GERMANY FILES STRONG PROTEST

Complains United States Is Favoring Her Enemies.

QUOTES PRESIDENT WILSON

State Department Will Deny Allegations in Reply Already Under Preparation.

Washington, April 10.—Germany has sent to the United States government a note complaining that the latter has accomplished nothing in its diplomatic correspondence with the allies to obtain for American exporters the right to ship foodstuffs to the civilian population of a belligerent country. The communication intimates, also, that the United States has virtually acquiesced in the British order in council prohibiting commerce with Germany.

In view of these considerations the German government calls attention to the fact that the allies daily are obtaining large shipments of arms and ammunition from dealers in the United States and declares that the American government, while insisting on its legal right to ship arms to belligerents, does not with equal energy pursue its rights to ship foodstuffs and noncontraband articles to the civilian population of Germany.

The note adds that, irrespective of the formal aspects of the question of shipping arms to belligerents, the spirit of neutrality should be observed. In support of this contention a quotation is cited from President Wilson's address to congress on Mexican affairs in August, 1913, when he said:

President Wilson Quoted.

"I shall follow the best practice of nations in the matter of neutrality by forbidding the exportation of arms or munitions of war of any kind from the United States to any part of the republic of Mexico—a policy suggested by several interesting precedents and certainly dictated by many manifest considerations of practical expediency. We cannot, under the circumstances, be partisans of either party of the contest that now distracts Mexico or constitute ourselves the virtual umpire between them."

Officials of the state department have begun the preparation of a reply, which will be delivered to Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador here. The complaint that neutral countries had submitted to the influence of the allies in connection with the right to ship conditional contraband and foodstuffs to the civilian population of a belligerent has been made before by Germany in her diplomatic notes.

It is understood that the reply to the present complaint will deny vigorously that this government has acquiesced in any way to the order in council and probably will refer to the last note sent by the United States to Great Britain, arguing at length its opposition to the viewpoint of the allies on the blockade question.

PICKS ALASKA RAIL ROUTE

President Selects Line From Seward to Fairbanks.

Washington, April 12.—The Seward-Fairbanks route has been selected for the government railway in Alaska, Secretary Lane announced. The property of the Alaska Northern Railway company from Seward over the first stage of the journey has been purchased for $1,500,000.

The government system, the statement adds, will include a thirty-eight-mile branch to tap the Matanuska coal fields. W. C. Edes is designated as chairman of the Alaskan engineering commission, which will build the road by the president's order. The estimated cost of the entire system is given at $26,000,000. Congress provided not to exceed $35,000,000.

Secretary Lane said construction work would begin at once and that probably forty miles of the extension of the Alaskan Northern from Ship creek would be completed this year.

WILSON FAVORS WATERWAY

President Writes Illinois Governor Endorsing Lakes to Gulf Plan.

Washington, April 12.—President Wilson wrote to Governor Dunne of Illinois endorsing the plan for a through waterway from the Great Lakes to New Orleans.

"I am in sympathy," he said, "with your desire to improve the navigable waters of the United States in such manner as to encourage actual commercial navigation on a permanent basis.

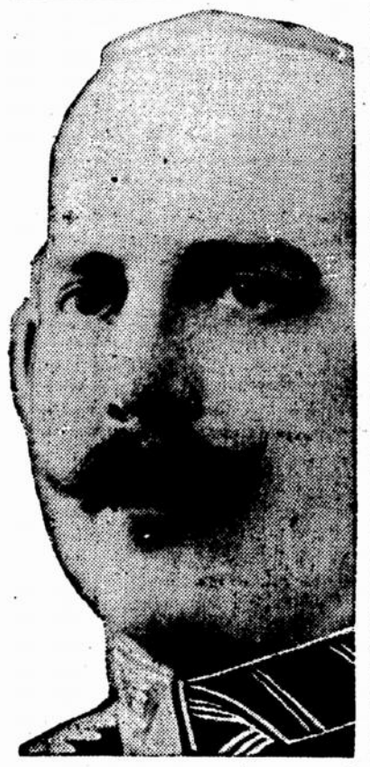
"A through water route from the Great Lakes to the Mississippi and down the Mississippi to New Orleans, where connection with seagoing vessels can be made, should afford a valuable opportunity for the development of such commerce."

