

BERLIN OFFERS TO ADJUST SEA POLICY

Abide by Existing International Law if Allied Powers Will.

WILSON IN NO HURRY TO TELL PLAN

Administration Denies Rumor That Americans Will Now Be Warned To Stay Off Armed Ships.

Washington, D. C.—Germany Thursday made a further explanation to the United States of the position it has taken in regard to armed merchant vessels of the entente allies.

Count von Bernstorff handed Secretary Lansing a formal memorandum, which, after reviewing the events leading up to German's recent decision to treat armed merchant ships as auxiliary cruisers, conceded that existing international law does not regulate the use of submarines, indicated a willingness to conduct undersea warfare in accordance with the law prevailing at the outbreak of the war, providing Great Britain and her allies would regard the same laws, and expressed the hope that the people of the United States, remembering the long existing friendly relations between the two nations, would appreciate the German opinion.

The memorandum was submitted to President Wilson shortly after its receipt. It would be considered, together with other documents from the German government, in determining what shall be the next step of the United States in the submarine negotiations. There was every indication that the administration would be in no hurry to announce a stand as to the new policy of the central European powers, or to pass finally on German's latest proposal for settlement of the Lusitania case.

From both the White House and the State department there came, in the course of the day, emphatic denials of a rumor that the administration itself intended to warn American citizens of armed ships. At the State department it was explained that it was for the citizens themselves who took passage on armed ships not entering American waters to determine whether they were boarding vessels armed defensively or offensively and the nature of the instructions under which ship captains would act in the presence of a submarine.

An offensively armed ship which enters American waters, it is said, would not be allowed to remain in more than 24 hours. In foreign waters, however, it is no concern of this government how ships are armed.

GERMAN WARSHIPS OUT; RETURN AGAIN

London—A German fleet consisting of at least 50 big warships, followed by a large gray-painted armored trawler fleet, two big Zeppelins and numerous submarines was sighted Monday in the North Sea off Terschelling Island, North Holland, according to the report of a steam trawler which has arrived at Ymuiden, says Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent. The fleet was proceeding westward.

The correspondent adds that on Monday morning five large cruisers of unknown nationality passed Ymuiden at full speed.

Reuter's Ymuiden correspondent, telegraphing under date of Wednesday, says that the fleet returned to its base on that day.

"A Dutch trawler which was searched by one of the warships," the correspondent adds, "reports that many of the vessels had a peculiar appearance. Those carrying several funnels had their sternmost funnels painted yellow or covered with yellow cloth, while the other funnels were gray."

40,000 Armenians Gone.

London—The Russians found Thursday only 16 Armenians alive in Erzerum out of the usual Armenian population of 40,000, according to information received in Petrograd and forwarded by Reuter's correspondent in the Russian capital.

"The Turkish inhabitants of Erzerum," the correspondent adds, "said that a few days before the capture of the fortress by the Russians all the Armenians in the town were driven out in a westerly direction, where the Kurds massacred them all."

Chelan County Excluded.

Washington, D. C.—A large area in Chelan county, Washington, along both sides of the Entiat river, is excluded from the Chelan National Forest under an executive proclamation made public Thursday. This opens to entry about 3797 acres, which will be held for settlement under the homestead laws from May 4 to May 31, and which, after the latter date, will be subject to disposition under any applicable public land law.

IRRIGATION AND CREDITS CONFERENCE ENDS AT SALEM

State Capitol, Salem—Another session of the state credits conference doubtless will be called within the next few months to adopt the form in which the proposed constitutional amendments endorsed by the convention, which closed here Saturday, shall be submitted to the people.

Meanwhile two committees will work in conjunction with the attorney general on the drafts of the proposed measures that are to place the proposed amendments in operation.

If a majority of the committeemen determines that their work should be reviewed by the whole conference before it goes before the people, the conference will be called together again. When the meeting adjourned a majority of the delegates seemed to expect a future meeting.

Since the convention now has determined that it wants two separate measures—one providing a system of rural credits and the other providing state aid for irrigation and drainage—the committees have their work definitely outlined for them, and the rest of the delegates are hopeful that harmony at a future meeting will replace the friction that was so apparent in the sessions of the last few days, carrying both issues to a successful conclusion at the polls.

The convention, so far as carrying out the purposes for which it was called together, virtually concluded its work Friday night. By remaining in session until 10 o'clock in the morning the resolutions expressing the policy of the conference finally were adopted.

The session was devoted to the detail of creating two committees that shall have charge of the preliminary legislative work. It also was intended as sort of a harmony meeting, but there was harmony only in the seeming attempt of both factions to drift farther apart.

So the belief is pretty general that, after an interim of a few months, the delegates will have had time to forget their minor differences and that they will be ready to unite in their determination to conduct an aggressive and co-operative effort to enact the proposed amendments into law.

