

UNITED STATES ON VERGE OF WAR WITH GERMANY

THE WORLD ANXIOUSLY AWAITS NEXT MOVE OF UNITED STATES

Severance of Diplomatic Relations Between Republic and Germany Announced Saturday at Washington—Von Bernstorff Granted Safe Passport to Return to His Own Country

President Wilson, Invoking Guidance of Almighty God, Delivers World-History-Making Address to Congress and Announces That Germany's Submarine Policy Has Made Severance of Diplomatic Relations Necessary.

Washington, Feb. 4.—The severance of diplomatic relations with Germany was formally announced to the country and to the world by President Wilson at a joint session of congress yesterday. The United States now stands on the verge of war with all the historic precedent of centuries pressing it forward.

Fervently invoking the guidance of Almighty God in the steps he had taken, President Wilson detailed to congress why the United States could not continue relations with the warring power which repeatedly invaded its sacred rights and takes the lives of its citizens. Calm with a sense of right in what may prove the most sombre moment of American history, the president stood in the historic hall of the house and with senators and representatives before him spoke words which mark the turning of the world conflict, not for aggression and not for power, only for law and humanity.

Silent and attentive, the nation's law-makers listened with rapt attention while President Wilson told of the high seas, to which the lives of its citizens are being sacrificed in the unsuccessful diplomatic struggle to dissuade Germany from her campaign of ruthlessness.

President's Address.

The president spoke as follows:

"Gentlemen of Congress:—The Imperial German government on the 31st of January announced to this government and to the governments of the other neutral nations that on and after the first day of the present month it would adopt a policy with regard to the use of submarines against all shipping seeking to pass through certain designated areas of the high seas, to which it is clearly my duty to call your attention.

"Let me remind the congress that on the eighth of April last in view of the sinking of the twenty-fourth of March of the cross channel passenger steamer Sussex by a German submarine without summons or warning and consequent loss of the lives of several citizens of the United States who were passengers aboard her this government addressed a note to the Imperial German government in which it made the following declaration: 'It is still the purpose of the Imperial German government to prosecute relentless and indiscriminate warfare against vessels of commerce by the use of submarines without regard to what the government of the United States must consider the sacred and indisputable rules of international law and the universally recognized dictates of humanity the government of the United States is at last forced to the conclusion that there is but one course it can pursue.

"Germany Warned.—Unless the Imperial German government should now immediately declare and effect an abandonment of its present methods of submarine warfare against passenger and freight carrying vessels the government of the United States can have no choice but to sever diplomatic relations with the German empire altogether.

"In reply to this declaration the Imperial German government gave this government the following assurance: 'The German government is prepared to do its utmost to confine the operations of war for the rest of its duration to the fighting forces of the belligerents thereby also insuring the freedom of the seas, a principle upon which the German government believes now as before to be in agreement with the government of the United States.

"The German government guided by this idea notified the government of the United States that the German naval forces have received the following instructions in accordance with the general principles of visit and search, and destruction of merchant vessels recognized by international law, such vessels, both within and without the area declared a naval war zone shall not be sunk without warning and without saving human lives, unless the ship attempt to escape or offer resistance.

"Germany's Methods.—But, it added, neutrals 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 permitted to continue to apply to all methods of warfare violating the principles of international law.

"Such a demand would be incompatible with the character of neutrality and the German government is convinced that the government of the United States does not think of making such a demand knowing that the government of the United States has repeatedly declared that it is determined to restore the principles of the freedom of the seas from whatever quarter it has been violated.

"To this the government of the United States replied on the eighth of May accepting, on account of the assurances given, but adding the government of the United States feels it necessary to state that it takes it for granted that the Imperial German government does not intend to imply that the maintenance of its newly announced policy is in any way contingent upon the course or result of diplomatic negotiations between the government of the United States and any other belligerent government notwithstanding the fact that certain passages in the Imperial German government's note of the fourth instant might appear to be susceptible of that construction. In order, however, to avoid any misunderstanding, the government of the United States notifies the Imperial German government that it cannot for a moment entertain much less discuss, a suggestion that respect by German naval authorities, for the rights of citizens of the United States upon the high seas, should in any way be contingent upon the conduct of any other government affecting the rights of neutrals and non-combatants. Responsibility in such matters is single, not joint, absolute not relative.

"To Protect Americans.—In concluding his address, President Wilson declared that he could not even now believe that Germany intends any overt act against American citizens, but that if overt acts are forthcoming he will again come before congress to ask authority to use any means that may be necessary for the protection of our seamen and our people.

"All neutral governments, he believes, will take the same course. 'We wish to serve no selfish ends,' the president stated. 'We seek merely to stand true alike in thought and in action to the immortal principles of our people. Justice and an unshaken life. These are the basis of peace, not war. God grant that we may not be challenged to defend them by acts of willful injustice on the part of the government of Germany.'

