

DATE FOR GERARD TO LEAVE NOT SET

Work of Providing Passports for Ambassador and Staff Will Require Some Time.

NOT DENIED HE IS HOSTAGE

Allied Governments Promise Safe Conduct for Count von Bernstorff to Quit U. S.

No Denial of Report He Is Held as Hostage

(By Associated Press.) James W. Gerard, retiring American ambassador to Germany, is still in Berlin, semi-official communication says. The date of his departure "has not yet been fixed." There has been no denial by Berlin of the announcement in Copenhagen last Tuesday that Mr. Gerard would not be allowed to leave Berlin until the German government was satisfied as to the treatment by the American government of Count von Bernstorff, the retiring German ambassador at Washington.

(By Associated Press.) BERLIN, February 7. (via Sayville, February 8.)—The date of the departure of Ambassador Gerard has not yet been fixed. The German authorities are making every endeavor to assure him and members of the American embassy all possible facilities for forwarding private telegrams. No serious concern is felt here as to the date of departure of Gerard officials in the United States.

This information is contained in an announcement made public today by the Overseas News Agency, which follows: "The date of the departure of the American ambassador has not yet been fixed. The number of persons for whom passports must be secured will be larger than before this work will require some time. Every endeavor is being made to assure the ambassador and the personnel of the embassy all possible facilities for private telegrams."

AMERICAN RESIDENTS REGRET THE BREAK

While the American residents accept readily the decision of their government, many of them regret the breaking off of relations with Germany without provocation. A number of Americans, among whom are several newspaper correspondents, have decided to stay in Germany until further developments. "Concerning Count von Bernstorff's departure from the United States, up to the present no official communication has been received for several days. All connection with the ambassador is completely severed, and reliance has to be placed on all sorts of news coming from the enemy, which cannot be examined into as to its reliability. Nevertheless, no serious concern is felt regarding the safe departure of German officials in the United States, it being considered that the United States will not depart from the basis of the law of nations, especially that of the treaty of 1795."

BRITISH GOVERNMENT GRANTS SAFE CONDUCT

(By Associated Press.) LONDON, February 8.—Count von Bernstorff, the former German ambassador to the United States, will be given a safe conduct so far as it is within the power of the British government to bestow. This announcement was made tonight by the Foreign Office. It followed a conference between A. P. Balfour, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and Ambassador Page. The two were closeted for nearly an hour. Both were noncommittal on the subject of their deliberations, but at the conclusion of the conference the Foreign Office authorized the announcement of Great Britain's decision to accede to Washington's request, which was made two days ago. At the same time the Foreign Office advised its decision to the State Department at Washington.

It is said that Great Britain is ready to grant Count von Bernstorff safe conduct, but that it could not guarantee the former ambassador's safety against the acts of the confederate German government. The British government has expressed itself as anxious to meet the State Department's wishes, and declared that it would do all in its power to carry them out.

DETENTION LARGELY DUE TO MISUNDERSTANDING

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, February 8.—Ambassador Gerard, American consuls, and the American sailors brought in on the prize ship Yarrowdale, are being held in Germany until assurances have been received from here as to the safe departure of Count von Bernstorff and the German consuls, and the safety of German war-bound ships in this country.

It was said at the State Department today that sensational reports have become current in Germany that the German ships here have been confiscated and their crews seized. Pending confirmation, Germany has detained the Americans.

Officials here are inclined to minimize the importance of the detention because they believe it largely has arisen from a misunderstanding, and soon will be straightened out. It has been officially announced that there is no intention of taking the German ships. Moreover, dispatches have been conveyed to Germany through the French embassy as to the courtesies granted to former German officials in this country, and their receipt is expected.

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Germany, Desperate, Throwing Over All Restraints of War

No Peace Possible With Such Government, Says Viscount Bryce, Until It Is Defeated.

(By Associated Press.) LONDON, February 8.—Viscount Bryce, formerly British ambassador at Washington, gave to the Associated Press today his views on the current phases of the war, and the probable effect of America's action. Speaking first of Germany's declaration of war zones and the menace to neutrals, he said: "This is the first definite step that brings us nearer peace. It looks like a definite peace. It is throwing over every remaining restraint of law, and proclaiming its contempt of neutral opinion."

"It undertook the invasion of Roumania in the belief that victory there would startle the world, would appease dissent in Germany, and enable it to dictate peace on its own terms. When the German army's sudden success in Roumania, the German government thought the time for dictating peace had come. This was its calculation. But the offer was made in a way which showed the terms were to be terms imposed by a conqueror, which would enable her to retain most of her ill-gotten gains. When the offer was unambiguously rejected, because they knew it could not secure a durable peace, but would merely give her time for rearing till she was ready to resume her attacks, the German government grew desperate, and determined to try desperate expedients."

