

PRESIDENT TELLS CONGRESS ABOUT HIS ULTIMATUM

Joint Session Hears of Action That May Result in Broken Relations.

GERMANY SHARPLY INDICTED

Mr. Wilson Sets Forth Progress of Kaiser's Submarine Warfare, His Futile Promises and the Final Exhaustion of America's Patience.

House of Representatives, the Capitol, Washington, April 29.—Sharply indicting Germany for its use of submarines against merchant vessels, President Wilson yesterday, before a joint session of congress, issued public notice to the world that unless that government changes its methods the United States will have no choice but to sever diplomatic relations.

"The history in the making," was witnessed by one of the largest gatherings that has ever been jammed into the historic chamber of the house of representatives. Every single inch of available space was occupied, while literally thousands were turned away.

There was no questioning the seriousness of the president's position. His voice, somewhat husky, penetrated every corner of the room, and the message was emphasized with an expression that showed its author was fearful of the outcome. That seriousness was shared by the audience, the usual applause given the president's utterance being absent.

The message in every sense was an ultimatum. True, it contained no time limit within which reply must be made. But it flatly insisted that the German submarine warfare has reached the stage when this government will no longer tolerate it.

The German explanations, previously made, have been accepted in good faith, the president said, in the hope that that government would finally be able to so order and control the acts of its naval commanders as to square its policy with the position of humanity as embodied in the "law of nations."

The United States had been willing to wait the president said, "until the significance of the facts became absolutely unmistakable and susceptible of but one interpretation." That point, he said, has "now unhappily been reached."

Text of President's Address. Following is the complete text of the president's address:

"Gentlemen of the Congress: A situation has arisen in the foreign relations of the country of which it is my plain duty to inform you very frankly.

"It will be recalled that in February, 1915, the imperial German government announced its intention to treat the waters surrounding Great Britain and Ireland as embraced within the zone of war and to destroy all merchant ships owned by its enemies that might be found within any part of that portion of the high seas, and that it warned all vessels, of neutral as well as of belligerent ownership, to keep out of the waters it had thus proscribed, or else enter them at their peril. The government of the United States earnestly protested. It took the position that such a policy could not be pursued without the practical certainty of gross and palpable violations of the law of nations, particularly if submarine craft were to be employed as its instruments, inasmuch as the rules proscribed by that law, rules founded upon principles of humanity and established for the protection of the lives of noncombatants at sea could not in the nature of the case be observed by such vessels. It based its protest on the ground that persons of neutral nationality and vessels of neutral ownership would be exposed to extreme and intolerable risks, and that no right to close any part of the high seas against their use or to expose them to such risks could lawfully be asserted by any belligerent government. The law of nations in these matters, upon which the government of the United States based its protest is not of recent origin or founded upon merely arbitrary principles set up by convention. It is based on the contrary, upon manifest and imperative principles of humanity and has long been established with the approval and by the express assent of all civilized nations.

Protest Was Disregarded. "Notwithstanding the earnest protest of our government, the imperial German government at once proceeded to carry out the policy it has announced. It expressed the hope that the dangers involved, at any rate the dangers to neutral vessels, would be reduced to a minimum by the instruc-

tions which it had issued to its submarine commanders, and assured the government of the United States that it would take every possible precaution, both to respect the rights of neutrals and to safeguard the lives of noncombatants.

"What has actually happened in the year which has since elapsed has shown that those hopes were not justified, those assurances insusceptible of being fulfilled. In pursuance of the policy of submarine warfare against the commerce of its adversaries, thus announced and entered upon by the imperial German government in despite of the solemn protest of this government, the commanders of German undersea vessels have attacked merchant ships with greater and greater activity, not only upon the high seas surrounding Great Britain and Ireland, but wherever they encounter them, in a way that has grown more and more ruthless, more and more indiscriminate as the months have gone by, less and less observant of restraints of any kind; and have delivered their attacks without compunction against vessels of every nationality and bound upon every sort of errand. Vessels of neutral ownership even vessels of neutral ownership bound from neutral port to neutral port, have been destroyed along with vessels of belligerent ownership, in constantly increasing numbers. Sometimes the merchantman attacked has been warned and summoned to surrender before being fired on or torpedoed; sometimes passengers or crews have been vouchsafed the poor security of being allowed to take to the ship's boats before she was sent to the bottom. But again and again no warning has been given, no escape even to the ship's boats allowed to those on board. What this government foresaw must happen has happened. Tragedy has followed tragedy on the seas in such fashion, with such attendant circumstances, as to make it grossly evident that warfare of such a sort, if warfare it be, cannot be carried on without the most palpable violation of the dictates alike of right and of humanity. Whatever the disposition and intention of the imperial German government, it has manifestly proved impossible for it to keep such methods of attack upon the commerce of its enemies within bounds set by either the reason or the heart of mankind.

