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PRICE TWO CENTS ON TRAINS AND NEWS STANDS—FIVE CENTS

RUMORS OF GERMAN SPIES PERSIST IN SPITE OF DENIALS

Reported That Official Mails Have Been Tampered With By Agents

BELIEF PREVAILS THAT NEBRASKAN TORPEDOED

Double Identity Of Dr. Gerhard Denied By Von Bernstorff

By Bond P. Geddes.
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

Washington, June 17.—The administration is disturbed by the flood of anti-German attacks, such as the questioning of the identity of Dr. Meyer Gerhard and allegations that official mails have been tampered with by German agents.

Officials let it be known today that sensational stories implicating German representatives are viewed in Washington with annoyance, if not with alarm.

Despite the charges, however, that Dr. Gerhard was in this country to purchase munitions and sensational reports of German spies having tampered with the mails of the state and war departments, there was increasing confidence in official circles of a peaceful settlement in the controversy with Germany.

The state department today announced that the report of Ambassador Page regarding the explosion which damaged the American ship, Nebraska, was withheld indefinitely. It is understood that Page's report of the examination of the Nebraska leaves no doubt of the vessel having been torpedoed. The impression was gained that publication of the report was being postponed because of a desire not to add fuel to the resentment displayed as a result of the sinking of the Lusitania.

There was absolutely no official confirmation today of the story relating to the identity of Dr. Gerhard or the charges regarding interference with diplomatic mails. Acting Secretary of State Lansing has received denials of the Gerhard story from both Ambassador Von Bernstorff and Counselor Von Hainhausen, of the German embassy.

The mails story was dismissed as "preposterous" at the state department. The office of the postmaster general and the chief inspector's office also joined in denying that such acts as alleged had been committed.

Official Inquiry Started

New York, June 17.—An official investigation was started by the federal government authorities here today into the alleged dual personal emissary now en route to Berlin.

Mrs. Selma Lewis, a "war broker" who was declared to have aided Gerhard in his efforts to purchase munitions here is said to have been warned to make no more statements but to reserve her information for the government investigators.

Ambassador Von Bernstorff would not comment upon the charges which were made by the New York Tribune yesterday. He said he had made all necessary representations to Washington.

Much Oregon Lumber Shipped To Europe

Portland, Ore., June 17.—Five million feet of spruce lumber has been shipped from Washington and Oregon to the warring nations of Europe during the past few months for use in the construction of aeroplanes. It was learned here today. The shipments would have been much greater but for inability to secure cargo space.

The strong European demand has caused an increase in the price of spruce clears from \$32 to \$40 per thousand.

The expense of transporting the spruce to England or France is also very heavy, the prevailing charter rate being about two hundred shillings per thousand.

ENGLAND ASPIRES TO BECOME "MISTRESS OF THE AIR" IS REPORT

London, June 17.—Sky battles on a scale such as the world has never thought possible are in prospect in the near future.

For six months factories of Great Britain and the United States have been working day and night turning out aeroplanes that England may assert her supremacy of the air as well as upon the seas. It is known that German factories have been working overtime since September. Zeppelins of the latest and most powerful types of Friedrichshafen in numbers which convinced the British authorities that only the most formidable aeroplane fleet could hope to guard England against an overwhelming attack.

The British air fleet is now composed of 250 biplanes and monoplanes and about 50 dirigibles. The German admiralty places less reliance in aeroplanes than the British and now has less than 2000 Taubes, but the fleet of Zeppelins is declared to be of the greatest strength.

Publication of the fact that England was making every effort to strengthen the aerial arm of her war machine, and had succeeded, was not permitted until announcement was made in the house of commons yesterday by Harold J. Tennant, under secretary for war, that the number of British aeroplanes had been increased ten fold since the war began. He added that new machines of greater power and increased carrying capacity were also in course of construction.

A general Zeppelin raid upon London is anticipated, but assurances are now given that steps have been taken to meet the German airships with the greatest fleet of aeroplanes ever assembled.

The admiralty has added nothing to its statement of yesterday regarding the latest raid on the northeast coast which occurred Tuesday night. Sixteen persons were killed and as many more were injured.

It has been established, however, that in the raid of June 6, 24 persons, including five men, 13 women and six children, were killed. Forty persons were injured.

It is known that in Germany there are now ever increasing demands for a Zeppelin raid upon London. The aerial attack is expected, but there is no evidence of panic or uneasiness among Englishmen. They believe it will result in the greatest air battle in the history of the world, but that the city will escape with small damage.

