

# WORLD HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume Most Important Daily News Items.

COMPILED FOR BUSY READERS

Events of Noted People, Governments and Pacific Northwest and Other Things Worth Knowing.

The Russian press warns small nations to maintain neutrality.

All the available six-inch siege guns at West Point have been shipped to New York for use at the forts protecting the city.

Portland Chinese tong war broke out Thursday night, when one Chinaman was killed and several others were wounded in a battle in which some 25 shots were fired.

Resolutions urging that congress resort to a national referendum before making a declaration of war against any nation were adopted in Honolulu at a meeting of the German-American alliance.

The Federal Reserve board has taken steps to safeguard any member bank threatened by a run by foreign-born depositors, and will aid any bank in the country whose stability is thus threatened.

Spain's note, which it is understood, formally declines to accept President Wilson's suggestion that she break off diplomatic relations with Germany has been received at the State department, but was not made public.

Ten merchant vessels were listed Thursday by Lloyd's as having been sunk by German submarines. One American life was lost. Six of the destroyed vessels were British, and one each French, Russian and Swedish.

Resolutions indorsing the action of President Wilson in severing diplomatic relations with Germany and pledging its loyalty to the United States were adopted by the German-American National alliance at a meeting in Philadelphia.

A regiment of convicts recruited from the 5000 inmates of New York's penal institutions will be offered to the government should the President issue a call for a volunteer army. This plan is announced by Burdette G. Lewis, commissioner of correction.

Rio Janeiro—At the suburban town of Nietheroy, on the bay, five miles east of Rio Janeiro, there was discovered Friday a wireless telegraph station, which was established to communicate with German ships which are being detained in the harbor.

The American government up to Thursday night was without the official evidence of an overt act by Germany considered necessary to justify President Wilson in going before congress for authority to use necessary means to protect American seamen and people.

The date of the departure of Ambassador Gerard had not been fixed Thursday. The German authorities are making every endeavor to assure him and members of the American embassy of all possible facilities for forwarding private telegrams. No serious concern is felt in Berlin as to the safe departure of German officials in the United States.

The early vegetable crop of Florida is reported wiped out by a severe frost.

The American schooner Kona has grounded at Cape St. Albans, Kangaroo Island, South Australia, and has broken up completely. Her crew is safe.

It is semi-officially stated that Switzerland, in reply to President Wilson's note, will decline to depart from the line of strict neutrality, which is a vital principle of Swiss policy.

A battle of some consequence is fought between Villa and Carranza forces 30 miles west of Chihuahua City. General Francisco Gonzales, a Carranza commander, is reported killed.

Men of German blood composing the Hoboken, N. J., Independent Schuetzen Corps, took steps to make their loyalty to the United States and their skill as marksmen immediately effective for the defense of the country.

From an article in the Tageblatt, of Berlin, it is evident that the German government has issued a white book containing the exchange of notes with the United States government regarding submarine warfare, comprising 26 documents.

The senate overrides President Wilson's veto of the immigration bill by a vote of 69 to 17. The bill was vetoed because of the literacy test.

Charles Augustus Stanhope, eighth Earl of Harrington, dies at Elvaston Castle, Derby. The Earl of Harrington was 73 years old and was one of the largest land owners in England.

Rear Admiral Edward May, U. S. N., dies at his home in Boston at the age of 79 years. He was retired in 1900 with the rank of Rear Admiral in recognition of his services in the Civil War.

## 13 ARE DEAD IN HOTEL FIRE

Minneapolis Wooden Structure Burns With Temperature 10 Below.

Minneapolis—At least 13 persons are missing and are believed to have lost their lives in the fire which destroyed the Kenwood hotel, Twelfth street and Hennepin avenue, shortly after midnight Monday, according to police estimates.

In addition to the known missing, there are 11 others unaccounted for who may be in the ruins, according to E. D. Stalker, proprietor of the hotel. One person is known to be dead. Mrs. Lucille Squire suffered a fractured skull when she leaped from a third-story window. She died shortly afterwards at the city hospital.

