

WILL FORBID ARMING OF MERCHANT VESSELS

United States Takes a Firm Stand and Adopts Principle Which May Save Hundreds of Innocent Lives.

ALL BELLIGERENT COUNTRIES INFORMED

Germany and Austria Already in Agreement; England and Other Allies Expected to Fall in Line Readily.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—The suggestion that all belligerent countries subscribe to a declaration of principles governing attacks on merchant vessels and forbidding arming of such vessels will be made by the United States in an effort to establish in international law a policy disposing of many vexatious problems arising from development of submarine warfare. Identical notes have gone forward asking various countries to say specifically whether they are willing to join such an agreement.

The declaration of principles provide: non-combatants may expect protection under rules of international law, principles of humanity when traveling merchant ships are involved a warning must be given before merchantmen are attacked; any belligerent which has owned merchant ships must obey warnings to stop; merchantman shall be sunk except where it is impossible to supply a prize crew or until passengers or crew are placed in safety. Merchantmen shall not be permitted to mount guns.

Favorable responses from belligerents will be looked on as clinching principles of submarine warfare for which the United States contended through negotiations with Germany and Austria, at the same time disposing of troublesome questions accentuated by the arrival in New York of three armed Italian merchant vessels.

Germany and Austria already have agreed in effect to proposals regarding attacks on commercial ships. Great Britain and her allies also are understood to be in accord with American view point on the subject. Officials pointed out that, should any belligerents fail to agree to the proposals, the United States will have no difficulty in enforcing her principles so far as they have concerned vessels entering American ports. The note voices warning that this government is considering adoption of a policy that all armed merchantmen to enter America ports in the future will be considered war vessels subject to established regulations governing internment.

In the note the United States calls attention to the fact of her changed policy toward mounting guns on merchantmen since submarine began to play such a large part in the naval warfare. "From the merely humanitarian standpoint," said one official, "such an order might be some arrangement to save innocent lives." Whatever attitude the belligerents adopt, it is stated that the United States expects to stand by the principles thus enunciated as sound international law.

COFFEY WINS EASILY.

SYRACUSE, Jan. 28.—Jim Coffey, of New York, knocked out Lew Bodie of Montana, in the fifth round of a ten round exhibition. Bodie weighed 215 pounds. Coffey 208.

Calles Reported Ousted as Governor of Sonora; Gen. Talamante Gets Job

Statement from Torreon Says Carranza Chieftain in Northwestern Mexico Has Been Superseded. Native Only Can Hold Position, Is Calles' Comment.

EL PASO, Jan. 28.—A statement from Torreon that General Talamante had left for Sonora to become governor of that state surprised Mexican consular officers on the border.

General P. Elias Calles, the present governor of the state, is quoted as declaring Talamante could not have been appointed because Carranza had declared the governors should be natives of the state and that military governors in power when the Villa regime collapsed would hold office until the elections unless withdrawn for cause. Calles declared he believed there was no cause for his removal as no charges had been filed against him. Inquiries at Constitutional offices failed to result in any explanation.

RETALIATION ADVOCATED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—"If the Allies decline to yield to reason we must cease trading with them," declared Senator Walsh, of Montana in the Senate, assailing Great Britain's interference with neutral commerce of the United States. If it is the determination for the good of this nation to retaliate the measures of coercion entertained by the Allied powers would find fitting expression in course of conduct with which this government has respectfully, forcefully and justly complained.

VITAL AREAS OF COUNTRY LOCATED

Colonel Haan, Member of War Department Board Which Has Investigated Defense Before Senate Committee.

DESCRIBES THE NEED OF AMERICAN ARMY

Ships Could Lie Outside of Boston Harbor and Tear the City to Pieces is One of Officer's Statements.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Why a force of 1,025,000 men is needed to protect the "vital areas" of the United States against a strong enemy was detailed to the Senate Military Committee by Lieut-Colonel W. G. Haan, a member of the War Department board which has spent seven years on defense plans.

The board visited an studied, minute by, every part of the coast line. It reported in 1913 but its findings were held confidential by the department. To protect the various areas from Port land, Maine, to Norfolk, Va., Haan said the board had concluded a total of 380,000 mobile troops were necessary, exclusive of coast artillery supports and battery personnel.

The needs of the Pacific Coast he gave as in three divisions. The Puget Sound region should have one part, the mouth of the Columbia another, three around San Francisco, one near Los Angeles and six reserve divisions.

Ships could lie outside of Boston and destroy the navy yard, the state house the Fore River Works and the business district, was one of his startling statements.

Both coasts need protection, according to the statements of members. It takes a year to make a soldier. The arsenals and supply depots should be situated further inland, at least two hundred miles from Canada or Mexico. The Philippines are essential to national defense, the danger points from foreign expeditions are the north Atlantic cities, San Francisco and Puget Sound.

