VON BERNSTORFF SEES LANSING

United States Asked to Act as Mediator.

THE OUTLOOK HOPEFUL

Substance Of Talk Is Sent To Wilson. Bernstorff Wires Report Of Conference To His Government.

Washington.—A confidential and friendly conference between Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, and Secretary of State Lansing has done more, officials say, to bring about a friendly understanding between Germany and the United States than any of the previous steps in the diplomatic negotiations between the two countries.

The German Ambassador made his call at the State Department by the authority of the Imperial German Government.

No Comment From Lansing.

Secretary of State Lansing, although convinced of the importance of the representations of the German Ambassador, would make no comment on them.

It was ascertained, however, that this Government has been apprised that Germany desires the United States to open up immediately with Great Britain the all-important question of the freedom of the seas, in which President Wilson firmly believes. The German Government has advised the United States that it, too, stands for the principle and that the final discussion of the Lusitania case and disposition of that controversy should be inseparably connected with the greater question of the rights of all nations to the freedom of the seas.

Bearing On Lusitania.

It has been indicated to this Government that on the settlement of what is the freedom of the seas might depend how far Germany would go to make a complete, definite, unequivocal admission that her act of destroying the Lusitania was indefensible.

From the best available sources it is learned that Germany proposed that the United States endeavor to get Great Britain to discuss the German submarine policy in connection with Great Britain's blockade of neutral ports and the German foodstuffs question.

In other words, Germany has asked the United States to act as mediator. In doing this Count von Bernstorff merely amplified to the State Department the suggestions of the last German note to the United States.

Britain Must Be Party.

Germany, it is stated, is making the point that agreements between the United States and Germany could not make international law and that in order to get results of value in the present war England must be a party to the protocol, whether in written shape or oral agreement, between the Foreign Offices of Germany and the United States.

It is hinted that Germany would not be averse to modifying her views about the Lusitania and making the disavowal and granting the reparation suggested in President Wilson's first and second notes relating to the destruction of that vessel.

The substance of the negotiations between Secretary Lansing and Count von Bernstorff have been sent to President Wilson, and the German Ambassador has sent a full report by wireless to Berlin.

GERMANY APOLOGIZES.

Takes Blame For Torpedoing the Steamer Nebraskan.

Washington. — Although officials were pleased by receipt of a memorandum from Ambassador Gerard formally transmitting Germany's admission of liability and expression of regret for the attaack by a German submarine on the American steamer Nebraskan, they practically decided that the legal points raised by the incident would require the dispatch of a note on the subject further to conserve American rights in the war zone.

Legal officers of the American Government who examined the German memorandum pointed out that in many respects the case resembled that of the William P. Frye, an American ship sunk by the Prinz Eitel Friedrich.

Apologized For the Frye.

In both cases the German Government has expressed regret at the occurrence and offered to compensate American citizens for losses sustained, but the action of the German commanders has been declared justified under the circumstances. To admit this, officials here say, would establish a dangerous precedent.

GEN. VON BUELOW PROMOTED.

New German Divisional Commander Married Philadelphia Girl.

Berlin, via London.—Maj.-Gen. Hans von Buelow has been made commander of a division in the German army. He was colonel of the Augusta Guard regiment at the outbreak of the war, and now is the youngest divisional commander in the army. General von Buelow's wife was formerly Mrs. Nina Bryce Turnbull, of Philadelphia.

HEROES IN EVERYDAY LIFE

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WARSAW OBJECT OF THREE ARMIES

Teutons Strike at Polish City From North and South.

GIGANTIC OPERATIONS

Dniester Crossed By Austrian Force. Austro-Germans Work In Concert To Squeeze Muskovites Out Of City.

London. — The Austro - German armies, which now appear to be working in perfect concert as the result of the German organization, are giving the Russians little rest or time to reorganize themselves after their retreat from Galicia.

Simultaneously with the German effort to reach Warsaw, or the Russian lines serving that fortress from the north, the Austrians have attacked along the Dniester and have succeeded in crossing that river at several points. General von Mackensen's army, which doubtless had been waiting for Field Marshal von Hindenburg to move in the north, has also come to life again and the fighting has been resumed in Southern Poland. In fact, there is fighting of more or less severity all along the Russian front, except in Central Poland, where the Russians are in such strong positions that, in the opinion of military men, it would be impossible to break through.

