

KAISER READY WITH A REPLY TO U.S. NOTE

Von Bethmann-Hollweg Returns From Lengthy Conference.

GERMANY TO FOLLOW DEMANDS OF WISDOM

So Declares a Well Informed German Paper Commenting on Note.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.
Berlin, April 23.—Imperial Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, returned to Berlin this afternoon from grand headquarters, which would appear to justify the assumption that Germany's leaders have decided on Germany's reply to the American note.
While there is no intimation of what the reply is, or when it will be sent, there seems much significance in the fact that the Local Anzeiger, which usually is well informed, says that "Germany's strength and prestige have so increased in the last twenty months in the eyes of the whole world that Germany has only to follow the demands of wisdom."

Gold Mining Plant May Be Ordered By Dutch Shortly

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.
The Hague, Netherlands, April 22.—A big order for gold mining plant is likely to be placed in America shortly by the Dutch government. This plant is required for the important gold mining enterprise that has just been undertaken in the province of Benkoelen, on the island of Sumatra. If this state exploitation scheme proves successful—which there appears to be every prospect—it should bring large sums into the coffers of the heavily burdened treasury of the colony, and help to pay for the big naval and military reinforcements that are declared to be a necessity of the near future. Gold-bearing ore has been proved to a value of \$8,000,000, and experts report that there is probably another \$32,000,000 worth of gold in the fields.

More Than One Thousand Drown After Collision

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.
Shanghai, April 23.—More than one thousand soldiers and men of the crew of the steamer Hsni Yu were lost when that vessel sank after a collision Saturday night with a Chinese cruiser south of the Chusan islands. The steamer was transporting troops to Foo Chow. Only thirty were saved.

RUSSIAN TROOPS IN FRANCE ON MOVE

Lyons, France, April 23.—The Russian troops which arrived at Marseilles Thursday for service with the French on the western front, passed through here today on their way northward. They were given an enthusiastic welcome all along their route.

PROHIBITION IN RUSSIA WHEN THE WAR IS OVER

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.
Petrograd, April 23.—A bill has been introduced into the duma to put into effect the government's promise that the war prohibition of alcoholic drinks shall continue in force after the war. The bill, as summarized by the "Novoe Vremya," provides:
"It is forbidden to produce alcohol for the purpose of manufacture of vodka. Equally prohibited is the import of alcohol from foreign countries and from the Grand Duchy of Finland. The production of alcohol by private institutions and persons either for sale or for their own consumption, or for household purposes, is also prohibited.
"The production of alcohol for technical or medical purposes is to be carried on by the government directly or through contractors. The government has the sole right to sell spirits for these purposes.
"The sale of light wines is only allowed in towns. In provinces and districts which grow grapes the sale of wine—nor on draught—is allowed. The limit of alcohol for different kinds of wine is to be fixed by the government.
"The sale of beer is allowed only in towns. The government is also to fix for beer the limit of alcohol. Town councils have the right to issue regulations limiting or prohibiting altogether the sale of beer and light wines."

U.S. FORCES IN MEXICO WILL REMAIN THERE

Carranza Must Crush Bandits Before They Are Withdrawn.

RE-DISPOSITION TO BE MADE OF FORCES

Bases Will Be Established at Points a Little Further North.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.
Washington, April 23.—It was stated on high authority here today that no recommendation for the withdrawal of American forces from Mexico had come from General Scott, chief of staff, who has been conferring with General Funston at San Antonio, or from any other officer of the army on the border, and that there is no intention on the part of the government to withdraw them at present.
Secretary Baker, after a conference today with President Wilson and General Bliss, the acting chief of staff, announced that General Funston has recommended a re-disposition of the forces in Mexico for the purpose of recuperation and pending an opportunity for further co-operation of the Carranza forces. Baker said the recommendation was approved and its execution left to the discretion of Funston. In making the announcement Baker did not explain the re-disposition.
Later, however, Baker said the statement regarding the re-disposition of troops had nothing to do with the subject of when they will be withdrawn, as that is a matter for the state department to decide. From Washington officials, however, there was a plain intimation that there will be status quo beyond the border until Carranza has demonstrated his ability to crush the Villa bandits and prevent repetitions of the Columbus raid.
It is understood the American forces will be concentrated at various points strong enough to withstand any possible attack from irresponsible Carranza or bandit elements, and protect the border by virtually policing the country south of the border, pending a decision whether they will be withdrawn. Baker stated that no more troops will be ordered to the border and there is no intention of ordering them.
It is understood Carranza will be told the American troops will form a wall against which he can drive the bandits from the south, and that he must do business or crush the bandits himself before the withdrawal of the American forces will be arranged. It is possible, however, that to avoid a repetition of the Parral incident the American bases will be established somewhat north of the present advanced positions.
It is announced that General Scott has completed his conference and will return here in a few days. There is a suggestion that General Obregon, Carranza's war minister, will be asked to come to the border for a conference.