Officials believe that many persons precipitated into the basement by crumbling floors and were buried in the debris.

Seventy-six persons are thought to have been in the hotel when the fire broke out.

## Ministers of Germany's Allies May Be Sent Home



These ministers of Germany's allies may be given their passports: Count Tarnowski represents Austria-Hungary, Stephen Panaretov represents Bulgaria, and Hussein Bey is the Turkish charge.

While several of the injured were in a serious condition, it was reported at the city hospital that most of them would recover. One woman who became hysterical after being rescued raced down the street screaming and froze her feet before overtaken.

Others, garbed in night attire, suffered terrible exposure in the 10 below zero temperature.

Thousands Against War. Washington, D. C. — Thousands of telegrams from different parts of the country urging steps to maintain peace between the United States and Germany reached the White House Monday. Many of them were in the same language and evidently were the result of an organized movement. Representatives of the Emergency Peace Federation, recently organized at New York, called at the White House in an effort to make an engagement to see President Wilson next week. A mass meeting will be held here soon.

1300 Acres to Be Opened. Washington, D. C. — Thirteen hundred acres in the second unit of the West Umatilla irrigation project will be opened to homestead entry March 6. Under regulations promulgated Monday, those desiring to enter should file their applications at The Dalles or La Grande offices between March 1 and 6. The building charge assessed against this land is \$96 an acre, 5 per cent of which must be deposited before the application for entry will be received.

China Threatens Break. Peking—The Chinese cabinet has indorsed the American action against Germany on the submarine campaign. The cabinet has assured the American minister, Dr. Paul S. Reinsch, that China associates itself firmly with the United States.

## GERMANY SEEKS RECONCILIATION

Steps Taken to Open Discussion on Break With U. S.

WASHINGTON NOT INTERESTED

Officials Disinclined to Negotiate While U-Boats Operate—Believed Berlin is Sparring for Time.

Washington, D. C.—Germany has taken steps to open a discussion with the United States of means of preventing war between them.

In seeking an exchange of views on the subject, however, it is not understood that the Berlin government has proposed any modification of its ruthless submarine campaign and officials here say they cannot enter upon such discussion while vessels continue to be destroyed in violation of international law.

The new move is understood to be predicated upon a willingness on Germany's part to discuss especially the safeguarding of American ships and American lives on the seas and backed by a renewed expression of the desire of the German government to prevent the diplomatic breach from leading to actual hostilities.

Just how American interests are to be safe guarded if the German war zone proclamation is to stand, however, and whether any specific means of preserving peace between the two nations is included in the communication has not been revealed.

What may be the ulterior motive back of the step is a matter of speculation. In some quarters there is evidently a feeling it is merely a play for time, designed to postpone any further action by the United States until the starvation blockade against England either has succeeded or failed. Elsewhere there are suggestions that there may be behind it a sincere desire to make sacrifices to preserve peace between the United States and Germany and may come as a response to the appeals understood to have been sent abroad by pacifists in this country.

## Ambassador Gerard Arrives in Switzerland on Way Home

Zurich, Switzerland, via Paris.—The American ambassador, James W. Gerard, arrived at the Swiss boundary at Schaffhausen, Sunday afternoon. He was met by the American minister to Switzerland, Pleasant A. Stovall, and representatives of the Swiss army.

Swiss military guard of honor was also in waiting, and a big delegation of citizens greeted the ex-American ambassador.

The trip from Berlin was made without incident, although some curiosity was displayed by those who gathered along the route through Germany.

Mr. Gerard disembarked at Zurich with about 120 other Americans, who expected at first to remain there, but when, assured of accommodations at Berne, he left immediately for that city.

Washington, D. C.—Germany's delay in permitting Ambassador Gerard and other American officials to leave the country has aroused deepest resentment here, especially in view of the steps made to arrange all possible conveniences for the homeward trip of German officials in the United States. It was disclosed at the department that an inquiry regarding the delay had been addressed to Mr. Gerard through the Spanish ambassador at Berlin. Officials have indicated, however, that once Mr. Gerard and his party are safely out of Germany, the United States probably will consider the incident closed.

