



U. S. VESSELS WILL FIRE ON U-BOATS AT SIGHT; BRINGS WAR NEARER

NAVY YARDS ARM SHIPS FOR DEFENSE

German Declaration That It Will Sink Neutral As Well As Belligerent Merchantmen on Sight Makes It Necessary For American Skippers to Get in First Shot As a Matter of Protection

SECRETARY OF THE NAVY APPEALS FOR PATRIOTIC CENSORSHIP ON SHIPPING

Naval Yards Equipping Vessels As Fast As Possible to Put United States on Armed Neutrality Basis; Names of Ships and Dates For Sailing Are Kept Secret to Avoid German Spies From Gathering Information

Washington, March 10.—The mere appearance of a German submarine or its periscope in the presence of an American-armed merchant vessel would entitle that ship, according to State Department opinion to-day, to take all measures of protection on the presumption that the U-boat's purpose was hostile.

The United States was said to stand flatly on its armed merchantmen warning of March 21 last, in which it definitely recognized the "right to prevent capture" as part of the "right of self-protection" which could be exercised either by flight or resistance.

U. S. SHIPS WILL FIRE ON U-BOATS AT FIRST SIGHT

Government Rules That Merchantmen Need Not Take Chances

Washington, March 10.—Whether the government will issue any general rules for the guidance of American armed ship commanders is uncertain at present.

Reports that the State Department was preparing a White Book of Germany's plots and intrigues in this country for presentation shortly either to the press or to the Senate, were flatly denied by Secretary Lansing to-day.

No Change in Position The consensus of opinion in diplomatic quarters here to-day was that the action of the United States in arming its merchant shipping would in no way serve to change the policies of the several European neutral nations.

CLOSE OF CAMPAIGN Lemoine, Pa., March 10.—To-morrow the three weeks' evangelistic campaign in the United Evangelical Church will close with special services.

EQUIPMENT TO PROTECT SHIPS READY FOR USE

Naval Yards Have Been Preparing and Waiting For Word For Action

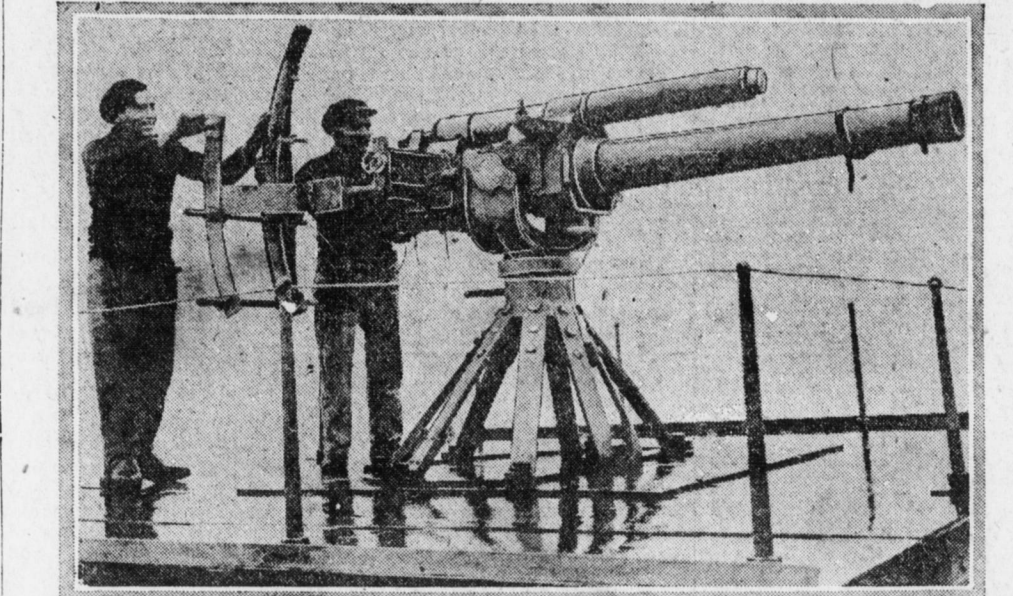
Washington, March 10.—Guns, gunners and ammunitions will be placed aboard American merchant ships immediately and there will be sent to sea under order to fire on German submarines which attack them illegally.

Naval yards were ordered to-day to equip the vessels as fast as possible, and the action will put the United States in the position of armed neutrality, the next step beyond the severance of diplomatic relations with Germany, and possibly the preliminary of war.