Summarized, the work of the convention is about as follows:

An amendment to the constitution enabling the state to lend its credit to a rural credits system was proposed.

An amendment to the constitution enabling the state to use its credit for irrigation and drainage was proposed.

The bonds to be sold under either or both of these plans are not to exceed in the aggregate 2 per cent of the assessed valuation of the state.

A committee consisting of J. D. Brown, president of the Farmers' Union; C. E. Spence, master of the State Grange, and T. H. Burchard, president of the State Federation of Labor, was appointed to work with the attorney general in drafting the proposed constitutional amendment for the rural credits plan.

A. L. Mills, chairman of the convention, was authorized to appoint a committee of three members—one drainage man and two irrigation men—to work with the attorney general in drafting the proposed constitutional amendment for state aid to irrigation and drainage.

The committees also will have power to draft the proposed initiative measures that will carry the proposed amendments into effect, and to call another convention if necessary.

"So far as possible" the committees are authorized to co-operate.

The convention closed as it had proceeded from the start—divided decisively on one issue, that of linking rural credits with state aid.

The delegates from the State Grange, the Farmers' Union, the Agricultural College, the State University and many from Western Oregon were firmly united in their determination not to permit the state aid plan to be linked with the rural credits plan. They were proponents of rural credits but did not want to "swallow" irrigation in order to get it.

They were championed on the floor of the convention by Thomas B. Kay, state treasurer, and at some stages of the voting had the delegates from the State Federation of Labor with them. They had an abundance of oratorical talent besides the state treasurer, notably Judge W. M. Colvig, representing the Southern Pacific; Senator S. M. Garland, of Lebanon; W. H. H. Dufur, of the Grange; A. R. Shumway, of the Farmers' Union; E. J. Stack, of the Labor Federation, and others. Governor Withycombe voted with them when he was in the house.

On the other hand, the irrigationists and most of the drainage people, together with a large proportion of the Portland delegation, stuck together in support of the plan to combine the three issues.

This division was plain throughout the meetings. One break came when Mr. Stack, of the Labor Federation, joined with Asa B. Thomson, Oswald West and W. Lair Thompson in signing the original majority report of the resolutions committee providing for a combination of the three measures. Mr. Stack explained that he did this to permit this plan to come before the convention on its merits. On subsequent ballots he voted with the faction supporting the separation of issues.

When the morning's meeting tried to organize a committee to draft the proposed legislation, Senator I. N. Day, C. C. Chapman and others of those who had supported the omnibus plan proposed a single committee "in the interests of harmony."

But the other side objected even to this. They even went farther and insisted on naming their own committee to draw the rural credits bill.

NORTHWEST MARKET REPORTS; GENERAL CROP CONDITIONS

Portland—Wheat—Bluestem, \$1.01; fortyfold, 94c; club, 92c; red five, 92c; Russian, 92c.

Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, 18.50 @ 19.50; valley timothy, \$16; alfalfa, \$20.

Millfeed—Spot prices: Bran, \$23 @ 23.50 per ton; shorts, \$25.50 @ 26; rolled barley, \$31.50 @ 32.50.

Corn—Whole, \$37 per ton; cracked, \$38.

Vegetables—Artichokes, 85c @ \$1 per dozen; tomatoes, \$4 @ 4.50 per crate; cabbage, \$1.50 @ 2.50 hundred; garlic, 10c pound; peppers, 20 @ 25c; eggplant, 25c; sprouts, 8 @ 9c; horseradish, 8 @ c; cauliflower, \$2 @ 2.25; celery, \$4.50 per crate; lettuce, \$2.50 @ 3.25 per crate; cucumbers, \$1.25 @ 1.50; hothouse lettuce, 75c @ \$1 box; spinach, 90c @ \$1; asparagus, 20 @ 25 per pound; rhubarb, 12 @ 14c pound.

Potatoes—Oregon, \$1.25 @ 1.50; Yakima, \$1.40 @ 1.60 per sack; sweets, \$3.25 @ 3.50 per hundred.

Onions—Oregon, buying prices, \$2 f. o. b. shipping point.

Apples—Spitzenbergs, extra fancy, \$2.25; fancy, \$2; choice, \$1.25 @ 1.50; Yellow Newtons, extra fancy, \$2; fancy, \$1.75; choice, \$1.35 @ 1.50; Rome Beauty, fancy, \$1.50 @ 1.60; Winesaps, choice, \$1.15 @ 1.35; Stayman, choice, \$1.25 @ 1.35.

Eggs—Jobbing prices: Oregon ranch, candled, 20c per dozen; uncandled, 18 @ 19c.

Poultry—Hens, 16 @ 17c; springs, 17c; stags, 12c; turkeys, live, 19 @ 21c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 24 @ 25c; ducks, 13 @ 16c; geese, 10c.