WHOLE CONDUCT SHOWS

"We need not be surprised, for the whole conduct of the German government has been of a piece. They began by invading Belgium, an innocent country with which they had no quarrel, merely to gain a military advantage. They slaughtered thousands of innocent Belgian civilians, men, women and children. They drowned innocent passengers and crews of passenger and merchant ships, many of them neutrals, in the Lusitania alone. They stood by and tacitly acquiesced in the plan of their Turkish allies to exterminate the whole Christian nation of Armenians with unscrupulous cruelties, when they could have stopped the massacre, warning the Turks to desist. Instead, they have been conferring honors on the bloodthirsty ruffian Enver (Turkish War Minister), the principal author of the massacres. And now they are carrying into slavery many thousand Belgian workmen, who are driven by force to toil in their own country, and help maintain in Belgium German tyranny of those who have been slaughtering their fellow-countrymen."

"All these acts show absolute disregard, not only of international law and treaty obligations, but what is far worse, scorn for the first principles of justice and humanity. This is what has made us in England feel that no peace can be made with such a government until it has been defeated."

TO SHOW GERMAN THEY MUST GET RID OF SUCH RULERS

"Nothing less than defeat will do. Nothing less than defeat will show the German people that they must get rid of such rulers. What we in England have been hoping is that neutral nations, especially people like the Americans, would so often have shown respect for justice and humanity, will understand what it is we are fighting for. It is not a war for territory or trade, like so many wars which have gone before it. It is a war for freedom and for right, a war to enable mankind to enjoy enduring peace in the future."

Mr. Bryce, when asked why he thought the German action toward neutrals had brought peace nearer, replied: "Because the German government has itself declared that this unbridled submarine warfare, directed against neutrals as well as belligerents, to itself is self-destructive. If this fails, everything will have failed, so they tell us themselves through their newspapers. That is why they say they were driven to it. If this does not succeed, the war is finished."

"We in England do not believe the German submarines can do us more harm than they have been doing already, although neutrals undoubtedly will suffer more. If there is to be a contest of endurance, we are confident that we can outlast Germany."

When Mr. Bryce was asked concerning President Wilson's course in severing diplomatic relations with Germany, he said:

"The President seems to us, if I may venture to express an opinion, to have acted with patient caution and moderation, which greatly strengthens his present position."

"What difference would America's coming into the war make?" Mr. Bryce was asked. "It is not for us to express any opinion on what America's duty and policy require," he replied. "That is entirely a matter for America; but if I might make, I personally, have no doubt that the entrance of America would be a most important factor, and would naturally tend to shorten the war."

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Ten Vessels Sunk in Last 24 Hours

Enemy and neutral ships aggregating 21,205 tons, have been sunk by German submarines during the last twenty-four hours. Ten vessels in all were sent to the bottom during this period, six of them British steamers of an aggregate tonnage of 10,720.

The British ships reported as sunk yesterday are: Turino, 2,702 tons, one American negro killed. Dauntless, 2,157 tons, two of the crew dead. Hollandside, 2,482 tons. Boyne Castle, 245 tons. Vedmore, 1,122 tons, crew landed. Savon, tank steamer. Other ships: Varling (Swedish), 2,200 tons. Songely (Norwegian), 2,003 tons. Yvonne (French), trawler. Haugvik (Russian), schooner.

TWO DECLINE TO ACCEPT WILSON'S SUGGESTIONS

Spanish and Swedish Governments Decide Against Joining U. S. in Breaking With Germany.

HOLLAND IS NOT TO CHANGE

Brazil Declares Intention of Holding Berlin Responsible for Consequences of U-Boat Warfare—Peru and Chile Liked to Protest.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, February 8.—Spain's note, which, it is understood, formally declines to accept President Wilson's suggestion that she break off diplomatic relations with Germany, was received today at the State Department, but not made public.

SUPPORT OF MINORITY ASKED FOR MEASURES

(By Associated Press.) MADRID, February 8 (via Paris).—Premier Romanones and the Duke of Alba, Minister of the Interior, met the minority leaders at a two-hour conference today, and asked their support for the immediate passage of a number of measures, including a credit of 1,000,000,000 pesetas for public works.

Among the proposed bills is one for the reform of the foreign banking service, another for the nationalization of export loans, a third for an increase in the income tax, and a fourth for a substitution of a tax on the profits of privileged enterprises instead of the present tax on war profits. A measure also was discussed respecting the tobacco monopoly.

