

THE NOTE OF UNITED STATES TO AUSTRIA

Provokes a Number of Comments—London Regards It as Weak in One Important Part.

By Special Wire to the Courier. London, Dec. 15.—The American note to Austria-Hungary, concerning the sinking of the Italian steamer Ancona, is regarded here as weak in one important point, which may deprive the note in general of its foundation.

This concerns the standpoint taken that the Austro-Hungarian government should be familiar with the attitude of the American government regarding the freedom of the seas because President Wilson had explained this to the German government, thus implying that Austria, as Germany's ally, should be acquainted with the principles laid down and desired by Washington.

Against this stand of Washington, the objection is raised in responsible quarters here that the government has knowledge of the negotiations in the Lusitania case only through the newspapers; that it could give to these reports no diplomatic value, and that it has not concerned itself in any way with the Lusitania case.

It is pointed out by the same authority that the American Government can scarcely demand that the imperial and royal government base its policy upon newspaper reports, and it is suggested that in any case it would have been better if Washington had communicated the memorandum of its standpoint to all belligerent governments, in which case the present note would seem more justified.

WITHIN THE RULES?

Zurich, via London, Dec. 15.—Discussing the American note on the Ancona, the Vienna Neue Presse contends that everything in connection with the sinking of the steamer was done in strict accordance with international law. The ship was warned to stop and given ample time for the passengers and crew to take to the boats. In the confusion and panic which ensued, many persons, including some presumably American citizens, lost their lives, but the paper adds, "even the stories of still life passengers show that the minister of the submarine kept strictly within the rules of international law."

"All these were punctiliously observed," it continues, "the Neue Presse, leaving no occasion for special diplomatic action in this case. President Wilson has no justification for such a repetition of the Lusitania note exchange with Germany. Probably this demagogic proceeding is not unconnected with American internal political considerations. Mr. Wilson, as a candidate again for the presidency, desires to secure supporters for his campaign."

PROFOUND IMPRESSION. Geneva, via Paris, Dec. 14.—(Delayed)—A dispatch from Vienna received by way of Buchs, Switzerland, states that President Wilson's note to Austria regarding the Ancona incident has produced a profound impression on government and political circles. The note is said to be resented by a majority.

It is generally believed in Vienna, says the dispatch, that Austria will give satisfaction and will pay an indemnity, especially as she has large interests in America. Baron von Burten, the Austrian foreign minister, has called a special council to discuss the matter.

GERMAN COUNT AIRS HIS VIEWS.

Berlin, Dec. 15.—Via London.—Count Ernst von Reventlow, in an article in the Tages Zeitung, says that the note sent by the United States to Austria regarding the Ancona case is characterized by a tone of curt command and hints threats. He says he thinks it is remarkable that a note based upon trustworthy information and "apparent" facts contains opinions, judgments and demands of special and most harsh character. Count von Reventlow states that he is in favor of a treatment in the note of the circumstances of the case as quite superficial and even contradictory. He has a contradiction particularly in the facts that the note alleges the Ancona did not escape because the submarine was upon her whereas, a few sentences later the ship apparently neither offered resistance nor attempted to escape. The note in addition ignoring completely the official Austrian description of the circumstances.

The true explanation of this is, therefore, that the note is political rather than an attempt to treat the case objectively, declares the count.

Enlist in Home Town

North Bay, Dec. 15.—After traveling a distance of 3,750 miles, from Pleasant City, California, Mr. William Ferguson arrived in town yesterday for the express purpose of enlisting with his own home town battalion, the 159th. Mr. Ferguson is the only son of Mr. John Ferguson, the well-known capitalist of this town, who has done much to stir up a patriotic spirit in town since the opening of hostilities. Mr. Ferguson was accompanied by his wife, who is an American, but who is proud of the action of her husband.

THE IDEAL GIFT.

See our complete stock of White Rabbit and Grey Lamb Furs, the best Christmas gift for children. W. Hughes, 127 Colborne St.

BONAR LAW

Reads Riot Act to Disturbing Elements in Unionist Party.

