

GERMAN SUBMARINE THREAT BRINGS WAR

Wilson Is Convinced Conflict Is Inevitable.

WAR MESSAGE DELIVERED

From Beginning I Saw End of This Horrible Thing," Said President; "Course Now Clear."

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CHAPTER XXVIII (Continued.) In the latter part of January Germany announced to the United States that she was going to begin, on February 1, unrestricted submarine warfare in the zone around the British Isles, and undertook to specify the route which a restricted number of American ships might take through this zone.

I vividly recall the day the Associated Press bulletin reached the White House. I took it immediately to the president, who was at his desk in his private office. As I entered he looked up from his writing, casual inquiry in his eyes. Without comment I laid the fateful slip of paper on his desk and silently watched him as he read and then reread it. I seemed to read his mind in the expressions that raced across his strong features, first blank amazement, then incredulity that even Germany could be guilty of such perfidy, then gravity and sternness, a sudden grayness of color, a compression of the lips and the familiar locking of the jaw which always characterized him in moments of supreme resolution, landing the paper back to me. He said in quiet tones: "This means war. We have tried so hard to prevent now seems inevitable."

On February 4 he addressed a congress, announcing the severance of diplomatic relations with Germany and stating his hope that Germany would pause before it was too late. On February 26 the steamship Ancon, with Americans on board, was sunk and on the next day the president addressed congress, suggesting a proclamation of armed neutrality as a final effort to apply pressure to the government of Germany, to stop that the United States was in earnest and would protect its rights against lawless attacks at sea; but these measures failed.

Congress Declares War. Germany seemed bent upon a break with us, and on April 6, 1917, in response to a memorial address delivered by the president on April 2, congress declared that a state of war existed between the United States and the Imperial German government. In concluding his war message, the president said:

It is a fearful thing to lead this great, peaceful people into war, into the most terrible and disastrous of all wars, civilization itself seeming to be in the balance; but the right is more precious than peace, and we shall fight for the things which we always have carried nearest our hearts: democracy, for which we will fight as long as there is a single man on earth who believes in it; and our lives, and our fortunes, and our sacred honor, for which we will fight to the bitter end.

I accompanied the president to Capitol Hill on the day of the delivery of his war message, and on that fateful day I rode with him from the Capitol back to the White House, the echo of applause still ringing in my ears. For a while he sat silent and pale in the cabinet room. At last he said: "Think what it was that we were applauding (as he spoke of the people who were lined along the streets on his way to the Capitol). My message today was a message of death for our young men. How strange it seems to applaud that."

New Burdens Assumed. This simple remark is one key to a understanding of Woodrow Wilson. All politicians pretend to hate and to dread war, but Woodrow Wilson really hates and dreads it in all the fibers of his human soul; hates and dreads it because he has an imagination and a heart; an imagination which shows his sensitive perception the anguish and the dying which war entails; a heart which aches and aches over every dying soldier and bleeds afresh with each new-made wound. I shall never forget that scene in

the cabinet room between the president and myself. He appeared like a man who had thrown off old burdens only to add new ones. It was apparent in his talk with me that he felt deeply wounded at the criticism that for months had been heaped upon him for his apparent unwillingness to go to war with Germany. As he discussed the step he had just taken it was evident to me that he keenly felt the full solemnity and tragedy of it all. Turning to me, he said:

"Tumulty, from the very beginning I saw the end of this horrible thing; but I could not move faster than the great mass of our people would permit. Very few understood the difficulty and trying position I have been placed in during the years through which we have just passed. In the policy of patience and forbearance I pursued I tried to make every part of America and the varied elements of our population understand that we were willing to go any length rather than resort to war with Germany. As I told you months ago, it would have been foolish for us to have been rushed off our feet and to have gone to war over an isolated affair like the Lusitania. But now we are certain that there will be no regrets or looking back on the part of our people."

Only One Course Open. "There is but one course now left open to us. Our consciences are clear and we must prepare for the inevitable—a fight to the end. Germany must be made to understand that we have rights she must respect. There were few who understood this policy of patience. I do not mean to say this in a spirit of criticism. Indeed many of the leading journals of the country were unmindful of the complexities of the situation which confronted us." The president then took out of his pocket an old worn newspaper clipping, saying: "I wish to read you an analysis of my position and my policy by a special writer for the Manchester Guardian, who seemed, without consulting me or even conferring with me, to know just what I was driving at." This special writer, commenting upon the Wilson policy, said:

Mr. Wilson's patience, now derided and criticized, will inevitably be the means by which he will lead his people by easy stages to the side of the allies. By his methods of patience and apparent subservience to Germany he will convince the whole American people that his other course was war is possible. This policy of Wilson's, now determined on, will work a complete transformation in his people. All his moral preaching of Wilson before and after war will be the cause that will finally bring his people to the side of the allies.

Criticism Is Expected. Again turning to me, he said: "Our course from this time on and our duty is clear. The whole business of war that we are now engaged upon is fraught with the gravest difficulties. There will be great enthusiasm in this country from this day. I trust it will not slacken or weaken as the horrors of the war and its tragedies are disclosed. Of course, our motives will be misunderstood, our purposes misunderstood; some of our best friends will misinterpret what we seek to do. In carrying on the war we will be obliged to do certain unusual things, things that will interfere with the lives and habits of our people, which will bring down upon us a storm of criticism and ridicule. Our life, therefore, until this thing is over, and God only knows when it will be over, will be full of tragedy and heartache."

