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SEND STRONG NOTES

STATE DEPARTMENT UPHOLDS OUR RIGHTS AS NEUTRALS

WRITE BOTH NATIONS

Germany is Warned of Possible Action in Case of Destruction of American Lives and Shipping—Great Britain is Told of Dangers Arisinf From Misuse of Flag.

Publication Thursday night by the state department of texts of notes sent Wednesday to Great Britain and Germany, respectively, revealed that both countries had been warned in most emphatic terms against menacing the vessels or lives of American citizens traversing the recently proclaimed sea zones of war.

The notes were prepared by Counselor Robert Lansing and revised by President Wilson and Secretary Bryan after consultation with the entire cabinet.

The British, Spanish and Brazilian ambassadors were given copies of the notes, as were the ministers of Sweden, Norway and Denmark. The documents created a sensation among diplomats generally because of what some regarded as their drastic implications.

High officials of the American government pointed out informally that it had been deemed advisable to speak in unmistakable terms now rather than to await the alarming effect upon American public opinion which might ensue from the sinking of a vessel with scores of American citizens. The notes, officials were confident, would prevent the critical possibilities discussed in them.

Diplomats examined with great interest the language of the communications and some construed the note to Germany as a warning that the loss of American lives by sinking even a belligerent merchant ship would be covered in the representations of the American government because of the insistence that all merchant ships must be visited and searched and passengers taken off before ships can be sunk.

In discussing the notes, officials pointed out that representations to Great Britain were not based specifically on the use by the Lusitania of the American flag or any other ship because it was not a rare ruse of war to hoist a neutral flag when escaping capture, and vessels of both sides among the belligerents in the present war already had made such use of them, as had American vessels in previous wars.

The distinction emphasized was that aside from the legal propriety, which was reserved for future discussion, general misuse of a neutral flag by a belligerent was a violation of international comity and neighborliness, liable to produce serious dangers for the neutral. No rule of international law exists against the practice, officials added, but the United States construes it as a moral obligation upon belligerents to avoid the general use of neutral flags, particularly under such circumstances as now exist.

As for the communication with Germany, officials said they were acting under specifically recognized principles of international law in pointing out the dangers to American citizens which would follow attacks on merchant vessels without first ascertaining the validity of the emblem flown by the vessel.

Although there was no explicit reference in the notes to what would be the attitude of the United States towards the loss of American lives if a belligerent merchantman were sunk, it was made plain by officials that neutrals traveling on belligerent ships had a right to expect that enemy vessels would conform to international practice of offering opportunity to passengers and crew of all nationalities to be taken to a place of safety before destroying a ship as a prize of war.

The notes had been under consideration for several days. The administration's attitude was discussed at length by President Wilson with his advisers and the communications were not given their finishing touches until late Wednesday. At first, it was intended to confine the note to Germany merely to an inquiry as to what steps would be taken to verify the character of ships flying neutral flags, pointing out the serious dangers which might ensue from mistakes in this connection. But when the German office memorandum arrived giving what seemed to be the mature deliberations of the government on the subject, the Washington administration decided to issue its warning immediately.

No jont action with other neutral governments has been taken or is under contemplation. There has been intimate discussion of the course of the American government with the ministers and ambassadors of neutral countries, but in line with traditional American policy no combined expresson with other governments will be made.

Both noes, it is believed, will open the subject of the use of neutral flags and submarine warfare on merchant ships to a long diplomatic correspondence, which may furnish the basis for international rules on the subject at conferences at the war's end. It is one of the subjects also which the Pan-American union will consider in its investigaton of the rights of neutrals.

The full text of the notes as made public at the state department Thursday night follow:

"February 10, 1915.

"The secretary of state has instructed American Embassador Gerard at Berlin to present to the German department a note to the following effect:

"The government of the United States having had its attention directed to the proclamation of the German admiralty issued on the 4th of February that the waters surrounding Great Britain and Ireland, including the whole of the English channel, are to be considered as comprised within the seat of war, that all enemy merchant vessels found in those waters after the 18th inst. will be destroyed, although it may not always be possible to save crews and passengers; and that neutral vessels expose themselves to danger within this zone of war because, in view of the misuse of neutral flags said to have been rendered by the British government on the 31st of January and of the contingencies of maritime warfare, it may not be possible always to exempt neutral vessels from attacks intended to strike enemy ships, feels it to be its duty to call the attention of the imperial government with sincere respect and the most friendly sentiments, but very candidly and earnestly, to the very serious possibilities of the course of action apparently contemplated under that proclamation.

