

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

Told by Exchanges, Reporters and Gleaned From Other Reliable Sources.

AUSTRIA SENDS SHARP NOTE

Washington, Dec. 18.—The official text of Austria's reply to the American note on the Ancona, made public here today, reveals that the Vienna government denies that the views presented by the United States, even if correct, warrant the blame for the disaster being placed upon the commander of the submarine.

The reply denies also that blame can be placed upon the Austro-Hungarian government even if "a most rigorous legal construction were applied to the judgment of the case."

The full text of Austria's reply to the American note on the sinking of the Italian liner Ancona, as made public today by the state department, follows:

"American Embassy, Vienna, Dec. 15, 1915.—Secretary of State, Washington; Following note received from minister of foreign affairs at noon today:

Language is Highfalutin'.

"In reply to the much esteemed note No. 4167 which his excellency, Mr. Frederic Courtland Penfield, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the United States of America, directed to him in the name of the American government under date of the 9th inst. in the matter of the sinking of the Italian steamer Ancona, the undersigned, preliminary to a thorough meritorious treatment of the demand, has the honor to observe that the sharpness with which the government of the United States considers it necessary to blame the commanding officer of the submarine concerned in the affair, and the firmness in which the demands addressed to the imperial and royal governments appear to be expressed might well have warranted the expectation that the government of the United States should precisely specify the actual circumstances of the affair upon which it bases its case.

As is not difficult to perceive, the presentation of the facts in the case in the aforesaid note leaves room for many doubts and even if this presentation was correct in all points and the most rigorous legal conception were applied to the judgment of the case, it does not in any way sufficiently warrant attaching blame to the commanding officer of the war vessel or to the imperial and royal government.

Witnesses Not Designated.

The government of the United States has also failed to designate the persons upon whose testimony it relies and to whom it apparently believes it may attribute a higher degree of credibility than the commander of the imperial and royal fleet. The note also fails to give any information whatsoever as to the number of names and more precise fate of the American citizens who were on board the same steamer at the critical moment.

However, in view of the fact that the Washington cabinet has now made a positive statement to the effect that citizens of the United States of America came to grief in the incident in question, the imperial and royal government is in principle ready to enter into an exchange of views in the affair

with the government of the United States.

It must, however, in the first place, raise the question why that government failed to give juridical reasons for the demands set forth in its note with reference to the special circumstances of the incriminating events upon which it itself lays stress and why in lieu thereof it refused an exchange of correspondence which it has conducted with another government in other cases.

Authentic Knowledge Lacking.

The imperial and royal government is the less able to follow the Washington cabinet on this unusual path, since it by no means possesses authentic knowledge of all the pertinent correspondence of the government of the United States, nor is it of the opinion that such knowledge might be sufficient for it in the present case, which insofar as it is informed, is in essential points of another nature than the case or cases to which the government of the United States seems to allude. The imperial and royal government may therefore leave it to the Washington cabinet to formulate the particular points of law against which the commanding officer of the submarine is alleged to have offended on the occasion of the sinking of the Ancona.

The government of the United States has also seen fit to refer to the attitude which the Berlin cabinet assumed in the above mentioned correspondence. The imperial and royal government finds in the much esteemed note no indication whatever of the intent to which this reference was made.

Precedent Not Accepted.

Should, however, the government of the United States thereby have intended to express an opinion to the effect that a prejudice of whatever nature existed for the imperial and royal government, with respect to the jurisdictional consideration of the affair in question, this government must, in order to preclude possible misunderstandings, declare that as a matter of course it reserves to itself full freedom of maintaining its own legal views in the discussion of the case of the Ancona.

In having the honor to have recourse to the kindness of his excellency, the ambassador of the United States of America, with the most respectful request to be good enough to communicate the foregoing to the American government, and on this occasion to state that the imperial and royal government, in no less degree than the American government and under all circumstances, most sincerely deplors the fate of the innocent victims of the incident in question, the undersigned at the same time avails himself of this opportunity to renew the expression of his most distinguished consideration to his excellency, the ambassador.

—Penfield,
—Burian.

CALLS WAR TRADE SHAMELESS

London, Dec. 20.—"American trade in war munitions is shameless. I would rather live in the poor house than earn a penny in this industry."

These sentiments were expressed by Henry Ford on arrival in Christiana, according to an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Copenhagen received here today.

WILL NOT DISAVOW SINKING THE ANCONA

Germany Accuses Administration of Making Much Noise of Alleged Plots for Political Effect

By John Callahan O'Laughlin

Washington Dec. 20.—Foreign Ambassadors in Washington acquainted with the temper of Austria-Hungary in connection with the Ancona affair have cabled their respective Ministers for Foreign Affairs that they expect broken diplomatic relations between that government and the United States.

This fact shows more clearly than anything else how serious is the situation provoked by the demands made by President Wilson on the government of Emperor Franz Josef.