Postmaster-Charger Charged With Felony

Stockton, Cal., June 17.—A felony complaint charging Rev. William A. Watts, South Methodist pastor, postmaster and storekeeper at the small Calaveras town of Miller, with desertion was sworn to at San Andreas today and Sheriff John Cosgrave is preparing to flood the state with circulars asking for his arrest. He is alleged to have eloped with Miss Genevieve Bonds, a Miller school teacher and former boarder at the Watts home.

A letter in Miss Bonds' handwriting and addressed to her parents was postmarked Stockton. That she told her parents she and Rev. Watts were going "to a far away country to live" and added, "you need not look for us" is the statement made by the officers.

Miss Bonds left Miller Friday. Rev. Watts left the following morning driving in a buggy to Peters, this country, where he took a train to Stockton. He is supposed to have joined the teacher here.

Circumstantial Evidence Points To Poisoning

Seattle, Wash., June 17.—Circumstantial evidence points so strongly to the theory that Miss Violet Messner, who died mysteriously in her room at the Emil apartments, early last Thursday, was poisoned, that Coroner J. Tate Mason ordered a second chemical examination of the girl's stomach. It may be several days before a result of the examination is known.

Thursday afternoon the coroner caused the arrest of Harry Mack, 45, a painter, and Mrs. Myrtle Williams, 24, in connection with the case. They are being held pending the examination.

The man and woman with Miss Messner spent Wednesday evening in the apartments of Mack.

According to the pair under arrest Miss Messner had a quantity of arsenic, an opium derivative, which they alleged she had used.

Man Who Tried To Kill Daughter May Die

Portland, Ore., June 17.—The life of Charles L. Darboraw, who yesterday struck his wife with a hammer, fractured his 5-year-old daughter's skull with the same implement and then cut his own throat with a razor as the result of a family quarrel, was hanging by a thread today.

Mrs. Darboraw was improving rapidly, but the condition of the little girl was still dangerous, although physicians believe she will eventually recover.

A grouchy man thinks he laughs best who laughs least.

Russian Retreat May Prove Turning Point

(By J. W. T. Mason.)
(Written for the United Press.)

New York, June 17.—The Russian retreat from Galicia into Bessarabia may prove to be the beginning of the turning points in the war. The Teutons conquer Bessarabia in exchange for Rumania's benevolent neutrality. Or before Rumania is conquered Russia may offer it to Rumania.

The most serious possibility is that Russia might agree to a separate peace rather than lose Bessarabia. The Teutons would be willing to guarantee the integrity of Russia if the czar agreed to withdraw from the war. Petrograd will be tempted if the Constantinople campaign continues disappointing. Therefore invading Bessarabia must become part of Germany's major strategy.

DARDANELLES FORTS WEATHER SIX DAYS' STEADY GUN FIRE

Allied Fleet Ceases Firing After Hurling Tons of Steel Upon Forts

THREE TURK TRANSPORTS SUNK BY SUBMARINE

British Warship Agamemnon Reported Sunk But Admiralty Denies Rumor

Athens, June 17.—After six days of constant bombardment the Dardanelles forts by the allied fleet, the fire of the warships has now abated. Mytilene dispatches received here today stated. The bombardment which opened last Thursday was declared to have been maintained with the utmost violence until Wednesday.

Albania Bombed Durazzo. Athens, June 17.—Albanian insurgent aviators dropped bombs upon Durazzo yesterday, according to dispatches here today. The explosives are declared to have hit the Greek legation and the Greek cathedral, doing considerable damage.

Three Turkish transports laden with troops were sunk by a British submarine in the Dardanelles, a Mudros dispatch received here today stated.

The dispatch made no mention of the fate of the troops aboard the torpedoed vessels.

The transports were sunk on Wednesday.

Later dispatches declare that most of the Turkish soldiers aboard the three transports were drowned. The submarine succeeded in returning safely through the mine fields to its base. It also eluded two gunboats which were escorting the transports. The three Turkish vessels were sunk by the British diver within five minutes.

Warship Aground. Berlin, via wireless to London, June 17.—A Turkish aciator sighted a warship of the Agamemnon type aground off the entrance to the Dardanelles, its funnels smashed and its deck nearly awash, a semi-official statement issued here today declared.

Big Battle Now On. Berlin, via wireless to Sayville, June 17.—The Austro-Germans are attacking along a front of more than 500 miles from northern Poland to Bukovina, a semi-official statement declared today. "A decisive battle is being waged and important results are expected."

Reports from Petrograd state that Russian newspapers are condemning the Anglo-French forces for their inactivity on the western front.

Russian forces in northern Galicia are being forced back over the border into Poland, an official announcement declared here today.