Says He Will Resign if There is Any Further Trouble.

London, Dec. 15.—Andrew Bonar Law, Secretary for the Colonies, told Sir Edward Carson and a few Unionist dissenters in an outspoken warning in the House of Commons last evening that further signs of revolt would lead to his retirement from the Government.

Mr. Bonar Law was opposing a motion, backed by the dissident Unionists, for the rejection of the Parliament bill introduced on Thursday last by Sir John Simon, Secretary for Home Affairs, providing for the continuation of the present parliament beyond the five-year period, and the postponement of a general election during the war. This would keep alive the plural voting bill.

FIGHT PLURAL VOTING BILL

The objecting faction took exception to the prolongation of the life of the plural voting bill, and urged the desirability of a general election. Mr. Bonar Law, after stating that the present compromise bill was his own proposal, dealt with the Unionist criticism of the Government.

"I would say to my Unionist friends," said the Secretary, "if the time comes—and I think it has not come yet—that they honestly think the war is not going to be won by this country without a change of government, it would be better for them to go openly into opposition and move a vote of no confidence. We Unionists are members of the government as the representatives of our party, and if I thought that in this position we would lose the confidence of our party I would feel that I was of no further use."

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SNOW STORM

Has Now Turned Its Attention to Quebec Province.

Quebec, Dec. 15.—A heavy drifting snow, driven by a 60 mile an hour gale, is giving the whole district of Quebec its winter garment to-day.

The storm started last night about seven o'clock with a strong wind, which soon developed into a regular old-time hurricane. Snow set in about six this morning causing heavy delay to transportation. Last night's gale caused some damage in the outlying suburbs, where doors and windows were blown in. No casualties are reported. This is the first snow storm of the season, and it is quite an unusual occurrence for winter to come so late in the district.

BRUTAL MURDER

Of a Sergeant of a French-Canadian Battalion—Lieutenant Held.

London, Dec. 15.—(In Montreal Gazette).—Further details received in regard to the death at Grayshott of Sergeant Ozanne, in connection with which Lieutenant Coderre of the French-Canadian battalion is held, show the mounted infantryman was murdered in a most brutal manner. The body was slashed with a knife in such a way as to indicate that the slayer was in a state of frenzy. The deed must have been committed by a powerful man and doubt is expressed if a man of Lieutenant Coderre's stature could have, unaided, mastered the sergeant in a struggle. An astonishing feature of the case is the fact that Lieutenant Rochambeault and Major Hughes of the 41st battalion, slept all night in the vicinity of the crime without being aware that anything was wrong.

