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The German Reason Disclosed.

Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg delivered a speech in the ways and means committee of the German reichstag yesterday that throws an important light upon Germany's sudden decision to cancel its pledge to the United States by instituting a campaign of unrestricted submarine warfare. It appears from the chancellor's speech that the question of "ruthlessness" has been merely one of expediency, and not of humanity. This has been regarded as a weapon to be used at the right moment for the maximum effect. Had it been deemed wise or advantageous to proceed with this campaign a year ago, evidently from the chancellor's remarks that course would have been followed regardless of the protests of the United States. The chancellor sums up the whole case in these words:

"I have always proceeded from the standpoint of whether U-boat war would bring us nearer victorious peace or not. Every means, I said in March, that was calculated to shorten the war constituted the most humane policy to follow. When the most ruthless methods are considered best calculated to lead us to victory, and swift victory, I said, then they must be employed. That moment has now arrived. Last autumn the time was not yet ripe, but today the moment has come, when, with the greatest prospect of success, we can undertake the enterprise. We must, therefore, not wait any longer."

There is no thought of consideration in this for the principles of humanity or of international law, for which the United States has contended from the beginning of submarine warfare. There is no thought of the validity of pledges given, perhaps under pressure of circumstances, but nevertheless to be viewed by this country as binding. The chancellor's words constitute a frank avowal that the negotiations with the United States respecting submarine warfare were insincere; that behind them was the determination of Germany at her own time and regardless of the views or rights of others to conduct naval warfare in her own way.

As The Star pointed out yesterday, the pledge given to warn unresisting ships in ample season to prevent the loss of life was, according to the text of Germany's note of May, 1916, made contingent upon the United States securing from the entente powers certain concessions for which it had asked. This government immediately rejected that condition. Germany made no rejoinder to this rejection. As the record stands, the United States holds Germany to an unconditional pledge to give warning to neutral ships, and Germany has from the American point of view by her silence acceded to that situation. Now it develops that the pledge is to be canceled, not on the ground initially indicated in the note of last May, nor even, according to the chancellor's latest expression, because as the new note declares the entente allies have rejected the peace proposal, but because Germany deems that the hour has come when in accordance with a long conceived plan it is advisable to deliver a stroke by which it is hoped to end the war. The pledge given last May thus appears to have been merely another "scrap of paper."

Germany purposes to put to a supreme test the question of whether the submarine is to be rated as a stable instrument of warfare or as an intricate and vicious military toy.

It would be remarkable if Dr. Grayson leaped over all those numbers and landed into an actual naval crisis.

Keeping us out of war becomes a more delicate problem with every day that passes.

Preparedness necessarily suffers at the hands of the statesman who gets the munitions mixed up with the pork.

The Immigration Bill.

The House yesterday, with twenty-five votes to spare, overrode the President's veto of the immigration bill. It is predicted that the Senate will follow suit. In that body the measure passed by a vote of 64 to 7—a strong promise of a two-thirds majority for sustaining that action.

At this time, big with interest in another question which overshadows all else, this matter cannot hope for a popular appraisal commensurate with its importance. If, as seems likely, a law is to be written on the books applying a literacy test to immigrants, a radically new departure in the national policy is at hand, and will fly in the face of our experience as a nation. We have admitted many unlettered persons to our shores, and seen them qualify under American opportunities for the best American citizenship. Why should this end? What assurance is there that under the new policy the country will benefit?

And just now in particular these questions are very pertinent. True, immigration is practically suspended now. The war has closed the doors abroad.

But when the war ends, and the peoples of Europe are free to move about as before, the movement in this direction will be resumed, and then we shall be face to face with the old problem as now apparently on the eve of amendment.

It will not matter whether the tide rises as high, or higher, than before. There is a difference of opinion on that point. One opinion is that Europe will continue in some way under some inducements to keep her people at home, for the purpose of repairing the wastes of the war. Another opinion is that in order to escape the burden of taxation and other burdens growing out of the war, Europeans in larger numbers than ever before will flock to America.

