

EMBARGO ON FOODS PLANNED BY BRITAIN TO STARVE OUT FOE

U. S. Informed of Intention to Make Provisions Contraband in Note on Sending Wilhelmina's Cargo to Prize Court.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Great Britain is planning to declare all foodstuffs contraband of war, according to direct intimation in its reply to America's note on the Wilhelmina case.

Justification in the proposed plan to starve Germany is sought in citation of Germany's alleged mercenary war on women and children and its further intention to sink any and all merchant ships attempting to supply Britain with foodstuffs.

The note is in effect an emphatic though courteous warning that England expects no interference from neutral nations with the policy that it has decided upon as a result of the German Government taking control of all food within the empire.

This warning is conveyed in a paragraph of the note saying that the British Government confidently expects "such action in food embargo will not be challenged on the part of neutral States by appeals to laws and usages of war."

At the time when his Majesty's Government gave directions for the seizure of the cargo of the steamship Wilhelmina as contraband they had before them the text of a decree made by the German Federal Council on the 25th of January, under Article 16, of which all grain and flour imported into Germany after the 31st of January was declared deliverable only to certain organizations under direct government control or to municipal authorities.

Great Britain declares that Article 16 was repealed by Germany in order to "render difficult the anticipated proceedings against the contraband." It is to be noted that the German Government has not only repealed Article 16, but also neutral merchantmen with their unloading crews. It was, so his Majesty's Government holds, a deliberate and retaliatory measure even if such measures were of a kind to involve pressure on the civil population, not, indeed, of neutral States, but of their enemies. It refrained from doing so.

When subsequently English towns and villages, void of defenses and possessing no military or naval importance, were bombed by German attacks, his Majesty's Government still abstained from drawing the logical consequences from this form of attack on defenseless citizens.

Further steps in the same direction are now announced, and, in fact, have already been taken by Germany. "If, therefore, his Majesty's Government should hereafter feel constrained to declare foodstuffs contraband, or to take measures for interfering with German trade by way of reprisals, they do not expect that such action will not be challenged on the part of neutral States by appeals to laws and usages of war whose validity rests on their forming an integral part of that system of international doctrine, which as a whole, their enemy frankly denounces the liberty and intention to disregard it on the part of neutral States cannot compel the German Government to abandon methods of warfare which have not in recent history been regarded as having the sanction of either law or humanity."

CAMDEN LAWYERS' BIRTHDAY Attorney General Wescott and Prosecutor Kraft Exchange Greetings. Early today the telephone bell in the residence of John W. Wescott, Attorney General of New Jersey, rang. Lifting the receiver he heard a voice, saying: "Judge, this William J. Kraft. Congratulations on your 64th birthday, and many you live to see many more."

TWO NEGROES ACCUSED More than \$1000 worth of clothing and jewelry, stolen from the home of George Meade, of Lancaster, has been located by the police through the arrest of a cleaner, Connor, 35 years old, a Negro, of Camden. The girl, who was formerly a servant of the Meade family, told Special Police Officer Lyford and Detective Williams, of the 12th and Pine streets station, that she had admitted two men, Negroes, to the house to rob it. Charles Green, 21 years old, of 11th and Rodman streets, and Joseph Powell, 22 years old, of 12th and Redman streets, were placed under arrest following the girl's alleged confession, accused of the crime. They will be given a hearing tonight at the City Hall.

GEORGE M. MEGARGE HELD FOR JEWEL THEFT Accused of stealing a gold watch and chain, a diamond ring, in cash, Henry Louis, 22 years old, 348 S. Tenth street, was held today in \$500 bail for court by Magistrate Scott, at the Front and Master streets station. Edward Brennan, 22 years old, of 1225 D Street, was held in a like amount. He is said to have attempted to dispose of the goods for \$100. The stolen articles belonged to Peter Kosovic, 228 Richmond street, a fireman on the steamboat Emily Lee, flying between this city and Philadelphia. The articles are valued at \$400.

ARMY OF CHILDREN FILLS TABERNACLE

Continued from Page One. The young boys and girls of the City of Philadelphia filled the tabernacle at the Christian Life Church, Sunday morning, for the first time in its history.

Throughout the sermon Sunday tried to teach his great audience of boys and girls the importance of the Christian life. He told them by words and illustration that the greatest men and women were Christian men and women, and that no matter how much knowledge or wealth they might attain, their lives would be failures if they did not become followers of Jesus Christ.

