

Full Leased Wire Dispatches

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## FIRST DAY OF BLOCKADE IS VERY QUIET

### English Mariners Are Not Affected By Submarine Menace

### CHANNEL SHIPPING REMAINS UNMOLESTED

### Rotterdam Feels Effect of Ruling But Many Ships Are Leaving

By Ed L. Keen.

London, Feb. 18.—The day set by Germany for the opening of its submarine blockade of the British Isles and its war on British merchantmen dawned cold, wet and gloomy throughout England. A driving rain swept all British harbors but neither it nor the threat of the kaiser served to halt shipping.

British mariners apparently were not greatly affected by the submarine menace and everywhere in England supreme confidence in Great Britain's navy was expressed.

So far there has been no sign of interruption of channel shipping.

Rotterdam, Feb. 18.—The effect of the German blockade of British waters, which went into effect last midnight, was apparent today.

Not a single ship of any sort has reached here since yesterday afternoon.

The Holland-American liners Zuid-ryck and Rihel sailed from this port for the United States today and several other vessels sailed for England. Six travelers also started for England with cargo of fish and ten Danish steamers also left here carrying foodstuffs.

It is feared that some of these vessels will fall victims to German submarines.

### Adriatic Makes Port Safe.

Liverpool, Feb. 18.—The White Star liner Adriatic arrived here today from New York without encountering any submarines or other hostile warships.

## GERMAN CRUISER IS IN SOUTH ATLANTIC

### Kronprinz Wilhelm Raid British Shipping and Destroys Many Vessels

Buenos Ayres, Feb. 18.—It is the German converted cruiser Kronprinz Wilhelm and not the Karlsruhe which has been raiding shipping in the south Atlantic, according to a statement made here today by Captain Dreyer of the steamer Holger, which has been employed by the Kronprinz Wilhelm with capturing the British steamers Highland Brae, 4824 tons; Hemishore, 3500 tons; Pontano, 2200 tons, and the schooners Senantra and Wilfred M. were sunk by the cruiser. Their crews were all landed here by the Holger.

The Kronprinz Wilhelm obtained a large quantity of coal and supplies from the Highland Brae that ship was sent to the bottom. The crews declared that they had been well treated during their voyage here.

At the beginning of the war the Kronprinz Wilhelm, which had been in the trans-Atlantic service as a liner, slipped out of New York and later reappeared as a cruiser.

Following the arrival of the Holger a report was circulated that other British vessels had been sunk, and that their crews had not been rescued. The story was that the Germans were endeavoring to escape British warships which were approaching and could not rescue the British sailors in the water. Officers of the Holger refused to discuss the reports. The rescued crews said they saw nothing as they were kept constantly below decks on the German vessels after their own ships had been sunk.

It was learned today that the Highland Brae carried a number of women passengers when the Kronprinz Wilhelm intercepted her. They were allowed to take their own personal effects with them when they left the steamer.

## MATERIAL ADVANCE MADE BY FRENCH IN VICINITY OF CHEPPY

### German Rev. Admitted By Berlin Issued To

### KAISER RETURNS TO CAPITAL FROM FRONT

### English Naval Losses Light As Result of Spinal Meningitis

(By Henry Wood.)

Paris, Feb. 18.—Material advance of French lines in the vicinity of Cheppy was announced in an official statement issued here today. Supported by concealed artillery, the French troops were declared to have cleared a large section of the woods of Germans.

Sanguinary fighting also was reported south of Bois Des Forges, the French troops there, according to today's statement, having advanced a quarter of a mile. All efforts to dislodge the French from recently occupied trenches have failed.

Artillery duels are in progress along the Aisne, the advantage, according to the war office, resting with the allies. An advance of several hundred feet north of Malancourt also was reported.

### Germans Admit Reverses.

Berlin, Feb. 18.—Material German reverses in the Argonne district were admitted in an official statement issued by the war office here.

"The village of Norroy, commanding a hill, previously captured by the Germans," the statement said, "was evacuated in the face of a superior French force. Entrenchments of the French were dynamited before our troops retreated.