As he spoke, he was no longer Woodrow Wilson, the protagonist of peace, but Woodrow Wilson, the stern warrior, now grimly determined to pursue the great cause of America to the end.

The president continued talking to me. He said: "It has not been easy to carry these burdens in these trying times. From the beginning I saw the utter futility of neutrality, the disappointment and heartache that would flow from its announcement, but we had to stand by our traditional policy of steering clear of European embroilments. While I have appeared to be indifferent to the criticism which has been my portion during the past year, a few have tried to understand my purpose and have sympathized throughout with what I sought to do."

President Understands. Then, as he lowered his voice, he said: "There is a fine old chap in Springfield, Mass., editor of a great paper there, who understood my position from the beginning and who has sympathized with me throughout this whole business." For a moment he paused and then went on: "I want to read you the letter I received from this fine old man." As he read the letter the emotion he felt at the tender sympathy which the words of the letter conveyed gripped him. The letter is as follows:

"Springfield, Mass., March 23, 1917. My Dear Mr. President: In acknowledging your very kind and appreciative note of March 23, I must say at once that the note has given me the greatest possible pleasure. I prize this word from you all the more because of the political experiences and conflicts of the last few years. I am conscious of a very real yet peculiar feeling of having summered and wintered with you, in spite of the immeasurable and rather awful distance that separates our respective places in the life and work of our time."

"The Reason Why I Selected The 'Queen of Sheba' as the opening attraction at the Blue Mouse Theater is because of the greater majority of the people who witnessed it in its three weeks' showing at my theater in Seattle and at its other premier showings in New York, San Francisco and Los Angeles acclaimed it to be the greatest picture of the year."

—John Hamrick. THE BLUE MOUSE THEATRE Washington at Eleventh



SATURDAY!

Boys' \$15 Belted Suits With Extra "Knickers" \$8.50
Boys' \$18 Belted Suits With Extra "Knickers" \$12.85

Here are added reasons for thanksgiving! Today, at my store, you can buy these good suits right out of my regular stock at a real saving of several dollars! There's a big assortment of tweeds, cassimeres, chevots and novelty weaves, and every suit has an extra pair of "knicks" which, as you know, almost doubles the life of the suit. They're good, new patterns, full lined and strongly made—just the sort of clothes I would like to have had when I was a boy! I want to welcome many Portland fathers and mothers here today, with their boys. The extremely low price is an earnest of the spirit of the Thanksgiving and of the Holidays to come!

Boys' Oregon-Made All-Wool Overcoats (In all ages from 12 to 18 years) Only \$9.85

All Shown in the Boys' Shop on the Second Floor
BEN SELLING
Leading Clothier—Morrison at Fourth

Your note, for the moment, suddenly annihilates the distance and brings to me what I recognize as a very human touch.

"There is summering and wintering to come—with more wintering perhaps than we shall enjoy. Even so, I shall hope to be of timely service, as opportunity favors me."

"I have the honor to be your admirer and friend, most sincerely, (Signed) WALDO L. COOK."

Mr. Bede Completes Tour. COTTAGE GROVE, Or., Nov. 25.—(Special.)—Eldert Bede returned Wednesday night from a motor trip to the newspapers in Washington, Yamhill, Polk, Marion and Clackamas counties as president of the Oregon State Editorial association and member of the statewide committee on the 1922 exposition. His party was one of the last to reach Portland Sunday night over the east side highway and a portion of the trip was made through roaring water just outside the city limits, with debris washing

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"THE WONDERFUL THING"



KEATES' DE LUXE CONCERT SUNDAY, 12:30

Lake City November 29 and 30, have notified the executive that they will be present at the sessions.

The acceptance thus far received include W. L. Powers, Corvallis, Whitney L. Boise, Portland; A. A. Smith, Baker; C. L. Smith, farm expert for the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation Company; P. J. Gallagher, Ontario; A. L. Wishard, secretary of the Klamath Falls Irrigation district; Sam Motherhead, secretary of the Harney Valley Irrigation district, with headquarters at Burns; Will E. King, Washington; William Hanley, Burns; Fred Henshaw, Portland; George Quail, secretary Oregon

state chamber of commerce, and J. W. McCulloch, Ontario.

Independent Colleges in Session. EUGENE, Or., Nov. 25.—(Special.)—The 15th annual meeting of the conference of presidents and faculties of independent colleges of Oregon opened at Forest Grove today and will be continued tomorrow. Dr. E. C. Sanderson, president of the Eugene Bible university, and Mrs. Sanderson left today to attend the colleges represented in the conference are the Eugene Bible university, Reed college, Albany college, Philomath college,

REX BEACH'S "The Iron Trail"

A Tremendous Story of a Race of Two Railroads for Alaska's Gold "It is a wonder that it has not been advertised as a million-dollar production, for it must have cost a fortune to do what they have done in the way of laying railroads and bridges in the frozen north. And it couldn't possibly be faked. There is a lot of humor in the picture in spite of its serious nature. It is extremely interesting and the scenes in Alaska are magnificent."—New York Tribune.

Today! CECIL TEAGUE at the Wurlitzer and in a special concert of American Composers at 1:30 P. M. Pathe Weekly Comedy

MAJESTIC

Direction of Jensen and Von Herberg



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