

ROYAL DECREE TAKES OVER ALL RAILROAD LINES

Italy Prepares in Earnest for War—Military Officials Take Charge of Traffic Systems—United States to Represent Austria and Switzerland Germany in Case of Hostilities.

BERLIN, May 19.—The Rome correspondent of the Berliner Tageblatt today sends a pessimistic dispatch from the Italian capital, declaring: "The short parliamentary interlude is ended. The street has won." Italian dispatches to other Berlin newspapers are of a similar tenor. It appears to be generally felt that only a miracle can now avert war between Italy and Austria.

New Concessions Offered
ROME, May 19.—Foreign Minister Sonnino is reported to have informed the council of ministers at its session this evening that offers of additional territorial concessions had been received from Austria.

ROME, May 19.—A royal decree under which all railroad lines and stations in Italy are placed under the supervision of the military authorities is published by the official Gazette.

Under the provisions of the decree military officials are given the power to prohibit suspected persons from traveling on the railroads or even approaching the lines. All travelers are warned that at certain points they must not look from the carriage windows, but must keep the shutters closed.

Military in Control
Any persons approaching a tunnel or bridge will be imprisoned for six months. If war has been declared when the offense is committed they will be court-martialed. Soldiers and the police are entrusted with the enforcement of the decree and are to fire upon persons who violate its provisions.

It is said here that Austria has decided to entrust to the United States the protection of her citizens in Italy in the event of war, which was considered inevitable. Owing to the feeling in the United States, caused by the sinking of the Lusitania, Germany has decided to ask Switzerland to undertake the same task for German subjects and property in this country. It is understood the Swiss minister here has been unofficially informed that the mission would be entrusted to him.

GERMAN REPLY TO AMERICAN NOTE DELAYED 10 DAYS

WASHINGTON, May 19.—Official information was received here today that Germany's reply to the American note will not be completed for at least a week and probably not reach Washington for at least ten days.

It is now known with some definiteness that Germany will indicate her willingness to have her submarines act toward all merchantment just as destroyers or cruisers would, giving ample time for passengers and crew to leave, provided merchantmen are unarmed or if passengers and contraband traffic are separated. That position is looked upon with some favor here, provided it is suggested as a modus vivendi or temporary arrangement and does not involve the relinquishment by the United States of the rights of its citizens to travel anywhere on the high seas on enemy or belligerent unarmed ships.

There is an insistence on the part of the United States, however, that the principles of law and humanity expressed in its note must be recognized and admitted by Germany and that any intention to destroy American lives on the Lusitania must be disavowed. That the United States will stand firmly on the principles set forth in its note, has been conveyed indirectly and informally to Germany since the communication itself left here.

BRITISH PARTIES UNITE FOR WAR PURPOSES ONLY

Coalition Cabinet to Be Formed Upon Broader Personal and Political Basis—No Change of Policy as Regards Continuation of War to a Successful Conclusion.

LONDON, May 19.—Premier Asquith announced in the house of commons today that steps were in contemplation which involved a reconstruction of the government upon a broader personal and political basis.

"Nothing has been definitely arranged as yet," the premier said, "but in order to avoid any possible misapprehension I wish to make clear here and now three things:

To Finish the War
"First, any changes will not affect the position of the prime minister or foreign secretary; second, there will be no change of any kind in the policy of the country as regards the continued prosecution of the war with all possible energy and by means of every available resource, and third and last, and of great importance to the honorable friends behind me, and I have no doubt, to the opposition, is this: Any reconstruction of the cabinet that may be made will be for the purpose of the war alone and is not to be taken in any quarter or for any reason as indicating anything in the nature of a surrender or a compromise on the part of any person or body of persons of their several political ideals.

"This is as far as I can go. Nothing definite yet had taken place, but if any arrangement is made the house will have the fullest opportunity of expressing its views."

Asquith's Announcement
The reference of the premier to the prosecution of the war were greeted with loud and prolonged cheering.

The prime minister was followed by Andrew Bonar Law, leader of the opposition, who said:

"I think it only necessary to say on behalf of my friends and myself that at the stage this has reached, our only consideration in regard to the further steps to be taken is the sole idea of what is the best method of finishing the war successfully, and we leave out of our minds absolutely all considerations, political and otherwise, beyond that."

"Of course, if such an arrangement should take place it is obvious our convictions on other subjects will remain unchanged and will be settled when the war is over."

PORTUGUESE CABINET TO BE NON-PARTISIAN

LISBON, May 19.—The newly formed Portuguese cabinet has decided, it was announced today, to maintain an absolutely neutral attitude toward all political parties.