"'The government of the United States views those possibilities with such grave concern that it feels it to be its privilege and indeed its duty in the circumstances to request the imperial German government to consider, before action is taken, the critical situation in respect of the relation between this country and Germany which might arise were the German naval forces, in carrying out the policy foreshadowed in the admiralty's proclamation, to destroy any merchant vessel of the United Statts or cause the death of American citizens.

"'It is of course not necessary to remind the German government that the sole right of a belligerent in dealing with neutral vessels on the high seas is limited to visit and search, unless a blockade is proclaimed and effectively maintained, which this government does not understand to be proposed in this case. To declare or exercise a right to attack and destroy any vessel entering a prescribed area of the high seas without first certainly determining its belligerent nationality and the contraband character of its cargo would be an act so unprecedented in naval warfare that this government is reluctant to believe that the imperial government of Germany in this case contemplates it as possible.

"'The suspicion that enemy ships are using neutral flags improperly can create no just presumption that all ships traversing a prescribed area are subject to the same suspicion. It is to determine exactly such fuestions that this government understands the right of visit and search to have been recognized.

"'This government has carefully noted the explanatory statement issued by the imperial German government at the same time with the proclamation of the German admiralty and takes this occasion to remind the imperial German government very respectfully that the government of the United States is open to none of the criticisms for unneutral action to which the German government believes the governments of certain other neutral nations have laid themselves open; that the government of the United States has not consented to or acquiesced in any measure which may have been taken by the other belligerent nations in the present war which operates to restrain neutral trade, but has, on the contrary, taken in all such matters a position which warrants it in holding those governments responsible in the proper way for any untoward effects on American shipment which accepted principles of internation law do not justify; and that it therefore regards itself as free, in the present instance, to take with a clear conscience and upon accepted principles the position indicated in this note.

"'If the commanders of German vessels of war should act upon the presumption that the flag of the United States was not being used in good faith and should destroy on the high seas an American vessel or the lives of American citizens it would be difficult for the government of the United States to view the act in any other light than as an indefensible violation of neutral rights which it would be very hard indeed to reconcile with the friendly relations now so happily existing between the two governments.

"'If such a deplorable situation should arise the imperial German government can readily appreciate that the government of the United States would be constrained to hold the imperial German government to a strict accountability for such acts of their naval authorities, and to take any steps it might be necessary to take to safeguard American lives and property and to secure to American citizens the full employment of their acknowledged rights on the high seas.

"'The government of the United States, in view of these considerations, which it urges with the greatest respect and with the sincere purpose of making sure that no misunderstanding may arise and no circumstance occur that might even cloud the intercourse of the two governments, expresses the confident hope and expectation that the imperial German government can and will give assurance that American citizens and their vessels will not be molested by the naval forces of Germany otherwise than by visit and search, though their vessels may be traversing the sea area delimited in the proclamation of the German admiralty.

"'It is added for the information of the Imperial government that representations have been made to his Britannic Majesty's government in respect to the unwarranted use of the American flag for the protection of British ships.'"

"February 10, 1915.

"The secretary of state has instructed Ambassador Page at London to present to the British government a note to the following effect:

"'The department has been advised of the declaration of the German admiralty on February 4 indicating that the British government had on January 31 explicitly authorized the use of neutral flags on British mer-

(Continued on last page.)

ANSWERS MEYER.

Tillman Talks of Charleston Navy Yard in the Senate.

Senator Tillman defended in the Senate Thursday his record as chairman of the naval committee in reply to criticisms by former Secretary of the Navy Meyer in a magazine article. The senator viewed the charges that he was responsible for vast waste of money "in exnenditures for navy yards in the South and declared these charges were without foundation, and "slandered him grossly."

Senator Tillman denied that he ever had combined with other senators on the committee to secure large appropriations for navy yards, and made a detailed defence of the usefulness of the navy yard at Charleston.

German Aerial Losses.

A semi-official French note says: "In the region of Cagny a French aviator has destroyed a signal balloon. A German aeroplane has been brought down near Verdun."

Mexicans Shoot Fisherman.

Jesus Saldana, a fisherman, was shot and killed by Mexican officers Wednesday as he was crossing the Rio Grande in a boat from the American side.

CALLS FOR SIX MILLS

APPROPRIATION BILL COMES UP BEFORE HOUSE.

Measure Contains Special Provision of $2,000 for Legal Services to the Governor's Office.

The general appropriation bill was presented to the House Wednesday night. It shows careful work on the part of the ways and means committee, and will probably meet no considerable opposition in the House. The bill carries the levy of six mills, the same as last year. The levy in 1914 was six mills instead of 5 3-4 mills.

Under the bill reported Wednesday night the levy is divided: five mills for ordinary purposes and 1 mill for pensions, which are increased to $300,000, an increase of $50,000. The one-mill levy will raise $307,000, and there is a provision that any over-plus from the pension shall be used for the current expenses of the State.

