



KAISER SUMMONS GERARD TO CONFER

Ambassador to Go to Eastern Front.

MASTER STROKE IS RUMORED

Choice of Friendship of Two Nations Offered.

SITUATION IS DELICATE

Washington Now Begins to Realize That in Its Notes of Protest It Has Done Exactly What It Was Expected to Do.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—The German Emperor, according to an Exchange Telegram dispatch from The Hague, has invited the American Ambassador to Germany, James W. Gerard, to a conference at eastern headquarters.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.—(Special.)—A situation of the utmost delicacy for the United States has arisen in relation to the European war. Its character is indicated by the request of Emperor William that Ambassador Gerard in company with Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German Chancellor, shall come at once to his headquarters in the eastern theater of war.

Request Equivalent to Command. This request is equivalent to a command. Mr. Gerard and the Chancellor will go without delay. Mr. Gerard has been equipped with the proper instructions, approved by the President. These instructions are in line with the principles laid down in the note to the German government protesting against the enforcement of the Berlin "war zone" decree.

What results will follow from the audience which the Emperor, surrounded by his troops, will grant to the American Ambassador, no one in Washington knows. It will be a dramatic setting for the conference. Within the armed camp of a marvelously efficient military power will be the diplomatic representative of the United States, who realizes that the regular army of his country comprises only 80,000 men. This force constitutes only two army corps.

Power Shown by Contrast. Under Emperor William's command in the theater of war to which Mr. Gerard has been summoned, there are about 1,000,000 Germans—25 army corps. There are also a larger number of Austro-Hungarians.

Backed by the bayonets around him, Emperor William will feel his power. With the recollection of what the United States has, Mr. Gerard cannot but make comparisons which German diplomacy, perhaps hopes, will cause him to feel at a disadvantage.

The German Emperor, in playing for great stakes, is in nothing more nor less than victory in the war. If the United States can be brought to the point of insisting that its cargoes of foodstuffs shall pass freely to Germany, the Emperor believes his cause will be as good as won.

As the Germans view the situation, their government has made a diplomatic stroke of the highest value. It has dangled upon the officials here that they have done precisely what Berlin expected them to do. There is also some speculation as to the coincidence of events, which seemed separate at the time, but which now have a relation that is significant. These events are the issuance of the Berlin "war zone" decree and the seizure of the foodstuffs cargo of the Wilhelmina.

ALBANIANS BEGIN SERBIAN INVASION

Government at Nish Admits Invaders' Superior Numbers Have Compelled Retirement.

BRITISH DEMAND MORE PAY

Resolution Also Asks Government to Commandeer Food.

GUERILLA WARFARE ON IN CARPATHIANS

Hundreds of Thousands War in Deep Snow.

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The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 50 degrees; minimum, 30.5 degrees. TODAY'S—Fair; winds mostly westerly.

CARRANZA ISSUES DEFIANT DEMAND

Diplomats Ordered to Deal With.

OTTAWA HAS AIR SCARE

3 Aeroplanes Seen Over Canadian Town, Flying Toward Capital.

KAISER TO CONTROL OATS

Order of Expropriation Will Become Effective Tomorrow.

WOMEN TO ARGUE WITH LEGISLATORS

A delegation of clubwomen and social workers will go to Salem this morning in the interests of child welfare legislation.

PIONEER PHYSICIAN PASSES

Dr. John A. Chastain, of Klamath Falls, Survived by Large Family.

LIFE PRESERVERS USED

New Apparatus Found on German Sailors Rescued From Bluecher.

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ROMANTIC FORTS AGAIN USED

Ice Caves Occupied and Difficulties Are Stupendous.

WOLVES FIGHT BIG SQUADS

Anstro-Hungarians Take Up Positions From Which Escape Is Impossible, Accounting for Enormous Number of Prisoners.

PORTLAND AND VICINITY

Alder Hotel building and business houses damaged by fire, with loss of \$80,000.

ROMANTIC FORTS NUMEROUS

There are dozens such picturesque and romantic ruins in the Carpathians.

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Sunday's War Moves

Two big battles, it is believed, have already begun, or will soon begin, on the Russian side of the East Prussian frontier and on the River Serch within Bukovina.

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FIRE SWEEPS ALDER HOTEL; LOSS \$80,000

Collapse of Roof Endangers Firemen.

FLYING GLASS INJURES TWO

Three Lodgers in Building Escape; 80 Left Homeless.

10,000 SEE 3-HOUR FIGHT

From Start in Basement Flames Run Up Through Four-Story Building.

Table with 2 columns: ESTIMATED LOSSES AND INSURANCE IN SUNDAY FIRE. Lists various insurance companies and their amounts.

The four-story Alder Hotel building, at the northwest corner of Fourth and Alder streets, in which was located the Phegley & Cavender clothing establishment and the F. W. Woolworth 6-16-15-cent store annex, was swept by a spectacular fire yesterday.

A good deal of interest is being taken in the coming week's proceedings of the British Parliament, for David Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, will make a statement today on the financial arrangements between Great Britain, France and Russia, and Winston Spencer Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty, will review the naval situation.

Later in the week the debate will be continued on the increased cost of the necessities of life, in connection with which several meetings held throughout the country on Saturday and Sunday have urged the government to take steps to control the supplies of food and means for their distribution.

Defective Wiring Blamed. The origin remains in doubt but the fire is believed to have started from defective wiring in the basement of the Phegley & Cavender store.

Lodgers Make Escape. At the same time Engineer Burton, of the hotel heating system, reported the basement filling with smoke.

FRENCH CHARGE ON SKI. Bayonet Attack Made Full Speed by Defiant Chasseurs.

GENEVA, via Paris, Feb. 14.—What is said to be the first bayonet charge on ski during the present war was made yesterday in the Vosges Mountains, near Col-du-Bonhomme.

POTATO FRUIT, COURT SAYS. Washington Jurists Make Decision Upholding Inspection Law.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Feb. 14.—The State Supreme Court decided Saturday, in the case of the Los Angeles Berry-Growers' Association versus State Horticulturist Huntley, that the latter had jurisdiction over potatoes, a shipment of which from California he condemned because they were diseased.

DIVINE SARAH IN HOSPITAL. Operation Is Performed on Affection of Mme. Bernhardt's Knee.

BORDEAUX, via Paris, Feb. 14.—Sarah Bernhardt, after consulting a professor of the faculty of medicine here, underwent an operation for an affection of the knee today at the Hospital St. Augustine of Arcahon.

Smoke Esguils Workers. The lighting train concentrated in the attack from the roof. With heavy clouds of dense smoke engulfing them at regular intervals and flames shooting up from the air and elevator shafts.

