

PRESIDENT DETAILS TO CONGRESS VIOLATIONS OF LAW BY GERMANY

Wilson Notifies Congress in Joint Session of Irrevocable Notification to Germany That the United States Will Break Off Diplomatic Relations if Illegal Submarine Campaign Is Continued—Marks End of Diplomatic Exchanges—History of Submarine Warfare Reviewed and Story of Diplomatic Exchanges Resulting in Broken Promises Related—No Action Asked of Congress—Continuance of Friendly Relations Depends Alone Upon Germany's Conduct—Applause Greets Conclusion of Message, Which Is Heard in Impressive Silence.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—President Wilson told congress, assembled in joint session shortly after 1 o'clock this afternoon, he had given Germany irrevocable notification that the United States will break off diplomatic relations if her illegal submarine campaign is continued. His address is as follows:

The president said:
Gentlemen of the Congress:
A situation has arisen in the following relations of the country of which it is my plain duty to inform you very frankly.

It will be recalled that in February, 1915, the imperial German government announced its intention to treat the waters surrounding Great Britain and Ireland as embroiled within the seat of war, and to destroy all merchant ships owned by its enemies that might be found within any part of that portion of the high seas, and that it warned all vessels of neutral as well as of belligerent ownership to keep out of the waters it had thus proscribed or endanger them at their peril.

The government of the United States earnestly protested. It took the position that such a policy could not be pursued without the practical certainty of gross and palpable violation of the law of nations, particularly if submarine craft were to be employed as its instruments, inasmuch as the rules proscribed by that law—rules founded upon principles of humanity and established for the protection of lives of non-combatants at sea—could not in the nature of the case be observed by such vessels. It based its protest on the ground that persons of neutral nationality and vessels of neutral ownership would be exposed to extreme and intolerable risks, and that no right to close any part of the high seas against their use or to expose them to such risks could lawfully be asserted by any belligerent government.

Based on Law of Nations
The law of nations in these matters, upon which the government of

the United States based its protest, is not of recent origin or founded upon merely arbitrary principles set up by convention. It is based, on the contrary, upon manifest and imperative principles of humanity and has long been established by the approval and by the express assent of all civilized nations.

Notwithstanding the earnest protest of our government, the imperial German government at once proceeded to carry out the policy it had announced. It expressed the hope that the dangers involved, at any rate the dangers to neutral vessels, would be reduced to a minimum by the instructions which it had issued to its submarine commanders, and assured the government of the United States that it would take every possible precaution both to respect the rights of neutrals and to safeguard the lives of the non-combatants.

German Violations
What has actually happened in the year which has since elapsed has shown that these hopes were not justified, those assurances inoperative, the policy of submarine warfare against the commerce of its adversaries, thus announced and entered upon by the imperial German government in spite of the solemn protest of the government of the United States, has been carried out with greater and greater activity, not only upon the high seas surrounding Great Britain and Ireland, but wherever they could encounter them, in a way that has grown more and more ruthless, more and more indiscriminate as the months have gone by, less and less observant of restraints of any kind, and have delivered their attacks without compunction against vessels of every nationality and bound upon every sort of ocean.

No Warnings Given
Vessels of neutral ownership, even vessels of neutral ownership bound from neutral port to neutral port, have been destroyed along with vessels.

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FALL OF TREBIZOND ROUSES ENTHUSIASM AMONG THE ALLIES

PARIS, April 19.—Paris received with great enthusiasm the news of the fall of Trebizond. The event was looked for, but it was not thought the Russians would be able to capture the city so quickly. The political as well as the military consequences are expected to be most important, particularly in view of the fact that Turkey has lost one of the most valuable ports of Asia Minor at a time when according to reports reaching Paris, Germany is weakening her forces in the Balkans to carry on attacks on the western front.

French military writers state that the plan of campaign of Grand Duke Nicholas, the Russian commander, was a daring one, which at first was looked upon as foolhardy, but now is fully justified. The grand duke decided to advance boldly to the attack on this front, where maneuvers of warfare were possible, while the other fronts were still held in deadlock.

Excluding the operations on the Persian front, Grand Duke Nicholas in this campaign against a stubborn and experienced foe has to his credit the capturing of ten cities in less than two months.

LIFE SENTENCE FOR SEA PIRACY GIVEN SCHILLER

WILMINGTON, Del., April 18.—Ernest Schiller, alias Clarence R. Hudson, who recently held up the captain and crew of fifty-six men of the British freighter Mattope on the high seas on his way today to the federal prison at Atlanta in custody of United States marshals. Schiller yesterday pleaded guilty to a charge of piracy and was given a life sentence.

