

AMERICAN SHIPS TIED UP BY ILLEGAL U-BOAT WARFARE

Cannot Be Permitted to Continue Much Longer is View Taken By Officials.

AMERICANS IN YARROWDALE CREW FREED

Administration Officials, Watching Acts Of Submarines, See Little Hope Of Avoiding Clash With Germany.

Washington.—The ruthless German submarine campaign and its effects upon the United States were discussed by President Wilson and the Cabinet. The meeting lasted only an hour and afterward it was said no new steps had been decided on.

Arming of American merchantmen and the economic effects of the partial tie-up of shipping out of American ports were the subjects on which the Cabinet centered attention. Secretary McAdoo is compiling a list of vessels held in port and Secretary Redfield is making a comprehensive analysis of the inroads submarines are making on shipping generally.

Consideration is given by the Government to all the different phases of the situation that have developed since the break in relations with Germany, including the detention of the Yarrowdale prisoners, the crisis with Austria, the plight of Americans in Turkey and Belgian relief. High officials took pains, however, to emphasize that the great fundamental problem before the nation is the illegal submarine campaign itself. Against this campaign the United States has made the most vigorous protest possible short of war, but the Administration realizes that so long as it permits American ships to be held in port for fear of attack by submarines it is effecting acquiescence in the German policy. This state of affairs, it is admitted, cannot be permitted to continue indefinitely.

What the United States must do to end it, and when, are the only questions. The President is understood to have a very definite opinion as to what should be done, but he has not yet decided that the time to do it has come.

Press dispatches from Berlin announcing that the 72 American seamen brought by the Yarrowdale had been released caused the demand that the men be freed to be withheld pending official advice on the subject. A cablegram was sent the Spanish Ambassador at Berlin asking whether the report was true. It is not doubted, as it has been assumed from the first that Germany would not hold the men after rumors reaching there of the imprisonment of German sailors in the United States had been cleared up.

RAILROADS PLAN FOR WAR.

New York.—The railroads of the United States informed President Wilson that the resources of their organization were at the disposal of the Government in the event of war.

Presidents or other officials of 18 of the roads were appointed as a special committee on national defense, which will work in conjunction with the commanders of the four departments of the United States Army. W. W. Atterbury, vice-president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, sent a telegram to the White House saying this was the plan of the railroads.

The committee, organized here at a meeting of the American Railway Association's executive committee, will act under the guidance of President Wilson's National Council for Defense, Daniel Willard, president of the Baltimore and Ohio, is a citizen member of the council, in charge of the transportation and communication, and will act in an advisory capacity both for the new committee and for the council in the railroads' preparedness measure.

GERARD PARTY IN PARIS.

Paris.—James W. Gerard, former American Ambassador at Berlin; Mrs. Gerard and their party, 42 persons in all, arrived in Paris from Bernese, Switzerland. They were met at the station by the American Ambassador, William G. Sharp, and the embassy staff.

William Martin, the introducer of ambassadors and ministers at the Foreign Office, who is charged with all questions relating to ceremony, was at the station to receive Mr. Gerard on behalf of Premier Briand and the French Government.

Sees Ambassador Sharp.

A battalion of French photographers took snapshots of Mr. and Mrs. Gerard as they alighted from the train. The journey from Bernese was without incident. The French Government placed two cars at the disposition of the party, attaching them to a regular train. Mr. and Mrs. Gerard are stopping at a hotel.

"BITTER PILL FOR GERMANY."

New British War Loan Declared a Great Success.

London.—The Weekly Nation says it bears that the war loan is a great success, and that sums have been mentioned suggesting that the collection of new money is approaching £1,000,000,000. Arthur Neville Chamberlain, director-general of national service, speaking at Bristol said that he ventured to predict that the result of the war loan would be a bitter pill for Germany to swallow.

WILSON WORKING ON EMERGENCY PLAN

President Expected to Go Before Congress Next Week.

SHIP TIE-UP INTOLERABLE

Administration Officials Assert Present Conditions Cannot Be Permitted to Continue—Making Country Ready.

Washington.—The American Government continues its waiting policy toward Germany's ruthless submarine warfare, and although it is taken for granted in all quarters that President Wilson will go before Congress on the situation before adjournment on March 4, the statement was authorized that so far he had made no definite plans to that end.

The visit of the President to the Capitol to discuss with Senators the advisability of appearing before a joint session to ask authority for protecting American sailors and ships from submarines has given rise to much speculation as to when the step will be taken. No one professes to know, however, and the official answer to all queries is, "the President will decide."

The confident belief everywhere that there will be action not later than next week, if nothing happens to precipitate it before, is based upon the knowledge that the President wishes to avoid calling an extra session of Congress if possible, and upon the reiterated declarations of members of the Administration that the present conditions under which most of the American ships in overseas trade have been frightened into canceling sailing dates cannot be permitted to continue.

