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U. S. WILL NOT NEGOTIATE WITH GERMANY

AMERICAN SAILORS HELD PRISONER IN GERMANY TILL "FATE" OF TEUTONS IN U. S. IS LEARNED

BERLIN ADMIRALTY RESCINDS ORDER FOR THEIR RELEASE

Wild Rumors Say that German Sailors Have Been Imprisoned Here.

Berlin, (via wireless to the Associated Press, via Sayville)—Foreign Secretary Zimmerman today informed the Associated Press that he had requested the Swiss government to make inquiry in Washington regarding the status of the crew of interned German ships in American ports.

Pending an answer the 72 Americans taken by the German raider and brought in by the Yarrowdale, whose release had been agreed to, are being held in Germany, the foreign secretary stated.

During the last week recurring rumors have reached Berlin by way of London in which it was announced that the United States government had sequestered the German ships and interned their crews. No definite official denial having been received, the government was prompted to ask the Swiss government to obtain specific information.

"We could not consent to the release of the Yarrowdale prisoners which was taken to be agreed to a week ago," said the foreign secretary. "These men had been taken off armed merchantmen and their status has been established. They will be liberated just as soon as we learn the fate of the German crews in American ports."

The relief of the Yarrowdale prisoners was agreed to with Ambassador Gerard on the eve of the break in relations, but the possibility of the German crew being interned in the United States prompted the admiralty to rescind the order liberating the Americans held on the prize of the Yarrowdale pr[illegible]

has been designated vice minister of foreign affairs to succeed Hsia Yi-ting. Mr. Liu formerly served as minister to France and acting minister to Germany and Portugal. He was also a member of the arbitration department of The Hague, and was at one time adviser on foreign affairs to the late President Yuan Shi-kai.

The change in the foreign office is largely due to the criticism directed against Hsia-Yi-ting in connection with the negotiation concerning the dispute with the French over the addition to their concession in Tien-tsin.

NEUTRAL PORT SCENE OF SHIP DESTRUCTION

Greek Vessel Sunk in Las Palmas—Fourth American Ship Leaves.

New York, Feb. 12—A German submarine entered the neutral Spanish harbor of Las Palmas, Canary Islands, on December 6, and sank the Greek steamship Spyro, according to two of the seamen who arrived today on the steamship Morro-Castle. Records told of the Spyro being towed to a Spanish port after being torpedoed.

The sailors arriving here said the Spyro put into Las Palmas on her voyage from Buenos Aires, carrying grain inland.

American Ship Sails.

The fourth ship under the American flag to sail for a European destination since Germany's resumed of [illegible] submarine warfare got [illegible] when the Scandinavian-American Line steamship Gothland, of the Transatlantic company, [illegible] Copenhagen [illegible]

SAYS BAKERS SENT BREAD PRICES UP

Rainey Calls Attention to Campaign to Reconcile People to 10-cent Loaf

Washington, Feb. 12.—Charging a concerted effort to put up the price of bread, Representative Rainey of Illinois in a letter today to the federal trade commission and the department of agriculture, which has been directed by President Wilson to investigate the high cost of food, suggests that certain men be called to testify as to what they know about the matter. These men are:

Paul Schults, a Chicago baker; A. F. MacDonald of Memphis and J. M. Bell of Chicago, president and secretary, respectively, of the National Bakers' association, and John Lind of Minneapolis, attorney for the wheat millers.

"I suggest calling these men," said Mr. Rainey, "because at the convention of the master bakers in Salt Lake City last August, Mr. MacDonald announced a nation-wide move would be inaugurated at once to educate the public to a ten-cent loaf. Sure enough the first announcement to that effect was made by the Schults Baking company of Chicago, a short time after the convention."

Mr. Rainey also charges the bakers' association with maintaining a lobby here to prevent favorable action on the pending bill to repeal the tax on mixed flour, which he says, would open the bread market to about 60,000,000 bushels of corn every year.