Before leaving here last night, Schiller declared that his desire for revenge against England had prompted his act. At the same time he said, he hoped to do something "for the cause of Germans." He denied that robbery had been his motive and said that the chief reason his plan to sink the Mattope had failed was because he did not want to kill anybody.

"When I took charge of the ship," he said, "it was so rough that it would have been murder to have forced the crew to get in small boats as I had at first intended them to do."

Schiller said he was "highly pleased" that he was not being sent back to England.

GENERAL SCOTT SENT TO SETTLE MEXICAN CRISIS

Chief of Staff of United States Army Goes to Border to Size Up Situation and Determine Future Course—Change in Policy Hinges on Result of Diplomatic Crisis.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—Major-General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the army, will go to San Antonio, Tex., tonight by order of Secretary Baker to get accurate information as to the situation on the border and in Mexico.

Secretary Baker issued this statement:

"General Scott leaves for San Antonio this evening at 8:15 at my request. He will spend several days with General Funston and return. This trip is made solely for the purpose of getting as accurate information as possible for the use of the department. General Funston remains in full charge of the affairs of the department, including the expedition into Mexico. He has the full confidence of the department and his dispositions have the department's entire approval."

To Meet Funston
Secretary Baker would not discuss General Scott's mission beyond his formal statement. It is assumed, however, that his report after conference with General Funston will go far toward determining the course to be pursued in Mexico.

It is known that General Funston has been urging the department that he be permitted to shift his headquarters and the border base in order to shorten his line of communication. The department has not thus far approved the suggestion, although the request was before the cabinet yesterday.

The department apparently has hesitated to authorize any radical change in the status of the expedition in the face of the requests from General Carranza that the troops be recalled, believing it might tend to increase anti-American feeling among Carranza garrisons.

Awaits on German Crisis
Until the German situation is clearly understood, it is impossible to forecast the administration's decision as to Pershing's expedition. Military observers appear to agree that some radical move must be made soon, either to back up the troops in Mexico or to withdraw them.

It is believed that General Funston's decision to place additional troops at General Pershing's disposal aroused the department to determine upon the course to pursue with as little delay as possible.

General Scott is acquainted with Villa and with many Carranza officials and with his knowledge of the border and the confidential information General Funston can supply, he will be able to advise Secretary Baker.

SHIP INSURANCE RATES ADVANCE

NEW YORK, April 19.—Insurance underwriters here have advanced from 1 per cent to 2 per cent the war risk rates on shipments from New York to Bordeaux and other ports on the Bay of Biscay. This resulted chiefly from the sinking of the British steamer Hurovian in the Bay of Biscay, by which it is estimated American underwriters suffered a loss of \$1,500,000.

Rates of war risk on shipments to the United Kingdom also were increased, but less radically. The rate to London has advanced 1 per cent within ten days and has now reached 3 per cent. The rate on shipments to other ports on the east coast of the United Kingdom and to Havre is about 3 per cent. The rates to the west coast of England have reached 2 per cent.

On shipments to South America and Australia the quotations have fallen off to one-quarter and one-eighth. They were at 2 per cent after the appearance of German raiders off the South American coast.

ULTIMATUM BY AMERICA TO GERMANY

President Wilson Sent Final Note on Submarine Warfare Last Night, Notifying Germany That Unless Attacks on Merchantmen Carrying Americans, in Violation of International Law, Are Stopped, Diplomatic Relations Will Be Severed—Immediate Reply Requested.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—President Wilson has sent the note to Germany warning her that unless attacks on merchantmen carrying Americans in violation of international law, are stopped, diplomatic relations will be severed.

The president revealed this fact to Senators Stone and Lodge and Representatives Flood and Cooper, ranking democratic and republican members of the congressional foreign affairs committees, at a conference at the white house early today.

The president explained that the note practically is an ultimatum, but does not contain a time limit. A demand is made, however, that Germany reply immediately.

Is An Ultimatum

As a preliminary to laying the whole submarine situation before congress at a joint session at 1 o'clock this afternoon, President Wilson conferred at 10 o'clock this morning with Chairman Stone and Chairman Flood of the congressional committees dealing with foreign affairs, and with Senator Lodge and Representative Cooper, the ranking republican members of those committees.