Campaign On Gigantic Scale.

The Germans claim to have made further progress with their northern operations, but with the Russians retiring it is not likely that the main forces have clashed as yet. The combined operations are the most gigantic yet undertaken, the aim being, according to military experts, to squeeze the Russians out of Warsaw and the great slice of country which they hold to the north, south and east of that city and at the same time to attempt an invasion of Bessarabia.

Reinforcemens have been sent to the German troops in the Russian provinces of Courland and Kovno, with the result that vigorous military operations have been resumed in that section. The Russians are offering a stubborn resistance and are holding strategic positions, according to an official statement issued at the headquarters of the General Staff in Petrograd and telegraphed to the Central News and Exchange Telegraph Company here.

NO ATTEMPT TO LYNCH FRANK.

Three Companies Of Militia Allowed To Return Home.

Atlanta, Ga.—Reports that a mob would attempt to take Leo M. Frank, serving a life sentence for Mary Phagan's murder, from the State prison farm, at Milledgeville, and lynch him, have not been confirmed by developments. Three companies of State militia, held in readiness at Macon throughout the night to proceed to Milledgeville to protect Frank, if necessary, were allowed to return to their homes.

NEGROES TO DIE FOR ASSAULT.

Blacks Who Attacked Widow and Daughter To Be Electrocuted.

Fredericksburg, Va.—John Lewis Rolins and George Matthews, negroes, were convicted in the Circuit Court of Caroline County of criminal assault on Mrs. Birnley Coleman and daughter, on July 11, and sentenced by Judge R. H. L. Chichester to die in the electric chair August 20. The men confessed.

COLOR LINE FOR TEACHERS.

Georgia Senate Unanimously Passes Segregation Bill.

Atlanta, Ga.—The Georgia Senate passed unanimously a bill to prohibit white persons from teaching in negro schools and negroes from teaching in white schools. It would apply to private as well as public institutions.

THOUSANDS DIE IN FLOODS IN CHINA

Desolation in Three Devastated Provinces Terrible.

FIRES ADD TO THE HORRORS

Many American Missionaries In the Districts Affected, But None Reported Lost—Consul Anderson Asks For Aid.

Hong Kong.—Tens of thousands of natives are estimated to have been drowned by the floods in the Chinese Provinces of Kwantung, Kwangsi and Kiangsi, and the desolation in the devastated districts is terrible, according to the latest reports reaching here.

A fire-swept area of one mile and raging floods are handicapping the work of rescue in Canton.

Missionaries have arrived here seeking the assistance of the United States gunboat Callao to aid in the work of rescue. The last report received here from Canton before communication was cut said that the Christian Hospital was in danger from fire.

No Americans Lost.

Washington.—Consul General Anderson, at Hong Kong, reported that Canton was isolated except to powerful steamers. Thousands have been drowned and tens of thousands are taking refuge on high places. Thousands of houses have been burned. American mission property has either been damaged or destroyed and foreigners are taking refuge at the British consulate at Wuchow. No Americans have been lost so far as is known.

The State Department summarized its dispatches on the flood situation as follows:

"Canton is isolated except to powerful steamers. On Shameen (an island in Canton harbor), the foreign settlement is under 10 feet of water. Thousands have been drowned. Tens of thousands are taking refuge upon the house tops and other high places and are starving. Thousands of houses in Canton have burned. American mission property in the region between Canton, Kongmoon and Wuchow is either destroyed or badly damaged. All foreigners at Wuchow have taken refuge at the British consulate which is situated on a high bluff. So far as is known no American lives have been lost.

WILL DECLARE HOLT SUICIDE.

Coroner To Name Jump From Prison Tier As Means.

Mineola, N. Y.—After hearing the testimony of several witnesses, Coroner Walter E. Jones announced that he would render a verdict of suicide by jumping from a prison tier in the case of Erich Muenter, alias Frank Holt, who shot J. P. Morgan, exploded a bomb in the Capitol at Washington and intimated in a letter to his wife that he had placed a bomb on one or more ocean steamships.

A belief that Muenter might have shot himself, based upon a statement of Jeremiah O'Ryan, his keeper, was responsible for the extended inquiry conducted by the coroner.

AN EXCESS CROP OF COFFEE.

Brazil Has Provided a New Valorization Scheme.