Five Steel Workers Killed.

Chicago, April 9.—Burns and inhalations of gases from molten metal caused the deaths of three steel workers, mortal injuries of two and serious burns of others at Gary, Ind., according to a special dispatch from that place.

KING CONSTANTINE.

Greek Monarch Says Situation for His Country Is Critical.



The Rome Tribune prints an interview with the king of Greece in which the monarch says that the situation for his country is extremely critical.

He says the nation will fight again with enthusiasm if the interests of the country demand it.

"My people," said the king, "are thoroughly patriotic, but those who govern should judge well the time and opportunity for action."

ITALIAN TROOPS SAID TO BE MOVING NORTH

Geneva, April 10.—Railroad rolling stock is being withdrawn by Italy from the Swiss frontier, it is reported here, for the movement of troops and military supplies to Northern Italy, destined for the region bordering on the Austrian Tyrol.

The Laussane Gazette states that the towns of Mantua, Verona, Peschiera and Legnago, which formed the fortress in the famous "Quadrilateral," are garrisoned with fully equipped troops which lack only heavy artillery and this will be supplied soon. An aerial fleet is ready for operations.

A Milan dispatch to a Zurich newspaper says that at a mass meeting attended by five Liberal deputies from Milan a resolution was adopted characterizing as "absolutely necessary" the participation of Italy in the war.

TERRE HAUTE RING GUILTY

Twenty-seven Men Convicted of Election Frauds.

Indianapolis, April 7.—All of the twenty-seven defendants, including Mayor Donn M. Roberts, in the Terre Haute election fraud case, were found guilty by a jury. The case had been on trial in the federal court here since March 8.

Judge A. B. Anderson announced that sentence would be passed on the twenty-seven who were found guilty and the eighty-nine who have pleaded guilty next Monday at 10 a. m.

In the meantime he permitted all the defendants, with the exception of Alexander Aczel, also known as Steel, to remain at liberty under their previous bonds. Steel has been in jail for some time, being unable to give bond of $5,000 for an alleged attempt to influence government witnesses.

SITUATION GROWING WORSE

Typhus Epidemic Killing Thousands in Servia.

London, April 11.—The Athens correspondent of the Daily Chronicle sends a statement by Captain E. N. Bennet of the British Red Cross commission to Servia, who declares that conditions in Servia are growing worse and that the percentage of deaths from typhus is frightful.

At Monastier, for example, the captain found 3,000 typhus patients with only ten doctors to attend them. He says that the death rate there was between 50 and 60 per cent.

ALBANIAN REBELS ACTIVE

Force of Six Thousand Attacks Capital City.

Berlin, April 9.—Six thousand Albian insurgents are attacking the Albanian capital of Durazzo, according to dispatches received here.

The insurgents are supported by several field pieces and are shelling the city. One shell is reported to have shattered the house of Essad Pasha, minister of war and of the interior.

F. Hopkinson Smith Dies.

New York, April 9.—F. Hopkinson Smith, aged seventy-seven, artist, author and mechanical engineer, is dead here. He was an artist of much ability and the author of "Colonel Carter of Cartersville," "Tom Crogan," "Tides of Barnegat" and "The Fortunes of Oliver Horn."

ANOTHER RAIDER PUTS INTO PORT

Cruiser Kronprinz Wilhelm Arrives at Newport News.

ABROAD FOR EIGHT MONTHS

Former North German Lloyd Lines Has Sent Fourteen Merchant Vessels to the Bottom.

