

GERMAN REPLY TO WILSON'S NOTE

(Continued from page 1)

shows with horrible clearness to what jeopardizing of human lives the manner of conducting war employed by our adversaries leads. In the most direct contradiction of all international law, all distinction between merchantmen and war vessels have been obliterated by the order to British merchantmen to arm themselves and to ram submarines and the promise of rewards therefor, and neutrals, who use merchantmen as travelers, thereby, have been exposed by an increasing degree to all the dangers of war.

"If the commander of the German submarine which destroyed the Lusitania had caused the crew and passengers to take to the boats before firing a torpedo this would have meant the sure destruction of his own vessel. After the experiences in sinking much smaller and less sea-worthy vessels, it was to be expected that a mighty ship like the Lusitania would remain above water long enough after torpedoing to permit passengers to enter the ships boats. Circumstances of a very peculiar kind, especially the presence on board of large quantities of explosive materials (words omitted. Possibly "dissipated") this expectation.

In addition it may be pointed out that if the Lusitania had been spared thousands of cases of munitions would have been sent to German's enemies and thereby thousands of German mothers and children robbed of bread-winners.

Friendship Affirmed.

"In the spirit of friendship wherewith the German nation has been imbued towards the Union and its inhabitants since the earliest days of its existence, the imperial government will always be ready to do all it can during the present war also to prevent the jeopardizing of lives of American citizens. The imperial government, therefore, repeats the assurances that American ships will not be hindered in the prosecution of legitimate shipping and the lives of American citizens in neutral vessels shall not be placed in jeopardy.

"In order to exclude any unforeseen dangers to American passenger steamers, made possible in view of the conduct of maritime war by Germany's adversaries, German submarines will be instructed to permit the free and safe passage of such passenger steamers when made recognizable by special markings and notified a reasonable time in advance. The imperial government, however, confidently hopes that the American government will assume to guarantee that these vessels have no contraband on board, details of arrangements for the unhampered passage of these vessels to be agreed upon by the naval authorities of both sides.

Proposal Submitted.

"In order to furnish adequate facilities for travel across the Atlantic for American citizens, the German government submits for consideration a proposal to increase the number of neutral steamers by installing in passenger service a reasonable number of neutral steamers under the American flag, the exact number to be agreed upon under the same condition as the above mentioned American steamers.

"The imperial government believes it can assume that in this manner adequate facilities for

travel across the Atlantic ocean can be afforded American citizens, there would, therefore, appear to be no compelling necessity for American citizens to travel to Europe in time of war on ships carrying an enemy flag. In particular the imperial government is unable to admit that American citizens can protect an enemy ship through the mere fact of their presence on board.

England's Example Followed.

"Germany merely followed England's example when she declared part of the high sea an area of war. Consequently, accidents suffered by neutrals on enemy ships in this area of war cannot well be judged differently from accidents to which neutrals are at all times exposed at the seat of war on land when they betake themselves into dangerous localities in spite of previous warnings. If, however, it should not be possible for the American government to require an adequate number of neutral passenger ships, the imperial government is prepared to interpose no objections to the placing under the American flag by the American government of four enemy passenger steamers for passenger traffic between North America and England. Assurances of 'free and safe' passage for American passenger steamers would extend to apply under the identical pro-conditions to these formerly hostile passenger ships.

President's Offer Appreciated.

"The president of the United States has declared his readiness, in a way deserving of thanks, to communicate and suggest proposals to the government of Great Britain with particular reference to the alteration of marine war. The imperial government will always be glad to make use of the good offices of the president and hopes that his efforts in the present case, as well as in the direction of the lofty ideal of the freedom of the seas will lead to an understanding.

"The undersigned requests the ambassador to bring the above to the knowledge of American government and avails himself of the opportunity to renew to his excellency the assurances of his most distinguished consideration.

(Signed) "Von Jagow."

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COFFIN FOUND BY WORKMEN.

Mystery of Fifty Years Ago Revived by Discovery.

Ladoga, Ind.—The remains of a coffin containing some fragments of human bones was unearthed here by workmen excavating for a cellar in New Ross. The grave was not near a cemetery.

About fifty years ago a man named Noffsinger disappeared mysteriously from New Ross and was not seen or heard from afterward. Residents of New Ross believe he met with foul play and was buried in the big woods which then covered the land where the grave was found.

SIX MILLION MEN THE FIRST YEAR

Expiration of Twelve Months Finds Germans Still Holding Belgium.

LONDON.—The first year of the war in Europe is closing. A review of the results that stand out prominently is interesting at this time. One of the most important is the manner in which General Joffre, the French commander, stopped the German drive toward Paris at the outset. The success of General Mackensen's army in retaking Przemysl and Lemberg, in Galicia, and forcing the steady retreat of the czar's army back to the border is also notable. Both are heroes in their respective countries.

The war to date, as shown by conservative estimates compiled from the best available reports, has caused a loss to the various belligerents of more



Photo by American Press Association.