New York.—Confirmation of reports that the Brazilian government was about to provide a new valorization scheme to take care of its excess crop of coffee was received in a cablegram which stated that the Brazilian Congress had passed a bill appropriating 300,000 contos (about $75,000,000) for the purpose. The cablegram follows: "The bill has passed Brazilian Congress providing for issue 300,000 contos, of which 150,000 will be loaned in Sao Paulo to purchase up to 400,000 bags of coffee from the present crop."

JURY DECLARES THAW IS SANE

Stanford White's Slayer Wins Victory After Long Trial.

JUBILANT OVER THE VICTORY

Jury Was Out Forty-Eight Minutes and Took Two Ballots—Precautions Taken To Prevent Demonstration In Court.

New York.—Harry Kendall Thaw was declared sane by a jury which for nearly three weeks listened to testimony given in the Supreme Court here before Justice Peter Hendrick. Forty-eight minutes were consumed and two ballots were taken in reaching a verdict.

It was at the end of a day of addresses by counsel and the charge of the Justice that the jury retired. While the 12 men were deliberating the crowd in the courtroom and about the courthouse was augmented by scores of people, who believed that a verdict quickly would be found. Shortly before 4 o'clock a bailiff came from the juryroom and informed Justice Hendrick that a verdict had been reached. The doors immediately were locked and Justice Hendrick, ascending the bench, warned the spectators that any demonstration would be met with severe punishment. Then the jury came in. In reply to a question by the clerk of the court as to whether a verdict had been reached the foreman handed over a sheet of legal paper, which was passed to the Justice on the bench. Justice Hendrick read it and handed it back to the clerk.

"Gentlemen of the jury," said the clerk, "the question you have been asked is this: Is Harry K. Thaw now sane? Your answer is yes."

Despite the warning, several persons stood up in front of their seats. The courtroom hummed like a dynamo. Justice Hendrick and a dozen court attendants rapped for order.

U. S. SERVES NOTICE.

Will Not Allow British Orders Supersede International Law.

Washington.—Formal notice that the United States holds that the rights of Americans who have cases before British prize courts rest upon international law and not upon various British orders in council or municipal law, is given in a brief statement cabled to Ambassador Page and presented by him to the London Foreign Office.

Secretary Lansing explained that this communication was not to be confused with the general note now in preparation relating to contraband and interference with American commerce on the high seas. He said it was more in the nature of a legal caveat generally conserving the rights of citizens of the United States, whose cases are about to be tried in English prize courts.

Inasmuch as the prize courts have not yet ruled on any American cases and are believed to be about to do so, the statement from the United States signifies in effect that if there is a denial of justice, diplomatic protests will be entered based on the general principles of international law existing before the outbreak of the war.

The United States has in its formal notes given Great Britain, as well as Germany, general notice to this effect and the statement now sent draws particular attention to the prize court cases pending.

PARIS "DRY" FOR SOLDIERS.

Sale Of Liquor To Military Men There Prohibited.

Paris.—General Gallieni, the Military Governor of Paris, issued an order forbidding the purchase by or sale to soldiers or officers of whatever grade in the intrenched camp of Paris of any alcoholic liquors whatsoever.

Offenders will be cited to appear before the police courts and military tribunals. Liquor dealers violating this order will be punished by a temporary suspension of their licenses on the first offense and the revocation of their license on the second offense.

DECIDES FOR DEATH PENALTY

New York Constitution Makers' Committee Unanimous.

Albany, N. Y. — By a virtually unanimous vote the bill of rights committee of the State Constitutional Convention decided against proposals to abolish the death penalty by constitutional amendment. The committee was equally divided on a proposal to permit juries, in first degree murder cases, to recommend life imprisonment without commutation or pardon except in the case of established innocence.

TWO MORE NEGROES LYNCHED.

Suspected Of Participation In Killing Of Three Whites.

Cochran, Ga.—Two negroes, suspected of having aided Peter Jackson, lynched for the murder of three white men near here Tuesday night, were lynched near Hawkinsville by a posse of citizens. One of the trio was Jackson's brother.

