

GERMAN ATTITUDE GIVES RISE TO HOPE

Washington Waits on Allies, but Holds No Nation Can Change Rules of War.

BLOCKADE NOT EFFECTIVE

If British Reply Is Long Delayed by Consultation With Allies, Vigorous Protest May Be Made Within Few Days.

WASHINGTON, March 2.—While President Wilson indicated today that the United States would send a note of inquiry to Great Britain and France to learn how they proposed to carry out in practice their announced determination to prohibit commercial intercourse by sea with Germany, such action, it was later said, probably would be deferred until replies are received from Great Britain and Germany to the American proposals looking to the abandonment of submarine warfare on merchant ships and unrestricted passage of foodstuffs to the civilian population of the belligerents.

German Reply Gives Hope. Germany's reply, as described in press dispatches, created a favorable impression among officials, but until the text is officially received no comment will be made. This attitude of Germany gave rise to the belief in some official quarters that a basis for a solution of the maritime situation might yet be reached through direct negotiations.

What Great Britain's reply will be is dependent to some extent on the attitude of her allies, whom she is consulting. There have been official intimations, however, that England would flatly reject the proposal for the shipment of foodstuffs and conditional contraband to Germany.

The Anglo-French notes outlining the intention of the allies to stop all commerce between Germany and neutral countries occupied the attention of official Washington today. President Wilson told inquirers just before the cabinet met that he did not define the attitude of the American Government, because he had not thoroughly digested the contents of the communications, though apparently they seemed to establish a blockade.

Neutrals' Rights Insisted On. He pointed out that the notes had merely defined, in general terms, a policy to be pursued by the allies, without defining the means of enforcing that policy. To make this clear for the United States, the President indicated that he might necessitate further correspondence with Great Britain and France.

The President made clear his belief that while the central object of the war has changed, no nation had a right to change the rules of war. From this it was generally inferred that the American Government would not acquiesce in the frequent suggestion by its officials that whatever might be the violations of the customs of war as between belligerents, it is not the business of neutrals to object to the closing of Congress occupied the cabinet meeting for the most part, but the notes from Great Britain and France had an effect on American exports was discussed to some extent.

Vigorous Protest Thought. Some high officials thought that if England proclaimed a blockade and would make it effective there could be no legal objection from the United States, no matter how much its commerce suffered. On the other hand, the present step falls short of such a move, in that all commerce is to be interrupted, without specifying the zone of operation or the extent of the restriction. It was believed that the United States would be obliged to enter vigorous protest.

Officials at the State Department are studying the Anglo-French declaration with a view to advising the President of the effect of neutrals which it seems to transgress. The possibility that the reply of the allies to the informal proposals of the United States is to be long delayed for further negotiation along lines that would make unnecessary the embargo on neutral commerce proclaimed by England and France, is recognized by officials generally as an important factor in the future course of the American Government. If the reply from England is to be long delayed by consultations with the allies, however, there is a belief in many quarters that, acting on informal intimations of Great Britain's disposition of the plans suggested for sending foodstuffs to Germany, the United States might send its protest to Great Britain in a few days.

Napoleon's System Recalled. The difficulties of the present situation suggested to officials similar conditions which existed a century ago. Under what was known as the "continental system," Napoleon's plan for shutting England out from all connection with the Continent of Europe, a series of retaliatory measures were practiced, which subsequently involved in the war countries previously neutral. First, Napoleon issued his famous Berlin decree, declaring the British islands in a state of blockade and prohibiting all commerce and correspondence with England.

Britain was not long in making reprisals prohibiting all neutral vessels from entering any port controlled by France or her allies. New French measures followed and then, by the Milan decree of December 17, 1807, any vessels of whatever nation that had been searched by an English ship, had been sent on a voyage to England or paid any duty to the English government was to be considered "denationalized" and treated as English.

Russian Adherence Refused. Most of the countries of Europe were compelled by Napoleon to join the "continental system." Russia refused to adhere to it and went to war. Although a state of blockade was proclaimed, there was no effort made in many cases to maintain only its was against such a policy as that the United States protested before going to war with England in 1812.

Constantin Brun, Danish Minister, called at the State Department today for information on the situation. He said he thought shipping to and from his country would not be interfered with by the latest decree and that the commerce of neutral countries would go on practically as it has since the outbreak of the war. He pointed out that Denmark already has embargoed re-exportation of all the articles declared contraband by the allies and that little or no commerce comes out of Denmark originates in Germany.

