

## AUSTRIAN DEFENCE IN THE CARPATHIANS BREAKING DOWN BEFORE RUSSIAN ATTACKS

### PRESS VIEWS ON NOTE FROM WASHINGTON

London Papers Find Tone of American Answer Very Friendly.

### ALMOST ADMITS RIGHT TO SEARCH NEUTRALS.

Cannot Affect Friendly Relations Between the Two Governments, the Times Says.

London, April 5.—The American note is discussed editorially in detail by the London morning papers. Its friendly tone frankly admitted, and Ambassador Page's letter, dealing with the amicable relations between the two governments, affords special gratification.

The note is regarded by the press as going near to recognition of the right to search neutral vessels. In general, the arguments used are repetitions of those previously employed in the discussions, and are briefly that Great Britain is in an exceptional position, in which she is entitled to ask, at the hands of the United States, a certain amount of give and take.

For instance, regarding the claim that the "blockade" is not effective, as far as the Baltic ports are concerned, it is reported that the American blockade of the Southern ports was not effective for months after it was declared; yet Great Britain raised no controversy with the United States upon that score.

The Times, in an editorial says: "We think that a good general answer to the apprehensions disclosed in the note has been given by anticipation in the British note. The object we have in view is as vital to us as the destruction of commerce with the Confederate states was to the Union during the Civil war. We did not then stand upon technicalities with them, and we feel that we may fairly ask them not to show greater jealousy of their extreme legal rights, now that we are fighting for our existence, than we displayed then."

"Happily, the American note, whatever theories it may safeguard, and whatever reserves it may make in theory, does not appear to support, in practice, any position incompatible with the broad principles we have laid down, or with the specific action of our government. We do not pretend to agree with it in all respects, but we are reasonably confident that it cannot, in any way, affect the cordial relations between the two governments."

The Daily Mail says: "The American people are naturally reasonable and just, and the distinguishing feature of the note is its friendliness and general fairness."

"The Mail reminds Americans that the British government has carefully avoided the use of the word 'blockade,' admits that the demands for the expeditious settlement of prize court cases is a perfectly fair demand, and concludes:

"When all is said, England has reason to be profoundly grateful to America."

Seems to Miss Main Point. The Daily Telegraph in an editorial says that it finds in the American note a tendency to discuss the British acts in an "intellectual vacuum" and concludes:

"We are not fighting so much for the principles of international law as for our existence. The American government seems to miss this point in the controversy. We are not resorting to similar practice to the Germans. On the contrary, we are treating all neutral subjects and interests with a consideration which moves many persons in England to indignation and exposition."

"These considerations apart, the Washington government makes an important and valuable contribution in a suggestion which appears to bear the character of an invitation to the allied governments to declare a formal long distance blockade, involving on neutrals all the penalties of attempting to break through. We apprehend that jurists will contend the proposal involves a far more serious infraction of international law than

### CANNOT ADMIT ALLIES' RIGHTS TO BLOCKADE

Text of Washington's Note to Great Britain Made Public.

### EXPECTS INDEMNITY FOR DAMAGE TO NEUTRALS.

To Admit Allies' Blockade Justifiable Would Mean U. S. Taking Unneutral Attitude.

Washington, April 5.—The United States government today made public its note to Great Britain, announcing that it "could not admit" either the right of the Allies or their claims for justification in placing an embargo on all commercial intercourse between Germany and neutral countries.

"To admit it," says the communication, "would be to assume the attitude of unneutrality toward the present enemies of Great Britain, which would be obviously inconsistent with the solemn obligations of this government in the present circumstances, and for Great Britain to make such a claim would be for her to abandon and set at naught the principles for which she has consistently and earnestly contended in other times and circumstances."