The small number of vessels sunk by submarines within the past few days is attracting no little attention. Officials always point out, however, that this does not alter the fact that, through fear of the consequences, American ships and many of those of other nationalities are remaining in port. The opening of Halifax as a port of examination, allowing some vessels to avoid the danger zone area by not going to Kirkwall, is expected to somewhat lessen the effects of the virtual blockade of Eastern American ports.

Every means at the disposal of the Government continues to be used to prepare for any eventuality, and the Administration believes no time has been wasted. If a decision to arm American merchantmen should be reached, it is understood that it could be done very quickly.

GERMANS IN LAW CASE.

Affidavits From Crew Give This Belief Of Nationality.

Washington.—Ambassador Page, at Rome, has obtained affidavits from the officers and crew of the American schooner Lyman M. Law, recently sunk by a submarine in the Mediterranean.

A brief summary of the affidavits, submitted to the State Department, said the survivors were of the opinion that the submarine was of German nationality. Previous dispatches had said it was an Austrian vessel without flag.

Before the Law was sunk, the dispatch said, about \$1,400 worth of stores were taken off the Law by the submarine's crew.

PEACE LEAGUE WITH WILSON.

Committee Declines To Join Convention in Washington.

New York.—Support of the Government in "the adoption of vigorous and adequate measures to protect our citizens and defend their rights on land and sea and to provide for the defense of the country" was pledged to President Wilson by the national executive committee of the League to Enforce Peace.

The executive committee by unanimous vote declined an invitation to send representatives to the forthcoming convention of peace societies at Washington.

WOULD DIVIDE WEST VIRGINIA.

Move Made To Form New State From Northern Panhandle.

Charleston, W. Va.—A resolution was introduced in the West Virginia House of Delegates to create a new State from the counties of Ohio, Brooke, Hancock and Marshall with a view of thereby providing sufficient revenue to pay the Virginia debt judgment. The four counties have an area of 559 square miles. The resolution provides that the four counties, known as the Panhandle counties, pay the \$12,000,000 debt judgment by a bond issue in consideration for separate statehood.

SAYS HE'S GERMAN SPY.

Belgian Arrested Tells Police He Investigated Factories.

York, Pa.—Adolphus Wruclilla, who says he is a native of Belgium and a German spy, has been arrested by the York police and is being held pending an investigation. Wruclilla says he is one of six spies sent to York to ascertain to what extent manufacturers of this city are assisting the Entente Allies.

MILLIONS FOR DEFENSE.

Weeks Introduces Bond Issue Bill For \$760,000,000.

Washington.—Senator Weeks, Republican, of Massachusetts, introduced as a substitute for the Administration Revenue bill a measure to provide for issuance of Government 3 1/2 per cent. interest-bearing bonds up to \$760,000,000, of which \$460,000,000 would be utilized for expenditures of national defense.

VOTE TO SAVE DAYLIGHT.

French Deputies Advance Legal Time An Hour in Summer.

Paris.—The Chamber of Deputies adopted a bill permanently advancing the legal time one hour during the summer. The setting forward of the clocks is to begin the first Sunday in April, and this time will be in force until the first Sunday in October.

KEYSTONE STATE IN SHORT ORDER

Latest Doings in Various Parts of the State.

PREPARED FOR QUICK READING

George Baker, of Irwin, in a fit of despondency, ended his life by the use of chloroform.

A report circulated that the county bridge across the Aquashicola Creek, at Lehigh Gap, is unsafe, is being vigorously denied by the County Commissioners.

Practically every icehouse throughout the Quakake Valley has been filled, the general average of the blocks measuring from eight to fourteen inches in thickness. The ice crop never was better than this winter.

Aaron Benfield, of Landis' Store, an aged farmer, while pruning trees was struck by a heavy limb, resulting in concussion of the brain. He has been unconscious most of the time since the accident.

Homer Black, secretary of the Harrisburg Young Men's Christian Association, announced that he will not again be a candidate for re-election. Black has been under fire for several months.

The Monroe County Automobile Association will father the proposed consolidation of Stroudsburg, and East Stroudsburg, by presenting a tentative plan of procedure at the next meeting.

The high cost of living threatens to throw the Sunbury poor district into bankruptcy. Banks have refused to honor the district's paper, and Milton P. Kreider and W. N. Neagley, poor overseers, are without funds with which to pay current bills and to provide for future expense until tax money is available next summer.

One of the most destructive fires in the history of Girardville was conquered by the combined efforts of Girardville, Mahanoy City, Ashland, Mt. Carmel and Shenandoah fire companies, a square in the heart of the business section was wrecked. The firemen were badly handicapped by frozen fire plugs and a poor water pressure.