The bill this year shows a total of $2,212,065.50, as against a total in 1914 of $2,146,253.04. The bill reported Wednesday night shows an increase of $65,812.46 over last year's total. There is no provision for the $110,000 borrowed for and by the extraordinary session of the legislature, that being covered by notes and will be absorbed by the increased revenue due to the $10,000,000 increase in assessed values of property.

The increase of $65,000 is shown in slight necessary increases in the appropriations for the asylum, the medical college, Winthrop college and the University. For the State Fair $2,500 is provided.

Among the larger items in the bill as reported are: Confederate pensions, $300,000; tick eradication, $30,000; agricultural extension work, $15,691; Winthrop college, $1,6,-249.32; University of South Carolina, $103,251.44; Merical College of South Carolina, $37,000; State warehouse system, $17,337.63; Hospital for the Insane, $309,100; Deaf, Dumb and Blind Instittue, $59,000; the Citadel, $36,000.

The purpose is to provide in the appropriation bill for maintenance only at the asylum. A separate bill is to be presented, providing for a half-mill special levy for five years, and with this fund of $750,000, to be raised at the rate of $150,000 annually, it is proposed to improve the asylum property, bring it up to date and add the improvements recommended and urged for years.

There is a special provision for $2,000 for legal services for the governor's office.

The $17,000 provided for the cotton warehouse system is the reappropriation of $12,000 unerpended balance and $5,000 for the purchase of corrugated iron with which to erect warehouses, and which is to be refunded to the State. The idea is that the warehouse system should buy the iron in large lots and sell it at cost.

The estimate filed with the comptroller general would have necessitated a seven-mill levy, but the committee pruned the requests and made no provision to pay the obligations involved in the recent holding of the extraordinary session of the legislature.

VAN DYKE PROTESTS.

Says German Military Authorities Restrict His Messages.

Henry Van Dyke, the United States minister to The Hague and also to the Grand Duchy of Luxemberg, said Thursday, says a dispatch from The Hague, that he had appealed to the government at Washington to protest against German interference with his duties as minister to Luxemberg. He said his diplomatic communications with Luxemberg have been cut off by the German military commander at Trier (Treves), who had refused to permit his letters to pass because they were sealed with the seal of the American legation.

Dr. Van Dyke has been trying for four days through the friendly medium of the German minister at The Hague to obtain an explanation from Berlin of what he considers an invasion of his diplomatic privileges, but no answer has come from the German capital.

"That statement of facts is correct," said Dr. Van Dyke, according to The Hague dispatch. "The action of the German commander at Trier may have been a mistake of ignorance, but it must be explained and apologized for.

"Luxemberg is a small country of 250,000 inhabitants, but the peaceful duties with which the American government has charged me toward that country are just as sacred as if it were a hundred times as big.

"It was the first of the neutral countries to be invaded and appears to be threatened with a failure of the food supply. I can not consent to interference with my duties toward Luxemberg by any power in the world except that which conferred them upon me, namely, the government at Washington."

TO PARDON DR. SEN.

Chinese Government Wants Him to Return to High Positions.

The Chinese government has pardoned Dr. Sun Yat Sen, father of the revolution, which resulted in making China a republic, and other rebel leaders, and has offered them high official positions, if they are willing to return and declare their loyalty to the government. To allay alleged charges of the Japanese that President Yuan Shi Kai's government is anti-Japanese, the cabinet will be reconstructed.

Schooner Goes to Pieces.

The American schooner William H. Yerkes struck the rocks on Frying Pan Shoals near Wilmington, N. C., Sunday and is reported a total loss. Her crew was picked up soon after the accident by the United States buoy tender Mangrove.

Canada to Pay $15,000.

Canada has agreed to pay $15,000 indemnity to the families of the two Americans shot recently while hunting near the militia.

Slaughter Many Aanimals.

Up to January 1 36,758 animals had been slughtered in Illinois in the fight against the foot and mouth disease. Their value amount to over $2,500,000.

START NEW ATTACK

GERMANS BEGIN SUCCESSFUL OFFENSIVE IN EAST PRUSSIA

RUSSIAN LINE HOLDING

Petrograd Reports Activity of German Trops in East Prussia Where They Have Gathered in Considerable Force—Carpathian Battles Continue.

A strong German movement has begun in East Prussia where large German forces have been concentrated. Contemporaneously the Russians are retiring from the Mazurian lake district to their frontier.

Petrograd reports Thursday: "It has been definitely established that the Germans are concentrating very great forces in East Prussia. These forces have started an offensive, which they are developing, especially in the direction of Wilkowyszki (north of Augustowo) and Lyck. The presence is reported of units composed of new recruits from central Germany."