Swedish Minister Eklund also sought information at the department concerning the allies' decrees.

Many Mexicans live to a great age, and one can find further evidence that it is possible to get used to almost anything.

NATIONAL THEATRE PARK, WEST PARK, WASH. FREE PHONES. COME AT NOON. There's a Good Show Here. Any Seat 10c. MELVING WINSTOCK.

BERLIN IS WILLING Concessions Offered if Allies Will Do Likewise.

FOOD SUPPLY DEMANDED American Plan of Supervision of Imports for Civilians Agreed To. Anchored Mines for Offense Not Waived.

Continued From First Page. fully reciprocated by Germany. The suggestion corresponds also to the German wishes that the naval war should be waged according to rules which without subjecting one or the other belligerent powers to one-sided restrictions of methods of warfare would take into consideration the interest of neutrals as well as the laws of humanity.

On particular suggestions contained in the American note the following remarks are made: "Germany would be prepared to make the suggested declaration concerning the non-employment of drifting mines and the construction of anchored mines, and further agrees with the suggestion to attach a government mark to any mines which may be used. On the other hand, it does not appear practicable to Germany for the belligerent powers fully to renounce the employment of anchored mines for offensive purposes."

Second—Germany's submarines would employ force against merchant vessels of whatever flag only insofar as it is required for the purpose of search. If the hostile nationality of a ship or the presence of contraband were proved, the submarine would proceed according to the general international rules.

Third—As the American note provides for the employment of neutrals in the employment of submarines, it follows that enemy merchant vessels should abstain from the use of neutral flags and other neutral signals in the employment of submarines. It is obvious that hostile merchant vessels should not be armed and should refrain from offering violent resistance, since such conduct renders it impossible for submarines to proceed in accordance with international law.

Fourth—The regulations of the legitimate importation of food supplies to Germany, as suggested by the American Government, appear in general to be acceptable. This regulation would of course be restricted to importation by sea, but on the other hand it would include an indirect importation via neutral ports.

"Germany therefore would be prepared to make declarations such as are provided for in the American note so that the employment of imported food supplies would be guaranteed to be exclusively for the peaceful civil population."

"In this connection, Germany must, however, emphasize that the importation also of other raw materials for peaceful economic purposes, and including fodder, should be made possible. For this purpose the hostile governments would have to allow free passage to Germany of raw materials mentioned in the free list of the London declaration and to treat in the same manner as foodstuffs those materials contained in the list of conditional contraband."

The note concludes as follows: "The German government hopes that the understanding suggested by the American Government, regard being paid to the foregoing remarks, will be maintained and that thereby peaceful neutral shipping and peaceful neutral commerce will not have to suffer more than is absolutely necessary from the effects of the naval warfare."

"Such effects, moreover, would be substantially diminished if, as already pointed out in our note of February 14, means and ways could be found to exclude the importation of war material from neutral to belligerent states on ships of whatever flag."

"The adoption of a definite attitude must, of course, be postponed until the German government, on the basis of further communication from the American Government, is in a position to see what obligations the British government on its side, is prepared to assume."

REPRISAL AWAITS COUNCIL British Decision to Stop Trade to Germany Not Yet Effective.

LONDON, March 2.—Until the Privy Council issues an order, the declaration

that trade to and from Germany and allied countries is to be stopped will not be effective, insofar as Great Britain is concerned. This action on the part of the Privy Council is a necessary executive procedure to put the cabinet action into effect. While it is a mere formality an Order-in-Council is indispensable, according to the foreign office.

Orders-in-Council are frequently dated back, consequently the failure of the Privy Council so far to ratify the declaration against German trade probably will not alter the date when the declaration is supposed to become effective.

Premier Asquith explained in his speech in the House of Commons yesterday that vessels sailing before March 1 would not be subject to the Government's action. He spoke as if action against shipping with respect to Germany had actually been taken by Great Britain and France. The London papers all discuss the declaration both in the news and editorial columns as if it were an accomplished fact.

The Foreign Office and Admiralty are silent with regard to the details of the plans adopted for reprisals and the idea is constantly kept to the fore that the movement is not a blockade.

There is much speculation in London as to whether the American steamer Daedalus will be treated by France in the same manner as England had said she would handle the ship and cargo if the Daedalus reached an English port. The English position was that the cargo of cotton would be forwarded directly to Rotterdam in another ship, without coast to the owners, while the Daedalus, which was formerly a German vessel, would go to a prize court. The British Foreign Office, however, speaks for England, not for the allies, according to the present viewpoint, and France is no way obligated to the English position.