The left wing of General Von Mackensen's army has occupied the village of Dacknow, it was stated, and the enemy is withdrawing across the border in the direction of Tarnobrzeg. Tarnobrzeg is north of Jaroslaw and five miles inside the Russian frontier.

The loss of the submarine U-14 is admitted by the German admiralty. The vessel was destroyed by the British and the crew captured.

Fighting in the Vosges. Paris, June 17.—Fighting has again broken out in the Vosges with the French on the offensive, the war office announced today.

In a strong attack upon the German positions, the French captured the heights dominating the Foch river from Meusel to Steinbrack. The French forces stated.

No hint of the size of the armies engaged in the renewed fighting in the Vosges was given by the official statement. There has been an extended lull in activities in this region.

Four Vessels Attacked. London, June 17.—One steamer and three trawlers sunk and a second steamer attacked, was the record of German submarines reported to the admiralty up to noon today.

The British steamer Trafford was sunk off the Small Islands yesterday. The crew landed at Milfordhaven today and told of an attack without loss.

The Weather

Oregon: Fair to night and Friday; westerly winds.



MIGHT MAKES RIGHT IS PRINCIPLE THAT SETS NATIONS AT WAR

Washington, June 17.—William J. Bryan, former secretary of state, today issued the second installment of his statement dealing with "The Causeless War." The statement follows:

"This conflict has been described as the 'causeless war,' but since none is bold enough to blame the ever-ruling Providence, I must find its origin in acts whereof man is alone responsible.

"Race, religion and family, each with many wars to answer for, can plead not guilty for the present. If I have correctly analyzed the situation, the war is the natural result of the false philosophy and fundamental principle that 'might makes right.'

"By what sophistry can rulers convince themselves that while petit larceny is criminal, grand larceny is patriotic? While it is reprehensible for one man to kill another for his money, it is glorious for one nation to put to the sword the inhabitants of another in order to extend its boundaries.

"Violation of the commandments—'Thou shalt not covet, thou shalt not steal and thou shalt not kill'—is only traceable to the violation of the first commandment. 'Thou shalt have no other gods before me,' namely, putting self before service to the Creator.

"The soldier exhibits unselfishness of high order, but the ruler conflicts when waged with selfish ends.

"If I have made clear that the doctrine of 'might makes right' as the commonest cause of war, we may pass to the consideration of a maxim quite sure to be applied in war, namely—

Body of Murdered Child Hidden In Garbage Can

Cincinnati, Ohio, June 17.—Wrapped in a sheet and with her throat cut from ear to ear, the body of 11-year-old Elizabeth Naitz was discovered early today hidden in a garbage can in the rear of her home in the Incesent district. The child had been missing since Tuesday, and it was believed she had been kidnapped. The police have so close to the murderer.

The police theory is that the girl was murdered elsewhere and her body carried to the garbage can. A man to be tried tomorrow on a charge of improper conduct, against whom the murdered child was the principal witness, has been arrested. He denies knowledge of the crime.

General Goethals Will Get Grand Medal of Award

San Francisco, June 17.—Major General Goethals, whose genius is responsible for the successful completion of the Panama canal, will be awarded the Grand Medal of Award by the Panama-Pacific exposition, it was learned today. This has been determined through the action of the department jury in liberal arts which, it is known, will be backed by the superior jury in warning.

At the same spot the London steamer Turnwell, on route from Liverpool to New York, was stopped. The commandant of the submarine ordered the Turnwell's crew to the boats, then boarded the Turnwell and set off bombs in her hold. The submarine immediately dived and disappeared. The crew of the Turnwell drifted near their ship in small boats and it was soon evident that the injury done the ship by the bombs was not fatal. When the vessel failed to sink, the crew went back on board, made repairs and proceeded to Milfordhaven. The Turnwell is a vessel of 4304 tons.

The travelers reported sunk were the Petrel, Explorer and Japonica, all of Aberdeen.

Allies Suffer Heavily. Constantinople, via Berlin, June 17.—The allies suffered heavily in a bombardment of their transports by the Turkish forts on Tuesday, an official statement announced here today.

An earlier statement declared enemy positions for bomb-throwers and machine guns opposite Artiburni had been destroyed by Turkish artillery.

Lull in Fighting. Petrograd, June 17.—Along a 100-mile front from the Baltic and extending into the northern provinces of Poland, the Russians have bent the German line at several points, it was officially announced here today.

Violent fighting is still in progress north of Geritz on the east bank of the Isonzo. The Austrians in this region have been reinforced.

