

GERMANY OFFERS TO PAY INDEMNITY

For American Lives Lost by Torpedoing of Lusitania-- Promises No Further Submarine Attacks Without Warning and Will Give Non-Combatants Opportunity to Reach Place of Safety--Does Not Admit Wrong Doing, However.

Washington, Jan. 7.—Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, presented to Secretary of State Lansing today a proposal to pay indemnity for Americans lost in the Lusitania disaster, and thereby conclude that controversy, and gave assurance that any German submarines in the Mediterranean would not attack non-combatants of any character without warning, or destroy them without opportunity for non-combatants to reach a place of safety.

While offering to pay indemnity in the Lusitania case, Germany makes the reservation that it is done without admission of wrongdoing. No official indication was given as to the acceptability of the proposal, but one set of American officials took the view that it would end the controversy.

The assurance regarding submarine warfare in the Mediterranean are of broader scope than those given after the Arabic disaster, and covering the warfare in the North Sea. The latter guaranteed only the safety of liners.

Those for the Mediterranean cover all non-combatant ships. Count Bernstorff also told Secretary Lansing his government had heard of the sinking of the Persia, through news despatches, but had no other information.

The assurance regarding the conduct of submarine warfare in the Mediterranean convey the first information that German submarines were operating there.

As for the disavowal asked by the United States, the German Government was represented as considering that the most effective form of disavowal was assurance that such acts should not be committed in the future.

The Bernstorff Proposal.

The following statement was issued by Secretary of State Lansing:

"The German ambassador today left at the Department of State, under instructions from his government, the following communication:

"1. German submarines in the Mediterranean have, from the beginning of the war, orders to conduct cruiser warfare against enemy merchant vessels only in accordance with general principles of international law, and in particular measures of reprisal, as applied in the war zone around the British Isles were to be excluded.

"2. German submarines are therefore permitted to destroy enemy merchant vessels in the Mediterranean, that is, passenger as well as freight ships, as far as they do not try to escape or offer resistance—only after passengers and crews have been accorded safety.

"3. All cases of destruction of enemy merchant ships in the Mediterranean, in which German submarines are concerned, are made the subject of investigation, and besides submitted to regular prize court proceedings. In so far as American interests are concerned, the German government will communicate the results to the American government. Thus, also, in the Persia case, if the circumstances should call for it.

"4. If commanders of German submarines should not have obeyed the orders given to them, they will be punished; furthermore, the German government will make reparation for damage caused by death or injury to American citizens."

Mr. Lansing made no announcement of the Lusitania proposals, saying the subject was still confidential. Five notes, dealing with the small boat question, will be made public later.

GIRLS! BEAUTIFY YOUR HAIR AND STOP DANDRUFF

Hair becomes charming, wavy, lustrous and thick in few moments.

Every bit of dandruff disappears and hair stops coming out.

For 25 cents you can save your hair. In less than ten minutes you can double its beauty. Your hair becomes light, wavy, fluffy, abundant, and appears as soft, lustrous and charming as a young girl's after applying some Dandergine. Also try this—moisten a cloth with a little Dandergine and carefully draw it through your hair, taking one small strand at a time. This will cleanse the hair of dirt, dirt or excessive oil, and in just a few moments you have doubled the beauty of your hair. A delightful surprise awaits those whose hair has been neglected or is scraggy, faded, dry, brittle or thin. Besides beautifying the hair, Dandergine dissolves every particle of dandruff; cleanses, purifies and invigorates the scalp, forestalling itching and falling hair, but what will please you most will be that a few weeks' use, when you see new hair—fine and downy at first—yes—really new hair growing all over the scalp. If you care for pretty, soft hair, and lots of it, surely get a 25-cent bottle of Knowlton's Dandergine from any druggist or toilet counter and just try it.

FRENCH LESSONS FOR SOLDIERS AT CAM? SUSSEX

Y. M. C. A. will provide opportunity for men to learn the language—104th to have a Hockey Team.

Sussex, Jan. 7.—The Citizens Band, under the leadership of Bandmaster Cameron, now drum sergeant major of the 104th Battalion, gave a concert in the Y. M. C. A. Soldiers Club on Thursday evening. Several selections were played by the band which were greatly appreciated by some 200 of the men. Several vocal selections added variety to the programme, and Judge W. B. Jones gave an interesting address in which he impressed upon the soldiers the obligations of citizenship which would rest upon them when the war was over.

The Y.M.C.A. is being well patronized by the men in barracks here and every evening finds the room crowded and the facilities taxed to the utmost. There is something doing nearly every evening. On Wednesday last Pte. "Billy" Lawless entertained the men with buck violin playing. It is planned to start conversational French classes the first of next week and many of the men have expressed a desire to make themselves acquainted with the intricacies of that language.

The 104th is going to put a hockey team on the ice in a few days that they will be willing to back against any of the organizations of the province. A number of last year's Sussex champions have donned the khaki and with the help of some Moncton and Charlotte county men will make a classy organization.

The band arrived from St. John yesterday and hard at work again.

CHURCHILL TO LEAD REGIMENT OF ROYAL SCOTS

Stepping-stone to Command of a Brigade which is Ex-Head of Admiralty's ambition.

London, Jan. 7. (8.58 p. m.)—Major Winston Churchill, former first lord of the admiralty, who resigned his subsequent post of chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and went to the front, with his regiment, has been appointed to command a battalion of Royal Scots Fusiliers at the front in France.

