

NEW NOTE TO GERMANY ON U-BOATS

Submarine Situation Again Acute—Final Course of Action Not Yet Determined—Marina Proves Not to Have Been a Transport and Was Entitled to Immunity—New Note Likely to Clear Up Differences of Interpretation.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—A new note to Germany on the general submarine situation appears to be among the possibilities which may come out of the latest activities of the under-sea boats.

If decided upon, such a note would be for the purpose of clearing up what appear to be differences of interpretation in Washington and Berlin as to what Germany's pledges in the Sussex case covered, and especially as to armed ships.

Secretary Lansing said today no final course of action had been agreed upon by President Wilson and him.

General Action Justified.

Although the state department has been going on, the principle of deciding each case separately on its merits, it was said today that the number of cases had reached such proportions that some general action would be justified, although it was made clear that nothing had been determined upon.

The day's developments in the situation were:

The United States asked Great Britain for information to determine the status of the P. & O. liner Arabia, which a German submarine commander took for an armed transport.

Official information coming to the state department established that the British ship Marina torpedoed with a loss of six Americans was in no sense a transport, and was entitled to the immunity of a peaceful merchantman. In both cases Germany has expressed willingness to offer amends if her pledges were broken.

U. S. Stands Squarley.

It was reiterated again today that the United States stands squarely on the position it took in the Sussex case. This, combined with Germany's statement that she, too, holds to the pledges she gave in that case, leads officials to declare there seems to be some differences in interpretation.

A new note, if it should be decided to send one, would be to clear this up and make plain beyond question that the United States expects all merchant ships, under international law, shall not be destroyed without warning or having crews and passengers removed to places of safety.

Affidavits on the sinking without warning of the Italian liner Palermo, on which state department records show there were twenty-three Americans, are being collected as rapidly as possible. As yet there are no indications that any American lives were lost, but from information at hand the case seems to parallel closely the Arabia and the Marina.

U-BOATS CLAIM 3 MORE VICTIMS

LONDON, Dec. 8.—The Anchor line steamship Caledonia of 9,223 tons gross, is believed to have been sunk, says an announcement made today at Lloyd's Shipping agency.

LONDON, Dec. 8.—Lloyd's Shipping agency announces that the Belgian steamer Keltzer and the Norwegian steamer Meteor have been reported sunk and their crews landed.

The Belgian steamer Keltzer of 2,360 tons gross, was last reported as leaving New Castle, N. B., on November 21 for Queenstown.

The Norwegian steamer Meteor of 4,211 tons gross was last reported leaving Philadelphia on November 24 for London.

HOW LIBERTY LOOKS IN HER NEW ROBE



This is how the great Bartholdi statue of liberty, in New York harbor, looks in her new robe of white light. President Wilson touched the button that lighted the statue from base to top, while a squadron of battleships played their searchlights upon it. Heretofore only the torch at the top was lit at night.

\$40,000 FIXTURES SMASHED IN RAID SEATTLE HOTEL

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 8.—Fixtures and furnishings, valued at \$40,000 in the barroom and dining room of the Hotel Cecil on upper First avenue here, were destroyed with axes by the dry squad of the Seattle police force early this morning for alleged violation of the prohibition law. John E. Savane, proprietor of the hotel, and two Japanese bell boys were arrested on the charge of unlawfully having intoxicating liquor in their possession.

The dry squad entered the hotel shortly after midnight and, according to Police Sergeant Putnam, who directed the raid, found in the barroom cash drawer, two marked \$1 bills which, the sergeant declared, had been given by agents of the police in payment for the liquor.

Savage at once telephoned to Mayor Gill, and the destruction of property was delayed by the mayor's order until, after an investigation of two hours, he was convinced the law had been violated. Then four trustees from the city jail, under direction of members of the dry squad, smashed the fixtures with axes. A mahogany bar and two plate glass mirrors, said to be some of the largest ever brought to the Pacific coast, were among the property destroyed. Savage declared no liquor had been sold in the hotel since the going into effect of the prohibition law.

