U.S. GOVERNMENT GIVES EFFECTIVE ANSWER TO ITS GERMAN AGITATORS

Washington, Jan. 24—The United States government today issued a lengthy defence of its interpretation of the rights and duties of a neutral in the European war.

A document, five thousand words long, prepared by President Wilson, Secretary Bryan and Counsellor Robert Lansing, of the state department, after several days of consultation, was made public in the form of a letter from the secretary of state to Senator Stone, of Missouri, chairman of the senate con

While the letter is a reply to an inquiry from Senator Stone for in tion as a result of complaints made in the press, and in letters from various parts of the country, charging the Washington government with unfairness to Germany and Austria, it also is intended as a pronouncement of policy on some questions of neutrality previously unexplained.

After answering separate and specific charges, and calling attention to the fact that the United States has promptly taken to task Great Britain as well as Germany and every government which in any way has infringed upon the rights of this country, the letter concludes with the following declaration on sch discussed question of exportation of war munitions:

"If any American citizens, partisans of Germany and Austria-Hungary, feel that this administration is acting in a way injurious to the cause of those countries, this feeling results from the fact that on the high seas the German and Austro-Hungarian naval power is thus far inferior to the British. It is the business of a belligerent operating on the high seas, not the duty of a neutral, to prevent contraband from reaching an enemy. Those in this country who sympathize with Germany and Austria-Hungary appear to assume that some obligation rests upon this government, in the performance of its neutral duty, to prevent all trade in contraband, and thus to equalize the difference due to the relative naval strength of the belligerents. No such obligation exists: it would be an unneutral act, an act of partiality on the part of this govern-

ment, to adopt such a policy, if the executive had the power to do so.

"If Germany and Austria-Hungary cannot import contraband from this country, it is not, because of this fact, the duty of the United States to close its markets to the Allies. The markets of this country are open upon equal terms to all the world, to every nation, belligerent or neutral."

that the Canadian government recently asked the United States for permission to ship "war equipment" across Alaska to the sea, and the request was refused.

In a general way, the letter sets forth that the rules of neutrality have been promulgated by the American government without discrimination and have been applied with equal fairness to all concerned.

Some of the complaints as summarized by Senator Stone are answered in the

Some of the complaints as summarized by Senator Stone are answered in the letter point by point, substantially as follows:

"Freedom of cummunication by submarine cables versus censored communication by wireless." It is set forth first that a wireless station on a neutral coast cannot be interrupted by a belligerent but the latter has an unrestricted right to cut a cale on the high seas. Germany's cutting of the British cale near Fanning Island is cited to balance Great Britain's interception of the cable between Germany and the United States. The point is made that wireless messages can be sent direct to warships at sea which can prey upon public or private vessels and make neutral territory.

Other Points.

"Submission without protest to Brit-ish violations of the rules regarding ab-solute and conditional contraband as laid down in The Hague conventions, the Declaration of London and international Declaration of London and international law." There is no general agreement between nations as to articles to be regarded as contraband, the rights of neutrals and beligerents being opposed and no tribunal existing "to which questions of difference may be submitted."

"Acquiescence without protest to the Inclusion of copper and other articles in the British lists of absolute contraband."

It is here stated that every seizure of

prompt protest, and that the inclusion of "unwrought copper" in the list of absolute contraband is under consideration, though the government "necessarily finds some embarrassment in dealing with the subject," because of a declaration by the United States in the past placing "all articles from which ammunition is manufactured," on its contraband list including copper among such with the subject," because of a declara-tion by the United States in the past placing "all articles from which ammu-nition is manufactured," on its contra-band list, including copper among such

militia department here, and camp com-mandant at Valcartier and Salisbury, is

BELGIAN FUND

ficed to Make a German Holiday.

A Belgian in the province writing

"Submission without protest to interference with American trade to neutral countries in conditional and absolute contraband," history shows, says the letter, that in every war the superior naval power has interrupted neutral commerce more or less, but those who complain are referred to the American note of protest of Dec. 26, dispatched to Great Britain.