The minority leaders agreed to all the proposals except that for 1,000,000,000 pesetas credit, and a bill dealing with the liquor question. These two matters were reserved for a further conference.

Referring to the Spanish note to Germany, the Diario Universal says that the whole country is unanimously in favor of maintaining neutrality, but that that attitude does not exclude action in the defense of national interests or for the protection of national dignity.

SWEDISH GOVERNMENT HELDS UP SUGGESTION

(By Associated Press.) STOCKHOLM, February 8.—The Swedish government rejects President Wilson's suggestion that other neutral countries join with the United States in severing diplomatic relations with Germany, and declares its intention to follow the strictest neutrality as long as it is possible. Sweden's reply was delivered to the American minister today.

"The government of the United States has chosen as a means of arriving at the realization of peace a method absolutely contrary to the principles which have guided the policy of the Swedish government up to the present hour."

So declares the Swedish note, which the Minister of Foreign Affairs, K. A. Wallenberg, delivered to the American minister, Eric Nelson Morris, in reply to President Wilson's invitation to Sweden to join with the United States, which Mr. Morris communicated to the Swedish government on Monday. The text of the note follows:

"The policy followed by the royal government during the war has been one of strictly impartial neutrality. The royal government has done everything in its power faithfully to fulfill all the duties which this policy imposes upon it, and at the same time it has rendered effective as far as possible the rights derived therefrom."

"With a view to obtaining a practical result in upholding the principles of international law, the royal government has several times addressed itself to neutral powers in order to effect co-operation, with the aforesaid object in view. Above all, the royal government has not failed to submit

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U-BOATS MAINTAIN DAILY AVERAGE

Records for First Three Days Show Vessels Sunk at Rate of 1,000,000 Tons a Month.

SCHEDULE SET BY GERMANS

This Amount Fixed by Naval Authorities as Necessary to Starve British Isles.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, February 8.—Germany's ruthless submarine warfare, continued with the success of the last three days, would destroy within a short time a great part of the world's merchant tonnage. Officials here estimated today on records for the three days since expiration of the time allowed in the German proclamation for ships at sea on February 1 to get into port, that vessels were being sunk at the rate of nearly 1,000,000 tons a month, the amount German naval authorities set as necessary to starve the British Isles.

At that rate it would take just four years to destroy the tonnage of the entire world—15,000,000 tons—if all the world's ships ventured into the war zone.

Lloyd's report puts the tonnage sunk February 5, 6 and 7 at about 55,000 tons.

The world turned out in 1916 less than 2,000,000 tonnage of merchant vessels. During the year, the Germans sank a little more than that, making the net loss in world's shipping about 1-1/2 per cent.

MANUFACTURERS RUSHING WORK ON MERCHANT SHIPS

Ship manufacturers in all the allied and neutral countries are rushing work on merchant ships. Vessels have been standardized, and it is almost impossible to have made anywhere a ship of special construction. The British government is having built great steel cargo ships, all alike, and of the simplest construction. The yards are busy night and day on their construction, and as they are off the ways keels will be laid for more.

There are no figures to show the amount of tonnage constantly on the seas carrying goods to and from the British Isles. United States customs reports show that about 1,500,000 tons clear from American ports every month, but as some vessels clear twice the figures are misleading. About the same amount of tonnage arrives monthly from European ports.

Of the 15,000,000 tons of merchant ships in the world, Great Britain owns about 2,000,000 tons. The United States is second, with a little more than 2,000,000 tons, of which 2,000,000 tons is in lake and river trade. In American ports there are ninety-five German merchant ships of 600,000 tonnage, which put in for haven at the outbreak of the war.

SIXTY SHIPS SUNK BY SUBMARINES OR MINES

(By Associated Press.) NEW YORK, February 8.—Sixty ships have been sunk by German submarines or mines, according to a compilation made here from cable reports since the German blockade order took effect on February 1. Fifteen vessels reported as lost since Tuesday brings the total tonnage of the victims of the German navy up to 119,042.

Thirty-three, or more than half of this number, were British vessels; five carried the flag of the United States. The remaining ships were of various nationalities, one was an American, and twenty-one were owned in other neutral countries. The only American ship thus far lost in the submarine war zone is the Houston, owned by the Houston Steamship Company. She was sunk by a submarine off the Scilly Islands on February 2.