Today's Sermon on Page 3. "The time to start right is when you are young," "Bills" declared. "Most Christians begin to serve God when they are young. In an audience of 1000 persons, the preacher asked the men and women to say when they had accepted Christ. Out of the 1000 he learned that 680 had become Christians before they were 20 years old."

GREAT PARADE OPENS PANAMA-PACIFIC FAIR

500,000 Persons Expected to Visit Grounds on First Day of Exposition. SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 20.—All San Francisco was astir by 7 o'clock this morning, and with the greatest outpouring of people in the city's history, to say nothing of the breaking of all existing noise records, the Panama-Pacific International Exposition was opened.

Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, was the official representative of President Wilson at the ceremonies. The President himself, however, gave the word for throwing open the gates. His voice was carried by telephone from the White House to the exposition grounds.

The President also pressed a button transmitting an electric current which threw open the main door of Machinery Palace, set the machinery running and started the Fountain of Energy in front of the Tower of Jewels.

Exposition officials estimated that 500,000 persons would pass through the turnstiles today. The greatest parade in California's history preceded the opening of the exposition. More than 250,000 persons took part in the Grand March along Van Ness street from Market street to the exposition grounds. The parade started at 9 o'clock, headed by Mayor James Rolph, Jr. Representatives of all nations existing at the fair were participants.

EXPERT RAPS "CORRECTION" AND PAROLE SYSTEM HERE Hastings H. Hart Condemns Indiscriminate Sentence and Release Methods. The laxity of Magistrates in committing prisoners to the Holmesburg House of Correction for a term of three months without considering whether they are first, second or third offenders, was severely criticized this afternoon by Hastings H. Hart, of the Russell Sage Foundation, of New York.

Local Builder Gets Contract The Treasury Department today awarded a contract for the construction of a postoffice at Stamford, Conn., to the Charles McCaul Company, of Philadelphia, for \$114,270.

COUCE COURTS CHRONICLES There is a brand new religion in town and Frank Finley, a Negro, is the promoter. The belief is a sort of a compromise between the Feet Washers and The Holy Jumpers. Finley calls his sect Followers of the Fresh Air. He was found delivering some of his principles from the top of a packing box in front of a butcher shop. The only thing Finley had on was a determined expression and a robe made of oil cloth. He declared in forceful language that the people were suffering from too many clothes. He said that the clothes and leather carried microbes and pointed out that the head and the feet always should be bare.

THE WAGON BITES HORSE A horse peacefully dozing away the morning hours at 10th street and Haverdorn avenue today was considerably surprised when he felt the reason being his. It was on the 10th street and Haverdorn avenue before Policeman Kerrigan of the 9th street and Lancaster streets station, switched him. The horse was driven by James J. Wilson, 1125 S. 10th street, who was driving the horse.

STOLE FOR WIFE; FREED SELF-SACRIFICE FUND NOW \$88,000; STILL GOING UP

Emergency Aid Committee Hopes to Reach the Desired \$100,000 Mark Soon. Slowly but surely the self-sacrifice fund is creeping up to the \$100,000 mark, the goal set by the Emergency Aid Committee. At 3 o'clock the fund reached the \$88,000 mark and promises to reach well past this point before the day is over.

Magistrate Released Jobless Workman Who Took Bread. Sympathy for an unemployed man who stole nine loaves of bread from a bakery to keep himself and wife from starving won a pardon from Magistrate McCleary for Valeria Koffmush, this morning. The policeman searching for employment for Koffmush, and Freihofer's Bakery has promised to keep the family supplied with bread until he finds work.

JEW WINS VICTORIA CROSS LONDON, Feb. 20.—For the first time in history the Victoria Cross was awarded to a Jew. This coveted decoration was won posthumously by Lieutenant Frank Alexander De Pass, of the Indian cavalry, who was killed on the same day that he accomplished the gallant deed which won him the V. C.



"SPIRIT OF '76" IN TODAY'S PATRIOTIC PARADE Leaders of the delegation from Chester, in blue and buff Colonial uniforms, which attracted much attention on the march to Independence Square.

