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No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

UNITED STATES RENEWS ITS DEMAND ON AUSTRIA

New Note to Francis Joseph Reiterates the Former Demands and Refuses to Continue Argument of Details, Insisting on Disavowal of the Torpedoing of Ancona, and Reparation for American Lives Lost in Disaster

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
Washington, Dec. 22.—Crisply, tersely, America, refused in her second note to Austria, made public today, to argue details of the Ancona sinking. Instead, the administration renewed its previous demands, which called for disavowal of the torpedoing, for punishment of the commander and reparation for lives lost.

The note rested America's case strictly on the Austrian admiral's own admission that the Austrian commander blamed the Ancona for her engines had stopped, and while passengers were still aboard. On the strength of this statement the note branded the commander as willfully violating international law and the "humane principles which every belligerent should observe in the conduct of war at sea"; it said his "culpability" had been established in any case.

The note concludes:
"It (the United States) sincerely hopes that the foregoing statement of its position will enable the imperial and royal government to perceive the justice of those demands and to comply with them in the same spirit of frankness and with the same concern for the good relations now existing between the United States and Austria-Hungary which prompted the government of the United States to make reply."

The note was a refusal to debate international law and humane principles. America said she did not feel herself "called upon" thus to argue with Austria.

Never in the history of the submarine controversy arising from this war has the administration made its note so brief, so directly to the point.

Addressed to Ambassador Penfield, the note follows:
"Department of State, Washington, Dec. 19, 1915.—You are instructed to address a note to the Austro-Hungarian minister of foreign affairs textually as follows:

"The government of the United States has received the note of Your Excellency relative to the sinking of the Ancona, which was delivered at Vienna on December 15, 1915, and transmitted to Washington, and has given the note immediate and careful consideration.

"On November 15, 1915, Baron Zwiedenek, the charge d'affaires of the imperial and royal government at Washington, transmitted to the department of state a report of the Austro-Hungarian admiral with regard to the sinking of the steamship Ancona, in which it was admitted that the vessel was torpedoed after her engines had been stopped and when passengers were still on board. This admission alone is, in the view of the government of the United States, sufficient to fix upon the commander of the submarine which fired the torpedo the responsibility for having willfully violated the recognized law of nations and entirely disregarded those humane principles which every belligerent should observe in the conduct of war at sea.

In view of these admitted circumstances, the government of the United States feels justified in holding that the details of the sinking of the Ancona, the weight and character of the additional testimony corroborating the admiral's report, and the number of Americans killed or injured are in no way essential matters of discussion. The culpability of the commander is in any case established, and the undisputed fact is that citizens of the United States were killed, injured or put in jeopardy by his lawless act.

"The rules of international law and the principles of humanity which were thus willfully violated by the

commander of the submarine have been so long and so universally recognized and are so manifest from the standpoint of right and justice that the government of the United States does not feel called upon to debate them and does not understand that the imperial and royal government questions or disputes them.

"The government of the United States therefore finds no other course open to it but to hold the imperial and royal government responsible for the act of its naval commander and to renew the definite but respectful demands made in its communication of the sixth of December, 1915. It sincerely hopes that the foregoing statement of its position will enable the imperial and royal government to perceive the justice of those demands and to comply with them in the same spirit of frankness and with the same concern for the good relations now existing between the United States and Austria-Hungary which prompted the government of the United States to make them.

"LANSING."

FAIL TO LEARN NATURE OF HOUSE VISIT TO EUROPE

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
Washington, Dec. 22.—Efforts today to learn the real nature of the announced mission of Colonel House of New York, on an errand for President Wilson, proved fruitless. House himself declared it was not a peace expedition; he explained it as merely to acquaint diplomats abroad with the president's policies.

But back of this statement many feel lies a strong possibility of a peace mission. Those holding this view point to the fact that both England and Germany have said they are ready for peace, with a big IF. Both admittedly do not desire to make the overtures; hence, said certain parties, President Wilson may be seeking to sound out the belligerents again through his confidential agent and friend.