Britain.

"Submission without protest to interruption of trede in conditional contraband consigned to private persons in
Germany and Austria, thereby supporting the policy of Great aritain to cut of
all supplies from Germany and Austria."
Again the letter calls attention to the
note of Dec. 26 to the British government, contending for "the principle of
freedom of trade in articles of conditional contraband not destined to the
helligerent forces."

Petroleum, Rubber, Etc.

"Submission to British interferen with trade in petroleum, rubber, leather, etc." As petroleum can be used in propelling submarines and rubber is esse pening submanies and rubber is essential for big motors used by armies, the United States government "has not yet reached the concluison that they are improperly included in a list of contraband"

Jonathan Nason, 50c.; total, \$67.67; Lepreaux (N. B.), per Postmaster L. Camcron, as follows, George Winn, \$2; Robert Shaw, \$3; William Shaw, \$1; James Shaw, \$1; Mrs. L. Shaw, \$1; D. Gilbraith, 25c.; Mrs. J. Mawhinney, 50c.; John Boyne, \$2; Roy Daley, \$2; A. R. Lomax, \$1; Mrs. E. Chittick, \$1; Mrs. C. Archilles, \$1; Miss Mealey, \$1; Harvey Hope, \$2; Chas. Rogers, \$2; E. Hanson, \$1; T. Mulherrin, \$1; John Reynolds, 25c.; Fred. Reynolds, 25c.; Cayles No obligation, it is contended, exists cither in international law or in the domestic law of the United States to prohibit private trade in these articles.

Germany Herself Did It.

point to the enormous quantities of arms and ammunition furnished by manufacturers in Germany to the belligerents in the Russo-Japanese war, and in the recent Balkan wars to establish the general recognition of the propriety of the trade by a neutral nation."

"Failure to present the successory to food supplies in the United Kingdom and the rise in prices is being command the rise in prices is being commanded over by a cabinet committee, presided over by Premier Asquith, according to a statement given out today by in the official press bureau. "In the past, the present belligerents, when neutrals, maintained no such prohibition. In fact, it is only necessary to point to the enormous quantities of arms and ammunition furnished by manufac-

ARMORED CRUISER SUNK. BY BRITISH IN NORTH SEA: TWO OTHERS BADLY DAMAGED

Powerful Hostile Fleet Trying to Repeat Raid On English Coast When It Was Discovered By British Squadron, Including the Tiger, Lion, Princess Royal, Indomitable and New Zealand—Germans Fled at Full Speed But were Overtaken and Armored Cruiser Bluecher was Sunk, Only 123 of Her Crew of 885 Being Saved-Two Other German Ships Were Seriously Damaged But They Managed to Escape Inside of Their Own Mine Field-Other War Vessels of Both Sides in Action But Result is Not Yet Known.

London, Jan. 24, 10 p.m.—An attempt by a German cruiser squadron to repeat the attack recent ly made on Scarborough, the Hartlepools and other British coast towns, was frustrated today by the British patrolling squadron, and in a running fight the German armored cruiser Bluecher was sunk, and two German battle cruisers were seriously damaged.

The British ships suffered only slight injury. So far as is known only 123 of the Bluecher's crew of 885 were saved. A battle also occurred between the light cruisers and destroyers accompanying the big German ships, but the result of this engagement has not yet reached the Admiralty.

The British were superior in ships engaged, weight of armament and speed and the flight of the German ships into the mine and submarine infested field possibly saved them from further losses. GERMANY'S FINEST SHIPS INCLUDED.

The Bluecher was a cruiser of 15,500 tons displacement, and although commissioned in 1909, was Refused Canada's Request.