Meanwhile Count Bernstorff, German ambassador, arranged for an audience with Secretary Lansing for 11:30. The engagement was made at the ambassador's request. When he conferred with the secretary yesterday he was told the submarine issue could not be discussed at that time, and although the president's intention to lay the case before congress was not disclosed to the ambassador at that time, it was the real reason for Secretary Lansing's refusal to discuss the subject.

Consults Congress

The visit of the committee leaders to the white house was regarded as surrounded with possibilities of the gravest importance. They have repeatedly been assured by the white house that they would be consulted by

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GERMANS TAKE STONE QUARRY IN VERDUN DISTRICT

BERLIN, April 19.—The report today from the war office says that the stone quarry south of Haudremont farm in the Verdun district, east of the Meuse, has been captured by the Germans, thus completing the success of the previous day.

The official statement says: "Western theater: East of the Meuse our troops during the night captured the stone quarry south of Haudremont farm, thus completing the success of Monday. A great part of the occupants fell in a fierce bayonet engagement. More than 100 men and several machine guns fell into our hands."

"A French counter attack against the new German lines northwest of Thillemont farm failed. "Minor enemy infantry detachments which attempted to approach our trenches at several points were repulsed."

PARIS, April 19.—There was a spirited bombardment of positions south of Haudremont wood, on the Verdun front, east of the Meuse last night, the war office reports this afternoon. No other important events occurred on any part of the front.

UPHOLD CITY'S RIGHT TO ASSESS IMPROVEMENTS

Supreme Court in Phipps Case Declares Council Has Perpetual Power to Pursue Adjacent Property to Compel Payment of Improvement Assessments.

Those who have been hoping to escape payment of their paving assessments might as well pay up, for in the decision rendered Tuesday by the supreme court in the case of W. E. Phipps et al vs. the city of Medford, in which Circuit Judge Calkins was reversed, the right of the city to assess adjacent property for public improvements is fully sustained. Not only is the council fully empowered to levy for prospective undertakings, but also for improvements already made, not only when due notice had been given property holders affected, but also when no notice of the contemplated improvement had been given.

In the language of the court: "The council has perpetual power to pursue the adjacent property until it succeeds in passing a regular proceeding complying with the initiative charter to compel payment of the actual expense incurred by the city for the undertaking already completed."

Speaking of the Medford charter amendment, under which the assessment was levied, the supreme court says:

A Collecting Nemesis
"Such legislation is designed to compel payment for improvements by real estate which is actually and equitably benefited thereby. It is referable to the taxing power of sovereignty. The municipality, endowed with that function, is entitled to pursue its object with the pertinacity of a nemesis until it attains its purpose, regardless of objections which do not measure up to the standard of equity and good conscience. This power is attended by and is subject to the constant condition that at some point in their effort to lay a tax upon property the owners thereof must have an opportunity to be heard so that his holding shall not be taken from him nor burdened without due process of law. All these terms are fulfilled by the initiative amendment to the charter."

Under this decision, there is no question of the liability of property owners for paying assessments, for even if the procedure followed at the time the assessments were levied should be declared irregular the council has the power to make the levy anew.

History of Case

The case was brought by W. E. Phipps, John Arnold, Z. Cameron, G. W. Priddy, G. T. O'Brien, O. D. Nagle, J. S. Howard and R. H. Tull to render void the assessment upon their property entailed by the construction of the North Medford trunk sewer. It was claimed that the assessment was void because the municipality had not given notice prior to the commencement of the improvement. As additional cause, the invalidation of a previous assessment for the improvement was cited. The crucial question was whether the city could lawfully levy upon realty in pay for an improvement already constructed, without previous notice to property owners, and the court holds the council has that right.

The city's case was argued by City Attorney McCabe, and W. E. Phipps, the plaintiffs. Mr. Phipps states that personally he was only slightly affected by the assessment, but that as he had already been assessed for another sewer he contested the right of the city to assess him a second time for a trunk sewer.

VILLA'S REPORTED DEATH ONLY RUMOR

CHIHUAHUA CITY, Mex., April 19.—General Gutierrez, military governor of Chihuahua, authoritatively states that the report of Villa's death is only a rumor. The authorities are aiding in the shipment of supplies to the United States troops.