REPORT IN LONDON THAT VARNA HAS FALLEN TO SLAVS

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

London, Dec. 22.—Unconfirmed reports that Varna, the Bulgarian Black sea port, has fallen before the shells from a Russian fleet and is now in the hands of a strong force were accepted reservedly here today, although there was considerable excitement in some quarters. The Petrograd official statement failed to confirm the story, though Berne and Rome reports yesterday reported a heavy bombardment of the port and Athens mentioned that troop laden transports accompanied the fleet.

The Chronicle today said, however, that the Russian guns ruined the town and inflicted heavy loss upon the city's garrison. Thereupon the Russians swept ashore with their infantry and artillery and a force large enough to hold the town, according to the paper.

If the report proves true, it may cause the withdrawal of the Bulgars from the Greek frontier. Moreover, it would imperil Teutonic communications with Constantinople and interfere with the Germans reaching Egypt. If the Russians are in possession of Varna they must have at least a garrison of 100,000 to maintain their position until more can be transported from Odessa.

FRENCH FORCES HAVE CAPTURED POINT IN VOSGES

Berlin, Dec. 22.—French forces captured the summit of Hartmannswellerkopf by assaulting it with strong forces, the war office admitted today.

Battling for this position on the west front has progressed since April. The Germans claimed to have recaptured it partly.

Hartmannswellerkopf is in the Vosges. For several days the combat there has been unusually severe, and the Paris war office last night commented that a charge of French troops, after artillery preparations, "permitted us to occupy an important part of the enemy's works and to take prisoners."

THE CALL FOR MORE MEN PASSES HOUSE OF COMMONS

London, Dec. 22.—After a night of the hottest war debate in months, the house of commons at 5:30 a. m. today passed the government bill calling 1,000,000 more men to the British colors.

With these fresh forces the nation's available total fighters will be 4,000,000 and the government hopes that from them will come decisive efforts on every front that will end the war within another year.

An extremely sharp arraignment of the Dardanelles campaign, which ended with British withdrawal, was interspersed with snore after midnight. Slumber scenes staged in the Washington capital during filibusters were outdone.

NAVY CANNOT BACK UP DEMAND UNITED STATES MAY MAKE

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

Washington, Dec. 22.—America's navy as it exists today is not "sufficient to give due weight to the diplomatic remonstrance of the United States in peace, nor to enforce its policies in war," in the view of the navy general board.

Moreover, the European war has altered the views of the board, as revealed in the annual report published today. Now the board holds the nation should build by 1925 a fleet equal to the strongest one that plies the seas; it should be capable of controlling the seas from the outset of any struggle; it should not be merely strong enough to prevent invasion of the United States.

The proper sized navy, said the report, "must protect our sea-borne commerce and drive that of an enemy from the seas."

From the board's councils the navy department derived its recommendation for 16 capital ships within the next five years.

JOSEPH R. LAMAR,
United States Supreme Court Justice
May Resign Because of Illness.



Photo by American Press Association.

FORD'S DREAM OF PEACE BY XMAS HAS VANISHED

Christiania, Dec. 22.—Henry Ford's dreams of getting the boys out of the trenches by Christmas have gone the way of dreams, his close friends believe.

They suggested today that he realizes the hopelessness of getting concrete results, and that he plans to end the trip temporarily and as inconspicuously as possible. The reception Norway gave him and the hostility of Copenhagen toward his peace venture have gravely disappointed him. Both he and Madame Schwimmer, who suggested the cruise of the peace ship Oscar II, have kept secluded for several days. Ford is rapidly recovering from his illness, and the party will leave for Stockholm tomorrow.

Christiania, Dec. 22.—Lloyd M. Bingham, husband of Amelia Bingham, actress, a member of Ford's peace party, died here today of pneumonia.