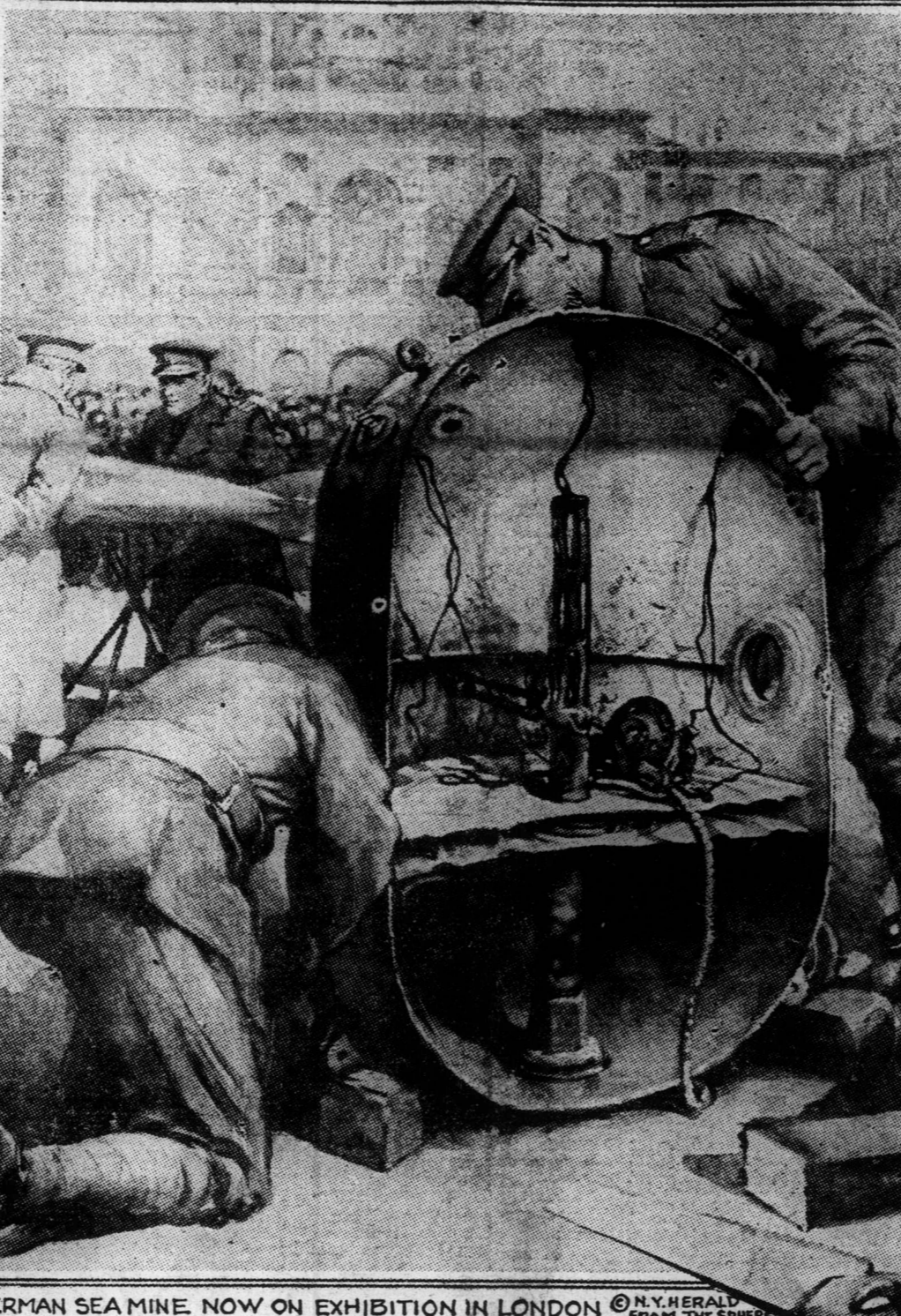
Two orderlies of the 41st, Duchesne and Keller, are detained as witnesses. Ozanne was divisional canteen sergeant and it is said at the camp that he was in possession of a considerable sum of Canadian money, which he gave to Lieutenant Coderre to be exchanged into sterling while the latter was in London, the day before the crime, and it was evidently for the purpose of settling the transaction that the sergeant came to the officer's house at Grayshott village.

The night of the tragedy Lieutenant Coderre messed as usual with his brother officers, and he betrayed no sign of agitation, and he betrayed no sign of agitation, and he betrayed no sign of agitation.

Mrs. Coderre reached London yesterday and went at once to Whitehall to see her husband.

New Denver's 1915 fruit fair was a money maker to the extent of \$45 after all expenses were paid.

GERMAN SEA TERROR CAUGHT BY THE BRITISH



GERMAN SEA MINE, NOW ON EXHIBITION IN LONDON. One of the most interesting exhibits among the war trophies which are now being daily inspected by crowds of Londoners is a section of a German sea mine. This mine has been brought in here in order to show the intricate mechanism. The upper portion of the mine contains the detonating apparatus in the centre (fulminate of mercury). This very high explosive fires the mass of gunpowder or other explosive, which occupies the lower section of the mine. The upper portion contains air, thereby supplying the necessary buoyancy for the mine. On the outside of the mine case project certain knobs, which, when pressed inward, make an electrical contact, which fires the fulminate already prepared.

BRANT BATTALION IS ON THE BOOM

Twenty Seven Recruits is the Latest Record—Fourteen Bandsmen in the List.