FORMER POLICEMAN LOS ANGELES BANDIT

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 8.—Albert J. Griffith, a patrolman on the Los Angeles police force for four years, confessed today, according to the police, that he was the robber who held up an express guard yesterday on a busy street and made off with about \$5000 in cash and \$34,000 in checks, drafts and other banking paper. Most of the money was recovered.

GERMANY SAYS BELGIAN POLICY MOST BENEFICIAL

Germany Justifies Deportation of Belgian Laborers to Germany as Social Necessity—By No Means a Hardship for Belgians, Who Are Degenerating From Idleness.

BERLIN, Dec. 8.—The German government issued a statement today in explanation and justification of the transfer of Belgian laborers to Germany. It says the measure is by no means a hardship for the laborers, but is a social necessity.

Owing chiefly to the British embargo against Belgium's overseas trade which before the war operated a large part of the industrial population, large numbers of Belgian workers are idle, the statement says and conditions are growing worse. Many families have become objects of public charity. This state of things is not due, as asserted in Belgium, to German requisitions of raw material. It is explained, for these requisitions occurred, as a rule, only where factories were unable to continue operations.

Population Idle.
Of 1,200,000 employes engaged in Belgian industries before the war 505,000, including 158,000 women are now wholly without work and 150,000 including 46,000 women, are partly without work, making a total of 655,000 persons dependent on public aid. In addition to these there are 293,000 wives and 612,000 children of men without work, so that 1,559,000 persons or one fifth of the total Belgian population, require assistance. More than 300,000,000 francs already has been spent in supporting these persons and 20,000,000 francs monthly will be required hereafter.

These masses of idle people, the statement says, are degenerating and drunkenness and social depravity are resulting.

Von Bissing's Policy.
The German governor general, General Von Bissing, early recognized the necessity of taking measures to help the idle to obtain employment. He caused municipalities to undertake public works to create employment, where this was possible without imposing too great financial burdens. Upon the suggestion of Belgians of practical insight, the governor general issued an ordinance in August of 1915 against persons unwilling to work, which was made more stringent last March. These ordinances provide for compulsory transfer of workmen only when idle persons refused to accept work at reasonable pay without adequate reasons, the provisions of international law protecting them against working on war material being recognized as adequate ground. The ordinances were directed chiefly against organized influence aiming the prevent laborers

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FRENCH WARSHIP SUFFREN GIVEN UP AS LOST AT SEA

PARIS, Dec. 8.—The battleship Suffren, which left port on November 24, has not been heard from since, and the minister of marine considers the vessel lost with all on board.

The Suffren sailed for Lorient, a French naval station in Brittany.

The French battleship Suffren displaced 12,750 tons. Her normal complement was 730 men. She was 410 feet long and 70 feet of beam, and was laid down in 1890. She was armed with four 12-inch, ten 6.4-inch and eight 4-inch guns, twenty-two 3-pounders and four torpedo tubes.

Last year the Suffren took part in the bombardment of the Turkish forts at the Dardanelles. She entered the straits to attack Turkish batteries and, according to an official Turkish announcement, was damaged seriously and withdrew in flames. She was sent back to Toulon for repairs.

GERMAN CONSUL ON TRIAL FOR CONSPIRACY IN "BOMB PLOTS"



German Consul General Franz Bopp, at left, now being tried in San Francisco by the United States government on charges of conspiracy to violate neutrality.

Lieutenant Wilhelm Von Brincken, at right, attache of the German consulate.

Louis J. Smith, below, is one of the men supposed to have been hired by the alleged conspirators. He will testify for the government.