During the course of the letter's discussion of the various charges made, some facts hitherto undisclosed were revealed for the facts hitherto undisclosed we stances are a review and by the Russians in the Black Sea

The British squadron, commanded by Vice-Admiral Sir David Beatty, who also was in command at the battle off Heligoland last August, consisted of the battle cruisers Tiger, Lion, Princess Royal New Zealand and Indomitable. The first three of these cruisers mount eight 13.5-inch guns each, and even the New Zealand and Indomitable carry 12-inch guns, which are equal to those of the Derflinger, the only one of the German ships that had better than 11-inch guns.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE ENGAGEMENT.

The official report issued by the press bureau gives the following account of the engagement: Early this morning a British patrolling squadron of battle cruisers and light cruisers, under Vice-Admiral Sir David Beatty, with a destroyer flotilla under Commodore Tyrwhitt, sighted four German battleships and several light cruisers and a number of destroyers steering westward, and apparent ly making for the English Coast.

"The enemy at once made for home at high speed. They were at once pursued, and at about 9.30 a. m. action was joined between the battle cruisers Tiger, Lion, Princess Royal, New Zealand and Indomitable, on the one hand, and the Derflinger, Seydlitz, Moltke and Bluecher on the other. A well contested running fight ensued. Shortly after 1 o'clock the Bluecher, which had previously fallen out

capsized and sank.

Says the "Pats" were up to their breasts summer. Germans have the advantage in mud and water during the forty-eight over the British, in so many being able

and mines prevented further pursuit. "No Brittish ships have been lost, and our casualties in personnel, as at present reported, are

slight, the Lion, which led the line, having only eleven wounded and none killed. 'One hundred and twenty-three survivors have been rescued from the Bluecher's crew of 885 and it is possible that others have been saved by some of our destroyers. No reports of any destroyer or light cruiser fighting have yet been received at the Admiralty, though some has apparently taken

"Their Lordships have expressed their satisfaction to Vice-Admiral Sir David Beatty." GERMANS FLED WHEN THEY SAW BRITISH

Commodore Reginald Y. Tyrwhitt, who also took part in the battle off Heligoland, commanded the light cruisers and destroyers which accompanied Vice-Admiral Beatty's battle cruisers. The Germans were observed some time after dawn proceeding in the direction of the British coast. When they sighted the superior British fleet they turned and made at full speed for home wa-

ters, and it was only after a stern chase that the faster British ships/got within range of them. For more than four hours the running battle lasted, the firing being plainly heard in North Holland, where it was judged the fight took place north of the islands of Ameland and Schiermonnik-Oog. The Bluecher, which was slower than the other German cruisers, fell behind and succumbed to

the heavier guns of the Lion which was leading the British squadron. The other German ships got within the mine and submarine area, two of them in a badly damaged condition, and it was dangerous for the British battle cruisers to follow. The fact that only eleven men were wounded aboard the Lion, which led the line, indicates that

the British casualties were light. It is possible that more of the Bluecher's crew were picked up by Of the British vessels the Lion and the Princess Royal are battle cruisers of the same type, with a tonnage of Native Says His Country Was Sacri-

26,350 and a length of 660 feet. Both were completed in 1912 the former at Devonport and the other at Barrow. Their main armament consists of eight 13.5 inch guns, sixteen 4.1, four 3-pounders and machine guns. They have a speed of 28 knots an hour and carry a crew of 980 men each. The cost was about £2,084,450 each.

The New Zealand is the battle cruiser that was built at the cost of the New Zealand government at Govan and only completed in 1912 at a cost of about one and three-quarters of a million sterling. She has a displacement of 18,800 a speed of 25 knots and carries a complement of 780 officers and men. Her armament is eight 12-inch guns, The Tiger is even a larger battle cruiser with a total displacement of 28,000 tons and a speed said to be 33

knots. She carries eight 13.5 inch guns and twelve 6-inch while the Indomitable is a battle cruiser of 17,250 tons a speed of 26 knots and an armament of eight 12-inch, sixteen 4-inch and five machine gun and carrying 780 men. It was reported that the Lion was in the naval engagement off the Falkland Islands in which a British squadron under Rear Admiral Sir Frederick Sturdee sank the German cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau, Nurnberg and Leiozie, THE ENEMY'S SHIPS.

