ZEPPELINS WILL AID SUBMARINES IN PLAN TO BLOCKADE BRITAIN

Germans Accuse Foes of Intention to Sink Neutral Ships in Order to Embroil Nations Against the Teutonic Cause.

Mine-Layers Reported Already on British Coast Prepared to Strew Mines in War of Starvation to be Launched

BERLIN, Feb. 16. Zeppelin airships will participate in the blockade of the British coast the Vos-siche Zeitung announced on official au-thority today. It is understood that the sircraft will be used to drop bombs upon British ships that escape from the sub-marine cordon to be established in Eng-

The Lokal Annelger states that Germany is prepared to strew the Brilish coast with mines. This statement aroused the belief here that German mine layers are hidden in inaccessible recesses of the British coast and are ready to move as soon as the blockade is begun. That British will attempt to embroil

Germany and neutral nations is the hint made in an official statement issued by the German press bureau today. It fol-

"It is believed in German shipping circles that it will aid England's interests if conflicts arise between Germany and neutral states. It is not improbable, therefore, that neutral ships will be purposely sunk by British submarines.
"It is also known that England has laid large numbers of mines against German submarines."

ALLIES CLAIM RECAPTURE OF TRENCHES AT ST. ELOI

Defenses on Flanders Line Again Change Hands.

PARIS. Feb. 16. British troops, who have been essaying Types Canal, have succeeded, according to the official statement today, in recapturing two lines of outlying trenches previously taken from them by the Germans in a series of assaults. It was stated at the War Office that at this point has taken place the only infantry engage-ments since Sunday. Elsewhere along the entire battle front the exchanges are

The previous reports of the success by the French artillery in silencing the fire of the Germans at several points, notably in the Souain and Argonne regions, are confirmed. It is stated that the French artillery is being used all along the en-tire line to silence and dismount the big

(The French claim is directly contra-dicted by today's official statement from Berlin, which declares that British coun-ter-attacks at St. Eloi were repulsed.)

BELGIAN RELIEF SHIP ENDANGERED IN CHANNEL

Massapequa Had Thrilling Passage in Dark.

YORK, Feb. 16,-A thrilling story of the Belgian relief ship Massapequa's trip at night through the dark-ened English Channel was told here today by Captain E. M. McCarthy, who re-turned to New York after delivering a Rockefeller Foundation cargo for starv-

mouthwest gale, lost in the Channel.

"All night we beat back and forth on a short course. Finally daylight came

and we picked up an English patrol boat, which examined our papers and gave us directions to Rotterdam. The only vesmeis I saw on the trip were patro! boats."

ITALY REFUSES TO JOIN NEUTRAL LEAGUE ON SHIPS

Proposes to Stand Alone in Protection of Maritime Rights.

tion of Maritime Rights.

ROME, Feb. 16.—Italy has refused to join a proposed league of neutral Powers with the object of a common defense of neutral shipping against Germany's threatened blockade of British ports. This refusal is on the grounds that Italy is fully prepared to defend its own shipping unaided; besides, it is determined to retain a complete freedom of action. The Italian Government has formally notified Germany that it will not tolerate acts of war against Italian shipping.

acts of war against Italian shipping, which the Government considers is un-warranted, since the threatened blockade of British ports is utterly illegal unless effective.

NO CAUSE FOR ALARM. SAYS ENVOY TO GERMANY

Gerard Confident Blockade Tangle Will Be Solved.

BERLIN, Feb. 16.—According to the Local Anseiger, James W. Gerard, American ambassador, sees no cause for slarm in connection with the present negotiations between the United States and Germany growing out of the submarine

"So far as the present relations between our countries are concerned," the newspaper quotes the ambassador, "I regard them with the most complete calm confidence. The questions in dispute will, with the axisting good will on both sides, certainly be solved satisfactorily to both parties."