But come they in numbers small or great, immigrants from all quarters will be welcome, and should be sifted at our gates with care. We do not want undesirable—those who come for only temporary purposes, or whose ideas of government differ from ours, or who for any reason are not assimilable. But we do want men and women of the right sort who are seeking a new home—a real home—and are qualified by character and health and industry to share in and add to our great inheritance.

The Interned Ships.

On the outbreak of the war in Europe there were in port in this country or within easy sailing distance a large number of vessels of Teutonic registry. The ships already in harbor were at once interned for safety, and those at sea were sent into American waters for the same purpose. It is stated that there are now ninety-three German vessels in American ports, with a gross tonnage of over 600,000. They range from the Vaterland, of 54,282 tons, in New York, to the Nepton, of 197 tons, in San Francisco. Some of them are in Manila and others in Honolulu. All of these vessels in case of war between Germany and the United States are subject to seizure by this government. It is now reported that precautions are being taken to insure, if possible, against the destruction of these ships by their officers in the event of a breach of relations, to prevent their falling into the hands of the United States. Already one ship has been sunk at her moorings in Charleston harbor in circumstances to indicate that she was scuttled.

The deliberate sinking of these vessels before or after a break of relations is an offense. Not even the owners of a vessel can intentionally cause her destruction within the law. If she is blown up the action endangers others. If she is sunk in harbor the port is obstructed. Yet there is no warrant for the removal of the caretakers from these ships till an actual break occurs between the governments. If it is the design of those in charge of the vessels to destroy them upon a breach of relations they have the advantage of position. It is, however, possible to prevent the moving of these ships from their present moorings into the channels where their sinking might cause a serious obstruction to navigation. Doubtless precautions have been fully taken to this end. The vessels of Teutonic ownership now in American ports have been estimated to be worth upwards of \$100,000,000, and in the event of war their possession by the United States would be an item of great importance.

Count von Bernstorff is to be congratulated on having held so difficult and delicate a position for so long a time. It is feared that international affairs have reached a point where little time can be allotted to the soothing processes of investigation. Many who professed inability to understand President Wilson's recent address to the Senate now begin to see daylight. Germany is accumulating more strict accountability than any nation should undertake to handle.

The Liebenfels sank without any need-less consumption of ammunition.

Revenue and Sectionalism.

The present is not the first time taxation has caused sectional debate in Congress. This time it grew inevitably out of Mr. Kitchin's speech in the democratic caucus, in which he asked for southern support for his revenue measure on the score that the north would have to pay the great bulk of the assessment—a fact, but one he should not have boasted of.

But, going back long years, we find sectionalism stirred by the tariff. Before the south ceased to be wholly agricultural, objection in that quarter to protection was based upon the assertion that the policy was conceived in the interest of the north, where manufacturing flourished. The reply was easy. The south was told that indirectly she would benefit from the north's prosperity, and that in time she herself might engage in manufacturing.

Such has been the result. To the extent that American manufactures have strengthened the country, the south along with the north has benefited; and her own manufacturing interests today are considerable. Her cotton spinning, her mining, her sugar, her citrus fruits industries, her lumber business, her rice planting, have all been developed under protection. She has reaped richly from the national application of that policy, both as respects raw materials and finished products. There is as good reason why the south should support protection as why the north should.

Coming to preparedness, the south is told that the policy is conceived in the interest of the north, and hence the north should foot the bills. Is a more erroneous appraisal of the matter possible? Could the north suffer from unpreparedness without the south sharing the misfortune? Is not the policy truly national in its nature? And should not the money be raised in a way requiring all sections to contribute?

It is possible to make the north pay not only these bills, but other bills. A policy conceived in the spirit of penalizing ability and success and "soaking the rich" can be shaped to yield a great deal of money from that section. But no more unwise policy could be adopted. For class legislation and sectional legislation if persisted in will lead to bitterness, in Congress and out, and in time come in dangerous conflict with the fundamentals of the government.

