

WILSON PUTS ARMS MATTER UP TO CONGRESS FOR A DECISION

Surprises Leaders By Asking Them to Put Resolution of Warning to Vote

NEGOTIATIONS OFF PENDING VERDICT

Feels Country Must Present United Front in Order to Carry Its Point

Washington, D. C., March 1.—At an early conference at the white house today President Wilson and administration leaders made plans for bringing the armed ship agitation in congress to an end at once with a demonstration of unity to convince Germany that the American congress stands behind the foreign policy of the government and thus relieve the president of embarrassment in his negotiations with Germany.

Confident that they can beat all anti-administration resolutions by a heavy vote, the president and the leaders framed plans to bring them out first on the floor of the house, where they plan to defeat them and put through a vote of confidence in the president.

The president paved the way for his action last night and incidentally surprised congress by calling on Acting Chairman Poy of the house rules committee to provide the parliamentary machinery for immediate consideration of the resolutions on the floor.

Leaders Told of Plans. At today's conference, to which the president summoned Chairman Stone and Flood of the senate and house committees dealing with foreign affairs, Senator Kern, democratic floor leader, Speaker Clark and Majority Leader Kitchin of the house, he explained his purpose fully.

The conference agreed that in deference to the wishes of President Wilson a vote would be taken soon in senate and house on resolutions warning Americans to keep off the ships. Its form will be determined later. After the conference, Chairman Flood called his committee together. It was almost certain that the parliamentary situation in both houses would prevent a vote today.

The president made it clear that he did not want a vote on a resolution expressing support of his conduct of the diplomatic controversy, and as a result of his position the vote will be taken on a resolution warning Americans of armed ships.

Speaker Clark and Majority Leader Kitchin said no action could be taken today in the house and that the conference had been devoted chiefly to discussing procedure.

The president told the leaders the foreign situation was no more serious today than it has been for several weeks but he believed action should be taken quickly to show the world the American government was not divided.

Assurances Not Broad. Germany's latest assurances on the conduct of submarine warfare, presented Monday by Count von Bernstorff, to Secretary Lansing, are not so broad as the United States desires, but it is indicated no further steps will be taken by this government until the administration is certain its action will not be embarrassed in congress.

The assurances reiterated in the latest communication are regarded as not so complete as those originally given as the result of the Lusitania negotiations and it was indicated today that the pending Lusitania agreement would not be finally accepted as satisfactory at this time.

House leaders today drafted for consideration of the house a measure proposing that congress express its confidence in the president's handling of the armed merchantmen controversy and recognize that it is not a matter of legislative but of executive concern.

Chairman Flood of the foreign affairs committee sought to bring democrats in line on the measure, to be reported out of his committee, and also sought ineffectually to get assurances of republican cooperation.

"The president positively did not ask for such a resolution," said Mr. Flood, speaking of the new proposal. "This form has been broached since I returned from the white house conference."

Pending the sounding of sentiment on the resolution, the meeting of the foreign affairs committee was postponed from 1 o'clock to an indefinite hour. Meantime leaders conferred on the new proposal.

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TEUTONS BEGIN NEW STYLE UNDER WATER WARFARE

BRITISH STEAMER THORNABY IS FIRST VICTIM OF THE "NO WARNING" ORDER.

London, March 1.—The British steamship Thornaby is reported to have been sunk, all the members of the crew having been killed or drowned.

The Thornaby was owned in West Hartlepool, England. Her gross tonnage was 3,782. She was built in 1889 and was 258 feet long.

The Thornaby sailed on January 19 from Sunderland, England, for Palermo, Sicily.

MANY BIG BOATS IN DANGER.

New York, March 1.—The scheduled opening of the new submarine campaign of the Teutonic powers, which was set for today, finds twelve big liners in or near the war zone, in which the Austrian and German undersea boats are operating.

The liners are: Cretic, White Star line; Italia, Italian line; Taormina, Italian line; Lafayette, French line; Philadelphia, American line; Finland, in American line service; Bergenfjord, Norwegian-American line; American line; American, Italian line; Patria, Fabre line; Pannonia, Cunard line; and Ioannina and Vastiefs Constantinos of the Greek line.