Newport News, Va., April 12.—The German converted cruiser Kronprinz Wilhelm, the elusive raider of commerce in the South Atlantic, arrived in Newport News and asked for fuel and provisions.

Many times reported destroyed the former North German Lloyd liner had evaded hostile warships for eight months, during which time it carried on an unrelenting warfare against hostile shipping.

Its officers said it was forced to steal its way past four allied criusers off the Virginia capes to reach this refuge.

"We got in without being seen by the enemy and we can get out the same way," declared her commander, Lieutenant Captain Paul Thierfelder, formerly navigating officer of the German cruiser Karlsruhe, in a statement.

When it dropped anchor the Kronprinz Wilhelm had less than twenty-five tons of coal and scanty provisions for the crew of 500 men and sixty-one prisoners from a British merchant ship sunk in the South Atlantic.

Of the fourteen ships that the cruiser sank nine were British, four French and one Norwegian. The value of these ships and their cargoes, officers of the Wilhelm estimated, was $7,000,000.

Submarines Convoy Raider.

When the Kronprinz Wilhelm arrived off Thimble Shoals, after passing in the Virginia Capes, two United States submarines, the G-1 and D-2, met her. The appearance of the submarines caused considerable surprise among the crew, but there was no demonstration as the little vessels convoyed the German raider to quarantine, where Dr. McCafferty, United States quarantine officer, boarded her. Commander Thierfelder reported sixty-six of the crew and prisoners were ill with beriberi and requested that they be taken to a hospital.

The Kronprinz Wilhelm followed in the wake of the interned Prinz Eitel Friedrich, which arrived here a month ago after thrilling and effective operations for the German arms.

In its raid of the seas since she slipped out of New York harbor Aug. 3 last, as a German merchant and passenger steamer, the Kronprinz Wilhelm never touched land and took 960 prisoners from various vessels destroyed.

The second of the German raiders brought as thrilling a story as did the Eitel Friedrich. Its record of destruction, however, was accomplished with only four guns, two taken from the German cruiser Karlsruhe and two captured later from the British merchant steamer La Correntina, sunk Oct. 7, 1914.

BELGIANS RETIRE BEFORE GERMANS

Berlin, April 12.—The official statement given out by the German army headquarters is:

"On the Yser canal, near Poesele, south of Drei Grachten, we took three farms which were occupied by the Belgians and made one officer and forty men prisoners.

"In small engagements near the Avere stream at Albert we made fifty French prisoners.

"French attacks in the Western Argonnes failed.

"Fighting between the Meuse and the Moselle increased in intensity.

"In the forest region to the south of the Combres heights the French collected strong forces for a fresh attempt to take our position on the heights.

"The attack completely failed and the positions everywhere on the heights remained in our possession.

"Southwest of Ailly stubborn fighting continued and resulted in our favor.

"In an unsuccessful attack in force to the north of Flirey the French sustained heavy losses.

"In battles in the Bois le Pretre we took four machine guns."

Army Escapes Typhus.

London, April 12.—The Daily Telegraph's Athens correspondent gives some details of the appalling ravages of the typhus fever in Serbia, but declares that the active Serbian army has suffered little, as the disease is largely confined to overcrowded towns and is seldom serious in the country districts. Only 13,000 cases of the fever have occurred among the 400,000 troops.

STATE NEWS BITS

Various Happenings of the Week Throughout Minnesota.

Joseph A. Eckstein died suddenly at New Ulm of paralysis of the heart, while about to purchase some medicine at a drug store. He was one of the best known lawyers in Minnesota, having practiced in New Ulm thirty-four years. He was a native of Bohemia and was fifty-seven years old. Prior to practising law he taught school and was attached to the United States signal corps. He was once grand master of the A. O. U. W. of Minnesota and was a thirty-second degree Mason and a Woodman.