BELGIANS SUGGEST TAX GERMAN GOVERNOR EXPLAINS LEVY ON ABSENTEES. Invader's Language Is Still Taught in Schools—Savings in Fatherland Show Big Increase.

BERLIN, by wireless to Sayville, N. Y., March 2.—Among the items given out today for publication by the Overseas News Agency were the following: "The German Governor-General in Belgium, General von Bissing, told an interviewer that the special tax recently ordered levied on Belgians who did not return to their homes was not the invention of the German administration, but was suggested by the Belgian Governor's programme which contemplates the strengthening of local self-government and of institutions for social welfare along German lines. The Belgian Red Cross has been asked to co-operate with the Germans in stamping out mortality from contagious diseases. In the Belgian schools the German language is now being taught along the same lines as before the war. "According to official statistics the deposits in the savings banks increased 131,000,000 marks (\$22,750,000) during January. "The chairman of the budget committee of the Prussian Diet at a session of the Chamber declared that British reports that a member of his committee had attacked Austria-Hungary were untrue."

PEOPLES THEATER Leading Photo-Play Theater—West Park and Alder Last Chance Today and Tonight See W. H. CRANE in DAVID HARUM GREAT SUCCESS THOUSANDS DELIGHTED Tomorrow, Thursday The "LOVE ROUTE" Don't Fail to See This! 10c—YOU WILL ENJOY IT—10c

STAR Theater WASHINGTON AT WEST PARK Today and Until Saturday Rosemary Theby and Harry Meyers IN A Vivid Life Drama THE HARD ROAD Built Around the Great White Way GREATER than any sermon that can be preached is this vivid story of the great White Way; of the girl who chose the "Easiest Way" and found it the hardest road. The bright lights of the brightest street in the world are shown, with their fascinating lure. It's about a stenographer. 11 A. M. to 11 P. M. 10c

ANIMATED WEEKLY HOW DR. CUPID WON "Such Is Life" With Pauline Bush

000, of which about \$12,000,000 are held on the Pacific Coast. In the petition filed today a request is made that the railroad, while carrying no more than its operating expenses, had never been able to meet all the interest on its bonds. For the last 10 years the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, holder of the controlling interest, has met the deficiency, paying in all more than \$15,000,000, but is no longer able to continue, it was said.

Majestic THEATER TODAY The World's Foremost Tragedienne BETTY NANSEN in Echegaray's Great Dramatic Masterpiece "The Celebrated Scandal" The Drama That Stirred Two Continents. A Masterpiece Dealing With THE EVIL OF GOSSIP The Gowns worn are the Grandest and most Exclusive Paris creations.

CONGRESS TO SIT TILL END (Continued From First Page.) lines and 16 coast defense submarines and one oil ship. The bill carries a total of \$18,000,000. The total amount for the building programme aggregates \$45,653,531. The Senate passed the general deficiency appropriation bill, carrying \$5,092,872. The bill carried amendments making \$50,000 immediately available for use of the new Federal Trade Commission and appropriating \$50,000 for the use of the President in executing the neutrality law and for unforeseen emergencies arising in the diplomatic and consular service.

Action of the Philippine Legislature in increasing internal revenue taxes on account of the war was legalized, but a provision empowering the Legislature to enact further emergency revenue legislation was defeated. Another amendment appropriates \$71,000

RECEIVER IS ASKED FOR WESTERN PACIFIC DEFAULTS IN INTEREST ON BONDS. Road Said to Be Earning More Than Operating Expenses, But Unable to Meet Other Charges.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 2.—The Equitable Trust Company of New York filed a petition with Judge Van Fleet of the United States District Court today, asking that the Western Pacific Railroad be placed in the hands of a receiver. The petition was asked that Warren Olney, Jr., chief counsel of the railroad, be named receiver. Today's action follows an announcement made by the controlling interests in the Western Pacific last Saturday that the railroad would be obliged to default in \$1,250,000 interest on its bonds, which fell due yesterday. The amount of the bonds is \$20,000,000.

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Three Other Great Plays "HOGAN OUT WEST," a Billy Murray Comedy; "THE ADVENTURES OF FLORENCE," featuring Florence La Bode, in 2 acts; "ON ACCOUNT OF A DOG." 10 CENTS 11 A. M. TO 11 P. M. DAILY

of Extreme IMPORTANCE To Every Theatre Goer Anyone who imagines that to witness The "EXPLOITS OF ELAINE," it is necessary to have seen all the previous episodes, is distinctly in error. While previous serial pictures had this fault "Elaine" is so well handled, that you can understand any episode. Of course, there is a strong thread connecting all. But each is distinct!

