



Taft Declares U. S. is Nearing Crisis and Urges Loyalty

Tells Morristown Association When President Acts "We Must Stand by Him to the End"

GRAVE ISSUE NEAR, HE SAYS

"We Must Allow No Jingo Spirit to Prevail," Is Statement of Former President

Morristown, N. J., Feb. 22.—The United States is threatened with a serious invasion of its rights as a neutral by the warring nations of Europe and is face to face with a crisis, in the opinion of ex-President William H. Taft. In the solution of that crisis, should it arise, no jingo spirit must be allowed to prevail, Mr. Taft advised; neither pride nor momentary passion should influence our judgment.

"And when the President shall act," Mr. Taft declared, "we must stand by him to the end. In this determination we may be sure that all will join, no matter what their previous views, no matter what their European origin. All will forget their differences in self-sacrificing loyalty to our common flag and our common country."

Mr. Taft's reference to the situation confronting the United States was made at the conclusion of an address delivered here to-day before the Washington Association of New Jersey. Quoting from a reservation in the Treaty of Algiers, proclaimed in 1907 and entered into by the United States and the European nations, most of those now at war, Mr. Taft said:

"Our interest in the present war, therefore, under the conditions that exist should be limited as set forth in this reservation, to wit: 'Preserving and increasing the commerce of the United States with belligerents; to the protection as to life, liberty and prosperity of our citizens residing or traveling in their countries, and to the aiding by our friendly offices and efforts in bringing those countries to peace.'"

"Our efforts for peace," he continued, "have been made as complete as possible for the President has already tendered his good offices by way of mediation between the powers, and they have not been accepted."

"In preserving the commerce of the United States with the belligerents, however, we are to face with a crisis. We are threatened with a serious invasion of our rights as neutrals in trading with the belligerent nations. What certainly is an innovation upon previous rules in respect to neutral commerce and contraband of war has been initiated by belligerents of both sides. The planting of mines in the open sea and the use of submarines to send neutral vessels to the bottom without inquiry as to their neutrality when found in a so-called war zone of the open sea, are all of them a violation of the principles of international law governing the action of the belligerents towards neutral trade."

"When their violation results in the destruction of the lives of American citizens or of American property, a grave issue will arise as to what the duty of this government is. The responsibility of the President and Congress in meeting the critical issue thus presented in maintaining our rights and our national honor on the one hand, with due regard to the awful consequences to our 90,000,000 of people of engaging in this horrible world war on the other, will be very great. It involves on their part a judgment so momentous in its consequences that we should earnestly pray that the necessity for it may be averted."

No Jingo Spirit "If, however, the occasion arises, we can be confident that those in authority will be actuated by the highest patriotic motives and by the deepest concern for our national welfare. We must not allow our pride or momentary passion to influence our judgment. We must exercise the deliberation of the fateful consequences in the loss of our best blood and enormous waste of treasure would necessarily impose upon us. We must allow no jingo spirit to prevail. We must abide by the judgment of those in whom we have entrusted the authority, and when the President shall act, we must stand by him to the end. In this determination we may be sure that all will join, no matter what their previous views, no matter what their European origin. All will forget their differences in self-sacrificing loyalty to our common flag and our common country."

"This one hundred and eighty-third anniversary of Washington's birth, in view of the present critical condition in our international relations, should bring to our minds the third great achievement of his presidential term, the maintenance of a policy of neutrality through a general European war."

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Fair and warm to-day; rains probably to-night. For Eastern Pennsylvania: Fair to-night, with probably rains to-morrow, followed by colder weather. River The Susquehanna river and all its tributaries were in critical condition to-night and Sunday. A stage of about 7.0 feet is indicated for Harrisburg Sunday morning. General Conditions The weather is clear in eastern territory. High pressure prevails over the larger part of the Eastern States. Temperature changes continue irregular. Temperature: 5 a. m., 40. Sun: Rises, 6:43 a. m.; sets, 5:45 p. m. Full moon, March 1, 1:33 p. m. River Stage: 7.6 feet above low-water mark. Yesterday's Weather Highest temperature, 54. Lowest temperature, 30. Mean temperature, 42. Normal temperature, 51.