The Austrian Envoy.

Count Tarnowski von Tarnow, the new Austro-Hungarian ambassador to the United States, gets here at a critical time. He landed in New York on the day of the promulgation of the German announcement of unrestricted submarine warfare. A few hours after his arrival came word that Austria joins with Germany in the proclamation of an extended naval war zone. Thus it is possible that Count Tarnowski has reached the United States only, as the popular song runs, to "Walk right in, and turn around, and then walk out again." There seems to have been a lack of teamwork somewhere unless it was designed to let the new envoy reach this country at this juncture in order to give the United States an opportunity formally to dismiss him in case of a break. That seems improbable, considering the difficulties of transit between Austria and the United States. Safe conduct was granted the Austrian envoy by England about seven weeks ago, but for some reason he tarried in Vienna and Berlin after his passage to New York was assured. He expressed profound astonishment on arrival to find that a crisis had been precipitated, but this may have been diplomatic, as it is difficult to believe that his government or that of Germany would keep him wholly in ignorance as to a plan which it might easily have been conceived in Berlin and Vienna would lead to a serious strain of relations with the United States, involving the possibility of a break.

The Key Bridge Approaches.

The plan to provide two approaches to the new Key bridge, which is to replace the Aqueduct bridge, will solve a problem of traffic distribution in Georgetown which has of recent years become increasingly difficult. By carrying the viaduct across M street from Prospect street it will be possible to afford direct access to the bridge from the higher level, whereas the Aqueduct bridge can be reached from that level from a point considerably to the east. The present conditions make for congestion at the entrance to the only means of crossing the river in Georgetown, and save for pedestrians isolates a large area lying immediately north. The ground is well adapted to a construction such as that proposed and the plan is worth adoption, notwithstanding the additional cost.

Present apprehensions make the contention of Villa and Carranza look by comparison like a fight between two small boys on a back lot.

Belgium's experience has given terrific significance to the much repeated phrase, "Ruthless warfare."

The latest war news represents no leak. It is a freshet.

The really big resignation rumor now hovers over Count von Bernstorff.

No irreverent hand has yet scuttled Henry Ford's peace ship.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

A Sense of Vindication. "What do you think of the idea of a concert of power?"

"It's a good thing," replied Mr. Dustin Stax. "It supports my old contention that if you want to do business these days you've got to have some sort of a merger."

Shocks. So many shocks have caused the mind To fear the world is not aright, To welcome any we're inclined That isn't caused by dynamite.

An Admission. "Sometimes I don't get what's in your mind."

"What do you mean by that?" inquired Senator Sorghum.

"To be quite frank, I don't understand what you are talking about."

"My friend, that may often indicate that I have conveyed my mental impressions to you only too clearly."

Resentful Sacrifice. "Do you approve of prohibition?"

"Yes," said Uncle Eben. "I'm willing to abolish liquor rather than see it wasted in a lot of folks around here that can't appreciate it."

The Overshadow. Oh, we kick about the taxes. We complain about the rent. And there isn't any limit To the things that we resent When we have the time to figure On the smaller sort of sums. But we somehow quit our kicking When the real trouble comes.

We cherish many a grievance Toward the friends who disappoint. Every rumor starts a protest That at times are out of joint. We are busy with the gossip That so generally hums. But we brace up and forget it When the real trouble comes.

THE DAILY STORE NEWS OF LANSBURGH & BRO.



Telephone Main 6853 Mail Orders Promptly and Efficiently Filled

Editorial

The Postal Savings System of the United States provides facilities for depositing savings at 2 per cent annual interest, with the security of the United States government for repayment. A depositor may withdraw the whole or any part of the deposit at any time.

This store considers that all moneys spent here are simply on deposit and subject to return to the customer within a reasonable time if any cause for dissatisfaction exists over the purchase. Back of this promise are made from the originality of all our resources and the faith of the owners of the store is solemnly pledged to fulfillment of it. The return of money for goods is made without discount. No deductions are made from the original price. And no ill feeling is engendered by the request. Please, always, feel free to ask—and receive—at the Store of Greater Service.



