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**TO-DAY'S
Messages.****11.00 A.M.****THE SUBMARINE "BLOCKADE"**

WASHINGTON, To-day.

The new decision is exactly the one forecast when Sussex negotiations were closed. In the note conveying her pledges to keep submarine activities within International Law, Germany included the threat of resumption if the United States did not succeed in lifting the British restrictions on Commerce to Germany and United States neutrals, and the United States in reply expressly warned Germany that her pledges must be absolutely unconditional. "Neutrals," said Germany in the Sussex note, "cannot expect that Germany, forced to fight for her existence, shall for the sake of neutral interests restrict the use of an effective weapon, if her enemy is to continue to apply at will her methods of warfare, violating the rules of International Law. Should the steps taken by the United States not attain the object to have the laws of humanity followed by all belligerent nations, the German Government would then be facing a new situation in which it must reserve to itself completely the liberty of decision." To any such reservations the United States demurred in no uncertain terms. "The United States feels it necessary to

state," said President Wilson's reply, "that it takes for granted that the German Government does not intend to imply that its newly announced policy is in any way contingent upon the course or result of diplomatic negotiations between the Government of the States and any other belligerent Government. Notwithstanding the fact that certain passages in the Imperial Government's note might appear to be susceptible of that construction, in completing the declaration there must be no misunderstanding that the rights of American citizens must not be made subject to the conduct of some other Government." The note concluded by saying: "Responsibility in such matters is single, not joint, and absolute." The note relative to the development to-day came as a staggering surprise. For weeks inspired, authoritative almost semi-official statements have been coming from Berlin which indicated an absolute decision not to resume unrestricted submarine warfare. Germany, according to information received here, realizes that her action may result in a break of relations, but Berlin officials are prepared for a rupture. To-night they were represented as feeling that the only other steps open to the United States are calling a conference of neutral nations to end the blockade or taking some step which speedily would result in peace. From German quarters to-day came the information that Germany has from three hundred to five hundred submarines ready for the campaign. The German view is that the new policy will improve the general prospects of early peace, Germany is represented as still being

ready to discuss peace at any time. However it is declared that German officials both in this country and in Berlin feel that the declaration of the changed policy should make it clear that Germany and her Allies are in the war to the last drop of blood. Unrestricted submarine warfare, it was declared, was determined upon as soon as the nature of the Entente reply to President Wilson's note became known and before the President's address to the Senate. The President's address, it was said, authoritatively came in the midst of the situation because from its nature it appeared for a time as if the new campaign might be postponed. However, it was explained that much preparation was necessary for the opening of such a campaign and nothing would be gained by waiting. It is believed here that the policy was decided upon at a recent conference at the headquarters of the German General Staff and Field Marshal Von Hindenburg played a most important part in its formation. It is expected that Austria-Hungary will take action similar to that of Germany with regard to the operations of its submarines in the Mediterranean.

ON THE VERGE OF WAR!

NEW YORK, To-day.

Despatches to the Associated Press from every quarter in the United States last night reveal a remarkable unanimity of editorial opinion that the country is on the verge of war with Germany. Epitomizing the attitude of the press of the country towards the latest German note, the New York World, a strong supporter of the Wilson administration, says "There

can be only one answer on the part of the United States to the German submarine proclamation and that answer should be made to-day. The German Ambassador must receive his passports forthwith. Diplomatic relations must cease at once. There should be no procrastination until the hand of the United States Government is forced by premeditated murder and depredation. We have made every concession to Germany that self-respect will permit. All these concessions have proved to be in vain. To acquiesce in the resumption of ruthless submarine operations is to subject ourselves to the losses of war while depriving ourselves of the means of self-defence. That is intolerable. No peace is worth the price of subject national humiliation and degradation. No peace is worth the surrender of a nation's sovereign rights. If Germany wants war with the United States let Germany have war with the United States. Our hands are clean. The Berlin Government may be mistaken."

The New York Tribune:—"We have submitted to outrage long enough. Peace with Germany would be purchased at a dear price if it is to be purchased by compliance with the Kaiser's latest insulting instructions to us how we shall conduct our commerce with the Entente Nations. His western European blockade is not a whit more legitimate as a war measure than were his war operations in British waters and the ferocity underlying this new pretence of conducting a blockade consistent with military law is formally and brazenly avowed and glorified. In the United States fought one war, the war of 1812, in behalf of the people for freedom. We cannot believe that it has so far lost its manhood as to hesitate now that the challenge has come which may compel it to fight another."

PORT OF NEW YORK SEALED!

NEW YORK, To-day.

The port of New York was sealed tight last night by order of Dudley Field Malone, collector of the port. Vessels of every description, including tugs, were turned back to quarantine by the torpedo boat stationed there to maintain the neutrality of the States. The purpose of Malone's order remained a mystery, upon which he declined to throw any light. He has full authority to act upon his own initiative in a case of emergency, as he is held responsible for enforcing neutrality.

