

BRITAIN FLATLY REJECTS DEMANDS OF UNITED STATES TO TURN OVER APPAM TO OWNERS

PARTY LEADERS ARE STABBED BY GREAT DISASTER

Tributes Paid to Memory of B. B. Law, M.P., and Other Victims.

BUSINESS TO PROCEED

Laurier's References to Louvain and Rheims Followed by Demonstration.

By a Staff Reporter. OTTAWA, Ont., Feb. 4.—The house of commons assembled this afternoon under the shadow of a great tragedy, and after listening to eloquent addresses by Sir Robert Borden and Sir Wilfrid Laurier, adjourned till Monday.

The announcement made by the prime minister and warmly seconded by the leader of the opposition, that the work of the session would go on as though no fire had occurred was greeted with an outburst of applause.

The house convened in the assembly room of the Victoria Museum. Mr. Speaker Seagram was seated on the stage and the members were in the auditorium. A wide aisle down the centre had been made, however, to divide the government from the opposition. In this aisle was placed the table of the house and the mace borrowed hastily from the senate.

Mr. Speaker Borden rose almost immediately. The house, he said, was meeting under sad and strange surroundings. After referring briefly to the fire, he formally announced the death of B. B. Law, a member of the house for the electoral district of York.

Historic Building Gone. He then spoke of the historic building which had been the home of the Canadian parliament since confederation. In that building many historic scenes had taken place and many great statesmen had played their part.

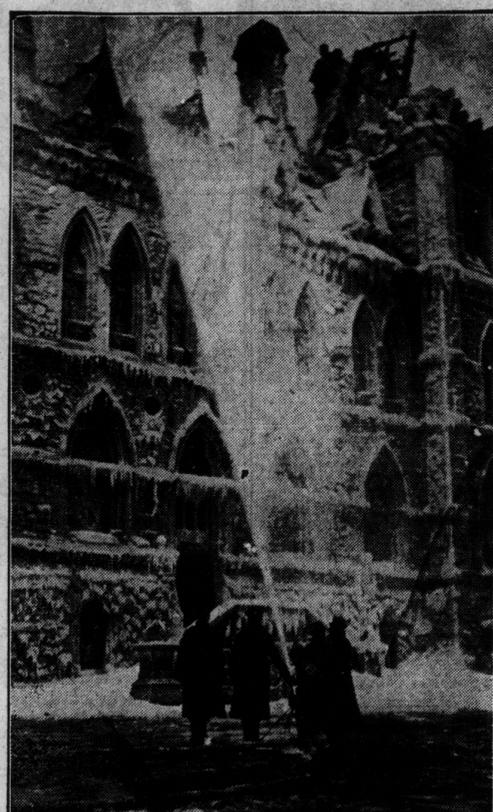
Several employees of the house, the premier said, had perished when helping to rescue members or check the flames. Two certainly were dead, and perhaps others would be found in the ruins.

King's Condolences. The prime minister then read a letter to the king from the royal highness the Duke of Connaught enclosing a cable from the king. His Majesty's message expressed sympathy with the people of Canada in the loss of their historic building.

Sir Robert Borden said he was unable to account for the origin of the fire. He was, however, struck by the rapidity with which it spread. When he left his office last night he found the corridor running past the press room filled with smoke and flame. He heard a number of explosive noises which indicated the energy with which the fire was raging.

Concluding Enthusiasm. The concluding paragraph of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's speech aroused great enthusiasm. He was understood by the members to say that until the should remain in session until the fire was completely extinguished.

RUINS OF THE EAST WING



Firemen and soldiers playing their hose on the smoldering east wing of the parliament buildings at 7 o'clock yesterday morning.

ZEPPELIN LOST, SAYS BERLIN

BRITISH SEARCH WAS FUTILE

Big Airship Failed to Return After Scouting Trip, it is Stated—Zeppelin Believed to Have Sunk in North Sea.

LONDON, Feb. 4.—Altho search by British naval vessels failed to locate the Zeppelin reported afloat in the North Sea, an official communication issued at Berlin today admits that Zeppelin L-19 has not returned from a reconnoitering flight and that enquiries concerning the airship have been without result.

George Denny, mate of the Swedish steamer in the middle of the North Sea and sent a party aboard to inspect the steamer's papers. On this occasion the airship descended to within a few yards of the surface of the water and launched a boat containing the airship's machinery.

PAPERS FOUND ON PRISONER LOOKED ON WITH SUSPICION

Special Government Agents Searched Strony Before He Was Arrested on Train and Found Suspicious Looking Papers.