GERARD SOON TO KNOW WHAT REPLY CONTAINS

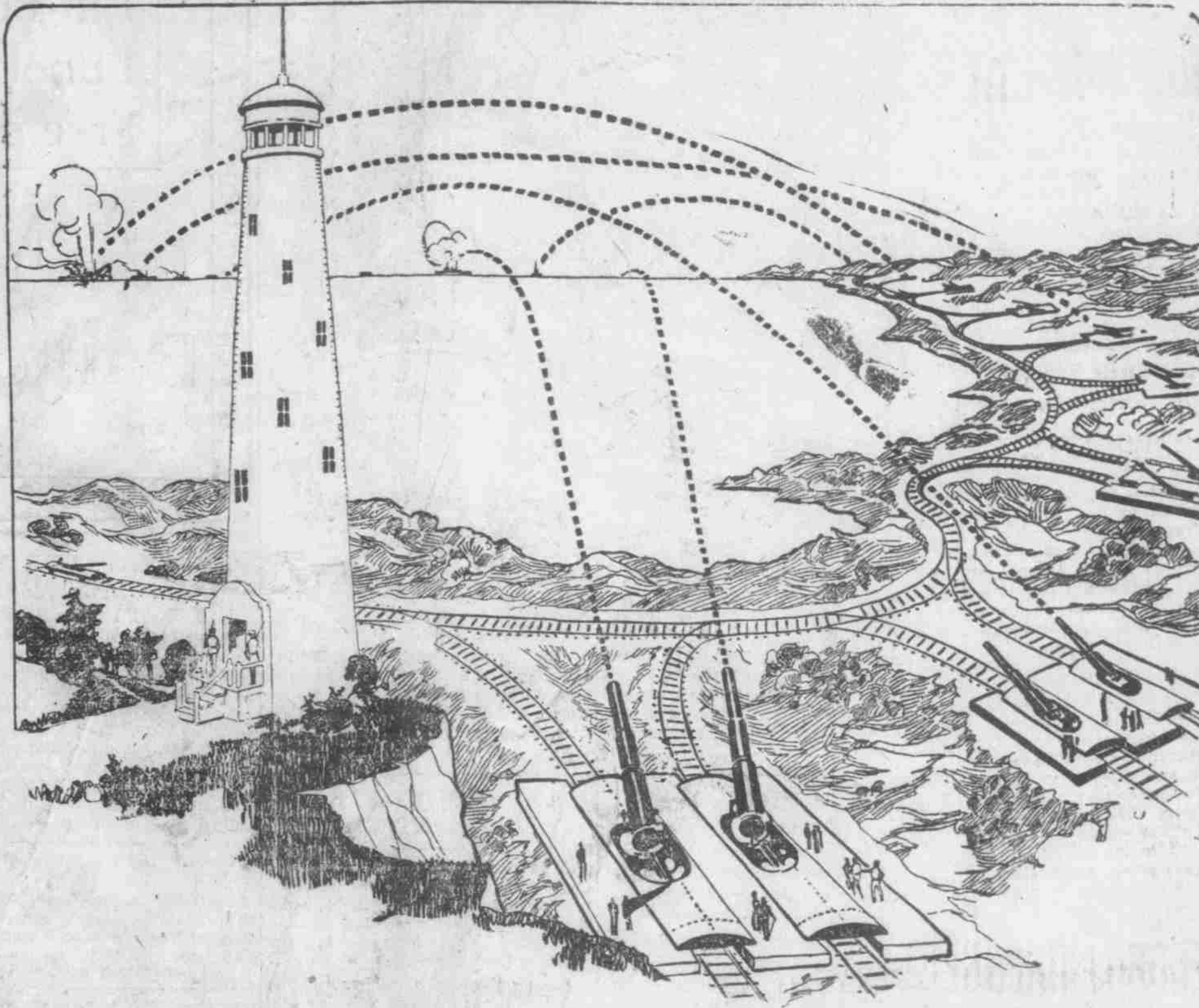
Washington, April 23.—Germany's reply to the American note, demanding immediate abandonment of the illegal and inhumane submarine warfare, probably will reach President Wilson by Saturday. Meantime it is possible that within forty-eight hours Ambassador Gerard at Berlin, is expected to be in a position to forecast the reply. Officials are pleased with the calmness with which German newspapers express themselves.

