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VON BERNSTORFF GONE

No Diplomatic Relationship With Germany. Preparing For War Rapidly. United Nation

Saturday president Wilson severed diplomatic relationship with Germany as a result of the declaration of the Imperial German government that her submarines would be turned loose indiscriminately and all merchant vessels of whatever nation, bound with cargoes for Great Britain would be sunk that England might suffer the same deprivation of supplies as Germany had.

The German government expected such action on the part of the United States and made no denial of breaking the distinct understanding had with this government when the steamer Sussex was sunk and American lives lost in the English Channel but offered as an excuse that the time had come when she could not do otherwise and have an equal chance with her enemies in the war.

President Wilson conferred with leading statesmen and then with congress before taking the step, and all regardless of party with a few exceptions, endorsed the contemplated act and pledged full support of whatever it became necessary for the president to do to maintain the honor and dignity of this country.

When the German ambassador was informed of the break he shed tears and declared he was very sorry. Passports were given him and his suite and safe return to his country assured.

Immediately extensive preparation for war were begun in the navy and army and every precaution taken against being caught off guard. The guards at Panama Canal were doubled, interned German ships were put under guard to prevent their destruction, all ships ready to sail to the zone warned against by Germany were held and the National Guards of all states ordered to make ready for service.

While the severance of diplomatic relationship is not a declaration of war, it is the first step in that direction, and while there may be no over act on the part of Germany which would impel this country to declare war on her, the prospects are more than favorable for a state of war to be brot about tho no actual warfare might be engaged in. The general opinion of many in position to guess closely is that there will be no actual engagement in war between this country and Germany, tho such a situation is possible.

Since Feb. 1, the date set by the German note for letting the submarines sink everything found within a certain prescribed zone about England and France and in the eastern Mediterranean sea, more than seventy five vessels have been sunk, more than forty within the week, but so far, no American ship which should have escaped. England has announced that she expects the greatest destruction in the history of the world to take place in the near future thru the activity of the German submarines. The United States will insist on her right to navigate any part of the ocean unmolested and persist in doing so even to the extent of war to enforce those rights.

The presidents address to congress or rather his last note to Germany notifying the Imperial Government that diplomatic relation had been cut, appears on another page in this paper and

The Santa Fe

That the road will be built from Carrollton to Mexico and have a line to St. Louis there is now no sort of doubt, and almost as little doubt but that it will be built from Brunswick thru Dalton and a mile or less south of the Wabash station at this city, miss Salisbury and Moberly also.

The land north of Brunswick and this city was too hilly for the purpose as compared with the route surveyed by the Burlington a year or more ago, and the Santa Fe engineers took advantage of the information gained by that road as well as their own investigation and found that the practically level land from Brunswick to some distance in Howard county was much less expensive to build over and maintain and shorter. Grand river thru Brunswick will be kept off the right of way with retaining walls and high road bed built thru the lower bottom portions of the route.

Wreck At Brunswick

Engineer Slaughterbeck died in the hospital at Moberly Saturday night after having both legs amputated. He was on engine 720 at Brunswick Saturday morning and coming off the turnable track when the engine from No. 95 which was doing switching ran along side and overturned No. 720, engineer Slaughterbeck being caught under it and suffering a fracture of both legs, bruises on the side of his head and burns from escaping scalding water. He was rushed to the hospital on the special train and his legs taken off. He survived the operation but a short time. Slaughterbeck was one of the old, dependable and popular locomotive engineers on the road and had many warm friends in Brunswick.

Miss Grace Closson went to College Mound Saturday to visit Mrs. H. T. Garnett who is visiting her sister there. She will be gone about a month.

Mr. Geo. Scott editor of the "Advance" published at Higginsville was in town Friday on business. He published the new Chariton County map. He made the "Courier" a pleasant call while in town.

E. A. Smith of near Echo has sold his farm and has bills out for the sale of his stock, implements, etc., Col. A. J. Houston employed to get Mr. Smith prevailing prices for his property. Mr. Smith will with his family go to Manzanola, Colo., soon after his sale on the 16th of this month.

should be read by every one who wishes to know for himself just the position taken by the president. The note from Berlin disclosing the German course in the matter of submarine activity will appear in the next issue of this paper. But for want of space it would have been printed in this issue, that all interested parties may be properly informed.

The action of the administration in cancelling diplomatic relationship with Germany in no way involves this government in the issue between those countries now at war. The United States is not in the remotest manner espousing the cause of the allies nor will this government become a party to the interests of either of the warring nations, but will simply undertake to and actually maintain her rights which are not challenged by either of the belligerents except what Germany feels compelled to suspend if she can, in her own interest.

Brunswick's Great Blaze

Entire Block Wiped Out by Flames Sunday Morning. Gale of Wind and Intense Cold Impedes. Water Failed at Last.