The note reviews at length the legal phases of a blockade of belligerent territory, and virtual blockade of neutral coasts. In conclusion, the United States states its expectation that Great Britain, after having considered "the possibilities of serious interruption of American trade," under the order-in-council, "will take the steps necessary to avoid them, and, in the event that they should unhappily occur, will be prepared to make full reparation for every act, which under the rules of international law constitutes a violation of neutral rights."

The American communication interprets the circumstances under which Great Britain claims to be justified in adopting retaliatory measures toward her enemies as "merely a reason for certain extraordinary activities," by her naval forces, "and not an excuse for, or a prelude to, any unlawful action."

"If the course of the present enemies of Great Britain," the note adds, "should prove to be, in fact, tainted by illegality and disregard of the principles of war sanctioned by enlightened nations, it cannot be supposed, and this government does not, for a moment, suppose that His Majesty's government would wish the same taint to attach to their own action."

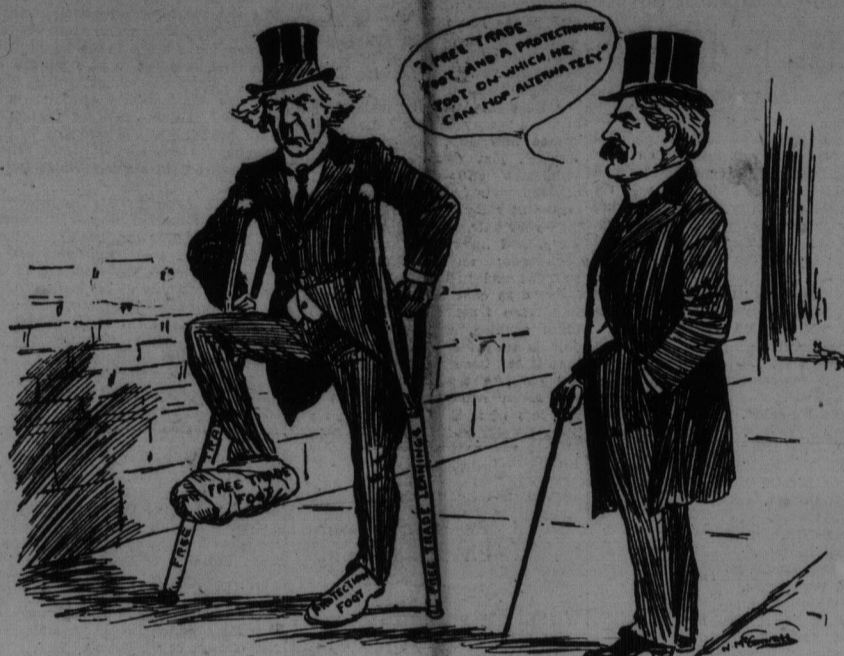
Ambassador Sharp, at Paris, was instructed to present a copy of the American note to Great Britain to the French Foreign Office, with the statement that although the French admiralty decree had not been officially received in Washington, it was understood here to be identical with the British order-in-council and the American government therefore made similar reply.

### "DRY" VOTE LARGE.

Detroit, April 5.—Returns received up to midnight tonight indicated sweeping victories for the "Dry" in the local option contests which featured the Michigan State election today. Incomplete returns also showed large majorities for the Republican state ticket.

The Allies present measures but the plan certainly is worthy of a most friendly examination. The Daily Chronicle complains that President Wilson makes no option of neutral subjects and interests with a consideration which moves many persons in England to indignation and exposition. "This silence seems to us decidedly the least friendly and least candid thing that President Wilson has done in his correspondence with our government. No doubt the president is in a difficult position and his note seems to reflect perplexity by its very style of expression. We are sure that the British government will do its best to meet him, but it is impossible for the Allies to allow non-combatant goods to reach Germany without destroying their policy."

### Spirit Willing, Flesh Weak



SIR WILFRID—"You are wrong, Sir Robert, I haven't put any weight on my Free Trade foot since 1911."