Bingham accompanied the peace ship as official entertainer. His Bohemianism offended Puritanical delegates, and they succeeded in cancelling arrangements for a Bingham concert in mid-Atlantic.

Bingham urged the party to leave him behind here after he had contracted pleuro-pneumonia aboard.

"Hank Williams" Freed—
"Hank" Williams, who was arrested Tuesday, charged by Harry Hawkins with assault and intent to rob, is now free, following the dismissal of the case against him in the county court today because of insufficient evidence.

VILLISTAS ARE AGAIN MENACE TO CITY OF JUAREZ

El Paso, Dec. 22.—With plans for surrender of Juarez to the Carranzistas reported fallen through, several thousand Villistas were reported today sweeping into that city. Renewal of rioting was feared. It had already claimed several lives.

General Villa himself was reported heading the troops, though border reports had indicated previously he might be in the vicinity of Chihuahua and that Carranza had placed a price upon his head, while soldiers stretched their lines to prevent his escape.

Police reports at an early hour today said that 1,000 Villistas had already entered the southern part of Juarez, and that fully 5,000 others were within striking distance.

Extra guards are on duty along the border here as a result of yesterday's rioting. Some shots have fallen on the American side, but no drastic action is planned unless the firing becomes serious or an invasion of American territory is attempted. All Americans have been forbidden to cross the line, inasmuch as the Villistas are ragged and hungry, threatened imminent danger for any one trying it.

General Pershing, in command of American border forces, ordered his men to reply if there is further firing across the line. Despite reports that Villa is near at hand, it is expected that General Obregon, Carranza commander, would be in control of Juarez before night.

ATTACHE VON PAPEN, RECALLED BY HIS KAISER, HAS SAILED

New York, Dec. 22.—Sailing for Germany under recall, at America's request, Attache von Papen of the German embassy thanked "those who have not permitted their friendly personal feelings to be poisoned by the hatred of war," and added that "no efforts, however insistent, will accomplish our enemies' desire to embroil Germany and America."

"Personally speaking," he continued, "no greater satisfaction could be given me than this fulfillment of my ardent desire to be called home, where soldiers are needed far more urgently than here. I leave my post without bitterness, because I know so well that when history is written it will establish our clean record, despite misrepresentations and calumnies spread broadcast."

In the course of his talk, von Papen quoted an editorial comment which said: "Now that the matter is settled, the fact should be emphasized that the state department made no charges against Boy-Ed or von Papen which reflected in the smallest degree upon their honor as officers."

R. B. MILLER IS NOW ON TWOHY RAILROAD JOB

Head of the New Line Being Built From Grants Pass Says That the Expectations of the People of the Community Will Be More Than Realized, and at the Same Time Connection of Mr. Miller With the Road Is Confirmed.

"I can assure the people of Grants Pass that work upon the railroad will proceed even more satisfactorily than they have been expecting it would proceed." Thus remarked President Robert Twohy, of the California & Oregon Coast line, at a luncheon given by R. B. Miller, former general traffic manager of the O.-W. R. & N. company, in the private car at noon today. Mr. Miller had invited as his guests Judge John Twohy, head of the Twohy Brothers company; Robert Twohy, president of the new railroad being built from Grants Pass; Frank S. Bramwell, local representative of the Oregon-Utah Sugar company; Mayor E. T. McKinstry; President Wilford Allen, of the Commercial club; H. L. Gilkey, of the First National bank, and Marshall Hooper, of the Grants Pass bank.

The luncheon, beside being made the vehicle for an assurance fraught with so much of possibility for the community, was also an introduction of Mr. Miller, who confirmed the announcement of his future connection with the Twohy company and his interest in the work of the new railroad. Since the resignation of Mr. Miller from his position with the O.-W. R. & N. there have been many rumors of his becoming connected with the Twohy firm, but not till his personal confirmation coming today was there definite assurance that another of the leading railroad men of the northwest was in the enterprise.