The newspapers of the capital today comment on the visits exchanged between the commanders of the Spanish warships, anchored in the Tagus river and the Lisbon authorities.

COMMISSION UPHOLDS WESTERN CLASS RATES

WASHINGTON, May 19.—Class and commodity rates from points in the region between St. Paul and Kansas City on the west and the Atlantic seaboard on the east to points in Montana were found not unreasonable or unduly discriminatory today by the interstate commerce commission. Complaint against them made by the Retail Merchants' association of Montana, was dismissed.

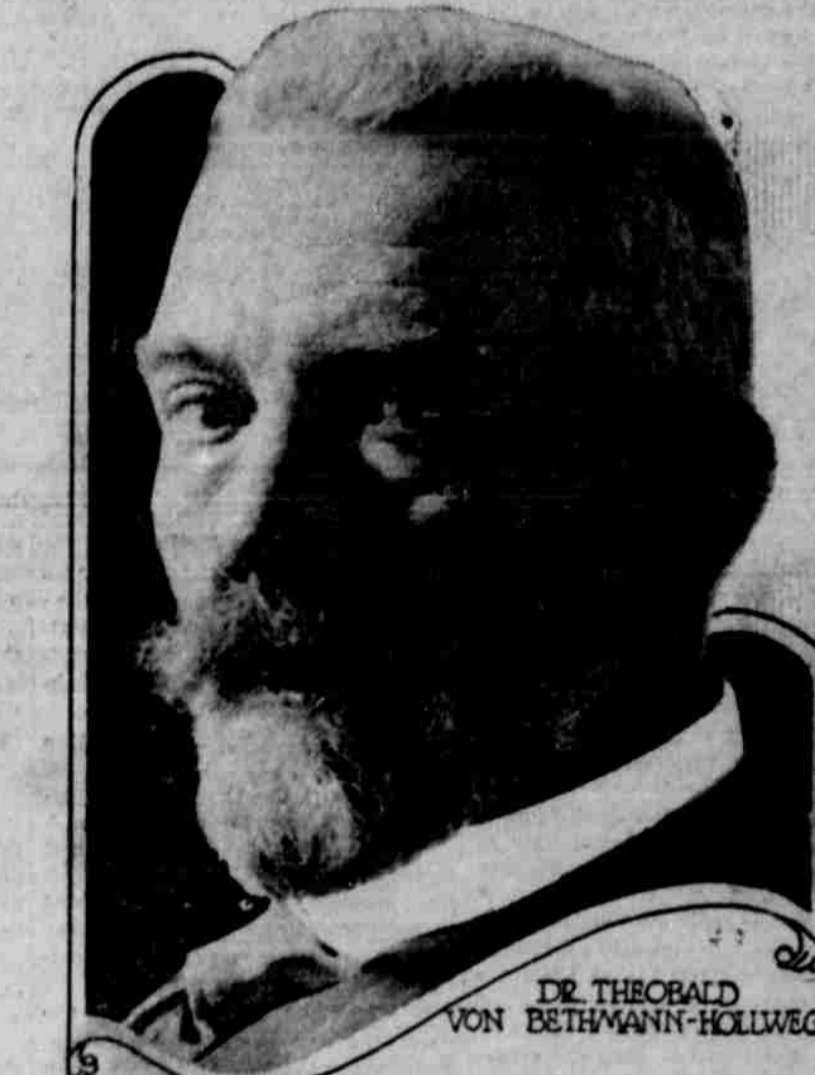
THREE INCHES OF SNOW FALLS IN WESTERN KANSAS

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 19.—Snow reaching a depth of three inches fell in Goodland and northwestern Kansas today.

THESE MEN RECEIVED UNITED STATES MESSAGE TO GERMANY



Gottlieb von Jagou, German minister of foreign affairs, to whom Ambassador James W. Gerard handed the United States message to Germany.



Dr. Theobald von Bethmann-Hollweg, imperial chancellor of Germany, who, as head of the government, received the United States message to his minister of foreign affairs for transmission to the kaiser.

BATTLE RAGING CONTINUOUSLY ON 200 MILE FRONT

PETROGRAD, May 19.—Fighting is proceeding continuously along a 200-mile battle front in Galicia from the mouth of the San river to Kolomea. The Russians are sending in troops as rapidly as possible to meet the ten German and twenty-four Austrian corps (about 1,360,000 men) said to be operating on this front.

Operations along the San may be considered as in three sections: The first from Przemyśl south to the Carpathian foothills; the second, from Przemyśl north to the mouth of the Wisloka; the third from the Wisloka to Sandomir, in Russian Poland, 57 miles southeast of Radom.