None of these vessels is believed to be armed unless they have mounted guns at sea.

RAILWAY STATION IN CANADA BURNS

Montreal, March 1.—The Bonaventure station of the Grand Trunk railroad was destroyed by fire today. The loss is \$300,000. The police declare the fire was caused by crossed electric wires, but fire department officials believe the building was destroyed as a result of an enemy plot.

In addition to the Grand Trunk railroad, the station was used by the Canadian government railways, the Delaware and Hudson and Central Vermont.

NO RUSH OF RECRUITS

Enlistments Not Very Numerous on Last Day for Voluntary Joining of the British Army.

London, March 1.—The newspapers this morning dwell on the fact that this is the last day for voluntary enlistment in the British army and that it is also the first in what is called the new German submarine campaign. Large numbers of recruits presented themselves during the last few days at British recruiting offices, to escape the stigma of being forcibly enrolled under the compulsion act, but it is remarked that there has been no overwhelming rush of recruits.

PORTUGUESE ARE GIVEN ULTIMATUM

GERMANS FIX TIME LIMIT OF TWO DAYS IN WHICH TO RETURN SEIZED SHIPS.

London, March 1.—Germany has sent an ultimatum to Portugal demanding the restoration within forty-eight hours of the German ships recently seized by that country, according to a dispatch from Madrid to Reuter's Telegram Co.

The first seizure of German merchant vessels by Portugal occurred February 23 at Lisbon when the naval authorities took thirty-six German and Austrian ships in the Tagus. On February 25 the seizure of eight German steamships by the Portuguese authorities at St. Vincent, Cape Verde islands, was announced.

A Lisbon dispatch on February 26 quoted Premier Costa of Portugal as declaring in the chamber of deputies that the government action in requisitioning vessels had been prompted by the necessities of the nation's economic situation.

BRAZILIANS ACCUSE GERMANS OF PLOTS

Rio Janeiro, March 1.—A dispatch from Bahia says that the police authorities there, as the result of an investigation which they have made, place the responsibility for the recent bomb explosion on the Lampart and Holt line steamship Tennyson on two Germans named Neworth and Peshdman. The police say the men can not be found as with their families, they have abandoned their residences. They add that the Bahia office of the Siemens company, of which Neworth was the agent, has also been closed.

AVALANCHE KILLS MANY.

Berlin, March 1.—Dispatches from Innsbruck say thirteen persons were killed by an avalanche in Stelvio pass on the borders of Tyrol and Italy.

GERMANS REST BEFORE VERDUN

Lull in Desperate Battle Is Reported; French Express Confidence

CAPTORS CAUGHT IN FORT DOUAUMONT

Detachment of Teutons in Captured Works Is Said to Be Surrounded

Paris, March 1.—Activity of the contending armies north of Verdun has been somewhat lessened and east of Verdun the French have been able with their artillery to stop German preparations for further advances toward the fortress.

Dispatches received here declare the situation north of Verdun satisfactory to the French, who have strongly fortified their positions from Cote du Poivre, four miles due north, to Douaumont, three miles to the east, along which line the German pressure above Verdun has been heaviest. At Douaumont itself several hundred Germans are reported still cut off in the front, which the French have surrounded.

The Germans have captured an armored work northwest of Verdun and have taken the towns of Manu-huelles and Champon, thirteen miles southeast of Verdun. Berlin reports that they have taken prisoner 228 officers, 16,575 men and captured a large number of guns and much war material.

The German advance to the east of Verdun has extended over a front of virtually twelve miles—from Dieppe to Champon.

The Havas agency says:

"In a word the German offensive has been suspended, but not stopped. It would be risky at present to say whether the pause is due to the fact that the Germans realize that all efforts to take Verdun are in vain and are simply defending positions they have so dearly bought or whether the German troops are merely resting before being hurled forward again to the assault."