THE BLACKGUARD NATION.

LONDON, To-day.

"Signs of increased ruthlessness and intensity in the submarine campaign are accumulating fast," says the Times. "The German manifesto with regard to hospital ships has all the familiar marks of a German document designed to prepare the way for inhuman deeds." The Daily Telegraph naval expert declares that Germany's latest threat exceeds in "hideous barbarity" anything in this history of modern warfare. Behind everything the enemy does, the naval expert adds, "there is the determination to prove that he will admit of no restraint, and therefore cannot be defeated by those who will not descend to his level." The Morning Post's naval correspondent, discussing the submarine menace generally, says, "Germany knows that if she can reach a certain point in commerce destroying, the Entente Allies must yield, and therefore she is desperately yet methodically striving to reach that point while there is yet time. In general terms," says the correspondent, "the situation may be defined as a race against time. If Germany can destroy enough ships, both neutral and belligerent, before she is defeated on land she will win."

If the Allies can maintain sufficient sea transports they will win. At this moment it is impossible to predict the issue, but the people of this country would do well to prepare for certain contingencies."

VETERAN ADMIRAL DEAD.

LONDON, To-day.

Admiral Sir Henry Corie Kane, who as captain brought the British cruiser Calliope through the great hurricane at Samoa in 1889, died here on Tuesday.

12.30 P.M.**THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE.**

NEW YORK, To-day.

An Associated Press despatch from Warrington this morning says: "The ruthless submarine warfare inaugurated to-day by Germany brings the United States face to face with what President Wilson has declared solemnly to be the only alternative to the recognition of American rights on the high seas—a break in diplomatic relations with its accompanying grim possibilities." Washington awoke this morning with a shiver to a realization of this situation. It had come so suddenly in the midst of lingering hopes for an early peace in Europe and speculation over what might be the President's next move toward that end, that there had been little time for deliberation. In fact, even members of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate read for the first time in the morning papers the text of the warning note handed yesterday to Ambassador Gerard at Berlin and delivered to the State Department by Count von Bernstorff. President Wilson, upon whom lies the burden of determining the nation's course, was alone in his study at the White House until late in the night with a copy of the German note. He saw no callers, but is understood to have held several telephone conversations with the members of the Cabinet and to have sent a summons to Col. F. M. House, his close friend and constant adviser on Foreign Affairs. Colonel House, leaving his home in New York after midnight, reached here early this morning. There is every indication that whatever the American Government does will be done quickly. Apparently it is agreed that there are but three courses open, handing to Count von Bernstorff his passports without further ado, sending at once a warning to Germany that she will violate American rights at her peril, or awaiting the development of the new starvation campaign against England, announced to begin to-day.

THE EFFECT ON SHIPPING LINES.
NEW YORK, To-day.

The effect of Germany's declaration of a sea blockade of the Entente nations to be enforced with every available weapon and without further notice, was felt to-day in every port on the Atlantic Coast. Owners and agents of vessels flying neutral flags were in doubt as to their future course of action, and it is believed that most of them will keep their ships in port until instructions are received from the Government. In the office of the British and French lines it was said there would be no interruptions in the sailings from American ports of ships carrying the flags of the Entente Allies. To meet just such an emergency as this the British Government has assembled, it was said, a large fleet of small fast cruisers to be used as "submarine chasers." These vessels are said to number four thousand and will be available to keep the sea clear of raiders and submarines and to act as convoys. P. A. S. Franklin, President of the International Mercantile Marine, and head of the American line, declared: "I do not think there is any

danger for American ships on their present voyages." Halveord Jacobsen, representative of the Scandinavian-American line, and Wm. Van Doorn, manager of the Holland-American line, expected to receive cable instructions to-day from their governments.

1 30 P.M.**REPRISALS CONSIDERED AGAINST GERMANY.**

LONDON, To-day.

The text of the German note to neutrals announcing the abandonment of restrictions on naval warfare reached London an hour after midnight in a summary cable from New York of the Berlin despatch. It was consequently too late for the first editions of the morning papers or for editorial comment. The statement of the German decision in regard to hospital ships was, however, given the greatest prominence and the comments thereon indicate that the note to neutrals will not cause surprise. The intimation that the Government plans reprisals is generally acclaimed, although the Daily News, while refraining from speculation as to the form reprisals may take, says: "The question is peculiarly difficult, both practically and ethically. If we are already waging war to the full extent of our capacity within legitimate limits, there is little margin left for reprisals, unless we are prepared to follow Germany into the region of lawlessness and barbarism, where her predominance over all rivals is unassailable. In a contest of that kind we have been, and always will be, at a hopeless disadvantage. Of that Germany is doubtless aware and lays her plans accordingly."

GERMAN CHIEFS CONSIDER NEW INFAMIES.

BERLIN, To-day.