The following recruits were added to the strength of the 125th Brant Battalion this morning. Fourteen of these twenty-seven are bandsmen. ERNEST ROBINSON, English, 20, dyer, single, Paris. WM. HENRY HINCHCLIFFE, English, 27, barber, married, Paris. HAROLD R. FILE, Canadian, 18, bookkeeper, single, 234 Dalhousie Street. JACK M. RAYMOND, Canadian, 20, clerk, single, 4 years B.C.I. cadets, 2 yrs. 38th, 77 Peel street. JAMES CURRIE, Canadian, 31, carpenter, married, 3 yrs. and Dragoons, 2 yrs. 38th, 80 Arthur St. ALBERT SMITH, English, 30, knitter, married, Paris. JOHN P. WILLIAMS, English, 35, mail carrier, married, Harley P.O. ERNEST D. FOOT, English, 19, farmer, single, Mt. Pleasant. FRANK E. SHAW, English, 34 yrs. shoemaker, married, 3 yrs. 91st Highlanders, 2 yrs. 38th D. R. C., 12 yrs. 17th Leicestershire Regt., 12 Albion St. WM. DAVIS, Canadian, 35, teamster, married, 6 yrs. 38th D. R. C., 233 Brant avenue. JAS. JENKINSON, English, 18 yrs. farmer, single, Paris. CHAS. FRANKS, Canadian, 20, knitter, married, Paris.

BANDSMEN. ROYAL STORY, Canadian, 36, machinist, married, 9 yrs. 38th D.R.C., Oak St. WALTER RICHARD BARTRAM, Irish, 36 years, timekeeper, married, 9 yrs. 38th D. R. C., 186 Wellington St. ALBERT C. WILLIAMS, English, 30, Machinist, single, 8 years 38th, D.R.C., 23 Glasgow Avenue. PAUL DEBATTISTA, Maltese, 39, stonemason, single 1 year 38th D. R. C., 186 Dalhousie street. PHILIP CIAPPARA, Maltese, 27, Musician, married, 6 months, 38th, 186 Dalhousie street. CHARLES MURRAY, English, 27, laborer, 4 years, 38th, 2 years 25th B. D. 30 Marlboro Street. CLAUDE GIRDLESTONE, English, 23, plasterer, single, 9 months 38th, 2 yrs. 25th, 93 Northumberland St.

RECRUITING RALLIES

For the Brant Battalion Will be Held Throughout the County as Follows:

AT OAKLAND. Friday, Dec. 17. Meetings will be held each evening at 8 o'clock. Women are specially invited to attend these meetings.

GREAT SKILL

Shown by the French During Their Retirement.

Saloniki, Dec. 14.—Via Paris, Dec. 15.—An eye-witness reports that the retirement of the French to their temporary positions in Greece near the Serbian border was conducted with great skill. All the wounded were brought in except a few who could not be moved. The guns were piled on endless trains of freight cars, on which the last remaining inhabitants of the evacuated towns departed, their belongings scattered among the guns or heaped on top of the cars. The city of Gievelli was razed to the ground. The French rear guards were constantly in touch with the Bulgarians until they crossed the border, but held them in check; giving the main forces plenty of time for strategic manoeuvres. Casualties of the French were slight, consisting mostly of frozen feet as the soldiers were compelled to march through the snow. The final positions the allies expect to take up in a few days, are repaired.

The British retirement in the Doiran section, proved to be difficult. There was hard fighting in the Strumitsa region, but no guns were lost. The British burned villages as they fell back and destroyed the bridges. The harbor at Saloniki is crowded with huge transports loaded to the gunwales with arriving troops. Freighters are disembarking munitions and supplies.

On land, hospitals are being erected to supplement the facilities of the hospital ship in accommodating the wounded brought from Gievelli. Transference of Greek troops from the neighborhood of Saloniki has begun.

EFFORTS FAILED.

Paris, Dec. 14.—The Temps publishes a despatch from Saloniki, corroborating the report that all French and British troops have now quit Serbian territory, having retired into Greece. Notwithstanding the difficulties of the retreat and the determined attacks of superior forces of Bulgarians, the despatch says, the allies saved virtually all their ammunition and other supplies, and suffered comparatively small losses in men.