Kaiser Talks on U-Boats. London—An important conference at headquarters has been called by Emperor William, presumably to discuss the submarine question, says the Exchange Telegraph company's Amsterdam correspondent Monday. Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, the imperial chancellor, and high army and navy officials will attend and it is reported, adds the correspondent, that the possibility of negotiations with neutrals for modifying the terms of the recent German memorandum will be discussed.

Sinking of U-Boats Hinted. London—In a letter read at the war-loan meeting Saturday Vice Admiral Sir Reginald Bacon, commander of the Dover Patrol, is quoted as saying: "If you will try as hard to do your duty ashore by raising a loan as we are doing at sea by sinking submarines and frustrating other evil devices you will make the loan such a success that it will be a knockout blow to the enemy."

Big Munitions Plant Burns. Pittsburg, Pa.—The machine shop building of the United Switch & Signal company, the largest plant for the manufacture of switch signals in the United States, and until recently engaged in filling munition orders for the European governments, situated at Swisavale, a suburb, was destroyed by fire early Saturday night with a loss estimated at \$4,000,000.

## WILL NOT DECLARE WAR ON GERMANY

Wilson Desires Only Measures to "Protect Americans."

ONLY OVERT ACT IS AWAITED

Consider Arming and Convoying Merchant Vessels—Determination is to Uphold Freedom of Sea.

Washington, D. C.—The course to be taken by the United States if Germany compels the use of force to safeguard American lives and rights has been determined. It was learned authoritatively after Friday's cabinet meeting that in the event President Wilson goes before congress again it will not be to ask for a declaration of war, but to follow literally the words of the address in which he announced the break of diplomatic relations and request authority to use means deemed necessary to protect American seamen and people.

The President, it is said, is as strongly desirous as ever to avoid war with Germany, but also is as determined as ever that American citizens and ships shall be free to travel the high seas unmolested.

His next step, if taken, will be to enforce that right and even then the issue of war or peace will be with Germany. Any hostile action will have to come in the form of an interference with an American right.

Details of the government's plans are not discussed. It is known, however, that convoying and arming of merchant ships are being considered.

No new development came Saturday to indicate that the overt act by Germany regarded as inevitable was nearer at hand. Fewer reports of ships sunk came in and none told officially of the loss of an American life.

## Light Guns Best to War Against German Submarines

New York—Although figures to show the number of submarines destroyed by the entente allies and the means used in their destruction are unavailable, owing to the rigid censorship on war activities, it was learned here Saturday from an authoritative source that direct gunfire from the decks of warships and auxiliary vessels had been the most effective method employed thus far.

To combat the submarine menace the British government and her allies have adopted various plans to catch the undersea boats, although some of them have been abandoned as ineffective.

A marine authority of unquestioned standing, who is close to British shipping interests, said when asked as to the effectiveness of arming ships:

"We have found that light guns, discharging projectiles of four to six pounds, in the hands of trained gunners, have been by far the most effective weapon. I know personally that as many as two and three submarines have been bagged in one day in this way."

Noted Bandit Dies. Portland—Chris Evans, famed California highwayman, died Saturday at a local hospital, and ending a checkered career which carried him from the leadership of a bandit gang to the doors of the county poor farm. He was 70 years old.

Evans began his career as a bandit by declaring war against the Southern Pacific railroad when the company notified him that his grant of land in the San Joaquin valley had reverted to the corporation. His home was on the place, and he had been raising wheat and stock.

American Vessels Ready. New York—Two freight steamers flying the American flag were ready Saturday to start for Bordeaux with non-contraband cargoes. They are the Orlean, of the Oriental Navigation Co., and the Rochester, of the Kerr Steamship company. Each vessel registers about 6000 tons and each is manned exclusively by Americans. Both vessels have the American flag painted on both sides. Until her purchase recently by the Orlean company, and the Orlean was known as the Avellanada.

