

CRISIS IS REACHED; GERMAN DENIES DEMANDS OF U. S. IN U-BOAT WARFARE

SIX WOMEN PERISH AS FIRE RAZES BROOKLYN RESIDENCE; GIRL DIES RESCUING OTHERS

Daughters of Late Banker Are Killed In Disastrous Fire After Trying To Aid Aged Relative.

Assist Mother To Escape and Telephone to Fire Headquarters — Charred Bodies Found In Ruins.

New York, Feb. 4.—Six women lost their lives in a fire which destroyed the home of Mrs. Casimer Tag at 243 Hancock street, Brooklyn, early today.

The dead are: Miss Caroline Tag and Miss Helen Tag, daughters of the late bank president; Hannah E. Snavley, 68 years old, a cousin of Mrs. Tag; Jennie Stedmann, a nurse, and Anna Cain, and Lizzie Cain, servants.

The fire, which began in a partition on the lower floor of the four story house, is attributed to defective insulation of wires. Miss Caroline Tag was awakened by smoke and discovered the fire about 3 o'clock this morning.

STEAMERS IN CRASH; 160 LOST

Shanghai, Feb. 4.—The Japanese liner Daijin Maru was sunk Wednesday night in a collision with the steamship Linan, and 160 lives were lost.

Twenty-one persons were saved. The Linan, badly damaged, is returning to Hong Kong.

The Daijin Maru, of 15,756 tons gross and 242 feet long, was built at Kobe in 1906. She was owned in Osaka.

The Linan is owned by the China Navigation Co. of London. She is 300 feet long, of 2,211 tons gross, and was built at Greenwich, in 1903.

WANTS DECREE. Helen L. Davison of Stamford filed divorce proceedings in the superior court today against Walter W. Davison of Stamford.

THE WEATHER Fair tonight and Saturday; rising temperatures Saturday; moderate to fresh southwest winds.

FIVE DEAD, MANY HURT WHEN ATLANTIC CITY HOTEL IS FIRE-SWEPT

Atlantic City, N. J., Feb. 4.—Five persons lost their lives and eight others were seriously injured early today in a fire which destroyed the Overbrook hotel at Pacific and Mount Vernon avenues in this city.

ONE KILLED, TWO DYING AS ENGINE HITS R. R. CREW

Locomotive Plows Into Gang Working on Tracks At Westbrook.

Westbrook, Conn., Feb. 4.—One man was killed and two others seriously, if not fatally, injured here today by being hit by a light engine, turning west over the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad.

MRS. MOHR SOBS AS HER LAWYERS MAKE LAST PLEA

Providence, Feb. 4.—Final arguments were made today in the trial of Mrs. Elizabeth F. Mohr, C. Victor Brown and Henry H. Spellman, for the murder of Dr. C. Franklin Mohr.

John J. Fitzgerald, of counsel for Mrs. Mohr, declared in his argument that the state had "subjected his client to an injustice" in its refusal to permit her to be tried alone.

PRUSSIAN TREATY GOVERNS U. S. IN RULING ON APPAM

Secretary Lansing Indicates That German Contention Will Be Upheld.

LAKE DESIGNS SUBMARINE TO CARRY FREIGHT

Noted Inventor Obtains Patents on New Type of Undersea Vessels.

Washington, Feb. 4.—Secretary Lansing indicated today that the United States had decided to hold that the Prussian-American treaty governs the case of the Appam, as Germany contends, and that all that remained to be decided was the interpretation of the application of the treaty's terms.

PARK CITY GIRLS 'STUDY SOCIOLOGY' IN LARGE CITIES

Ex-Superintendent Deane's Daughters And Two Others Training in Work.

Younger members of the Bridgeport social set are interesting themselves in sociology. Several have already left Bridgeport to accept responsible positions in New York, Philadelphia and other cities.

BIG BLAZE WAS CAUSED BY GAS BOMB, IS BELIEF

Fire Department Officials Suspect Incendiary Missile Was Used.

DELAY OF WEEK IS GRANTED IN DUNCAN'S CASE

Alleged Defaulter of Redding Obtains Postponement of Judgment.

Investigation of the blaze that gutted three buildings on Broad street, between John and Cannon streets, Wednesday night, leads the fire officials of Bridgeport to believe that a chemically timed gaseous powder bomb similar to those used in the present war was the cause of the fire.

Mrs. Demkopyk And Children Recovering

Investigation by Dr. George B. Garlick of the charities department shows that the family of Mrs. Joseph Demkopyk, of 858 Ogden street, has fully recovered from the fumes of escaping gas which overcame the mother and four children at their home yesterday.

