

### AMERICAN OPINION PUZZLE TO BERLIN

Arabic Case Complicated by Divergent Views of Roosevelt and Bryan.

FEELING IS OPTIMISTIC

Foreign Office Aware of Delicate Nature of Situation, but, Like Washington, Is Disposed to Avoid Rupture.

BERLIN, via London, Aug. 26.—If the commander of a German submarine executed his instructions in sinking the steamer Arabic, the German government will give full satisfaction to the United States, Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg informed the Associated Press correspondent in an interview this evening.

BERLIN, via London, Aug. 25.—While the situation regarding the case of the Arabic is by no means clear, indications were noticeable today of a belief that a moderate amount of optimism regarding the case is well justified and that a way will be found out of the entanglement, even should it be established that the steamer was torpedoed without warning—an assumption which the German government does not yet, in the lack of any official report on the subject, accept. The newspapers of the public seem hardly to have awakened to the nature of the situation, and between the divergent views of Theodore Roosevelt and William J. Bryan, which were given today, find little enlightenment regarding the real state of American public opinion.

Foreign Office Avoids Crisis. The foreign office, however, is evidently fully aware of the delicate nature of the situation and is disposed to avoid a crisis.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25.—President Wilson has been informed unofficially from sources close to Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, that the next communication from Berlin on the sinking of the White Star liner Arabic will be of a character satisfactory to the United States.

Coming close on the telegram which the ambassador forwarded to the state department yesterday by direct communication, declaring that it was not the intention of Germany that any American lives should be sacrificed in the sinking of the ship, this development was regarded as indicating that Germany would make some proposal satisfactory to the United States regarding submarine attacks on ships purely of a passenger-carrying nature.

Washington Wants No Rupture. Heretofore Germany has contended that neutral lives could not insure a belligerent ship against attack, especially those carrying munitions. Officials were eager to know what position Germany would now take without surrendering her contended right to submarine warfare against the neutral commerce. The aim of President Wilson and all Administration officials to avoid a rupture with Germany, but to do so without any surrender of neutral rights, was reflected by officials informally while discussing this latest phase of the situation. They were hopeful that a disavowal of the submarine commander's act in sinking the Arabic without warning would be forthcoming, but the Administration is ready to listen to Berlin's next word.

### GRAFT DECLARED FOUND

MANITOBA ROYAL COMMISSION REPORTS ON INVESTIGATION.

Nearly \$500,000 Overpayments on Parliament Buildings Charged to Recent Roblin Government.

WINNIPEG, Man., Aug. 25.—Charges that enormous overpayments were made to the contractors who erected the new Parliament buildings of the Province of Manitoba; that these overpayments in part at least were paid to provide a campaign fund for the recent Roblin government and that some members of that government were cognizant of what was going on, were sustained today in the report of the Royal Commission which inquired into the charges.

The three members of the commission are unanimous in their findings. Thomas Kelley & Sons are the contractors named in the report as having received the overpayments. The report charges that \$25,026 was spent in keeping one witness away. Dr. Simpson, charged with having been the financial agent, who raised the election fund out of the Parliament building extras, is doing military service in France.

Four ex-Cabinet ministers, including Messrs. Howden, Coldwell and Armstrong, were criticized for their reluctance in testifying, and Sir Redmond Roblin, ex-Premier, the report said "made common cause with the contractors to resist discovery." On behalf of the commission, Engineer Woodman estimated the excess payments at \$181,382 without including 15 per cent which ought to have been held back, or \$121,570 more. The commissioners also charged that the practice of making excessive payments to secure a campaign fund was continued in the steel contracts, the government's structural engineers all adopting prices from 45 to 50 per cent higher than steel could be actually bought and erected for.

### SEA BATTLE IS DESCRIBED

German Destroyer Sunk by Smaller Vessel, Says Writer.

PARIS, Aug. 25.—Details of the action in which a German destroyer was sunk by a French, destroyer on the night of August 22-23 are contained in a Havas dispatch from Dunkirk. The German destroyer was more powerful than the French, the dispatch says, and the commander of the French boat asked by wireless for assistance. He did not wait, however, for the arrival of help, but engaged the German craft. The French boat fired first and scored a hit. She then launched a torpedo, which sank her adversary. After the first shot took effect, the damaged German vessel set off toward Ostend, where a German coast battery opened a pursuing destroyer, but succeeded only in preventing the rescue by the French destroyer of the crew of the sinking German boat.

### MASTER OF THE ARABIC, SUNK BY A GERMAN SUBMARINE AUGUST 19.



CAPTAIN WILLIAM FINCH.

### TURKS THRUST BACK

British Make Distinct Gain on Gallipoli Peninsula.

### 12-MILE LINE IS FORMED

Russian Aeroplanes Bombard Constantinople, Killing Several Persons, and French Report Sinking of Transport.

