



WILSON MAY ASK CONGRESS SOON FOR AUTHORITY TO PROTECT AMERICAN LIFE

AMERICAN SHIP SUNK BY GERMAN SUBMARINE

DEFERS ARMED SHIP DECISION UNTIL HE GETS OFFICIAL WORD

Accumulation of Incidents Involving Violations of American Rights Since Break Hastening Approach of Hour When President Will Again Go Before Congress

RETENTION OF 72 AMERICANS SERIOUS

Regarded as Another Acute Indication of Germany's Disregard of American Rights; Policy Unchanged, but Present Situation as U-Boat War

Washington, Feb. 14.— President Wilson is expected now to defer a decision in question of furnishing guns to American merchant ships until he decides whether to go before Congress and ask for additional authority for the protection of American ships and lives.

It was indicated in authoritative sources to-day that there has been no change in the policy of the government up to the present time and that none is in immediate prospect.

The accumulation of incidents involving violations of American rights since the diplomatic break with Germany is generally believed by administration officials to be hastening the approach of the hour when the President again will go before Congress.

Detention of Sailors Serious The re-detention of the seventy-two Americans brought in on the prize ship Yarrowdale is regarded as another acute indication of Germany's disregard of American rights. If, in fact, a vigorous protest has not already gone forward, it will be sent in the near future, unless Germany promptly releases the men.

A definite sentiment gained ground in administration quarters to-day that an accumulation of acts indicating a disregard for American rights will have as much to do with shaping the policy of the United States as any overt act which may be committed against American ships.

No Objections to Arming Ships While it has been indicated at the State Department that there can be no legal objection to the government furnishing guns to American merchant ships, President Wilson is understood to be disinclined to take any step which might give Germany the slightest ground for throwing responsibility for any future trouble upon the United States.

May Sacrifice Lives Any Minute Reports of the piling up of freight destined to Europe, the temporary shutting down of grain elevators and the other evidences of the effect of the new submarine campaign upon neutral commerce, are regarded as part of the accumulation of aggravations which are expected to lead to action.

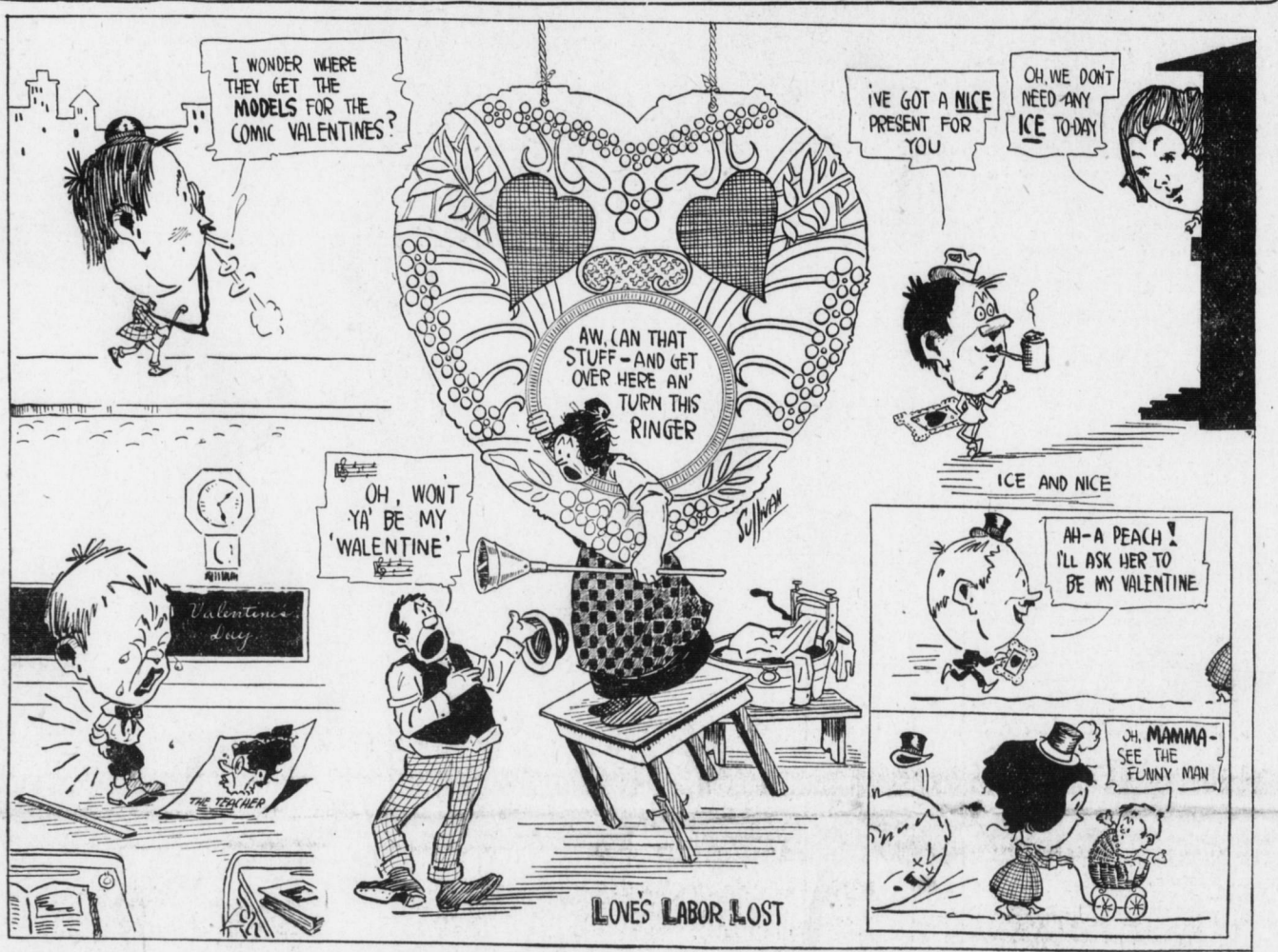
So far the government has received nothing official to indicate any change of submarine policy by Germany and can only believe that American lives or ships may be sacrificed at any moment.

