

MUST VISIT AND SEARCH BEFORE SINKING SHIPS

Germany Concedes Big Point to United States in New Naval Order.

KAISER'S NOTE CONCILIATORY

Answer to Wilson's Communication Says Every Consideration is Shown Neutral in Restraint of Submarine Warfare — Partiality is Charged to United States and Sale of Munitions is Cited as Evidence.

The German admiralty has issued a new order to commanders of submarines that no more merchant vessels are to be sunk without first being visited and searched and that the people on board are to be given a chance to save their lives.

Berlin, Germany (by wireless via Sayville, N. Y.), May 5.—Following is the text of the note of the German government in reply to the American note respecting submarine warfare, delivered yesterday by Gottlieb von Jagow, the foreign secretary, to Ambassador Gerard:

"The undersigned, on behalf of the imperial German government, has the honor to present to his excellency, the ambassador of the United States, Mr. James W. Gerard, the following reply to the note of April 20 regarding the conduct of German submarine warfare:

"The German government handed over to the proper naval authorities for early investigation the evidence concerning the Sussex as communicated by the government of the United States. Judging by the results that the investigation has hitherto yielded, the German government is alive to the possibility that the ship mentioned in the note of April 19 as having been torpedoed by a German submarine is actually identical with the Sussex.

Looking into the Sussex Case.

"The German government begs to reserve further communication on the matter until certain points are ascertained which are of decisive importance for establishing the facts in the case. Should it turn out that the commander was wrong in assuming the vessel to be a man-of-war, the German government will not fail to draw the consequence resulting therefrom.

"In connection with the case of the Sussex the government of the United States made a series of statements the gist of which is the assertion that the incident is to be considered but one instance of a deliberate method of indiscriminate destruction of vessels of all sorts, nationalities and destinations by German submarine commanders.

Repudiate Charge by U. S.

"The German government must emphatically repudiate the assertion. The German government, however, thinks it of little avail to enter into details in the present stage of affairs, more particularly as the government of the United States omitted to substantiate the assertion by reference to concrete facts.

"The German government will only state that it has imposed far-reaching restraints upon the use of the submarine weapon, solely in consideration of neutral interests, in spite of the fact that these restrictions are necessarily of advantage to Germany's enemies. No such consideration has ever been shown neutrals by Great Britain and her allies.

Orders International Law Obeyed.

"The German submarine forces have had, in fact, orders to conduct the submarine warfare in accordance with the general principles of visit and search and the destruction of merchant vessels recognized by international law, the sole exception being the conduct of warfare against enemy trade carried on enemy freight ships encountered in the war zone surrounding Great Britain. With regard to these no assurances have ever been given to the government of the United States. No such assurances are contained in the declaration of February 8, 1916.

"The German government cannot admit any doubt that these orders were given or are executed in good faith. Errors actually occurred. They can in no kind of warfare be avoided altogether. Allowances must be made in the conduct of naval warfare against an enemy resorting to all kinds of ruses, whether permissible or illicit.

Danger Can't Be Avoided.

"But apart from the possibility of errors, naval warfare, just like warfare on land, implies unavoidable dangers for neutral persons and goods entering the fighting zone. Even in cases where the naval action is confined to ordinary forms of cruiser warfare, neutral persons and goods repeatedly come to grief.

"The German government has repeatedly and explicitly pointed out the dangers from mines that have led to the loss of numerous ships.

Proposals Are Not Accepted.

"The German government has made several proposals to the government

of the United States in order to reduce to a minimum for American travelers and goods the inherent dangers of naval warfare. Unfortunately the government of the United States decided not to accept the proposals. Had it accepted, the government of the United States would have been instrumental in preventing the greater part of the accidents that Americans have met with in the meantime. The German government still stands by its offer to come to an agreement along these lines.

Can't Dispense With Submarine.

"As the German government repeatedly declared, it cannot dispense with the use of warfare against enemy trade. The German government, however, has now decided to make a further concession, adapting methods of submarine war to the interests of neutrals.

"In reaching this decision the German government is actuated by considerations which are above the level of the disputed question.

"The German government attaches no less importance to the sacred principles of humanity than the government of the United States. It again fully takes into account that both governments for many years cooperated in developing international law in conformity with these principles, the ultimate object of which has always been to confine warfare on sea and land to armed forces of belligerents and safeguard as far as possible noncombatants against the horrors of war.

Repeats Britain Is to Blame.