SENATOR CALLED HOME

Family Ravaged by Scarlet Fever, Sandstrom of Bottineau Leaves to Attend Them.

Bismarck, N. D., Feb. 12.—Senator L. P. Sandstrom of Bottineau called home this morning by illness in his family. Mrs. Sandstrom is near collapse from the strain of caring for three children ill with scarlet fever. The sympathies of his colleagues and friends went with Senator Sandstrom with the hope that he would find his loved ones much improved and soon be back in his seat.

Solid Silver Mace to be Presented to the Canadian House

London, Feb. 12.—An imposing solid silver mace for presentation to the Canadian house of commons is on view here. It is a replica of the mace destroyed in the fire at the parliament buildings in Ottawa last January. Immediately after the disaster, the lord mayor of London wrote to Canada, offering to replace the mace. The offer was immediately accepted, and fragments of the old mace were sent here from Canada and incorporated with the new one. The makers, with the help of photographs, have produced what may be regarded an exact facsimile.

Liu Shih-shun is Named the New Vice Minister of Japan

Peking, Feb. 12.—Liu Shih-shun

THIRTEEN BELIEVED KILLED IN HOTEL FIRE AT MINNEAPOLIS; FIREMEN ATTACKED BY PEOPLE

TURN WATER ON MAD MOB TO GET SPACE TO FIGHT THE FIRE

Many Crazed When Hose Department Arrived without Ladders.

MANY TRAPPED IN UPPER PART

Williston Woman Jumps From Top Story and is Badly Injured.

Minneapolis, Feb. 12.—At least 13 persons are known to be missing and are believed to have lost their lives in a spectacular fire which destroyed the Kenwood hotel, Twelfth street and Hennepin avenue, shortly after midnight, according to a police estimate.

Mrs. Lucile Squire suffered a fractured skull when she leaped from a third-story window and died later at a hospital.

While several of the injured were in a serious condition, it was reported today most of them would recover.

One woman who became hysterical after the fire raced down the street screaming and froze her feet before being overtaken. Others garbed in night attire suffered terrible exposure in the [illegible] below zero temperature.

Woman Jumps.

[illegible] was at its height, [illegible] Williston, N. D., and crawled to a [illegible] top floor, for a [illegible] to the street while spectators [illegible] Mr. Jensen, after his wife jumped, clung to a ledge until rescued by firemen.

Mrs. Jensen, who leaped into a fire net formed by an overcoat of a spectator, told of her experience as she lay in a hospital this morning.

"We were awakened by shouts of 'fire' and the smell of smoke in our room," she said. "My husband opened a hall door but was driven back by smoke and flames. Then we climbed to the window and were almost suffocated before we could knock out the glass.

"Before we could distinguish clearly what was going on outside, flames were coming through the door and I scrambled onto the window ledge. Then, I heard some men below calling. They shouted 'jump' and I did.

"The next thing I knew I was at the hospital."

Mrs. Jensen suffered painful scalp wounds and internal injuries when one of the men holding the overcoat let go his end. The Jensen family arrived from Williston just three days ago. An infant child was at the home of a friend in this city last night.

In addition to the known missing, 11 other persons who were reported to be away from their homes at the time of the fire have not yet reported to the police.

All Will Recover.

Although four of the 13 persons taken to the city hospital are in a serious condition, attending physicians announce that all probably will recover. Most of those in the hospital sustained their injuries by leaping from the top floor of the four-story structure into improvised nets, or into snow drifts when rapidly spreading flames cut off escape by the two stairways and the one fire escape.

Firemen today began chopping into the six layers of ice coating the debris in the basement in the hope of recovering bodies but virtually no progress was made.

It is believed the fire started from an overheated furnace.

Work of checking up the missing probably will not be completed before night.

Two other fires at the same time [illegible] the fire apparatus near the [illegible] hose company was [illegible] It required from [illegible] for the [illegible]

Mob Stopped Firemen.