"Heavy fighting continues north of Rheims, north of Perthes and about Lille and Arras. French and British troops penetrated our advanced trenches but were driven back with heavy losses. French attacks south of Argonne also have failed.

"In the eastern theatre," continued the statement, "pursuing Germans engaged the enemy northward of Grodam. North of Lens and near Ploek and Hazin, engagements terminated in favor of the Germans and 3000 of the enemy were taken prisoners.

"There are no new developments south of the Vistula. The total number of prisoners taken on the Prussian frontier exceed 64,000, and, in addition, we have captured 71 cannon, 100 machine guns, three hospital trains, aircraft, 150 cars of ammunition, searchlights and countless loaded supply cars and horses."

### Kaiser Returns From East.

Amsterdam, Feb. 18.—Advices from Berlin today state that the kaiser has returned to the capital from the eastern battle front and will go at once to Wilhelmshaven to confer with the naval officials there.

It is expected that the kaiser will keep in close touch with the coming submarine blockade of British commerce and will personally do much of this work.

### Meningitis In Navy.

London, Feb. 18.—Under Secretary of the Admiralty McNamara announced today in the house of commons that 2 of 15 cases of spinal meningitis developed at the naval quarters in the Crystal Palace here have resulted fatally.

### JOHNSON AT TAMPICO.

El Paso, Texas, Feb. 18.—Jack Johnson, negro heavyweight champion of the world, who is scheduled to clash with Jess Willard in a 45-round bout at Jaxco on the afternoon of March 6, has arrived at Tampico, Mexico, according to information received here today by Promoter Jack Curley.

### Game Commission Bill In Balance.

The fish and game commission bill, as reported back to the house by the joint committee on ways and means and referred for consideration to the house joint committee on fisheries and game, was reported back to the house this morning with three separate reports. One report was handed in by Representatives Schuchel and Kelly, recommending that the Schuchel bill, providing for a commission consisting of the governor, secretary of state and treasurer; another by Representatives Gill, Anderson of Clatsop, and Handley, recommending that the bill be indefinitely postponed, which would leave conditions as they now exist, and the majority report recommending that the committee bill do pass.

### Thousands Stand In Rain Waiting for Potato Bargains

Amsterdam, Feb. 18.—Serious riots were reported today at Schoneberg, a suburb of Berlin, as a result of a shortage of potatoes. Thousands of women and children, according to reports, stood in the rain for hours when the municipality announced a sale of potatoes at reduced prices. The demand, however, was greater than the supply, and the women and children attacked municipal officials when told that certain formalities were necessary. The municipal building was partly wrecked before the police dispersed the crowd.

### Agreement Reached Over Shipping Bill

Washington, Feb. 18.—Final agreement, which is expected to result in the

## Sketched Under the Big Copper Dome



## STATE ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT IS LAID TO REST BY HOUSE

### Adoption of Senate Bill No. 13 Causes Crepe to Be Displayed On Office Door

Washington, Feb. 18.—President Woodrow Wilson gives the international situation optimistically, despite present complications and grave possibilities, it was officially announced here today.

Secretary of State Bryan hurried to the White House early today for a 30-minute conference. He declined to comment on the matters discussed with the president.

Germany's war time proclamation was giving government officials more concern than any other one thing, but President Wilson believes it improbable that any American ships will be torpedoed.

The last paragraph in the latest British note has suggested the list of serious developments. Some officials are inclined to regard it as the equivalent of saying that if Germany is not going to respect international law, England will act in a like manner. President Wilson was considering the note closely today. It was understood that a further reply by the American government will be framed in a few days.

No American warships will be sent to the extended war zone, for the present. Secretary of the Navy Daniels said today that he was not considering using them either to convoy merchantmen or for general protection of American ships outside of the zone.

Although Berlin dispatches last night said the German reply to the American note was handed to the American ambassador Wednesday, a cable from Ambassador Gerard, dated Wednesday, said the note had not yet been received. This has increased the anxiety of administration officials, but their course is shrouded in secrecy.

Gerard has conveyed confidentially information as to what he believed the reply would be. This followed the general lines of the press summary received via Amsterdam.