SHIPPING NEWS PORT OF PHILADELPHIA

Vessels Arriving Today

Charles M. Taylor's Sons, United Autonio, Port Antonio, truit, United sam. Port Arthur, crude all, Guif series M. Taylor's Sons. merchandles Steamships to Arrive

Official War Reports

GERMAN

The enemy's attacks against the trenches taken by the Germans from the English near St. Elioi were repulsed yesterday. Otherwise there were no important events.

Our pursuit of and continued fighting with the enemy on and beyond the East Prussian frontler are proceeding very favorably. In Poland, north of the Vistula, the Germans occupied Bielsk and Plock after a short fight. About 1000 prizoners were taken. About 1000 prizoners were taken. In Poland, south of the Vistula, no important events occurred.

FRENCH
The British troops on Monday recaptured the two trenches which they

captured the two trenches which they had lost the night before between St. Eloi and the Tyres canal.

On the battle front of the French armies the day of February 15 was generally calm. No infantry actions were reported. Our artillery won successes particularly important.

RUSSIAN

On the front of the Niemen and Vis-tula Rivers some encounters took place on February 13 at about the same places as on the day before. On the left bank of the Vistula the customary cannonading occurred. In the Carpathians we repulsed stub-born attacks by the Austrians at Syidnik. We made some progress on Svidnik. We made some progress on the left bank of the Upper San and captured more than 1000 prisoners and

five machine gune. Germans who attacked heights near Myto Koziowka, between the Beskid and Wyszkow Passes, were repulsed. They suffered heavy losses. Our troops, starting a counter attack from Dukla and Wysz.tow, dislodged the Germans from the heights fortified by

Strong Austrian forces are advancing along the roads leading to Nadworna and into Bukowina.

AUSTRIAN

In Russian Poland and West Galicia no noteworthy incident has occurred. The battles in the Carpathians are

proceeding. In southeast Galicia yesterday we captured Nadworna (67 miles north-east of Czernowitz) and forced the enemy back in the direction of Stan islau (58 miles northwest of Tarnopol). In the southern war theatre only unimportant frontier fighting has oc-

GERMANY CRUMBLING, **DECLARES JOFFRE IN** HINTS OF NEW BLOW

All Their Famous Old Guard Gone," Says French Commander-in-Chief, and 1,000,000 Have Been Lost in Battle.

PARIS, Feb. 16 .- Germany is crumbling, says General Joffre, head of all the French armies in France, in an interview with Paul Huard, a lifelong friend. telling of his interview Huard says:

"'You ought really to give me some ex planation of Charleroi,' I said to him. "The general was neither astonished or offended by my question,

"I asked him I. it was really true, as the general public and even the combatants believed, that we were outflanked in Belgium by overwhelming masses.

"'Not at all, not at all,' replied Gen-

eral Joffre: 'our army was in sufficient numbers. We ought to have won the battie of Charleroi. We had 10 chances to 1 to win it. We lost it through our own faults, by mistakes of our commanders." "We almost foundered," said Captain
McCarthy, "All familiar lights were out
and we groped our way through a furious
and we groped our way through a furious
and we groped four the Channel.

"Long before the war broke out I was aware a great number of our generals were worn out. Observing those deficients were worn out. cles, I had set about remedying them. Some of these generals were my best comrades, but, while I love my friends, I love France still more. I, therefore, re-lieved them of their commands. I re-moved them as I expect to be removed myself if I am found deficient. Not, in-deed, as a punishment, but simply for the public welfare. I did this with an-guish in my soul, and when left in soll-

"Turning the general from his melan-choly memories, I said to him: 'Now, explain to me your retreat, especially by what surprising miracle or what singular caprice General Von Kluk obliqued so suddenly when Paris was already within

tude I went.