The assertion made in an official Bulgarian communication that the Franco-British line had been cut, is not borne out by the correspondent of The Temps, who says: "Efforts to envelope or cut our lines altogether failed."

A poultry and pet stock show will be held in Revelstoke in January. "Belgian Day" in Victoria realized a total of \$3,849.18 for the Belgian fund.

SITTING OF REICHSTAG WAS A STORMY ONE

BIG BATTLE

Likely to be Fought on Greek Territory in the Near Future.

Germany Has Issued Warning to Greece, Still Further Confusing Things.

Paris, Dec. 15.—An official statement on the Dardanelles operations says: "According to additional information the enemy losses as a result of our bombardment of the 12th were considerable. On the 13th the Turkish artillery on the European and Asiatic coasts were very active. Our guns replied effectively, and under their fire we perfected our defences and erected wire entanglements." London, Dec. 15.—The next big battle will in all probability be fought in Greece, despite the efforts of the Hellenic King and Government to save their country from the horrors of war.

The British and French forces have made good their retirement down the Vardar Valley, and are now approaching Saloniki, where reinforcements are being landed, while reports received in Paris and Rome say that the Bulgarians have crossed the Greek frontier in pursuit. The reports of such action by the Bulgarians come somewhat as a surprise, as it had been thought that such a move by them would provoke the Greeks, and that consequently if the Entente Allies are followed at all the task would be allotted to the Austrians and Germans.

FOE NOT OVER BORDER.

An official statement received from Saloniki says: "The whole of the town of Guevelli, near the Greek border, is in flames, following a bombardment by the Bulgarians."

A French statement says— "Our retiring movement continues"

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THE DEATH

Is Recorded of Viscount Alverstone—Formerly a Chief Justice.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

London, Dec. 15, 1.19 p.m.—Viscount Alverstone, former Chief Justice of England, is dead.

Viscount Alverstone, for nearly thirteen years Lord Chief Justice of England was one of the most popular, humane and many sided men in British public life. While on circuit on Newcastle in February, 1912, Lord Alverstone was seized with a serious heart attack, and his continued ill health led to his resignation. Tall, athletically modelled and vigorous, he was a splendid specimen of the old school of English gentleman. He came into prominence before the American public as the representative of England on the Alaskan boundary commission. His vote in support of the chief claims of the United States gave America the practical victory. Many Canadians professed to believe, and with bitterness asserted, that the American government went into the arbitration only after it had reached an understanding that the American case should win and that Alverstone was put forward to carry out the diplomatic bargain. Previous to the Alaskan commission, Lord Alverstone, then Richard Everard Webster rendered good service to the government, as one of the British counsel before the Venezuelan boundary commission, which met in Paris as a result of President Cleveland's famous war message.

He was born on December 22, 1842 his father being Thomas Webster, Q.C. well known at Westminster where he had a large practice, especially in patent cases. Lord Alverstone, was a widower. His wife died in 1875, and his only son in 1910, after an operation for appendicitis. There is no heir to the title.

Peterboro Opposed.

Peterboro, Dec. 15.—In the Presidency of Peterboro the summary of the vote of the congregations on church union was as follows: Elders, 111 for, 108 against; members, 1,724 for, 1,882 against; adherents, 270 for, 357 against. Total, for, 2,105; against 2,347. The total vote of members and adherents is 3,885 out of a possible of 7,082. The result in 1912 was a majority of 430 in favor of union.

Intermediate Hockey Schedule Drawn Up

Paris at Brantford, Jan. 5th. Paris at Hamilton, Jan. 7th. Hamilton at Paris, Jan. 10th. Brantford at Hamilton, Jan. 12th. Paris at Brantford, Jan. 14th. Paris at Paris, Jan. 17th. Paris at Hamilton, Jan. 17th. Paris at Hamilton, Jan. 19th. Hamilton at Brantford, Jan. 21st. Brantford at Paris, Jan. 24th. Brantford at Hamilton, Jan. 26th. Hamilton at Paris, Jan. 28th. Hamilton at Brantford, Jan. 31st.