LONDON, Aug. 25.—Recent operations on the Gallipoli Peninsula have enabled the British troops to extend materially the area in their possession and to connect their lines along a front of more than 12 miles, according to an official statement issued here tonight. Bombardment of the outskirts of Constantinople by a Russian aeroplane squadron, resulting in the death or injury of 41 persons, is announced in a dispatch from Athens to the Central News.

According to these advices, the attack was made on Monday on the Asiatic suburbs of Constantinople. A number of bombs were dropped, throwing the people into panic. Thirty Turks, eight Greeks and three Armenians were killed or wounded.

A dispatch from Paris gives the French official report of the fighting in the Dardanelles between August 23 and this morning. It says that the British left wing has made progress against the Turks, occupying 300 yards of Turkish trenches in the northern zone of the fighting, and that a French aviator on August 23 was successful in sending to the bottom a large Turkish transport.

The statement as given out by the French War Office this afternoon follows: "The period of five days since the issuing of the last communication on the Dardanelles has been marked in the northern zone by further progress on the part of the British left wing. These British troops have occupied 300 yards of enemy trenches.

"During the night of August 22-23 a French company was successful in a surprise attack on a Turkish position used by the enemy for listening purposes. In the morning of August 23 a detachment of Turkish soldiers endeavored to recapture this position, but they were repulsed.

"On August 23 our squadron bombarded with success a point of debarkment at Achachilman. "In spite of the violent fire of numerous hostile batteries, one of our aviators was successful in sinking at its anchorage a large Turkish transport."

### LINER PERSIA IS SOLD

PACIFIC MAIL'S LAST BIG VESSEL GOES TO JAPANESE.

Toyo Kisen Kaisha Officials Say They Understand Deal to Have Been Made in New York.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 25.—The Pacific Mail liner Persia, sixth and last of the large vessels of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company in the Transpacific trade, was reported today to have been sold to the Japanese line, the Toyo Kisen Kaisha Oriental Steamship Company.

H. P. Schwerin, vice-president and general manager of the Pacific Mail, said: "It is generally rumored that the Persia has been sold to the T. K. K." The Pacific Mail liners Mongolia, Manchuria, China, Siberia and Korea were sold to the Atlantic Transport Company, of West Virginia, August 13. All five were under the American flag. The Persian is of British registry. The remaining large vessel of the Pacific Mail fleet is the steamer Nile, laid up in a Chinese port since the beginning of the European war.

Definite announcement of the sale may come from the New York office of the Pacific Mail, Mr. Schwerin said. Officials of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha here said they understood the transfer of the Persia had been made in New York, but that they received no definite confirmation of the report.

### LUMBER MILLS COMPLAIN

Rates Declared to Cause Disadvantage in Competition.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Aug. 25.—The West Coast Lumber Manufacturers' Association, the Beaver Lumber Company of Prescott, the Columbia River Dock Company, of Rainier; the Crescent Western Lumber Company, of Wauna, and the Hammond Lumber Company, of Astoria, today filed a complaint with the Interstate Commerce Commission protesting against

the cancellation of joint rates and through routes applicable to carload shipments of forest products from points on the Astoria division of the North Bank Railroad, via Portland and the North Bank and Union Pacific systems to points East. It is alleged that rates put into effect after the joint rates were discontinued are so high as to prevent mills on the Astoria division from competing for business in Eastern markets that require transportation over the Union Pacific system. The Commission is asked to restore joint rates on a basis that will enable these mills to compete with other Oregon mills.

### SURVIVORS OF ARABIC SAIL

Many Leave Liverpool on American Liner, Some Fearing Risk.

LONDON, Aug. 25.—The American Line steamer St. Paul, which sailed for New York from Liverpool today, had on board a number of survivors of the steamer Arabic. Virtually all the berths on the St. Paul were occupied. Many passengers who had engaged accommodations, however, canceled their passage at the last moment, owing to what were considered here the more acute relations between the United States and Germany arising from the sinking of the Arabic.

### WIFE TAKEN TWICE CHARGE

Astoria Man Sues for \$10,000 for Loss of Helpmet.

ASTORIA, Or., Aug. 25.—(Special).—A suit was filed in the Circuit Court today by Albert W. Smith against Nathan Anderson to recover \$10,000 damages for the alleged alienation of



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the affections of the plaintiff's wife, Laura A. Smith. The complaint recites that in August, 1912, while the plaintiff was residing with his wife in Clatsop County, the defendant enticed the woman away, taking her to Newberg and Portland and leaving the plaintiff the whole care of the minor children. Again in 1913, the complaint avers, the defendant enticed the plaintiff's wife away and is now living with her at Butte City.

### Vancouver Registry Is Slow

VANCOUVER, Wash., Aug. 25.—(Special).—It is estimated that there are still about 2500 voters in Vancouver who have not qualified for the coming special election at which the question of bonding the city for \$25,000 to pay off the warranted outstanding indebtedness will be submitted. The registration books close September 2, leaving only eight days in which to register. The average rate of persons registering now is about 50 each day.

The correspondence school, however, doesn't let college bells interfere with the curriculum a great deal.

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