The British liner California, 8,602 tons, is the largest of the vessels thus far reported sunk. The California carried five small British fishing-boats and four British trawlers, names of which were not given. Following are the names, nationalities and tonnage of the vessels lost:

- British—Havensbourne, 1,500; Desfontaine, 685; Violet, 150; Trovian, 3,081; Dundee, 2,278; Ida, 600; Port Adelaide, 1,242; Portland, 4,777; Warrington, 1,511; Chiffonard, 400; Wagle, 1,110; Eriming, 1,496; Palmar, 2,200; Bedford, 1,995; California, 8,602; Crown Point, 2,218; Azul, 3,074; St. Niman, 2,045; Corsican Prince, 2,574; Saxon Briton, 1,337; Vestria, 1,921; Eaststone, 1,850; Isle of Atran, 1,918; Hirstwood, 1,229; Turino, 2,702.
- Norwegian—Hemland, 1,550; Jery, 1,112; Hecla, 524; Perla, 1,175; Ymer, 1,122; Thor, 11; 2,143; Sonal, 2,009; Wastide, 1,858; Eigel, 1,771; Tamara, 152.
- Spanish—Batron, 2,424; Algora, 2,116; Dos de Noviembre, 1,000; Macarena, 1,122.
- Greek—Elekon, 1,500; Helios, 1,500.
- Dutch—Ganna, 2,198; Epstun, 2,221.
- Belgian—Marcelle, 210; Epirate, 2,809.
- Russian—Garnet Hill, 2,272; Gera, 2,512.
- Danish—Laes Kruse, 1,450.
- Swedish—Bravalla, 1,502.
- Italian—Perrichio, 1,192.
- Portuguese—Lorton, 1,110.
- American—Houston, 2,022.

MANY PASSENGER LINERS ARE OUT ON HIGH SEAS

(By Associated Press.) NEW YORK, February 8.—Nine passenger liners flying flags of the belligerent allies, two ships of the American flag, and one of Holland are today on the high seas between New York and the European ports. All but three, the American and Dutch ships, bound east, are within possible danger of submarines or mines.

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NO EVIDENCE YET OF AN OVERT ACT

This Government Not to Seize Property of Any Foreign Subject

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, February 8.—A formal statement giving assurances that the government has no intention of seizing bank deposits or other property belonging to any foreign subject, even in the event of war, was issued by the State Department with the approval of President Wilson.

The statement was prompted by the anxiety of German subjects in some sections regarding savings deposits, and by the many reports in circulation regarding the intention of the government concerning war-bound vessels in American ports. It makes no specific reference to the Prussian-American treaty of 1928, which provides for the immunity of such property, but which has been regarded as of doubtful validity.

The decision is understood to be in furtherance of President Wilson's determination that there shall be nothing in the conduct of the United States to warrant criticism rather than indicative of any specific intention to acknowledge the validity of disputed provisions of the old treaty.

Officials did not comment on a press dispatch from Berlin saying Ambassador Gerard had been asked to secure a ratification of the treaty, but previously they had indicated that such a suggestion would find no response here under present conditions.

The department's statement follows: "It having been reported to him that there is anxiety in some quarters on the part of persons residing in this country who are subjects of foreign states lest their bank deposits or other property should be seized in the event of war between the United States and a foreign nation, the President authorizes the statement that all such fears are entirely unfounded."

"The government of the United States will in no circumstances take advantage of a state of war to take possession of property of a subject of international understanding and the recognized law of the land give it no just claim or title. It will scrupulously respect all private rights alike of its own citizens and of the subjects of foreign states."

STEAMER TURINO SUNK; AMERICAN NEGRO LOST

President Gives Instructions That All Facts Be Gathered as Quickly as Possible.

LEFT NORFOLK ON JANUARY 19

(By Associated Press.) LONDON, February 8.—The British steamer Turino has been sunk by a submarine, resulting in the death of an American negro fireman named George Washington, according to a report received today by the American embassy from Queenstown, Galway Bay, another American from Fillmore, Utah, is among the survivors.

The Turino, of 2,702 tons net, was last reported as sailing from Norfolk on January 19 for Liverpool.

PRESIDENT WANTS ALL FACTS GATHERED

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, February 8.—When President Wilson was told of the killing of an American negro on the Turino, he gave instructions that all facts relating to the case be gathered as quickly as possible. Later, it was stated officially that there is nothing to change the situation, but the understanding was the Turino case had not been taken into account, no official details having been received.

LEFT NEWPORT NEWS WITH GENERAL CARGO

(By Associated Press.) NEWPORT NEWS, Va., February 8.—The British steamer Turino reported sunk, left here on January 19 for Liverpool and London, via Norfolk. Purves, Withy & Co., her agents, were here this afternoon, but the Turino had been sent down. The Turino carried a general cargo when she left Hampton Roads. Her agents expressed the belief that she was on her return voyage when sunk. Details of the destruction of the steamer are not known here.