"The retreat was very simple," replied Joffre, now smiling again. With numer-ous details he explained to me how Von ous details he explained to me how Von Kluk's men, casting aside their haver-sacks, swept like a whiriwind on Paris. "He explained how, during the 19 days the English-French retreat lasted, he, Joffre, built up in the region of Amiens, that is on flank of the line of invasion, an army whose existence was unknown to all, and especially to the Germans, until the day when, concentrated and moving off to the command of the French generalissimo, this army of General Maunoury gave such a sudden and vio-lent elbow blow to the Teutons that he threw them, as planned, on to our lines on the Marne, "At present," resumed Huard, "it is

truly regrettable that such decisive manruly regrettable that such decisive man-euvers as the Marne affair are no longer possible, and bending over General Jof-fre," says Huard, "I whispered in his ear. "I hope you have something up your sleeve."
"Joffre laughed gally. "Surely, surely," he replied, tapping my shoulder, but we are really still manelyring. Naroleon

he replied, tapping my shoulder, 'but we are really still maneuvring. Napoleon said he won battles with his soldiers' legs. We win them with our locomotives. That's all the difference. We mustn't abuse this war of attrition too much. "Under the fire of our army the Germans have left more than 1,000,000 menyes, more than 1,000,000-who will never reappear on any battlefield.
"Their famous guard is only a collection of uniforms; their old officers' lists are only a historic memory. Their offi-

are only a historic memory. Their offi-cers were gallant; they have nearly all failen. The German troops are now so much weakened morally that there improvised officers the impelled in order to avoid stampede, to lead them to battle in mass formation, eight men abreast. It is leading them to a hecatomb, a prey for our artiflery."

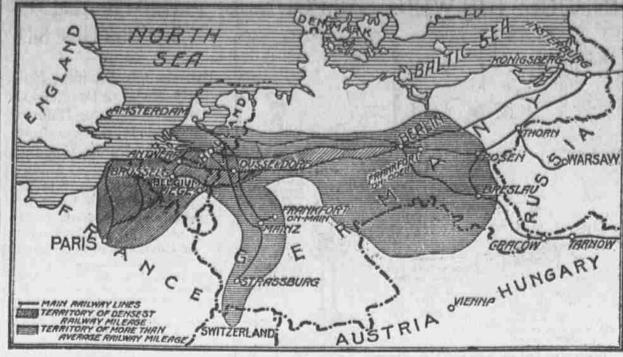


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RAILWAYS IMPORTANT IN WORKING OUT KAISER'S STRATEGY



Magical mobilization of German troops has surprised and discomfited the armies opposed to the Kaiser Magical mobilization of German troops has surprised and discomfited the armies opposed to the Kaiser on the several fronts. Yet quickness of transporting men and munitions has been due to no other necromancy than that of the foresighted attention to detail which is characteristic of the so-called Teutonic "preparedness." Almost in a flash, German forces or reinforcements appear at points of hostile pressure or where an offensive is to be initiated. Far-visioned conception and masterly execution of the great German railway system, which criss-crosses the country from frontier to frontier and links stronghold to stronghold, are responsible for the mobile quality which surprised the world last August in Belgium and France and which has several times, including the present week, caused amazement to the Russians in East Pruesia. For decades, in the railway evolution of greater Germany, lines have been laid not merely for transit and trade purposes, but also with a view to military value. The result of this policy, that looked to the future as well as present, is seen in speedy and effective mobilizing of great masses of German troops where they are needed just when they are needed.

U. S. BALKS AT BRITISH BLOCKADE OF FOE'S COAST BOLD MOVE FOR BRITAIN

Enforcement of Expected Proclamation Would Mean Reversal of Present Policy, Experts Declare. Would Be Signal for Great Sea Battle.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16. The announcement from London that King George will issue a proclamation declaring a blockade of the German coasts has caused much interest among naval experts here, who believe that such a step would be one of the most momentous that Great Britain has taken since the outbreak of the war.

