

THREATENED BLOCKADE OF UNITED KINGDOM BY GERMAN SUBMARINES NOW IN FULL FORCE

LITTLE ALARM IN BRITAIN OVER SHIP BLOCKADE

No Change in Regular Sailings, Although Traffic With Holland Interrupted—No Increase in Insurance Rates—German Drive at Moscow Stirs Allies to Offensive.

LONDON, Feb. 18.—The reply of Sir Edward Grey to the American note on the subject of the seizure and detention of American cargoes destined for neutral European ports; Germany's threat of a submarine blockade of Great Britain, and England's retaliatory measures against it are obtaining most of the attention of the British public.

A long and considered reply concerning American complaints of delays to which her cargo ships have been subjected by the British navy was much discussed, but naturally the German threat of a submarine blockade and Great Britain's preparations to counteract its effect were uppermost in the minds of ship owners and traders. As Germany has for some time been attempting to sink all British ships which her submarines could approach, her blockade ultimatum has caused little alarm. All important shipping companies have announced that there will be no change in the regular sailings while British, French and Belgian owned cross-channel steamers are maintaining their schedules. The Dutch company, which maintains a mail service between Flushing and Folkestone, has suspended sailings and there has been some talk of mail being carried by Dutch destroyers.

No Insurance Increase There has been no increase in insurance rates and in fact the government has actually reduced rates for fishing vessels, at the same time having arranged to pay compensation to sailors who may be injured as the result of hostilities. There has been an increase in the price of coal and in coal freights, but this is due entirely to the increased demand, particularly from Italy, together with a shortage of ships.

Notwithstanding its intense interest in the important question which now involves shipping interests, England has not lost sight of the military operations now in progress on both fronts. The fighting in East Prussia and Bukovina, where the two extreme wings of the Russian army are heavily engaged by Austro-German forces, is considered the most important activity now going on either in the east or west. Petrograd dispatches insist that the Russians carried out in perfect order their retirement in East Prussia.

Battle Is Raging An important battle is raging in the vicinity of Augustowo, where in the fall the Russians succeeded in stopping a previous German attempt to invade Russia. Now, however, the Muscovites have a much more serious threat to deal with which forbids sending an army into East Prussia, the Germans are in strong force in the district between East Prussia and the lower Vistula. They continued advance there would jeopardize the Russians, who are holding the trenches to the south of the Vistula, and who succeeded in frustrating Field Marshal von Hindenburg's attempts to reach Warsaw from the west.

The German plans are not quite (Continued on page two.)

WINBORNE LORD LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND

DUBLIN, Feb. 18.—Baron Winborne was sworn in today as lord lieutenant of Ireland at a meeting of the privy council held in Dublin Castle. The ceremonial which is customary on this occasion was fully observed. Baron Winborne succeeds Lord Aberdeen, who has held the post of lord lieutenant for the past nine months.

KAISER'S REPLY IS WARNING TO AMERICAN SHIPS

German Note Expresses Friendship, But Requests Vessels to Avoid War Zone, as They Are Likely to Be Destroyed—Suggests Convoys for Vessels to Prevent Destruction.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—This afternoon the official text of the German reply had not reached Washington, but another message was received from Ambassador Gerard giving an outline of it. Secretary Bryan went early to the White House and discussed with the president the situation generally. The official view was that no element in the situation was critical.

BERLIN, Feb. 18.—The reply of Germany to the protest of the United States against a blockade of British waters is couched in the most friendly terms, but firmly maintains the position of Germany as already announced. The answer, which is a lengthy document, was converted into code at the United States embassy under the direction of Ambassador Gerard and has been transmitted in full to Washington.