"While the president was addressing congress, Law Adviser Woolsey of the state department was at the German embassy with a communication for Count Von Bernstorff. The communication Mr. Woolsey delivered contained passports for the ambassador, his wife, the embassy staff and his suite which comprised more than a hundred persons. A note believed to be substantially the same as the president's address to congress, was included.

DIED.

MARTIN—At her residence, 128 St. James street, on 3rd inst., Jessie Alice, wife of H. C. Martin, aged fifty-five years.

Funeral service at her late residence on Sunday at 8:30 o'clock p. m. Interment in Tremont, N. S., Tuesday.

McANDREW—At West St. John, Feb. 4, John P. McAndrew, aged 54 years, leaving wife, five daughters and one son to mourn.

Funeral on Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock from his late residence, 114 Guilford street. Service at St. George's church at 3 o'clock. Friends and acquaintances invited.

PERCEY—On February 4th, Francis Percy, of Newfoundland, age 84, leaving wife, five daughters and one son to mourn.

Funeral Monday at 2:30 p. m., from the home for incurables, 240 Wentworth street. Service at 2:15.

OXO CUBES have proved of remarkable value in the Great War.

They are equally valuable in the home. They yield warmth and sustenance in a moment.

An OXO CUBE to a cup of tea or coffee is a perfect meal.

BRITISH, RUSSIANS AND THE FRENCH REPEL TEUTONS

Forces of Britain Inflict Severe Losses on Enemy—Berlin Admits British Succeed in Entering Trenches North of Ancre River.

London, Feb. 3.—The report from British headquarters in France tonight reads: "Hostile raiding parties were driven off during the night east of Bouchemin and in the neighborhood of Arras. The enemy suffered considerable losses from our artillery while retreating.

"North of the Ancre our positions on Beaumont-Hamel ridge have been further improved. We entered the enemy's lines early this morning and captured a number of prisoners. The enemy suffered a mine last night east of Ypres, doing insignificant damage. We have occupied the crater.

"Successful bombardments were carried out by us today north of the Somme and in the neighborhood of Beaumont, Arras and Arrantieres. Berlin Admits Repulse.

Berlin, Feb. 4, via Sayville.—At midnight last night the British attacked the German positions north of the Ancre river on the French front. Today's official report says they succeeded in entering advanced trenches near the bank of the river.

French Again Victors. Paris, Feb. 4.—The communication issued by the war office tonight reads: "A surprise attack on the enemy trenches in the region of Moulins-Sous-Toutvent resulted in the capture by us of ten prisoners. At Les Eperges an enemy attempt to occupy a crater failed.

"Our artillery carried out effective fire against German works at various points along the front, notably in the sector of Hill 104. "Between the Oise and the Aisne we made a successful surprise attack on German trenches in the region of Tracy le Val and took twenty-two prisoners.

Petrograd, Feb. 4, via London, British Admiralty, per wireless press.—Determined efforts were made by the Germans yesterday to storm Russian defenses in the north, near the Riga region. Today's official report says that notwithstanding repeated attacks, the efforts failed.

GERMANS SINK SEVERAL MORE BIG STEAMERS

American Steamer Housatonic, with Contraband of War, Sunk off Scilly Islands.

London, Feb. 3.—The American steamer Housatonic has been sunk by a German submarine near the Scilly Islands, it is believed.

The Housatonic sailed from Galveston, Texas, on January 6th, and from Newport News on January 15th for London. She carried 144,200 bushels of wheat.

Law Not Violated. Washington, Feb. 4.—The possibility that the sinking of the American steamer Housatonic will become a serious factor in the crisis with Germany was eliminated today by evidence that the attacking submarine acted within international law.

Germany's Colonies. In his address Mr. Lloyd George said the coming imperial conference would consider the question of the disposal of the German colonies which have been captured by the Entente Allies.

"Peace without victory would not mean peace but a rest for the Central Powers with time to recuperate," Mr. Lloyd George said. "Peace would come in 1917," said the premier, "if Great Britain's enemies knew that by holding out until 1918 they would be worse off, not better off."

The premier said he never had any doubts as to ultimate victory. "There is much in the military situation," he continued, "which must necessarily cause anxiety."

In regard to Germany's new sea policy the premier said: "Germany must stand revealed even to the most indulgent neutral, as a Goth in all his naked savagery."

WESTERN UNION PLANS TO TRAIN OPERATORS

The Western Union Telegraph Company has offered a bonus to about 1000 man-operators in small cities and towns for each junior operator such managers shall enlist and train. This unusual step is taken in the use of the telegraph and the consequent need for competent operators to handle the dispatch which its standards require.

Any person—man or woman—over the age of 16 and with the requisite education and intelligence can become a junior operator. The company provides the necessary instruction free. When the junior grade is reached, employment is assured.