There are signs of German preparation behind the front west of Pont-aux-Mousses, eighteen miles southwest of Metz and in the Moselle river region. The French guns have been pounding the second and third line German positions here, while an intermittent bombardment has been going on at various points between Regnevillie and Remenauville, some half dozen miles west of Pont-aux-Mousses.

Apparently the recent German attack in the Champagne was nothing more than one of the numerous local operations such as the Germans carried out in several sectors of the front preceding the Verdun offensive, as it has not been followed up.

GERMANS TELL OF VICTORY.

Berlin, March 1.—German correspondents at the Verdun front state that on February 22 the German troops gained ground only ten square kilometers less than the total captured by the French in their offensive movement in the Champagne last fall.

The German attack was carefully prepared by heavy shelling of the French defensive works and the forests were barbed wire had been freed from tree to tree. The wire, intermingled with branches of the trees, formed a yielding barrier particularly well designed to resist artillery fire.

When the German troops charged they not only swept beyond these positions but advanced through more distant defense works before the French were able to rally their scattered troops. The correspondents repeat the earlier reports that the German losses were on a par with those of the French, on account of the well timed collaboration of the German infantry and artillery, suffered heavy casualties. It is said that hundreds of French dead, crowded closely together, were found in some small sections. The French lines was broken on both sides of the road leading northward from Verdun.

FRENCH FEEL SAFE.

Paris, Feb. 29.—(Delayed)—That the situation around Verdun is now well in hand and considered quite satisfactory from the French point of view is freely stated by the military experts. To the northeastern part of the stronghold the chief effort of the Germans seems to be directed to the rescue of the Brandenburgers, who are cooped up in the ruined fortress of Douaumont.

Both sides are profiting by the period of comparative calm to bring up fresh forces and supplies of ammunition. While it is realized that the Germans have not yet reached the limit of their offensive resources, it is stated that any fresh onslaught on their part is awaited by the French with supreme confidence in their ability to hurl it back.

STRIKERS TO GIVE IN?

St. Louis, March 1.—On the surface the packing house strike situation appeared unchanged today but there were rumors that the strikers will accept the packers' offer of twenty-one cents an hour for common laborers.

PROCLAMATION OF NEW REVOLUTION IN MEXICO MADE

FELIX DIAZ CALLS UPON PEOPLE TO SUPPORT HIM IN OUSTING CARRANZA.

San Antonio, Texas, March 1.—An agreement on which Felix Diaz will ask the Mexican nation to support him in a new revolution against the de facto government was made public here last night by Diaz adherents in the publication of a manifesto which revealed that Diaz had reached Mexico to begin operations against Carranza forces. The manifesto was issued by Diaz partisans in the state of Vera Cruz and was approved by him when he arrived in his native country.

The agreement is as follows: "We will name the army the 'reorganized national army.'"

"We name as general in chief of said army the citizen Felix Diaz. "We confer on said chief during the time required to reorganize the institutions and the reestablishment of peace extraordinary authority in all the branches of warfare, state and government."

"The reorganized national army will comply with and obey all decrees or orders issued by the general in chief by which he is authorized under this act."

"We declare that on the tenth of October, 1915, Gen. Huerta, when he dissolved the congress of the union, interrupted the order of the constitution when he constituted himself an usurper of the public function. With respect to the functionaries who contracted responsibilities for any acts that they committed, the subject is to be tried by law and the tribunals of our country."

ALBANIAN RULER STILL CONFIDENT

Rome, March 1.—Essad Pasha, who has come to Rome on a brief visit to discuss plans for the campaign to be undertaken against the Austrian and Bulgarian forces in southern Albania, said in an interview today that he is decidedly optimistic regarding the final outcome of the struggle in Albania.

"The partial occupation of Albania by Austria should she attempt to continue it is bound to result in military and moral disaster to her," he said. "She will have an army operating in a region which offers no resources and where that army will be constantly threatened by the Italian and Albanian forces which form the formidable base of Avlona, will undertake to envelop the Austrians and to cut off the retreat of Gen. Kooves' troops."