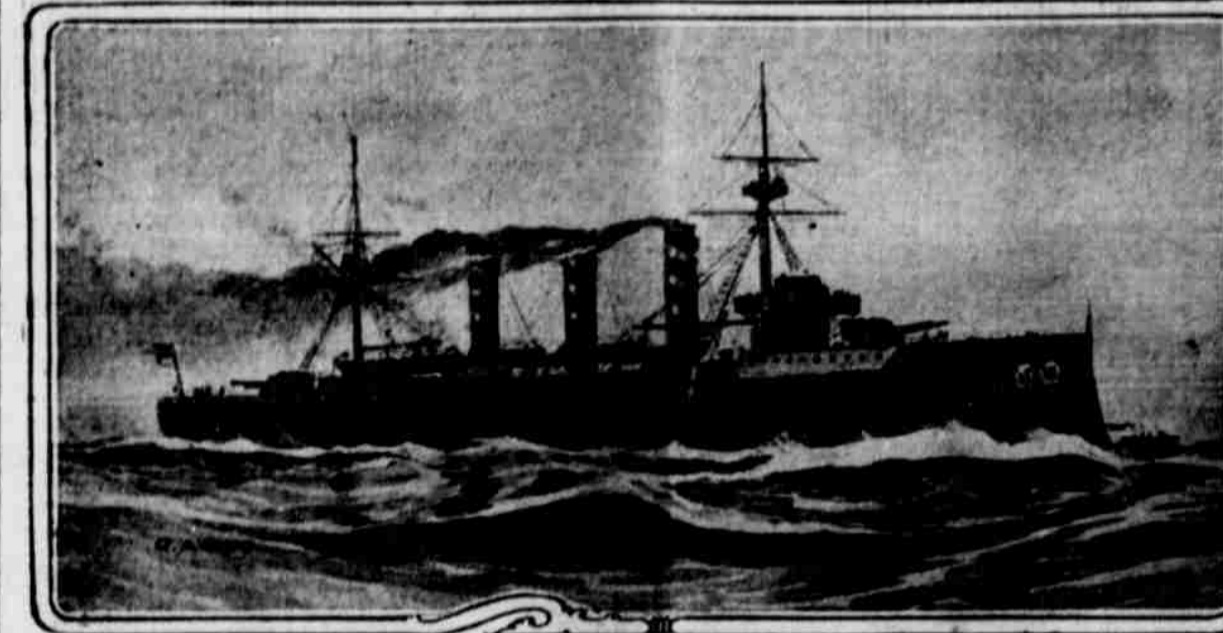
Action Necessary The note explains that Germany's proposed action is rendered necessary by Great Britain's policy of attempting to cut off the food supply for the German civil population by a method never recognized in international law. England's course in ordering merchantmen to fly neutral flags, equipped them with artillery with orders to destroy submarines, the German reply contends, renders nugatory the right of search, thus giving Germany the right to attack English shipping. Germany holds that she cannot abandon the right under the stress which England has forced upon her. Since Germany must compel the nations with which she is at war to return to the recognized principles of international law and restore freedom of the seas, she argues that the stand she had taken is necessary.

Suggests Convoys The note recommends that the United States government send warships to England to convoy merchant vessels through the danger zones as security against attack, with the understanding that vessels thus guarded shall carry no war supplies. Hoop is expressed that the American government will understand the position in which Germany has been placed. The reply closes with an expression of the hope that the United States might prevail upon Great Britain "to return" to the principles of international law recognized prior to the outbreak of the war, and in particular obtain the observance of the London declaration by belligerents opposed to Germany.