Baltic Arrives in Port. New York—The steamship Baltic of the White Star line has arrived safely at Liverpool, according to a cable message received here Saturday by officers of the company. The message besides announcing that the Baltic had reached her pier said "all well." The arrival of the Baltic removes from the danger zone another British vessel carrying United States citizens. The steamship took to England full cargo of munitions.

Swedish People Approve. Stockholm—The Swedish government's rejection of President Wilson's suggestion to make common cause with the United States in severing diplomatic relations with Germany has not been followed by dissent in high political quarters. Even the strongest pro-entente partisans seemed agreed the invitation could not possibly have been accepted.

## WOULD FORESTALL CRITICS

President Marks Waiting Period With Utmost Care and Moderation.

Washington, D. C.—While the United States' stand before the world court of public opinion in the anxious waiting period which will determine peace or war with Germany, President Wilson is determined that there shall be no word or deed to merit a reproach, even from Germany herself. Nothing is to be done which is not fully justified by the laws of nations and humanity; nothing is to be done for expediency; nothing is to be done which is not legal and just.

With hope for peace and readiness to meet war if it must be, the President has made it clear to all his officials that the course of the United States, difficult as it is, must be entirely beyond criticism.

To that end, German rights and property in the United States are to have full protection of law and the President wishes every American citizen to forbear from any thought or act which might lead his country nearer to war.

Hope that Germany might at the last moment modify her declaration of unrestricted submarine warfare was almost dispelled Monday by the news dispatches from Berlin, which gave the word of high German officials that there would be no turning back.

With that hope waning, American officials now only wait an actual demonstration of how the new decree will affect American rights. The news of the killing of an American seaman in the shelling of the boats of the British steamer Evestone is now regarded as the feared overt act. It will be thoroughly investigated, however.

Meanwhile, Austria's case still is undetermined. Rupture of relations with Austria seems less certain than it did, but the situation must go through definite processes before a decision is announced.

## Congress Hastens Plans for War Preparation Legislation

Washington, D. C.—Congress began earnestly Tuesday to pave the way for legislation that may be demanded by any development in the international crisis.

Still hopeful that the break with Germany will not involve the United States in war, leaders of both parties recognized that preparations should not be delayed, and there was unusual activity in the naval, military and revenue committees, while the judiciary committee of the senate worked all day on a series of measures relating to conspiracies against the government.

The senate, as the co-ordinate branch of the government having to do with foreign relations, prepared to give its official sanction to the severance of relations with Germany. Chairman Stone introduced a resolution indorsing the President's action.

A measure prescribing heavy punishment for espionage, framed by the department of Justice, was introduced in the senate and at the request of Secretary Baker the house military committee wrote into the annual army appropriation bill a special appropriation for anti-aircraft guns at arsenals, and a provision removing all limit from the number of army general staff officers who may be stationed at Washington to work out war problems.

## American Seaman Killed by Submarine's Shells

London—The British ship Isle of Arran, of 1918 tons, has been sunk by a submarine, two of her crew being wounded by shell fire, Lloyd's Shipping agency announced. The British steamer Evestone, of 1791 tons, also has been sunk and the captain and three members of the crew killed and one wounded, says another agency announcement.

The Danish steamer Lar Kruse, employed by the Belgian Relief commission, was sunk off the Belgian coast. She carried wheat from Buenos Aires. She was a vessel of 1460 tons. It is not known whether the sinking was due to a mine or torpedo.

The Russian four-masted bark Garnet Hill, of 2272 tons, is believed by Lloyd's to have been sunk.

It is officially announced that Richard Wallace, an American seaman, belonging to Baltimore, was killed in the shelling of the boats which left the sinking steamer Evestone.

