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SALEM, OREGON, SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1916

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AMERICANS SATISFIED WITH GERMANY'S REPLY

Washington Officials Consider Incident Closed—German Press and People Pleased With Reply and Hopeful It Would Be Satisfactory to Americans—Matter Can Only Come Up Again If Germany Renews Submarine War On Merchantmen—English Blockade To Be Tackled Next

By Robert J. Bender.
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

Washington, May 6.—The submarine issue is closed, in the view of President Wilson's advisers today. No comment was forthcoming from the White House. So completely do officials in touch with the situation consider the issue disposed of that it was said there would be no reply by the president.

Secretary Lansing may issue a statement calling attention to the essential point—that Germany ordered its submarine activities confined to vessels of war. This is the essence of the reply, officials say, and leaves no actual issues.

The issue will remain closed, it is believed. It is felt that Germany will not reopen the case by resuming its undersea warfare against merchantmen. Officials believe every care will be taken to prevent commanders from violating their instructions, and see danger only in the fact that the submarine commanders are mostly young and some of them perhaps difficult to control.

But Germany having once quit submarining merchantmen, no high official regards it within the range of possibility that she will resume such operations.

By Carl W. Ackerman
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

Berlin, May 6.—American circles today pointed out the importance of the peace feature contained in the German reply to the American submarine note. They expressed the belief that President Wilson has a great opportunity to bring the war to an early end. Some persons even suggested that the time was now ripe for Colonel House to again visit the European capitals.

Newspapers here praised the German reply and expressed hope that it would satisfy President Wilson and the Americans. There were no adverse editorials.

Newspapers admitted that Great Britain would vigorously oppose the effort by the United States to curtail its blockade of the central empires. It was pointed out that the blockade is as valuable to Great Britain as the submarine is to Germany, and that it will require in unusual pressure from America to force the British to a strict compliance with international law.

The Tagblatt expressed a hope that the note would accomplish its purpose. The Lokal Anzeiger hopes that it would satisfy the Americans and congress, even if it did not satisfy Wilson.

The Vossische Zeitung emphasized the charge that Wilson is one-sidedly neutral and added that Germany had made an honest and earnest endeavor to avoid a break.

Imperial Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg, Foreign Minister Von Jagow, Von Helfferich and Admiral Capelle addressed a secret meeting of the reichstag committee at the note and the reasons for the government's course was explained.

England Disappointed
By Ed L. Keen
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

London, May 6.—Dispatches from

Washington reporting the probable acceptance of the German submarine note by the United States government brought disappointment to Great Britain today. The morning newspapers published lengthy editorials and agreed almost unanimously that the reply failed to meet the American demands. The press expressed concern over the concessions conditional on a change of British methods.

The only paragraph satisfactory to London was Germany's declaration that concessions made would prevent the prolongation of the war. Critics seized upon this as an admission that Germany is highly alarmed over the possible effects of America's entrance into the war on the side of the allies.

The Post and the Chronicle agreed that Germany was prolonging the negotiations again.

Two Clarke County Men Mysteriously Disappear

Portland, Ore., May 6.—The mysterious disappearance of two prominent Clarke county, Washington, men, under similar circumstances at about the same time, has resulted in an exhaustive search. Though both have been missing more than two weeks, not the slightest trace of them has been found.

W. R. Canfield, a rancher, left his home to consult a physician in Portland. After he boarded the ferry at Vancouver he was never seen again by anybody who knew him. His brother, Dr. A. L. Canfield, of Portland, has distributed circulars throughout the northwest offering a reward for his return.

April 19, L. T. Vancouver, 73 years old, of Biddeford, Wash., boarded a steamboat in Portland to return to his home. He has not been seen since. His friends and relatives fear foul play.

SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES BACK UNITED STATES

Patient Course With Mexico Pleases, Convincing Them Of Our Good Faith

MEXICANS WERE TOLD TO CONSENT OR FIGHT

Obregon Then Withdrew Ultimatum—Agreement To Be Signed Today

SOUTH AMERICA PLEASED

Washington, May 6.—South America has the greatest confidence in the good faith of the United States toward Mexico. Any action taken will be received without question there.

This was the statement today of Senator Fletcher, returning from South America. "South America," he said, "thinks that the patient course of the United States toward Mexico is ample proof that it doesn't seek to dominate all the Americas. Many South Americans feel that we have gone as far as we can to save Mexico from itself, and that all we can do now is to withdraw or intervene. Either course would not be disapproved."

By R. T. Conley
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

San Diego, Cal., May 6.—General Hugh Scott expects to sign today the agreement which he entered into with General Alvaro Obregon covering the operations of American troops in Mexico. Whatever obstacles prevented Obregon from signing yesterday are believed to have been overcome today and it was expected he would meet Scott in a final conference without further hesitation.

Obregon declared that his message from Carranza was garbled and that this prevented the sealing of the agreement. Officials did not credit this, however, asserting that Carranza probably hoped the German reply would affect the situation.

Circumstantial accounts today revealed an interesting phase of the preliminary. Scott sent O. P. Brown, agent of the war department, to Juarez to "throw the fear of God into the Mexicans' hearts," before the first conference, according to these reports. Brown failed to find Obregon but conferred with General Gavieta and Consul Garcia, giving them Scott's message. He communicated a warning that the United States would no longer tolerate anarchy in Mexico and that if the Mexicans continued their attitude of assertiveness and defiance, the next two years would be blacker than 1846 and 1847.

Despite this, Obregon made a sweeping demand in the first conference, it was learned, issuing a virtual ultimatum for the withdrawal of American troops from Mexico. Scott's attitude was effective, and in the second conference Obregon was ready to "talk turkey."

Negotiations proceeded rapidly with the understanding that the United States forces would quickly clean up northern Mexico.

