

GERMAN OFFENSIVE IN GALICIA EXHAUSTED AND THOUSANDS OF MEN SACRIFICED IN VAIN

GERMANY WILL BE GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND THAT U. S. GOV'T MEANS BUSINESS

Course Washington Will Take Will Leave No Doubt Nation's Purpose to "Act" if Necessary to Secure Reparation for Lusitania Disaster—Mexican Factions Also to be Given Last Chance to Bury the Hatchet and Join Hands.

Washington, May 31.—President Wilson intends to shape the course of the United States government in the international crisis which has arisen, as to leave no doubt abroad of the country's purpose not only to speak, but if necessary, to act, for the cause of humanity.

Two things were practically determined upon by the President today in the solemn atmosphere with which Memorial Day enveloped the national capital. First, that Germany's avoidance of the larger questions of humanity and the spirit of international law, by a technical argument on a hitherto undisputed point in the statutes of nations—the exercise of the right of visit and search by war craft when encountering merchantmen, whether carrying contraband or not—must be met promptly, with a note again setting forth briefly the facts as found by investigation of officials here as to the cargo and peaceful equipment of the Lusitania, and reiterating the earnest intention of the United States to hold the German government to a "strict accountability" for all violations of American rights on the high seas. Count Von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, has been granted an interview with the President for Wednesday noon, but unless he brings some proposal from his government answering the demands of the United States differently from the note just received from Dr. Von Jagow, the German Foreign Minister—a circumstance which is doubted in well informed quarters—the President's course, as framed by him in consultation with his cabinet tomorrow will not be materially affected.

Second, that notwithstanding the critical situation with Germany, there shall be issued tomorrow the statement which has been in preparation for several days, to be communicated to the leaders of all factions in Mexico, serving notice that unless they themselves bring to an early end the deplorable conditions which their warfare has wrought, some other means will be found by the United States, in the interest of humanity, to save the millions of non-combatant Mexicans from starvation and further devastation of property.

Tomorrow the President will lay before the cabinet both questions. The effect of the warning to Mexico, the President hopes, will be the coalition within the next few weeks of the best elements in the southern republic to form a provisional government, to which the United States and other countries can accord early recognition.

The tense situation produced by the receipt of an unyielding reply from Germany to the request of the United States for reparation for the 100 American lives lost in the sinking of the Lusitania, and guarantees against the destruction of American lives or property in the future, overshadowed all other governmental activities today.

Brief But to the Point.

Just what the President will propose to his cabinet tomorrow was a matter of wide conjecture tonight in official and diplomatic quarters. There was a noticeable confidence, however, that Germany, having failed to yield in principle or fact to the American point of view, the President would suggest a course following logically the strong expressions in the note of May 13. Some of those familiar with the position of high officials said the note to be sent by the United States would probably be very brief and would be despatched by Thursday, or before the end of the present week. The German government's request for an agreement on the facts—as to whether the Lusitania was armed or unarmed, and whether the vessel's owners violated American law by taking passengers on ships carrying munitions of war, it was said, would be answered with the statement that an official investigation showed the ship carried no guns, either mounted or unmounted, and that it is not a violation of the Federal statutes to carry small arms and ammunition on passenger ships. Reiterating that the Lusitania, therefore, was a peaceful merchantman entitled to the right of visit and search, and the transfer of her passengers and crew to places of safety, previous to any attempt to destroy any contraband of war aboard her, in accordance with prize law, it is believed, the United States will insist upon a disavowal of such acts and a guarantee that German submarine warfare will be conducted in the fu-

ture along humane lines, assuring Americans of the safety of their lives and their ships on the high seas.

Proposals on the part of Germany to protract the argument with affidavits alleged to be in the possession of the German embassy here to prove that the Lusitania carried guns will not be considered, in view of official knowledge here that the ship was unarmed. Moreover, the government is expected to point out that during the present discussion the American steamer Nebraskan has been torpedoed by a German submarine.

The admission of the German Admiralty, announced officially today in a report from Ambassador Gerard, that the commander of the submarine which torpedoed the Gulfight did "not notice the American flag," on the Gulfight until after he had fired the torpedo, is another circumstance to which it was thought probable the United States would advert in the second note to Germany, as proof of the dangers to which American vessels were subjected by the reckless methods of German submarine commanders.

Austrian Naval Base Raided by Italian Air-Ship; Arsenal Fired

Rome, via Paris, May 31, 11.30 p. m.—An official statement issued by the Ministry of Marine announces that an Italian dirigible has made a raid on the Austrian naval base of Pola, doing damage to the railroad station and the arsenal. The statement follows:

"One of our dirigibles flew over Pola last evening, dropping bombs on the railroad station, a naphtha depot and the arsenal. All the bombs burst with full effect. A big fire started in the arsenal."