## IMPORTANT GAINS MADE BY THE CZAR'S ARMIES IN THE EAST

Russians Now on Hungarian Side of Dukla and Lupkow Passes—Quiet in Western Area—Bulgaria to Punish Invaders of Serbian Territory—Prohibition in England May Not be Necessary.

London, April 5.—The attention of the public for the time being is directed toward the great struggle for the Carpathian Passes where the Russians apparently are making very steady progress despite the obstinate resistance offered by the Austrian and German troops.

The Russians are on the Hungarian side of both the Dukla and Lupkow Passes and with the aid of continual reinforcements are gaining the heights which dominate Uszok Pass. Even the Austrian official report admits that fighting is now taking place in the Laborca Valley, which is south of Lupkow Pass, while the Russians tonight announce the capture of Cisna, an important station on the high mountains between Lupkow and Uszok Passes, where they captured a great stock of war munitions and provisions.

The Russians also are advancing from Dukla Pass on Bartfield, which is at the head of the line of railway running south into Hungary, and fighting north from Mezolaborca, another important railroad head. On Saturday and Sunday, they captured in the Carpathians upwards of three thousand prisoners. They also claim another success in Bukovina and the capture of another thousand prisoners, while the Austrians also assert that they repulsed a Russian force which attempted to cross the Dniester river.

The Russians also are making progress in Northern Poland, a German official report telling of the repulse of a Russian attack on Mariampol, which is considerably west of the region, which a few days ago was in the possession of the Germans.

So far as the western front is concerned, comparative calm continues, the French having little to report, while the Germans announce the repulse of French attacks in the Woeyve and Argonne regions, and of a Belgian attempt to recover ground which they recently lost in Flanders.

The former German cruisers Goeben and Breslau, now under the Turkish flag with the new names Sultan Selim and Midirli respectively, have again been out in the Black Sea and exchanged shots with the Russian fleet off the Crimean coast but, probably their way back to the Bosphorus. The German submarine U-31 has replaced the U-28 off the west coast of England, and during the day re-

### LIBERALS CHOSE CARVELL AS THEIR STANDARD BEARER

Nominated for Carleton-Victoria Seat at Meeting in Andover Yesterday.

Special to The Standard. Andover, N. B., April 5.—The convention called for the purpose of selecting a candidate for the House of Commons for Carleton-Victoria commenced today at 3.30 o'clock. Special trains were run from Woodstock, Grand Falls and the Tobique district.

At the afternoon meeting F. B. Carvell was nominated as the candidate to represent the Liberal party in the House of Commons for Carleton-Victoria.

In the evening two meetings were held one in the Specialty Theatre and the other in the court house. Each speaker had his little say in each place.

### NOTED BRITISH ATHLETE KILLED IN BATTLE

London, April 6, 3.08 a. m.—Captain Wyndham Halswelle, the well known British runner, was killed fighting at the front on March 31, it was announced today.

Captain Halswelle broke the quarter-mile record at the Olympic games in London in 1908 in an exciting contest. He also held other athletic records.

Reports were received of the sinking by this underwater boat of the Russian bark Hermes and the steamer Olive, both small vessels.

The Bulgarians have explained that the recent raid into Serbia was the work of rebels, and have promised to disarm them when they reach the Bulgarian frontier.

The King of England has now made a definite pledge to prohibit the use of alcoholic liquors in the Royal household, a self-denying ordinance which many prominent men in the country already have placed on themselves.

With this example before the people, and probably shorter hours for the sale of liquors, it is now believed that total prohibition will not be necessary.

### TO ELIMINATE THE MIDDLEMAN FROM GOV'T CONTRACTS

Government to Take Radical Steps to do Away With Evil Fostered by Laurier Regime

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Ont., April 5.—Radical steps are to be taken by the government to do away with the middleman in war and other contracts. The inquiries which have been under way in the public accounts and boots committees show that the middlemen who were so prominent during the late administration are still in a few cases active, although nothing like to the same extent that they flourished during the Laurier regime. The government thought they had the middleman eliminated entirely but a few have cropped up.