"But although these considerations are of great weight, they alone would not under present circumstances have determined the attitude of the German government. For in answer to the appeal by the government of the United States on behalf of the sacred principles of humanity and international law, the German government must repeat once more, with all emphasis, that it was not the German but the British government which ignored all accepted rules of international law and extended this terrible war to the lives and property of noncombatants, having no regard whatever for the interests and rights of neutrals and noncombatants who through this method of warfare have been severely injured.

"In self-defense against the illegal conduct of British warfare, while fighting a bitter struggle for national existence, Germany had to resort to the hard but effective weapon of submarine warfare.

Discrimination Is Charged.

"As matters stand, the German government cannot but reiterate regret that the sentiments of humanity which the government of the United States extends with such fervor to the unhappy victims of submarine warfare are not extended with the same warmth of feeling to many millions of women and children who, according to the avowed intention of the British government, shall be starved, and who, by their sufferings, shall force the victorious armies of the central powers into ignominious capitulation. The German government, in agreement with the German people, fails to understand this discrimination, all the more as it has repeatedly and explicitly declared itself ready to use the submarine weapon in strict conformity with the rules of international law as recognized before the outbreak of the war if Great Britain likewise was ready to adapt her conduct of warfare to these rules.

Britain Did Not Heed America.

"Several attempts made by the government of the United States to prevail upon the British government to act accordingly failed because of flat refusal on the part of the British government. Moreover, Great Britain again and again has violated international law, surpassing all bounds in outraging neutral rights. The latest measure adopted by Great Britain declaring German bunker coal contraband and establishing conditions under which English bunker coal alone is supplied to neutrals is nothing but an unheard-of attempt by way of exaction to force neutral tonnage into the service of British trade.

Severely Chides United States.

"The German people know that the government of the United States has the power to confine the war to armed forces of the belligerent countries in the interest of humanity and maintenance of international law. The government of the United States would have been certain of attaining this end had it been determined to insist against Great Britain on the incontrovertible rights to freedom of the seas. But as matters stand the German people are under the impression that the government of the United States, while demanding that Germany, struggling for existence, shall restrain the use of an effective weapon, and while making compliance with these demands a condition for maintenance of relations with Germany, confines itself to protests against illegal methods adopted by Germany's enemies. Moreover, the German people know to what considerable extent its enemies are supplied with all kinds of war material from the United States.

Bellies Plea of Humanity.

"It will, therefore, be understood that the appeal made by the government of the United States to sentiments of humanity and principles of international law cannot under the circumstances meet the same hearty response from the German people which such an appeal otherwise is certain to find here. If the German government, nevertheless, is resolved to go to the utmost limit of concessions it has been guided not alone by the friendship feeling between the two great nations for over 100

Metals Free From Bacteria.

As it has been uncertain whether bacteria can exist on such metals as copper and silver, Natonek and Reimann of Czernowitz, have made an interesting test. Perfectly clean coins were placed on a plate of nutrient gelatine for several hours, and after their removal bacteria were sown over the plate. The spot where each coin had lain, with a narrow border around it, remained free from the growth that spread over the rest of the plate.

CONDENSATIONS

The tonnage of the Great Lakes fleet in 1914 amounted to 2,939,786. The average annual fire loss in the United States is about \$2 for each inhabitant.

Kentucky and Pennsylvania produce nearly all the canal coal mined in the United States.

A Frenchman has invented an effective silencer for aeroplane motors that is said to reduce the power only 2 per cent.

years, but also by the thought of the great doom which threatens the entire civilized world should the cruel and sanguinary war be extended and prolonged.

Germany Desirous of Peace.

"The German government, conscious of Germany's strength, twice within the last few months announced before the world its readiness to make peace on a basis safeguarding Germany's vital interests, thus indicating that it is not Germany's fault if peace is still withheld from the nations of Europe.

"The German government feels all the more justified in declaring that responsibility could not be borne before the forum of mankind and in history if, after 21 months of the war's duration, the submarine question under discussion between the German government and the government of the United States were to take a turn seriously threatening maintenance of peace between the two nations.

Anxious to Prevent Clash.

"As far as lies with the German government it wishes to prevent things from taking such a course. The German government, however, is prepared to do its utmost to confine operations of the war for the rest of its duration to the fighting forces of the belligerents, thereby also insuring freedom of the seas, a principle upon which the German government believes, now as before, that it is in agreement with the government of the United States.

To Warn Ships and Save Lives.