A Belgian in the province writing of the violation of the neutrality of his country gives a graphic description of the poignancy of his fellow countrymen's feeling by describing it as "a country sacrificed to make a German holiday."

Mayor Frink acknowledges the following donations to the Belgian fund: David Sadlier, Chatham, \$25; Charles F. Brison, Bathurst, \$5; collections by J. A. Steeves, as follows, concert at Waasis, \$23.55; cushion donated by E. Barker, \$12.50; slippers donated by Wis. W. Steeves, \$5; collections from Russiagornish Baptist church, \$18.87; collections from Nasonworth Baptist church, \$13.05; Jonathan Nason, 50c.; total, \$67.67; Lepreaux (N. B.), per Postmaster L. Cam-The sunken German Bluecher was an armored cruiser of 15,550 tons displacement built at Kiel in 1910. Her complement was 885 men. The speed of the Bluecher was 25.3 knots and her armament consisted of twelve 8 2 inch, eight 5.9, sixteen 3.4 and three light guns. The cost of the vessel was £1,250,000. She had three torpedo tubes. Three years after she was built most of her big guns were replaced. The Bluecher was 489 feet long 804 feet beam. The Moltke is a battle cruiser of 22,640 tons, with a crew of 1,013 and a speed of 28 4 knots an hour. Her arm.

ament is ten 11-inch, twelve 5.9 and twelve 3.4 guns with four torpedo tubes under water. The Seylidtz was of even greater displacement, being 24,640 tons but the armament was somewhat lighter, consisting of ten 11-inch, twelve 5.9 and twelve 3.4 inch guns. She was only completed in 1913 and was said to have at-

The battle cruiser Derflinger is of 28,000 tons finished on the stock at Hamburg only last year and with many particulars that were kept a secret in the German navy. Her speed was 27 knots and her main armament eight 12-inch, twelve 5.9 and twelve 3.4 inch guns,

Germany's Useless Barbarity.

son, \$1; T. Mulherrin, \$1; John Reynolds, 25c.; Carleton Cameron, 50c.; Cameron Sim, 50c.; N. P. Lomax, \$1; W. E. Cameron, 60c.; proceeds of pie social, \$46.15; total, \$70.

No obligation, it is contended, exists the contended of the United States to proceed of pie social, \$46.15; total, \$70.

Germany Herseff Did It.

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BRITAIN'S FOOD SUPPLY.

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Germany Herseff Did It.

BRITAIN'S FOOD SUPPLY.

Germany's Useless Barbarity.

(New York Evening Post.)

In view of all this, what are we to think of the German air-navy making are certain to provoke an intenser determination never to submit to ryield, span possibly gain. On the part of their emenies, they are certain to provoke an intenser determination never to submit to ryield, span possibly gain. On the part of their emenies, they are certain to provoke an intenser determination never to submit to ryield, span possibly gain. On the part of their emenies, they are certain to provoke an intenser determination never to submit to ryield, span possibly gain. On the part of their emenies, they are certain to provoke an intenser determination never to submit to ryield, span possibly gain. On the part of their emenies, they are certain to provoke an intenser determination never to submit to ryield, span possibly gain. On the part of their emenies, they are certain to provoke an intenser determination never to submit to ryield, span possibly gain. On the part of their emenies, they are certain to provoke an intenser determination never to submit to ryield, span possibly gain. On the part of their emenies, they are certain to provoke an intenser determination never to submit to ryield, span possibly gain. On the part of their emenies, they are certain to provoke an intenser determination never to submit to non-combatants. English recruiting Jumped up after the naval bombardurent of Scar-strain to provoke an intenser determination never to submit to non-combatant

making their warfare "frightful," they raids are repeated and their effects mad

MUCH EXPECTED OF RUSSIA'S NEW OFFENSIVE NORTH OF LOWER VISTULA

London, Jan. 24, 10.35 p. m .- The naval battle in the North Sea, with the sinking of the German cruiser Bluecher, which has inspired the people with greater confidence in the ability of the British fleet to prevent a repetition of the German raids on the east coast towns, has aroused the greatest enthusiasm in England, and for the moment has diverted interest from the war on land, the political problems of Austria-Hungary and the possible action of Roumania,