Secretary Daniels Orders Full Inquiry of Evelyn Disaster

Naval Attache at Berlin Will Investigate and Forward Report to Washington

MAY HAVE BEEN ACCIDENTAL

Chairman Stone, of Foreign Relations Committee, Can See No Complications

Washington, Feb. 22.—Secretary Daniels to-day ordered commander Walter R. Gherard, American naval attache at Berlin, to investigate and make a full report on the destruction of the American steamer Evelyn. So far official advice merely have reported the sinking of the vessel and her cargo but gave no details. Secretary Daniels explained that his purpose in directing an inquiry after the State Department had called upon the ambassadors at London and Berlin for a report was to secure technical information which, perhaps might not be included in the ambassadors' replies. It was, of course, understood that Commander Gherard, as American attache at the American embassy at Berlin, would be guided entirely by Ambassador Gerard in making his investigation.

It was said at the Navy Department that from present indications it will be difficult for the naval officer to secure exact information of what actually destroyed the Evelyn. Unless Captain Smith or some of the members of the crew of the steamer actually saw the conning tower or periscope of a submarine, officials say it would not be possible to deny that the Evelyn was sunk by a mine.

May Show Mine Map The fact that the Evelyn lies at the bottom of the North Sea would make it difficult to examine her hull. It was pointed out, however, that German officials might disclose to the American naval officer in confidence the map of their mine fields in the vicinity where the Evelyn was sunk.

The minister from the Netherlands called at the State Department to inquire what reports this government had received about the Evelyn. He said he had no official report of the destruction of the vessel. After conferring with Counselor Lansing he expressed the opinion that the sinkings must have been entirely accidental.

Chairman Stone, of the Senate foreign relations committee, said he could see no complications arising from the destruction of the Evelyn.

"An American vessel," said the senator, "ventured into an area known to be mined and unfortunately struck one. So far it is not known what nation laid the mine. It is probable that a national claim for damages might be made when the facts are established. But I cannot see how serious complications could come from the incident."

Dangers Pointed Out Sinking of the American steamer Evelyn in the North Sea is a pressing matter, although the crew was saved, brought vividly before official Washington to-day the dangers to which American vessels are exposed in the waters adjacent to the belligerent coast of Europe.

The American note to Germany warning that country against attacks on American vessels in the sea zones of war applied only to submarines. Since the outbreak of the war, the North Sea has been mined by both Germany and Great Britain and an added warning was given to neutral commerce by the German reply to the American note last week in announcing that mines would be strewn in the waters surrounding Great Britain and Ireland and in the English channel. Hitherto, in the notification of areas mined, pilots have been offered for neutral vessels and not the Evelyn had an opportunity to obtain a pilot or whether she struck a mine with a pilot aboard were questions on which officials expected to receive definite information to-day or to-morrow from Ambassadors Page at London and Gerard at Berlin, to both of whom the State Department had directed inquiries.

The only message before the department early to-day was from American Consul Fee, at Bremen who reported that the Evelyn had been "blown up" but did not give the cause.

The Evelyn is the first ship insured with the United States Bureau of War Risk Insurance to be lost since it began operations several months ago. Insurance on ships amounting to more than \$55,000,000 has been written.

Scandinavian Neutrals Alarmed Over Situation Created by Germans

London, Feb. 22, 12.05 p. m.—Germany's submarine blockade continues to be the chief topic of interest in the United Kingdom although shipping apparently is moving with its usual freedom. The Scandinavian neutrals, however, are showing much alarm over the situation, a great sensation having been caused by the torpedoing of the Norwegian steamship Beldridge off Folkstone last week.

Representatives of the Scandinavian government are holding another conference to-day, the outcome of which is awaited with much interest by neutral shippers. The question of a naval convoy, it is understood, is being seriously considered at the conference, but the guarded comments of the newspapers show that it is clearly recognized that such a step might lead to war.

ROOSEVELT MAKES ADDRESS

New York, Feb. 20.—Patriotic exercises in fifty parks and playgrounds in many charges and armories and in Washington's headquarters, on Washington Heights, marked the arrangements for the commemoration in New York to-day of Washington's birthday. At the principal celebration in Brooklyn, Colonel Theodore Roosevelt was to deliver the address.



COURT CAN'T HEED LETTERS ON CASES

President Judge Kunkel Serves Notice of Refusal to Receive Communications in Future

IS NOT PROPER METHOD

Matters May Be Taken Up Through County's Prosecuting Officers, Pointed Out

We don't want to hear anything about any case outside of court. No one has a right to communicate with the court in any case of pending litigation except through the proper channels. No one has any more right to write to the court than to the jury. There are the proper prosecuting officers of the county with whom these matters may be taken up. However, since these matters have been brought to our attention at this time we cannot ignore them and we will give them due consideration. But we do not want to receive any more. — President Judge Kunkel. The Dauphin County Court Saturday afternoon thus announced its determination.