Chinese Mining Schools Is Part of Government

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.
Kaifeng, Honan Province, China, April 23.—One hundred students are in attendance at the government new school of mines, which has just been opened here.
Honan province is especially rich in minerals, but the population is poor and mining operations are so expensive that little development work has been done until recent years.

RAILROADS AS WELL AS BATTLESHIPS TO CARRY COAST GUNS, UNITED STATES SCHEME!

INGENIOUS PLAN BEING WORKED OUT BY WAR EXPERTS PROVIDES FOR GOVERNMENT TO BUILD TRACKS AND CONCRETE BASES SO HIGHPOWER GUNS MAY BE TRANSPORTER TO STRATEGIC POINTS.



The illustration shows how the new coast defense plan would work, with government-owned railroad tracks along the coast over which high-power guns would be transported to fixed concrete bases.

Washington, April 23.—Experts of the war department, working on the important problem of strong defense for the more than 5,000 miles of United States coast, are figuring on a scheme that will make it possible for railroads as well as battleships to use 12-inch, 14-inch and even 16-inch guns.

The scheme is to place heavy guns on specially built cars so they may be moved to different points along the coast. Concrete bases would be built at different places and the guns locked to the bases.
The original idea, it is said, was taken from a development of the European war in which it was shown that high-power guns can be used as mobile weapons.
The Germans have moved their big guns to various places and fastened them to concrete bases. Prior to the European war heavy guns, used on land, were stationary.
The Germans, however, did not move their guns on specially built cars to fixed bases. It is in the building of special cars and the placing of permanent bases that the idea has been improved upon in the plan being worked out by the United States war experts.

In the American plan the government would build and own railroads along the many miles of coast. This would permit the moving of the heavy guns to any threatened point.
Under the present system of coast defense the heavy guns are stationed at permanent fortifications and cannot be moved to points where their use would bring greater results.
The concrete bases would be built on switches off the main line of track and at each base there would be a tower from which officers could direct the firing of the big guns.
Many forms of coast defense have been suggested, especially within the past year. The scheme of moving high-power guns on railroad tracks is the most ingenious and is attracting the most attention right now.

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DRIVE AGAINST VERDUN BEGUN BY GERMANS

Use Six Hundred Thousand Men in Fighting or Reinforcing.

HEAVY FIGHTING IN ALL WAR THEATERS

Artillery Duels on French and Russian Fronts Very Severe

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.
London, April 23.—There has been heavy fighting the last twenty-four hours in all war theatres except the Balkans. On the Verdun front the Germans, according to an estimate of the French war office, have used six hundred thousand men in fighting or reinforcing. The Germans announce the capture of French trenches south of Haucourt and west of Dead Man's Hill, while Paris records the taking of several German posts in Avoncourt wood. The Germans are again heavily bombarding Hill No. 304. Artillery duels everywhere featured the fighting in France and Belgium.
The Germans are still using big guns against Ikskull bridgehead on the Russian front, and announce the repulse of a Russian attack further south of that place. The Russians announce the annihilation of a German scouting party near Lake Vygonovo-Koye, and the destruction of an Austro-Hungarian position near Czartorysk.
The Italians announce the capture of about three hundred and fifty yards of Austrian trenches on the Carso front in sanguinary battle.

STOCKHOLDERS OF C. & O. AGREE TO SALE OF BONDS
Richmond, Va., April 23.—The stockholders of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway company, in session here yesterday, agreed to the sale of bonds valued at \$40,180,000 for the purpose of redeeming the road's 1914 notes and obtaining an additional working capital of nearly \$6,000,000.

A Social Visit Develops Into A Week-End Stay

So Discovered C. Jensen In Paying a Call at City Jail.

Whether a social visit shall be an afternoon call or a week-end stay, sometimes depends on the luggage the visitor carries.

That was the interesting discovery made by C. Jensen, yesterday afternoon at the city jail.

A friend of his, and an old shipmate, had been incarcerated and forcibly detained on an informal trip to the chief's headquarters, pending an audience in the city drawing room with Judge Zelius who will receive guests at 9 o'clock this morning.

Jensen thought he would visit and condone with his shipmate and aid in whiling away the tedium of a glorious Easter Sunday afternoon spent in the prison.

He was shown to his friends quarters. Unfortunately for the caller, he noticed a rather bulky object in the pocket of Jensen's trousers and felt of it, thinking it was a flash of good fellowship.

No so; it was a sand-bag. Or rather it appeared to be a sand-bag, but regarding its contents it was greatly different, for quantities of small pieces of iron were found to be its true contents, which fact made it a much superior weapon, a sort of glorified sand-bag, an offensive piece lifted to the Nth power.

