

AT THE BREAKING POINT WITH GERMANY

President Forwards Drastic Note on Submarine Warfare—Lays Whole Matter Before Congress

The situation between the United States and Germany over the latter's persistence in carrying on its submarine warfare in violation of all the rules of international law, looks as if the breaking point had been reached. The President has forwarded a note to the German Government which is regarded as virtually an ultimatum, closing with these significant words:

"If it is still the purpose of the Imperial Government to prosecute relentless and indiscriminate warfare against vessels of commerce by use of submarine without regard to what the Government of the United States must consider the sacred and indisputable rules of international law and the universally recognized dictates of humanity, the Government of the United States is at last forced to the conclusion that there is but one course it can pursue. Unless the Imperial Government should now immediately declare and effect an abandonment of its present methods of submarine warfare against passenger and freight carrying vessels, the Government of the United States can have no choice but to sever diplomatic relations with the Empire of Germany altogether. This action the Government of the United States contemplates with the greatest reluctance, but feels constrained to take in behalf of humanity and the rights of neutral nations."

So grave does the President regard the situation that he requested a joint meeting of the two branches of Congress on Wednesday, and delivered in person an address to that body, giving a clear and carefully prepared resume of the whole submarine controversy and Germany's persistence in carrying on its submarine warfare of sinking non-combatant passenger vessels, without warning, of the neutral nations as well as of the belligerent. He did not ask Congress to take any action—simply laid the facts before it. The spirit in which Germany receives the President's note is awaited with anxiety.

The tense situation had the effect of hurrying up the Senate's action on

the army reorganization bill and it was rushed through that body immediately after the President's request for a joint session of Congress, making provisions for a regular standing army of \$250,000, Federalizing the National Guards of the States at an estimated strength of 280,000 men, and covering other features looking toward preparedness for war.

Bernstorff Urges Berlin to Submit to U. S. Demands

Washington, April 19.—Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, sent to Berlin tonight a long dispatch interpreting the situation in Washington and making certain recommendations. He is understood to have advised his Government that he believed the United States meant what it said in its submarine note and that something would have to be done quickly if the friendly relations were to continue.

The ambassador himself, having read the address of the President and the note, said:

"I can make no comment either upon the address or upon the communication which has been sent to my Government."

However, he was authoritatively described as having advised the Berlin Foreign Office in the message sent tonight that he believed at least some such declaration as that made regarding the conduct of submarine warfare in the Mediterranean Sea should be issued immediately to cover all submarine operations.

The Mediterranean declaration was handed to Secretary Lansing by the Ambassador on January 7 of this year. It contained assurances much broader in their scope than those given to cover the activities of submarines in the war zone around the British Isles, where Germany has contended from the first that she was engaged in a campaign of retaliation for the British blockade.

The assurances were to the effect that only a cruiser warfare would be conducted against enemy merchant shipping and that non-combatant ships of every character, freight as well as passenger carrying, would be accorded proper warning and safety for their passengers and crews. The assurances which have been given for the war zone around the British Isles covered only "liners."

tion, and if merit is a drawing card, there is little doubt that this recital will be given before a very large audience indeed.

Interesting Recital Next Friday Night

A recital is to be given next Friday evening, April 28th, beginning at 8 o'clock, at the Presbyterian Church, by the faculty of the Schubert School of Music, assisted by the Women's Lyric Club of Farmington, under direction of Mrs. C. O. Nelson.

This organization is composed of representative singers of Farmington, all of whom have been brought to a high degree of proficiency under the careful training of Mrs. Nelson, whose artistic ideals are well known. The personnel of the Club is as follows:

First Soprano—Miss Anna Craig, Mrs. Henry Davis, Mrs. Robert Forsyth, Mrs. P. D. Giessing, Mrs. S. F. Isenman, Mrs. J. H. Jones, Mrs. W. R. Lang, Mrs. Genevieve F. Logan, Mrs. W. F. Patton and Mrs. Newt Stone.

Second Soprano—Mrs. Earl Carleton, Miss Bessie Cunningham, Miss Nancy Gardner, Miss Katherine Gardner, Miss Agnes Halle, Miss Ruby Hough and Mrs. J. B. Smith.

Contralto—Mrs. J. W. Buck, Mrs. J. B. Graves, Miss Emma V. Hough, Mrs. R. P. Lang and Miss Edie Wilson.