DR. THOMAS BIDDLE DIES OF PNEUMONIA

Noted Philadelphia Physician and Naturalist Succumbs to Illness. Dr. Thomas Biddle, noted physician and naturalist, died last night at his home, 122 South 22d street. Doctor Biddle succumbed to an attack of pneumonia, which followed a cold contracted on Sunday. His death came as a surprise to members of the medical profession in this city, few of whom knew of his illness.

U. OF P. HARMONY PLAN IS FAILURE French and German Doctors Fail to Meet English Representative at Dental School. The original plans of the University of Pennsylvania authorities to have three of the foremost representatives of England, France and Germany give the world an object lesson in harmony by participating in the dedicatory exercises of the new Dental School on Monday have been unsuccessful.

WASHINGTON DAY CRASH THREATENED Speakers' Stand in Danger at Exercises in Independence Square Attended by 20,000. The speakers' stand in Independence Hall threatened to give way during the exercises by the Rev. Dr. C. M. Boswell before 15,000 people assembled to observe the coming birthday anniversary of George Washington this afternoon.

AMATEUR YEGGMEN BUNGLY SAFE JOB They Jam Safe Door, but Do Not Forget to Rob Several Watchmen - Masks and Guns. Three apprentice yeggmens made a blunder early today when they jammed the combination of a safe in the office of the John J. Davies & Co., structural iron works, 214 Taylor street.

BRIDE SAVES HUSBAND FROM FATHER'S FURY Throws Her Arms Around Man Attacked in Court. Only the quick action of detective and policeman in the Central Police Court this afternoon saved Francis Magnaro from serious injury when his father-in-law, Robert McClann, attacked him in the prisoner's dock.

FIRST VICTIM OF CHAIR Next Wednesday will probably be the date for the first electrocution in the State of Pennsylvania. In the new death house at Rockview, near Bellefonte, John Talap, convicted in Montgomery County for the murder of William H. Clark, Jr., regarded as a rather innocent negro, could not see just why the men were telling him their troubles and suggested that they tell a doctor or the police, or even a fortune teller.

HE DIDN'T WANT TO DROWN Alfred Edwards, of 78 South Broad street, has written from Europe to his sister, Mrs. Morris Zeman, of the same address, that he was quarantined in the steamship Lonia that was recently blown up by a German submarine off the coast of France.

BRITISH SHIP SUNK BY FOE'S SUBMARINE

Continued from Page One. 100 Americans, who were temporarily marooned in Paris as a result of the cessation of sailings, arrived here today. They left at once for Liverpool to board the liner New York, whose departure had been postponed at the request of Ambassador Page.

Reports were received here this forenoon that a German submarine had been sighted off Southampton, headquarters of the troop transport service, but the Admiralty declined to affirm the rumors. Naval officers now in London believe that Germany has from 15 to 20 submarines lurking off the English coast. None has attempted, however, to attack English vessels.

LAWYER GIVES LIFE TO SAVE OTHERS AT FIRE Continued from Page One. A window and firemen carried the man and woman to safety. Before they were taken out of the room the fire had ignited the clothing of the physician and his wife. She escaped injury, but Doctor Blumberg was slightly burned.

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THE WEATHER Official Forecast. WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 20.—For eastern Pennsylvania: Partly cloudy, with light and Sunday; moderate north wind.

U. S. Weather Bureau Bulletin. The following table shows the actual conditions throughout the country, as reported to the United States Weather Bureau at 8 a. m. today.

Table with columns: Station, H. (Bar.), W. (Wind), V. (Wind), T. (Temp.), P. (Precip.), and other weather-related data for various locations.

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SAFETY TO NEUTRALS BRITISH DEFENSE FOR USING AMERICAN FLAG

Reply to U. S. Note Concedes, in Measure, Content of Danger in General Practice, But Holds to Legal Right. WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Great Britain, in a measure, acquiesces in America's attitude on the use of a neutral flag, but declares it has no intention of allowing the use of the American flag, but does forbid the practice. It points out that Stars and Stripes have been used to protect neutrals aboard British ships from hurt or capture.

While the Admiralty has announced that the Norwegian tank steamship Belridge, which was torpedoed off Dover early yesterday, was torpedoed, there is no official confirmation of the story. It is an official examination of the vessel before accepting this statement. They believe that a torpedo striking the Belridge would have resulted in its sinking, and generally accept the first reports that she hit a mine. The Belridge is now on her way to London, having left Valparaiso this morning.

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