asked for, Mr. Bonar Law said, would enable the Government to meet expenses until the end of May. On the last vote of credit there had been an unexpected balance of \$380,000,000.

"We have a superiority not only in men but in equipment," said the Chancellor. He asserted that the increase in the production of munitions was going on all the time, being as marked now as at any previous period. The smallest increase in any kind of shell, as compared with the average for the first year of war, was twenty-eight times that output.

Dominions Financing Too.

In giving the progressive increases in the daily expenditure for the five periods of the war, corresponding with the five notes of credit, Mr. Bonar Law explained that the daily expenditure in the last sixty-three days was \$29,950,000. This increase, he said, was not due to recent advances to the Allies and Great Britain's dominions, for the dominions were now beginning largely to finance them-

selves, but to the cost of munitions and to the increased cost of food.

Mr. Bonar Law said the country had a difficult road fronting it as a nation and that it might still have greater sacrifices to bear, but that there would be no drawing back. Great Britain would be able to stand the financial strain longer than her enemies, and it would not be on that account that Great Britain would be forced to make a disastrous peace.

Reginald McKenna, who was Chancellor of the Exchequer in the Asquith Ministry, said that never before had such a large credit been asked at the beginning of a session, and that the Government must either be intending to prevent Parliament from reviewing the expenditures during the coming months or else the money thus provided should tide the country over a possible Parliamentary recess or election. Mr. Bonar Law said the question of a general election had never entered his mind.

Mr. McKenna's reference to the possibility of a general election provoked much lobby gossip, based on the fact that the life of the present Parliament expires at the end of April and the new vote will give the Government a month more to carry on the war till after a general election if it became necessary. The opinion was, however, that the Government would ask for an extension of the life of the existing Parliament.

GERMANS JUSTIFY BLOCKADE DECREE

Assert They Follow Method of British in Sinking Without Warning.

BERLIN, by wireless, Feb. 12.—"Torpedoes Without Warning." Under this headline the Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung says:

"When the English Government in the fourth month of the war—that is, November 3, 1914—declared the whole North Sea a military area, and thus put into practice an absolutely new principle with respect to sea war zones, it then expressly warned all neutral ships, merchantmen of all kinds, merchantmen from all districts, fishing vessels and other ships, against entering the proscribed zone, as they would be exposed to great danger from English mines and English men-of-war."

"The German declaration with respect to the barred zone, on February 1, which followed the English declaration, announced exactly the same thing and pointed out that neutral ships entering this zone would do so at their own risk, exactly as had already been set forth January 15, 1915, in a letter by an English Minister to the Dutch Ministers—'vessels may do so at their own risk.'"

"The German sea forces have thus never torpedoed without warning, since the sinking of all ships without previous particular warning occurred in a war district which had been declared as dangerous. The same cannot be said of England, since British submarines repeatedly have attacked and sunk steamers by torpedoes outside the sea war district and without warning."

The paper then gives the list of vessels alleged to have been sunk by the British, as given out by the German Secretary of Foreign Affairs early last December, and some alleged to have been sunk under similar conditions in the Mediterranean.

Poincare Sends Stillman Thanks.

PARIS, Feb. 12.—The contribution of 1,000,000 francs made last month through the French Ambassador at Washington by James Stillman of New York for the assistance of children of members of the Legion of Honor who have lost or may lose their lives in the service of France during the war has been received by President Poincare, who turned it over to Gen. Florentine, Grand Chancellor of the Legion. The President sent his thanks to Mr. Stillman.

Bayer Aspirin advertisement featuring images of Bayer Aspirin bottles and boxes, and text: 'Aspirin is made by only one company. Counterfeits and substitutes may be ineffective, and even dangerous. For your protection be sure to ask for and to see that you get only Bayer Tablets of Aspirin. Then only are you sure that you have the genuine Aspirin. Every package and every tablet is marked with The Bayer Cross Your Guarantee of Purity'

'The King's Binding' advertisement for the Encyclopaedia Britannica, describing the book's features, price, and availability. Text includes: 'The King's Binding' A Royal Book in fact as well as in name. ONE of the most beautiful books ever bound between covers is the new Encyclopaedia Britannica in 'The King's Binding'.