The word that came from Portland recently that Mr. Miller was to be named president of the Coast company was in error, as Robert Twohy will continue in that position. Mr. Miller, however, will be closely associated with work here, and will be much of his time in Grants Pass. He will leave in his special car for the north on No. 16 tonight, but will return within a few days in prosecuting the work of building the road.

The statement of President Twohy, taken in connection with the manner in which his company has pressed operations since coming into the field, can mean but a single thing, and that is that the road is to go over Hays hill and into the Illinois valley without delay. This marshaling of engineering and constructing skill speaks louder than words of

MORE OPTIMISTIC FEELING OVER THE ANCONA AFFAIR

Washington, Dec. 22.—Officials felt more optimistic today than for several days past over the Austro-American diplomatic controversy arising over the Ancona torpedoing. This feeling of relief came particularly from the Carl W. Ackerman United Press story, quoting Count Tiza of Austria as scoffing at the possibility of a break between the two nations.

Moreover, daily conferences between Charge d'Affaires Zwiedenek of the Austrian embassy and Secretary Lansing are regarded as significant of the possible outcome. While it is not believed Zwiedenek has plenary powers, informal representations going beyond the reserved diplomatic phases of the two American notes have been made to him.

Reports that Austria is investigating its admiral's statement, which America holds justified her view of violation of international law, caused the belief here today that Vienna is paving the way to

what is planned for the immediate future.

Judge Twohy and son, Robert, left for the south on No. 15 this afternoon, and Mr. Miller will return to Portland tonight.

When departing for the train that was to carry him to the south, President Twohy extended his wishes for a merry Christmas to Grants Pass, but added in connection with the wish that certainly it must be a merry Christmas and a happy New Year for a community that had so much in prospect for it in the way of development and progress for the immediate future.

HUNGARIAN LEADER IS IN PEACEABLE FRAME OF MIND

Berlin, Dec. 22.—Hungary is willing to end the war, the Hungarian shah said in an interview with Count Albert Apponyi, opposition leader of the Hungarian parliament, so declared in an interview with the United Press at Budapest. His statement is important, not only from the fact that he holds a dominant position in Austro-Hungarian affairs but because he is likewise an international peace leader.

"We can understand," he said, "why Russia wants such assurances, but I do not see how that can menace our safety. Hungary wants peace, but a peace making it impossible to have return of the conditions that caused this war. That implies Russian intrigue in the Balkans, which has been used only aggressively for expansion and conquest."

Apponyi believes Russia is the stumbling block in the path of an early peace; he sees no prospects of an early peace.

"Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg in his recent speech opened the way for an expression from the allies of the same goodwill he showed," Apponyi continued. "Had they responded, a common ground of discussion might have been found, but I do not think that the disposition of either side for peace has ripened into a readiness to discuss the subject. So we must prepare for a longer war, but we feel morally stronger for having given the world the understanding of what we are ready to do in behalf of peace."

Apponyi expressed surprise at America's tone in the Ancona note. "If I had been answering the American note," he said, "I would have asked the state department to amend its style and language before I would have replied. Its violent expressions were not called for. Perhaps, though, Foreign Minister Burian was wise in not showing resentment. Anyhow, I hope the negotiations will end satisfactorily."

SARAH BERNHARDT IS SAID TO BE DYING

Paris, Dec. 22.—Unconfirmed reports today declared Madame Sarah Bernhardt is dying. The famous actress some time ago underwent an operation for amputation of a leg, and had not fully recovered from the effects.

George E. Hogg was in the city today attending to business interests, returning this afternoon to Oscar creek, where he is engaged in mining. Vergil Labady was an arrival this morning from the south and will depart tomorrow for Crescent City.

FRENCH SEND DOLLS TO HELP RAISE WAR FUND



Dolls and toys made by the war sufferers of France are now on sale in America. The exhibition is traveling from one large city to another.