"The German government, guided by this idea, notifies the government of the United States that German naval forces have received the following order:

"In accordance with the general principles of visit and search and the destruction of merchant vessels recognized by international law, such vessels, both within and without the declared a naval war zone, shall not be sunk without warning and without saving human lives unless the ship attempts to escape or offer resistance.

"But neutrals cannot expect that Germany, forced to fight for existence, shall for the sake of neutral interests restrict the use of an effective weapon if the enemy is permitted to continue to apply at will methods of warfare violating rules of international law. Such a demand would be incompatible with the character of neutrality, and the German government is convinced that the government of the United States does not think of making a demand, knowing that the government of the United States repeatedly declares that it is determined to restore the principle of freedom of the seas, from whatever quarter it has been violated.

Asks for Demand on Britain.

"Accordingly the German government is confident that in consequence of the new orders issued to the naval forces the government of the United States will also now consider all impediments removed which may have been in the way of mutual cooperation toward restoration of the freedom of the seas during the war, as suggested in the note of July 23, 1915, and it does not doubt that the government of the United States will now demand and insist that the British government shall forthwith observe the rules of international law universally recognized before the war, as laid down in the notes presented by the government of the United States to the British government December 28, 1914, and November 5, 1915.

Should Steps Taken by the Government of the United States not Attain the Object It Desires, to Have the Laws of Humanity Followed by All Belligerent Nations, the German Government Would Then Be Facing a New Situation, in Which It Must Reserve to Itself Complete Liberty of Decision.

"The undersigned avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the American ambassador assurances of highest consideration."

VON JAGOW.

BRITISH PAPERS SEE BREAK.

London.—Interest with which Germany's reply to the United States was awaited here could hardly have been exceeded in America. All the leading newspapers printed the note prominently by sections in successive editions. The greatest curiosity was expressed as to the reception of the note by the United States.

"It can only mean a break between America and Germany," says the Daily News.

The Express characterizes the German reply as "insolent, cynical and disingenuous" and declares it is an ultimatum "because it means that unless the United States attempts to force the allies to raise the siege of Germany, Germany will continue to kill haphazard."

Four More Rebels Executed.

Dublin.—Four more rebel prisoners have been sentenced to death by court-martial and shot. This was announced officially.

Seek Union of Churches.

Saratoga Springs, N. Y.—Definite action intended to affect a union of the Methodist Episcopal churches in America was recommended in a report submitted to the general conference, which was held in this city recently, by Bishop Cranton.

Boxing Bout Ends Fatally.

Waterloo, Ia.—Erwart Hankner, aged 28, died of concussion of the brain two hours after boxing four rounds with Gordon Vaughan. It is said it was arranged to settle a dispute.

Shoots Husband and Child.

Boise, Idaho.—Reports have reached here that Mrs. C. T. Shoemaker of Glenn's Ferry, Idaho, while defending herself against her husband, shot and killed him and accidentally shot her daughter, 9 years old. The girl died. An investigation is being made.

German Ships Made Captive.

London.—A dispatch from Tenerife, Canary Islands, says that the German steamship Teide drifted seaward during a gale and was captured by a cruiser which towed her northward.

BREAK IS UNLIKELY

GERMAN REPLY REGARDED AS ACCEPTABLE BY U. S.

CANNOT QUESTION GOOD FAITH

Note Gives All That President Wilson Asks for Is View Taken by German Ambassador.

Washington.—Germany's note has positioned it actually has not averted a diplomatic break with the United States.

It was stated authoritatively shortly after the arrival of the communication by those close to the president, Germany's assurances undoubtedly would be accepted and before taking another step the United States would await the fulfillment of her latest promises.

In such case the United States might not reply to the note and would await evidence of the actual abandonment of Germany's present practices of submarine warfare which is declared.

President Wilson is described as being in a position where he cannot question the good faith of Germany's assurances, which must stand or fall by the future conduct of her submarine commanders.

The German embassy view is that the note gives all President Wilson asked for; that it signifies a return to "cruiser warfare"—the use of submarines as regular naval cruisers intercepting commerce with visit and search and that, inasmuch as it makes no mention of the armed ship question, that perplexing feature of the controversy is not involved.

Congress took the note quietly and, although members expressed a variety of views, the general sentiment seemed to be in favor of leaving the situation in the hands of the president.

On the surface there was no sign of activity in the group which has been working to prevent the president from pressing the situation to the point of a diplomatic rupture.