In the larger cities, telegraph schools are already maintained for teaching operators. These, however, have not been able to turn out a sufficient number of trained men and women to wholly meet the present demands. It is now sought to give persons in smaller places as well as the telegraph schools an opportunity to study telegraphy, either by exclusive application or in conjunction with their other employment.

Y. M. C. A. NOTES.

The members of the Y. M. C. A. held their monthly supper Saturday evening with a large attendance.

The last lecture of the first aid series was given Saturday night by Lieut. McKay.

W. C. Cross gave an address on "Endurance" at the regular boys' meeting yesterday morning.

This noon a luncheon will be given at the Y. M. C. A. by the High School club in honor of W. R. Auld, Maritime students' secretary.

TWO KENT COUNTY BOYS WHO HAVE MADE GOOD

Rt. Hon. Andrew Bonar Law and Henry A. Powell, the Latter of St. John, Played Together Half Century Ago—Mr. Powell Was Popular M. P. for Westmorland.

(Maclean's Magazine, Toronto.) Fifty odd years ago two bare-legged boys played and squabbled on their way to school in the County of Kent, New Brunswick. Even before the primer was finished one was whisked away beyond the ocean to live with his relatives in Glasgow, and the other, left at home, mourned his departure.

Today's official report says that notwithstanding repeated attacks, the efforts failed. The boy who went away is now a member of the British War Council and one of the foremost personalities in the Government. Thus did one Kent County boy grow and he has still much of his career before him. But the one left at home did not pine or spend his life in bewailing his lot, for he was a boy of the future. He was a member of the British War Council and one of the foremost personalities in the Government.

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Hurry up and get yourself fitted out RIGHT. Someone might look at you in the street TOMORROW and judge you by your clothes. Would YOU pass this snap judgment?

Overcoat today ready for service—long or short, double or single breasted, loose, medium, or form-fitting. 15 to \$30.

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forward actively, although silently.

Preparation to prevent the disabling of German war bound ships in America ports are being taken but they are unannounced.

The question of conveying American ships on their voyages to the submarine zone still is undecided, although the first impression is to let American ships proceed in a usual lawful way on the assumption that Germany has been warned that an overt act means war.

Nothing definite as to Ambassador Gerard's departure from Germany was announced tonight. It is presumed that as soon as he can secure his passport from the Wilhelmstrasse, assemble his suite and all American consular officers in Germany he will go to some adjoining neutral state, probably Holland, or Switzerland, and prepare to return to the United States.

Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, is making preparations to turn over the embassy to the Swiss minister, Dr. Ritter, and to leave the country.

The State Department is endeavoring to secure from the Entente Allies a safe passage home for the ambassador and his suite.

President Wilson spent the day quietly attending church in the morning, conferring briefly with officials over the telephone and in the afternoon talking over with Senator Simmons, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, the problem of raising necessary revenue for the war.

There were no unusual signs of activity about the state, war or navy departments, but underneath the surface forces were at work preparing the country for a situation which has been expected, but hoped against ever since the issue with Germany became acute.

It is not impossible that the present situation will continue several days before there are any evidences of whether Germany intends to halt her campaign of ruthlessness before President Wilson's final demand for respect to American rights, or whether she will follow out her plan and take the consequences. Provisions made in the new submarine order for the safety of ships at sea at the time it was promulgated may postpone the overt act which would be an act of war.

On the other hand it may come at any moment by the ruthless act or even mistake of some submarine commander.

With relations severed and the country preparing to meet the next step as it comes, others are reflecting now upon the situation as it affects the cause of peace and the situation of the belligerents themselves.

It seems to be accepted that the action of the United States will tend to hold the Entente Allies closer together than ever before, and deter talk of a separate peace.

It seems to be accepted, too, that the rupture definitely removes the United States as the world's peace-maker and from the German point of view brings forward King Alfonso of Spain. Curiously enough the German ambassador, Count Von Bernstorff, several months ago expressed the personal opinion that not President Wilson, but the king of Spain, would be the man to bring peace to the world.

Should it eventuate that all other neutrals accepted the president's suggestion that they sever diplomatic relations with Germany the choice for peace would have to come from the Vatican.

The Entente embassies, confident that the United States cannot help being forced into the conflict are discussing themselves what part the United States would take in the war. Congress, stirred with patriotic fever, is making ready to stand behind the president in whatever he may do to uphold the honor and dignity of the country.

The only dissenting note comes from a small pacifist group which several months ago supported the movement to warn Americans off armed ships. The president is confident that his action is approved by congress and the country.

Steps to protect American cities and property against attack by foreign sympathizers are day and night going

NEW

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The Patrol System

Be Employ

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Highways.

In its issue of Jan. Standard announced the Hon. B. Frank Smith Public Works, was working on a new and improved

police. Hon. Mr. Smith has ment to the electors New Brunswick in the important features The new scheme is on

press the electors in every town the great highway in the highest state

All those interested in and there is not a c Brunswick who is not ed in the question—al perse the minister's st

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