Vigorous denials were made to-day to reports of a split in the Cabinet over the question of furnishing guns for American ships. Naturally, it was said, there may be differences of judgment, but it was declared that the members of the Cabinet will stand solidly behind the President in any decision he may make.

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Unsettled weather, mainly light snow or rain to-night and Thursday; not much change in temperature, lowest to-night about 20 degrees. For Eastern Pennsylvania: Cloudy to-night and Thursday; probably snow in north and snow or rain in south portion; no decided change in temperature, moderate to fresh shifting winds. River The Susquehanna river and all its branches will fall slowly or remain stationary in ice conditions. A stage of about 45 feet, ice reading, is indicated for Harrisburg Thursday morning. Yesterday's Weather Highest temperature, 24. Lowest temperature, 1. Mean temperature, 12. Normal temperature, 30.

TAKE A LOOK AND YOU'LL BE GLAD VALENTINE—LIKE CHRISTMAS—COMES BUT ONCE A YEAR



STATE COAL TAX BILL INTRODUCED; AS NEW FEATURES

Would Share With Counties Where Mines Are; Other Measures Presented

A coal tax of two and a half per cent. of the value on all coal mined in Pennsylvania, one-half to be devoted to improvement and repair of highways is proposed in a bill introduced in the House to-day by Mr. Davis, Lackawanna. The bill would apply to all coal and is so drawn that if any section is declared unconstitutional it shall not affect the others. The process of collection is similar to that carried in the acts of 1913 and 1915.

The bill was accompanied by a proposed act dedicating 50 per cent. to a fund to be distributed to the cities, boroughs and townships under which the coal is mined or wherein it is washed. The distribution is to be on a population basis.

Mr. Powell, Luzerne, introduced a bill requiring mines to establish a first aid corps for each 50 persons employed inside. In mines having less than 50 men a corps shall be provided at request of the inspector. Each corps is to be composed of five men.

Mr. Howarth, Allegheny — Prohibiting issuance of marriage licenses to white and colored persons who may desire to intermarry.

Mr. Sinclair, Fayette — Prohibiting trespassing on any railroad or railway or on cars under penalty of \$25 or 20 days in prison.

A joint resolution for a commission of three to be named by the Governor to investigate the cause of advances in price of bituminous coal either by operators or dealers was introduced by Mr. Dean, Lawrence. It carries an appropriation of \$5,000 and calls for report to the Legislature by May 1, and to the Governor on January 1, 1918 and 1919.

Mr. Whitaker, Chester — Establishing a code regulating sale of opium, cocaine, etc.

Mr. Drake, Greene — Appropriating half of automobile registration to counties in proportion to licenses.

Mr. Rich, Clinton — Requiring pool and billiard room and bowling alleys to close at midnight and remain closed until 6 a. m. and all day Sunday.