Officials here regard the situation as not materially different from what it has been heretofore.

burial of the Weeks-Gore compromise ship purchase bill, was reached this afternoon by leaders of the democrats and republicans in the senate.

The bill will be sent to conference, where it is to remain until February 27. Ostensibly the bill will be committed for the purpose of smoothing out the differences between the two houses, but actually the purpose will be to get the measure out of the way so that the senate can get to work on the appropriation bills.

It was not expected this afternoon that the bill would be reported out during the present session by the conferees despite the mention of February 27 as the date for such action.

### The Weather

Oregon: Tonight and Friday fair, except probably rain or snow extreme northeast portion; colder east portion; tonight; winds mostly northerly.

## PRESIDENT WILSON IS OPTIMISTIC OVER NEW DEVELOPMENTS

### Nation's Executive Satisfied That American Ship Will Not Be Torpedoed

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## SENATE REFUSES TO PASS BILL REPEALING VACCINATION LAW

### Moser Loses Fight To Leave To Every Person Question of Disease Prevention

Washington, Feb. 18.—The majority of the morning in the senate was devoted to discussing senate bill No. 79 by Senator Moser making it unlawful to compel vaccination. He took much of the time of the morning to present statistics telling of the great number of deaths resulting from vaccination and relating how many people had written him urging the passage of his bill.

The senator was strongly opposed by the doctors of the senate and many other of the leading members who stated that in cases where death had resulted it was due to blood poisoning resulting from picking the wounds with finger nails, others from failing to take proper precautions to keep the wound well protected.

The debate was on a motion substitute a minority report favoring the passage of the bill for a report that it do not pass. The motion failed by a good margin and the law will remain as it is at present.

Senator Perkins introduced a resolution this morning memorializing congress to give close attention to Oregon's irrigation projects and assuring them that more money would be spent on them if the government made appropriations. The resolution was killed because the senators held that this legislature had no right to promise what the next would do in this regard.

The senate passed senate bill No. 305 introduced by the senate committee on assessment and taxation changing the personal of county equalization boards so as to remove the county assessors from the board and making it consist of the county clerk the county clerk being secretary of the board. The assessor was removed that he might not sit in judgment upon disagreements between his office and the taxpayer.

### Must Stand By Wilson Says Republican Leader

Washington, Feb. 18.—Declaring that he realized the gravity of America's relations with Japan and certain European nations, Representative Mann (Republican), speaking from the floor of the house this afternoon, said it was the duty of every patriotic American to support President Wilson.

"We must trust the president and place reliance in him in these diplomatic matters," said Mann. "We must not interfere or hamper him. I hope we will be able to uphold our rights and dignity and still maintain peace, but the only thing we can do in the existing circumstances is to have faith in the present."

### Zeppelin Breaks Down and Crew Interned in Denmark

Copenhagen, Feb. 18.—The German Zeppelin L-3 broke down during flight off the island of Fanoy, Denmark, and the Danish government has ordered the two officers and 14 members of the crew interned until the close of the European war.

The dirigible was destroyed by fire after she had been brought to land. It is presumed that her crew set fire to her to prevent disclosure of secrets regarding her construction.

## REPLY TO GERMAN NOTE IS RECEIVED AND MADE PUBLIC

### Tone of Note Is Friendly To United States Says Officials

### ACTION NOT DIRECTED AT NEUTRAL COMMERCE

### German Government Is Incensed At Traffic In Arms With Neutrals and Allies

### REPLY GIVES RELIEF.

Washington, Feb. 18.—Although White House and state department officials and attaches declined to comment on Germany's reply to the American protest regarding danger to neutral merchantmen, a spirit of relief was manifested at both places this afternoon. The answer is taken here today to indicate that American commerce will be free from the submarine peril. It is understood that the tone of the reply was fully as satisfactory as had been hoped for.

Berlin, via Amsterdam, Feb. 18.—The text of the German reply to the protest of the United States regarding Germany's proposed war on British merchantmen was made public today. In it, Germany firmly reiterates her determination to continue to the end her submarine blockade of the British coast.