The Schubert faculty needs no introduction, their occasional appearance in recital hitherto during the past five years of their professional work in Farmington fixing their place in the musical circles of the Southeast firmly.

The Lyric Club will render a number of pleasing selections ensemble, one number of which is given with violin obligato.

While no admission will be charged, a silver offering will be received during the course of the recital, this being rendered necessary because of the custom in this regard of the church where the recital is to be given. The public is extended a cordial invitation,

Entertain Delegates

Last Wednesday the ladies of the Presbyterian Church entertained at a delicious noon lunch eighty-six visitors from the Presbytery and Presbyterial of Iron Mountain, who were meeting at Flat River. The guests came over from Flat River in automobiles, and were met by a committee of the officers of the Church, who took them into the Elmwood building to see the property and meet the children in the Home.

Later they were invited to the church and were served dinner. The guests were seated at little tables placed in the Sunday school room of the church. The church was decorated with plants, blossoms and flowers. And at the close of the meal, a delectable refreshment hour was held, speeches being made by the Moderator of the Presbytery and the pastor of the church at DeSoto, thanking the church for their cordial hospitality.

In the evening a number of the members of the Presbytery church at Farmington attended the meeting of the Presbytery at Flat River.

THE CHILDREN OF ELMWOOD HOME VISIT FLAT RIVER

On Thursday evening of this week the Elmwood children visited the meeting of the Presbytery of Iron Mountain at Flat River and sang for them. The members of the Presbytery expressed their admiration for the way the Home was being conducted, and were pleased with the success of the institution. Our Elmwood Home children are among the brightest children of our city, and we are pleased to know that others appreciate the splendid work that is being done there.

Easter FOOTWEAR

Our Spring Shoe styles must be seen to be appreciated.

Never in the history of our store have we made such extensive preparations to serve our customers as this season.

Popular priced Footwear for all the family of every kind and for every occasion will be found here in a most pleasing variety.

Shapes, Sizes and Widths to fit every foot, and shoes to fit you properly.

WE DO SHOE REPAIRING

Karsch's
The place to buy good shoes
Farmington, Mo.

WE SELL HOSIERY

Final Debate of Series To-Night

Tonight, Friday, is the regular date for the fortnightly meeting of the Farmington Literary Society. The program will include a piano duet by Misses Mary Henderson and Alma Williams and as the special feature of the evening will present the last of the series of inter-society debates between the Farmington Society and the Flat River Society. The High School Orchestra will enliven the program with selections to open and close the evening's entertainment. An interesting program is assured, and the evening sure to be highly enjoyable. It is hoped a full house will be present at this time.

Program for Next and Last Society Date

With the next program of the Farmington Literary Society, which will be rendered on May 5th, the year's work will be brought to a close and the society discontinued until next fall. The program committee has felt that with knowledge of the preferences and tastes of those who attend these meetings as a guide, it would be possible to make this last program perhaps the most enjoyable of the entire year. So the following program has been arranged for the May 5th date, and it is hoped may be presented upon that night without change or omission:

Selection—Gower's Juvenile Band. Brief review of the year's work—Prof. John.

Selection—Gower's Juvenile Band. Vocal Quartette—Misses Nan Gardner and Ada Louise Miller; Messrs. Chas. Francisco and Gentry Keith.

Selection—Barroll's Concert Orchestra. Reading—Miss Grace Denman.

Cello Solo—Miss Alma Williams. Character Monolog—Carl Trauer-nicht.

Instrumental Quartette—Misses Hat-tie Smith, Alma Radle, Mary Henderson and Alma Williams.

Selection—Barroll's Concert Orchestra. Chalklog—Edgar Zolman.

Cornet Solo—E. C. Barroll. Vocal Solo—Harold McCurdy (with cello obligato by Mr. Phillips.)

Selection—Barroll's Concert Orchestra. Valedictory Remarks—By the President.

Selection—Barroll's Concert Orchestra. This will mark the first public appearance of Gower's Juvenile Band, which is a new feature of Farmington's musical life and a good one, and is also the first occasion upon which Barroll's Orchestra will have appeared upon a Literary Society program this season. The program will be published next week, with any necessary changes, and it is hoped that the crowd attending will be a record breaker.

Miss Cover, in the "Melting of Molly" will surpass anything yet given here by an artist.

Spring has been hovering very near the past week, but apparently has not positively decided to make her debut until Easter, when we hope she will appear in all her glory, with the remainder of the feminine population.