THE EXPLOITS OF ELAINE BOOKED THROUGH Pathe Exchange 392 Burnside St., Portland, Oregon Read the episode in The Sunday Oregonian and see the pictures at your favorite place. The stories are of fascinating interest and bewildering mystery and woven into the plot is delicate romance. Three stars in the cast—Arnold Daly, Sheldon Lewis, Pearl White. See them at the following theaters:

Table listing theaters and showtimes: PORTLAND Days Starting CIRCLE THEATER... Every Wednesday... Nob Hill Theater... Every Mon. and Tues... Woodlawn Theater... Every Sun. and Mon... Union-Ave. Theater... Every Tuesday... Alhambra Theater... Every Wed. and Thurs... Powell Valley Theater... Every Sunday... Isis (Sellwood) Theater... Every Friday... Hawthorne Theater... Every Wed. and Thurs... Laurel Theater... Every Fri. and Sat... Isis (Lents) Theater... Every Sunday... Elite (Rose City Park) Theater... Every Mon. and Tues... Princess (Arleta) Theater... Every Wed. and Thurs... Scenic (Montavilla) Theater... Every Sunday... Burnside Theater... Every Thursday... Victoria Theater... Every Friday... Home Theater... Every Sunday... Grant... Every Wednesday... Derby (Kenton) Theater... Every Wed. and Thurs... Broadway Theater... Every Sun. and Mon... Cineograph Theater... Every Saturday... Sunnyside Theater... Every Mon. and Tues... American Theater (Union Ave. and Shaver) Theater... Every Thursday... Empire Theater... Every Wed. and Thurs... Town Theater... Days Starting Medford, Or... Star... Every Wed. and Thurs... Astoria, Or... Jewel... Every Wed. and Thurs... Forest Grove, Or... Star... Every Fri. and Sat... Roseburg, Or... Majestic... Every Friday... Grants Pass, Or... Bijou... Every Tues. and Wed... Gresham, Or... Opera House... Every Saturday... Camas, Wn... Grand... Every Fri. and Sat... Mar. 5-6... Prineville, Or... Lyric... Every Saturday... Mar. 20... McMinnville, Or... Rainbow... Every Fri. and Sat... Oregon City, Or... Rainbow... Every Mon. and Tues... Eugene, Or... Rex... Every Wed. and Thurs... Klamath Falls, Or... Star... Every Monday... Chehalis, Wash... Dream... Every Fri. and Sat... Lebanon, Or... Kuhn... Every Tues... Mar. 16... Pendleton, Or... Orpheum... Every Thurs. and Fri... Mar. 18... Vancouver, Wn... Palace... Every Mon. and Tues... Walla Walla, Wn... Arcade... Every Fri. and Sat... Baker, Or... Empire... Every Wed. and Thurs... Ontario, Or... Dreamland... Every Friday... Centralia, Wn... Grand... Every Tues. and Wed... Woodburn, Or... Bungalow... Every Friday... Salem, Or... Bligh... Every Tues. and Wed... Hillsboro, Or... Grand... Every Fri. and Sat... Mar. 12... St. Helens, Or... Columbia... Every Friday... Seaside, Or... Critic... Every Tues... St. Johns, Or... Columbia... Every Wed. and Thurs... Mar. 3... Goldendale, Wn... Star... Every Wed. and Thurs... Mar. 17... Milton, Or... Lyric... Every Wed. and Thurs... Mar. 24... Linton, Or... Star... Every Sunday... Mar. 28... Amity, Or... Palace... Every Wednesday... Apr. 21... Newberg, Or... Baker... Every Mon. and Tues... Mar. 8... Tillamook, Or... Gem... Every Mon. and Tues... Mar. 22... Vale, Or... Rex... Every Saturday... Carlton, Or... Opera House... Every Wed. and Thurs... Ilwaco, Wash... Bell Theater... Every Saturday... Apr. 3... Ashland, Or... Star Theater... Every Mon. and Tues... Mar. 29... Dayton, Wash... Dreamland... Every Monday... Apr. 15... Town Theater... Days Starting Marshfield, Or... Grand... Bandon, Or... Grand... Coquille, Or... Grand... Week of March 3... North Bend, Or... Joy... Myrtle Point, Or... Unique...

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