Preparations for defending American merchant vessels had already been taken by the government and work of equipping vessels, under President Wilson's orders, only awaited the Navy Department's approval of applications from shipowners.

The best news the readers can have," said the Secretary, "is that the government will protect the rights of America to the freedom of the seas. The publication of details can serve no good purpose and might jeopardize human life."

NEW TYPE OF GUN FOR PROTECTING MERCHANTMEN



The French liner Rochambeau, which left the United States a few weeks ago, returned this time with guns both fore and aft. This photograph shows the new 19 M.M. gun on her prow, and the two men who are ready to train it on any German submarine.

PRESIDENT WILSON'S CALL FOR CONGRESS TO CONVENE

"Whereas, The public interests require that the Congress of the United States should be convened in extra session at 12 o'clock noon on the sixteenth day of April, 1917, to receive such communication as may be made by the Executive;

TRIAL BY ORDEAL IS CALLED FOR IN PREMIER PLOT

London, March 10.—In an eloquent and vigorous speech to-day in summing up the case of the four prisoners on trial charged with conspiring to murder Lloyd George and Arthur Henderson, member of the war council, S. H. Riza, the Mohammedan lawyer who is acting as attorney for defendants, startled the courtroom by suggesting a trial by ordeal.

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Fair and somewhat warmer to-night, with lowest temperature about 38 degrees; Sunday cloudy and warmer, probably rain.

ESTIMATES ON PARK EXTENSION WILL BE RUSHED

Legislature to Get Preliminary Costs For Most Handsome Capitol in World Soon

MEDICAL RESERVE UNIT FOR SERVICE IN WAR, FORMING

Fifteen of Harrisburg Hospital Apply For Membership in Army Corps

Italy Uncovers More of Plot Which Resulted in Sinking of Battleships

Paris, March 10.—A number of fresh arrests have been made in Rome and elsewhere in connection with what is known as the Gerlach case, according to a Milan dispatch to the Matin.

SIX ARRESTED IN RAID ON DOPE CHAIN LINK

Police Descend on 707 East Street and Find Users Hidden in Closets Under Beds, While One Diminutive Girl Is Discovered Doubled Up in a Trunk

COCAINE, MORPHINE AND HEROIN TAKEN FROM BEHIND PICTURES AND UNDER CARPET

Victims Plead For "Just One More Shot of Joy Powder"; Girl Tries to Bribe Telegraph Police Reporter to Obtain Some; Nearly All Prisoners Are Physical Wrecks

Police swooped down on an alleged dope joint this morning at 707 East street, and arrested three men and three girls.

Those arrested were Robert Cheniworth, alleged proprietor of the house, Anthony J. Penna, alias Tony Penn, of Reading; Edward Thorley, alias Edward Nickolas; Blanche Varner, alias Sue Eberly; Dorothy Goodrich and Marie Thorley.

CAN'T HANG MAN ON POST OFFICE

Washington, March 10.—Treasury Department officials to-day declined to permit the custodian of public buildings, at Spokane to use the roof of the Federal building there as a location for a scaffold for the execution of Edward Mayberry, sentenced to die March 20, by the Federal Court.

FRENCH FREIGHTER REPORTED SUNK

New York, March 10.—A report was current in shipping circles to-day that the 8,700-ton freight steamship, Ohio, flying the French flag, had been torpedoed.

GERMANS ERECT WIRELESS IN MEXICO

Galveston, Tex., March 10.—American passengers on the Wolvine line steamship Harald, which arrived here to-day from Vera Cruz, declare that a powerful radio station is being erected on a hill near Mexico City under the direction of German engineers.

SCHWAB GETS BIG ORDER

New York, March 10.—Another large shipping contract has been obtained by the Bethlehem Steel Company for cargo carrying vessels of 6500 tons and over, involving an expenditure of \$13,000,000.

WANT SHORT SESSION

Washington, March 10.—Informal discussion by Democratic leaders of the Senate to-day indicates that an effort will be made to adjourn the special session of Congress called for April 16, as quickly as the needed legislation is enacted.

FINED FOR SPEEDING

Anthony J. Penna, one of the crowd arrested this morning in a raid on an alleged dope joint was fined \$5 for exceed ighnte speed limit in an automobile early this morning before arrested on the latter charged.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Lewis Cohen, Harrisburg and Sarah Heller, Steelton. Howard Wayne Thorn and Helen Celestina Carnes, Steelton. Edward Harbold and Lillian Moore, Harrisburg.