Berlin reports: "On the East Prussian frontier engagements were continued with results which were altogether satisfactory to us, although deep snow hindered the movement of our troops. The results of these engagements can not yet be seen.

Petrograd reports: In the opinion of military experts here Russia has finally established superiority as a fighting power over Germany and the turning point of the war on the Russian side has now been reached.

While the German soldiers and minor commands continue to fight with a courage and determination that are almost superhuman, it is evident to those who are in position to know all that must be known before a trustworthy opinion can be formed that the German plans have gone to pieces.

The bottom has fallen out of the campaign against Russia, and all that the Germans are now seeking to accomplish is to cover the failure of their strategic plan, or possibly the absence of any adequate plan, by frantic rushes at frightful cost in every direction.

The steady forward movement of the Russians in East Prussia, their great advance over the lower Vistula, their advance along the lower Vistula on the left bank, the defeat of the German divisions in the Carpathians, all occurring simultaneously, are an indication unmistakable to the soldier's eye.

It is believed here that political necessities broke up the unity of the German plans for this war; but political necessities are factors in every war and are only found inimical to the strategy of the losing side. The really great strategist makes allies of these political factors, which are always present in every war Russia's successes are in no small degree due to this fact.

Grank Duke Nicholas from the outset of the war based his strategy scheme upon importance in every sense of Galicia. Whether advancing or retreating, marching or fighting, the Grand Duke has never lost his grip on that strategic scheme. It is now being put into execution in the Carpathians.

The Germans sent thither three army corps to stiken the Austro-Hungarian main attack, but the Germans, if they bore the brunt of the fighting likewise suffered the worst defeat. In the battle north of the Tukholka Pass the Russians were distinctly inferior on numbers to the Germans.

Unquestionably Russia has many more men under arms than Germany, but she can not dodge them about from front to front as the German commanders do. In the fighting line the Russians have no superiority in numbers and in many memorable battles they have been largely in the minority.

The Grand Duke's numbers are mostly standing ready for use when the proper moment comes. In the actual fighting no more men are employed than is necessary to effect the purpose of the moment, and those men are not wantonly wasted, but the Russians, unprovided with a close network of strategic railways specially designed in every way for military purposes, must have numbers to hold all points of their 700-mile front. The Germans have hammered at every link in that chain and broken none. It has cost them three-quarters of a million men to learn that the Russians are fighting men of the best stamp.

From the dimensions of the battles in the Carpathians and their rapid sequence it is believed that the decisive moment of the southern campaign is very near. This view is strengthened by the hurried redistribution of the German forces in Hunguary, which number about 300,000.

They are attempting the task of capturing the initiative in some selected openings toward the north, while the Austrians maintain a passive defense in huge numbers in the better known passes, especially those westward of the region where the fighting has been heaviest.

The German offensive has already been crippled by their appalling losses in men both along the Rawka and Bzura last week and in the fierce struggle for the heights commanding the Tukholka Pass, which opens into the Stryi Valley in Eastern Galicia. Both these failures following in immediate succession leave them with the bitter consciousness that an absolute want of men is ruining their compaign.

Berlin reports: Important developments in the East are generally expected at an early date. Rumors have been repeatedly circulated from time to time in the last few weeks that the hour of a big victory was at hand, without, however, materializing into fact.

There is reason to believe that the Germans are now in sufficient force to attempt a decisive stroke at a chosen point.

Major Moraht, the military critic of the Tageblatt, who is virtually the only Berlin critic to venture an independent verdict on the military situation, speaks of "an impending decisive battle" in the east. He expects that an attempt will be made to break the Russian lines and cross the Vistula, and discusses the possible length of time Warsaw will hold out after that, although it is not clear that the German commanders lay decisive weight on the immediate possession of the city and fortress. In case of success, the Austrian military representative is quite confident that Przemysl will soon be relieved for a second time.

It is known that the German forces in East Prussia and north of the Vistula, which for months have been content to remain on a strategic defensive, have been considerably strengthened, and that a fairly general engagement is now in progress. Field Marshall von Hindenberg reports that this engagement is "progressing normally," a phrase strongly reminiscent of the bulletin which appeared just before the announcement of a general Russian defeat on December 17.

Petrograd reports: The Austro-German army, amounting probably to 400,000 men, is moving eastward of Nadvornay, in a broken country, towards the Bukowina frontier, presumably with the object of attempting to envelop the Russian left wing. The retirement of the Russian column from Kimpolung followed upon the Austrian occupation of Kirlibaba, which made the position at Jakoben untenable. This covers the only practicable access to the Kimpolung Pass. The operations there must evidently wait on decisive results in the Eastern Carpathians.