As to Armed Merchantmen.

"In February of the present year the imperial German government informed this government and the other neutral governments of the world that it had reason to believe that the government of Great Britain had armed all merchant vessels of British ownership and had given them secret orders to attack any submarine of the enemy they might encounter upon the seas, and that the imperial German government felt justified in the circumstances in treating all armed merchantmen of belligerent ownership as auxiliary vessels of war, which it would have the right to destroy without warning.

"The law of nations has long recognized the right of merchantmen to carry arms for protection and to use them to repel attack, though to use them, in such circumstances, at their own risks; but the imperial German government claimed the right to set these understandings aside in circumstances which it deemed extraordinary. Even the terms in which it announced its purpose thus still further to relax the restraints it had previously professed its willingness and desire to put upon the operations of its submarines carried the plain implication that at least vessels which were not armed would still be exempt from destruction without warning and that personal safety would be accorded their passengers and crews; but even that limitation, if it was ever practicable to observe it, has in fact constituted no check at all upon the destruction of ships of every sort.

"Again and again the imperial German government has given this government its solemn assurances that at least passenger ships would not be thus dealt with, and yet it has again and again permitted its undersea commanders to disregard these assurances with entire impunity. Great liners like the Lusitania and the Arabic and mere ferry boats like the Sussex have been attacked without a moment's warning, sometimes before they had even become aware that they were in the presence of an armed vessel of the enemy, and the lives of noncombatants, passengers and crew, have been sacrificed wholesale, in a manner which the government of the United States cannot regard as wanton and without the slightest color of justification. No limit of any kind has in fact been set to the indiscriminate pursuit and destruction of merchantmen of all kinds and nationalities within the waters, constantly extending in area, where these operations have been carried on, and the roll of Americans who have lost their lives on ships thus attacked and destroyed has grown month by month until the ominous toll has mounted into the hundreds.

Sussex a Late Example. "One of the latest and most shocking instances of this method of war-

fare was that of the destruction of the French cross-channel steamer Sussex. It must stand forth, as the sinking of the steamer Lusitania did, as so singularly tragical and unjustifiable as to constitute a truly terrible example of the inhumanity of submarine warfare as the commanders of German vessels have for the past twelve months been conducting it. If this instance stood alone, some explanation, some disavowal by the German government, some evidence of criminal mistake or willful disobedience on the part of the commander of the vessel that fired the torpedo might be sought or entertained; but unhappily it does not stand alone. Recent events make the conclusion inevitable that it is only one instance, even though it be one of the most extreme and distressing instances, of the spirit and method of warfare which the imperial German government has mistakenly adopted, and which from the first exposed that government to the reproach of thrusting all neutral rights aside in pursuit of its immediate objects.

"The government of the United States has been very patient. At every stage of this distressing experience of tragedy after tragedy in which its own citizens were involved it had sought to be restrained from any extreme course of action or of protest by a thoughtful consideration of the extraordinary circumstances of this unprecedented war and actuated in all it said or did by the sentiments of genuine friendship which the people of the United States have always entertained and continue to entertain toward the German nation. It has, of course, accepted the successive explanations and assurances of the imperial German government as given in entire sincerity and good faith, and has hoped, even against hope, that it would prove to be possible for the German government to so order and control the acts of its naval commanders as to square its policy with the principles of humanity as embodied in the law of nations. It has been willing to wait until the significance of the facts became absolutely unmistakable and susceptible of but one interpretation.