Butter—Prices from wholesaler to retailer: Portland city creamery prints, 60-pound case lots, standard grades, 32 @; lower grades, 30c; Oregon country creamery prints, 60-pound case lots, standard makes, 31 @ 31 1/2 @; lower grades, 29 1/2 @ 30c; butter packed in cubes, 2c less. Prices paid by jobbers to producers: Cubes, extras, 28 @ 28 1/2 @; firsts, 26 1/2 @ 27c; dairy butter, 14 @ 18c; butter fat, No. 31c; No. 2, 28c.

Veal—Fancy, 11 @ 11 1/2 @ pound.

Pork—Fancy, 10c pound.

Hops—1915 crop, 10 @ 13c pound; 1916 contracts, 11 1/2 @ 12c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 20 @ 30c; valley, 27 @ 28c; mohair, Oregon, 28 @ 29c.

Casaca bark—Old and new, 4c pound.

Cattle—Prime steers, \$7 @ 7.90; choice, \$6.50 @ 6.75; good, \$6.75 @ 7; medium, \$6.50 @ 6.75; choice cows, \$6.50 @ 6.75; medium, \$5.25 @ 6; heifers, \$4 @ 6.40; bulls, \$2.50 @ 5; stags, \$3 @ 5.25.

Hogs—Light, \$7.50 @ 8.30; heavy, \$6.50 @ 7.30.

Sheep—Yearlings, \$7 @ 8; ewes, \$6 @ 7; lambs, \$8 @ 9.05.

500 Horses and Mules Are Sold.

Caldwell, Idaho—At a public auction of horses and mules held at the Union Stockyards here 600 animals went under the hammer in four hours and a half, averaging better than two a minute, and established a selling record for the Northwest. Bidding on the offerings was spirited, the prices ranging from \$150 to \$200 a head. Manager Smeed estimates the sales at \$100,000. St. Louis, Omaha, Kansas City, Seattle and Chicago men were heavy purchasers. The Caldwell Horse & Mule Co. still has 1500 head.

Egg Market Is Ruling Steady.

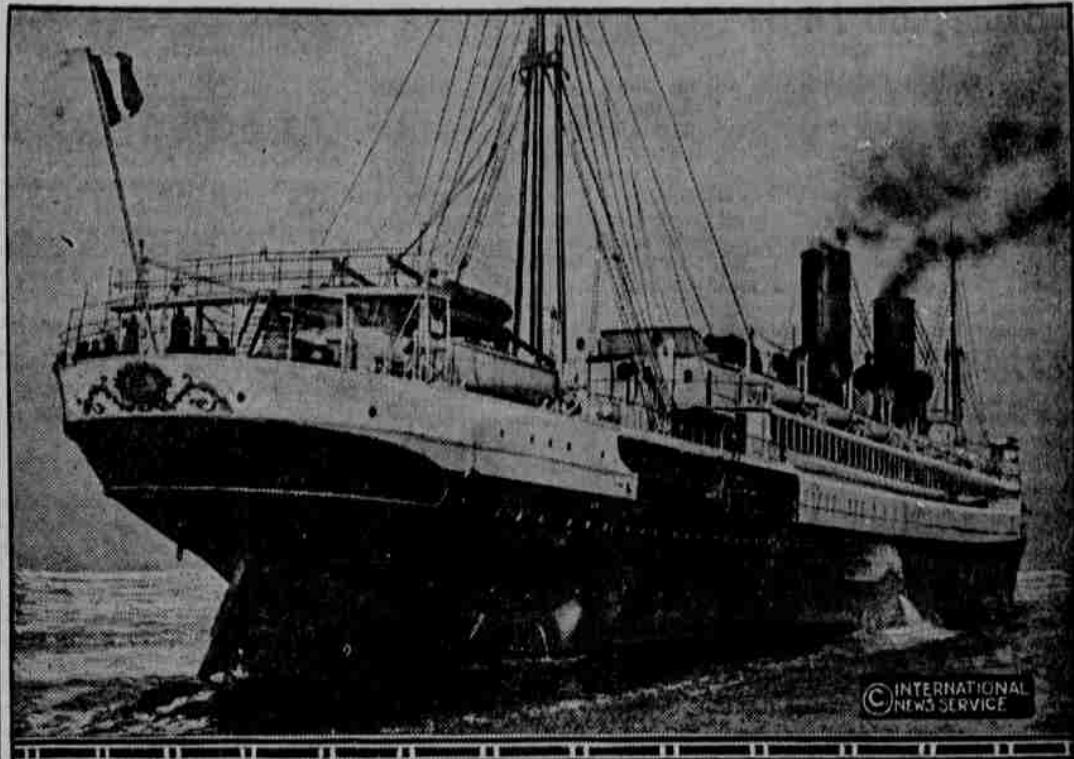
The Portland egg market was firm with moderate receipts. The bulk of business was reported at 18 1/2 cents, with small lots bringing 19 cents. Candled eggs jobbed at 20 cents.

