

KEYSTONE PARAGRAPHS

Mrs. Elizabeth Riley, aged eighty-five, wife of John Riley, was burned to death at Oil City when her clothing ignited at a gas stove in her bedroom.

The general assembly of Pennsylvania has organized for one month. Aside from the election of presiding officers, the appointment of standing committees and the distribution of patronage, nothing has been accomplished.

The United States government has taken precautionary measures against plots and plotters in the Pittsburgh district in the event of hostilities involving this country.

Two young men, with coat collars turned up, hats pulled down well over their faces and wearing white handkerchiefs as masks, entered the grocery of William B. Double in Pittsburgh, and at the point of a revolver, ordered Double, who was alone in the store, to unlock the cash register.

Louis Querard, secretary of the Pennsylvania State Police, is being held in the city and county jail at Meadville on charges of carrying a concealed weapon and being a member of a criminal gang.

The Pennsylvania State Police, who will assume active management of the new state police, are being trained at the State Police Academy at Harrisburg.

Guy D. Campbell, Democrat, was declared the winner of the seat in congress from the Thirty-second Pennsylvania district, the supreme court affirming the decision of the lower court, which had given Mr. Campbell the seat in contest over Andrew J. Barchfeld, Republican.

The first indication of a falling off in war business came at Sharon with the rescinding of an order for the building of additional open hearth furnaces at the Sharon works of the American Steel Foundries company.

Essington, near Philadelphia, has been selected as the site for a new plant of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing company at a cost of \$5,000,000. Further expansion of the Westinghouse plant at East Pittsburgh is impossible because of the limited area of ground.

Francisco Magnone, Joseph Guessepi and John Magnone, Italians, were placed in the county jail at Greensburg by state troopers. They are alleged to have been implicated in a plot to obtain money from a New Kensington merchant through threatening letters.

Fresh eggs will retail from 70 to 75 cents a dozen in Pittsburgh before the end of the present week, according to predictions made by wholesale dealers and commission agents. These quotations will establish a high record here, probably extending back to Civil war times.

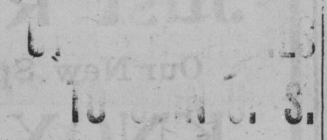
An important coal deal has been closed at Waynesburg in which the Pittsburgh Steel company of Pittsburgh purchased a tract of 688 acres in Cumberland township known as the Tuit Work block. Five hundred thousand dollars are said to have been involved.

Smallpox has broken out among the negroes brought to Johnstown by the industries. Two patients are now in the municipal hospital, fourteen are under quarantine in the heart of the city and 100 are quarantined just outside the city.

Six persons, a mother, father and four children, were burned to death when fire swept the home of Max Pomerantz in Philadelphia. The dead are Max Pomerantz, aged forty-seven; his wife and children.

Samuel W. Lynn, aged sixty-five, of Smithton, was struck and killed by the Maryland flyer on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad at Smithton.

ONE OF PRESIDENT'S CLOSEST COUNSELLORS



President Sends Notes Asking Them to Break With Kaiser

CONGRESS READY FOR WAR

Senator Simmons Holds Sunday Conference With President and \$500,000,000 Bond Issue Is in Prospect. Buildings in Washington Placed Under Guard.

President Wilson has sent notes to all other neutral governments urging them to join with the United States in its action on the German announcement of unrestricted submarine warfare.

All agencies of the government turned today to the problems of defense against possible hostilities, while officials and leaders of many classes and interests in this country expressed earnest hope that war would not grow out of the break of diplomatic relations.

Senator Simmons, chairman of the senate finance committee, was summoned to the White House on Sunday and conferred with President Wilson on means of raising sufficient revenue in case of hostilities with Germany.

Senator Simmons assured the president that congress would move promptly whenever money is needed, and that there would be no opposition to any reasonable request from the government. While the specific sum was mentioned at the conference, Senator Simmons declared that at the outbreak of the Spanish-American war a bond issue of \$500,000,000 was authorized, and a similar appropriation was made, its expenditure being placed in the hands of President McKinley.

The president did not expect the senate to take any immediate steps, and to do so would require the raising of additional revenue.

It was pointed out that under a special revenue bill that has passed the house of representatives, the secretary of the navy would be increased from \$100,000 to \$200,000.

Many of the questions concerning war work have been referred to the secretary of the navy, who will assume active management of the new state police.

President Wilson, at conference with Secretary Baker of the war department and Secretary Daniels of the navy, discussed emergency legislation.

KAISER'S DECISION FINAL

U-Boat Course Irrevocable, Foreign Secretary Declares. Foreign Secretary Zimmermann, speaking for the imperial government in Berlin, declared that "there is to be no backward step" by Germany in the submarine situation.