When it did arrive the crowd, half dressed at midnight, [illegible] the trapped men and women leaping from windows, attacked the firemen with clubs because they had no ladders. Captain James [illegible] was knocked to the ground. Fullerton finally ordered his men to turn the hose on the crowd and cleared them away. Other fire companies with ladders quickly followed on the scene.

The crowd gathering below saw men and women in the upper stories smash out windows, call for help and then fall back.

The burning of the hotel register made any accurate list impossible.

Young Woman Rescued.

Many thrilling rescues took place. Miss Ruth Reams leaped from the third floor into an overcoat stretched by three men. She was but slightly injured.

"When we were ready to leap, my companion, Mrs. Squire, returned to the room for her new dress," said Miss Reams. "It was several minutes later when she plunged out of the window to her death."

The monetary loss will not exceed $50,000.

THE WEATHER.

North Dakota: Partly cloudy tonight and Tuesday; warmer in east portion Tuesday; colder in west portion Tuesday.

WILL HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH BERLIN TILL PROMISES IN SUSSEX NOTE ARE KEPT; CANNOT ENTER INTO CONFERENCE AS LONG AS SUBMARINE WARFARE IS CARRIED ON; REPLY MADE TODAY

AMBASSADOR REFUSES TO MAKE STATEMENT TILL HE REPORTS

Entire Party Sighs With Relief as Neutral Land is Reached.

MANY DELAYS WERE MADE IN GERMANY

"Admirable Self-restraint" of Germans Jeopardized, Americans were Told.

Zurich, Switzerland, Feb. 11, via Paris, Feb. 12.—Most of the members of Ambassador Gerard's large party gave a genuine sigh of relief this afternoon when the Swiss border was reached, for the strain of the last few days had told on most of them. Ambassador Gerard met a corps of newspaper men who crowded about him on his arrival at Zurich, clamoring for interviews for papers all over the civilized world, but he kept rigidly to his determination not to speak for publication until after he has reported to President Wilson.

Gerard's Privileges Stopped.

The strain of the situation for the Americans in Berlin has been heightened toward the end by reports of the German authorities to induce Mr. Gerard to open negotiations for an amendment to the present American treaty, at the same time the German newspapers were flooded with stories of difficulties and indignities encountered by Count von Bernstorff. Ambassador Gerard was refused permission to communicate in cipher with Washington and the authorities ignored all denials of the stories printed in the German newspapers until an official message, received through the Spanish embassy, made it clear that the stories were false. Prior to this Ambassador Gerard's telephone wires were cut, his mail and telegraphic privileges stopped—so that he could not even instruct the American consuls—and he was in his own words a prisoner.

Many Delays Experienced.

The combined result was uncertainty and petty friction which was daily increased when the foreign office and military authorities shifted the responsibility for the delay in Gerard's departure from one to the other. No American, least of all Ambassador Gerard, could obtain any definite information. It was pointed out to the officials that their pleasures were only applicable to actual war and that the admirable self-restraint and politeness of the German people, with the resultant good effect, was being jeopardized. Delay followed delay, and one excuse was made after another until Friday night, when the foreign office suddenly announced its willingness to permit Mr. Gerard to depart on the following day. The names of correspondents and other persons were added to the list, but even then petty delays followed until shortly before the train was boarded. Mr. Gerard's farewell was said in a frankly, though formal manner. Many Germans were in the throng at the station, which consisted mainly of Americans who had not received permission to depart on the embassy train and must await the police routine before being allowed to leave. The fact that it was not generally known that Mr. Gerard was departing reduced the demonstration at the South German station to a minimum of curious crowds.

The question of supplying trained gun crews for merchantmen is more difficult from a departmental point of view.

BERLIN DID NOT WANT BLOCKADE OF ENGLAND INTERFERED WITH

Request Was Made by Swiss Ambassador, Dr. Paul Ritter.