RIDER AGENTS WANTED

IN EACH TOWN and district to ride and exhibit a sample Latest Model **"Ranger"** bicycle furnished by us. Our Rider Agents everywhere are making money fast. *Write for full particulars and special offer at once.*

NO MONEY REQUIRED until you receive and approve your bicycle. We ship to *anyone* anywhere in the U. S. *without a cent deposit* in advance, *prepay freight*, and allow **TEN DAYS' FREE TRIAL** during which time you may ride the bicycle and put it to any test you wish. If you are then not perfectly satisfied or do not wish to keep the bicycle ship it back to us at our expense and *you will not be out one cent.*

FACTORY PRICES We furnish the highest grade bicycles it is possible to make at one small profit above actual factory cost. You save $10 to $25 middlemen's profits by buying direct of us and have the manufacturer's guarantee behind your bicycle. **DO NOT BUY** a bicycle or a pair of tires from *anyone* at *any price* until you receive our catalogues and learn our unheard of *factory prices* and *remarkable special offers.*

YOU WILL BE ASTONISHED when you receive our beautiful catalogue and study our superb models at the *wonderfully low prices* we can make you this year. We sell the highest grade bicycles for less money than any other factory. We are satisfied with $1.00 profit above factory cost. **BICYCLE DEALERS,** you can sell our bicycles under your own name plate at double our prices. Orders filled the day received.

SECOND HAND BICYCLES. We do not regularly handle second-hand bicycles, but usually have a number on hand taken in trade by our Chicago retail stores. These we clear out promptly at prices ranging from $3 to $8 or $10. Descriptive bargain lists mailed free.

COASTER BRAKES, single wheels, imported roller chains and pedals, parts, repairs and equipment of all kinds at *half the regular retail prices.*

$10.00 Hedgethorn Puncture-Proof Self-healing Tires *A SAMPLE PAIR TO INTRODUCE, ONLY* **$4.80**

The regular retail price of these tires is $10.00 per pair, but to introduce we will sell you a sample pair for $4.80 (cash with order $4.55).

NO MORE TROUBLE FROM PUNCTURES

Nails, Tacks or Glass will not let the air out. A hundred thousand pairs sold last year.

DESCRIPTION: Made in all sizes. It is lively and easy riding, very durable and lined inside with a special quality of rubber, which never becomes porous and which closes up small punctures without allowing air to escape. They weigh no more than an ordinary tire, the puncture resisting qualities being given by several layers of thin, specially prepared fabric on the tread. The regular price of these tires is $10.00 per pair, but for advertising purposes we are making a special factory price to the rider of only $4.80 per pair. All orders shipped same day letter is received. We will ship C. O. D. on approval. You do not need to pay a cent until you examine and find them strictly as represented.

Notice the thick rubber tread "A" and puncture strips "B" and "D" also rim strip "H" to prevent rim cutting. This tire will outlast any other make—SOFT, ELASTIC and EASY RIDING.

We will allow a **cash discount** of 5 per cent (thereby making the price **$4.55** per pair) if you send **FULL CASH WITH ORDER** and enclose this advertisement. You run no risk in sending us an order as the tires may be returned at **OUR** expense if for any reason they are not satisfactory on examination. We are perfectly reliable and money sent to us is as safe as in a bank. If you order a pair of these tires, you will find that they will ride easier, run faster, wear better, last longer and look finer than any tire you have ever used or seen at any price. We know that you will be so well pleased that when you want a bicycle you will give us your order. We want you to send us a trial order at once, hence this remarkable tire offer.

IF YOU NEED TIRES don't buy any kind at any price until you send for a pair of Hedgethorn Puncture-Proof tires on approval and trial at the special introductory price quoted above; or write for our big Tire and Sundry Catalogue which describes and quotes all makes and kinds of tires and bicycle equipment and sundries at about half the usual prices.

DO NOT WAIT but write us a postal today. **DO NOT THINK OF BUYING** a bicycle or a pair of tires from anyone until you know the new and wonderful offers we are making. It costs only a postal to learn everything. Write it **NOW.**

J. L. MEAD CYCLE COMPANY, CHICAGO, ILL.

STATE NEWS BRIEFLY TOLD

Latest Doings in Various Parts of the State.

PREPAREDFORQUICKREADING

Catasauqua Town Council has awarded a contract to pave a stretch of the borough streets with asphalt.

Mrs. George Wunder, aged sixty, of Reading, fell down stairs and tore off an ear.

Miss Racel E. Yorgey, a Wyomissing High School girl was rescued from drowning in the public swimming pool at that place by Neil H. Fields.

An Erie Railroad train killed Albert Chaple, aged thirty-two, of Corry, as he was walking home from Cambridge Springs.