A tract of one hundred acres surrounding the site from which Washington crossed the Delaware River prior to the Battle of Trenton will be taken over and made into a public park or memorial if a bill introduced in the House by Representative Pickering, of Bucks county, is passed by the Legislature. A similar bill was introduced in the Upper Chamber by Senator Buckman.

At a meeting of the Berks County Historical Society, it was announced that the city will donate a site for the location of the proposed monument to the late General D. McM. Gregg, of Reading, Gettysburg hero, for which a bill appropriating \$25,000 is now pending in the Legislature. Former Mayor Ira W. Stratton is chairman of the local committee that is planning the matter.

Two men met violent death at Sunbury falling but five feet off a ladder while at work at the Susquehanna Silk Mills. Martin I. Zimmerman, fifty-seven years old, a carpenter, suffered a fractured skull and died in a short time. George R. Schlee, thirty-three years, stepped off a freight train in front of an express and was picked up dead. He was a Pennsylvania Railroad brakeman.

Rev. Emil Nagy, a Hungarian Reformed clergyman, of South Bethlehem, in a fall on an icy pavement, suffered a fractured right leg. Ernest Hutchins, head of the British War Commission at the Bethlehem Steel Works, slipped on a piece of ice and fractured his right wrist. Michael Beltz, in a fall down a flight of steps at his home in South Bethlehem, suffered a fractured shoulder blade and left forearm.

Samuel B. Shriver, of North Woodbury Township, petitioned the Blair County Court to mark satisfied a mortgage against his property entered March 27, 1855, when it was owned by William F. Bridenthal, who sold it to Shriver's father in 1863. The mortgage is for \$1,965, of which \$982 was paid in 1867, since which time neither principal nor interest have been paid, the whereabouts of the holders of the mortgage, Harrison, Andrew and Thomas Typher being unknown.

L. F. Donnelly, of Lansford, has solved the paper question with a chemical process, by which he cannot only cleanse every speck of ink and dirt, from an ordinary newspaper, but can, through the same process, make the paper more elastic, whiter, and in every respect a better material, so that the rotten substitute which the paper trust is now pushing on the market becomes the real thing after a chemical application of the new formula. The process is inexpensive and requires very little time or labor.

The C. M. Dodson Coal Company, of Weatherly, has imported another score of laborers, secured in some of the larger cities and towns throughout the country. The scarcity of labor hampers coal operations to a very large extent.

Officials of the Freeland Water Company have been notified by the State military authorities to guard their pumps, stations and machinery, and permit none but employes to enter their stations or approach their reservoirs.

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Enemies of Washington and Franklin almost succeeded in wrecking the struggling cause.

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Benjamin Franklin ☆ ☆ George Washington ☆

"It gives one great pain to be certainly informed that there are some in the Senate who dislike our General. I have long suspected it, nay, I something more than suspect it, but had my hopes that his continued Labours and the situation he has ever been in, of always being inferior to the Enemy in numbers, and his men in want of every necessary, circumstances well known in Congress, would in the end have made every man his friend, and have satisfied them that more than he has done would not have been done by any man, and that we have no one that could in any degree have equal'd him; I am as confident of this as I am of my existence that the favorite of the day [Charles Lee?] is as far inferior to him, as he is inferior to any officer in the army, and this truth America will experience to her cost, if ever he should be placed at the head of her armies. Certain I am of one thing, that if this measure takes place a great part of the strength of this Country will be immediately taken off.

"The General is fully inform'd of all these Cabals, they prey on his Constitution, sink his Spirits, and will in the end I fear prove fatal to him. If this should be the case excuse me for once more repeating it, America will lose perhaps her only prop. He well knows had consequences would follow his resignation, or he would not leave it in the power of the wicked and designing, thus to insult him. With a few words more I shall finish this painful Subject, Be Ware of Your Board of War.

"I am truly sorry for the conduct of your brother, and the disagreeable Scrape he has bro't you into, tho' it certainly can not operate to your disadvantage with thinking men.

"If you should be under the disagreeable necessity of removing your family this way, and you think I can in any Manner be Serviceable to them, I beg you will command me without reserve; and I think on this occasion you should not depend too much on what you expect Providence will do for us. Such Enthusiasm is very commendable in the Statesman, but may be carried too far in the Husband and Father.

"Let me earnestly recommend the immediate removal of your Family for it is my opinion Gen. Howe will open the Campaign by the first of April well knowing that our recruits can't join the army till May, in which case our Worthy General will once more be induced to the mortifying necessity of retreating."

There are several letters by William Hooper, one of the North Carolina delegation, in which one gets the idea that, more than even moderns do, the country then believed its fate depended upon the efforts of Washington as commander in chief, and that to change horses or to divide responsibility with another commander would be fatal to the American cause.

Three letters from Franklin, two of them written while the philosopher was in France, give a very comprehensive view of the difficulties he encountered through the jealousy of his companions. The first letter is dated at Paris, December 21, 1777, and shows that harmony was lacking among the American ministers sent there by congress.

"I remember that long before I was ordered here," he wrote, "you did me the Honour to say, you should not dislike being sent to France with me. Since being here, I have frequently wish'd that Appointment had taken place. I think I should have pass'd my time more comfortably. We are now five of us in this City, all honest and Capable Men (if I may include myself in that Description) and all mean-

ing well for the Public, but our Teachers do not suit, and we are got Disputes and Contentions that are to our Credit, and which I have sometimes fear'd would go to Extreme.

"You know the natural Disposition of some of us, how jealous, how suspicious, how suspicious even of Friends, and how positive, after Preferring a while, that the Suspect are certain Truths, Confirming strong as Proofs from Holy Writ. I will, therefore, I am persuaded, if I complaints of one another should come your hands, make due Allowance such Tempers, and suffer no Man be condemn'd unheard, I do not thus on my own Account, as I am apprehensive of your receiving Complaints of me; for tho' it is a cut to live in peace with such Characters, how much soever one esteems them for the Virtue and Abilities otherwise possess'd, I have, however am not sure it can last, I wish sincerely that we were separated; our being together seems of no use, as we hinted formerly in a Letter, is attended with many Inconveniences being forly experienced by other States, I propose the Bension, that no Power Europe, for a Century past, has more than one Person to one Country. Possibly this desirable Event may take place, for if France & Spain knowledge of us as independent States, the other Courts will follow, and receive our Envoys.

"I have the Pleasure to assure that all Europe is of our side of the King of England and his Plans and Pensioners, Contractors and pectors. There is, however, a ferment in his Parliament about Measures, and if you could be fast enough to treat Howe as you done Burgoyne, he would be in the old House falling on his head.

In the next letter, which is from Passy, June 3, 1780, Franklin presses himself upon the subject of free ships and free goods. What had to say was illuminating the present European struggle and its effect upon neutral commerce of world.

"We are impatient to hear of America, no Accounts of the Operations before Charleston later than the 9th of March having yet come hand. Everything here in Europe continues to wear a good Face. In Sweden, Denmark and Holland, raising a strong Naval Force, to establish the free Navigation for their Ships, and of all their Orders belonging to Enemies, except that; that is, military Stores.

"France and Spain have approved of it, and it is likely to become forth the Law of Nations, that Ships make free Goods. England does not like this Confederacy. They would extend it still further, to ordain that unarm'd Trading Ships, as well as Fishermen, and Pirates should be respected, as working the common Benefit of Mankind, never be interrupted in their Operations even by national Enemies, let those only fight with one whose Trade it is, and who are paid for the purpose."

The last Franklin item consists contemporary copy of a letter in which Franklin acquainting him that congress had passed a resolution expressing the sense of that body that not exerting himself with the Government of France in a manner to America. On this Franklin allude to Morris, saying, "I need you that Messrs. Lee, &c., are the foremost to make these resolutions."

MUCH IN LITTLE

Last year was a banner year for the production of coal in Alabama.

Los Angeles city is rich, holding in the treasury, money, bonds and securities of a total value of \$20,514,155.

Only about 30 per cent of the natives of Spain were able to read and write.

An automobile coal wagon has been invented with four separate compartments, so well balanced that they can be dumped by hand.

Brazil has the largest known deposit of 70 per cent iron ore, practically free from phosphorus, in the world.

The manufacture of oil from birch bark is becoming an important industry of the southern states.

More than 1,500,000 electric storage batteries are used in automobiles in the United States.

In the front of a large London building there was recently found a pigeon's nest made of hairpins.

Dutch people are hoarding silver and about \$15,000,000 worth of the metal has disappeared from circulation.

Along the Cornwall coast many miners earn a living by washing tin out of the sands, the sea shattering the metal-bearing rocks.

An increase in parasitical diseases among poultry and game birds in England is attributed to the distribution of dust through the air by automobiles.

The population of Manila increased from 234,409 in 1912 to 296,943 at the beginning of 1914. Male inhabitants were more numerous than female by about 32,000.

Latest in Baby Carriages. The up-to-the-minute baby carriage has its electric gong and batteries, operated by a conveniently located push button, preferably on the handle, to clear the pathway of the carriage.

Not Surprising. Barber (entertaining his customer as usual)—Your hair is getting very gray, sir. Customer—I'm not surprised. Hurry up.

Human nature is strangely old and adaptable. We can grow tomed even to war.

"Yes," replied Miss O. thoughtfully. "But those who farthest away from it are likely to come accustomed to it most easily."

Stubborn Facts. "So our old friend George died, eh? Well, I hope he's happy."

"You may hope all you like, but fact remains that he is married."