The Germans, who gradually had been concentrating in East Prussia with fresh troops, began a series of energetic reconnoissances, and on February 7 they opened offensive operations on both wings of their front in East Prussia. In the vicinity of Lasdehnen, to the east of Tilsit, we drove back a German attack and succeeded in almost completely annihilating one of the German battalions opposed to us. Following this encounter our cavalry moved forward in the direction of Sierpo, traveling over the road to Rypin.

Judging from the corpses abandoned by the Germans in front of our positions, they would appear to have tens of thousands of men in the six lost in dead and wounded several days' fighting in front of Borjimow, Goumine, and Wola (Szydlowiecka).

In the Carpathians the fighting continues in the vicinity of Bartfield and Svidnik. The enemy here undertook active operations, but they did not continue, and they retired leaving prisoners in our hands. In the vicinity of Mount Loupkow we continued our pursuit of the enemy, and in one day we captured sixty-nine officers, 5,00 men and eighteen machine guns.

German columns, having made their way over the Tukholka Pass, delivered during the day of February 7 no fewer than twenty-two violent attacks upon certain heights in the region of Koziouwka, occupied by us. The Germans came forward to this attack several ranks deep, presenting a full front line.

Unnder our violent cross-fire the Germans here twice took possession of a certain height, but they were dislodged by counter-attacks delivered by our infantry. This success was preceded by long and violent hand-to-hand fighting with the bayonet, which is without precedent in history. All the side of this hill was covered by German corpses. In front of one of our battalions more than 1,000 German dead were counted.

London reports: "In Poland and the Carpathians the battles which have been under way for weeks are progressing but various official reports lack details.

"The Austrians still claim advances in the Carpathian mountains and report Russian repulses.

"In the West, particularly in the Argonne and the Vosges, there have been German attacks on the allied lines, and Nieuport and the district along the Yser has been heavily bombarded."

GAIN EXPORTS INCREASE.

Reports Show That Much Wheat and Corn Have Been Exported.

Five times as much wheat and six times as much corn were exported from the United States in December as in the same month in 1913; flour exports increased more than 68 per cent. for the same period; fresh beef increased more than twelvefold, and generally the exports of breadstuffs, which includes practically all the staple grains, increased five times.

Those figures were disclosed Thursday by the department of commerce in response to inquiries as to what extent foodstuffs were going abroad with resulting abnormal prices at home. The department's summary says:

"Wheat exports in December aggregate 28,875,217 bushels, or five times the quantity in December, 1913. The average export price last December was $1.25 per bushel, against 93 cents in December one year earlier. Of flour the month's export movement as 68 1-2 per cent. more than in December, 1913, being 1,818,317 barrels, compared ith 1,079,240 in the same month a year ago and the value thereof was $9,473,660, compared with $4,903,223 in December, 1913. Oats showed a larger total in December than in the entire calendar year 1913.

"Corn exports in December, 1914, amounted to 4,582,006 bushels, valued at $3,554,592, against 749,124 bushels, valued at $560,165, in December, 1913."

TO SEND NOTES.

Government Intends to Communicate With England and Germany.

Drafts of notes to Great Britain and Germany—one relative to the use of the American flag by the British liner Lusitania and the other concerning the attitude of the German navy toward neutral vessels in the newly prescribed sea zones of war—were given personal consideration by President Wilson Tuesday, after conferences with Secretary Bryan and cabinet members.

It is understood that no protest against any violation of international law is to be directed to either country. The administration view of the Lusitania's hoisting of the American flag is that it is a customary war ruse. But at the same time representations pointing out that neutral commerce might suffer through continued practice of the stratagem were deemed advisable.

As for the German proclamation that it may be difficult to determine the character of a vessel in the war zones because of misuse of neutral flags, the United States intends to ask for more information as to methods by which the order will be carried out.

It will point out that it expects every effort to be made to verify the nature of ships flying neutral ags, assuming that due respect for the safety of Americans will be given.

Liquor Advertising Barred.

Liquor advertising in Alagama is prohibited i na bill repassed by both Houses of the state legislature Wednesdtay over Gov. Henderson's veto.

KILLS SHIP BILL

SENATE HAS TO GIVE UP EFFORT TO PASS BILL

HOUSE HAS NEW PLAN

President Wilson Still Remains Determined to Force Passage of Measure, Extra Session Seems Necessary—House Leaders Plan to Work Bill in as Amendment.

Republicans and Democratic insurgents fighting the ship bill, with the aid of Senators Norris and Kenyon, Progressive Republicans, who have supported the measure, forced the Senate to adjourn Wednesday night after the longest continuous session in its history. Debate had lasted fifty-four hours and eleven minutes.