Essad Pasha concluded the interview by saying that the Adriatic must become an Italo-Albanian sea.

DEFENSE BILL ADVANCES

Rapid Progress Made by Congressional Committee Considering Army and Navy Increases.

Washington, D. C., March 1.—National defense legislation has made such rapid progress in committee that it was predicted today the army part of the preparedness program would be before the house and senate next week.

The house military committee began today its final review of the measure tentatively agreed upon. The final committee vote will be taken tomorrow, but it will require several days for Chairman Hay to prepare a report to accompany the bill.

ANTI-TIP IS LAW INVALID

District Judge at Sioux City Makes Ruling on Legislation Passed by Recent Assembly.

Sioux City, March 1.—The Iowa anti-tipping law was held to be unconstitutional by Judge George Jepson in the district court here today. The court held the law was class legislation. The decision was rendered in the case of a barber arrested for taking a twenty-five cent tip.

TODAY IN CONGRESS

SENATE—Attempt to reach agreement to fix time for vote on Shields' waterpower bill failed.

Public lands committee voted not to offer Myers waterpower bill as amendment to Shields' bill. Brandeis inquiry continued. Sinal investigation continued.

HOUSE—Considered claims on house calendar.

Foreign affairs committee considered action on resolutions warning Americans against travel on armed merchantmen of belligerents. National defense program considered by naval and military committees.

Philippine independence bill as passed by senate ordered reported by insular affairs committee.

U.S. COURT WILL HAVE BUSY TIME

Next Session, Which Opens Tuesday, March 7, Is to Be Full of Work

ACTION AGAINST LOUDEN IS LISTED

Federal Attorney Has It Put First on Trial Assignment Book

The next session of the United States district court in Ottumwa, which will be called to order Tuesday morning, March 7, at 10 o'clock promises to be the busiest ever held here.

By a new arrangement, outlined by Judge Martin J. Wade and approved by congress, this division will be given two weeks' terms from now on. The fall term this year opens on Tuesday, October 17. Both it and the spring term are made earlier so as not to conflict with the opening of the state court. The grand jurors for this session have been called for Tuesday at 10 a. m. and the petit jurors for 9 o'clock Wednesday morning.

To Try Louden Case.

One of the most important criminal cases to be tried is that of the United States vs. Robert B. Louden, Jr. The defendant is accused of violating section 10 of an act approved by congress on February 4, 1887, it being an act to regulate commerce. It is alleged that Louden shipped materials manufactured in his plant at Fairfield under false billing lists in order to avoid paying the regular rate which was much higher. The indictment was returned a year ago last fall and at the request of the United States attorney, Claude R. Porter, it has been put first now on the criminal assignment for trial.

Have White Slave Case.

Second on the trial assignment in the criminal division is the case of the United States vs. Paul Egarhos and Stella Kaffalos. They are accused of conspiracy to violate the Mann white slave act. They were indicted last fall but were not apprehended until after court had adjourned for the term.

White slave charges against George Jacobs, Bertha M. Parker and George Lefsenring and charges of car breaking against Lewis Crumes and Bert King are to be investigated by the grand jury. A score or more of law and equity cases are awaiting trial.

THIRD DISTRICT DEMOCRATS MEET

Waterloo, March 1.—More than one hundred democrats were in attendance when the open meeting of the democrats of the third congressional district was called to order shortly before noon today. The presidential primary was the chief topic for discussion by delegates from all counties in the district outlined plans for the coming campaign.

W. W. Marsh of Waterloo, presided at the meeting.

SECTION HANDS TO GET INCREASE

Aurora, Ill., March 1.—Burlington railroad section hands today went from a nine to a ten hour day at an advance of one cent an hour in pay. The raise, which was from fifteen to sixteen cents an hour, coupled with the increasing hours of work, adds about \$3 a month to the workers' pay. Several thousand men are affected.

A number of crews are to be sent out of Aurora as soon as the weather will permit track work.