TURKS FAKE VICTORY OVER EGYPT

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt, Feb. 18.—Passengers by the American cruiser Tennessee which has been bringing refugees from the coast of Syria to Egypt are authority for the statement that while no actual atrocities have been committed by the Turks in Syria, a number of persons have been maltreated. The population of Syria, although fanatical, is remaining calm. The Tennessee arrived here yesterday from the Syrian coast. Refugees on board say that Hassan Bey, the commander at Jaffa, has a rather over-bearing manner and that he treats nationals of the entente powers with great rigor. Reports of a Turkish victory in Egypt, printed in letters of gold, have been posted in Jaffa. The people have been told that Ismailia and Suez have been occupied by the Turks, who are now marching on Cairo. Graphic descriptions of the alleged sinking of several British cruisers in the Suez canal caused the greatest jubilation. The Turkish casualties in these engagements were given as 10 men killed and 25 wounded. There was great rejoicing also at Jerusalem, where a large amount of ammunition was expended in the firing of guns to celebrate the event. Nationalists of the entente powers, Great Britain, France and Russia, were insulted by the populace and compelled to remain indoors. Six wounded German officers have been brought to Jerusalem where Bach Pasha, the German commander has his headquarters.

BRITISH CRUISERS PHANTOMS OF THE SEA IN MIXED WAR PAINT



TYPE OF BRITISH CRUISER, SHOWING NEW WAR PAINT

In the above illustration is shown the new color scheme that has been adopted by British cruisers. So effective and unusual is the new idea in disguising a vessel that it makes her what appears to be an entirely different craft—a phantom ship. Instead of the all gray which has marked the war color of war ships of nearly all nations, the British are having recourse to black and gray, so distributed as to break the color line, or, in other words, disturb the continuity which otherwise would prevail. Marine men who have noticed the new color scheme declare that the effect is to make a vessel almost invisible at night. The breaking of the gray and black interstices is regarded as the result of experiments which have demonstrated to the British that a vessel so painted is less distinguishable under varying conditions of weather and atmosphere than when recourse is had to a solid color scheme.

JAPAN'S DEMANDS ON CHINA GROW OVER ORIGINAL

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—China has delivered to Great Britain, France, Russia and the United States a memorandum of demands made by Japan in the latter part of January. They differ materially from the 11 demands communicated to the powers by the Japanese government on February 9. Kai Fu Shih, the Chinese minister here, delivered the memorandum to the United States giving the first official information here as to the demands originally made by Japan on China. With both the Chinese version and the Japanese memorandum of the demands now in hand, the United States today directed an informal inquiry through its diplomatic representatives at both Tokio and Peking to clear up the discrepancies between the two versions and determine accurately what is the present basis of negotiation.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—President Wilson virtually has decided not to call an extra session of congress on March 5 no matter what the fate of the ship bill. No official announcement of his intention was made but in congressional quarters it is well understood. Work was begun today on mapping out the details of the president's trip to the San Francisco exposition. That was taken as added evidence that there would be no extra session.

NO EXTRA SESSION WILL BE CALLED

CARRANZA FORCES AGAIN EVACUATE MEXICAN CAPITAL

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—Carranza forces have again evacuated Mexico City, official dispatches today to the state department report, and the Zapata forces have re-entered. It was not stated to where the Carranza troops withdrew.

GERMAN CRITIC STIRS UP ENMITY TOWARDS AMERICA

BERLIN, Feb. 18.—Count von Reventlow, the German naval critic, comments in today's issue of the Tages Zeitung on the answer of the German government to the American note on the subject of the marine war zone around Great Britain. The writer declares that the tone of the German note, in spite of the tone of the American communication, shows that Germany is prepared to go to the utmost limits compatible with the situation. No fault can be found with the declaration in the German answer, Count von Reventlow declares, that the German government, like the American, desires to prevent occurrences which could disturb existing friendly relations. "One can read only with pleasure those parts of the German answer which refer to American supplies to England and France," the writer says. "We add to this that these shipments of weapons to our enemies have filled public opinion in Germany with deep indignation and bitterness against the United States. Statistics of the amount of these shipments show that the Germans are not now justified in speaking of friendly relations."

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The president of the province of East Prussia at Koenigsberg has received the following telegram from Emperor William, who has been on the eastern front: "The Russians are completely beaten. Our beloved East Prussia is free from the enemy."