In the first section the German advance has not developed beyond the stage of patrols and scouting parties. In the second section there are large opposing forces which are prevented from engaging in hand-to-hand encounters by the wide sweep of the San, over which sharp artillery duels are occurring. The heaviest German forces evidently have been concentrated in the third section, in an attempt to reach the right bank of the San. Such a move is considered extremely hazardous.

FRYE CASE SENT TO PRIZE COURT

WASHINGTON, May 19.—Germany has sent to a prize court the case of the American sailing ship William P. Frye, sunk in the South Atlantic last January by the German auxiliary cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich, but it is understood that the German admiralty took that action before it had received the American note insisting that the damages be adjusted directly through diplomatic negotiations in Washington.

It is said by officials here that the reference of the case to a prize court will not necessarily prevent diplomatic adjustment. As Germany has admitted in principle liability for the sinking of the William P. Frye, the state department here probably will not feel concerned at this latest development.

Secretary Bryan has asked Ambassador Gerard at Berlin to inquire of the German government if the sending of the Frye case to a prize court is intended as a reply to the American note.

NICHOLAS LED COSSACK CHARGE TURNING THE TIDE

LONDON, May 19.—At a critical point in the fighting near Jaslo, Galicia, according to a dispatch to the Daily Mail from Petrograd, Grand Duke Nicholas in person rushed to the scene with ammunition, making the last fifty miles at top speed in an automobile. His car was followed by a string of thirteen other automobiles, loaded to capacity with ammunition.

The arrival of the commander in chief is said to have turned the tide, inspiring the Cossacks to retake Jaslo, which the Germans had occupied. During their brief occupation, the Germans are reported to have hanged the mayor for displaying a Russian flag.

During the recent fighting, one end of the Empress Alexandra's Red Cross train was splintered by shrapnel.

General Korniloff, commander of the forty eighth Russian division, which cut its way through overwhelming German forces in the Galician retreat, has been captured, according to a Petrograd dispatch to the Reuter Telegram company. He continued to command rear guard actions, leading bayonet charges, although severely wounded.

Dispatches from the San river indicate that a tremendous battle is imminent north of Przemyśl.

EMPEROR WILLIAM GUILTY OF MURDER SAYS CORONER'S JURY

RAMSGATE, Eng., May 19.—A coroner's jury today returned a verdict of willful murder against Emperor William in the case of John Smith, who died as a result of shock following injuries sustained in the Zeppelin raid of Monday.

BRITISH STEAMER DRUMCREE SUNK BY SUBMARINE

CARDIFF, Wales, May 19.—The British steamer Drumcree, which left Barry yesterday, has been torpedoed in the English channel. The members of her crew have been saved.

UNITED STATES ASKED TO CARE FOR ITALIANS-AUSTRIANS

WASHINGTON, May 19.—Both Austria and Italy have asked the United States to care for their diplomatic matters in Rome and Vienna, respectively, in case of severance of diplomatic relations. The Washington government has instructed at the two capitals to be in readiness to do so.

It is regarded here as assured that if Italy and Austria declare a state of war it will be extended also as between Italy and Germany and Turkey. In that event the Rome government wishes the American ambassadors at Berlin and Constantinople to take over its diplomatic interests. As yet there has been no request from Germany to have the United States to act for it in Rome. Germany is reported to have asked Switzerland to take her interests.

It is known that the American embassies abroad have been instructed to employ such additional clerical help as may be necessary and prepare for the work.

BRITISH TANKER DRIVEN OFF FROM AIDING LUSITANIA

NEW YORK, May 19.—Officers of the British tank steamer Narragansett, which arrived at Bayonne, N. J., confirmed today the statements made by officers of the steamer Etouan at Boston, that the Narragansett which caught the Lusitania's distress signals, was driven off her course by a torpedo from a submarine when she came within seven miles of the scene of the disaster. According to Talbot Smith, wireless operator on board the Narragansett, the Lusitania's call for help was received at 2 p. m.

Captain Charles Harwood ordered full steam ahead. His boat was about thirty five miles from the Lusitania.

Second Officer John Lett said he sighted a submarine at 3:15 o'clock and in another instant saw a torpedo shoot past the Narragansett within thirty feet of her stern. Captain Harwood then changed his course and gave up the race for the Lusitania, believing that the distress call was a decoy message to trap the Narragansett.

FINAL ARGUMENTS BARNES-ROOSEVELT LIBEL CASE TODAY

SYRACUSE, N. Y., May 19.—The presentation of evidence in William Barnes' suit for libel against Theodore Roosevelt, has been completed, the day in the supreme court was to be given over to counsel to sum up their respective cases.