Arrested On Two Informations

John Wilkison, an old and widely known citizen of Bonne Terre, was arrested Saturday by Jim Richardson, Deputy Constable of Flat River, on two informations charging him with illegal sale of intoxicants under the local option law. Luther Bearden, of Flat River, is the prosecuting witness. The preliminary hearing was before Justice of the Peace M. G. Mason, and bail was fixed at \$100 in each count, which the defendant gave.

The Times understands that this case was worked up by Luther Bearden and Bert Lawson, of Leadwood, going over to Bonne Terre, where Bearden had no difficulty in buying the "booze" from Wilkison, which resulted in the latter's arrest.

It is common report that Bonne Terre is still practically "wide open," there being a number of "joints" there, and that the only thing necessary for anyone to secure all the "red-eye" they may desire is the price. We understand, however, that the good people of that place do not propose to submit to such flagrant law violations, and that strenuous efforts will be made to enforce the law there to the letter. The local option law was voted on this county by a large majority, and it is nothing more than right and just that its provisions should be religiously adhered to in a law-abiding community. If the law is bad, then its strict enforcement is the best way possible to demonstrate such badness. If the law is good, then the more strict its enforcement the greater will be the benefits derived therefrom.

Death of Mrs. Wm. H. Agnew

Mrs. Cora Elizabeth Agnew, wife of Wm. H. Agnew, died April 15, 1916, at the home of her mother, Mrs. Mary F. Doss, near Farmington, aged 41 years, 3 months and 27 days. She was born in Ste. Genevieve county December 18, 1874, and was married to Wm. H. Agnew October 22, 1896. Four children were born to this union—two sons, Francis and Floyd, and two daughters, Elizabeth and baby Cora. Besides her mother, one sister, Miss Fannie Doss, and three brothers, Vernon, Russell and Robin Doss, who have the sympathy of a large circle of friends in the sorrow which like a cloud has fallen over their lives.

Mrs. Agnew joined the Southern Methodist Church at Salem when she was only nine years old, and her whole life has been one of devoted faith and Christian service. Knowing that her end was near she called the family to her bedside, left loving messages for each, and her gentle spirit unafraid and full of faith then passed out into the mysterious realm that lies beyond, to be with her father, who went that way less than three years ago, and to enter into the joy and rest of those who die in the Lord.

Overture William Tell speaks for itself. Hear it April 24, also Quartet from Bigoletta.

EQUALIZATION BOARD RAISES ASSESSMENTS

Over \$800,000 Added to Lead Companies' Assessments—The Times' Position is Indorsed

The County Board of Equalization finished up its work last week, and is deserving of some commendation for the increase it made in the assessment of the lead companies, approximately \$880,000, other increases aggregating \$144,460, or a total increase of \$1,024,460. The county's assessment for the current year therefore will total nearly \$14,000,000, as follows:

Real estate	\$ 8,713,707
Personal	1,714,740
Railroads	1,452,492
Telegraphs and Tele-phones	109,335
Merchants and Manufacturers	421,865
Banks	349,204
Increase by B. E.	1,024,335
	\$13,965,678

The increase made by the Board of Equalization will add \$4,000 to the

county revenue fund, and \$3,500 to the county road fund, which will help some. The Board might have added another million to the assessment of the lead companies without exceeding the per cent at which most of the real estate of the county is assessed, but the action taken by the Board of Equalization is in the right direction and to be commended.

As the only paper in the county that has advocated and urged such an increase in the assessment, The Times feels that its position has not only been endorsed but justified by the action of the Board of Equalization. The Board is composed of the three Judges of the County Court, Garrett, Watts and Hale, and Assessor Wells and County Surveyor Holman, with County Clerk Wulfert as ex-officio Clerk.

Why Not Have a Dramatic Club?

One comparatively a stranger in Farmington, though we are rapidly overcoming that handicap, cannot help being impressed with the quality of the dramatic and musical talent the town possesses. Yet, upon inquiry, we learn that there is no dramatic club to unify the followers of Thespian and give the town frequently the rare pleasure it enjoyed the other night when the genial "Higbee" held the center of the boards.

Why doesn't someone get behind that movement and bring it to fruition? We have a number of musical organizations, so that musical entertainments of one kind and another are of almost weekly occurrence. But dozens and scores of people, fond as they are of music, never cease to love and appreciate the spoken drama especially when they can feel a friendly and personal interest in the actors.