It is pointed out that such a blockade, in order to be made effective, would necessitate the presence of British warships in German territorial waters, which they have studiously avoided at all times, except upon the occasion of the Heigoland raid months ago. A blockade that kept the British vessels in their home ports would be as much a paper blockade as if England had no navy at all with which to enforce the King's de-cree. But whether the British Admiralty is prepared to reverse its policy of keep-ing the greater part of its navel forces in eafe harbors, and thereby maintaining its superlority in sea power, is open

The sending of a blockading force to the German coasts would necessarily be attended with heavy losses, for those coasts bristle with fortifications and their waters are strewn thick with mine fields. There is also the German fleet always to be reckaged with Numerialways to be reckoned with. Numeri-cally inferior as it is, the Kaiser's sea force would be fighting in its own waters and would have so great a strategic advantage that it could account for many of the enemy's ships before being either destroyed or bottled up in harbor. The consensus of opinion here is that

a great naval battle would necessarily a great haval sattle would recessarily proceed the establishment of a blockade that neutral Powers would be forced to recognize as binding. Whether British is prepared to risk so much is a debatable question among the experts. It was intimated in some quarters that the threat of a blockade was the British

the threat of a blockade was the British solution of the question raised with the United States over the Wilhelmina case. In other words, Britain, instead of relying upon its claim to the right of declar-ing all food absolute contraband, pro-poses to accomplish the same result by proclaiming a blockade of the enemy's

27 SHIPS FROM N. Y. FACE TORPEDO PERIL

Four American Vessels Among Those Due in War Zone After Thursday.

ew York, face the torpedoes and mines the same of the Germans in the waters around Britain regarding, respectively, the war England, for all of the vessels will ar-rive after February 18, when the war zone proclamation by the German Admiralty shall have gone into effect. Two of the ships are passenger vessels, the when it was announced the Dutch Min-largest being the Adriatic, of the White Star Line, which should arrive in Liver-pool on the 19th. The other is the steamship Bergensfjord, a Norwegian vessel, which will be in the North Sea after Thursday.

which will be in the North Sea after Thursday.

The complete list of steamships and their nationality follow:
Aymeric, Britis, for Rotterdam.
Strengen Dutch, for Rotterdam.
Strengen Dutch, for Rotterdam.
Sommeladyk, Dutch, for Rotterdam.
Schatton, British, for Cardiff,
Cushing, American, for Copenhagen,
Suram, British, for London.
Ghazee, British, for Lundon.
Ghazee, British, for Lundon.
Westris, British, for Hull.
Bergensjord, Norwegian, for Bergen,
Kansan, American, for London.
Vestris, British, for Hull.
Harden, Greek, for Rotterdam.
Adriatic, British, for Liverpool.
Vidar, Swedish, for Copenhagen,
Francisco, British, for Hull.
Nansas City, British, for Bristol.
Northerm, British, for Bristol.
Northerm, British, for Bristol.
Northerm, British, for Rotterdam.
New York, Dutch, for London.
Orduna, British, for Liverpool.
Vienna, British, for London.
Orduna, British, for Liverpool.
Niagara, French, for Havre.
Menominee, British, for London.
Suruga, American, for Gothenburg.

HOLLAND DEMANDS SAFETY FOR SHIPS

Protests Both to Berlin and London Against War Zone Dangers.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.

THE HAGUE, Feb. 16.—The Nether-lands has presented notes of protest at formally. zone order and the use of neutral flags.

Diplomats here who have been awaiting action of this kind, were not surprised Office, the other note being communicated to Great Britain at the same time.

Following are the salient points of the contents of the note communicated to the

contents of the note communicated to the German Foreign Office:
First. The Government of the Netherlands denies the imputation that it has been partial to Great Britain in the conduct of commercial affairs, in embargo acts or otherwise.

Second. As the Netherlands Government protested against the British declaration of the North Sea as a war zone, so it now protests against the German declaration of a stretch of water surrounding the British Isles as a theatre of war.

Third. The Netherlands Government declares the possible hoisting of a neutral flag by an enemy merchantman would not excuse German warships in sinking merchantmen on suspicion, without arrest or search. In case a Dutch ship were thus attacked and sunk the Netherlands would hold Germany responsible.