Italians Charge Austrians. Rome, June 17.—An impetuous charge Italian Alpine troops drove the Austrians from their last position on the peaks north of Monte Nero, it was officially announced today. General Cadorna reported the gains made by the Alpine soldiers and declared that hundreds of jagged dead and wounded covered the slopes when the enemy was finally forced to withdraw. In addition 350 prisoners were taken.

Violent fighting is still in progress north of Geritz on the east bank of the Isonzo. The Austrians in this region have been reinforced.

ATTORNEY GENERAL ACQUITTED

Boise, Idaho, June 17.—Acquitted on a charge of complicity in the embezzlement of \$75,000 from the state, Joseph H. Peterson, attorney general of Idaho, was receiving the congratulations of friends today.

The jury which heard the evidence in the case exonerated him on the first ballot.

O. V. Allen, former state treasurer, is now serving a penitentiary sentence for the embezzlement.

BRITISH WILL NOT CONSIDER PEACE MOVE AT PRESENT

Determined To Fight Until Germans Are Driven Back Inside Borders

GREAT STRUGGLE NOW HINGES ON ENDURANCE

Other Neutrals May Co-operate With U. S. In Urging Stopping Of War

By Ed L. Keen.

London, June 17.—Although official expression cannot be procured, I am authoritatively informed that the allies, especially Great Britain, would regard any German peace overtures at the present as premature.

Great Britain is determined to continue the war, at least until Germany is driven back upon her own territory. Peace talk reaching the United States certainly has not originated in London or other capitals of the allied powers.

It is firmly believed that Germany has reached, or passed, her highest of offensive efficiency, while England is but approaching this height. Military authorities agree that the final verdict will be won, not by brilliant dashes, but by endurance and unlimited resources.

England wishes to demonstrate that a citizen army, organized by the enlistment of volunteers, can cope with "German militarism."

Peace at the present time, no matter how satisfactory to the allies, would leave the question of the worth of a "democratic" army in doubt.

Neutrals Urge Peace

Washington, June 17.—Signs of intervention, or at least participation of other neutrals in the negotiations between the United States and Germany developed today.

Conferences between acting Secretary of State Lansing and Scandinavian diplomats were regarded as giving a new lunge to exchanges regarding the German submarine warfare. The Scandinavian countries are believing to be contemplating either independent or joint action in protest against the destruction of their shipping by the German undersea boats.

President Wilson had before him today a confidential report from Ambassador Gerard as to the reception accorded the latest American note in Berlin. The ambassador's report included excerpts from editorials of leading German papers, all of which were friendly in tone. It is understood Gerard reported that the note was received in a courteous and friendly spirit and the expressions of the press indicate the belief a basis had been furnished for satisfactory negotiations and an amicable settlement. The ambassador promised to make a longer and more detailed report by mail.

Counselor Von Hainhausen's telegram to state department said: "It is unnecessary for me to assure you that the articles are untrue from beginning to end," and added that publication of such charges was "likely to nullify the sincere and earnest efforts to bring about an understanding between the United States and Germany in the Lusitania question."

Ambassador Von Bernstorff arranged by telegraph to confer with Lansing tomorrow regarding the status of Dr. Gerhard.

Guns of Oregon Re-echo Birth of American Liberty

San Francisco, June 17.—Echoes of the guns fired at Bunker Hill June 17, 1775, were heard here today when the battleship Oregon, famous in the history of the modern American navy, boomed a salute in conjunction with the numerous shore batteries of the Presidio, in celebration of Bunker Hill day. Simultaneously three bands struck up a patriotic symphony illustrating the history of the United States. The Court of the Universe at the Panama-Pacific exposition was crowded long before the schedule time.

Led by a chariot carrying "Miss Columbia" drawn by sailors from the Oregon, a gigantic military naval parade marched through the avenues of the exposition grounds. Pipe and drum corps playing the "Spirit of '76" joined in the program.

MOTORCYCLE ROAD RACE

La Grande, Ore., June 17.—The starting gun in the annual motorcycle road race was fired at noon today and a number of the fastest riders in the northwest were off on the 200-mile speed contest.

COLLEGE HEAD HITS BRYAN

Los Angeles, Cal., June 17.—Much comment was excited here today by the reference to William J. Bryan made by President Willis Huer, of Occidental college, in his address to the graduating class. He said: "If you must resign, and you may need to or you might be disloyal to yourself and unfair to others, resign, but be sure you do not slam the door when you do it."

SILVERTON BOYS ON TRIP

Carl and Alfred Adams, of Silverton, passed through this city this afternoon in a Ford machine built especially for them and to their order. The boys are en route to San Francisco, where they will attend the exposition.—Roseburg News.