SOCIALISTS HOLDING REFERENDUM VOTE

Chicago, March 1.—Voting on the first presidential nomination by referendum was started today by the socialist party. The following are the candidates: President—Allan L. Benson, Yonkers, N. Y.; Arthur Le Sueur, Minot, N. D.; James H. Maurer, Reading, Pa. Vice president—George H. Kirkpatrick, Newark, N. J.; Kate Richards O'Hare, St. Louis.

DEAN OF DENTAL SURGEONS BURIED

Muscatine, March 1.—Brief funeral services were held today over the remains of the late Dr. J. S. Kulp, dean of Iowa dental surgeons, who dropped dead at his home earlier in the week. Dr. Kulp was a founder and for a year president of the Iowa State Dental society.

ALLEN RESIGNS OFFICE.

Des Moines, March 1.—Senator J. H. Allen today filed with Gov. Clarke his resignation as senator from the Buena Vista, Humboldt and Pocahontas district. In his letter of resignation he gave as reason therefor his candidacy for governor.

COUNTRY INVITED BY DEMOCRATS TO SUPPORT WILSON

LEADERS ENDORSE PRESIDENT FOR REELECTION; CONVENTION BEE BUZZING.

Syracuse, N. Y., March 1.—Party leaders planned to make today's informal democratic state convention in the nature of an invitation to the country at large to support President Wilson for reelection.

With that end in view the keynote speech and platform endorsed the president personally and his administrative policies and called for the selection of four delegates at large to the democratic national convention at St. Louis to be chosen with the understanding that they will do their utmost to bring about his nomination.

The draft of the platform, which dealt solely with national issues, besides heartily endorsing the Wilson administration, declares for "peace with honor" and advocated preparedness.

LIVELY TILT ON.

Louisville, Ky., March 1.—With prospects of a lively tilt over the number of delegates at large to be elected for the national convention at Chicago, the republican state convention met here today. Indications were that whether four members of the delegation at large were decided on, as many republicans from throughout the state contend should be, or eight, as is understood to have been sanctioned by the party leaders, they would be instructed to support former Vice President Charles W. Fairbanks for the presidential nomination.

In district conventions held yesterday and Monday three districts instructed for Fairbanks; three elected uninstructed delegates, and three others chose uninstructed delegates but adopted resolutions declaring in favor of the Indiana man. Both sides claim the delegates from the two remaining districts.

RIOTING ON IN MADRID

Strike of the Bakers Becomes General And Disturbances Soon Begin to Break Out Everywhere.

London, March 1.—A Reuter dispatch from Madrid says that a strike which began among the bakers in the city on account of the high price of flour has developed into a general strike and brought trade to a standstill. Riots have occurred and several persons have been injured in conflicts with the police. Disturbances assumed a more serious form in the suburbs where there was not sufficient police force to cope with the situation. The mayor of Madrid has resigned as a consequence of the trouble.

CHICAGO VOTING GIVES SURPRISES

MAYOR THOMPSON IS REBUKED IN MANY WARDS; WOMEN'S VOTE IS SMALL.

Chicago, March 1.—Both administration and anti-administration men claimed victory today after analyzing the vote at the aldermanic primaries yesterday.

Mayor Thompson pointed to a total of twenty-seven republican aldermanic nominations supported by him as evidence of victory. Anti-administration forces based their claim of success on the fact that seven of the "rebel nine" aldermen, as Thompson's principal antagonists were styled, had been nominated. Mayor Thompson lost his home ward (twenty-third) by 2,500, Fred Lundin, the mayor's chief political adviser, carried his ward (thirty-third) by 3,200.

One of the surprises was the vote in the seventh ward, a republican stronghold and the home of Alderman Charles E. Merriam, leader of the anti-administration forces, where Alderman John N. Kimball was renominated by 158 votes. He will probably face a recount. Kimball was one of the "rebel nine" and a spirited campaign was made for and against him. His friends expected victory by several thousands.

Both of the republican factions declared their determination today to continue the fight.