Another Big Opportunity

Men's Fine Shirts, 79c

An economy price at which every man should supply his needs for at least six months. Plain negligee coat models—those with stiff cuffs made of 100-count percale; those with soft cuffs made of poplin, madras, doucetines, 100-count percales and other shirting fabrics.

Sizes 13 1/2 to 17, arranged on tables for easy selection. Don't let this extraordinary opportunity slip by. Chances are ten to one you'll not get as good shirts soon again for this price—

At 79c Each Direct Street Entrance, Men's Shop—Lansburgh & Bro.

Shoes for All Occasions

An early showing of spring styles for those going south. Charming Evening Pumps and Boots for ballroom or opera wear. Business and walking footwear of individual style—a wide range. There is no shoe need that Lansburgh & Bro. can't fill to your satisfaction. Women's Shoes, \$3.35 to \$14 Girls' Shoes, \$1.95 to \$5.00 Babies' Shoes, \$1.00 to \$3.50 Second Floor—Lansburgh & Bro.

Children's New Spring Dresses

They are made of fine gingham, in plaids and stripes, with combination trimmings. Sizes 2 to 6 years. Special at 59c.

Children's Rompers

For spring, made of galatea cloth, gingham and seersucker, in bloomer, beach and creeper styles. Also White Madras "Iwanta" Model Rompers. Sizes 2 to 6 years. Price, 50c.

\$3.95 to \$7.50 COATS, \$2.95, \$3.95, \$5.95 Children's Winter Coats, made of chinchilla cloth or corduroy, in box or skirt models. Sizes 2 to 6 years. Children's Hats also at greatly reduced prices.

Girls' Confirmation Dresses

One lot made of fine voile, with tucked skirt. High waist line and ribbon trimmed. Sizes 8 to 14 years. Price, \$5.95. Another lot made of beautiful nets, prettily trimmed with ribbon; have high waist lines. Prices, \$10.95 to \$14.75.

Larger Girls' Spring Dresses

New Taffeta Dresses in all the best spring shades for the intermediate girls, 12 to 16 years of age. A number of models. Prices, \$10.95 to \$19.75.

New Spring Dresses made of fine gingham in a handsome variety of plaids. Sizes 6 to 14 years. Prices, \$1.95 to \$2.95. Third Floor—Lansburgh & Bro.

5-in. Ribbon, 15c yd. Silk Petticoats, \$3.95. Ostrich Boas, \$2.98.

It Will Be Positively Impossible for Any Woman to Resist the Dresses We Are Now Showing for the Spring and Summer, at \$16.95



Their straight lines give grace to the figure; their simple decorations are becoming and they are quite the most charming styles that we have had for several seasons. Taffeta is the material mostly used at this price and may be had in such colors as navy, black, Belgian, gray, old rose and rookie. The bodices of the dresses are extremely simple, many even plain. Belts and girdles are a distinctive feature, with unique pockets utilized also for trimming. There are quite a number of Russian blouse effects with large collars; some have a full-pleated skirt. Colored stitching is another prominent trimming note. Dresses are destined to be the wearable feature of every woman's wardrobe. All sizes from 16 to 44. Price, \$16.95. Second Floor—Lansburgh & Bro.

Distinction—

The gray-haired woman who is wise enough to follow the mandates of the mode knows that a full and becoming hair arrangement adds dignity and an air of elegance to her appearance. She always chooses a well made, perfectly matched hair piece to insure a smart coiffure. These are the favorites: 18-inch Gray Wavy Hair Switches \$2.45 20-inch Gray Wavy Hair Gray Transformations \$3.45 THE SHOPPE BEAUTIFUL Cozy Parlors on the third floor, with the dainty atmosphere you have been looking for, where our expert attendants make a special study of your particular comforts. A manicure, a face massage, shampoo or scalp treatment in our immaculate salon is a delightful performance you will want to try over and over again. Next to Rest Room—Lansburgh & Bro.