FRENCH DEPUTIES VOTE CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT

PARIS, Dec. 8.—The vote of confidence passed by the chamber of deputies yesterday is on the whole well received by the press, which expresses the hope that the measures promised in the resolution may be carried out speedily and energetically and above all, thoroughly. The Elzaro, which represents the temperate opinion and is well disposed toward the ministry, says:

"Bound by force of discretion we can only remark that the chamber was in a state of extreme excitement and that in spite of attacks which we can see from certain public utterances, were levelled against the government, the majority of the deputies rallied around it and expressed their confidence in Premier Briand. But we must also note that the minority increased between the first and second secret session. Last June the opposition to the cabinet only numbered 97 voices. Today it numbers 160. The number of discontents or impatient has doubled."

DUTCH TO SUPPLY BELLIGERENTS FOOD

LONDON, Dec. 8.—An Amsterdam dispatch to the Times says that the Berlin Vossische Zeitung announced that an agreement had been reached between Holland and Germany regarding the exportation of foodstuffs identical to that existing between Holland and England. The Amsterdam correspondent of the Vossische Zeitung says that it is really, if not technically, an agreement between Germany and England whereby both may obtain food from Holland.

The Times correspondent interprets this as meaning that Dutch ships carrying food to England will not be seized by German submarines or destroyed by destroyers. He adds:

"It is part of a wide agreement, and also says that the understanding with Holland provides for the payment of foodstuffs by German treasury notes and bank assignats."

TWO KILLED IN MONTANA WRECK

HELENA, Mont., Dec. 8.—Charles Steb, engineer on the East bound Northern Pacific passenger wrecked a quarter of a mile east of East Helena, last night in a head-on collision with a freight train, who was badly injured, died today. He succumbed to the effects of a crushed skull and bad burns from the steam.

It develops that the freight train crew were responsible for the accident, which also caused the death of the passenger fireman, H. C. Ruffka, who was instantly killed, having forgotten the passenger train.

Governor Stewart, who was a passenger on the flyer, bound for Washington, though badly shaken up, will resume his journey tonight. His companion, Adjutant General Phil Greenan of the Montana national guard, whose ribs were broken, will be in the hospital for some time.

BOYCOTTS TUMBLE COST OF LIVING

PORTLAND, Dec. 8.—Prices of eggs, butter and the other commodities featured in the campaign against the high cost of living, which Portland housewives have opened, went tumbling in the public and other Portland markets today.

Eggs that sold at 65 and 70 cents a dozen have fallen to a flat 50 cents, the best butter dropped today from 15 cents to 25 cents and prunes that recently sold for 10 cents a pound, may now be bought for three pounds for a quarter. The best quality of dried beans may be had at lower figures. Peas that sold for 2 cents a pound straight, are now for six pounds for 10 cents. Cottage cheese that brought 15 cents a pound can be had for 7 cents a pound.

GREY REPLACED BY BALFOUR IN NEW MINISTRY

Lloyd-George Completing New Cabinet—Bonar-Law, Chancellor, Carson in Admiralty, Derby in War, Henderson, Labor—Suffragettes Make Demonstration.

LONDON, Dec. 8.—The following cabinet appointments are certain to be made:

Chancellor of the exchequer, Andrew Bonar-Law.

Secretary for foreign affairs—A. J. Balfour.

Under-secretary, Lord Robert Cecil.

First lord of the admiralty, Sir Edward Carson.

Secretary for war, earl of Derby.

Secretary for labor, Arthur Henderson.

Lord high chancellor, Sir Robert Finlay.

The home office portfolio, according to the newspapers, was offered to Sir Frederick E. Smith, attorney general in the coalition cabinet, but he preferred to retain the attorney generalship.

Asquith Still Leader.

Herbert H. Asquith declared at the meeting of liberals today that although he had resigned the premiership, he had not given up leadership of the liberal party. The former premier said there had been a carefully engineered campaign against him, but he acquitted Mr. Lloyd George and his other associates in the retiring government of complicity therein.

