

U.S. AND GERMAN BREAK

Relations Severed; Bernstorff Dismissed; Gerard Recalled

War Practically Certain to Follow, Though Severing of Relations Does Not Necessarily Involve Hostilities---Action Came After Deliberation and Consultation by the Government

By Courier Leased Wire.

Washington, Feb. 3.—Diplomatic relations with Germany have been broken. Count von Bernstorff has been handed his passports and Ambassador Gerard has been ordered from Berlin.

Notice of the break is outlined in detail in the address President Wilson delivered to a joint session of Congress at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

In spite of the fact that this became known definitely, officials at the White House and State Department would not discuss the situation in any form.

The President completed his message to Congress early this morning and arrangements for its appearance were immediately made.

Whether the break with Germany would be accompanied by a similar break with Austria-Hungary, could not be learned definitely. Inasmuch as Austria is understood to have endorsed the action of Germany, however, this action is expected to follow if it has not already been taken.

The State Department notified Ambassador Gerard to ask for his passports.

The decision to break was reached after the President's conference with the cabinet and members of Senate yesterday. The President by those conferences came to the conclusion that the country would stand solidly behind him in breaking off diplomatic relations with Germany.

Breaking off diplomatic relations with Germany does not mean war, but easily may lead to war. It is an act of protest characterized in the usage of nations as a "measure short of war."

The President's address to Congress, while guarded closely, reviews the negotiations with Germany, climaxed by the note giving warning that the Berlin government had removed restrictions on submarine warfare.

The decision to break was taken for granted by many senators with whom he talked late yesterday and by members of his cabinet. Although he did not give his decision in these conferences his outline of the situation gave such a serious picture that it was generally believed that he had come to the conclusion that he could follow no course, but break relations with Germany.

Mr. Wilson remained in his study in the White House throughout the morning and saw no callers. It was learned he began the preparation of his address to Congress shortly after his return from the Capitol last night.

While the steps leading up to the break were being taken, apparent calm prevailed at the White House and State Department.

ACTION TAKEN.

Washington, Feb. 3.—No one other than officials and employees of naval yards and stations is to be admitted to such government reservations. Orders to this effect, Secretary of the Navy Daniels, announced today had been issued and would be effective immediately.

Washington, Feb. 3.—The United States has formally demanded of Germany the immediate release of the Americans who were taken prisoners on prize ships by the raiders in the South Atlantic.

Newport News, Va., Feb. 3.—A coast guard cutter has gone alongside the German prize ship Appam, and it is thought the German prize crew will be taken off immediately. Two torpedo boat destroyers joined the super-dreadnaught Arkansas off the Virginia caps on emergency duty.

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HOLLAND HOPES FOR SETTLEMENT

Conference of Shipping Concerns May Smooth Out Difficulties

By Courier Leased Wire.

The Hague, via London, Feb. 3.—Nothing has been allowed to become public concerning further conferences held this afternoon between the ministers and the representatives of shipping concerns. In official quarters everyone is reticent but in shipping circles the impression seems to prevail that despite the great difficulties placed in the way of shipping by the new German submarine order a way will be found by which Dutch navigation may be resumed to some extent, although with increased risks.

The Amsterdam Telegraaf says Germany's design has failed "in that in no neutral state an authoritative voice has arisen demanding that this German menace of war on the whole world be met with by intervention for peace which at present is for Germany alone a question of life or death."

Spain Petitions

London, Feb. 3.—A Madrid despatch to Reuter's says that the Spanish government has telegraphed the Central Powers asking that the time allowed Spanish ships to return to port be extended.

Many towns are protesting against the note of the Central powers, and have sent appeals to the government to support with dignity the interests of the nation. The administration has prohibited an anti-German meeting which was called at Santander. The coexistence of Central powers at Barcelona and the camp of interred Germans near that city are being guarded by the police.