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Thomas Walsh, founder of Grand Forks, N. D., is dead in that city, aged ninety-three years. Before locating at Grand Forks Mr. Walsh had been a resident of Henderson, this state, where he served as postmaster under the administration of President Johnson. As a soldier in the Civil war, enlisting in Company I, Tenth Minnesota infantry, Mr. Walsh participated in many engagements.

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At the election held in Butterfield on March 9 the canvassing board decided the vote was a tie. On a recount later the inspectors reported the disputed ballot to be a wet ballot, making the result stand 47 wet and 45 dry. The matter came before Judge Comstock of the district court at St. James and the case was dismissed, thus leaving Butterfield in the dry column.

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Wolf bounties are slashed from $7.50 to $4 for full grown animals and from $3 to $1 for cubs by a bill which was introduced by Representative L. C. Spooner on the special request of the governor and passed the house by a vote of 69 to 34 under suspension of the rules, but not until after a debate full of bitter personalities.

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The state board of health has ordered the suspension of the work of the bureau of vital statistics and the branch laboratories at Duluth and Mankato. The action was necessitated because of lack of funds and the laboratories will be closed pending action by the legislature on a requested appropriation of $15,000.

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Diphtheria is on the decrease in Minnesota, according to the quarterly report of the division of preventable diseases of the state board of health. For the three months ending March 31 7,256 diphtheria cultures were examined, as compared to 8,490 during the same period last year.

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Minnesota internal revenue receipts for March showed an increase of $169,238.90 over the same month a year ago and of $25,416 over those of last February. The total receipts in March were $337,666.66, as compared with $168,427.76 in March, 1914, and $312,250.66 in February.

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Julius Schmidt, fifty-eight years of age, prominent member of the Minnesota Retail Hardware Dealers' association and one of its former presidents, is dead at Wabasha. Mr. Schmidt was a resident of that place for fifty years and in business there thirty-five years.

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Edwin Fisher of St. Paul, who passed the century mark Monday, continues to work daily. He is a pattern maker in the foundry of Lee & Hoff in West St. Paul. For eighty years he has worked at his trade and has made patterns and castings for parts of machines.

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H. A. Libby, a pioneer Minnesota lumberman, is dead at his home in Seattle, Wash., after an illness of two days. Heart trouble was the cause of death. Mr. Libby reached St. Anthony in 1869 from Machias, Me. Ten years ago he moved to Seattle.

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Dr. H. C. Swearingen, pastor of Hope Presbyterian church of St. Paul, has been named by Governor Hammond as a member of the state board of parole to succeed the late Dr. Samuel G. Smith of St. Paul. The appointment is for a term of six years.

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Chester Olson, son of O. C. Olson, met instant death while working in a field on his father's farm southwest of Pipestone. He was operating a manure spreader and fell from the seat, one of the heavy wheels of the machine passing over his head.

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The death of Dr. T. Jensen at Caledonia marked the passing of one of the most widely known doctors in Southern Minnesota. He was seventy-five years old and had been a resident of Houston county more than forty-two years.

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Eli Torrence of Minneapolis and E. J. Jones of Morris have been reappointed by Governor Hammond as members of the state normal board. A. P. White of Bemidji was appointed on the board to succeed T. Jacobson of Alexandria.

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Leslie Welter of Moorhead has been appointed on the state normal board by Governor Hammond to succeed C. S. Deeland.

GIRL IN BUSINESS OF KILLING RATS

Gertrude Heitler Succeeds to Trade in Which Her Father Excelled.

SHE USES HER BARE HANDS

Not Afraid of Rodents and Has Crews of Men to Work Aboard Ships and in Buildings.

New York.—New York now has the only official woman rat catcher in the world. Through the recent death of her father, William A. Heitler, last except one of the old-time rodent exterminators, who caught them with his bare hands, Gertrude Heitler, slim of form, has become his successor.