Government Refused to Answer Questions of a Socialist Deputy Regarding Food—Riots in Berlin.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

London, Dec. 15.—The sitting of the Reichstag at Berlin yesterday was a stormy one owing to the refusal of the government to answer questions put by Dr. Liebknecht, the Socialist deputy, as to whether the government was prepared by the regulation of production and consumption to bring about uniform distribution of food stuffs and, whether it intended to make a serious beginning looking to the re-organization of the internal political regime during the course of the present session.

The president of the chamber, according to an Amsterdam despatch to Reuter's Telegram Company, refused to allow a number of supplementary questions submitted by Dr. Liebknecht, whose protests were drowned in the applause and general commotion.

Dr. Liebknecht, among other questions, wanted to know whether the government was prepared to publish official material concerning "the origin of the world war, especially relating to the diplomatic preliminary history of the Austrian ultimatum to Serbia, including the official and semi-official negotiations between the German and Austrian Governments since the Sarajevo assassination, and the preliminary history of the breach of Luxemburg's and Belgium's neutrality."

He inquired also whether the government would appoint a committee to investigate these matters.

The German secretary of foreign affairs, Herr Von Jagow, replied that such diplomatic material had already been published, and would continue to be published as was found necessary, but the government opposed demand for a committee of investigation. He added:

"The responsibility and atonement will fall only upon our adversaries." The House displayed the greatest indignation at Dr. Liebknecht's persistence in putting supplementary questions, and finally the president cut short further questions by accepting a question as to whether the government would present a bill providing for the abandonment of secret diplomacy in favor of lasting control by the public and leaving the decision of peace or war to the representatives of the nation.

To this Herr Von Jagow, the foreign secretary replied by a brief negative.

Dr. Karl Helfferich, secretary of the imperial treasury, speaking on the occasion of the first reading of the bill for a supplementary war credit of \$2,500,000, said:

"Security for our existence as a nation and empire has still to be wrested from our enemies, who, after sixteen months of military failures and defeats, still indulge in fancies of crushing or crippling Germany. The war must and will be prosecuted at all risk until this security is gained. Our credit will prove that all calculation on Germany's weakness, disunion, weariness, famine is, and remains, wrong. The great success of the September loan enables us to wait until March, and manage till then with treasury bonds. We had to convince the enemy of our strength in the field of finance. On the first installment day seventy per cent of the subscribed loan was paid. To-day the payments are 1,600,000 marks (\$2,850,000) or 4,500,000,000 marks (\$1,125,000,000) in advance of those due. This proves how easily German political economy manages to bring up such a credit. Only \$80,000,000 marks paid in the third war loan came from loan societies."

"The savings banks show a highly satisfying picture after paying out for the first and second war loans deposits were still 1,250,000,000 marks (\$312,500,000) higher than at the beginning of 1914. Among the 4,000,000 were 3,000,000 of less than 30,000 marks income. This, in fact, is a national loan, which England tried to raise, but failed."

STREET RIOTS

Berlin, Dec. 14 (by wireless to Tuckerton).—Among the items given out for publication to-day by the Overseas News Agency was the following—The English Poldhu wireless station once more tells gruesome stories of street riots in Berlin last Thursday after the opening of the Reichstag. But Poldhu desires to shift the responsibility and quotes foreigners as its source of information.

Thus it reports that, according to Amsterdam news, two thousand persons raised the cry in the main streets of Berlin, "We Starve." It adds that according to a Copenhagen report the crowd numbered fifty thousand and that many persons were killed by the police.

Since Poldhu conveniently without names it is impossible to say who was the inventor of the nonsense. The only thing certain is that on Thursday not even the capital crowds gathered. Berlin's main streets were empty.

Greek King Ill.

By Special Wire to the Courier.

London, Dec. 15.—King Constantine of Greece has contracted a mild influenza with symptoms of a slight fever, according to the Athens correspondent of The Daily Chronicle. The court physicians are said to have prescribed that the king take a complete rest and abstain from participation in state affairs.