Adjournment came on a motion made by Senator O'Gorman, carried 48 to 46, after Senator Norris, deploring the filibuster, had proclaimed his conclusion that opponents of the bill could filibuster it to death.

"I am not finding fault with senators," he said, "for doing what under the rules they have a perfect right to do. But these filibusters are increasing. It is unfortunate that we can not decide any great issue without a test of physical strength. It is a relic of barbarism.

"We stay here night after night," he said, "and are dragged out of our beds to answer a roll call when there are three or four senators in the chamber. It is ludicrous, it is foolish. This flood of talk has no object but to kill time, and kill the members. You know and I know and God knows that with about one-half of the members of the Senate determined to continue this filibuster they can absolutely prevent a vote on this bill until after March 4."

Though disappointed over the loss of support from the Progressive Republicans, administration leaders from the Senate would not admit the cause was lost. Anticipating a break in the Senate, President Wilson had conferred throughout the day with those leaders on plans to get the bill before the House and such a course may be taken, though Senate Republicans insist their fight will continue until the end of the session, no matter what the administration forces may accomplish in the House.

A compromise proposal designed to extricate the admin'stration ship purchase bill from the deadlock that has blocked its passage in the Senate, and to avert an extra session was put forward Thursday night by House Democrats through Representative Ketchin of North Carolina, chosen majority leader of the next House.

The new plan, which proses the passage of the shipping bill as a temporary emergency measure, was developed at conferences on the House side of the capitol while the Senate marked time with both opponents and supporters of the measure sparring for advantage. An adjournment of the Senate advanced the plans of the Democratic leaders to force a cloture rule that would end the determined filibuster.

As announced by Representative Ktichin the compromise contemplates the passage through the House next week of the bill suggested by Senator Gorce with an amendment that would terminate the government's activities in the shipping business two years after the close of the European war. Despite President Wilson's announced determination to stand by the Senate bill in its present form, Representative Kitchin said, House leaders, anxious to avoid an extra session, proposed to put this measure before the Senate, and give the president an opportunity to accept it in the event of the failure of the pending bill.

The desire of both Republicans and Democrats to avoid an extra session, Representative Kitchin said, probably would give the proposed plan sufficient support to get it through before March 4.

Representative Kitchin, Majority Leader Underwood, Representative Adamson and other House leaders, after conferring with President Wilson, at the White House Thursday, returned to the capitol with the assurance that despite the gloomy outlook in the Senate, the president was still determined to press the ship purchase bill even to the point of calling an extra session. The House leaders told the president that they believed that an extra session would prove futile, because the ship bill would fail to get a majority in the next House.

In the Senate the day again was devoted to speeches and to informal conferences after numerous notices had been given of a cloture rule to limit debate. Senator Lee of Tennessee late in the day gave notice of an amendment to the rules to provide for fixing a time for a vote on any pending bill whenever the Senate should sustain a declaration that obstructive tactics were being employed. Senator Norris, who gave notice several days ago of a rule to limit debate on a bill to three hours for each senator, had his amendment referred to the committee on rules, which will meet to-morrow.

SAVES NEW RULES.

Lieutenant-Governor Bethea Breaks Tie in the Senate.

Lieut. Gov. Bethea saved the requirement for re-enrolment every two years in the Democratic primary, when he broke a tie in the Senate late Thursday night and cast his vote for the rules as they stand, calling for a new enrolment of voters every two years.

Senator R. D. Epps of Sumter had offered an amendment to the bill putting the Democratic rules into law, in effect, requiring an enrolment of voters only every six years. A motion to lay this amendment on the table resulted in a tie, 19 to 19, and Lieut. Gov. Bethea broke the tie by voting to table the amendment and thus saved the rules as they exist.

The bill enacting into law the rules of the Democratic party was then given third reading by a vote of 23 to 16 and ordered sent to the House.

For Army of Three Million.

The House of Commons Wednesday night passed without division the army estimate for 3,000,000 men, exclusive of India.

MANY WITHDRAW

FOREIGN DIPLOMATS MAY LEAVE MEXICO CITY.

Relations With General Carranza Have Become Tense—Cables Home for Instructions.

So serious is the friction between the Carranza government and members of the diplomatic corps in the City of Mexico that the withdrawal of many foreign legations is now threatened.

Some of the prominent diplomatic representatives of European countries already have cabled their home governments suggesting that, inasmuch as communication is growing more and more restricted and little respect is given them by the Carranza authorities, it might be advisable to unite with other governments in a movement to abandon all foreign legations in Mexico.

State department officials Friday night declined to discuss this phase of the situation. As the American embassy has been closed since the rupture with the Huerta government, the action on the part of the other diplomatic missions is being considered without consulting the United States, so far as is known.