Poultry is scarce and as the demand is good, prices are on a firm basis. The street is oversupplied with veal and the price dropped with sales at 11 cents. No changes were reported in the butter market.

The Real Thing.

"Your letters seem fervent enough, but can I trust their apparent fervor?" "You can. They have been tested in court. I got 'em out of a breach-of-promise suit, and the plaintiff got damages, too."—Louisville Courier Journal.

PASSENGERS WARNED TO AVOID THIS VESSEL



The French liner Espagne, which may be one of the first victims of Germany's new announced policy of sinking all enemy armed merchantmen. Americans booked to sail on the Espagne from New York received anonymous letters warning them not to embark.

BERGEN, NORWAY, AFTER ITS GREAT FIRE



This view of Bergen, Norway's great fishing center and seaport, was taken after the recent conflagration which destroyed a large part of the city. Thousands of persons were made homeless and the damage was estimated at more than \$20,000,000.

WITNESSED MASSACRES IN PERSIA



Mr. and Mrs. Paul Shimmion, after a harrowing experience in Urumiah, Persia, finally reached America by devious ways and are now co-operating with the American committee for Armenian and Syrian relief. Mr. Shimmion is an American citizen and a graduate of Columbia university. During the massacres of the Christians in Urumiah by the Kurds and Turks, Mr. Shimmion, by advice of the American missionaries, fled to Tiflis, leaving Mrs. Shimmion under the protection of the American flag. She was an eyewitness to the atrocities in Urumiah and the surrounding district. Her aunt and uncle were shot and their bodies were burned. Her cousin, a young girl, refusing to marry a Moslem, was made the victim of horrible abuse by the Kurds and then her body was burned. Mr. Shimmion returned with the Russians.

ARCHIE ROOSEVELT IN KHAKI



Archie Roosevelt, son of the former president, is one of the leaders of the organization of Harvard students for military training. He is here seen in his uniform.

BENEFIT IN "BROWN STUDY"

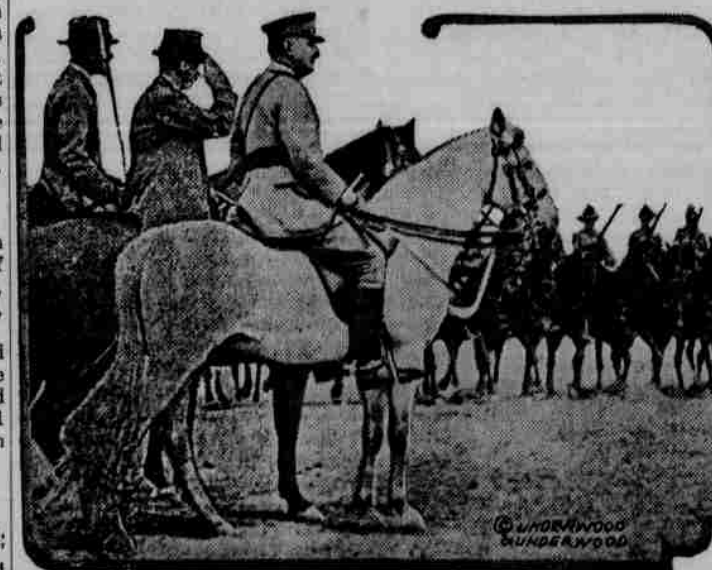
Concentration of Mental Energy Makes for the Production of One's Best Work.

"If the 'brown study' were more often cultivated many people would be happier, and more clear thinking would be done," says the London Lancet. "It is in such a state that truths dawn suddenly and clearly upon the unclouded intelligence. It is in such a state that mighty actions are conceived, poems born at a stroke and mankind enlightened through the enlightenment of the individual."

"In this state of mind there is such a concentration of mental energy that the body is ignored. The mind, on the other hand, is so working upon the subject which concerns it, is so intent upon its own affairs, that the external world is obliterated, and any bodily discomfort that may have been pre-existing is now negligible and unnoticed."

The Lancet says the relationship between mental activity and the bodily state is not realized with sufficient frequency or with sufficient thoroughness by the European of today. "The average man is too engrossed with his bodily pabulum and in caring for the needs of the body he neglects the needs of the mind."

REVIEWING TROOPS AT ZATUN, EGYPT



This photograph, taken during a review of the British Mounted Rifles at Zatun, Egypt, shows, left to right, Gen. Sir Alexander Godley, Sir Henry MacMahon and Sir John Maxwell, commander of the British forces in Egypt.