U. S. TO ACCEPT LUSITANIA TERMS BERLIN OFFERED

Senator Stone Says He Believes Controversy Is Settled; Others Not Sure

BREAK IS NOW REMOTE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.

Acceptances by the United States of the latest German suggestions for a settlement of the Lusitania controversy were forecast in official circles today.

The chief optimist was Senator Stone, of Missouri, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Following a conference at the State Department and White House, Senator Stone expressed the belief that the Lusitania danger was passed. He said:

"My impression is that the Lusitania case is settled."

Other officials would not go so far. The President has not yet determined on his course of action. Officials expected he would wait until the whole matter had been threshed out at tomorrow's Cabinet meeting before announcing any policy. Meanwhile, he and Secretary Lansing will discuss every phase of the German offer and determine whether by accepting it further decisions of international moment be prejudiced.

The one other outstanding development of today was an indication from Secretary Lansing that he is decidedly irritated over the reported declaration of Herr Zimmerman, German Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs, indicating that the United States had increased its demands during the negotiations. Secretary Lansing, in this connection, permitted himself to be quoted as follows:

"This Government has not increased its demands in the Lusitania case as set forth in the notes of May 13, June 9 and July 21. I doubt very much if Doctor Zimmerman ever made such a statement, for he must know it is utterly false."

Secretary Lansing stated very frankly he had not yet succeeded in making an appointment with President Wilson. He added that he probably would see him tonight. Until he does he will not hold any further conferences with Ambassador von Bernstorff. The Secretary insisted, however, that no deadlock existed. He could not say, he explained, whether a further conference will be necessary after the President reaches a decision in the latest German proposals. Until the President reaches a decision, Secretary Lansing said, he could not indicate when the State Department will give out the statement he promised to make summing up the Lusitania situation.

White House sources today deprecated the action of certain German officials in indicating that the controversy is settled at this particular stage. It was pointed out that in international questions of this moment premature announcements might work great harm. It is understood that discreet hints to the effect had been given to the German Embassy.

The main factor standing out today was that the danger point of an ultimatum to Germany has passed. Even if this Government rejects Germany's latest suggestions further diplomatic exchanges are certain.

COL. HOUSE CONSIDERS MISSION WAS SUCCESSFUL

Denies Hurried Departure From Berlin Was at President's Call

PARIS, Feb. 7.—When asked today if he considered his return mission a success, Colonel E. M. House, special diplomatic agent of President Wilson, replied: "I am entirely satisfied."

Colonel House will go to London tomorrow where he will again confer with members of the British cabinet before sailing for New York on the liner Rotterdam, on February 19.

Colonel House has seen President Poincare, Premier Briand and other members of the government, but declined to discuss the nature of his mission.

It is regarded as significant that Colonel House curtailed his visit to Germany just at the time when President Wilson was making truculent speeches which were supposed to be aimed at Germany. When asked why he had left Berlin so hurriedly Colonel House refused to admit that he was in any degree responsible for the recent utterances of President Wilson.

"It is true that I left Berlin rather hurriedly," the envoy admitted, "but the facts of the case are that I began to get lonesome for America and decided to speed up my business."

BULGARS CROSS GREEK LINE; BEAT FRENCH BACK

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principality of Transylvania, inhabited largely by Rumanians.

The Marmornitz correspondent of the Chronicle reported a sudden concentration of Rumanian troops along the Hungarian frontier within 50 yards of the Austro-Hungarian lines.

AUSTRIANS FOUR MILES FROM ALBANIAN CAPITAL

Italian Cabinet Holds Special Meeting as Menace Grows

ROME, Feb. 7.

Durazzo, capital of Albania, probably will be occupied by the Austrians before many hours.

Austrian cavalry has reached the Arzeni River, four miles northeast of Durazzo, according to dispatches received here. It is awaiting the arrival of the main body of Austrian troops, which crossed the River Ishni early Sunday after defeating a Serbian detachment.

The Serbs are falling back to the south to escape envelopment by Bulgarian forces at Elbassan.

Improvement in the weather conditions, that nearly for two weeks have hampered the Austro-Hungarian operations in Albania, has permitted a resumption of activities.

Small Serbian forces on the southern bank of the Ismi opposed overwhelming numbers of the enemy, but after a battle lasting eight hours the Serbs were compelled to retreat toward Durazzo as a haven.

A long Cabinet meeting was held here on Sunday, at which the situation in Albania was again discussed.

FRENCH FAIL TO HOLD ARGONNE MINE CRATER

Germans Drive Foe From Position They Captured, Berlin Says

BERLIN, Feb. 7.—Violent artillery duels are raging in Artois and south of the Somme River.