"The dirigible was subjected to a violent fire from the land batteries, but was not hit and returned intact. This morning our destroyer flotilla bombarded a shipyard at Montefalcone, causing considerable damage, as the commander of the destroyers was able to observe. Several large boats, laden with flour, were surprised and destroyed by the same flotilla, which returned, having accomplished its mission, without being hit by the fire of the guns on the Austrian coast. The crews suffered no loss."

FREIGHT JUMPS TRACK FIVE CARS BURNED

Believe Fire Due to Explosion of Benzol With Which Cars Were Loaded.

Sydney, N. S., May 31.—The way freight train No. 56 which left Mulgrave this morning went off the track near Merigomish. Five of the cars were completely burned as well as several of the telegraph poles in the vicinity of the wreck. Details are difficult to get owing to the wires being down. It is thought that a shipment of benzol, an explosive manufactured at the Sydney Steel Works with which some of the cars were loaded, exploded when the cars became derailed, which would account for the fire. The wreck was cleared off after some delay, but the freight train coming in the opposite direction No. 55, also went off at the same place, two of the cars being badly damaged. The work of clearing away the second wreck is now in progress. The incoming express was five hours late arriving at Sydney.

VON BERNSTORFF TO INTERVIEW PRES. WILSON

Washington, May 31.—President Wilson has granted a request of Count Von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, for an interview at the White House Wednesday afternoon. It is understood that the Ambassador desires to discuss questions pending between his country and the United States.

BRITISH PRESS COMMENTS ON GERMAN REPLY

Attempt to Gain Time by Starting Diplomatic Controversy, General Opinion of English Papers.

London, June 1. (1.50 a. m.)—In their comment on the German reply to the United States government's note the morning newspapers take the view that Germany is seeking to gain time by involving the United States in a diplomatic controversy. They contend that almost all the allegations made in Germany's defense are false.

The Daily Mail considers that a situation of real gravity has arisen between Germany and the United States.

"Germany's reply," says the Daily Mail, "shows a complete failure to understand the temper of the American people, or to meet the American case. A more sneering or contemptuous reply, or a flatter refusal to take the American government seriously, could hardly be imagined. Unless we greatly mistake, President Wilson is not a man to tolerate sophistries with which the sages of Wilhelmstrasse seek to avoid giving a plain answer to his plain question."

The Daily News, in an editorial, thinks that the grounds on which Germany seeks to justify the sinking of the Lusitania are "mere impertinence," and like other newspapers declares that the case of the steamer Megantic proves the allegation that the Lusitania was carrying troops or munitions had nothing to do with her being sunk.

The Morning Post, in an editorial, says that it is not for Great Britain to give advice to the United States in such a case as this, and that if the United States is driven into the war it will not be by the arguments of the belligerents, but by the course of events.

Proceeding to deny that the Lusitania could be regarded as a cruiser, declaring that she had not been taken

FAMOUS POLO PLAYER DIES ON BATTLEFIELD

London, June 1.—Captain A. Noel Edwards, one of Great Britain's famous polo players, has died at Ypres from gas poisoning. He was a member of the international teams sent from England in 1911 and 1912 to play against the Meadowbrook Long Island team for the international polo trophy.

'MOVIE' PLANT AT TORONTO DESTROYED BY FIRE

Toronto, May 31.—The studio and plant of the Besury Feature Film Co., at Swanton, just outside the western city limits, were totally destroyed by fire late this evening, by a fire which started in the dressing room. The loss is estimated at \$75,000, with insurance of only \$12,000.

KING VICTOR EMMANUEL OF ITALY AND THE CZAR EXCHANGE MESSAGES

Rome, via Paris, May 31.—King Victor Emmanuel has sent the following message to the Russian Emperor:

"At the moment when the soldiers of Italy are advancing boldly against the common enemy, binding closer the brotherhood of arms between us and the brave Russian army, I send to Your Majesty, with joyful heart, my personal greetings and fervent hopes."

The Emperor replied:

"I am deeply touched by the considerate thought of Your Majesty. I desire to express to you the great pleasure I feel at seeing our two armies united by the bonds of brotherhood, and I beg Your Majesty to accept my most fervent wishes for victory."

SECOND DIVISION IS NOW COMPLETED

London, May 31.—The Second Division is now completed, stated General Steele to the Montreal Gazette representative at Sherbrooke today. The commander expressed satisfaction with the quarters and the general organization, and paid a high tribute to his staff and to the men as a body. General Steele is starting parades of the various battalions this week.