Chief among them is Charles A. Slater who operated also prior to 1911. While it is not definitely decided what course the government will pursue it is likely that a committee of judges will be asked to take supervision of the war contracts and will be given wide powers.

MOTHER OF H. G. MARR  
DIES IN HALIFAX

Special to The Standard. Halifax, N. S., April 5.—The death occurred here today of Mrs. Marion Isabel Marr at her home, 84 South Park street. She was widow of John H. Marr, formerly of Moncton, and daughter of the late Captain James H. Allen.

Mrs. Marr was born in Eastport, Maine and removed to Moncton in 1860.

She leaves two sons and four daughters. H. G. Marr of St. John, now in this city, is a son. Mrs. Marr was eighty-three years of age and had been ill about ten days.

The remains will be sent to Moncton on Wednesday morning and the funeral will take place at three o'clock services being in the Reformed Episcopal church.

### German Baltic Fleet Cut Off From Home Base By Its Own Mine Fields

Returning from Russian Expedition Found Mine Fields Too Thick to Attempt Passage Through them and Forced to Retire Between Islands of Gothland and Oeland.

London, April 6 (3.58 a.m.)—The German Baltic fleet has been cut off from its base by its own mine field, which broke adrift in a storm, according to a Copenhagen despatch to the Mail. A large number of mines have floated into neutral waters.

The German fleet, returning from a Russian expedition, found the mines dangerously thick, and decided to return between the islands of Gothland and Oeland, until the sweepers can clear a passage.

Stockholm, April 5, via London, April 6 (2.29 a.m.)—The Dagblad states that it learns from the Swedish naval authorities that Russian ships have laid a large number of mines along the Baltic coast of Germany from Rugen Island to Barnholm Island. It is said that the Swedish naval officials have stationed torpedo boats in the Baltic to warn shipping of the mines.

Ferry traffic between Trelleborg and Sassnitz has been discontinued on account of floating mines which have destroyed five German vessels in the past ten days.

### Eighth Bavarian Regt. Almost Annihilated by French Artillery Fire

German Survivors at Fight at the Eparges, in Department of Meuse, Say French Guns Played Havoc—One Private Kills Seven of Enemy During Attack on Trenches.

Paris, April 6.—Combats at the Eparges, in the Department of Meuse, on March 18, 19 and 20 were no less brilliant and successful than the preceding engagements, according to the French official "eye-witness" in a report giving further details of the battles on this part of the front.

"The most recent success," says the report, "was due to the intense artillery preparation, the very prompt assault and violent hand-to-hand fighting. In the trenches captured from the enemy, in which our heavy artillery fire caused great excavations, we found bodies cut up and half buried in earth."

"Survivors who were captured declare that the French artillery fire was horrible. Others say that the Eighth Bavarian Regiment was decimated, having lost two thousand men and sixteen officers during February. One battalion was reduced to eighty-seven men. Despite this one of the German prisoners asserted that he heard a German general say:

"We are ready to sacrifice a division, even an entire army corps of one hundred thousand, but we must not give in."

"An official note relates feats performed by several officers and soldiers, among them Private Rooquet, who, during a counter-attack by the Germans, jumped on a parapet and killed seven of the enemy."

### Italian Steamer Sunk By German Submarine

Genoa, Italy, April 5, 1.15 p. m.—via Paris, 9.15 p. m.—News was received here today that a German submarine had sunk the Italian steamer Luigi Parodi, which left Baltimore on January 22 with a cargo of coal for Genoa. The report has caused a profound impression here, and there are

### AMENDMENT TO SUPREME 'COURT ACT

Change Proposed Gives Supreme Court Authority to Hear Appeals in Provincial Election Cases.

Ottawa, April 5.—Hon. C. J. Doherty this morning introduced a bill to amend the Supreme Court Act. It is intended to give the Supreme Court

(Continued on page 2)