The German War Office in an official statement today declared that big gun duels of a fierce character are in progress between the La Bassee Canal and Arras. In Argonne the French occupied a mine crater, but were driven out by the Germans.

The following is the text of the official report:

"Fierce artillery battles are proceeding between the La Basse Canal and Arras, as well as south of the Somme River. The enemy has violently bombarded Lens for the last few days.

"In the Argonne the French occupied a mine crater at Hill No. 285, northeast of La Chalade, but were driven out immediately by a counter-attack.

ACCUSE GERMANS HERE OF PLOT TO INVADE CANADA

Would Blow Up Welland Canal to Halt Munition and Food Shipments

BOUGHT MANY RIFLES

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.

That the Germans in the United States plan to invade Canada, destroy the Welland Canal and prevent shipments of food and munitions to England are the startling charges made by Canadian secret service agents, according to the New York Herald.

Other facts revealed by a secret investigation which has been carried on for weeks in this city and in Connecticut include the amazing development that approximately 200,000 rifles have been purchased by German agents here and that these weapons are being sent by stealth to the northern border for use when the time comes to strike the blow against Canada.

It also has developed that during the last six months scores of trained German army officers have come to this country in the guise of Belgian refugees and Scandinavians, and that they organized secretly large companies of Germans with the avowed purpose of making a raid upon the Welland Canal. It is said by Secret Service agents of Canada that many thousands of men have been enrolled.

Another important development is the statement of a man conversant with the situation that nearly one-third of the munition contracts entered into by the Allies with American manufacturers actually have been let to Germans under assumed names, and that the munitions have been stored away in places not yet discovered by Canadian Secret Service agents. The munitions, consisting of shells, shrapnel and immense stores of rifles, have been paid for with money deposited in various banks in this city by well-known agents of the German Government.

That the raid of this army of Germans was designed to be carried out within the next two months was the statement made by one Canadian authority last night. According to the director of a leading munition plant, whose name cannot be disclosed at this time, not a single rifle contracted for by the Allies in 1915 was shipped to Europe prior to last November. What became of these rifles the Canadian authorities are bending their best efforts to learn, but thus far, it was admitted last night, every effort to get reliable information has met with failure.

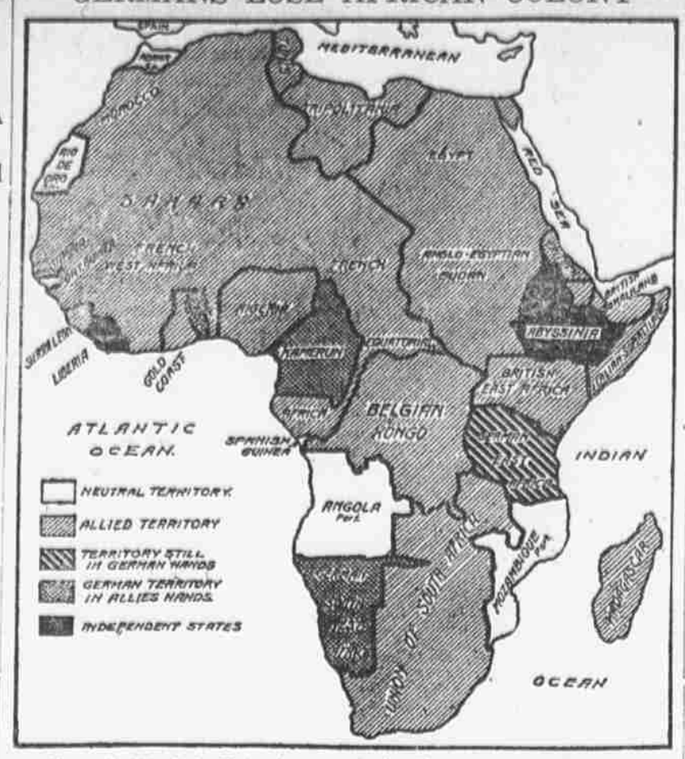
POLITICIAN IN ALLEGED FRAUD

West Goshen Assessor on Trial for Breaking Election Laws

WEST CHESTER, Pa., Feb. 7.—Assessor Stephen Peoples, of West Goshen township, who also has a position as a State road supervisor, was placed on trial in court here today, charged by Dr. Bayard Kane, of the same township, with violation of the election laws.

Peoples had selected days for sitting to enroll the voters of the precinct, but several of them applied and found him absent, it being alleged that he was at work upon a road contract instead and had afterwards collected fees from the county for work he did not perform as assessor.