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AMERICAN BULLETS DRIVE GERMANS TO HATE U.S. BITTERLY

Resentment Grows in Kaiser's Empire as Reports, "True and Untrue," of Pro-Ally Feeling Here Are Daily Published.

Farmers Refuse to Buy American Agricultural Implements and Society Woman Bars Door to Erstwhile Friends.

By KARL H. VON WIEGAND

BERLIN, Feb. 16, The American Government, press and public apparently do not realize to what extent and depth the bitterness of feeling throughout Germany against Americans s spreading. With the German press daily publishing dispatches tending to show that the United States is siding more and more with the Ailles, and with the reprinting of dispatches taken from the British newspapers indicating extreme hosulity toward Germany, the people of Germany are becoming worked up to a point which it would be difficult to exaggerate. Officials and American citizens here cannot disguise their fears that some incident will occur which will ead to a serious crists.

Wounded officers and men from the front openly charge that the German losses are becoming much greater now that the French are using Americanmanufactured arms and ammunition. This has created an atmosphere which, to put it mildly, is becoming more and more frigid daily for Americans. Although tions Expected to Bring hitherto the Germans have maintained an attitude of calmness and composure toward American business they are now beginning to complain bitterly. For instance, the peasants and land owners of gated by Great Britain making foodstuffs Bayaria and elsewhere are now refusing absolute contraband, is expected to be to buy agricultural implements manufactured in the United States.

FOODSTUFFS DOCTRINE

Absolute Contraband Declara-

Protest From Washington.

The new doctrine soon to be promul-

opposed by the United States. There was

evidence today that the State Depart-

ment would dispute any pronouncement

which eliminates entirely conditional con-

traband from neutral ships in time of

of State Bryan placed before the Cab-

inet members the latest official com-munication he had received bearing on

Firehouse Proposals Opened

Safety Porter.

Proposals for the construction of a new

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.

The Berliner Zeitung yesterday published a pamphlet which, it charged, was prepared by former President Theodore Roosevelt urging the United States to join the Allies and crush Germany. The Berlin Tageblatt reprinted today a

The representations made to Great Britain in the Wilhelmina case will bring this issue to a focus. It is understood in Washington that Great Britain will dispatch from an English newspaper which says that American officers have seize the cargo of the Wilhelmina and issue a statement virtually instituting a blockade of the entire German coast. resigned from the army and are applying for naturalization as Britishers in It is now evident that Great Britain order that they may be eligible for com-Intends to keep all American foodstuffs out of Germany, and the American Gov-ernment is preparing to question the missions in an American brigade, 2000 strong, being formed to fight for Eng-

eriment is preparing to question the British right to do so.

Germany has offered to withdraw its war zone declaration if Great Britain will allow the Wilhelmina to reach a German port. Great Britain contends that the Wilhelmina's cargo has been made absolute contraband by the decree of the German Government commandeering all goodstuffs. Germany in reals has all productions of the contrabation of the co These are fair samples of the statements which are being published which are creating the anti-American feeling. Americans throughout Germany are no longer wearing the tiny American flags in their buttonholes that were so noticeable and so generally applauded in the foodstuffs. Germany, in reply, has of-fered rigid guarantee that all imported foodstuffs will go solely to noncom-batants. Great Britain replies that this

and so generally appliated in the early days of the war.

The Embassy and the Consulates here are being deluged with letters from Germans friendly to America and from German-Americans, the tenor of which is: would merely release other foodstuffs for the use of troops at the front. At the Cabinet meeting today Secretary "How can we answer a man who asks us why America sells ammunition to kill our sons and then expects us also to buy agricultural implements from the

United States?"
A prominent German society leader, the German war zone declaration and the flying of the American flag by Brit-igh merchantmen, and the full text of the British reply to the recent American who hitherto has been most friendly with Americans, entertaining them in her home, has now caused it to be announced that henceforth Americans will not be welcome. She declares that the resentnent of her German friends toward the

United States is responsible.