In the little messed-up room at 392 Broome street, that is laboratory, rat cage and vermin exterminator manufactory, she can be found any of these days poring over the score sheet which details the operations of her "rat-catching crew," in ships, hotels and dwellings. If she is in one of her light moods—and she is generally—she may be found tweaking the tail of Fifi, her pet house rat, or Mozart, hoary father of many generations of wharf rodents.

Afraid of rats? Miss Heitler gazed in astonishment at me and then grinned in sympathy with the barber from the shop next door, as she rubbed Fifi's head and flicked away from Mozart a piece of rye bread that he was methodically eating in circular nibbles.

"Not me," she laughed. "I love all animals. Why, ferrets, rabbits, rats, guinea pigs and squirrels are the nicest of all. You ought to have seen the prize guinea pigs I just sold this morning and some of the pigeons we have at home in Red Bank."

Miss Heitler possesses what the old successors to the Pied Piper of Hamlintown had—a magnetic influence that keeps sharp-teethed rodents in blissful subjection. She does not use any magic flute, and she does not sing any tunes to them.

All her life Miss Heitler has known rats—imported, domestic, lean and fat. Her father when 12 years old went to work for Harry Jennings, called "Dick, the Rat," and until he died last week, forty-five years later, he did nothing but kill rats. His score was nearly half a million, and in all that time he boasted he never used poison.

In the old days he cleaned the great hotels and apartment houses, but the era of fireproof construction swept along and his efforts were limited to dwellings, steamships and sailing vessels.

Miss Heitler, as directing head of the business, now sends her crews of rat killers daily to the New York piers. The Clyde and Mallory line steamships are among those thoroughly searched by them every time they come into port.

The greatest asset of the business is the magic food, which is used to lure the rats to an untimely end by a blow of a strap or a pair of iron tongs. "Dick, the Rat," invented it, and Heitler added a few more ingredients. When the crew, who always work in the dark, flitting about gloomy, smudgy places by the flicker of a searchlight, drop that magic potion about there is a scurry.

Most of the rodents caught are killed immediately. In the days when germ culture was just becoming known thousands were used for experimental purposes by hospitals. But the wharf and ordinary house rat has a disposition not attuned to familiarity. He bites and scratches, and injuries so inflicted generally are followed by blood poisoning. So nowadays the hospitals and experiment stations rear their own rats, generally white ones, or experiment with guinea pigs.

Breaks Out of Crate and Finds Mistress in Her Own New Home.

Pitman, N. J.—When Mrs. James Gordon, whose family has just moved here from Indiana, went to the telephone to answer a call from a local expressman who reported the arrival of the Gordons' dog from the Western state, she was interrupted by a scratching at the back door.

As she opened the door the dog came bounding into the room. He had broken out of his crate in front of the express office, more than a mile from the Gordon home, while the express man was telephoning. There were $3 express charges due on the dog, which the expressman gave up hope of ever collecting until Mrs. Gordon drove into town an hour later and told of the arrival of her pet.

Thirty in This Kentucky Family

Big Laurel, Va.—Mr. and Mrs. John Kiser, who live in Kentucky, just over the mountains from here, have the largest family in this part of the country, if not in America. They have been married thirty years and have twenty-eight children, including one set of triplets and five sets of twins. All the children are unmarried and make their home with their parents.

A Pennsylvania sportsman has invented a clamp to hold an electric torch on a rifle or shotgun barrel for night shooting.

YOUNG FARMER IS WRESTLING WONDER

Nebraskan Has Thrown Some Good Ones, and So Far Has Not Been Defeated

A young Nebraska farmer has come into the middle of the stage as a wrestling wonder. His name is Joe Stecher, and he is 21 years old. Many wrestlers seeking easy dollars have visited the small town where he lives, and all have returned empty handed. Not once has Stecher been defeated. Sportsmen have become interested in him, and he probably will soon be seen in action in Chicago.