We have suggested before that an opera house is one of the crying needs of the town. Farmington, progressive and up to date as she is in many respects, is sadly lacking in this regard. It seems that a live, ambitious, dramatic club, presenting clean, meritorious, up-lifting and inspiring plays, would be a powerful means of nurturing sentiment and favor toward such an enterprise, which might in time bear fruit.

Some of the talented folks we have seen before the footlights should get together and effect an organization, as a nucleus for the club, and with a live, resourceful man, familiar with coaching amateurs to train them, the club could frequently give an enjoyable entertainment which many people would be glad to patronize.

Fine Stock Sale

Judge E. E. Swink held a public sale of fine stock, at his place, one mile northwest of Farmington, last Saturday afternoon. The sale had been well advertised, and a large crowd was in attendance, among whom were many bidders, and all the stock sold averaged good price. The sale was conducted by S. S. Taylor of Sparta, Ill., a high class auctioneer of blooded stock. The sale was for cash, and the bidding indicated that the farmers and stockmen of this community have the money to pay for good stuff.

Among the stock sold were 37 head of registered and full-blood yearling white-faced bulls and heifers, and 3 Percheron fillies. The spirited bidding on all the stock demonstrated that there is a strong demand for fine stock in this community, which Judge Swink has done so much to supply with his annual sales of stock of the purest strain. The calves brought an average price of about \$75, which proves that "blood will tell."

Prince of Pilsen Selection is from one of the best Comic Operas.

Mrs. Birdie Foley and Mrs. Emma Hamlett, of East Prairie, Mississippi county, Mo., spent several days here last week visiting their uncle, Dr. R. Fugate, returning home Saturday.

Higbee of Montana Proves a Real Treat

The three-act comedy drama, "Higbee of Montana," given Monday night at the Monarch, under the auspices of the local lodge of Rebekahs, was an excellently rendered production, quite in keeping with the well earned reputation Farmington home talent has for scoring a success invariably in dramatic productions.

The house was about as full as it would hold without bulging out at the sides, and if applause is an indication of an audience being pleased with what it gets for the money, then this audience must have been extraordinarily pleased and abundantly satisfied.

Those taking part in the play were Misses Mabel Sackman and Myrtle Nations; Messdames Kennett Dobbins and G. A. Tetley; Messrs. Henry Dalton, Carl Trauernicht, John Neidert, Edward Lotz and W. M. Bess. Every part was faithfully portrayed, with skill and effectiveness, while the play, as a whole, hung together far better than is usually expected of amateurs, holding the interest with a breath-taking intensity from the beginning of the first act to the finale of the third.

Barroll's Concert Orchestra furnished the music throughout the evening, filling in every gap when there wasn't something else doing, and as usual delighted the crowd.

Little Miss Harriet Pease gave a pleasing specialty, including violin playing, singing, dancing and a clever recitation. This petite youngster always pleases immensely, as she did this time.

Miss Leona Radle, soprano, rendered two beautiful selections between the second and third acts, which were exceedingly pleasing and given with this young lady's customary grace and charm.

The proceeds of the entertainment will be used for the worthy purposes of the Rebekahs, and it is possible the players will yield to the general demand for a repetition of the performance. It has also been suggested that the play be taken to Fredericktown in the near future, where, with somewhat better facilities and a larger house, it can be presented to better advantage.

Still They Come

The following new subscribers have been added to The Times list the past week: R. P. Taylor and C. B. Thomson, Route 4, Farmington; J. R. Perkins, Denver, Colo.; S. R. Turley, Fairfield, Ala.; R. Madison, Peoria, Ill.; John A. Sprott, Thompson's, Utah.

Those who have renewed are: Roy Gruner, Route 6; H. D. Baker, J. W. McCarthy, Mrs. Sue G. Taylor, G. W. Sebastian, T. J. Short, Prof. G. W. Moothart, Wm. McMahon, W. A. Gardner, Billie Beard, and Mrs. Irene Byington, Philip Luitlue and Joseph Beck, Sr., all of Farmington.

The Anvil Polka is dainty, pleasing selection. Hear it at the Monarch April 24.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY

IN

Light and Grand Opera Concert

Miss Cover, Reader Delos Johns, Tuba Male Quartet

AT THE

MONARCH

April 24th

8 P. M.