STATE DEPARTMENT MAKES STATEMENT

No Other Interchanges have Taken Place With Germany.

Washington, Feb. 12.—The United States has replied to Germany's proposal of a discussion of the submarine situation by declining to enter into any negotiations while the proclamation of unrestricted submarine warfare is in effect and until Germany resorts to her pledges given in the Sussex case.

The state department today made public Germany's proposal, submitted in a memorandum by Dr. Paul Ritter, the Swiss minister, and also the government's reply, thereby confirming the announcement made Saturday by the Associated Press.

The state department's announcement follows:

"In view of the appearance in newspapers of February 11 of reports that Germany initiated negotiations with the United States in regard to submarine warfare, the department of state makes the following statement:

"A suggestion was made orally to the department of state Saturday afternoon by the minister of the Swiss government that the German government was willing to negotiate with the United States provided that the commercial blockade against England will not be interfered with.

"At the request of the secretary of state the suggestion was made in writing and presented to him by the Swiss minister Sunday. The communication is:

" 'Memorandum:

" 'The Swiss government has been requested by the German government to say that the latter is now, as before, willing to negotiate, formally or informally, with the United States, provided that the commercial blockade against England will not be broken thereby.

" 'Signed, —" 'P. Ritter.'

"This memorandum was given immediate consideration and the following reply was made:

" 'My Dear Mr. Minister:

" 'I am requested by the president to say to you, in acknowledging the memorandum which you were kind enough to send him on the 11th, that the government of the United States would gladly discuss with the German government any questions it might propose for discussion were it to withdraw its proclamation of the 31st of January, in which, suddenly and without previous intimation of any kind, it cancelled the assurances which it had given this government on the 4th of May, last, but that it does not feel that it can enter into any discussion with the German government, concerning the policy of submarine warfare against neutrals which it is now pursuing unless and until the German government renews its assurances of the 4th of May and acts upon the assurance.'

"No other interchange on this subject has taken place between this government and any other government."

Washington, Feb. 12.—Sharp refusal to consider hints for a discussion of the submarine situation with Germany unless it be preceded by abandonment of the campaign of ruthlessness and restoration of the Sussex pledges was forecasted here today.

Official opinion has solidified that Germany's suggestions of negotiations cannot be considered while ships are being sunk in a campaign which has brought forth the moral condemnation of most of the neutral world.

Officials admitting today for the first time the receipt of such an offer through the Swiss minister, regards the suggestion as an attempt to becloud the issue and weaken the government's position. They gave indications that it must be met by prompt action.

They regard it as somewhat significant that Germany should now show a willingness to negotiate on a subject she put into effect without discussion with this country or any attempt to give the American viewpoint serious consideration.

Little Hope Prevails in Berlin That War With U.S. Can be Averted; Details of Development of New War

Ambassador Gerard Given no Word as to Submarine Warfare Until After the Reichstag Had Heard it—Probably Had Time, However, to advise Washington as to the Rumors Afloat in Berlin.

Copenhagen, via London, Feb. 11.—Little hope or expectation prevails in Berlin that war with the United States is avoidable or that a modus vivendi reconciling the policies of the two governments can be found.

There now is a desire on the part of the authorities and a vast bulk of the people to avoid actual hostility in any way consistent with the general lines of the present submarine policy but only in such a way. Accordingly, instructions were given, so the Associated Press has been reliably informed, to submarine commanders before they started on their February mission, to take the safe side when neutral vessels, particularly American, were in question, whenever possible. Enemy merchantment, when recognized as such, were ordered to be sunk on sight, but neutral merchantmen were to be warned when such action, in their judgment, was consistent with the object of the campaign and the safety of their own ships.

Only Defer Ultimate Break.