Reports from Mexicans who assert that Francisco Villa is near Santiago Pappasquaro, Durango, 800 miles from the border, and 500 miles south of the American outposts, did not agree with General Pershing's advice.

Pope Asks President To Aid In Bringing The War To An End

Washington, May 6.—A long communication to President Wilson from the pope urging the president to make strong efforts to keep America out of the war was delivered today at the White House by Monsignor Brinzano, apostolic delegate.

His mission was most confidential. No word of the details of his purpose were forthcoming from the White House. But it was ascertained the pope feels he must have the cooperation of President Wilson in order to bring an end to the war.

It is understood that the "peace paragraphs" in the German reply were referred to in the communication. This papal communication, in connection with the reply and receipt of dispatches from Europe announcing further activity of the pope with certain German dignitaries for the apparent purpose of paving the way for peace caused a great stir in officialdom. Peace talk took precedence over the German-American situation.

SAYS ENGLISH ARE A DECADENT PEOPLE

Not Up To Their Traditions, As Fighters Lose Respect Of Their Allies

Seattle, Wash., May 6.—"The English are a decadent race, and the knell has sounded for them as a great nation."

After ten months in the British field hospital service of northern France, Dr. Waldon Richardson, an American surgeon, has just returned to Seattle with that firm conviction.

"I want to Europe decidedly pro-British," he declared, "but I have come back virtually neutral."

"I saw enough at the front, in the trenches and hospitals to eradicate every favorable prejudice I had entertained for the English."

"As fighting men, they have not lived up to their traditions. In the hospitals the wounded have shown how little resistance the Londoners have. And as allies they have not won the respect of the French."

"And I believe from all the evidence I saw at the front that her colonies will live up to their traditions. Canada and Australia, almost certainly."

"The Canadians have been disdainful and even hostile to the English officers whose bombast has made enemies instead of friends among the allies."

"The colonial British, however, the Canadians and Australians, are magnificent men and splendid fighters, imbued with a sportsmanship and democracy entirely foreign to their island cousins."

"Of all the warriors in Europe today I should place the Canadians first and the Germans second."

"The French are splendid when they are winning, but become despondent when losing."

Dr. Richardson was stationed for a time at the Etambes hospital base of the British.

Thousands of wounded came under his personal care.

He believes the war will end in a draw, Germany losing her colonies but gaining Belgium and French territory.

FRENCH TRENCHES POUNDED TO PIECES

Paris, May 6.—French troops were forced to evacuate part of their trenches on the northern slope of Hill 304 and keystone positions northwest of Verdun under a most violent attack, it was officially admitted today.

The German attack was the most determined assault on Hill 304 since the battle of Verdun started. The troops fought desperately all day yesterday and throughout the night. They were still at it when the statement was issued.

Preceding the German advance, massed batteries of heavy calibre guns concealed behind the hills hurled tons of shells into the French trenches, blasting them to debris. This was followed by a rain of gas projectiles, suffocating the survivors who still clung with great bravery to the wreckage of their defenses.

As part of the trenches had been pounded into utter ruin, they were considered untenable and were evacuated. Elsewhere, however, French batteries of the famous "Seventy fives" stationed on the summit of the hill and in adjoining positions checked all attempted advances.

Last night Germans determinedly attacked positions in the woods north of Hill 304. They succeeded in crossing the bullet-swept area between the trenches but when they reached the French pits and barbed wire entanglements in the woods they were confronted by a brilliant array of bay-

HOPES OF PEACE FOUND IN STATEMENT IN REPLY

This Plainly Indicates Germany Is Anxious For Peace—It Says "Germany Has Twice Offered to Make Peace," and That She Yields Because She Believes Prolongation of the War a Calamity—These Are Taken to Mean An Appeal to This Country to Take Steps That Will Stop the Carnage

By Robert J. Bender,
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

Washington, May 6.—The official text of Germany's reply to the American submarine ultimatum was received here today and President is formulating his decision on the momentous issue.

Unless the official document differs seriously from the press version it is a foregone conclusion that danger of an immediate break has passed. This conclusion has the general approval of congress, the cabinet and others of the president's advisers.

From the large numbers of telegrams received at the White House during the night it appears that the country is satisfied that Germany made a concession precluding all possibility of a break—unless it fails to live up to its promise.

Germany may be said to be again on probation. Time will tell whether it deserves this chance, according to the view here.

With President Wilson's decision, the Lusitania case will pass into history. The last obstacle in the Lusitania negotiations will be removed when the president approves the new orders putting freighters and liners in the same class—all subject to the rules of search and seizure before destruction.

Officials guardedly indicated that something may result directly from Germany's plain indication that it is anxious for peace.

The conference between Ambassador Gerard and the kaiser suddenly looms large in the minds of officials. It had not been seriously thought that the emperor discussed details of the submarine issue with Gerard. Since the arrival of the reply there is a strong belief that peace may have played a prominent part in the conference.

Germany's admission that she twice offered to make peace and a declaration that she yields because she believes prolongation of the war a calamity, these—if not actual indications of apprehension for the future are appeals to this country for affirmative steps that will stop the carnage, according to belief of German as well as administration circles.

It may be said authoritatively that some persons close to the president believe he should tentatively sound out the belligerents on the question of possible peace and result of the German note.

One of these said: "We hear in this no voice of the braggart or the bully but the voice of a nation sick and tired of the endless fight. It is the heart and soul of Germany speaking what it feels."

The president for more than a year has declined to offer his services toward peace. Until such action is suggested to him by a belligerent, it is believed he will make no move. This suggestion, in the mind of many, has come. Whether the president will so regard it remains to be seen.

Much probably depends on what Ambassador Gerard communicated with regard to his conference with the kaiser. The contents of his communication on that point are closely guarded.