According to Reuters correspondent at British Headquarters, this will prove a stepping stone to the command of a brigade, which is said to be Major Churchill's immediate ambition.

THE TWO GREAT JEWELS OF THE TIGRIS VALLEY

Seleucia and Ctesiphon: Where British and Turks Met in Recent Battle.

WERE BUILT TO TAKE PLACE OF BABYLON—

Both cities of great strategic importance—Population has greatly diminished of late years.

Constantinople, Dec. 14.—(Correspondence)—Four days ago news of the battle of Ctesiphon in which the British met with a reverse, reached Constantinople, the city was decorated with flags and bunting as never before. For once the Turk emerged fully from his lethargic state and celebrated on an elaborate scale. It had been Mohammed's intention, six centuries ago, to take the White Palace of Ctesiphon, but he did not live long enough to lead his Arab hordes against this Persian stronghold. The undertaking was left to the second caliph, Omar, whose commander-in-chief, Saad, defeated the Persians under Ruzem at Seleucia, on the right bank of the Tigris river so decisively that a few months later Emperor Jeddahs, last of the Sassanid kings of Persia, also lost Ctesiphon, the twelfth city across the raging and wild stream. Thus fell "Madinah" as the Arabs fitly called Seleucia and Ctesiphon—the "Twin City." So far Madinah had been distinctly Persian in every respect. The Moslem faith now replaced the mixture of fire worship and Zoroastrianism.

Seleucia and Ctesiphon, under the Persians, had been the jewels of the Tigris valley, materially and intellectually. The fertile soil of the district yielded crops in profusion, and in the city capes, weavers, gold and silver smiths, and armorers were thriving in prosperity. Though Persian in religion, and one of the last groups in which this high development of thought was forcibly supplanted by the cast-iron dogma of early Semetic creed.

Saad, as he stood on the place where a few hours before had been the throne of the Sassanids, turned his face in the direction of Mecca and cited a verse from the Koran which for many centuries was not without meaning to Seleucia and Ctesiphon.

"How many gardens have you left. And springs and crops; How many a place of pleasure. Serving their delight. (God) gave them to another people. And neither Earth nor Heaven weeps."

The booty which the Moslem conquerors of the twin cities took was one of the greatest of all antiquity. About 60,000 Arab warriors took part in the assault upon Ctesiphon. The share of each in currency, precious metals and jewels, was worth 12,000 silver drachmas, after a fifth of the loot had been set aside for the caliph and his treasury, and another fifth for the widows and orphans of the soldiers who had fallen in the campaign.

Before the Arab left Ctesiphon they set the "White Palace" afire, after removing every object of value, among them the largest Persian silk carpet on record. The carpet was about 300 yards long, 100 yards wide, made entirely by hand, and it pictured a garden.

The birds woven into the carpet had been fashioned of precious stones, as were also the flowers. Saad decided to preserve the carpet for the caliph. But Omar was an ascetic of the most extreme type. When he saw the splendid example of the silk-knitters' art, he merely said—

"What shall I do with this handiwork of these devil-worshippers. Divide it among the leaders of the troops."

The splendid carpet was hacked to pieces. During the recent battle between the Ottoman troops and the British, the remains of the "White Palace," splendid even in their ruined state, as a number of large photographs in the Stamboul Museum show, were further devastated by the Turkish and British artillery fire. The extent of the damage is still unknown, but it brings to mind a verse from man epic poem which the Persian poet Ferdusi composed on the fall of Ctesiphon:

"In the imperial palace at the gate, The spider, chamberlain by fate, Draws shut the curtain, While in Efraslab's royal halls Sounds weird war music of the owls."

Seleucia and Ctesiphon were built to take the place of Babylon, which latter city fell rapidly into decay after the death of Alexander the Great. Se-

Fire Fire Fire SALE

Our entire stock which was damaged by fire and water on Xmas Day will be put on sale for the benefit of the public

SATURDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock, the 8th inst.

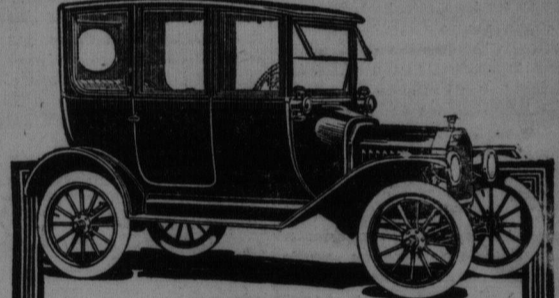
We regret that we were not able to start this gigantic sale before, but owing to carpenters, etc., getting the store tenanted, we were delayed. Better late than never.

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The Ford Runabout is \$480; the Touring Car \$550; the Coupelet \$550; the Town Car \$780. All prices are f.o.b. Ford, Ontario. All cars completely equipped, including electric headlights. Equipment does not include speedometer. Cars on sale at St. John Branch 'Phone 2806.

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Do you ever feel that you must have some rest for that lame and aching back? Do you ever feel that those shooting, stabbing, darting pains must be gotten rid of before you can get into condition, whereby you can attend to your household duties without a pain or an ache?

When the back begins to ache it is a sure sign that there is something radically wrong with the kidneys.

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Doan's Kidney Pills are 50c per box, 3 boxes for \$1.25; at all dealers, or mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Millburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

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