GERMANY ORDERED TO ABANDON SUBMARINES OR BREAK OFF RELATIONS

Unless Imperial Government Should Now Immediately Declare and Effect an Abandonment of Its Present Methods of Submarine Warfare Against Ships, the Government of the United States Can Have No Choice But to Sever Diplomatic Relations With the German Empire Altogether, States Ultimatum Sent to Kaiser by President Wilson—If Germany Persists in Violating Dictates of Humanity, But One Course Left for the United States to Pursue—Torpedoes Sinking Sussex of German Manufacture—Sussex Not an Isolated Case, But One of Many.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—American's note to Germany, made public today, says:

"Unless the imperial government should now immediately declare and effect an abandonment of its present methods of submarine warfare against passenger and freight-carrying vessels, the government of the United States can have no choice but to sever diplomatic relations with the German empire altogether."

"If," says the note, "it is still the purpose of the imperial government to prosecute relentless and indiscriminate warfare against vessels of commerce by the use of submarines without regard to what the government of the United States must consider the sacred and indisputable rules of international law and the universally recognized dictates of humanity, the government of the United States is at last forced to the conclusion that there is but one course it can pursue."

The note asserts that information in the possession of the United States establishes conclusively that the channel steamer Sussex was torpedoed without warning and that the torpedo was of German manufacture. The conclusion that the torpedo was fired by a German submarine, it adds, is considered substantiated by Germany's disclaimer.

The note declares that if the Sussex had been an isolated case the United States might regard it as possible to hope that the officer responsible had been negligent or violated his orders, but that, unhappily, this terrible example of submarine warfare does not stand alone.

Germany is informed that the United States gained the impression from her recent communication that the imperial government failed to appreciate the gravity of the situation, "which has resulted not alone from the attack on the Sussex, but from the whole method and character of submarine warfare as disclosed by the unrestrained practice of the commanders of German undersea craft during the past twelve months and more in the indiscriminate destruction of merchant vessels of all sorts, nationalities and destinations."

An appendix to the note which deals entirely with an analysis of the facts in the Sussex case discloses that American army and navy officers found in the Sussex screw bolts which correspond with those found on German torpedoes in possession of the French naval authorities at Toulon. The screw bolts are used to fasten the "war head" to the air chamber.

TRYING TO FORCE HUGHES' NAME UPON THE BALLOT

SALEM, Ore., April 19.—Great interest was centered on the hearing in the supreme court here today on the mandamus proceedings to compel Secretary of State Ben W. Oicott to put the name of Justice Charles E. Hughes on the ballot as a candidate for republican nomination for president.

The proceedings were instituted last Monday on behalf of the signers of a petition, which was filed with the secretary of state last week, asking that Justice Hughes' name be placed on the primary ballot. Both before and after the proceedings were instituted, Justice Hughes registered with Secretary Oicott his objections to the use of his name. The signers of the petition, however, contend that they are entitled to vote for him regardless of his wishes. The court's decision will establish an important precedent, as this is the first case of its kind in any state.

The office of the secretary of state was represented today by Attorney General George M. Brown and former Senator Charles W. Fulton, the latter volunteering his services. Wallace McCammant of Portland represented the petitioners.

REPLY OF ALLIES CABLED WASHINGTON

LONDON, April 19.—The reply of Great Britain and France to the American note concerning interference with maritime commerce by the enemy allies has been cabled to Washington. The communication will be presented to the American government by the French and British ambassadors jointly. It consists of two parts, a long note and a supplement signed by the French government.

FORD ENDORSED FOR PRESIDENCY BY NEBRASKANS

OMAHA, Neb., April 19.—Henry Ford has received the preferential vote of Nebraska republicans, according to the returns received up to noon today, with Cummins and Justice Hughes following and nearly tied. All of the men elected as delegates at large to the republican national convention personally favor Hughes.

William J. Bryan, candidate for delegate at large to the democratic convention, polled the lowest vote of the seven men running in this (Douglas) county and is apparently fourth in the race in Lancaster (Lincoln) his home county.

The name of Justice Hughes was written on the ballots by the voters. Senator Hitchcock's re-nomination was indicated by the largest plurality for any candidate except the democratic aspirant for governor. The entrance of William J. Bryan, former secretary of state, into the campaign in behalf of his brother, Mayor C. W. Bryan, for the gubernatorial nomination, and the former secretary's opposition to the re-nomination of Senator Hitchcock was the most sensational feature of the campaign.

IRON CROSS FOR SUSSEX SINKER

PARIS, April 19.—Information was received from reliable sources today that Emperor William has decorated the commander of the submarine which is said to have torpedoed the Sussex. It is understood Washington has been informed of this development.