Chancellor von Bethmann Hollweg and other Ministers attended an important session of the Reichstag to-day, at which the entire war situation was gone over and new steps planned by the Central Powers were considered. The Chancellor opened the sitting with a speech of which the keynote words were: "We have been challenged to fight to the end. We accept the challenge; we stake everything and we shall be victorious." The Chancellor was followed by the Secretary of State for the Admiralty, who spoke of the situation from a technical, military and naval viewpoint. Detailed statistical data in regard to the economic position of the world were supplied by the Secretary of the Interior, and Foreign Secretary Simmermann replied to several special questions. After the Ministers had spoken, the Committee went into a secret session at which speeches were made by representatives of the National Liberal and Progressive parties.

SENSATION IN SPAIN.

LONDON, To-day.

The German declaration of unrestricted submarine warfare was discussed at a special meeting of the Spanish Cabinet, according to a despatch from Madrid. An enormous sensation has been caused in the Spanish Capital by the publication of the note, the despatch says.

DENMARK AGITATED.

LONDON, To-day.

A Copenhagen despatch says a meeting of the Cabinet was held last night to discuss the German submarine note and its probable effect on Denmark.

NO OTHER ANSWER THAN WAR.

NEW YORK, To-day.

The Buffalo Express says: "The note is virtually a declaration of war on the United States and on all other neutral countries and upon all civilization. It is especially a defiance of the United States on account of the ultimatum which the President sent to Germany in the Sussex case and the protests which led up to it." "Immediate and vigorous action by the President is imperative," says the Syracuse Post Standard. "The first American merchant vessel sunk by Germany will be a virtual declaration of war. There is no other answer to Germany's note."

SAILING AS USUAL.

LONDON, To-day.

All the steamship offices, both American and British, which have ships billed to sail for America, are booking passengers and freight to-day as usual.

The American lines have received no intimation of any change in the sailing programmes on account of the newly announced German navy policy. Lloyd's announce that the Dutch steamer Epsilon I, of 3211 tons, has been sunk.

GOES TO HOSPITAL.

Master Robert Barrett of New Melbourne, accompanied by his father, Mr. William Barrett, arrived in the city this morning to enter the General Hospital for an operation to his throat. The little chap is only five years old and has suffered great pain. Capt. Goes, H.M.C., was taken to the Hospital for medical treatment this morning.

Mrs. W. G. Garland of Lower Island Cove and Mrs. Jackman of King's Road, city, entered the institution to-day, the former for medical treatment and the latter for a slight operation.

Lion as Airman's Mascot.

The American airmen have with them at the Somme the mascot of the squadron, a baby lion, now about eight months old.

A few months ago the lion was advertised for sale in a Paris paper. The cub was at once bought up by the American flyers, and some facetious individual at Paris remarked that where, before passing into the hands of the "Sons of Liberty," the cub was accustomed to the usual iron bars of wild animals in captivity, he was quickly thereafter introduced to Parisian bars of a very different kind. This remark was conceded to have more humour than truth in it.

Amongst the American aviators the cub goes by the name of "Whisky," but as this might cause a mistaken impression in regard to his masters, who are employed in a line of work where the least use of alcohol is not possible, he has been named for official purposes, and especially for purposes of publication, "Verdun," in honour of the place where he spent the early months of his life with the corps.

Thousands For Chaplin

Various film companies have been negotiating with Charlie Chaplin for his services, and it is now announced that he has signed a contract that the pictures be exclusively shown in Mutual films. The contract provides for a bonus of \$100,000 to Chaplin, \$10,000 a week salary, and a percentage interest in the business. Chaplin is to have a special company, and his brother, Sid Chaplin, is to be a member. The Mutual Company has applied for an insurance of \$250,000 on Chaplin.

Way Station.

In chorus all the big Entente Powers scream in agony at the idea of peace without balm for the wounds of little Serbia, Belgium, Montenegro, and way stations.—Lost Angeles Times.

This is not an extract from a pro-German argument; it proceeds from the strict neutrality of mind which the attitude of so much of the West. The article from which the sentence is taken is not in the least pro-German. We reprint it because of the singularly felicitous way in which the whole mental viewpoint of that part of the West to which we refer is compressed in twenty-eight words. Hard as it is to understand in the East, there really are large parts of the Union not pro-German in which the idea for which so many Frenchmen and Englishmen are offering their lives seems amusing as a bit of cant, and in which the ruin of "way stations" excites neither indignation nor sorrow. Facts are facts, and disagreeable ones must be faced as well as pleasant ones.—N. Y. Times.



Tea and coffee do disagree with many. And in these days of accurate scientific knowledge there's no virtue in appearing astonished when the truth is faced.

Caffeine (the drug in coffee, and in tea also) leaves the system in an overworked and debilitated state, and is responsible for various serious ills and discomforts.

Thousands who desire an appetizing hot table beverage with none of tea or coffee's drawbacks, find a most delightful cup—one containing no deleterious substance whatever—in

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