So considering the facts in the case the officer granted Jensen permission to stay all night with his friend, and even insisted that he do so, a hospitality which Jensen was loath to accept.

But he was prevailed upon, and given a nice cell with iron bars and will talk to the recorder this morning about carrying concealed weapons.

Iron Mines Near Swedish Border Being Operated

Christiania, April 23.—British capitalists who own large iron mines at Dunderland in the province of Heigeland, near the Swedish frontier, where some many important operations were commenced and afterwards suspended, will resume operations with the object of producing 500 tons of ore daily.

HARMONY FAST DISAPPEARING IN THE HOUSE

Democrats and Republicans Nearing Clash Over Legislative Program.

DRASTIC RULES ARE THREATENED

Democrats Want to Push Philippines and Shipping Bills.

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.
Washington, April 23.—House Democrats and Republicans, after having worked harmoniously for a few and a half months, are on the verge of a clash over the legislative program of the remainder of the session. Democrats, desirous of carrying out Wilson's wishes in push the Philippine and shipping bills, are threatening to invoke drastic rules to insure the measures right of way.
The Republicans are conducting what appears to be a mild filibuster on the agricultural appropriation bill and are urging consideration of the forti-

FRENCH KNEW VERDUN WAS THE AIM OF KAISER

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.
Paris, April 23.—Long before the battle of Verdun the French high command was aware that the railway between Verdun and Ste Menehould through the Argonne would, in case of an attack, be cut by the Germans heavy guns and that it would need to be supplemented by a motor-transport system. Early in February, therefore, a special commission was appointed, which had to arrange a service of 4,000 vehicles. All these had to be provided with great quantities of petrol, oil and grease.
The general principle was for the Meuse Railway to be restricted as far as possible to the transport of provisions, while the cars were to bring up men, ammunition and other material. The road to Verdun was reserved for motor traffic and the traffic was regulated by a special body of men. For the mending of the road a considerable number of experienced road menders was detailed. For policing the road was divided into sections, each in charge of an officer.
At noon on February 22, the day after the battle began, this organization was first put to the test. Within four hours the road was free of all horse-drawn traffic and has been so since. Every motor-lorry carrying munitions covered an average of 100 miles a day. Large numbers of troops were brought up without a hitch.

CANNING CLUB WORK GOING AHEAD NICELY

Escambia Girls Are Busy Preparing for the Canning Season.

LOAN FUND HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED

This Will Aid Girls of the County in Purchase of Cans.

Much more progress has been made this year than heretofore in the Girl's Canning Club work according to Miss Lanny Landrum, and it is not expected that Crop losses will be as great as last year.
This condition is the result of the loan fund which has been established, and the general awakening of interest in the organizations. Miss Landrum, who has supervision over all the clubs in this county, calls personally on each member and sustains interest by her visits.

The establishment of a loan fund is a new idea in the clubs, and is the outgrowth of the loss sustained last season by the scarcity of cans. This fund is made up of individual subscriptions of small amounts, and is deposited in a local bank at the disposal of the girls to buy cans as it becomes necessary.

The fund is permanent, as far as it is possible to make it so. That is, on making a contribution, it is with the understanding that the amount will be returned without interest at the end of the season, but where the lender is willing, the money when it is returned, is placed in bank, and allowed to draw interest which goes to the canning club to defray the expenses of the ensuing year.

That the sale of the products may be made certain and therefore the return of the money surer, local merchants have agreed to handle the "4-H" brand of canned goods. The naming of the brand is to signify the purpose of the clubs, and at the same time to hold before the girls the object to be attained. When translated it means, "Head, Heart, Hand and Health", for in the exercise of the first three the last is attained, and sums up in a word the reason for the existence of these clubs.

Several persons have already sent in sums of money to apply to the loan fund, while many others have promised their assistance when it becomes necessary. Other valuable assistance has been rendered, and Mr. Jacobi, of the Molino Canning Co. has agreed to furnish all cans at cost price.

To sustain the interest in the clubs during the "off-season" a more social tone has been given the organization, which only adds greater attractions to the meetings but opens up other fields as well.
Among these side topics which come up at meetings and which enter vitally into all the proceedings. All the meetings are held with strict observance to the rules laid down in Robert's Rules of Order, and adduced in a thoroughly businesslike manner. But to avoid possible stress on this subject and to offset the formality that attends the practice, a program is prepared for each meeting which is entertaining as well as instructive. Whenever possible Miss Landrum attends these gatherings, but in her absence the same rules of procedure are carried out.