Freeman remembers being awakened by the billiard employees. When he awoke he was cut off by the dense smoke and flames. He said that the gas smell partially overcame him, but he managed to grope to an

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Berlin Refuses to Acknowledge Illegality of Attack of Liner and Presents Final Concessions to United States in Matter—President Arranges For Conference With Lansing and Members of Party Say Situation is "Unfavorable"—Berlin Newspapers Declare That Gravest Possibilities Are Hinged Upon Reception Here of Germany's Final Answer.

Washington, Feb. 4.—President Wilson, returning to the capital at 1:15 o'clock from his western trip, arranged for immediate conferences with State Department officials over the latest phases in the Lusitania dispute.

The President had read Berlin despatches regarding the situation while his train was running between Baltimore and Washington.

He offered no comment on the case, but members of his party said they regarded the situation as "unfavorable."

Secretary Lansing refused to discuss the case. He said he had received no word of Germany's answer to the last note of the United States.

Berlin's instructions to Count Von Bernstorff had not reached him this morning, the embassy reported.

LEGALITY OF ATTACK IS UPHELD Berlin, Feb. 4.—Information reaching the Associated Press today indicates that under no circumstances will Germany admit that the sinking of the Lusitania was an illegal act.

The new instructions forwarded to Ambassador Von Bernstorff, according to this information, contains simply one phrase of the new formulation of the proposed note of regret for the sinking of the Lusitania.

The suggested sentence is short, consisting of only eight words and does not contain the word "illegal." It represents the extreme limit of Germany's concessions in the Lusitania case.

The view is entertained here that one of the most serious crisis of the war has arisen in connection with the Lusitania case and that it is impossible to foresee the outcome from any indications here.

The result of the negotiations appears to hinge solely on the one word "illegal."

In the way of an agreement between the United States and Germany stand only these seven letters, expressing the conception which President Wilson and Secretary Lansing insist must be embodied in the German formula expressing regret for the loss of American lives aboard the Cunarder.

The Associated Press is informed authoritatively that Germany cannot and will not designate as illegal the sinking of a liner by any submarine.

Virtually no other difficulties in the way of the settlement remain, and the new instructions forwarded to Ambassador Von Bernstorff on Tuesday contain merely the new formula by which it is hoped to satisfy Washington without humiliating this country.

Although the suggested sentence, according to a reliable version, consists of only eight words and does not contain the word "illegal" or characterize the sinking of the Lusitania as such, it goes otherwise to the furthest extent possible toward meeting the American desires.

Says Situation is Grave. Dr. Alfred Zimmerman, under-secretary for foreign affairs, in an interview with the Associated Press, expressed the hope that the new formula forwarded to Ambassador Von Bernstorff would offer a possible basis of settlement.

However, he made no effort to conceal the gravity of the situation and was most explicit in his statement that Germany had reached the extreme limit of concessions and under no circumstances would concede the legality of her submarine campaign in the war area.

"The government is willing to do everything in its power and has done everything in its power, to meet American wishes," he said, "but there are limits beyond which even friendship snaps."

"I do not understand America's course. We had thought the submarine issue settled and the Lusitania question on the way to arrangement—had agreed to pay indemnity and all that—when the United States suddenly made its new demands, which it is impossible for us to accept."

"You must not push your demands too far. You must not attempt to humiliate Germany."

Dr. Zimmerman declined to discuss these new demands or the instructions to Count Von Bernstorff more precisely, but he left no doubt that the whole crisis centered on Secretary Lansing's demand that Germany disavow the sinking of the Lusitania as an act contrary to international law.

BERLIN PAPERS SEE GRAVEST ASPECT TO LUSITANIA CASE

Berlin, Feb. 4, via London 12:50 p. m.—German-American tension was again reflected on the Bourse, prices declining moderately in general but war stocks more sharply.

The afternoon newspapers for the most part abstain from discussion of the case, one exception being the Lokal Anzeiger.

In a column editorial this paper says that a very grave situation has been caused by the Washington government suddenly insisting that Germany declare the sinking of the Lusitania illegal and apparently suspending the negotiation of all other undisturbed matters until such a declaration is given, the situation therefore

now looking like "bend or break" Germany, declares (the newspaper, has shown by indisputable facts that she cherishes a sincere wish to live in peace with the United States. There has been no lack of words with a friendly ring from that side, it adds, but all the world now has "only one opinion of what American neutrality really means."

The newspaper says that the German government still hopes that a definite understanding is within reach of the basis of the latest questions to Ambassador Von Bernstorff.