So far as the west is concerned, the land fighting has again been confined largely to artillery engagements, which have been almost continuous from the sea to the Swiss frontier. All arms, however, are still engaged in the Argonne, where trenches have been lost and re-taken several times within two days, and in Alsace, where both sides are putting forth vast efforts.

In Poland decisive results are just as lacking as in France, but there are expectations that Russia's new offensive to the north of the lower Vistula will bring about a change in the character of the operations. It is believed that it will certainly tax German's resources, just at the moment when she is called upon to send additional troops to assist in opposing Russia's threatened invasion of Hungary, and the menace arising from the possibility of Roumania tak-

It is unofficially reported from Vienna that the Austrians have checked the Russian advance in southern Bukowina, which, if true, points to the arrival there of fresh Austro-German forces.

Germany, it is said, although she has not delivered a note to Roumania, has several times inquired from the country the meaning of her mobilization and preparation for war, which should soon bring the matter to a head. There are all sorts of reports, chiefly from Rome, of political changes in Austria Hungary. It is said that Germany has taken entire charge of the military affairs of the Monarchy, while the Hungarians, under the guidance of the premier. Count Tisza, who is complete master of the situation, are in control of political affairs. under an arrangement made between the Germans and the Hungarians.

It is further reported that German troops will be sent to Hungary, instead of into Servia, as originally intended, and that Austrian troops will replace them

In the fear of another air raid, church services were not held in many of the towns of Norfolk this evening, and the lights were dimmed.

SAY BRITISH AVIATORS KILLED GERMAN SOLDIERS AND DID OTHER DAMAGE

Amsterdam, Jan. 22—News of an aerial attack upon Ostend and Zecbruggs, two Belgian towns now held by the Germans, was received here today. It was made by British aviators according to the Sluis correspondent of Tyd, who says that one of the aviators was

TORONTO MAN TELLS OF THEIR LIFE IN TRENCHES

Toronto, a member of the Princess Pa-ress, Oliver says there is nothing to grumble at, as a gain of fifty yards in this weather is equal to five miles in says the "Pats" were up to their breasts

hours they were in the trenches.

He reckons they accounted for over the British, in so many being after the present the reckons. The pritish artillery did some magnificent work. Two Germans who surrendered, said their men were without ammunition. "This," says Private Olimpian were well as the property of the private of

, "seems true, because when we The messages are to friends in Halifax rehed the dead Germans, we never (N. S.) Major Howard, agent-general,

DESTROY SUBMARINE AT BELGIAN BASE

London, Jan. 24—While German arremen on Friday morning were dropping bombs on Dunkirk, one of which damaged the American consulate, two British aviators paid a visit to Zeebrugge and succeeded in damaging a submarine and killing or wounding the crews of the guns mounted on the Mole, to prevent attack from the sea on that new German base.

The Bettish official proof issued Sataray signers engaged the German agence.

consulate, "no particular damage was done." It makes no reference whatever to the Paris report that six nersen killed and a number of others wounded at Dunkirk, and it is therefore not known whether this report covers completely the attack of the German airmen who, according to unofficial despatches, dropped as many as eighty bombs on the French guns on the Mole. It is believed that

One of the British aviators was Squadron Commander R. B. Davies, who recently made a night flight over Bruges, dropping bombs on the railway station there. Prior to reaching Zeebrugge, Commander Davies was surrounded by seven German airmen and, although slightly wounded, succeeded in making his flight along the coast, and returning safely.