"That point has now unhappily been reached. The facts are susceptible of but one interpretation. The imperial German government has been unable to put any limit or restraints upon its warfare against either freight or passenger ships. It has therefore become painfully evident that the position which this government took at the very outset is inevitable, namely, that the use of submarines for the destruction of an enemy's commerce is of necessity, because of the very character of the vessels employed and the very methods of attack which their employment of course involves, incompatible with the principles of humanity, the long-established and incontrovertible rights of neutrals, and the sacred immunities of non-combatants.

Virtual Ultimatum Sent.

"I have deemed it my duty, therefore, to say to the imperial German government that if it is still its purpose to prosecute ruthless and indiscriminate warfare against vessels of commerce by the use of submarines, notwithstanding the now demonstrated impossibility of conducting that warfare in accordance with what the government of the United States must consider the sacred and indisputable rules of international law and the universally recognized dictates of humanity, the government of the United States is at last forced to the conclusion that there is but one course it can pursue; and that unless the imperial German government should now immediately declare and effect an abandonment of its present methods of warfare against passenger and freight carrying vessels this government can have no choice but to sever diplomatic relations with the government of the German empire altogether.

"This decision I have arrived at with the keenest regret; the possibility of the action contemplated I am sure all thoughtful Americans will look forward to with unaffected reluctance. But we cannot forget that we are in some sort and by the force of circumstances the responsible spokesman of the rights of humanity, and that we cannot remain silent while those rights seem in process of being utterly swept away in the maelstrom of this terrible war. We owe it to a due regard for our own rights as a nation, to our sense of duty as a representative of the rights of neutrals the world over, and to a joint conception of the rights of mankind to take this stand now with the utmost solemnity and firmness.

"I have taken it, and taken it in the confidence that it will meet with your approval and support. All sober-minded men must unite in hoping that the imperial German government, which has in other circumstances stood as the champion of all that we are now contending for in the interest of humanity, may recognize the justice of our demands and meet them in the spirit in which they are made."

READY FOR A BREAK

U. S. PREPARED FOR ANY MOVE MADE BY GERMANY.

PREPARING THE U. S. FLEET

Orders Issued to Speed Up Work in Navy Yards—Repeat Free Sugar in Tariff Bill.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. Washington.—The United States government has made tentative plans to cope with every conceivable situation which would result from the severance of diplomatic relations with Germany. For reasons which they indicated were obvious, officials deem it unwise to discuss the details. There is reason for believing, however, that some of the plans have to do with the safety of American citizens in the German empire and that others have to do with American supervision of German interests in the countries at war with Germany.

Repeat Free Entry of Sugar.

Washington.—The senate has approved the house bill repealing the free sugar section of the tariff law, under which sugar would have gone on the free list May 1. By a vote of fifty-nine to ten the senate receded from an amendment which it had passed extending the duty from 1 cent a pound for four years and which the house refused to agree to in conference. Democratic senators cast all of the ten votes against supporting the house measure, which provides for a flat repeal, thus extending the present duty indefinitely.

The repeal sought by the administration to keep up revenues now needs only the president's signature to become effective.

MAKING THE FLEET READY.

Orders Issued by Navy Department to Speed Up in Overhaul and Repair Work.

Charleston, S. C.—Orders to speed up repair and overhaul work on vessels of the Atlantic fleet have been received by the commandants of the various navy yards from Secretary Daniels. In case of labor shortage the commandants are instructed to expedite the work by employing the ship's personnel. The move was explained as a "preparedness test," the execution of which would illustrate how quickly the vessels could be restored to normal conditions after their strenuous winter operations and placed in readiness for the battle practices and maneuvers beginning May 20.

Assistant Secretary Roosevelt has been in conference with officials of the new York yard attempting to arrange for the employment of a sufficient force of mechanics and other skilled men to operate that plant on a day and night schedule.

Protest on Immigration Bill.

Washington.—Viscount Chinda, the Japanese ambassador, conferred with President Wilson over the provision of the pending immigration bill, which proposed to enact into law the agreement restricting the immigration of Japanese laborers. A memorandum on the subject has been presented to the state department. The proposed inclusion in a law of an informal agreement which Japan has promised on honor to fulfill, according to the agreement between former Secretary Root and former Ambassador Takahira, is reported to be repugnant to the Japanese government.