By a Staff Reporter. OTTAWA, Ont., Feb. 4.—It is understood that a man named Strony has been ordered arrested at Windsor, Ont., by the Ottawa authorities on suspicion of being connected with the destruction of the parliament buildings.

Authorities on suspicion of being connected with the destruction of the parliament buildings. Colonel Percy Sherwood, chief of Dominion police, was asked regarding the report, but he refused to say anything at all on the subject. Strony left Ottawa last night by the C. P. R. train for western Ontario and his appearance aroused suspicion. Special government agents were on the train, as they were on every train today throughout the country which could be reached from Ottawa.

BRITAIN MAKES DEMAND ON U.S. FOR STEAMER

Release of Appam Demanded According to Terms of International Law.

NOT TO RECRUIT CREW

Sir Cecil Spring-Rice Serves Notice Against Equipping Ship.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—In the name of the British owners of the steamship Appam, Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, British ambassador, today lodged with the state department a formal request that the ship be turned over to the British consul under the terms of The Hague convention. Notice also was served that it would be in violation of international law if the United States permitted the German prize commander of the Appam either to increase the efficiency of that ship, or to recruit his offensive power or to recruit his crew.

On the Alabama case as a precedent the British contention is that any changes either in equipment or personnel of the Appam which would even in a limited degree give her offensive power and enable her to prey on British commerce would be a violation of law, for which the United States could be held responsible.

Altho the British Government did not finally ratify The Hague treaty governing the conduct of neutrals in maritime warfare, it is held that most of that convention, and especially the article under which the release of the Appam is demanded, is only a crystallization of principles of international law in existence before the conventions were drawn and generally accepted since.

In evidence of its observance of the principles of denial to belligerents of the right of sequestering prizes in neutral ports, the British Government, on June 1, 1861, issued at the outbreak of the civil war, when confederate privateers were preying freely upon the commerce of the northern states, a proclamation which refused such prizes entry into British ports, which Secretary Seward declared to be "the death blow of privateering."

Nevertheless there was no indication today that the state department would alter its view that the Prussian treaty guarantees the prize to Germany, and Secretary Lansing declared that the British policy should be clear up was how long an interpretation of the treaty would permit the Appam to remain in an American port.

OPERATIONS IN FRANCE COMPARATIVELY CALM

Allies Continued Bombardment of Positions of Germans at Many Points.

LONDON, Feb. 4.—Comparatively calm is the French report of the day's war operations at the front. The French artillery shelled a German column of infantry and some convoys which were entering the Town of Roye, and it bombarded German fortifications in Champagne, the Argonne, and Lorraine, and the British artillery effectively bombarded the German trenches forming the front between the Rivers Ancre and Somme.

GO ON SPECIAL MISSION TO KING OF BELGIANS

Earl Curzon and Sir Douglas Haig Deputed by British Government.

LONDON, Feb. 4, 8 p.m.—An official communication made public tonight says that Earl Curzon, lord privy seal, and General Sir Douglas Haig, commander of the British forces on the continent, are to proceed on a special mission to the king of the Belgians, and that Earl Curzon also has left England for that purpose.

THE DAMAGED WEST WING



Tons of water were thrown into the burning building, which soon became coated with ice. This picture was taken at 8 o'clock Friday morning.

PEEL LIBERALS WOULD AVOID AN ELECTION

Willing to Let Conservative Member Fill Out Mr. Fallis' Term.

BUT WILL OPPOSE HIM

If He is Renominated at Brampton Convention This Afternoon.

Liberals of Peel County are willing to have a Conservative member elected by acclamation in the by-election caused by the resignation of J. R. Fallis, provided Mr. Fallis is not the candidate. A letter to this effect has been sent to the secretary of the Peel County Liberal-Conservative Association.

Following is the official notification of the action taken by the County of Peel Liberal Association: Brampton, Feb. 4, 1916.

J. J. Donaghy, Esq., Secretary, Peel Liberal-Conservative Association, Brampton, Ont. Dear Sir: We see by the papers that Mr. Fallis has resigned his seat in the legislature because of disclosures made in the investigation before Sir Charles Davidson, and that an election will be held on the 24th of this month to choose his successor.

The decision of our executive, which met this afternoon, is that under present conditions we will permit any new man chosen by your convention to fill out the balance of Mr. Fallis' term to be elected by acclamation.

We are sending you this communication in the hope of avoiding a contest at this time. Yours respectfully, Ben Fitch, President. J. S. Beck, Secretary.