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PAVING TO STOP BIG PART OF DUST EVIL

To Asphalt Stretch From Twenty-third Street to Poorhouse Lane

Announcement was made by officials of the Harrisburg Railways Company, that just as soon as the weather opens up, it will begin operations on the paving of Derry street from Twenty-third street to the Poorhouse Lane, or twenty-eighth street.

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Ralph Blum, Well-known Merchant and Member of Charities Board, Dies

Philadelphia, Feb. 22.—Ralph Blum, a widely-known merchant and a member of the State board of charities, died in a hospital at Atlantic City, last night from an attack of heart trouble. Mr. Blum was the founder of the firm of Blum Brothers, which conducted a large department store. After the firm liquidated he opened a store of his own. He was 53 years old and was widely known in charitable and political circles.

OUR WASHINGTON

'Tis the old world's way to forget the day illumined with pomp and power. But the one who suffered to serve mankind is the hero of the hour. Perhaps we may torture and crucify while the living heart beats red. But years unfold the love untold. And we honor our sacred dead. That winter of struggle at Valley Forge! Hard years of a great work done! These sacrifices but make more dear the name of our Washington. —ANNA H. WOOD. Written for the Telegraph.

RIGHT LEG OF FAMOUS ACTRESS AMPUTATED

European War Almost Caused Another Postponement of Bernhard Operation

By Associated Press SURGEON CALLED TO COLORS

Tragedienne Refused to Submit to Delay. So Substitute Was Secured

Bordeaux, Feb. 22, via Paris, 11.55 A. M.—The right leg of Madame Sarah Bernhardt, the famous tragedienne, was amputated to-day at the St. Augustine Hospital, at Arcahon. The operation, made necessary by an affection of the knee, which had caused much suffering for several years, was performed by Professor De Luze, of the Bordeaux University. Professor Rozzi was to have conducted the operation yesterday, but he was called to the colors to serve at the Val de Grace Hospital, in Paris, and he found it impossible to leave his duties for several days. Madame Bernhardt refused to submit to a delay of what she courageously called her release from bondage and it was decided that Professor De Luze should perform the operation to-day.

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COMPENSATION ACT READY THIS WEEK

Attorney General Will Be Here Late Today With the Drafts of the New Bill

Plans to get a wide discussion of the proposed workmen's compensation act before the Legislature meets on March 1 have been made by Governor Martin G. Brumbaugh and Attorney General Francis Shunk Brown. The bill is being printed with statements summarizing the points for and against various sections and a copy will be sent to the newspapers of the State and to persons who have requested them so that the lawmakers may have opportunity to hear all sides when the [Continued on Page 4.]

NEW BUILDING DEDICATED

Philadelphia, Feb. 22.—The new building of the Evans Museum and Dental Institute School of Dentistry of the University of Pennsylvania, was dedicated to-day. The dedication was one of the principal features in the annual observance by the University of the birth of George Washington and was attended by men prominent in dentistry in this country and Europe.

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ANOTHER WAGE CUT ON ALL RAILROADS?

Philadelphia Dispatch Says Retrenchment Will Come in the Spring

Announcement in a Philadelphia dispatch yesterday that further retrenchments would be made by the Pennsylvania Railroad, and other eastern companies has caused a stir in railroad circles. Local officials while anticipating some action because of decrease in business, did not expect a wage cut. Asked to-day for an opinion as to how wide-sweeping the retrenchment would be, officials would not say. The only statement was "that official action would come from Philadelphia, and [Continued on Page 10.]

Robbers Blow Safe in an Indiana State Bank and Escape With \$5,500

Farmersburg, Ind., Feb. 22.—The safe in the Citizens State Bank here was blown during the night by robbers and \$5,500 taken.