The plan of the diplomatic corps in the City of Mexico, which is understood to be acting as a unit, is to leave affairs in Mexico in charge of consular officers. This will mean practically the severance of diplomatic relations by all countries and present a unique status for Mexico in the family of nations.

The situation in the Mexican capital has been replete with diplomatic embarrassments since the rapid changes in executive authority ensued.

When Gen. Carranza, in his capacity as first chief of the Constitutionalist army, first abandoned the City of Mexico and moved his capital to Vera Cruz, he invited the diplomatic corps to accompany him. The diplomats formally declined on the ground that such step might be construed as a recognition of his government.

Since then the relations between Carranza and the foreign diplomats in the City of Mexico have not been cordial.

The return of the Carranza authority to the City of Mexico, where Gen. Obregon is in command, has now developed into a menacing situation, because the latter has threatened, by direction of Carranza, to deport the Spanish minister unless Angel del Caso, who claims to be a confidential agent of the Spanish government, is surrendered from his hiding place in the Spanish legation. He is accused of complicity in the Villa government.

With the strict censorship on press dispatches, the most rigorous known in Mexico in years, and the difficulties of foreign diplomats in communicating with their home governments, the situation has caused much anxiety among officials and diplomats at Washington.

Some of the embassies at Washington tried a few days ago to communicate with their missions in the City of Mexico and had the cipher messages returned to them, the Mexican telegraph officials refusing to receive them. Since then there has been a modification of the embargo on code messages, but diplomats declare the uncertainties of communication have not been removed.

So far as is known from official telegrams, the City of Mexico is quiet. Comparatively little news of military activity in the southern republic reached the state department Friday. No reply had been received to the telegram sent by Acting Secretary Lansing to the Brazilian minister to exercise his good offices in behalf of Angel del Caso, and officials admitted they had only meager information about the situation.

PASSES SINKLER BILL.

Senate Wants Local Option Compulsory Education.

The Sinkler local option compulsory education bill passed third reading in the Senate Tuesday morning by a vote of 29 to 15. Every member of the Senate was in his seat and voted on the compulsory education bill on the final roll call. The vote lacked one vote of being 2 to 1 in favor of the bill.

Those who voted for the bill were: Appelt, Banks, Beamguard, Brice, Buck, Carlisle, Christensen, R. D. Epps, Evans, Gross, Hughes, Alan Johnstone, Ketchin, Laney, Lee, Lide, Manning, McCown, Mullins, Nicholson, Nickles, O'Dell, Padgett, Richardson, Sherard, Sinkler, Spigner, Walker, D. R. Williams. Total, 29.

Those who voted against the bill were: Beattie, Black, Earle, E. C. Epps, Ginn, Goodwin, Harvey, D. B. Johnson, Patterson, Sharpe, Stacy, Stuckey, Verner, Wightman, Jno. F. Williams. Total, 15.

Opponents of the bill forced roll calls on the several amendments which were offered, and on the final passage of the bill, but the majority under the leadership of Senator Sinkler rejected all amendments and sent the bill to the House of Representatives by a vote of two to one.

The local option compulsory education bill met with some skirmishing from its opponents when it came up for the third and final reading Tuesday morning in the Senate. A motion by Senator Wightman, of Saluda, to order the bill re-engrossed, was the opening gun of the skirmish.

Senator Sinkler, in charge of the bill, said enough time had been devoted to discussing the bill and he opposed any delay. The motion to re-engross the bill was tabled, 34 to 9.

The next shot came from Senator Stuckey of Lee county, who wanted to amend the title to read a bill to "encourage" school attendance rather than "require" attendance. This amendment was tabled, 28 to 14.

The third shot came from Senator E. C. Epps of Williamsburg, who offered an amendment exempting the rural districts of his county from the provisions of the bill. The Charleston senator moved to take this amendments, which was done by a vote of 27 to 14. The bill was then given third reading, and by a vote of 29 to 15 ordered sent to the House of Representatives.

Flies American Flag.

Officials of the Cunard Steamship company admitted Wednesday night that the steamer Orduna, from Liverpool bew a "neutral flag" while clearing the Irish coast. These passengers asserted that the American flag was flying aft, indicating the vessel's nationality.

PROHIBITION WINS

SENATE PASSES REFERENDUM TO ITS THIRD READING

MAJORITY IS A SURPRISE

High License Proviso for Charleston is Killed—All Attempts to Amend Measure Are Voted Down—Local Optionists Make Fight, But Bill is Carried Through Successfully.