PTE. W. C. HEWSON KILLED IN ACTION

Young Man With Canadian Mounted Rifles Was Former Brantfordite

The news was received to-day by Mrs. A. D. Hardy, of the death of her nephew, William Curtis Hewson, who was killed in action in France on his twentieth birthday, January 9th. Private Hewson left with his regiment, the 13th Canadian Mounted Rifles in July last from McLeod, Alberta, and on his arrival in England was transferred to the Strathcona Horse. He was killed during the Somme fighting with a detachment of his regiment and was then attached to "C" company, 27th Canadian Infantry, at the time of his death, being a member of the machine gun squad, having been on the firing line continuously since September.

He was the eldest son of John Arthur Hewson, Darraugh Ranch, McLeod. His mother, formerly Miss Emily Curtis, daughter of the late David Curtis, Esquire, having been born here and residing in this city until the time of her marriage. Many of her old friends in this vicinity will learn with sincere regret this sad intelligence.

WILL OCCUPY CHAIR

Mr. Peter Rober, President of the Labor Council, will occupy the chair at the patriotic meeting for men only at the Brant Theatre, Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Mrs. H. E. Beckett has been called away through the sudden and unexpected death of her father, Mr. E. Misener of Jordan.

Weather Bulletin

Toronto, Feb. 3.—The weather has been for the most part fair, and very cold over the Dominion, except on the British Columbia coast, where it has been mild and rainy.

Forecasts: Strong west winds, local snow falls or flurries, and very cold to-day and on Sunday.

GERMAN NOTES CONCEIVED IN HYPOCRISY TO CLOAK CRIME

The London Press Looks For an Immediate Break Between the United States and Germany; Wilson is Flouted by Huns

By Courier Leased Wire.

London, Feb. 3.—The extreme public eagerness to learn what course the United States will take, is mirrored by the newspapers, which feature the question predominantly, and print long despatches from America and other contributions dealing therewith. The editorials mostly speculate somewhat gingerly.

For U. S. to Decide

"It is not for us," says the Daily Telegraph, "to judge the issue between the United States and Germany or to offer advice. The government of the United States is the keeper of the American conscience, as it is also the leader of the neutral states."

The paper also says: "Americans would hardly be human if they did not resent the cowardly effrontery of Germany's conduct toward the President. He has been flouted in the eyes of the world by the German Emperor's spokesman, who declares that all notes are conceived in hypocrisy and are merely a cloak for crime deliberately contemplated to be executed when the moment comes."

Clash Must Come

The Daily News says: "It is difficult on the face of it to see any escape from a more or less immediate collision between

Germany and the United States, for America cannot tolerate the new German plan of campaign, because, putting aside questions of principle, it practically destroys the whole of her export trade except to Spanish America. Germany, on the other hand, cannot retreat from the position taken without confessing her defeat and equally confessing that the imperial chancellor's speech in the reichstag was nonsense."

ACROSS FIELDS OF SNOW, WHITE CLAD RAIDERS ASSAILED BRITISH TRENCHES

With the British Armies in France Feb. 2.—via London.—(From a staff correspondent of the Associated Press) The German raiders who made two attacks yesterday morning against the British trenches south of the Ypres salient looked for all the world like the famous Ku Klux Klan, the crusaders of reconstruction days in the Southern States of America. They were clad in white sheets fashioned in a sort of snook, wore white hoods and masks and sought thus to cross the snow covered No Man's Land without detection.

Raiders Hurdled Back

The raiders came over in two waves only to be hurled back with heavy losses in killed and wounded. They swept into a perfect storm of machine gun fire and there were crimson splashes in the snow wherever one of the strange white figures fell. There was a ghostly aspect to this affair throughout. It was attempted at the misty hour when the

CHIEF SLEMIN REPLACES A SINGLE MAN ON THE POLICE FORCE WITH A RETURNED SOLDIER

On Thursday of this week Chief Slemin assembled the men of the Police Force and pointed out that in this time of Empire crisis, every man able to do so should be offering his services for the great cause.