President Wilson's decision is astonishing. The entente's refusal of our peace overtures left us no other course than to adopt unlimited submarine warfare in our fight for existence.

Ambassador Gerard, in compliance with instructions from Washington, called upon Dr. Alfred Zimmermann, the German foreign minister, to ask for his passports. His plans for departure are not yet decided.

Despite the fact that every German declares the imperial government certainly will not modify, curtail or withdraw its submarine policy, nevertheless there were a number of Americans here who continued to believe that war will not follow America's break.

Many of these expect to stay in Germany, relying on the Prussian treaty to permit them to arrange their own business affairs. Many plan to go to Denmark and Norway, expecting to leave there for America when ships are available.

WILSON BREAKS OFF RELATIONS WITH GERMANY



Passports For Von Bernstorff; Gerard Cabled Home

HOPES WILL GO NO FURTHER

Wilson Appears Before Congress, Where He Tells of His Decision to Sever Diplomatic Negotiations With Germany Because of Kaiser's Determination to Sink Neutral Vessels.

President Wilson on Saturday went before a joint session of the senate and house and explained that because of Germany's determination to conduct a campaign of submarine warfare, passports had been handed to Count von Bernstorff and that Ambassador Gerard with all his staff and all American consuls have been ordered out of Germany.

Briefly the president reviewed how last April the United States warned Germany, after the destruction of the Lusitania, that unless the imperial government declared and effected an abandonment of that sort of submarine warfare the United States would have no choice but to sever diplomatic relations altogether.

On the thirty-first of January, the Wednesday of the present week, the German ambassador handed to the secretary of state, along with a formal note, a memorandum which contains the following statement:

"The imperial government, therefore, does not doubt that the government of the United States will understand the situation that has arisen upon Germany by the entire allied naval blockade of war by their determination to deprive the central powers, and the government of the United States will further realize that the now openly disclosed intentions of the entente allies give back to Germany freedom of action which she preserved in her note addressed to the government of the United States on May 4, 1916."

"Under these circumstances Germany will meet the illegal measures of her enemies by forcibly preventing after Feb. 1, 1917, in a zone around Great Britain, France, Italy and in the eastern Mediterranean all navigation, that of neutrals included, from and to France, etc. All ships met within the zone will be sunk."

"I think that you will agree with me that in view of this declaration, which suddenly and without prior intimation of the kind deliberately withdraws the solemn assurance given in the imperial government's note of the 4th of May, 1916, this government has no alternative consistent with the dignity and honor of the United States but to take the course which, in its note of the 18th of April, 1916, it announced that it would take in the event that the German government did not declare and effect an abandonment of the methods of submarine warfare which it was then employing and to which it now purposes again to resort."

"I have, therefore, directed the secretary of state to announce to his excellency, the German ambassador, that all diplomatic relations between the United States and the German empire are severed and that the American ambassador at Berlin will immediately be withdrawn; and, in accordance with this decision, to hand to his excellency his passports."

"Notwithstanding this unexpected action of the German government, this sudden and deeply deplorable renunciation of its assurances, given this government at one of the most critical moments of tension in the relations of the two governments, I refuse to believe that it is the intention of the German authorities to do in fact what they have warned us they will feel at liberty to do."

"I cannot bring myself to believe that they will indeed pay no regard to the ancient friendship between their people and our own, or to the solemn obligations which have been exchanged between them, and destroy American ships and take the lives of American citizens in the wilful prosecution of the ruthless naval program they have announced their intention to adopt."

"Only actual overt acts on their part make me believe it even now. If this inveterate confidence on my part in the sobriety and prudent foresight of their purpose should unfortunately prove unfounded; if American and American lives should in fact be sacrificed by their naval commanders in heedless contravention of the just and reasonable understandings of international law and the obvious dictates of humanity I shall be obliged to you to advise me."

Crews Are Confined. Upon instructions from Washington, W. H. Berry, collector of the port of Philadelphia has ordered the officers and crews of the German liners Prinz Oskar and Rhaetia and the Austrian merchantman Franconia confined to their vessels. The guard about the ships was materially increased after the order became effective. The three crews aggregate about 500 men.

The Philadelphia navy yard virtually was on a war footing today, while extraordinary precautionary measures were taken to guard the port's shipping, munition plants and the arsenals. The usual guard was on duty at the mint.

Boilers Tamped With. The crews of five German steamers and one Austrian at Boston were ordered confined to their vessels. About 400 men are affected.

United States Marshal John J. Mitchell ordered a thorough examination of the North German-Lloyd liner Kronprinzessin Cecilie, whose machinery was found to have been slightly damaged after the vessel's seizure last night in a civil proceeding.