Britain Must Increase Taxes.

London.—Twice during the last month or so the British have been reminded by Premier Asquith that they must prepare for even higher taxes than those under which they already are sighing. If the chancellor of the exchequer does not discover the right way to increase the taxes, it will certainly not be from lack of advice. The rich are calling loudly for taxes on the working classes, who are all supposed to be wallowing in luxury and who are making higher wages than they dreamed of two years ago. The workers, on the other side, are demanding the conscription of wealth.

Lincoln, Neb.—A conference between State Veterinarian Anderson and Dr. H. E. Cosford, government expert in charge of inspection work in Gage and Johnson counties, was held here Friday, in which matters relative to inspection work were discussed. Dr. W. E. Howe, of Denver, who has been looking after the dourine epidemic in the northwestern part of the state, will confer with the state veterinarian shortly to arrange plans for further prosecution of the work throughout the state in an effort to stamp out the disease.

To Forestall Investigation

Washington.—Efforts of the Chicago packers to forestall an investigation of charges that they control the live stock markets of the country by offering to furnish information to the department of agriculture concerning all phases of their business have failed to win the approval of either the department or the cattle raisers and feeders. This became known at a hearing held by the house judiciary committee on a resolution introduced by Congressman Borland of Missouri.

THE COUNTY FAIRS.

List of the Towns and Dates for Holding Fall Shows.

Following is a list of the dates and towns as arranged for holding the county fairs in the various localities over the state this fall:

- Antelope, Neligh, September 12-15.
Bosque, Alliance, September 12-15.
Box Butte, Alliance, September 19-21.
Boyd, September 13-15.
Brown, Alliance, No fair, 1914.
Butler, David City, September 19-22.
Buffalo, Kearney, September 21-23.
Chase, Imperial, September 20-22.
Cheyenne, Sidney, September 14-16.
Clay, Clay Center, September 12-15.
Custer, Broken Bow, September 12-15.
Dawson, Chadron, September 12-15.
Dawson, Lexington, September 12-15.
Dixon, Dixon, September 12-14.
Dodge, Scribner, September 13-15.
Dodge, Hooper, September 19-20.
Douglas, Benson.
Dundy, Benkelman, September 20-22.
Fillmore, Geneva, September 12-15.
Franklin, Franklin, September 12-15.
Frontier, Stockville, September 20-22.
Furnas, Beaver City, September 20-22.
Gage, Beatrice, September 20-22.
Greeley, Greeley, September 12-16.
Hall, Grand Island, September 12-15.
Hamilton, Aurora, August 29-September 1.
Harlan, Alma, September 19-22.
Hayes, Hayes Center, September 20-22.
Harrison, Culbertson, September 21-23.
Holt, Chambers, September 20-22.
Holt, O'Neil, September 20-22.
Howard, St. Paul, October 2-5.
Jefferson, Fairbury, October 11-14.
Johnson, Tecumseh.
Kearney, Minden.
Keith, Ogallala, October 2-4.
Kimball, Kimball.
Knox, Creighton.
Lincoln, Lincoln, September 4-8.
Lincoln, North Platte, September 26-29.
Madison, Madison, September 26-29.
Merrick, Clark, September 13-15.
Morrill, Bridgeport, September 7-9.
Nemaha, Auburn.
Nicolle, Nelton, September 19-22.
O'Neill, O'Neill, October 3-6.
Pierce, Pierce, September 26-29.
Platte, Columbus, September 12-15.
Polk, Council Bluffs, August 29-September 1.
Red Willow, Indianola, October 3-6.
Saunders, Wahoo, No fair, 1914.
Scottsbluff, Mitchell, September 13-15.
Seward, Seward, September 19-21.
Sheridan, Gordon, September 5-8.
Sherman, Loup City, September 20-22.
Stanton, Stanton, August 29-September 1.
Thayer, Deshler, August 29-September 1.
Thurston, Walthill, October 4-6.
Valley, Ord, August 29-25.
Webster, Hudson.
District Fair.
Frontier, Maywood, September 11-14.

Clash of Authorities.