The position of Ambassador Gerard and Consul-General Law is now becoming extremely delicate and difficult, both offi-cers being focus points for German critifirehouse at Byberry, in the 35th Ward, were opened today by Director of Public cism.

BAN ON FOODSTUFFS AND BLOCKADE PLAN TO STARVE GERMANY

Britain Rejects Proffer of Germans and King Is Expected to Issue Prohibition Against All Food for Enemy.

LONDON, Feb. 16. "No compromise." This is the attitude of the British Government today in reference to the German proposal transmitten through the American Government that if Britain will permit the passage of foodstuffe for the civilians of the Kalser's empire the German Admiraity will reached its order establishing a war sone about the British Islam. the British Isles.

The proposal today was presented to the cabinet at an extraordinary session by Foreign Secretary Grey. According to reliable reports the German proposal was rejected in its entirety.

At the conclusion of the cabinet meeting, it was announced that King George would hold a privy council late today or tomorrow. It is expected that at the privy council the King will sign a procia-mation prohibiting the transportation of foodstuffs to Germany and setting forth the various retaliatory methods adopted against Germany because of its threatened blockade.

After Sir Edward Grey had presented After Sir Edward Grey had presented to the cabinet the proposition of compromise made by Germany, the members were informed by Winston Spencer Churchill, head of the Admiralty, of the plans that had been made to retailate against Germany. These are understood to include a blockade of the German coast.

Announcement was made today that Announcement was made today that Premier Asquith would be asked in Parliament tomorrow whether the Government would consider the establishment of a joint prize court consisting of representatives of Britain and the United States with a view to avoiding a receprence of the dispute between the two countries in connection with neutral trade. trade.

London newspapers declare that Germany's proffer is an indication that the Kaiser's Government is weakened before

the storm aroused in neutral countries such as the United States, Italy and Hol-land by its warning that neutral shipping is liable to suffer.

The comment of the press may be sum-marized thus:

marized thus:

"Germany has challenged us. We have accepted the challenge. Now let Germany begin its operations. In declaring a blockade of British coasts it has defied the very instrument of warfare of which it is in terror—the British fleet."

English naval critics assert that the German threat to sow mines in the waters along the coasts promise nothing new, citing the fact that numerous neutral as well as British merchantmen already have been badly damaged or sank by these floating instruments of war.

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particular needs. Let me explain how and why the Burlington can serve you best. I'll be glad to do it. Write, telephone or call. Wm. Austin, General Agent Passenger Dept. C. B. & Q. R. R. Co., \$15 Chestnut St., Philadelphia Phone Walnut 766.

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Cash Income	Disbursements
Premiums for Insurance	Death Claims \$2,008,333,3 Dividends 1,223,242,4 Annuities 572,988,8 Matured Endowments 1,087,039,2 Surrender Values 1,282,577,5
	Total to Policy Holders
TOTAL\$10,195,624.49	
Assets (Paid for Basis)	Liabilities (Puts for Basis)
U. S. State and Municipal Bonds\$19,416,567.34 (At Market Value Dec. 31, 1914) Mortgages, First Liens	Insurance Reserves

Due from Agents.....

Taxes payable in 1915.

Dividends Due and Unpaid.

Dividends payable in 1915.

Deferred Surplus

General Surplus 1.302.107.98 3,161,358,30 TOTAL\$61,509,789.66 | TOTAL\$61,509,789.66

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New insurance issued (paid for), \$21.558,399. Total outstanding insurance, \$194,625,366. Amount paid to Company for Life Annuities, \$640,203. Amount paid by Company to its Annuitants, \$572,988. Total reserves held by Company to guarantee its annuities, \$5,374,090. Dividends payable to policyholders in 1915, \$1,302,107 (an increase of \$145,614). The mortality for the year was 63% of the expected. The rate of interest earned on mean ledger assets was 5.07%. All assets are valued on a strict market basis as of December 31, 1914.

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