Mr. Shunk, Erie — Requiring railroads to place red lights at all grade crossings.

\$10,000 FIRE GUTS STEELTON STORE CO.

Fire of unknown origin in the engine room of the cold storage plant of the Steelton Store Company this afternoon gutted the large building used for storage and slaughter purposes. The loss is estimated at more than \$10,000.

A thousand bushels of potatoes, a large amount of meat was burned. Machinery used in the refrigerator department and in the electrical shop which furnished power and light to the store properties was also a complete loss.

Efforts on the part of the Baldwin Hose Company to quickly reach the plant at Front and Locust streets gained the apparatus so much momentum that the machine skidded into the old canal bed.

Long lines of hose from distant plugs stretched across Front street delayed traffic and trolley cars for more than an hour. A great crowd drawn by the large volume of smoke and the flames also helped to block the borough's main highway.

The Baldwin company's hose wagon was being used to haul ashes when the alarm was sent in. The driver whipped up the horses to get back to the firehouse and the animals in trying to make the turn at Highland street skidded into the canal. No one was hurt in the accident.

FIVE DIRECTORS OPPOSE CHOICE FOR ARCHITECT

Keene, Boyer, Boll, Bretz and Werner Against Special Committee's Recommendations

Despite the fact that five members of the city School Board yesterday caused the first break in the big high school development program by voting against the employment of William B. Ittner, of St. Louis, a special committee's choice as architect, to draw the plans, it was insisted in school official circles.

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STATE AS STOREHOUSE FOR UNITED STATES IN WAR TIME

Pittsburgh, Feb. 14.—That the industrial plants of Pennsylvania, operating at full capacity, could almost supply all the munitions for this country in time of war, was the statement of Dr. R. F. Bacon, director of the Mellon Institute and chairman of the Pennsylvania committee on industrial preparedness of the Naval Consulting Board, prior to his departure for Washington yesterday, where he is to make a report on an inventory of the industrial plants of Pennsylvania.

LOOPS LOOP IN HYDROAIRPLANE

Pensacola, Fla., Feb. 14.—Captain Francis T. Evans, attached to the navy flying school here, successfully looped the loop in a hydroairplane yesterday at a height of several hundred feet. It was said to be the first successful somersault in a hydroairplane in this country.

SPROUL INQUIRY PASSES HOUSE BY VOTE OF 110 TO 80

Action Is Preceded by Hot Debate; Up to the Governor

The Sproul resolution providing for an investigation of government in Pennsylvania was passed finally in the House of Representatives to-day as it came from the Senate and will go to the Governor for his action.

The vote on final passage was 110 ayes to 80 noes. The bill required 104. The bill passed on a test vote on the first section on second reading yesterday afternoon by 116 to 80. The vote was taken at the conclusion of the session.

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THRESHERMEN MEET

Fourth Annual Convention Opens in Chestnut Street Auditorium

The fourth annual convention of the Pennsylvania Threshermen and Farmers' Protective Association began its sessions in Chestnut street hall this afternoon at 2 o'clock.

President Brubaker made a short address of welcome after which the threshermen took up the problem of standardization of rates for threshing. Discussion of this subject consumed practically all of the afternoon meeting. At to-morrow's session the chief topic of interest will be the proposed repeal of the State law placing a personal tax on owners of traction engines.

The convention will be in session until Friday.

TO INTERVENE IN CUBAN REVOLT IF NECESSARY

U. S. Warns Island Government That Rule by Violence Is Unsatisfactory

Washington, Feb. 14.— Secretary Lansing sent to the Cuban people to-day a warning that any government that might be established by revolt could not be recognized by the United States.

Confronted by what appears to be a carefully prepared Liberal rebellion, the administration has been forced to consider what steps could be taken. Intervention by the United States is contemplated with reluctance, but the intimation has been conveyed to President Menocal and to the leaders of the uprising that such a step may be taken if it becomes necessary.

The message to the Cuban people was sent to Minister Gonzales and to all American consuls with instructions that it be given widest publicity. It is carefully worded, but calculated to impress upon the public the seriousness of the situation and the profound disfavor that such a revolution would find in Washington.

Troops Revolt in Cuba; Many Die in Clash

Havana, Feb. 14.— President Menocal is reliably quoted as admitting that troops are in revolt in Camaguey province. The insurgents will be attacked by a heavy force under Colonels Figueroa and Colazo.