GENERAL JOFFRE, THE FRENCH HERO. than 6,000,000 men, dead, wounded and prisoners, and more than 500 ships. Of these about 120 were war vessels. The outstanding results on land are these:

The greater part of Belgium is under the control of Germany.

Germany has been driven from the far east.

A part of the Dardanelles is in the possession of the allied troops.

Parts of France and Russia are in the possession of German troops.

A strip of Alsace has been taken from Germany.

On the continent of Africa parts of territorial possessions have been lost by both sides.

Various island possessions of Germany have been taken by the forces of the allies.

Italian troops are in possession of a strip of Austrian territory.

The outstanding results at sea are: German and Austrian mercantile shipping has been driven from all the open seas.

German and Austrian war vessels having a total displacement of approximately 257,000 tons have been destroyed.

War vessels of the allied nations having a total displacement of approximately 192,000 tons have been sent to the bottom.

The greater part of the German and allied fleets in the North sea remain intact.

Except for communication through Holland and the Scandinavian nations, Germany is cut off from the rest of the world.

Efforts on the part of the Germans to place the British Isles in a similar predicament has resulted in the sinking by submarines of hundreds of vessels flying the flags of the allied and neutral nations.

The sinking in this manner of the Cunard liner Lusitania with the loss of more than a hundred American lives precipitated a request upon the part of the United States that such practices, in so far as they might menace Americans, be stopped.

On Aug. 2 German troops entered Luxemburg, and Germany demanded free passage through Belgium to the French frontier. This was refused, and two days later Great Britain dispatched to Germany an ultimatum demanding that the neutrality of Belgium be maintained. The ultimatum was rejected, and German forces attacked Liege. On the same day President Wilson issued a neutrality proclamation.

The following day saw the declaration by Great Britain of a state of war with Germany, and two days later the

Germans entered Liege as the French invaded southern Alsace.

These events were quickly followed by an affirmation on the part of Italy of her neutrality, by an Austrian invasion of Serbia and by the sending by Japan of an ultimatum to Germany. This had to do with the German possession of Kiaochow, of which Tsingtau was the port.

By Aug. 17 the first British expeditionary force had completed its landing in France, and on that day there began also a fierce battle on the Jadar between the Austrian and Serbian

BULLET HOLE IN BRAIN.

But Boy is Expected to Be Himself Again.

Holsington, Kan.—There is a case in the hospital in this city that is attracting the attention of physicians throughout western Kansas. Clay Brewster, fourteen years old, the son of a McCracken man, was the victim of an accidental shot from a gun three weeks ago, a small bullet striking him in the left eye and passing through the cerebrum of the brain, coming out through the top of the brain.

In passing through the brain the bullet did not actually destroy any of the brain cells, but severed the nervous fibers. The bullet was removed. Young Brewster was unconscious for several days and no hopes were entertained for his recovery.

He has regained consciousness and recognizes friends and makes his wants known by signs. He cannot talk, and his right side is paralyzed. The attending physicians say that he will recover, and there will probably be no bad effects from the injury.

NEGRO SAYS HE'S 124.

He Also Claims to Have Forty-four Children.

Rome, Ga.—Jerry Neal, colored, of Cave Spring, celebrated his one hundred and twenty-fourth birthday anniversary a few days ago. He is, so far as is known, the oldest person in Georgia if not in the United States. He has papers which establish his age beyond question, and the oldest inhabitants of Floyd county remember that Jerry was a grownup man when they were in their kilties.

Jerry, the father of forty-four children, distinctly remembers the war of 1812 and many of the Indian wars. He is now a widower, but has been married three times. He is well and hearty, but uses a cane when walking.

12,000 EMPLOYEES GET A PROMOTION

Postoffice Workers Get Increase in Salary This Year.

Washington.—Twelve thousand clerks and city carriers in postoffices throughout the country got their automatic promotions this year regardless of the fact that congress failed to pass the postal appropriation bill for the ensuing year, according to a statement issued by the postoffice department.

About 1,000 clerks and city carriers in New York were affected by the announcement of the postoffice department that Daniel C. Roper, first assistant postmaster general, provided for the regular automatic promotions.

"It so happened," says the department, "that Mr. Roper's bureau during the past year succeeded in conserving our \$130,000,000 appropriations so that a considerable sum remained unexpended at the end of the fiscal year. This saving represents in part clerical and carrier positions appropriated for, but not filled, and in addition 582 positions of clerical and 234 positions of city carriers, vacancies in which have occurred by death, resignation and removals for cause, which have been allowed to lapse."

"The actual expansion of the post-office service," says Mr. Roper, "has been fully cared for, and more patrons are receiving city delivery service and the benefit of other special facilities than ever before. The extension and improvement of the service at a less cost than was anticipated is in no small measure due to the enlightened cooperation of the public, as evidenced by the more careful preparation of parcel post matter prior to mailing and by the increasing practice of large firms to 'face' mail and to deposit it at other than the rush hours so far as possible."

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IRA C. MEHRING, Postmaster

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