The tone of the note is especially friendly to the United States, but it declares Germany took this step only after mature deliberation and only "because the measures adopted by the English are in violation of the accepted principles of international law."

The foreign office declares it is in full accord with the United States that it is in a high degree desirable to avoid a misunderstanding which might arise from measures announced by the German admiralty.

Referring to the German note of February 4, the reply today says this accurately sets forth the reasons for the present action.

"This action," says the note, "is in no way directed against neutral commerce, but represents solely a measure of self-defense imposed on Germany by our vital interests against England's methods of warfare."

It states that Germany has at all times adhered to the valid international rules of warfare and agreed at the outset of the present conflict to ratify the principles of the declaration of London. It points out that Germany has permitted transportation of goods from Denmark, although she has been in a position to prevent it.

The foreign office also subscribes to the principles of the American note to England of December 29, protesting against British interference with American shipping. The holding by England of the food cargo of the American steamer *Wilhelmina* is declared by the

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## Fifty German Submarines to Attempt Blockade of England

### By J. W. T. Mason.

New York, Feb. 18.—Fifty German submarines, at the most, will begin the impossible task of trying to blockade the coast of the British Isles, which measures about 2000 miles. This gives a maximum of one submarine for every 40 miles, but then only for a brief time, since submarines must return to their bases frequently for fuel and misc. torpedoes.

There is no evidence that any country has ever succeeded in establishing supply bases for submarines on any ocean bed. So far as is known, no navy has submarines capable of being opened, with safety, below the surface of the water; otherwise submarine crews could rescue themselves by bobbing to the surface in case of accident.

Germany's submarines cannot keep at sea for any considerable period, unless they remain inactive, and their offensive power is thus lessened by the necessarily frequent return home.

If, therefore, Germany has 50 submarines ready for action in the war zone, the number must be cut in half, so far as continuous activity is concerned. Half will be refilling at their base, while the second half is waging war on merchantmen. Instead of av-

## APPROVING KATZ CLAIM BRINGS JOY

### McArthur's Little Crowd of Button Holers Hold Celebration

### RUMORED KATZ WILL NOT BENEFIT MUCH

### Davey Has Row With Selling Over Speaking Limit On Question

Joy unbounded reigned supreme among Pat McArthur's little bunch of lobbyists this morning when Speaker Selling announced that senate bill No. 90, introduced by Senate Boss Day, had passed the house and the governor's approval was all that was needed to secure \$20,000 for which the little machine has been working ever since the opening of the session.

As soon as the vote was over the little group rushed from the house to the lobby, shook hands with each other and laughed and nodded knowingly. "Pat," wearing his broadest grin, rushed to the telephone and almost over a hole in the floor stamping around while the telephone operator, red in the face, did her best to connect him with his Portland cohorts.

The main feature of the bill is a clause reimbursing Alma D. Katz for a supposed outlay in connection with the Tumalo project. It is a common belief that some of the lobbyists who have spent the entire session here engineering the bill through the legislature, have a far greater interest in the \$20,000 than Katz himself.

The bill which ratifies the transfer of Crater Creek water rights, maps, surveys, etc., for the Tumalo irrigation project besides ratifying the claim of Alma D. Katz of \$20,000 against the Tumalo project caused a stormy debate which involved Representative Davey and Speaker Selling in a heated argument over the speaker calling time on Mr. Davey's argument in support of the Katz claim which Mr. Davey denounced as "gag rule" and charged the speaker with favoritism.

Pandemonium reigned supreme for fully two minutes when Mr. Davey took exception to having time called on him by the speaker, saying: "When men talked on the other side of the question they were given all the time they wanted without a murmur, but because I talk upon the side to which the president officer is opposing, I am called down." Speaker Selling retorted the remark and declared that he did not propose to have Mr. Davey or anyone else to impugn his motives, whereupon Mr. Davey declared that Mr. Forbes, who talked before him in opposition to the claim, spoke for 20 minutes. "That is not true," declared the speaker in some heat, "we will talk this over later."

At this juncture the irrepressible Mr. Lewis, of Multnomah, took a hand in the linguistic melee, while Mr. Forbes

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