Cabinet members went over the text carefully with the president, and, while they uniformly refused to discuss it, they reflected the view that a break had been averted; that Germany's new assurances would be accorded by the test of time, notwithstanding the reference to the action Germany expects the United States to take against Great Britain's restraints on neutral trade.

They express this view with full realization of the differences of opinion on what constitutes a peaceful merchant ship entitled to the protection of international law and of the president's steadfast determination not to permit the interests of the United States with one of the belligerents to become entangled with those of another.

The United States only recently declaring its view of the rights of merchant ships on the high seas recognized and provided for the condition under which Germany charges British merchant ships by orders of the British admiralty actually are acting as naval war vessels in attacking submarines.

Germany in its note reserves "complete liberty of decision" should the United States fail to prevail upon Great Britain to bring its practices into conformity with international law. The official view is that the United States for some time has been and now is conducting diplomatic correspondence with Great Britain on that subject and the success or failure of the negotiations and Germany's consequent action must necessarily remain for the future.

British Papers See Break.

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NEBRASKA STATE NEWS

DATES FOR COMING EVENTS.

May 14—Proclaimed "Mothers' Day" in Nebraska.

May 16 to 18—State G. A. R. Encampment at Lexington.

May 15-18—State Dental Society annual convention at Lincoln.

May 23-24-25—State Harness and Saddle Makers' association meeting at Columbus.

May 23, 24, 25—Nebraska Medical Association convention at Omaha.

May 24-25—State Association of Commercial Clubs' Convention at Omaha.

June 5 and 6—Pageant of Lincoln, presenting "The Gate City."

June 5-6—Spanish War Veterans' State Convention at North Platte.

June 12 to 15—Trans-Mississippi Bakers' Ass'n convention at Omaha.

June 13-14-15—Annual convention of Nebraska Elks at Omaha.

June 13 to 16—State P. E. O. Convention at Alliance.

June 13-14-15—Great Western Handicap Tournament at Omaha.

June 19-20-21-22—American Union of Swedish Singers, West. Div., concerts and convention at Omaha.

June 20 to 24—State Stockmen's convention at Alliance.

June 21 to 23—Fraternal Order of Eagles, state meeting at Lincoln.

July 25—Nebraska Democratic convention at Hastings.

July 3-4-5—Mid-Summer Race Meet at Kearney.

July 10-11-12—Northwestern Hotel Men's Association Convention at Omaha.

The executive committee of the Nebraska Press association met at York recently, and fixed August 7 as the date for starting on their summer excursion through western Nebraska and the meeting place will be at Grand Island. A special train of sleepers will be provided and only members of the Nebraska Press association and members of their immediate families will be allowed to join the party.

The lid is now on tight at Beatrice, and in addition to being on the lookout for bootleggers the police are enforcing the ordinance which prohibits games of chance in pool halls, cigar stores and confectioneries. A campaign is also being waged against "speeding" and the mayor has warned motorists that all violators of the ordinance will be arrested.

Contractors on the Chalco-Yutan cut-off of the Burlington are pushing the grading of the fifteen miles that is to connect the main line out of Omaha with the Ashland-Sioux City branch. At the rate at which the work is progressing the grading will be completed during the early summer, instead of during the fall, as had been figured upon.

At a meeting of the Plattsmouth Commercial club steps were taken to inaugurate what shall be known as "home coming week," in which all former residents of Plattsmouth will be invited to come and spend the week in the city as its guests. Many novel features have been considered for the week.

At a spirited session of the Fairbury city council it was decided to reconsider the matter of granting licenses to the six pool and billiard halls in Fairbury and the proposition carried by a vote of 4 to 3. The license remains at \$25 and the halls opened after being closed for several days.

Building operations in Omaha for the first four months of this year were \$1,746,707, as against \$974,455 for the corresponding period of last year. The total for April was \$496,936; April last year, \$399,420.

The official canvass of the school land proposition voted on at Crete recently gave those in favor of the bond a majority of 97 votes, and as a result Crete will have a new \$40,000 school building.

The Elmwood Booster club has been reorganized and now goes by the name of the Elmwood Commercial club. The city council of Grand Island has voted to reduce the number of saloons from twenty-four to twenty.

The whole of Gage county now has but two saloons. Barneston and Pickering each have one.

The Thayer county commissioners have purchased a tractor to be used in working the county roads.