Justice William S. Andrews will deliver his charge to the jury tomorrow morning, according to the plans. Then the case will be in the hands of the jury before noon.

At the opening of court a motion by Henry Wolf, of counsel for Mr. Barnes, to strike out evidence regarding printing, elicited from Barnes on cross examination, was denied.

A motion that the jury be directed to find a verdict for the plaintiff was then made. This was based on primary ground that no evidence in justification had been offered for various portions of the alleged libelous articles, which the court had held to be libel per se. Mr. Wolf called particular attention to that part of the article on which the suit was based on which Mr. Barnes' name was linked with that of Charles F. Murphy, leader of Tammany Hall, and in which it was stated that Mr. Murphy was "aided and abetted by Mr. Barnes."

Justice Andrews in reply said he would restrict the jury's deliberations to two charges—the general charge that there was a corrupt alliance between Mr. Barnes and Murphy and that Mr. Barnes worked through an alliance between crooked business and crooked politics.

MRS CATT CONDEMNS SUFFRAGIST INTRUSION

NEW YORK, May 19.—Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, chairman of the Empire State campaign committee, made public today a statement condemning the action of women suffragists who attempted to hand to President Wilson while he was here to review the Atlantic fleet, a letter requesting him to give an audience to a deputation of suffragists.

"Suffragists realize that no president since Lincoln has had such serious and delicate problems to solve as Mr. Wilson," said Mrs. Catt. "We are distressed that any person in the name of our cause should have attempted to intrude upon his peace of mind."

NEW YORK, May 19.—General Thomas Hubbard, a prominent attorney and a director in many railroads and financial institutions and a veteran of the civil war, died here today at the age of 78.

CZAR'S RETREAT ON RIVER SAN DOES NOT HALT

England's Cabinet Crisis—Russians Continue to Fall Back—Austrians Worsted in East Galicia—Bad Weather Stops Battle on Western Front—Progress at Dardanelles.

LONDON, May 19.—England, distracted by the political upheaval which is expected to end in a coalition government, finds little time to interest herself in war news; but nevertheless the Russian situation is causing a feeling of pessimism.

The official Russian announcements do not wholly confirm the pessimistic special dispatches from Petrograd, but they admit that the Russian retreat along the river San is still under way. At the same time they claim that the Russians have been able to resume the offensive on the left bank of the Vistula, a movement which may result, it is explained, in outflanking the Germans attacking Przemysl. Germans and Austrians have not thus far won a victory of decisive strategic significance and that their losses have been enormous.

Austrian Rout in East
The Austrian rout in East Galicia is not yet complete, according to London's information, but the impression is growing here that the defeat of the Teutonic allies in this section has been severe enough to prevent the complete success of the wholesale offensive movement, which they initiated along the eastern front.

Military experts in London are characterizing the retreat of the Russian third army as a masterly feat which must have cost the victors dearly. The Russian offensive in East Galicia stands out today as in reality a defensive movement made necessary by the fact that the Austrians constituted a serious menace to the left flank of the Russian armies in Galicia.

On Western Front
In France and Belgium bad weather is again impeding operations, continuous rain and thick mists making vigorous action impossible. The British north of La Bassée and the French north of Arras have held their recent gains, but they have not been able to move forward. Italy's seems no nearer war today than she did yesterday, but persistent reports are reaching London that the Teutonic ambassadors have been handed their passports and will leave today.

Official announcement was made in London today that the allies are improving daily their position on the Gallipoli peninsula. Their progress is slow, however, and the Turks are offering effective resistance.

An Athens dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company, dated yesterday, says it is reported at Mytilene that the allies disembarked fresh troops Monday night near Kum Kale, on the Asiatic coast of the Dardanelles. It also has been learned there that the Turks on the Gallipoli peninsula, who for weeks have lacked artillery ammunition, have obtained an abundant supply of shells in the last few days.

WEST AGREES IN BEHALF OF LANE'S WATER POWER BILL

SEATTLE, Wash., May 19.—The conference of western governors passed the morning session in discussion of the control of water power, whether by state or nation.

Ex-Governor West of Oregon was on the floor during the larger part of the morning, making an argument for the federal administration's water-power bill and answering questions put to him by the governors.

"I am willing to take my part in unlocking the resources of the west, but would throw all the safeguards possible about them," said West.

Governor Boyle of Nevada declared the states were clamoring for privilege of giving away their resources. Governor Carlson of Colorado read a paper favoring state control of water power.