STATE ACCOUNTANCY DEPARTMENT ABOLISHED

SALEM, Or., Feb. 18.—The state accountancy department, operated for the last two years under the supervision of the state insurance commissioner, will be abolished if the senate bill passed by the house today is signed by the governor. The measure was introduced by the Marion county delegation. The charges exacted by the department for auditing county books were put forth as the reason for abolishing it.

BRITISH REPLY IS DEFENSE OF ACTIONS DURING THE WAR

LONDON, Feb. 18.—Sir Edward Grey's reply to the American shipping protest traces the origin of the right of interception and speaks of the new devices encountered from time to time for dispatching contraband goods to an enemy. Here the doctrine of continuous voyage as enunciated during the civil war by Secretary Seward is quoted at length and the question of ultimate destination argued in legal detail. To justify the detention of suspected cargoes when passing between neutral countries and taking them into ports for examination, the cases of American practice during the Spanish-American war also are cited. "To take a ship into port, the note contends, is not to be looked upon as a new belligerent right, but as an adaptation of the existing right to the new modern conditions of commerce" and like all belligerent rights, it must be exercised "with due regard to neutral interests, and it would be unreasonable to expect a neutral vessel to make long deviations from her course for this purpose." For this reason, it is asserted, neutral merchantmen were encouraged to visit some British port on their route to avoid the alternative of keeping a vessel waiting perhaps for days for better weather conditions on the high seas.

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"BELOVED PRUSSIA FREE FROM ENEMY"

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EUROPE REELING INTO BARBARISM

LONDON, Feb. 18.—The reply of Sir Edward Grey to the American shipping protest is given hearty approval in an editorial in the Times, which says: "It is a powerful defence of the British position founded upon those arguments of law and fact which appeal with particular force to American minds as to our own. It comes oppositely on a day when Germany boasts her intention to trample all laws and customs of the sea under her feet." Sir Edward's reply, the Post argues in an editorial, already is antiquated because of Winston Spencer Churchill's announcement in parliament Monday of reprisals proposed against the German threat of a block-

FRANK JAMES, FAMED OUTLAW, PASSES AWAY

Brother of Jesse and Member of Notorious Bandit Band of Bank Robbers, Dies Suddenly at Independence, Mo., From Stroke of Apoplexy—Hunted From State to State

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS, Mo., Feb. 18.—Frank James, one of the last survivors of the notorious James gang, died on his farm near here this afternoon. James, who was 74 years old, had been in ill health several months and was stricken with apoplexy early today. One of the last members of a notorious robber band, whose unparalleled career of crime during the Civil war and the unsettled period that followed, kept the people of a dozen states in terror, Frank James had been living the life of a quiet farmer for more than 39 years. The son of a minister, respected throughout the community, Frank James joined Quantrell's guerrillas in the Civil war, together with his brother, Jesse, and took part in the sacking of Lawrence, Kansas.

Hunted as Guerrillas When the war came to an end they were hunted far and wide by relatives of those who had met death at their hands. Driven here and there, they soon became outlaws. Many notorious crimes of the decade following the war have been laid at the door of the James-Younger gang, of which the only surviving members were Frank James and Cole Younger, the latter of whom is now living at Lees, Mo. Among these raids were: The raid on the Commercial Bank at Liberty, Mo., in 1866. One bank defender was killed, and \$7000 stolen. Looting of the Russellville, Ky., bank, in 1868, for \$17,000. Bank robbery at Gallatin, Mo., in 1867, in which the cashier, Captain John W. Sheets, was murdered. Robbery of a bank at Columbia, Ky., in which R. A. C. Martin, the cashier, was killed. This was in 1872. Raid on a bank at Corydon, Iowa, in which \$40,000 was stolen, in 1873. Wrecked and Robbed Train The wrecking and robbery of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific train near Council Bluffs, Iowa, in 1873. The engineer was killed and several passengers injured. Box office in the fair grounds at Kansas City, Mo., was robbed of \$9000 in broad daylight in 1873. Detectives surrounded that James' home near Kearney, Mo., January 25, 1875, and threw a lighted bomb into the house thinking to kill the James brothers. It exploded, tearing the arm off their mother and killing their brother, Archie. Although the James boys participated in hundreds of robberies, it is now generally believed that there were also hundreds of robberies charged up to them where they were innocent. In 1882, after Jesse James had

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SHIP PURCHASE BILL TALKED TO DEATH BY G.O.P.