The United States could whip the enemy at the water's edge," declared Major Andrew Moses, "if the foreign power believes we can, and the chance of war are less. There should be a million men prepared as a defending force for the protection of our coasts against invasion and prepared against possible loss of the control of the seas which is likely owing to being outnumbered in vessels by Great Britain.

"With the combination of two powerful governments, we would not be able to hold the sea thirty days," he said.

U. S. CONSUL AND WIFE RESCUE THOUSANDS OF ARMENIANS



Mr. and Mrs. Jesse B. Jackson in parlor of U. S. consulate at Aleppo, Syria.

Armenians say that it was solely owing to the energetic action of U. S. Consul Jesse B. Jackson at Aleppo, Syria, who adopted a strong attitude toward the Turkish military authorities, that thousands of Armenian lives in Aleppo and in the surrounding regions were saved.

TRAMPS ROUNDED UP.

Between 35 and 40 tramps, or men without visible means of support, were rounded up last evening and this morning by the city and county officers of the Warren district. They were incarcerated in local jails and will be given a hearing this morning. It is thought this method will rid the locality of a very undesirable element.

VARIOUS FRONTS SEE BATTLE WAGED

French Attack With Hand Grenades Positions of Germans, Captured Several Days Ago. Russia Active.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—There is considerable fighting on the various fronts but no notable changes in the positions of the combatants is recorded in the region of Neuville St. Vaast. The French attacked with hand grenades the positions taken by the Germans. Berlin reports the French were repulsed with heavy losses.

All along the line from Riga to Bukovina there are artillery bombardments with occasional infantry attacks by Russians, Germans and Austro-Hungarians. Petrograd reports successful Russian surprise attacks.

The Italians recaptured the heights west of Gorizia from which they forced to retire recently. They put down with heavy casualties, the strong attempt by the Austrians to advance in the upper Isonzo region. In the Caucasus the Russians claim further successes and the capture of prisoners and large supplies.

CALLED TO COLORS

LONDON, Jan. 28.—Proclamations were posted throughout the country calling to the colors eight more groups of men who attested for military service under Earl Derby's recruiting plan. Men of ages between twenty seven and thirty-five were summoned to join February 29.

AUSTRIA ADDRESSED.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—The United States has addressed another inquiry to Austria asking if any submarine commanders have knowledge of the destruction of the British liner Persia. The statement that none had information reported to have been handed to Ambassador Penfield, has never been received here. State Department officials consider that they have virtually exhausted every other source of information in an effort to establish what caused the sinking of the Persia with loss of two American lives. Assertions by survivors that the ship was torpedoed by a hostile submarine, presumably Austrian, are not proved. The State Department is endeavoring to get authoritative facts for basis of communication.

GOVERNOR OPPOSES CONTINENTAL ARMY



Gov. Frank B. Willis of Ohio is strongly opposed to President Wilson's plan for a "Continental Army." The governor believes that the proper course is to strengthen the National Guard.

BISBEE MAN IN ATTEMPT AT SUICIDE

James Bradley, who Left Bisbee Last Week, Drinks Acid, After Wiring Friends of His Intention.

EL PASO, Jan. 28.—After filing a message to friends in Bisbee, from which city he had just come, James Bradley walked from Western Union Telegraph office, swallowed a quantity of acetic acid and fell to the sidewalk in agony of pain. He was hurried to the police station where he was given emergency treatment and sent to the County Hospital. He also filed a message to Buffalo, New York, at the same time but no record of the messages were taken at the police station. Bradley will probably recover.

GERMANS CHARGE CRUELITIES.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—Foreign Office made public a note from the German Foreign Office transmitted through James W. Gerard, American ambassador, relating to alleged cruelties on the part of French and English troops toward German prisoners. The British government made unqualified denials of the charges. The note requests the Washington government to transmit the protest against "violation of international law" by both British and French governments.

It is charged that a French officer ordered a severely wounded German officer placed on a rampart of a French trench gun under fire with the object of having him killed by German fire. Another similar charge is made against the French. It is claimed a British soldier tied an officer to a tree and opened fire when he waived a handkerchief toward the German lines. "Evidence of a German military inquiry of these incidents," says the note, "has given proof of their accuracy." The British denial takes the form of a reply from Field Marshal French, which is supported by statements of other officers.

JEWISH RELIEF DAY

NEW YORK, Jan. 28.—Predictions are made that receipts for the Jewish relief day throughout the nation yesterday will approximate three million. No attempt is made to estimate the total for New York, but they are known to have exceeded a quarter of a million in addition to a million pledged at a mass meeting. Telegrams all parts of the country announced generous donations to aid sufferers in the war areas of Europe.

WILL DEMAND INCREASES.