HON. MR. FLEMMING DANGEROUSLY ILL

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, May 31.—Hon. J. K. Fleming, who has been suffering from stomach trouble for several years past, is now in a precarious state of health at his home at Woodstock. Acute gastritis and gall stones having developed. He has been ordered to bed for special treatment.

PRISONERS BREAK JAIL IN MONTREAL

Cut up Mattress and Make Rope Lowering Themselves to Ground Forty Feet Below.

Montreal, May 31.—Cutting long strips from a mattress, which is the only part of a bed allowed prisoners at detective headquarters, and joining the end together to make a rope, Joseph Lepine, Raoul St. Jean and Harry Dupont, the last named a colored man, made their escape from the cells at detective headquarters at one o'clock this morning. They lowered themselves to the street, forty feet below, and got away.

TORPEDOING OF GULFLIGHT A MISTAKE

Washington, May 31.—United States Ambassador Gerard at Berlin has been formally notified that the American steamer Gulfight was sunk through a mistake. The German submarine commander reported that he failed to notice the Gulfight's American flag and took her for a British vessel.

TIDE OF BATTLE IN EAST HAS TURNED AGAIN IN FAVOR OF RUSSIANS

SAYS GERMANY WILL NOT CHANGE HER COURSE

Capt. Persus, Naval Expert, Concurs in Sentiment Expressed in German Reply.

ATTEMPT TO BLAME GERMANY OLD DEVICE.

Believes Indignation Over Lusitania Disaster Will Cool and Germany's Crime Forgotten.

Berlin, May 31, via London, June 1.—Captain Persus, the naval expert, in an article today, expresses through approval of the tone of Germany's reply to the United States government concerning Germany's submarine warfare.

The reply, says Captain Persus, while completely friendly, leaves no doubt of Germany's firm determination to continue her submarine warfare, unless Great Britain returns to the principles of the London Declaration. He places the American government on the defensive to answer for "the criminal light-mindedness" which allowed its citizens to sail on a steam-carrying ammunition and exposed to the attacks of German submarines.

Captain Persus says Germany will see what defense the Washington administration has to offer, and how it justifies the port authorities against the charges which are contained, and only thinly veiled, in the communication. The attempt to pass the responsibility on to Germany, the writer says, is an old device of those whose consciences are now shattered on Germany's firm reply.

The writer approves of the friendly language of the German note, which, he says, will disappoint the prophets of hostile countries who were hoping for a rupture of German-American relations. He says every clear thinking German will be pleased at the government's moderate language, which offers the possibility of finding a common meeting ground, because too brusque language toward any of all the neutral countries would scarcely be advisable in an era with Germany's enemies are going to every length to win their favor.

Captain Persus declares that he scarcely dares to hope for a friendly reception of the German note in the United States, but he expresses the belief that in the end the American government will, as in the case of Great Britain's similar negative reply to an American protest, subject the German answer to much consideration.

In conclusion Captain Persus says: "Time will pass and the opportunity will be given for cooler consideration of the Lusitania case. The cries of horror over American women and children will die down, and I hope the views of peaceful neutral persons will gain the upper hand."

Russians on Offensive After Retreating Over Half Galicia—Great German Drive, Like Thrusts at Warsaw and Calais, Failed and Enormous Loss of Life in Vain—Italy's Air-men Bombard Pola, Austrian Naval Base.

Petrograd, May 31, via London, 6.45 p. m.—The battle on the San, in the vicinity of Przemyśl, is developing in favor of the Russians, according to an official announcement given out today. Furthermore the Russians, between May 12 and May 24, captured nearly 19,000 of their antagonists.

The text of the communication follows:

"In the Shavil region, in Kovno province, the Germans continue to resist our offensive with violent fire, but the fighting in this district continues to our advantage."

"On the front between the River Pilles and the Upper Vistula we captured, between May 12 and May 24, 290 officers and 15,617 of the rank and file."

"In Galicia the battle on the San river also is developing in our favor. Our troops have successfully assumed the offensive, and last night they crossed the River Lubaczowka and occupied the village of Monaster, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy."

"The offensive of the enemy along the front from Jaroslau to Radymno, in an easterly direction, has been stopped by our fire."

"In the region beyond the Dniester all the hostile attacks on Saturday along the front between Zaderewacz, Bolechow and Jaworow were repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy. On Saturday night our troops assumed a resolute offensive with great success. On this front we captured over 7,000 prisoners and thirty quick-firing guns. The enemy began a disorderly retreat. On other sectors of our front there were no important changes during Saturday."