## Philadelphia in Port.

New York—With the safe arrival at Liverpool Monday of the American line steamships Philadelphia and Finland, and the arrival here from Liverpool of the St. Paul, only two American passenger ships now are at sea—the Kroonland, which sailed from Liverpool January 31, and the New York, which left the same port February 3. The Owego, an American freighter, left here Monday for Genoa. Meantime the arrival at Liverpool of the Philadelphia and the Finland.

## Boston Has German Rush.

Boston—On Monday, the first court day since the diplomatic break with Germany, there was a rush of German citizens to announce their intention to obtain American citizenship. Twenty men, most of them former members of the crews of German vessels tied up in this port, sought to qualify for naturalization papers. The applications of all but one were accepted. This man said he would have to think over renouncing sovereignty of the emperor.

## SENATE INDORSSES WILSON'S STAN

Upper House Approves by Vote of 78 to 5.

POLITICS LAID ASIDE FOR

Republicans and Democrats United Supporting Severance of Diplomatic Relations With Berlin.

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson's severance of diplomatic relations with Germany was formally approved Wednesday by the senate voting 78 to 5 for the adoption of a resolution submitted by Chairman Stone of the foreign relations committee, indorsing withdrawal of American Ambassador Gerard from Berlin and giving German Ambassador Bernstorff his passports.

Senators who voted against the resolution were: Democrats—Kirby, of Arkansas; Vardaman, Mississippi; Republicans—Gronna, North Dakota; Worke, California, and La Follette, Wisconsin.

Five hours of debate preceded the vote, but the only active opposition came from the five senators who stood out against the resolution when the roll was called. The ranking Republican leaders joined the Democrats in declaring the whole-hearted support of the President. The resolution followed the reasons stated in his address delivered to the congress in joint session on February 3, 1917, severing diplomatic relations with the Imperial German government by the recall of the American ambassador at Berlin and by handing his passports to the German ambassador at Washington.

"Whereas, notwithstanding the severance of diplomatic intercourse, the President has expressed his desire to avoid conflict with the Imperial German government, and,

"Whereas, the President declared in this said address that if in his judgment an occasion should arise for the action of the government of the United States he would submit the matter to the congress and ask the authority of congress to use such measures as might seem necessary for the protection of American seamen and people in the prosecution of their peaceful and legitimate errands on the high seas,

"Therefore, be it resolved by the senate that the senate approve the action taken by the President in carrying forth in his address delivered before congress as stated above."

## California Torpedoed Without Warning; Only American Saved

Washington, D. C.—Consul F. Queenstown called the State department Wednesday night that the British passenger liner California had been torpedoed without warning off the Irish coast and that the one American known to have been on board was saved.

Some of the passengers and crew still were missing, including two men and several children.

The captain of the ship was giving as saying the submarine did not give any warning before being torpedoed from a distance of 600 yards and sending the California down.

Washington, D. C.—The stream of reports telling of the destruction of merchant ships by German submarines was brought to a climax by a cablegram to the State department from Consul F. Queenstown announcing that the British passenger liner California had been torpedoed without warning and that an American citizen was among the survivors.

Whether this will prove to be an overt act to drive the United States into war no one would attempt to decide. President Wilson, who must make the decision, had retired when the news came and officials would not wait until late Wednesday afternoon for the informed of the message from Consul F. Queenstown telling of the sinking of the California, but giving no details of warning or the presence of Americans.

French Cheer Americans. Paris—When William Graves, the American ambassador, and his wife Sharp entered the Opera House Thursday afternoon to see a performance given for benevolent purposes, the audience recognized them and cheered with extraordinary enthusiasm. There were many cries of "L'Americain!" and "Vive l'Americain!" and the orchestra played "Star Spangled Banner," the national anthem. After this there was a newed cheering. Ambassador Graves was much affected, bowing repeatedly.

802 Files for Citizenship. New York—Eight hundred men and women applied for citizenship papers here today. This, it was said, broke all records. Six women, trained among the applicants. A woman, both of Austrian birth, was in the list. There were 168 Turks. The others were Poles, dians, English, Russians and