It was realized, however, after the prompt and resolute stand taken by President Wilson that these orders could only be palliative and only defer, not avoid, an ultimate break. Also that if President Wilson stood by his announcement that the destruction of American lives or ships would be regarded as an act of hostility a casus belli must come sooner or later—probably sooner, on account of the number of Americans on enemy ships. Moreover there was the discretionary nature of the instructions to submarine commanders, who were informed that while the careful course towards neutrals was recommended and desired, they would no longer be subjected to punishment for departing from their former procedure of warning, if they found this advisable.

Modification Only Hope.

It is considered that the only possibility of the avoidance of hostilities would result from a modification of its standpoint by one or the other side and so far as could be judged from the positive declarations of Dr. Alfred Zimmerman, the German minister of foreign affairs, and other officials before the Associated Press correspondent's departure from Berlin, there was no probability that Germany would give way this time or abandon the ruthless campaign now started. German-American relations again and again have passed through crises apparently almost hopeless but this time the crisis is more difficult than the former ones and even the optimist can scarcely see any peaceful egress out of the impasse.

From a neutral cable office it is now possible to tell the story of the development of the present crisis on which the most rigid consorship has been applied in Germany.

Gradual Approach.

To the observer in Berlin, the approach of the crisis has been plainly and definitely evident since the rejection of Germany's peace overtures. Information as to Germany's definite decision to start a sharpened submarine war and even the form it would take, namely, a blockade of specified regions (though the idea of a prohibited zone was later substituted for that of a "blockade" at the request of the naval authorities, who antici-

(Continued on Page 6.)

Threatened to Hold Many Americans as Hostages, When Gerard Refused to Re-affirm Old Protocol

United States Ambassador Held Ground Firmly—Would not Wire for Instructions Unless Allowed to do so in Code—Early Press Reports that Germans were Mis-treated in America.

Copenhagen, Feb. 11, (via London), Feb. 12.—The German government's attitude in endeavoring to induce Ambassador Gerard to sign a protocol reaffirming the old time treaties with the United States regarding mutual protection of nationals in case of hostilities, and the hints of possible detention of American newspapermen as hostages, was undoubtedly influenced by alarmist dispatches from the United States regarding treatment of German citizens and property there, The Associated Press correspondent who left Berlin Saturday morning and now has reached Copenhagen is able to state.

As soon as reassuring advices were received from the United States and as soon, too, as the German government saw that the attempt to negotiate a protocol re-ratifying the treaty of 1799 with additions and expansions had failed, it gracefully receded from its position and nothing further was heard of newspapermen as hostages.

What Protocol Provides.

The protocol, which Count Montgelas, head off the American department of the German foreign office submitted to Ambassador Gerard on the part of Foreign Secretary Zimmermann contained besides a formal re-ratification of the treaty provisions of 1799 and 1828 regarding mutual treatment of nationals caught in a country in case of war a number of important additions and expansions. It provided that merchants should be allowed to continue their businesses and retain their residences until the end of the war unmolested; that no law affecting the validity of contracts should be applied to Germans in America or to Americans in Germany, and that all patents should be inviolate—a question of importance, in view of the high value, if not the indispensibility, of certain German patents in the manufacture of munitions and explosives.

Quite as trenchant in its bearing on the pending problems was the provision of an instrument which Ambassador Gerard was asked to sign specifying explicity that not only enemy property as such should be exempt from seizure or restrictions in its use beyond those applying to all property, but that enemy ships in ports of the opponent should not be seized during the war nor forced to leave port unless to sail under safe conduct and guarantee of exemption from seizure by the allied belligerents, for a home port.

Safe Conduct Provided.

Provision also was made for a safe conduct when it was necessary to move ships from one port to another in the same country. The protocol forbade explicitly any internment or

(Continued on Page 10.)

BILL WOULD PREVENT TAKING OF OFFERING SUNDAY BY CHURCHES

Bismarck, N. D., Feb. 12.—Senator Martin today introduced a bill providing that "it shall be unlawful for any person to contribute or solicit money on the first day of the week, for charity or other purposes, whatsoever."

This is a new phase of the "Blue Sunday" question.

He's Waking up Now, All Right