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 28.—The United Mine Workers of America in Convention decided virtually, by a unanimous vote, to ask bituminous coal operators for a ten per cent. increase in wages for basin work, a ten per cent advance in all dead work, and yardage; and twenty percent increase to all men paid by the day. In addition the convention ratified the demands by the anthracite workers of Pennsylvania, last September, for a twenty per cent increase and the complete recognition of the union.

50 ARE DEAD IN SANDIEGO WATER LINE BREAK

Two Dams Give Way; Vast Stretch of Country Devastated; Floods, Snow and Cold Cause Intense Suffering.

PHOENIX RAILROAD COMMUNICATION CUT

Washington, Idaho and Montana Report Disaster and Death; Governor Johnson of California Marooned.

SAN DIEGO, Jan. 28.—The latest estimates indicated that the death list would reach fifty. Twenty-five Japanese were drowned, it is reported. An area of fifteen miles wide and two miles long is devastated. The property loss may amount to at least a million. The devastated district is isolated by the breaking of the dam and hundreds of families are suffering. Bridges are out. Several bodies were seen floating in the floodwaters, according to latest reports. The breaking of the dam released eleven billion gallons of water which rushed through the thickly populated and narrow Otay Valley.

SAN DIEGO, Jan. 28.—Fourteen were killed and a wide stretch of country devastated late today when two dams of the San Diego Water System broke in Otay Valley. The south part of the city is under strain by the flood waters caused by the storm which has been raging in the vicinity for several days. The weather tonight is clearing. Another dam, on which there is a severe strain, is feared for.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 28.—Suffering and danger from floods, snow and intense cold in the Rock Mountain region accompanied the storm which struck the Pacific Coast, yesterday, moving east. Havre reported fifty-four below zero and many other towns with nearly as low temperature in eastern Washington and Idaho suffering with Montana, while towns in the Coeur D'Alene region were isolated by snow slides.

At Butte a street car slipped on icy tracks and twelve were injured. Near Dallas, Washington, a freight train struck a work train in a blinding snowstorm and six were killed. Southwestern Colorado is snowed in with fifteen feet in Durango streets. Wire connection with the Silverton mines is cut off. Railroad communication with Phoenix was stopped when the Santa Fe bridge over the Agus Fria River went out. Other sections in the west report similar conditions.

Governor Johnson, of California, has been marooned since yesterday near Corona, with his wife and secretary. He is expected to reach Los Angeles tonight. Search was continued near here for the bodies of eight men believed lost when the steam schooner Aberdeen and a garbage carrier broke up outside the harbor last night.

FLOODS IN SOUTH

LITTLE ROCK, Jan. 28.—One was killed in a section south of the Arkansas River, sixty miles wide bordering the Mississippi threatened by floods in Arkansas, while rivers, which have no outlet already are swollen into the Mississippi. A stage twenty-nine feet expected in Pine Bluff for three or four days, inundating a thousand acres of farming land.

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RESTRICTIVE LEGISLATION CRITICISED

American Shipping Laws, the Tariff, Railroad Legislation and "Big Business" Statutes Are Taken to Task.

VANDERLIP PLEADS FOR FUTURE TRADE

National Foreign Trade Convention Hears Some of the Biggest Personages in the Business World.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 28.—Criticism of American shipping laws, the tariff, laws relating to railroads and "big business" and the proposal for a government owned merchant fleet was voiced here at the third National Foreign Trade convention. The speakers included Fairfax Harrison, president of the Southern Railway and Frank A. Vanderlip, president of the National City Bank of New York, Joseph E. Davies, chairman of the Federal Trade commission.

Vanderlip declared the United States did not need government aid to succeed in world trade so much as relief from governmental handicaps. He characterized some laws governing shipping and commercial relations as "foolish legislation, uneconomical and unnecessarily restrictive."

A plea for the modification of the regulations affecting railroads so as to permit them to make lower rates for export than for domestic traffic was made by Harrison.

"Whether the relations between the American railroads and foreign trade after the war will be substantially different from what it was before and during the war depends on the substantial progress in the development of American policy with respect to export trade generally," he said.

BEFORE THE HOUSE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Conclusions of the army general staff were read to the House military committee are said to demand a million and a half regulars and half that number of reserves to protect the coasts.

Danbury Hatters' Fund, Subscribed to Pay Damages, Is Large Amount

Contributions from Labor, So Far Reported, Said to Aggregate \$350,000. This will Pay Suit and All of the Court Costs and Save Defendants' Property.

DANBURY, Jan. 28.—National officers of the United Hatters of North America estimated the contributions yesterday, for the relief of the defendants in the Danbury hatters case to be at least \$350,000. It might reach close to half a million, according to word from the hatters' headquarters in New York.

It is stated reports, received from the largest cities in the country, indicated the response to the appeal of the American Federation of Labor for funds to meet the \$250,000 damages and costs awarded to D. E. Loewe & Company, the plaintiffs in the case, will be sufficient to protect the defendants from losing a dollar of their personal property.