Experiences of several of America's best wrestlers in Nebraska recently have given the impression that Stecher will be able to hold his own against the best in the game. If reports from reliable sources are true he will need no "phony" bouts to establish a standing. The young giant gives promise of being a real wrestler like Frank Gotch, the champion, who lives in the neighboring state of Iowa.

Emil Klank, who was Gotch's manager, recently took a wrestler to Nebraska with the object of slipping one over on Stecher and his backers. Klank returned to Chicago a wiser man, but admits he made a valuable discovery. Others, including Farmer Burns, discoverer nad developer of Gotch, were fooled too, and now undoubtedly there will be a scramble to sign Stecher to a binding contract for an extended period of service on the padded canvas.

Stecher gained a local reputation as a wrestler of prowess among the farmers of Nebraska. Farmer Burns at that time was managing Young Hussane, the heavyweight Bulgarian wrestler. Farmers coming to Omaha, where Burns has a school, brought stories of the wonderful doings of a young giant out in the state, and Burns, who for about thirty years has sought mat talent among the farmers of the middle west, bought transportation for two persons to the home town of Stecher. The two persons were Burns himself and Hussane.

Of course Stecher accepted the challenge of Hussane, and the men met for a finish battle before a large crowd of "interested" spectators.

Imagine the surprise of Farmer Burns when Husane failed to hold the young farmer with a hammerlock and a few minutes later was in a fierce mixup with the unknown grappler in the middle of the canvas. Hussane tried every hold on his list on his less experienced opponent, but all in vain. The young cornhusker was too strong. He broke the holds of the Bulgarian with such east as to amaze Burns and astonish Hussane.

Finally Hussane fastened on a body scissors, and it was thought to be all off with Stecher. The Nebraskan again surprised the crowd by countering with a wicked scissors on the head and had Hussane in a bad way when the Bulgarian sank his teeth into Stecher's anatomy. The referee promptly gave the match to Stecher on a foul.

Paul Martinson was sent out from Chicago to learn something about Stecher. Martinson came back with considerable knowledge and a defeat as the sum total of his experience in Nebraska. Stecher pinned Martinson with a scissors hold.

Then Phil Klank thought he would venture into Nebraska with Marvin Plestina, one of the best defensive wrestlers in the game. Although the Chicago heavyweight was in superb condition he proved no match for the Nebraskan. The showing of Stecher against Plestina was a revelation to Klank. The Austrian heavyweight went down to defeat in straight falls, each time via the scissors hold, in 17 and 3 minutes respectively. This is about the time it required Youssif Mahmout to pin Plestina when the Bulgarian was at his best.

This is a lean season for wrestlers. Nearly all the big wrestlers of Europe are in captivity or fighting at the front. Some were stranded in South America. They were taking part in a tournament in Argentina when the war broke out. Now it is reported that they are on their way to Chicago, taking no chances of being grabbed for the European war. It is their mission in the world to wrestle, not to fight, they think. The wrestling fans of Chicago want to see some real live matches, with Americans in them. As Frank Gotch is in retirement they will welcome anyone who promises to be a wrestler of his stamp. So it looks good for Stecher.

WHO'S GOT A LEG TO SELL?

Man Shy One Is Anxious to Dicker for Good Second-Hand Nether Limb.

Chattanooga, Tenn.—Anyone with a leg to spare is here notified that he will be able to do business with Will Taylor of Portersville, Ala. He appears to be anxious to dicker for one without any unnecessary delay.

The Chattanooga police department received a letter from Mr. Taylor in which he made it quite plain that he wants a leg at once. His, he states, is off just above the knee, but he fails to say whether left or right leg is needed to make his feet track. The letter, addressed to "Mr. Police, Chattanooga," is as follows:

"dear sir, i will rite you a few lines to let you know that i want a leg. Min is off about six inch above my nee and i want a leg at once. rite and tell me what it will cost me. i want it at once rite on return Mail and fail not as very truly WILL TAYLOR."

Written on the other side of the paper is: