

German Plot story Is Confirmed

Envoy Von Eckhardt May Be Compelled to Quit Mexican Capital

WASHINGTON, March 1. — Complete and elaborate confirmation that Germany has endeavored to line up Mexico and Japan as enemies of the United States is in the hands of President Wilson.

As a result representations now are being made to General Carranza at Mexico City which may result in the withdrawal from Mexico of German diplomatic agents and possibly of the German minister to Mexico, Count von Eckhardt.

These representations are shrouded in complete secrecy by the administration but it is admitted that General Carranza already has been given to understand that the German plotting against the United States on Mexican soil is a "grossly unfriendly act."

The entire international situation so far as the relations between the United States and Germany are concerned was extremely serious today. This latest manifestation of unfriendliness, complete proof of which has been gathered by the agents of the United States, reveals a plot of such widespread ramifications and serious enmity toward the United States as to be almost unbelievable. It is thought here that within a very short time the President will let all of the facts become known, either through a direct statement to Congress from the White House or a communication to the foreign affairs committee of the Senate by Secretary of State Robert Lansing.

The text of the note written by German Foreign Minister Zimmermann to Count von Eckhardt, which was dated January 19 and was sent to Mexico through Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador here at that time, has been in the hands of President Wilson for several days. It is not stated where it came from, but it is known that its existence first was reported to the United States by Ambassador Fletcher when he reached Mexico City to take over his duties there as the new American ambassador to Mexico.

The Zimmerman note was delivered to Von Eckhardt in Mexico through von Bernstorff's hands and was delivered to the German minister in Mexico City. The latter, according to certain information which leaked out here, decided that it would not be advisable to communicate the plot to Carranza. Instead, certain Mexicans who were known to be unfriendly to Carranza, were let into the secret. They agreed to the plot, it is understood, and decided that, in the event that war between the United States and Germany took place they would arrange for a new revolution to seize the government and depose Carranza.

The details of what transpired are withheld by this Government because of the danger that would come to certain informants. And in this connection Secretary of State Lansing today said that he was not prepared to say whether there would be additional revelations.

All of the facts in the plot were placed in the possession of the Japanese ambassador by Counsellor Polk of the State Department. He cabled them at once to Tokyo. It is expected here that a statement dealing with the facts will shortly be forthcoming from the Japanese government itself.

TO OPEN COAL OPERATION NEAR PUNXSUTAWNEY

Beckman brothers of Johnstown, have purchased from Lyman Mauk and L. V. Means 400 acres of coal land in Perry township. The land lies just west of the Mauk tunnel.

On Monday next the purchasers will begin the erection of a tippie, and it is expected that coal will be shipped by May 1. A siding will be constructed to the mine from the Shawmut railroad. Two veins of coal underlie the land purchased, one a four foot vein and the other three. They will be mined simultaneously. A plane will be constructed to the lower vein and another slope opening will be made to the upper vein. The tippie will have a capacity of 2,000 tons per day.

The land purchased was recently leased by Messrs. Means and Mauk. Beckman brothers have coal operations in the vicinity of Johnstown.

DIXONVILLE MINER FATALLY INJURED

Charles Smith, a motorman in the employ of the Dixonville Mining Co., was fatally injured last Saturday when he was caught between the motor and a trip of cars in Mine 27. Following the accident he was removed to the Dixonville hospital, where he died a short time later. Mr. Smith was 23 years old. He is survived by his widow and parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Smith. Funeral services were conducted yesterday in the Clymer Presbyterian church. The remains have been taken to Coalport, where burial will be made today.

INDIANA YOUTH GETS APPOINTMENT TO THE U. S. NAVAL ACADEMY

In a telegram to Indiana friends the Hon. S. Taylor North of Punxsutawney, congressman from this district states that he has named David Dufferin Henderson of Indiana for a vacancy at the United States Naval academy at Annapolis, Md. David Dufferin Henderson is one of the twin sons of Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Henderson of West Church street and is vastly pleased at the news of his appointment. He has not yet been notified when he will be required to take the entrance examinations. Congressmen from every district are busy with similar appointments at this time.

IT FLIES OVER GROUND OR UP IN THE AIR

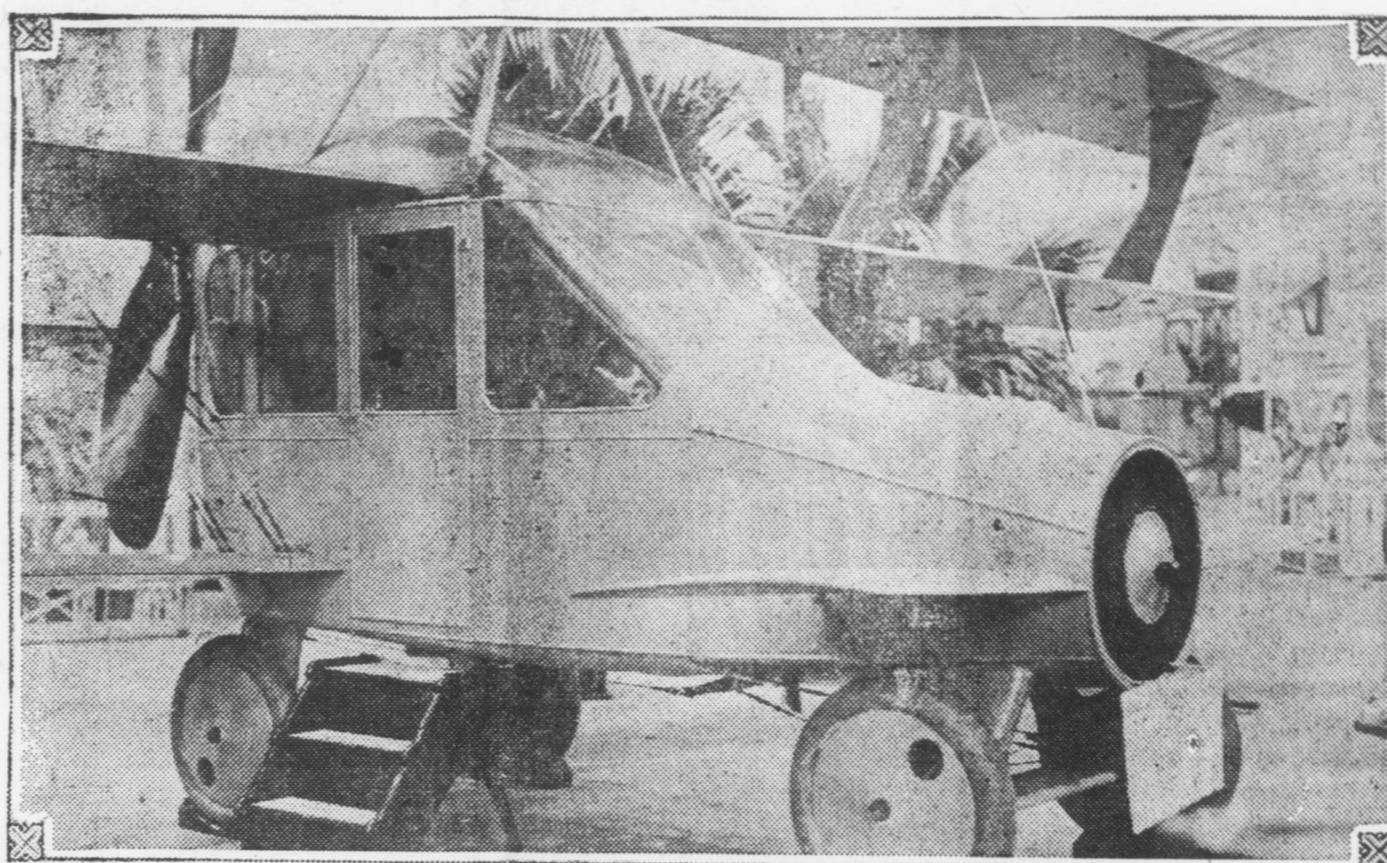


Photo by American Press Association.

One of the most interesting exhibits shown at the aeronautical show in New York city was the autoplane, a unique combination of an automobile and an aeroplane—a veritable "aerial limousine," which will not only run over the ground at approximately forty-five miles per hour, but will leave the surface of the earth and fly away like the magic chariots of old.

INDIANA POSTOFFICE APPROPRIATION PASSED

Included in the sundry civil appropriation bill, which passed the house at Washington Friday was an appropriation of \$64,500 for the completion of Indiana's new postoffice building. The Wilson lot, corner of Church and Seventh streets, recently purchased for a site for the possession of the government next month and it is expected that shortly after this time the preliminary work for the building will start.

STOCKING THE COUNTY WITH GAME

Announcement has been made here by Game Protector Iddo M. Lewis that the first number of a consignment of rabbits from Crawford county had arrived. Mr. Lewis also stated that shipments will be made regularly until the allotment of 200 is completed. They will be distributed over the nearby woodlands.

BUILDING ON SITE SOLD TO GOVERNMENT MAY BE USED FOR A PARSONAGE.

In all probability the frame dwelling long known as the A. W. Wilson homestead, and which occupies the lot at the corner of Church and Seventh streets, purchased by the Government as a site for Indiana's new postoffice building, will become the parsonage of the First United Presbyterian church.

Without any solicitation on the part of the congregation, Harry W. Wilson, who is the owner of the dwelling, has offered the home as a free gift to the church and it is altogether likely the church will accept it and move in onto the lot in the rear of the church, at the corner of Carpenter avenue and School street, a most desirable site for a parsonage. The only condition which is attached to the generous offer of Mr. Wilson is that the dwelling must be moved from its present location by June 1, when he must surrender the lot to the government.

The Wilson dwelling is one of the stately and most substantial houses in Indiana and in recent years the interior was remodeled and made one of the most attractive and convenient homes at the county seat. The living room, dining room and commodious hall are all finished in hardwood and beautiful tapestries adorn the walls of the hall. In the living room are book cases, constructed of hardwood finished in ebony that surround two sides of the room. These attractive features and the other modern comforts and conveniences make it an ideal home for a minister and there is a growing sentiment among the members of the congregation that Mr. Wilson's gift should be accepted.

LEGISLATURE ADJOURNS UNTIL MARCH 12.

HARRISBURG, March 1.—The house of representatives adjourned today after a half hour session and will meet March 12. The senate adjourned Tuesday until that date.

The session today was devoted to receiving bills and clearing the first and second reading calendars.

During the recess the house appropriations committee will visit numerous hospitals and sub-committees of the judiciary general committee will sit in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh on capital punishment abolition bills.

HAWS REFRACTORIES CO. BUYS NEW PLANTS

JOHNSTOWN, Feb. 28. — A deal involving the payment of approximately \$800,000 has been consummated in the purchase of the Johnstown plant and properties in Mifflin, Juniata and Huntingdon counties from A. J. Haws & Co. by the Haws Refractories Company. The purchase became a matter of record today when deeds and a mortgage for \$700,000 to secure indebtedness were filed for recording.

The purchase of the A. J. Haws & Co. properties was the first step in a campaign of plant extension and improvement that will involve the expenditure of several hundred thousand dollars. A contract has already been let to Sheesley & Janney, of this city, for grading at Lewistown Narrows, where a new plant, to cost between \$250,000 and \$300,000 will be erected. The new plant will have a production capacity of between 80,000 and 100,000 nine-inch bricks per day, which will double the output of the company. This plant will be ready to begin operations about May 1.

Hoy Would Avenge Mother and Sister

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28. — President Wilson has received the following cablegram from Austin Y. Hoy, whose mother and sister were lost when the Laconia was torpedoed without warning by a German submarine:

"I am an American citizen representing the Sullivan Machinery Company of Chicago, living abroad, not as an expatriate, but for the promotion of American trade. I love the flag believing in its significance. My beloved mother and sister, passengers on the Laconia, have been foully murdered on the high seas.

"As an American citizen outraged and as such fully within my rights, and as an American son and brother bereaved, I call upon my Government to preserve its citizens' self-respect and save others of my countrymen from such deep grief as I now feel. I am of military age, able to fight. If my country can use me against these brutal assassins I am at its call.

"If it stultifies my manhood and my nation's by remaining passive under outrage, I shall seek a man's chance under another flag."

CONDITIONS NEARLY NORMAL ON B. R. & P.

A prominent official of the B. R. & P. Railway, speaking of traffic conditions at the present time, says that they are more nearly normal now than at any time during the past months. This is due to moderating of the weather which permits of greater motive power efficiency. The company has also received during the past month fifteen large freight locomotives which were purchased last fall, and with this motive power, traffic conditions on the B. R. & P. will be greatly improved. In addition to the fifteen locomotives just received the company has on order thirty more engines, a large proportion of which are Mallet compounds, several of these engines ranking with the largest in the country.

JAPAN WOULD NOT JOIN IN ANY PLOT AGAINST THE U. S.

WASHINGTON, March 1. — Japanese Ambassador Sato today denied any knowledge of the alleged implication of Japan in the reported German-Mexican plot but admitted that the report that Germany had made such an attempt through Mexico was probably true.

"It is a very interesting story which I have heard for the first time from press reports, he said. "If any advances were made to my government I have had no knowledge of it.

"Germany is very much mistaken if she thinks that my country would combine with Mexico and herself to make war against the United States.

"In this I speak authoritatively for my government.

"This is as clear as a noon day.

"Germany would not stop at anything, however, in the present state of affairs," added Sato, "which makes report of such a plot very probable.

Sale of Coal Land Placed on Record

Two big coal land sale deeds were left with Recorder Harry S. Miller, for placing on record at Greensburg Saturday. The first was the 600 acres of coal lands and mining rights to a tract lying in the vicinity of Hillside wherein the Latrobe Coal Co. transferred 3,264 shares out of a total of 3,490 shares of stock to Wilbur P. Graff of Blairsville. The consideration is given as \$544,200, and \$114,200 is to be paid as soon as the deed was delivered.

The Pittsburgh Coal Co. has sold to the Union Coal and Coke Co. a vast acreage of valuable coal land including a number of plants in operation in this county, Washington, Greene, Somerset and Allegheny counties. The deed is a voluminous affair, being printed in book form and covers 554 pages. The deal was completed February 21 and copies of the deed will be recorded in the counties in which the property is located. The consideration is nominal, being \$1,000, but the new purchasers assume all indebtedness and obligations binding on the selling corporation.

SEARS-ROEBUCK VOTES \$15,000,000 STOCK BONUS

NEW YORK, Feb. 28. — An increase of the quarterly dividend from \$1.75 a share to \$2 was declared by the directors of Sears, Roebuck & Co., here today, and a special meeting of the stockholders authorized the directors to distribute as a stock dividend \$15,000,000 of new common stockholders on the basis of one new share for each four shares now owned.

L. J. Rosenwald, son of President Rosenwald, of the company, was elected a director, succeeding J. F. Skinner, deceased.

ITALIAN LOAN \$440,000,000

ROME, Feb. 26 — Official announcement was made here today that the subscriptions thus far received for the new war loan amounted to 2,200,000,000 lire (\$440,000,000). Of this amount 1,470,000,000 lire (\$294,000,000) is new money.