Administration Democrats Practically Agree to Let Measure Be Killed—No Extra Session—Probe of Ship Lobby Under Way—Only Nine of Hamburg-American Line Offered.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—Administration democrats practically agreed to let the republicans talk the ship bill to death when they agreed today to put in conference until February 27 and pass appropriation bills meanwhile. The republicans intend to continue their successful filibuster thereafter. The plan means there will be no extra session of congress and it was generally agreed it meant the end of President Wilson's ship bill in this congress. As part of the agreement democrats have agreed to prune the river and harbor appropriation bill in accordance with objection of some of the republican senators.

Ship Lobby Probed When the war came to an end they were hunted far and wide by relatives of those who had met death at their hands. Driven here and there, they soon became outlaws. Many notorious crimes of the decade following the war have been laid at the door of the James-Younger gang, of which the only surviving members were Frank James and Cole Younger, the latter of whom is now living at Lees, Mo. Among these raids were: The raid on the Commercial Bank at Liberty, Mo., in 1866. One bank defender was killed, and \$7000 stolen. Looting of the Russellville, Ky., bank, in 1868, for \$17,000. Bank robbery at Gallatin, Mo., in 1867, in which the cashier, Captain John W. Sheets, was murdered. Robbery of a bank at Columbia, Ky., in which R. A. C. Martin, the cashier, was killed. This was in 1872. Raid on a bank at Corydon, Iowa, in which \$40,000 was stolen, in 1873. Wrecked and Robbed Train The wrecking and robbery of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific train near Council Bluffs, Iowa, in 1873. The engineer was killed and several passengers injured. Box office in the fair grounds at Kansas City, Mo., was robbed of \$9000 in broad daylight in 1873. Detectives surrounded that James' home near Kearney, Mo., January 25, 1875, and threw a lighted bomb into the house thinking to kill the James brothers. It exploded, tearing the arm off their mother and killing their brother, Archie. Although the James boys participated in hundreds of robberies, it is now generally believed that there were also hundreds of robberies charged up to them where they were innocent. In 1882, after Jesse James had

Only Old Ships Offered Prior to last October, he added, the American directors had considered selling twenty of the forty ships laid up, but instructions came from Herr Bellin, managing director of the company in Hamburg to withdraw all but of date boats. Under Senator Burton's questions, Mr. Sichel testified he sought a loan of \$2,500,000 through Kuhn, Loeb & Co. of New York and other bankers soon after the outbreak of the war, but was refused. Sichel said Secretary McAdoo and Garrison had consulted his associates about ships to bring Americans home from the war zone. "We never solicited the sale of our ships at that time. The government sent for us," he said. In November, Barnard N. Baker of Baltimore asked him to meet Secretary McAdoo. No Offer Was Made "I wired him," said Sichel, "that if I was to see Secretary McAdoo on the question of sale of ships I did not want to meet the gentleman. Our financial independence was such as to place us in a position where we had only a few ships of small value for sale. Mr. Baker replied McAdoo wished to see me only on the general ocean freight rate situation, and I did meet him." "You made no efforts then to sell any boats to the government and the government made no effort to buy any boats from you?" asked Senator Reed. "That is correct."

Another German Airship Destroyed COPENHAGEN, Feb. 18.—According to a message received here today from Jutland, another German airship was destroyed today. This air vessel was of the Parseval type. The dirigible, the dispatcher says, went down into the water near the coast. The crew was saved.