Lancaster's contributions to the Belgians amounted to $7,500, according to a statement made by the Belgian Relief Committee.

Her arm broken in two places by a fall on the playgrounds, Catharine McGuire, aged ten, of Reading, hunted a doctor and had the fracture reduced before reporting to her parents.

Announcement is made of the wedding of Walter W. Tyson, formerly of Reading, no wof Chattanooga, Tenn., to Miss Frances Cohn, daughter of David Cohn, of Chattanooga.

Joseph Pratt was instantly killed and Jacob Shaffer and Charles Shaffer, were seriously injured when the automobile in which they were riding at Saltsburg was demolished by a Pennsylvania freight train at a crossing.

Under the new law placing the selection of National Guard officers in the hands of the Governor, he has appointed Orlando C. Miller, Captain of Company B, Fourth Infantry, and Carroll H. Hudders First Lieutenant.

Eli Skadish, Stanko Wiczsks and Michael Radovich lost their lives and six others, one of whom is C. H. McCloskey, were badly injured by explosion of gas at the benzol plant of the Cambria Steel Company, Johnstown.

Rev. William McNally, was released from the Bridgeport, Pa., charge, to take effect September 1, and approval was made of the calls of Rev. MacMurray, to Hunting Valley, and Rev. Greenway, to Eddington, Pa.

Because of the great inroads made upon the stock of horses in Lancaster county for war purposes, there is a scarcity of these animals. The farmers, however, have found a remedy in the automobile. A large number of machines have been recently sold there.

Rev. William F. Klein, former pastor of Evangelical churches in Reading, Allentown and other cities, was installed as pastor of the New Perkiomen Presbyterian Church, the charge being administered by Rev. Merchant F. Bush, of Philadelphia.

Eight men were burned as the result of an explosion of gas in the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Company's No. 4 mine, Tamaqua. How the gas was set off is a mystery, as the men all were supposed to have safety lamps, and electric lights are used in that part of the mine.

PATROL SYSTEM FOR STATE ROADS SOON

Daily Report and Constant Inspection Rule Under New Maintenance Plan.

Harrisburg.—State Highway Commissioner Cunningham announced that on August 1 the patrol system of maintenance would be established on State highway routes. Caretakers will be employed and each man will be assigned to a designated section of highway, for the maintenance and repair of which he will be held responsible. One hundred and ninety men will be placed on this patrol work at the start and the territory covered will extend through forty-six counties. These men will be paid at the rate of from fifteen to twenty cents an hour, depending upon the scale of wages for labor in their districts. This will mean an annual expenditure of $120,000 a year, which will figure down to a maintenance cost of $65 a mile a year for the State highway. When it is considered that maintenance charges heretofore have averaged one-half million dollars a year, the economy of the new system will be appreciated.

These patrolmen will be directly under the county superintendents. They will be required to make out a daily report of the number of hours they work and these reports will be collected by the county superintendents, who will make out payrolls for the patrolmen. As the county superintendents have been supplied with light roadsters, it will be possible for them to keep in close touch with these patrolmen on the State highways and to ascertain whether or not the work is being done properly.

Red Flag for Absentee.

Each patrolman will be supplied with tools and equipment necessary for his work and each one will have a small, red flag, which he will be required to place in a conspicuous position on the road when, for any reason, he is required to leave the roadside during working hours. Hence, either the presence of the patrolman at work or of his flag, indicating temporary absence, will be noticeable during the working hours.

Great care is being exercised in the selection of these patrolmen, and State Highway Commissioner Cunningham is determined to have none but sober, honest and industrious men in these responsible positions. If it is found that the patrolmen are neglecting their work instant dismissal will follow.

Daily Postal Report.

Daily report postal card must be mailed every evening to the superintendent.

When working on the road, caretaker must have flag, which will be provided, displayed at all times near where work is being performed.

When conditions require additional help, team hire, or material of any character, permission must be first secured from the superintendent.

All additional help and team hire must be carried on foreman's daily report form, together with regular payroll form, etc.

All bills for material, etc., in amounts less than $10, must be covered by superintendent's purchase order; larger amounts by requisition of superintendent and department purchase order.

Caretakers are to be paid an hourly rate, and full value in service will be exacted for every dollar expended.

Caretakers must be courteous and considerate of the interests of the public at all times, and conduct themselves in a manner becoming representatives of the Commonwealth.