The Nebraska railway commission and Attorney General Willis F. Reed, who have been working together harmoniously, reached the breaking point in the supreme court of Nebraska over a question of policy as to the manner in which the commission's order No. 19 establishing reduced class rates in Nebraska should be defined in that court. As a result there was a spectacle of the attorney general lining up with the railroads, and Railway Commissioners H. T. Clarke, H. G. Taylor and T. L. Hall appealing to the court to set aside an order of continuance granted with the consent of the attorney general and without the knowledge of the railway commission. The attorney general and the railroad attorneys who attack the reduced rates in order No. 19 recently asked the court to extend rule day from May 15 to September 15. The court granted the request, supposing the commission acquiesced. Rule day is the day set for the filing of briefs, and its extension amounts to a continuance of the case.

Preparing for Irrigation Case.

Attorney General Reed has received word that surveys are now being made in the North Platte and South Platte river valleys, under the direction of State Engineer Johnson, in order to obtain necessary evidence for protecting the rights of Nebraska water users in this state's intervention proceeding in the suit between the states of Colorado and Wyoming over the right to use the headwaters of both streams, irrespective of priorities in Nebraska. Mr. Reed is expecting to appear as counsel for the Nebraska water users in this suit, and will endeavor to obtain a judgment upholding their right as against conflicting claimants in Wyoming and Colorado.

The state banking board, comprising Governor Morehead, Attorney General Reed and Auditor Smith, has granted charters to two new banks and refused charters to two others. Under a new rule the board instructed Secretary Royce to refuse to issue charters to state banks at Sidney and Scotia. The board rules that the banking facilities of these towns are sufficient to care for the business that will be transacted there for some time.

Surveys are being made in the North and South Platte valleys by State Engineer Johnson for obtaining evidence in the state water right suit with Colorado and Wyoming. Attorney General Reed will represent Nebraska interests in the case.

The railway commission has granted the application of the Lincoln Telephone company to raise its rates on farm lines out of Syracuse to 40 cents a month. The company originally asked an advance to 50 cents per month.

Articles of incorporation for the Society of American Widows have been filed with the secretary of state by Mrs. Bessie C. Turpin of Omaha. Mrs. Turpin organized the society four weeks ago and it now has a membership of 225 women.

Women the Better Students.

Sorority women were better students at the University of Nebraska than the men of the fraternities during the first semester of the present school year, according to the scholarship figures made public by Dean Carl Engberg. Acacia, the Masonic fraternity, leads all the men's fraternities, while Delta Delta Delta tops the list of the sororities. The fraternity average for scholarship, with deductions for delinquencies, is 147.7 points, while the sorority average is 249.9 points.



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Nebraska Directory

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Quite the Contrary.

"Young Reginald Twobble is said to own 27 suits of clothes."

"What's the idea?"

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A Nebraska Case

Mrs. Joe Norris, W. 14th St., Ashland, Neb., says: "My kidneys were congested and I had the secretions were scanty. My back ached day and night and sharp pains often shot through my side. I was short of breath, felt tired and nervous and couldn't sleep well. Doan's Kidney Pills put my kidneys in good working order and removed the lameness. I gained fifteen pounds in weight."

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MEN AND MATTERS

Lord Kitchener reads all his speeches. Philadelphia has over 1,000 wholesale houses.

The average height of a new-born infant is 18 inches.

Robert W. Chambers, the novelist, was once an illustrator.

France has over 800,000 employees in the government service.

Henry A. Dupont is conceded to be the richest man in the United States.

Cruel.

Patience—It is said the musical acuteness of horses is shown by the rapidity with which cavalry horses learn the significance of trumpet calls.

Patrice—I'll bet if you sang while riding one he'd run away.

Those Loving Girls.

Hazel—He actually followed me with his eyes for more than a block.

Almae—And if you had only worn a veil he probably would have followed you with his feet.

WORTH KNOWING

Philippine cigars now are exported to 29 countries besides the United States.

One thousand cases of American beer have been ordered by a firm in Karachi, India.

Two of Denmark's young princes are handicapped by the names of "Viggo" and "Aaga."

The United States used one-fifth of the 40,000,000 pounds of sugar produced in the world last year.