Fire was discovered in the rear of the Barrow furniture and hardware store on the north side of main street in Brunswick Sunday morning at 3:30 and the fire department responded quickly and began what proved to be the most desperate effort it was ever called upon to exert to save the entire business portion of the city.

When the fire was discovered the temperature was more than 20 above zero and a light wind was blowing from the north, but in an incredibly short time the wind had shifted to the west and the thermometer fell 20 degrees in less than 2 hours, making the work of fighting the spreading flames not only most disagreeable but difficult.

The Barrow store was in nearly the center of the block and for a short time it was tho: the fire would be confined to that building, but in spite of good water pressure and heroic fighting, the fire spread in each direction and soon the entire block excepting the C. W. Bowen building on the east side of the block was a seething and roaring inferno, sending not only showers of sparks over the city to the east and south, but large pieces of burning boards were sent flying thru the air to work more destruction. Guards had to be placed with water and other protection against fire on and near all buildings for blocks east and south of the big fire, and even with this protection, one was burned which was some distance away and many others were set on fire. Sparks and embers hailed against the windows of the business and other houses on the south side of the street and even sparks were blown under doors and set fire to carpets and rugs, such was the force of the wind and the fierceness of the fire.

The historic old Methodist Church in the rear of the old city hall was burned as was the old commodious hall, and in each was stored goods etc which were lost.

Comparatively little of the merchandise was saved for the reason that it was tho: for a while that nothing would burn but the furniture and hardware store where the fire started and the further fact that nearly all those who could be of account were at other points preventing the spread of the flames and the destruction of the entire city.

The Carrollton fire department was called on for assistance, and tho the boys had been fighting fire there, they undertook the grip with what apparatus they could manage but on the road an accident detained them and they finally procured automobiles and came on only to arrive when the damage had all been done. Moberly was also appealed to but said the department was engaged in fire fighting there.

When the flames had consumed everything west of the Bowen drug and jewelry store it was felt that they were under complete control, the hose was taken from the plug and the tired and icebound firemen were seeking much needed rest and nourishment. Before more than a few moments had gone by it was

discovered that fire had broken thru the center of the west wall and a fresh attack was begun, but the water pressure had gone down and tho the hose was taken to the top of the building and water copiously poured over the building, it was of no avail.

The fancied security of the building caused Dr. Bowen and editor J. B. Robertson who occupied the rear of the premises with the office of the Brunswick-Courier, to make no effort to remove their goods and printing plant, and when the fresh fire started, it was too late and only a little of the valuable stock of jewelry was saved by Dr. Bowen and only his subscription list and a few other minor belongings by editor Robinson. The occupants of the upper stories of the several buildings saved practically nothing.

Women volunteered on the salvage corps and all who could stand the cold stayed with the firefighters until danger had passed. The slight snow which fell with the fire was starting undoubtedly saved many buildings on which enough sparks fell to consume the city, and the further freezing of the water from the hose undoubtedly was a great help in checking the flames.

That the greater part of the block will be rebuilt with first class business buildings in the spring, there is no doubt. The public spiritedness of the citizens has been exhibited of late years in a way which justifies the prediction and we sincerely trust that the loss will not prove so burdensome as it now appears to the losers.

Below is a list of those who lost, the estimated value of the property burned and the insurance.

L. W. Heisel, ins. stk \$1400; bldg. 1300; estimated value stk. 7500 bldg. 5000.

Gritzmaier, bldg \$1200; estimated value 2000.

Barrow, stk \$8000, bldg 7000; estimated value. 15 00; household goods and fixtures 1500, estimated loss 2000.

Frank Triplett, stk \$1900, bldg 3500; estimated value stk 1500, bldg 7000.

J. B. Robertson ins. stk \$2000; estimated value 4000.

C. W. Bowen, ins. stk \$2500, bldg 4500; estimated value 15 00.

Lee Thompson estimated value \$300.

Mortemeiers Barbershop ins. stk \$500; estimated value 750.

Rev. Cooper ins bldg 500; estimated value 1500.

Kendrick Marble Shop, estimated value \$500.

Foree Restaurant estimated value \$500.

Welhelmina Kinkhorst ins bldg \$500; estimated value 15 30.

City Hall, estimated value, \$5000.

Methodist church L. Heisel ins \$500; estimated value 1000.

Merry-go-round, estimated value \$5000.

Carnival tents etc. estimated value \$500.

Dr. Cleveland dentist, ins \$500 estimated value 1000.

Tenants of rooms above estimated value 3000.

Jake Hoffman, bldg \$700; estimated value 1000.

Lees Bakery ins stk \$300 estimated value 500.

Salisbury Scribbings

Mrs. Johnson of Kingman Kansas is here visiting her mother Mrs. Oliver Jaco.

Ben Roling has purchased the Joe Breitenback property in west Salisbury S. E. 4 Block 37.