FIRE ON OIL TANKER NOW UNDER CONTROL

HALIFAX, Feb. 4.—A wireless message from the steamer Siberian says that a fire earlier reported on the oil tanker is under control, and the steamer, with hatches battened down, has resumed her voyage.

KING AND DUKE OF CONNAUGHT CONVEYED DEEPEST SYMPATHY

His Majesty Grieved to Hear of Deplorable Destruction of Noble Pile of Buildings Which He Had Known Well.

By a Staff Reporter. OTTAWA, Ont., Feb. 4.—Premier Borden read at this afternoon's sitting in the house in the assembly room of the Victoria museum a letter from the Duke of Connaught and cable from King George conveying condolences on the parliament buildings disaster.

"I desire to express to you my warm sympathy to both houses of parliament on the terrible calamity of last night, by which those historic buildings were almost entirely destroyed by fire. I know how untiring in the Dominion itself, but through the empire. I deplore the loss of life which has, I fear, occurred, and desire to express my deep sympathy with the families of those who have so unfortunately perished.

"Believe me, yours, very sincerely, (Signed) Arthur. The King's cable to the governor-general. LONDON, Feb. 4, 1916.—Duke of Connaught, Ottawa: "I am grieved to hear of the de-

GERMANY WILL STILL CONTINUE WAR OF PIRACY

Berlin and Washington Have Reached Deadlock Over Lusitania Affair.

ONE WORD OBSTACLE

Germany Refuses to Admit Illegal Methods—Situation Again Grave.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—The one word "illegal," as differently interpreted in the United States and Germany, protrudes from the tentative draft of the Lusitania agreement perfected by Ambassador Von Bernstorff and Secretary Lansing, as the stumbling block which caused Berlin to refer to the negotiations as having reached a crisis, and Washington to characterize the situation as grave.

Germany's answer, presented to Secretary of State Lansing today by Count Von Bernstorff, proposes instead of an out-and-out admission of illegality of the method of submarine warfare used by the German naval authorities in sinking the liner, an acceptance of liability for the loss of neutral lives, which Berlin hopes will satisfy the United States and still not bind Germany from continuing the submarine campaign. German officials believe that their previous promise to discontinue sinking unresisting merchantmen without warning brings the submarine campaign within the pale of international law, and that any inclusion of that phrase in the Lusitania agreement is unnecessary and humiliating to the imperial government.

The word "illegal" in the draft of the German ambassador transmitted to his government as meeting all the contentions of the United States is taken to have been regarded in Berlin as being synonymous with liability not to the entire submarine campaign, but to the entire submarine campaign. This is the only explanation which officials here can find for the statement of Dr. Zimmermann, under secretary of foreign affairs, that "the United States suddenly made new demands which it is impossible for us to accept."

Secretary Lansing declared today that the position of the United States was unchanged, and the German ambassador knew of no demands which were not embodied in the proposal he sent to Berlin. Phrase Substituted. It is known that the only change in the agreement drawn by the secretary and the ambassador is to substitute the word "illegal," a phrase which while assuming liability for the lives of neutrals lost on the Lusitania, does not admit of construction in prohibition of submarine warfare.

The despatch to the ambassador secretary was very brief and covered only that one point. Other words in the document are unchanged as it was drawn to meet all the contentions of the United States. After the cabinet meeting today, Secretary Lansing declared "the situation is unchanged."

That may authoritatively be stated to represent the situation accurately, it had become no more grave, and by that fact it has become no less grave. Its status has not materially changed and it may remain so for four or five days at least, while President Wilson and Secretary Lansing consider Germany's answer fully.

In a like manner it may be stated authoritatively that it does not follow that either a completely satisfactory settlement or an open break must follow at the end of that time. The negotiations may continue.

BRITAIN TO CONTROL SHIPPING IN GENERAL

Destination and Use of Vessels and Rates Will Be Supervised.

LONDON, Feb. 4.—In an article concerning the recent remarks made by Walter Runciman, president of the board of trade, concerning the shipping and freight difficulty, The Nation says that it is understood that the government intends to undertake general control over all shipping. This control, it adds, will be not on the same lines as the control of railroads and munitions manufacture, but will provide for a central committee empowered not merely to check the monstrous growth in rates, but to do upon a whole what is done by freight brokers and shipping agents responsible for regulating the destination and use of vessels employed in world trade.

REPLACE BONDS UNDER MOBILIZATION SCHEME

LONDON, Feb. 4.—The treasury announced today that it will cancel last Friday's list of additional American bonds tomorrow and substitute forty-five others, purchasable under the mobilization scheme.