Eleven members had thus far gone from the force and there were two single men now on whom he thought should offer themselves. One refused to do so and was at once laid off. His place will be filled by a returned soldier, Frederick Thomas Palmer, with the Canadian Division Ammunition Column, and at

DEFIANCE HURLED AT UNITED STATES BY PRESS OF GERMANY

the front until time of discharge, almost from the first of the war. The other single man is considering the matter and if he offers and fails to pass the medical test will be retained. Otherwise a returned soldier will be given his place.

TWO PROMINENT SPEAKERS

Mr. Harry Frost, President of the Associated Boards of Ontario, and Mr. Bruce Carey, Governor of the Rotary Clubs, will address the Patriotic Fund workers at the Tea Pot Inn headquarters on Monday night.

Call is Made For Adherence to Submarine Warfare Though America May be Driven by it to Side of the Allies

By Courier Leased Wire.

Berlin, Feb. 2, via London.—The first editorial expressions on the submarine issue from the United States, which were eagerly awaited, were received here in the course of the day. They included short excerpts from the leading New York papers. The Lokal Anzeiger, commenting on the despatches, says:

League of Destruction

"It would seem that some circles believe that Germany can be affected by threats to change her course. This opinion is completely erroneous. It would certainly not be a matter of unconcern here if the only remaining neutral great power should join the league which is bent on the destruction of Germany, but Washington should not doubt that even this possibility, with all its consequences has been duly weighed and is considered as a lesser evil to the renunciation of our strongest weapon against the most unscrupulous of Germany's foes. On the other hand it would be wrong to accept this or that editorial opinion from the New York or Washington press as an adequate criterion of the government's views."

The Lokal Anzeiger concluded:

"Our entire attention should be turned now to the German submarines, to which we have entrusted our fate."

COLLISION IS NOW INEVITABLE

Between Germany and Neutral Nations, Russia Believes

By Courier Leased Wire.

Petrograd, Feb. 3.—The Russian Government views Germany's blockade announcement as an "arbitrary and piratical act." An expression obtained from the foreign office to-day was to the effect that inasmuch as Germany's fleet is bottled up, her only means for enforcing the blockade is the use of submarines. From the nature of these craft, and their inability to take off crews and passengers of vessels, it was stated, the use of submarines is a violation of all principles of international law.

CONSPIRATORS ON TRIAL IN LONDON

Quartette Who Attempted Life of Lloyd George In Court

By Courier Leased Wire.

Derby, Feb. 3.—The Guild Hall was crowded, and many persons were unable to obtain admission when Attorney-General Sir Frederick E. Smith to-day opened the case against the four persons accused of conspiracy to murder Premier David Lloyd George and Arthur Henderson, member of the war council. The accused are Mrs. Alice Wheelton, her two daughters, Miss Ann Wheelton, and Mrs. Alfred George Mason and Mr. Mason's husband.

The attorney-general, in his closing, referred to the prisoners as desperate, dangerous people, bitterly hostile to the country. They were, he declared, shelterers of fugitives from the army, who were doing their best to injure Great Britain in her present crisis. The prisoner, Mason, he pointed out, was a chemist of very considerable skill, who had made a special study of poison, and might be considered an expert in such a matter.

FACTORYMEN'S BRANCH

A meeting called last evening for the Factorymen's Branch of the Patriotic Fund to complete plans for the coming campaign, failed to materialize owing to a misunderstanding as to the time set, and nothing was accomplished, it being necessary to postpone the meeting for some future date.

The Annual Meeting of the CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION

FOR BRANTFORD RIDING

Will Take Place at

TO-NIGHT

at Conservative Headquarters corner of Dalhousie and King Streets. Proceedings commence at 8 p.m. and all Conservatives are cordially invited.

There will be election of officers and speeches by W. F. Cockshutt, M. P. and others.

N. D. NEILL, Secretary H. COCKSHUTT, President

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AUCTION SALE. Fragg, auctioneer, will sell auction on Tuesday next, at 21 Rose Ave., at 1:30 p.m. sharp.

CABS