On Friday of last week, Mr. Asquith said, he received Mr. Lloyd George's proposal for a smaller war council. The same day he replied that the prime minister must preside over such a body. Mr. Lloyd George did not agree to this, and on Sunday the ministerial ministers intimated they had had a meeting at which they decided they could not remain in the government if he did, and that if he did not resign they would. He saw Mr. Lloyd George later and, being desirous of unity of government, appealed to Mr. Bonar-Law to remain in office. They had a conversation and tried to accommodate their views as to the relationship between the premier and the war council and as to the personnel of the council.

Resigns Portfolio.

The next morning he found a statement in the newspapers that the premier was to be excluded from the war council. He then wrote Mr. Lloyd George that he was not prepared to remain in the cabinet as a spectator of the war and that it was not possible to have a war council without the premier as chairman. After consulting with his friends he resigned, believing he could serve the new government to best advantage outside the cabinet.

A small party of suffragettes left variety to the arrival of the liberals at the Reform club at noon today for a meeting of the liberal party to decide its attitude towards the Lloyd-George government. The women greeted the earlier arrivals with the cry "another wait and see."

The suffragettes became more aggressive when Mr. Asquith drove in and on being forced into the roadway by the police, they contented themselves with cries of "Traitor!" and other abusive terms. Lord Haldane was greeted with "Kaiser Haldane."

The Chicago board of trade was defended by J. P. Griffin, its president.

The resolutions adopted by the congress opposed the Shields water-power bill and all forms of embargo. The resolutions remark that there is some doubt whether government loans can be legally laid on lands which form a part of irrigation, drainage or reclamation districts, on account of the lien against these lands for the bonds that are outstanding. It is recommended that this point be cleared up by legislation, if necessary.

GERMAN EXCHANGE DROPS IN GENEVA

GENEVA, Dec. 8.—The German hundred mark bill has dropped another point and a quarter on the Geneva bourse and a point and three quarters on the Zurich bourse. It is now quoted at 79 francs and 78 francs, 75 centimes, respectively.

8000 RUMANS SURRENDER TO TEUTONIC HOST

One Division Forced to Capitulate in Battle on Alt—10,000 Retreating From Altchanz Pass Cut Off and Captured—No Stand to Be Made Before Line of Buzeu Is Reached.

BERLIN, Dec. 7.—The surrender of a force of 8,000 Rumanians is announced by the war office in the official statement issued this evening.

The Rumanians on December 6, in addition to the fortress of Bucharest, and the most important commercial towns, lost one division which was forced into an engagement on the Alt and was obliged to capitulate with 8,000 men and 26 cannon.

Rumanian troops retreating from the Predeal and Altchanz passes were cut off by Teutonic forces and most of them have been captured. In Western Rumania the pursuit is being continued by the Austro-German troops, which yesterday took more than 10,000 prisoners.

Retiring to Buzeu.

Seemingly the Rumanians and such troops as were aiding them are still on the retreat northeastward and military commentators for the most part, do not expect a stand to be made by the Rumanians before the line of the Buzeu river is reached.

This line virtually closes the neck of the province of Moldavia, running eastward from the Hungarian frontier to Galata, on the lower Danube, on the Bessarabian border. It is regarded as a strong defensive line and one easily susceptible of reinforcements from Russian sources.

On the Franco-Belgian front the only recent operation of note has been in the Ardennes region where the Germans yesterday claimed the capture of the summit of Hill 204, west of the Meuse. Today Paris announces that the Germans have been driven from a section of the trenches on the eastern slopes of Hill 204, which they had occupied.

In Macedonia the Bulgarians are violently contesting the efforts of the Serbians to make further advances east of Monastir.

ASK CONGRESS TO PROBE PROBLEM OF MARKETING

CHICAGO, Dec. 8.—Resolutions calling upon congress to investigate the entire problem of agriculture in the United States and calling for an investigation of the marketing of live-stock were adopted today at the closing session of the fourth national conference on marketing and farm credits.

In an address by O. D. Anderson, president of the Farmers' Co-operative association of South Dakota, speculation in grain was condemned as a barrier to "just returns" to the producer. He advocated that speculators should be forced to limit their sales to the amount of wheat actually in existence.

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