Mrs. Wm. Hunter of Okla. is here visiting her sisters, Mesdames McCully, Wilhite, and Stamper.

J. H. Whitecotton and W. P. Cave of Moberly and S. J. Jones of Carrollton attended court here this week.

The meeting at the Methodist church closed Sunday night with many additions. Dr. Hawnings is an able speaker.

J. P. Henderson of Kansas City has been attending the bedside of his mother, who has been very ill for several days.

On the sick list we have, H. S. Bozarth, Mrs. W. A. Henderson Mrs. Herbert Leach, Mrs. M. Neal and her mother Mrs. Smith.

W. H. Smith and family left for their new home at Perry Iowa Tuesday. They are good people and we regret to see them go.

Ash Davison, Ex city marshal, was here Monday on a visit. He works for the Prairie Oil company and now makes his home here.

Mrs. J. J. Smith an old lady who had been living with her son south of here, passed away Wednesday, but we could not get full particulars.

Word comes from Glasgow of the death of Mr. Rogers, father of Mike Rogers the poultry man. He was quite old and has been in poor health for some time.

Gray Richmond and several other gentlemen from Bynumville passed thru here Monday morning enroute to Keytesville to attend a meeting of County court.

Reuben Winfrey is circulation a petition asking our City council to put the mineral well in a sanitary condition. Why not pipe the water up town where all the people could use it.

Word has been received of the death of Mrs. R. O. Mott at her home a few miles south of here. She leaves a husband and two small children to mourn her loss. The death was peculiarly sad, and we tender our condolence.

Henry Eiring, aged 75 died at the home of his son Charlie, 7 miles south of this city. His remains were laid to rest in our city cemetery, Monday morning. Deceased left two sons and one daughter in addition to a host of friends to mourn his death.

The sad death of Wilbur Naylor last week cast a gloom over our city. Deceased was partly reared here and in his boyhood was well known to all our older citizens. He was a good man and his tragic death is much regretted. Peace to his ashes.

After our items were mailed last week, the fire alarm sounded calling the department out to check a blaze on the roof of the dwelling occupied by Anderson Bently. The fire was under control and the damage was small. We did not learn how the fire started.

Dave McAdams a colored man who has been in poor health for some time, passed away Saturday night and remains were buried in the City cemetery. Dave was well known about town having been reared here and his friends saw with great regret that consumption was gnawing at his vitals.

The protracted meeting at the

THE EUROPEAN WAR

English Capture Unoccupied Trenches—Winter Warps War Spirit.—Aeroplane Activity.

The severe winter weather has handicapped operations by all belligerents, but desultory skirmishing along the Somme and Germans capturing towns, guns, and men in Roumania, together with aeroplane scouting and submarine activity, looks like there is still something doing. English capture a thousand yards of trench near Verdun, reported evacuated by Germans.

Mexico

U. S. troops about all out of Mexico little heard of Villa in the last week and Carranza with his ear to the ground since we broke with Germany. Mexicans act like they believed that if we put on our fighting togs and found no one else to engage with, we might not disband until we regulated their country for keeps.

Unclaimed Letters

Adams Mrs. Malinda
Billegas Rafail
Creason W. O.
Cruse Misses Ona and Helen
Harris Will E.
Hulk Miss Sophia
Lopes Bictorino
McCully Mrs. Maggie
McGregor Mr. Duncan
Marshall Jim
Meyer Rev. M.
Nelson Mrs. Meddie
Rucker Jr. Mrs. Laura Rucker
Smith Alva
Smith Ira
White A. M.

When calling for same please ask for advertised letters.

Geo. H. APPELEGATE,
Postmaster.

Marriage Licenses

John Schmitt and Marguerite Gladbach.
Chas. Henke and Marie Unternaer.

Cupid appears to be roosting high during these war times. Only two marriage licenses in 3 weeks.

Geo. Wilson brot the two children of Mr. and Mrs. Buck Pearman to their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Pearman west of town Wednesday. Conflicting reports concerning the domestic condition make it uncertain as to the reality, one being that Mrs. Pearl Pearman ran off with a married man and the other that she had to leave to make a living for herself and is now employed in a laundry near her home.

A good cow and calf sold at the Magruder sale near Shelbyville 79 years ago for 16.50. Two hogs for fifty cents. Chickens were shooed off the place before the sale, but think of it, two hogs for 50c. It don't matter if they were all snouts and tails with mud balls on their tails to balance snouts, razor backs and grunts for grease, we would bid up at a sale now on such and make the piggies feel like they were somebody.

Christian church began Monday night, conducted by Rev. J. N. Crutcher the noted Evangelist, and has been running along smoothly all week. Elder Crutcher is a fluent speaker and is preaching some fine gospel sermons. Those who fail to hear him will miss a rare treat. T. A. Edwards has a splendid choir and the music is fine. Go out and hear the preacher and the music.