RUSSIANS ADMIT LOSS OF ENTIRE CORPS IN EAST; MAIL STEAMER FIRED ON

Pope Makes Another Attempt to Induce Emperor William to Help in Plan to Bring About Peace; German Aeroplane Fired on by Swiss and Forced to Descend; Berlin Report of Sinking of British Transport Lacks Confirmation

The loss of almost an entire army corps in the recent retreat from East Prussia is admitted by the Russian general staff in its version of the German victory. Of this corps, it is said, only broken and disorganized portions escaped. The success of the Germans is attributed to the overwhelming number of their troops and their superior transportation facilities. Unofficial reports from Petrograd say that the main Russian army succeeded in escaping from the German trap and has in turn taken the offensive. This is corroborated in part by the Russian staff, which states that when the retreating army reached the positions designated by the Russian commanders a stand was made and the Germans were repulsed with heavy losses.

An aeroplane, believed to be German, was fired on by soldiers while flying over Swiss territory and forced to descend. The German government recently made amends to Switzerland for violation of that country's neutrality by aeronauts. Pope Has Another Plan It is reported in Rome that Pope Benedict has again approached Emperor William in the hope of preparing the way for peace negotiations. A Rome newspaper says Germany, while enjoying an excellent military position, is feeling more keenly the effects of the war and has modified its views on the subject of conditions of peace.

An Australian mail steamer was fired on by an armed merchantman in the English Channel, but was not struck, according to a dispatch from Plymouth. Otherwise there were no developments in the situation which has grown out of the German naval war zone decree. The Berlin report of the sinking of the British transport lacks confirmation from any other source. Wrochem, commander of a German army division, who recently was awarded the Iron Cross, is dead at the German capital. Armored Merchantman Fires on Mail Boat Carrying 400 Souls Plymouth, England, Feb. 22, via London, 11.55 A. M.—The Western Daily Mercury says that when the Australian mail boat Maloja, with 400 passengers on board, was entering the English Channel on Saturday afternoon she was ordered to stop by an unknown armored merchantman. The mail boat ignored the order and made for Plymouth, whereupon the merchantman fired five shells at her, although they all fell short. The Maloja reached Plymouth safely.

Would Remove Tax on Mixed Flour to Increase Country's Bread Supply

Washington, D. C., Feb. 22.—The House ways and means committee had before it for consideration to-day the Volmer bill, proposing to repeal the tax on mixed flour. Supporters of the measure assert that to permit the manufacture of flour consisting of a mixture of milled wheat and milled corn would add materially to the country's breadstuff supply and would tend to reduce the cost of these food articles. A prohibitive tax was imposed on the mixed product during the Spanish-American war and it has never been removed.

\$500,000 FIRE IN ILLINOIS East St. Louis, Ill., Feb. 22.—Fire in the center of the business district early to-day caused property damage estimated at more than \$500,000.

SMOOT WANTS MORE SUBMARINES

Washington, Feb. 22.—Senate Republicans intend to put a larger submarine building program in the pending naval bill than has been provided by the House. Senator Smoot to-day introduced an amendment for fifty submarines of a sea going type and twenty-five smaller ones. For the first year, it would appropriate \$30,000,000.

INDIANS REPORTED SURROUNDED

Denver, Colo., Feb. 22.—Advices from Grayson, Utah, by telephone to Dolores, Colo., to-day stated that the band of Piute Indians under Tse-ne-Gat, which fought a desperate battle yesterday with a posse commanded by United States Marshal Aquila Nebeker had been surrounded in Cottonwood gulch, near Bluff.

LIQUOR ADVERTISING STOPPED

Mobile, Ala., Feb. 22.—County law officers throughout the State are warning property owners that billboard or other sign advertisements of whiskey are in violation of the new anti-liquor advertising law. It also forbids such advertisements in newspapers.

Berlin, Feb. 22, via London, 3.30 P. M.—The German official statement issued to-day announces that the captures in the battle of the Mazurian lakes district of East Prussia have been increased to several general and more than 100,000 men. The pieces of cannon taken numbered 150.

New York, Feb. 22.—William L. Harriss, of the firm which owned the steamship Evelyn, sunk in the North Sea yesterday, said to-day that his firm would make no protest to the State Department as he considered the loss of the ship due to a war risk which he had taken.

San Francisco, Feb. 22.—On account of the unsatisfactory condition of the course and the threatening weather the Vanderbilt cup race was postponed to-day until one week from Saturday. The drivers made one exhibition round of the course for the benefit of the spectators.

Princeton, Indiana, Feb. 22.—John M. Willman, who all his lifetime declared he fired the shot which killed the Confederate general, Albert Sidney Johnston, at the Battle of Shiloh, died Sunday at his home in Mount Carmel, Ill., near here.

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