In the democratic primaries friends of Roger C. Sullivan, who battled with supporters of former Mayor Carter H. Harrison, declared that they won in thirty-one of the thirty-five wards. The woman vote was considerably lighter than was looked for and amounted to but 32.3 per cent of the total woman registration. The male vote was 38 per cent of registration. Yesterday's primary female vote as compared with that past in the 1915 primary was: 1915, 152,863; 1916, 81,121.

PLAN TO PLACE MEN TO GUARD ALL BRIDGES

Engineers Working on Big Floe Recommend New Precautionary Step

ROMMEL FUNERAL SERVICES ARE HELD

Body of County Officer Is Brought Through Here en Route Home

Des Moines, March 1.—Acting on recommendations of engineers at the scene of the wreck at Oskaloosa, state officials today took steps to place men on guard at bridges above and below the ice gorge which caused the overflow. The guards were furnished with dynamite to use in case ice flows, piling against the piers and abutments, menace the safety of the bridges.

In a report to Gov. Clarke today, Engineer Peterson said that with the return of mild weather the situation at Oskaloosa was solving itself.

Rises Three Feet.

Oskaloosa, March 1.—The Des Moines river rose three feet Tuesday in the vicinity of Glvin when a mass of ice from the upper river smashed into the huge floe that is choking the river a mile and a half west of Glvin. The overflowing waters of the river received a new impetus for several hours but today the flood was again receding.

No attempt will be made to blast a channel through the six mile long ice gorge, engineers decided. The undertaking, they said, would probably prove fruitless, even though thousands of pounds of dynamite were used. W. H. Petersen, Rock Island engineer, sent here by Governor Clarke, has opposed any further attempt at dynamiting the gorge. He believes the situation will solve itself unless a severe freeze ensues.

Gorge Motionless Now.

The gorge is motionless now and is frozen from bank to bank. Unless it is augmented by a further freeze or released by a sudden thaw the damage will likely be confined to the vicinity now suffering. No damage further southeast is feared at present and alarm is subsided at Eddyville and points south of there.

It is estimated that more than 1,000 acres of land is submerged in the vicinity of the big gorge. Thirty families have been driven from their farm homes.

The ice in the big floe towers thirty feet in the air at some points and is frozen to the bed of the river. Those battling with the floe say it is a magnificent sight. Scores of men have been engaged in attempting to break it up for five days but their efforts have been attended by an absolute lack of success.

Rommel Funeral Today.

Funeral services for A. E. Rommel, Mahaska county engineer who lost his life in attempting to break up the floe with dynamite last Saturday, were held here this morning.

They were held at the Cheesman funeral home at 9 o'clock and were under the auspices of the Masonic fraternity. Rev. Alexander McFerran of the First Presbyterian church was in charge.

Body Through Here.

The body was taken to Mt. Pleasant by way of Ottumwa at 10:30 o'clock after a short service there this afternoon at the home of Richard Budde, where Mr. and Mrs. Rommel were married, the remains were buried in Forest Home cemetery.

Beside his widow, Mr. Rommel is survived by three children, Margaret, aged 12, Jane aged three and Arthur, Jr., aged seventeen months. His aged father, Dean A. Rommel of the school of music, Iowa Wesleyan college, and a brother, George Rommel, chief of the animal husbandry division, department of agriculture at Washington, D. C., also survive.

ENGINEER NOT ADVISED.

County Engineer Henry Cook this afternoon had not been advised of the placing of men on the various bridges above and below the floe to watch for huge cakes piling against the abutments. However, he said, he expected that it would be done.

The supervisors of Wapello county and the engineer, while feeling a personal interest in the matter and hopeful for the solution of the problem for Mahaska county, do not feel that they are able at this time to lend any aid. They think that all the aid that could be given has already been sent by the governor and the supervisors and agents at Oskaloosa.

Close watch will be kept on all proceedings and immediate action will be taken should the gorge come dangerously near the Wapello county line. However, Mr. Cook and the board members are all of the opinion that it will break up and solve itself with the return of mild weather.