The Turino carried 85 per cent general cargo for the British Admiralty and 15 per cent commercial cargo, according to her agents. Fifty charges on the cargo, approximately 815,000 lbs., Captain Dickinson, master of the Turino, was on the British steamer Duriana when that steamer was torpedoed several months ago.

GERMAN IS ARRESTED

Wolfgang Berger Held at Newport News on Suspicion of Being Spy.

(By Associated Press.) NEWPORT NEWS, Va., February 8.—Wolfgang Berger, admitting German nationality, was arrested here today, and is being held by the immigration authorities on suspicion of being a German spy. The spy, who was left in possession of a notebook containing a long list of American vessels, many of them United States warships.

Berger admitted that he had not worked for three years, said that he has visited many Atlantic coast ports, and explained that he lived by begging. Berger said he deserted the German liner W. H. Grosse in New York three years ago. Immigration officials are making a thorough investigation. Berger is now in jail.

AMENDMENT REJECTED

Measure Putting Postmasters of All Classes Under Civil Service Goes to Conference.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, February 8.—An amendment to put postmasters of all classes under civil service, written into the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill by the Senate, was rejected today by the House, and the bill was sent to conference.

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WILSON WILL NOT PLUNGE INTO WAR ON TECHNICALITY

Must Have Complete Evidence About Which There Is No Question.

SUBMARINE CAMPAIGN NOW IN FULL SWING

Escape of American Ships and People Believed Due Entirely to Chance.

PRESIDENT IN CLOSE TOUCH

Makes Another Quick Round of State, War and Navy Departments.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, February 8.—The American government still is without official evidence of an overt act by Germany considered necessary to justify President Wilson in going before Congress for authority to use necessary means to protect American seamen and people.

There no longer is any doubt that the ruthless submarine campaign is in full swing, in defiance of the warning of the United States. Everywhere it is believed that if no American ship has been destroyed it is because American ships are lying idle in their harbors instead of doing their usual trade; if no American life has been lost it is due entirely to chance.

It also is generally conceded that on the basis of preliminary reports, the torpedoing without warning of the passenger liner California, with an American on board, makes out a clear-cut case of technical violation of the rights of the United States.

President Wilson, however, is represented as determined not to plunge the country into war on a technicality. When he moves, it will be on complete evidence of an outrage about which there can be no question. Then, he expects to have the American people and Congress behind him.

FEW DETAILS RECEIVED ON TURINO SINKING

Unofficial dispatches today told of the killing of an American negro sailor named George Washington in the sinking of the British steamer Turino. Few details were given, and the State Department tonight had heard nothing officially.

To get in personal touch with all steps taken to prepare the country for whatever may come, the President left the White House this afternoon and made another quick round of the State, War and Navy Departments, visiting Secretaries Lansing, Baker and Daniels. It was stated that he will continue this practice almost every day.

When he returned to the White House, it was stated officially that information on all the torpedoed vessels involving Americans was being gathered as rapidly as possible, but that up to that time there had been no change in the situation.

An additional cause for uneasiness was given the government in the receipt of information received as confirming reports that Ambassador Gerard and American consuls in Germany virtually are being detained in Germany because of uncertainty in Berlin over the plans for Ambassador von Bernstorff, and as a result of reports that German ships in American harbors had been seized. It is understood that there has been any formal action in this connection, the German government merely delaying arrangements for the departure of the Americans.

SAFE CONDUCTS ARRANGED FOR GERMAN DIPLOMATS

Word was received from Great Britain and France during the day that safe conducts for German diplomats in this country would be arranged. This, as well as the fact that German ships here have not been seized, was communicated to the Berlin government, and no further difficulty is expected.

From several neutral nations came information that while they would not break diplomatic relations with Germany, they had or would send protests which would align them against the new campaign of ruthlessness. Again there were some suggestions of a combination of neutral nations, either to prevent trouble between the United States and Germany, or to make clear neutral rights, but no definite plans were made public.

In line with his general policy in the crisis, the President authorized the statement that even in case of war, bank deposits and other property of foreigners in the United States would be safeguarded and not seized.

WHOLE NEW WORLD SITUATION PRECIPITATED BY GERMANY

In taking stock of a whole new world situation precipitated by the German action of February 1, officials in Washington look upon the German action as having forced the severance of relations and brought this country to the verge of war; as having left 1,000,000 prisoners for whom this country was caring in a serious situation and as having brought down on Germany the moral indignation of practically all the rest of the world. Some officials also think that the last three

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