Ably and that many caused among the gun's crews.

"In reconneitering before this, Commander Davies was on one occasion surrounded by seven German aeroplanes, but managed to elude them. He was slightly wounded in the side on the way to Zeebrugge, but continued his flight, accomplished his mission, and is now progressing satisfactorily."

man base.

"French and British naval and military airmen engaged the German aerourday night, says that apart from the planes, one of which was brought down

ort.

One of the British aviators was Squad- ably and that many casualties were

THE MINE PERIL IN THE BALTIC SEA IS SPREADING

London, Jan. 28, 1.80 a. m.—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Copenhagen says:

"The mine peril in the Baltic Sea is spreading. In addition to the loss of the Swedish steamer Drott, which struck a mine of Raumo, Finland, Thursday and ing in contact with a mine."

Another Turkish Defeat.

Petrograd, Jan. 22-Another Turkish defeat was reported in an official despatch received from Tiflis today. It stated that Ottoman troops and Kurd tribesmen advancing from the captured ed when they attempted to invade the Caucasus, and driven back with heavy

Say No Other Canadians at Front.

London, Jan. 22-Official denial was made by the government press bureau came a total wreck. The crew are safe today of reports that all the Canadian troops had gone to the front. It stated that only a small portion had been sent to the continent, the remainder still bedeveloped the potato, for it is not found

Saskatchewan Elevator Burned

Indian Head, Sask., Jan. 22-The ele-

vator of the Winnipeg Elevator Company here was burned to the ground this

morning. It is a total loss, together with 30,000 bushels of grain. British Bark Wrecked.

St. John's, Nfld., Jan. 24-The British bark, Earl Shall, 367 tons, Captain Cow ard, returning to this port, from Brazil. where she had taken a cargo of codfis went ashore last night in a furious storm, five miles off this port, and

AGENTS

RELIABLE repressive trees throughout at present. We wish four good men to retain and general agents. Taken in the fruits New Brunswick off portunities for men offer a permanent p pay to the right men ton, Toronto, Onf.

in New Brunsw Hable Agents now in district. Pay wee Pelham Nursery Co...

TEACHERS

WANTED-Secon er for district Apply, stating salar stroth, French Villa

TEACHER WAN third class t stating salary, to Le tary, Tynemouth Cr

WANTED—A sec teacher to take in district No. 8, Per Victoria county, for toria Co., N. B.

WANTED—A secon School District Johnston County once, stating salary, Secretary, Canaan Cole's Island, Quee 2040

I wish to public for generous pa to announc new term Monday, Jan



HUGGARD-At Jan. 7, to Mr. and gard, a daughter.

DEA CREED—At Freday the 20th inst., S aged eighteen years and Mrs. Frank S. C and grandson of Ge

MORGAN -Petersville, Queens 11th inst., Robert M leaving his widow. daughters to mouri HOYT-In this his wife, two son his wife, two sons, brothers, one sister of friends to mourn McBURNEY—In

MONTREAL AL CAUGH WAS

Montreal, Jan.

thal admitted at council this after member of the co local paper as have house raided by the ago. He made the stated. His object in question was plaint about girls Alderman Blum "New York is not parts of St. Louis was enthal denied the he was sitting in police raided the found. He also drinking wine the SALISBURY RE

Salisbury, N. B meeting of the S ciety held in the nesday evening is V. E. Gowland. don, showed the lent shape. The society since pins sold. \$167.32 has been balance on hand The society is the splendid wo next move outs to raise money gians will be a present month.

Tubercu H. B. Schofiel press his resign the St. John Con of erection and by the county meeting. The since their apro Their ability

on the funds availy on the date to press for co which would alle ust 1, in which would hardly the end of the is now being man

The Rus Petrograd, Ja Issued today 6 date for the rethe council of