GERMANS LOSE AFRICAN COLONY



About 15,000 of the Kaiser's troops in the Kameruns are reported to have crossed the border into Spanish Guinea, leaving the territory in the hands of the Allies. The map shows the changes that have taken place in African colonies since the war began. Germany now retains a foothold in East Africa only.

KAISER LEADS GREAT OFFENSIVE IN WEST

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scientific aluminum paint which renders them as nearly invisible as possible.

Each of the new balloons can remain in the air for 12 hours and can rise to an altitude of 12,000 feet within a space of less than ten minutes. The armament consists of several small cannons, machine guns and about a ton and a half of explosives.

GERMANS HAVE NEW GAS MACHINES ON WEST FRONT

Teuton Papers Predict New Outbreak of Submarine War

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 7.—A new machine for the transmission of poison gases has just been devised and installed in the trenches on the west front by the Germans. Improvements also have been made in the artillery which makes special training necessary for the gunners.

It is believed that the Germans are awaiting a strong east wind before beginning an offensive with clouds of poison gases from their new apparatus.

Another burst of German submarine activity is imminent, says the Cologne (Germany) Volk Zeitung. This paper declares that England will experience the effects of a further submarine surprise within the next few days, adding:

"Everything America does and which English diplomats work day and night for arises from the strivings to make a submarine war impossible for Germany. England will be less successful than ever during the next few days. The German people are supporting the submarine warfare with the same enthusiasm and determination that they did at the outbreak of the war."

"DISAVOWS" EVERYWHERE, BUT NOT ONE ON LUSITANIA CASE

Germans Have Three Equivalents, but Pages of the Book Seem to Be Torn Out, Say Savants on International Tangle

"In the bright lexicon of youth there is no such word as 'fail'."

This is one of those sentiments that one voices every morning as he undertakes physical culture exercises to reduce the size of his girth. He says it as he bends from the waist without bending the knees, in order to touch the floor with his finger tips, and if he is very fat, there is much grunting and puffing and considerable pain in calves of the legs.

The Germans have a variation on this old saying. It goes like this:

"In the bright lexicon of youth there is no such word as 'disavow.'"

Savants and students of German language and literature smiled at the idea of the Germans disavowing the word "disavow." They said today that there was such a word in German, that there were at least three such words, and that if the Germans wanted to disavow the sinking of the Lusitania it would not be the German language that would keep them from doing it. They were inclined to believe that it would be because they did not want to use the perfectly good equivalents for the English word "disavow" that might continue to disavow "disavow."

They might say "nicht anerkennen," which, according to the dictionaries, has the sense of "not to know," or "not to acknowledge," and also "to disown," by refusing "to know" or recognize.

Or they might say "verwersen," which means "to throw" or "to cast away," "to repudiate," and so "to disavow." The German word "laugnen" carries the idea of "denial" and "disclaiming" and "disavowing."

So they agreed that the Germans were not without equivalents for the thought expressed by "disavow" and that there must be other reasons for their failure to find the place in the book.

CONTINUA L'AVANZATA DEGLI AUSTRO-BULGARI SULLA BASE DI VALONA

Si Dice Che Austriaci e Bulgari Hanno Effettuato il Collegamento a Nord di Fieri

GERMANIA E RUMANIA

ROMA, 7 Febbraio.

Ieri si riunì il Consiglio dei ministri, che discusse di nuovo la situazione in Albania.

Per due settimane il cattivo tempo ha ritardato l'avanzata delle forze austro-bulgare nell'Albania, ma ora, essendosi il tempo ristabilito, gli austriaci hanno passato il fiume Ismi a nord ed a nord-est di Durazzo. Piccoli reparti serbi tentarono di ostacolare l'avanzata degli austriaci, ma dopo una battaglia di otto ore furono costretti a ripiegare su Durazzo che e' l'obiettivo immediato delle forze austriache.

Qui si aspetta che Durazzo sara' occupata da un momento all'altro, giacche' un dispaccio dice che reparti di cavalleria, formanti l'avanguardia delle forze austriache, sono gia' giunti al fiume Arzen, che e' ad appena quattro miglia da Durazzo. Questi reparti aspettano l'arrivo del grosso per continuare la loro marcia e passare il fiume. La forze serbe ripiegano a sud per evitare di essere avviluppate dalle forze bulgare operanti da Elbassan.

La situazione in Albania va dunque avvicinandosi rapidamente alla sua fase risolutiva, giacche' si ritiene che le forze austriache marceranno subito da Durazzo contro Valona.

LA SITUAZIONE IN RUMANIA.