NEW YORK PREPARES FOR ANY EMERGENCY



Force of Naval Militia Placed on Alert at Bridges

As soon as the course of the United States toward Germany was decided last week preparations were made in New York to cope with any emergency.

A battalion of naval militia took charge of the Williamsburg bridge, relieving the police. Similar guards were placed on Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queensboro and Hell Gate bridges, all connecting with Brooklyn, across the East river. One hundred men were assigned to each bridge, divided into three reliefs.

The orders were "to observe carefully and search, if needed, suspicious vehicles or suspicious foot passengers" and to notify all persons crossing the bridges on foot or in conveyances that they would not be allowed to halt on the bridges.

Between the bridge piers on both sides of the river one and three-pound cannons were posted, accompanied by machine guns.

Five steamers, one flying the American flag, sailed from New York Friday for ports in or near the war zone. They are the Doehra, American, for Genoa; Begonia, No. 4, Uruguay, for Cetta; Alandia, Norwegian, for Gibraltar; and Moundnock and Exeter City, British, for Havre and Bristol respectively, all carrying freight.

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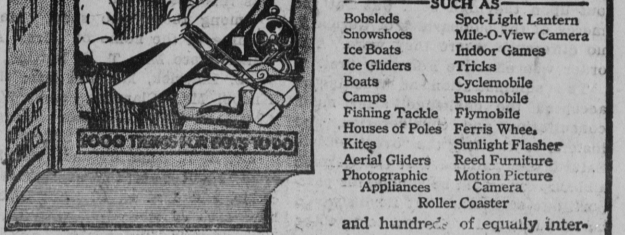
Crew Fires Ship. The crew of the interned German gunboat Geier set the vessel afire, according to the authorities in Honolulu. The gunboat was of 1,604 tons, and was interned shortly after the war began. She was built at Wilhelmshaven in 1894.

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AN ALibi FOR GILDER. His Joy When He Found It Was Not Who He Suspected.

A story was circulated at the time that when Robert Louis Stevenson first came to New York he was in the office of the secretary of state, and that he was there when the president was in the city.

"No," he said, "I think it was you." "Well," he said, "see here, now when was this?" "It was in July, but of what year?" "1870."

"I thought no man would so simply wanted to write for the magazine. He doesn't seem to remember the words of the conversation. For all that is known, he may have been asked to submit something, although he doesn't say so. Of course, any answer to such a vague and uninitiated application would have to be of the vaguest."

Later Mr. Gilder wrote to another friend: "Never mind! Mrs. Stevenson tells me that if I had seen Louis I would have turned him out. She says he looked the part, and every one did turn him out! Was it a dig or a compliment when she said likewise that I reminded her of him?"—Letters of Richard Watson Gilder.

Power of the President. In time of war the president of the United States is actually a dictator. There is nothing theoretical about his place or his powers. He is commander in chief of the army and navy. The members of his cabinet are responsible to him personally, not to congress. None of them may be removed without his consent except by impeachment. Moreover, he can suspend the writ of habeas corpus and perform all the other functions of a dictator except order grants of money. That is the only real check upon his powers, and it is a check that can be exercised only at the peril of the nation.—New York World.

The Sailors' Psalm. How many people—landsmen, at all events—are aware that one of the Psalms is often called the sailors' psalm?

It is, of course, Psalm cvii, where occur the beautiful and familiar words: "They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters, these see the works of the Lord and his wonders in the deep."

Quality is more to be desired than quantity," said the man of artistic inclinations. "Not always," replied the practical person. "A diamond is pure carbon but you can't get the action from it that you can from a ton of coal."

Made a Home Run. Willis—I played golf yesterday for the first time. Gills—How did you make out? Willis—Fine. Made a home run right at the start. I hit the first ball into the tall grass in left field and ran around the whole eighteen holes before they found it.—Puck.

Driving Screws into Plaster. When a man is in a plaster cast, it is often found that the screws which are used to hold the cast in place will often work loose.

The subject mentioned in the United States is the eighth, and the following day the ball was not held.

Martin's Deafly Sure. The best preparation for the future is the present well done to the last duty done.—George Macdonald.

The State Acquired a Negro Hero and Treated Him Generously. The state of Georgia was at one time the owner of a slave. Whether or not any other state ever owned a slave or slaves is not known, but certainly it is highly probable that no other state ever owned a slave and a railroad at the same time and worked them together, as was the case with the slave owned by Georgia.

Cold Calculation. "Quality is more to be desired than quantity," said the man of artistic inclinations. "Not always," replied the practical person. "A diamond is pure carbon but you can't get the action from it that you can from a ton of coal."

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