The small group of rebels in Oriente province clashed with loyal troops yesterday afternoon. The rebels lost seven killed and several wounded. Five or six minor encounters between rurales and rebels have also been reported from various points. El Mundo quotes President Menocal as saying that the yacht Julio, owned by former President Gomez, has been captured near Casilda in Santa Clara province by the captain of the port.

A re-election held in one precinct of Cumanayagua, Santa Clara province, to decide the majority of Cienfuegos, was won by the conservatives.

BIG PRIZE FOR U-BOAT SINKING

Paris, Feb. 14.—A prize of 500,000 francs for the crew of any French, allied, or neutral vessel which succeeds in destroying an attacking submarine is provided for in a resolution introduced in the Chamber of Deputies to-day by Andre Lefevre. The resolution says that the Germans are attacking without distinction ships of all nationalities, armed or unarmed, and that this creates a new situation which must by no means be neglected.

London, Feb. 14.—The American schooner Lyman M. Law was sunk by a submarine on Monday, according to a dispatch from the Stefani Agency of Rome. The crew, including eight Americans, is reported to have been landed.

Commissioners Do Not Favor Salary Increases

Members of the law committee of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania will meet here again March 13 to take further action on proposed legislation which may be introduced for passage this session.

The committee went on record late yesterday afternoon as opposing proposed salary increases for county treasurers and increasing fees allowed to constables for making arrests. No action was taken on proposed salary increases for county commissioners.

Bills favored by the committee include one which will abolish the present system of county tax collection in third class cities by substituting a receiver of taxes for ward collectors. A law to provide three or four assessors for each county, to be elected every four years, was favored. At present there is an assessor in each township.

Patriot May Move to Commonwealth Hotel Site

Rumor that the Patriot Company proposes to move from its present location in North Market Square to the Commonwealth Hotel site was prevalent on the streets to-day, but lacked official confirmation. It was said that the company proposes to erect an office building on the site in the course of time. The hotel will be kept open to July 1 at least.

Vance C. McCormick, president of the company, was out of the city and Henry B. McCormick, secretary, would not comment on the matter. Donald McCormick, who has charge of the Commonwealth Hotel building, said that he knew nothing of a building program. He is not connected with the newspaper.

SUES BANK FOR \$23,000

Suit has been brought by John C. Orr, trustee of the estate of H. R. Simonetti, bankrupt, to recover \$23,000 from the Harrisburg National Bank, which, it is alleged, was paid to the bank shortly before he was adjudicated a bankrupt in 1913.

U-BOAT IN FRENCH RIVER

Paris, Feb. 14.—A submarine yesterday attacked the French coast at the mouth of Adour river, in the extreme southwestern section, but did no great damage.

SIXTY BILLION MARKS GERMAN WAR COST

London, Feb. 14.—Germany's war costs to date have reached the total of sixty billion marks, says a telegram from Berlin forwarded by the correspondent at Amsterdam of Reuter's Telegram Company, Limited.

SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES PROTEST

London, Feb. 14.—Reuter's-Copenhagen correspondent reports that Norway, Sweden and Denmark have handed to the German ministers identical notes protesting against the naval measures taken by Germany and Austria-Hungary and making all reservations regarding the loss of life and material damage resulting.

U. S. CAVALRY MAY CROSS BORDER

Hachita, N. M., Feb. 14.—American cavalry troops may cross the international line to-day in an effort to rescue the three American Mormon cowboys who were carried off Monday afternoon by armed Mexicans under command of Prudencio Miranda, said to be connected with Jose Salazar's Villa force.

ESPEGNE SAILS AS ADRIATIC ARRIVES

New York, Feb. 14.—The French Line steamship, Espagne, with passengers and cargo, left here to-day for Bordeaux. The liner carries a defense gun mounted astern and among the passengers are several Americans. The White Star Line steamship, Adriatic, the first British passenger vessel to leave New York after Germany's unrestricted submarine warfare, arrived at Liverpool, Monday morning, according to a cablegram received here to-day by the International Merchant Marine. The ship's cargo was valued at several million dollars. The vessel sailed February 3 and was armed with a six-inch naval gun.

16 CHILDREN KILLED BY BOMBS

Berlin, Feb. 14.—By Wireless.—A dispatch from Bruges, Belgium, to the Overseas News Agency, says that sixteen children were killed last Sunday by bombs dropped by British aviators in a crowd of skaters.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Charles Glase Buser and Sarah Kathryn Barkey, Harrisburg. Raymond Hershey Karper and Cora Jane Biting, Harrisburg. Hilda Mouch and Vilma Beles, South Bethlehem.