Il comunicato ufficiale pubblicato ieri sera dal Ministero della Guerra annuncia semplicemente che, ad eccezione di azioni di artiglieria, non si e' avuto alcun che di importante sulla fronte italo-austriaca.

Il Secolo di Milano pubblica un dispaccio, ritardato dalla censura, che dice che i governi di Berlino e di Vienna hanno formalmente notificato al governo rumeno che essi riguardano come atti ostili l'elezione di due indentisti della Transilvania alla Camera dei Deputati rumena e la vendita di 80,000 vagoni di grano all'Inghilterra.

Il governo rumeno rispose che la costituzione rumena non gli permetteva di annullare l'elezione dei due deputati transilvani o di qualsiasi deputato irredentista se non quando queste elezioni fossero illegali. Per quantio riguarda la vendita di grano all'Inghilterra si tratta semplicemente di una quistione economica e naturalmente le autorita' rumene devono salvaguardare gli interessi economici del paese che governano. Intanto si dice che truppe bulgare e turche vanno concentrandosi al confine della Rumania.

Giunge notizia che le forze austriache e bulgare hanno effettuato il loro collegamento in Albania ed hanno gia' attaccato un reparto misto di italiani e serbi che, di fronte a forze superiori, ha dovuto ritirarsi su Fieri, a circa 19 miglia da Valonda Questa notizia e' di fonte austriaca.

Notizie dirette giunte a Roma dicono invece che uno squadrone di cavalleria austriaca ha occupato il villaggio albanese di Kroja, a circa 12 miglia a nord-est di Durazzo, ma che le truppe italiane e quelle di Essad non sono ancora venute a contatto con gli austriaci ed i bulgari.

Nell'interno dell'Albania si hanno feroci combattimenti tra albanesi cristiani e mussulmani, ed i bulgari hanno reclutato bande albanesi armate. Ufficiali bulgari ed austriaci si sarebbero dati, si dice, ad organizzare massacri nelle popolazioni albanesi. Pare intanto che forze italiane continuino a sbarcare in Albania per opporsi all'avanzata degli austro-bulgari su Valona.

LA SKODA DISTRUTTA?

Un dispaccio da Bucarest dice che la grande officina Skoda, la fabbrica di artiglieria dell'impero austriaco, che sorge a Pilsen, Boemia, e' stata in parte distrutta da una terribile esplosione.

Il dispaccio inviato da Bucarest al Secolo di Milano dice:

"Secondo informazioni giunte qui da fonte degna di fede nel famoso arsenale austriaco Skoda si e' avuta una terribile esplosione di menilite. Tre edificii delle officine compreso quello che era usato per la costruzione dei grossi cannoni idraulici da 305 millimetri, sono saltati in aria e 195 persone sono perite nel disastro."

Le officine Skoda sono tra le piu' rinomate del mondo e, dopo le Krupp, le piu' grandi che gli imperi centrali possedevano. Si era spesso detto che i grossi cannoni che ridussero le fortezze francesi e belghe erano delle officine Skoda e non Krupp, come si supponeva.

Un telegramma da Monaco di Baviera dice che l'aerodromo di Johannisthal e' stato distrutto da un incendio che ha divorato anche sei o nove aeroplani che si trovavano negli hangars.

BELEAGUERED BRITISH AT KUT CRY FOR A

Garrison Short of Food Ammunition, Turk War Office Reports

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 7.

British troops besieged in the Mesopotamian town of Kut-el-Amara by Turkish forces, are short of food and ammunition, and will be compelled to surrender very soon, according to official advices received by the Turkish War Office.

A dispatch from Bagdad states that a wireless message from the commander of the beleaguered troops, sent to the relief expedition that has tried in vain to reach Kut-el-Amara, appealed frantically for assistance, saying that the British force was on the verge of starvation and that the supply of ammunition available would last only a week.

Dysentery and typhus fever are said to have caused terrible havoc among the English soldiers, five temporary hospitals being crowded with the suffering.

ALLY WARSHIPS WATCH FOR ANOTHER APPA

French and English Cruisers Said to Be Violating Three-Mile Limit

NORFOLK, Va., Feb. 7.

According to the reports received at shipping offices here, not only are the Virginia capes being closely patrolled by Allied cruisers, but the fact that a three-mile limit exists is being ignored. According to these reports, there are two foreign cruisers, one recognized as the British cruiser Caronia, and a second guarding the southern channel, believed to be French.

"In patrolling the coast yesterday and last night both ships were inshore to an extent that unquestionably placed them well within the limit," said a local pilot.