The prohibition referendum bill passed the Senate Thursday morning on third reading without opposition and was ordered returned to the House of Representatives for concurrence. The question of prohibition is now up to the people to settle for themselves in the special election on September 14 next, for there is no doubt but that Gov. Manning will sign the referendum bill, for regardless of what he might think on the question of prohibition it is known that he believes in letting the people have the final vote in matters of public policy, and those who are close to him have no doubt but that he will promptly approve the referendum bill as soon as it is presented to him.

The prohibition referendum won by an overwhelming majority in the Senate Wednesday morning and the result was a regular landslide, the majority for prohibition surprising even the leaders. All efforts to widen the referendum so as to include high license failed by heavy votes and the question will go to the people for them to say whether or not they want liquor sold in South Carolina.

The first test vote came on the motion of Senator John F. Williams to strike out the enacting words of the referendum bill. This motion was lost, 9 to 33. Those who voted aye (against the bill) were: Gross, Harvey, Patterson, Sharpe, Sinkler, Spigner, Walker, Wightman, John F. Williams. The 33 votes for the bill (those voting nay) were: Appelt, Banks, Beamguard, Beattie, Black, Brice, Buck, Carlisle, Christensen, Earle, E. C. Epps, R. D. Epps, Evans, Ginn, Goodwin, Johnson, Johnstone, Laney, Ketchin, Lee, Lide, Manning, Mullins, Nicholson, Nickles, O'Dell, Padgett, Richardson, Sherard, Stacy, Verner, D. R. Williams.

Not voting: Senators Hughes and McCown.

The first effort to amend the bill came from Senator Sinkler, who offered an amendment providing that the people cast an advisory vote as to whether or not Charleston should have high license without constitutional restrictions and if the majority votes "yes" then for the general assembly of 1916 to submit a constitutional amendment to this effect. This motion was tabled, 31 to 10, those who were willing for a vote on the Sinkler amendment being: Appelt, Gross, Hughes, Lee, Patterson, Sharpe, Sinkler, Walker, J. F. Williams and R. D. Williams.

The local optionists, through Senator John F. Williams of Aiken then proposed an amendment to broaden the referendum so as to allow the people to vote on whether they wanted whiskey sold by high license under constitutional restrictions. He urged the prohibitionists not to force people who wanted high license, but who would not vote for a dispensary, to vote for prohibition by preventing them from having the opportunity to vote for the high license. Senator Carlisle's motion to table this amendment carried, 27 to 15, those who voted for it being: Appelt, Goodwin, Gross, Harvey, Hughes, D. B. Johnson, Lee, Lide, Patterson, Sharpe, Sinkler, Stacy, Walker, Wightman, J. F. Williams and D. R. Williams. This was the heaviest vote polled against the prohibitionists plans.

Senator Hughes of Union then proposed an amendment providing that in case the people vote against statewide prohibition that those counties now "dry" may have the opportunity of immediately holding elections on the question of re-establishing the dispensary. This was tabled, 34 to 8, only Gross, Hughes, Patterson, Sharpe, Sinkler, Walker, Wightman, and John F. Williams voting for this amendment.

Senator D. R. Williams of Lancaster county then sent up an amendment which would have allowed all persons enrolled on the Democratic club rolls to participate in the election, as well as registered voters. This, too, went to the discard, being tabled by a vote of 29 to 11, those favoring it being: Earle, Goodwin, Gross, Hughes, Sharpe, Sinkler, Stuckey, Wightman, J. F. Williams and D. R. Williams.

Amendments offered by Senator Lide, providing for the opening of books of registering in every county thirty days before the election and for the supervisors of registration to receive the same pay as in regular election years were adopted unanimously.

An amendment by Senator Banks, giving the county dispensaries until December 31 to wind up their business in case the people vote prohibition, was adopted without opposition.

The last effort of the local optionists came from Senator John F. Williams, who proposed an amendment that a majority of at least fifty per cent. of the qualified votes must participate in the special elecion to make the result effective. This too, went to the discard, being tabled by a vote of 36 to 6, only Senators Appelt, Gross, Hughes, Sharpe, Wightman and J. F. Williams voting for it.

Germans Evacuate Lodz?

The evacuation of Lodz by the Germans has been confirmed, according to a Petrograd dispatch to the Havas agency, which states that stores, offices, commissariat and transports are being removed hastily to Kaliscz.

Villa is Planning Campaign.

Mexican advices are that Gen. Villa is at Irapuato, one hundred miles north of Mexico City, directing an extensive campaign which has for its object the capture of Tampico and domination of the northern half of Mexico.

Seven Workmen Killed.

Seven workmen of Grand Rapids, Mich., were killed Monday while clearing away the debris of a burned building.

Steamship is Abandoned.

The steamship Imataca bound from Scotland to Norfolk, was abandoned in mid-ocean in a sinking condition Monday.