Good-Bye! Boys' Overcoats

—and we have reduced them all to a price so low that it will prove economy to buy the boy one for next season.

Divided Into Six Big Lots \$1.99, \$2.99, \$3.99 \$4.99, \$5.99, \$6.99 The Styles are Russian Polo, Naval, Military in plain and pinch-back models with convertible collars. Materials are cassimeres, fancy mixtures and chinchillas. Third Floor—Lansburgh & Bro.

NEW SPRING BLOUSES

—in a big variety now ready. They come in all the new materials, as men's wear crepe, habutai silk, crepe de chine and striped and checked fabrics. Many new and quite different models. New Tailored Blouses, made of splendid crepe de chine in both flesh and white. Price, \$5.00 Tailored Blouses, made of fine quality Jap silks, with a fine hairline stripe or in pure white, with collar and cuffs in checked or solid color effects. Price, \$5.50 Blouses of handsome plaid silks, with solid color collars and cuffs, in gold, rose or blue. Price, \$7.50 Second Floor—Lansburgh & Bro.

Buds of Spring Millinery Have Unfolded

—and the most beautiful blossoms are now in full bloom. Our big, NEW Millinery Section is a veritable garden of hats, as enchanting as those gardens of ancient fairy tales. Our showing is of special interest this season, as we have successfully reproduced the most exclusive designs of some of the foremost milliners at modest prices. Among the most important features of this display will be a special gathering of those quaint Chinese, Japanese and Oriental effects which women have found so much to their liking. Then, of course, we've a large and representative assemblage of smaller hats. Prices Are \$5 and \$7.50 Second Floor—Lansburgh & Bro.

FINAL CLEARANCE Men's and Young Men's Suits and Overcoats

—At Prices Which Touch the Low Level of Value-giving ABOUT 300 GARMENTS AT PRICES WAY LESS THAN REGULAR EXTRA SPECIAL \$7.75 High-grade Suits for men and young men, in Pinch-back and Conservative models, in a variety of neat patterns and durable fabrics. All sizes from 32 to 38 inch chest measure, at \$7.75 Men's and Young Men's Suits and Overcoats Men's and Young Men's Suits and Overcoats Men's and Young Men's Suits and Overcoats Newest Styles, Newest Fabrics, Sizes to 38, Reduced to \$9.75 \$11.75 \$13.75 Third Floor, Lansburgh & Bro.

Tomorrow Last Day of Our Big Sale of Toilets

—All the items advertised yesterday will be on sale tomorrow along with the new ones mentioned below. A chance for big economies. 25c Packer's Tar Soap.....14c 25c Cuticura Soap.....17c 25c D. & R. Cold Cream.....18c 7 cakes Ivory Soap.....25c 15c Mennen's Talcum Powder.....11c 3 Rolls Toilet Paper.....25c 50c Java Rice Powder.....29c (All Tints) Small Vial Mary Garden.....25c FREE A sample package of Djer-Kiss Sachet Powder with each purchase, or as long as it lasts. Main Floor—Lansburgh & Bro.

Always Something New in Our Big Undermuslin Dept.

Today there are five new shipments upon which we would lay special stress—both as to quality and low price. Here are four of them: Night Robes, made of sheer nainsook and trimmed with some effective new patterns in laces and embroideries. Prices, \$1.95 and \$2.95. Envelope Chemise, made with nainsook yokes and trimmed with dainty lace edgings, insertions and ribbons. Price, \$1.50 and \$1.95. White Petticoats, of extra fine quality cambric with ruffles trimmed with laces and embroideries. Price, \$1.95. Envelope Chemise, made of silk jersey, crepe de chine or China silk. This is the second shipment of these and they are special at \$1.95 and \$2.95. Third Floor—Lansburgh & Bro.

LANSBURGH & BRO. Store Hours: Open 8:45 A.M.; Close 5:30 P.M. Washington's Fastest Growing Department Store