The price of horseshoeing has gone up in Omaha for the first time since the civil war. It now costs \$2.50 to have a horse shod with new shoes and \$1.40 with old shoes, in the metropolis. The advance in price is attributed to the increased cost of materials.

Grand Island was elected as the convention city for 1917 for the Nebraska State Travelers' Protective association, at its recent convention at Alliance. Two hundred delegates were in attendance, the largest of Rural school districts Nos. 15, 77 and 78 of Buffalo county have effected a consolidation for high school purposes. As a result a new high school building will probably be built at Riverdale.

Two hundred young men and women were injured, none seriously, which is very remarkable, when a specially constructed stand collapsed during a May day festival at Grand Island.

Work will commence in the near future on Falls City's new postoffice. The cost of the building will be about \$51,000.

For the first time in forty years North Platte has no saloons. The bar rooms all closed at 8 o'clock April 29th, as per the demand of the voters at the municipal election April 4.

By winning the joint debate with Cozad High school on the question of "Preparedness," Hastings High school has won the right to compete in the state interscholastic debate.

At a meeting of printers at Bridgeport recently the organization of the Bridgeport Typographical Union was completed. The union started off with thirteen members.

THE EUROPEAN WAR A YEAR AGO THIS WEEK

May 8, 1915.

French took German position near Lens and made big advance along Focht river.

British recaptured part of Hill 60.

Germans captured Libau, on the Baltic.

Germany declared sinking of Lusitania was justifiable because she was armed.

British destroyer Crusader sunk by mine and crew captured.

May 9, 1915.

British repulsed Germans east of Ypres and gained ground toward Fromelles.

French made notable advances farther south.

Austrians cleared Hungary of Russians.

Russians made progress toward Mitau.

Collector of Port Malone denied Lusitania was armed.

Russians sank eight Turkish transports.

May 10, 1915.

Allies made great attack toward Carncy and Souchez.

Germans gained near Nieuport and renewed bombardment of Dunkirk.

Russians beat Germans west of Mitau.

Germany blamed British "starvation blockade" for destruction of Lusitania.

Zeppelins dropped bombs on British seaside resorts.

Italy called all reserves back to class of 1916.

May 11, 1915.

French pushed strong offensive north of Arras.

Russians gained victory in Bukovina but were driven back in Poland.

French column captured Esoka in Kamerun.

Austrian troops crossed the San.

May 12, 1915.

Severe fighting on entire front in Flanders, allies taking offensive.

Teutons occupied four more towns in West Galicia.

Russians advanced in southeast Galicia, repulsing Austrians.

British battleship Goliath torpedoed in Dardanelles, 500 lost.

Italian steamer Astrea sunk by mine.

British submarines sank seven Turkish ships in Sea of Marmora.

Bryce commission reported on German atrocities in Belgium.

Botha occupied Windhoek, capital of German Southwest Africa.

May 13, 1915.

French captured Carancy and the Forest of Le Pretre.

Heavy fighting east of Tarnow.

Russians repulsed Germans in region of Shavil.

American note sent to Germany concerning sinking of Lusitania and attacks on Falaba, Cushing and Gulfport.

Great Britain ordered internment or deportation of resident alien enemies.

May 14, 1915.

French captured more German positions.

Germans repulsed British attacks near Ypres and advanced in direction of Hooge.

Russians broke Austrian line and drove them over the Pruth.

German advanced guards reached Przemysl.

Escaped members of Emden's crew arrived at Damascus.

TAKEN FROM EXCHANGES

The largest flower in the world grows in Sumatra. It measures about a yard across, and weighs, roughly, 15 pounds.

At the declaration of war the British army comprised 711,500 men, of whom, in regulars and reserves, 601,000 were in the British Isles.

Royalties on oil and mining developments, rents on state lands, leases and fees pour in so rapidly to the state of Wyoming that she may soon be in the position of not having to raise any taxes at all for support of the state government, a pitiful prospect.

There is a shortage of matches in France, due largely to the decrease in the output of home-manufactured goods. Owing to this, France has been forced to increase greatly its imports of matchwood, etc., especially from the United States, Sweden, Italy, Switzerland, Indo-China and Japan.

"Shocked into speech" was the word at a recent banquet of electrical engineers at San Francisco, the toastmaster having attached to the chairs of speakers a little device which caused them, when he pushed a button, to arise "promptly and with great enthusiasm."

Most Assuredly.

"This reformer says the cabarets should be closed."

"Would that improve the public morals?"