London to mean that another might be made. The battle on the San, in the vicinity of Przemyśl, is still uncertain, it is contended in Allied circles that the Austro-Germans have failed of their purpose to crush the Russians in Galicia, and that their rush forward, costing, as it did, thousands of lives, has fallen short, just as did the repeated thrusts at Warsaw and Calais.

The official statement issued tonight by the Austrian War Office makes no claim of any noteworthy advances in the east, dismissing the Przemyśl region with the brief declaration that "the fighting continues," and asserting that there have been no serious engagements elsewhere on the eastern front.

The Russians, on the other hand, claim victories virtually along the entire front, especially beyond the Dniester, where they say they have taken 7,000 prisoners.

In the West, neither side has done much of late, although the French continue gnawing around the Yser, and there has been hard fighting along the Yser.

Test has been called for by the American air and naval raids along her east coast by bombarding Pola, the Austrian naval base, from a dirigible, while Italian destroyers have made a dash on Montefalcone, doing considerable damage to Austrian shipping and getting away unscathed.

German submarines have been extraordinarily active, the news tonight adding one more neutral vessel to the growing list of victims. This was the Danish steamer Soborg, which was sunk forty miles north-west of the Tyne. All hands were rescued.

The English press is following the German and American exchanges on the Lusitania tragedy with the keenest interest, and there is much speculation as to the probable American action.

Tide Turns in East.

London, May 31.—The great battle on the San, to which the Russians fell back after retreating over half of Galicia, still rages, but the Russians assert that they have assumed the offensive. This statement is taken in

GERMAN TRIED TO ESCAPE, WAS SHOT BY SENTRY

Coroner's Jury Declaring Sentry's Act Justifiable Reveals Attempt by Germans to Escape from Prison Camp.

London, May 31.—A verdict of justifiable homicide, returned tonight by a coroner's jury at Leigh, gave the first news that a German prisoner named William Karl Schmidt, who was interned in the prison camp there had been killed by a sentry on Sunday.

It seemed, from the evidence, that a number of the prisoners tried to escape Sunday by piercing the wall. When the attempt was discovered the guard was doubled.

Later Schmidt scaled the dormitory partition and was endeavoring to escape through the roof. Not heeding the commands of the sentry to descend, Schmidt was shot dead.

MANY CASUALTIES DUE TO GAS POISONING

London, May 31.—The effectiveness of the gas employed by the Germans on the western front is indicated by the latest British casualty list, made public today. Of the Second Battalion of Lancashire Fusiliers, 403 men are reported to be "suffering from gas poisoning."

CASUALTY LIST

Ottawa, May 31.—The following Maritime Province men are reported in today's casualty lists:

Tenth Battalion.
Missing—Pte. Cecil Richards, Pugwash, N. S.; Pte. Edward McNutt Boyer, Stellarton, N. S.; Pte. Ralph Arthur McCallum, North River, N. S.; Pte. Robt. Graham, Alma, N. B.; Pte. Walter J. Gallagher, Moncton, N. B.

Fourteenth Battalion.
Wounded—Pte. Arden Roy Hallett, Millville, N. B.; Pte. Ernest Forsythe, Greenville Station, N. S.; Pte. Gillis Grant, Trenton, N. S.

Sixteenth Battalion.
Wounded—Pte. Hugh McDonald, Creighton, N. S.

Princess Patricia's.
Dangerously ill—Lance Corporal Alex. Griwaldt Viets, Digby, N. S.

Thirteenth Battalion.
Wounded—Pte. Martin Luther Wynne, Wallace, N. S.

Missing—Pte. Chas. Fraser Davison, Halfway River, N. S.

Fifteenth Battalion.
Wounded—Pte. Howard Bond, Chester, N. S.

CELEBRATE THEIR 20TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Hopewell Hill, May 29.—Mr. and Mrs. James P. Robertson of Albert Mines entertained at their home last evening in honor of the twentieth anniversary of their daughter Sara's marriage to P. W. F. Brewster. Mr. and Mrs. Brewster and two children, Pierce and Dorothy, arrived from their home in Hampton to be present, and there was a large number of invited guests. A sumptuous supper was served at eight o'clock.

A very successful concert was held on Wednesday evening at Hopewell Cape by the pupils of the school. The programme consisted of opening chorus, O Canada; recitation, "The Union Jack" by Miss Joyce; duet, Misses Milburn and Beaumont; recitation, Leo Wallace; solo, Miss Christie Tingley; recitation, Miss Etta Hunt. A debate was then held.