Refusal Is Predicted.

One of the diplomatic authorities with whom I talked today, an agent who knows what has happened and who has been in receipt of official messages dealing with the subject, made the following prediction:

"Austria-Hungary will never break off relations with the United States. She will reply courteously to the second note. She may offer indemnity for the American lives lost, but she will not denounce as illegal and reprehensible the destruction of the Ancona, and she will not punish the submarine commander who sank the ship."

Result Depends On Wilson.

"What will happen?" I asked. "That will depend upon the President of the United States. His demands having been rejected, I assume he will have recourse to the only remedy he has—withdrawal of your ambassador from Vienna and dismissal of the Austro-Hungarian diplomatic and consular officers in this country."

"What will be the effect?"

"Austria-Hungary will be unhampered in the future by the necessity of considering the United States. Her submarines will be free to operate against any ship flying the flag of her enemies."

"And if any more Americans are killed or drowned?"

The diplomat shrugged his shoulders.

"Then it is for the United States to determine whether it will order Americans to keep off enemy vessels plying in the Mediterranean or to seek to enforce their rights to travel on them by dispatching warships to take part in the war."

German Situation Worse.

The situation between the United States and Austria-Hungary is not only tense, but that between the United States and Germany has become bad as a result of the Ancona, as well as preceding incidents. It now can be said positively that Count Von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, is unable to obtain any further concessions from Berlin with reference to the Lusitania.

The German government feels that in attempting to jerk Austria-Hungary up with a round turn the United States was really moving against it. The statement is made that Germany holds that Captain Boy-ed and Captain Von Papan, the German naval and military attaches, were dismissed on false evidence. Further, it is asserted, reports of German plots in the United States, which were emphatically denied today, are regarded as having been inspired by the Washington Administration for political effect.

HOW THE LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEER LOOKS AT THE AUTO.

"You don't realize what a nervous strain you are putting on a man in the cab," said a Southern Pacific locomotive engineer the other day to an Ashland automobile driver, "when you dash up toward a crossing just ahead of his train. There he is in his cab and he knows that he can't stop his engine. There you are in your auto speeding toward the crossing just ahead. You probably know that you are going to stop just at the edge of the track and look up and laugh at him. He doesn't. He doesn't know that you even see the train. He doesn't know but what you are going to try to dash across ahead of him. It's a joke maybe to you. To him it's a few seconds of the most intense agony. Why do you do it? When you see a train coming and know that you can't make the crossing and don't even intend to try to make it—why don't you slow down and give the engineer the assurance that his train is not about to hurl you into eternity?"

"I never thought of it in that light," said the auto man. "I guess we do those things in a spirit of deviltry. I can tell you one thing, though. I'm never going to harrow up another engineer's nerves."

"I wish they'd all quit it," said the railroad man. "It happens a dozen times a day."

"THE LOST EVE"

Washington, Dec. —: Efforts made to locate the descendants to learn what finally became of Private Adam N. Eve, United States Marine Corps, who deserted January 13, 1811, from the command of Captain Anthony Gale at Philadelphia, Pa., have so far been unavailing.

"Probably beat it back to the Garden of Eden," facetiously wrote an Ohio eve.

"Still raising Cain somewhere, no doubt," replied a member of the Texas branch who also disclaimed kinship with the original Adam.

"Growing apples in Oregon. I know him well," was the response from another Eve who was probably mistaken.

And now, the government agents directing the search, are of the opinion that certain points in the interrupted military career of Private Adam N. Eve, United States Marine Corps, must remain forever cloaked in mystery.

DALLAS CLUB PLANS FEAST

Election of Officers to Be Held by Commercial Organization.

Dallas, Or., Dec. 21.—As a means of instilling interest in the membership in the annual meeting, the Dallas Commercial Club will hold a banquet the first of the year, when the annual election of officers will take place, and plans will be adopted for the ensuing year.

Among the most important things accomplished by the local club during the past two years was the permanent establishment of a county fair organization with fair grounds of its own. The officials of the club expect to develop a new era of progress in this section next year.

EXPOSITION CONTINUED

Official announcement has been made that the Panama California Exposition, San Diego, will be continued during 1916. The Exposition in 1916 we understand will be bigger and better than in 1915, as many prominent exhibitors at the Panama Pacific Exposition in San Francisco are moving their exhibits to San Diego.

John M. Scott
General Passenger Agent.

A Merry Christmas TO YOU and YOURS

May the New Year be one of prosperity and happiness. Thanking you for favors shown in the year now nearing an end and soliciting a continuance of your valued patronage which we shall endeavor to merit.

Very Truly Yours,

SELIG'S,

Falls City's Largest Store.

Here's wishing you a very Merry Christmas and may the New Year bring greater returns than the one just past.

FALLS CITY NEWS.