

# Dr. Bernhard Dernburg Strikes High Note.

## Warships Have no Right on Sea.—Proposal to Restrict Men-of-war to Territorial Waters.—Ocean to be Neutral.

New York, Jan. 8.—Speaking this afternoon before the Republican Club of the City of New York, Dr. Bernhard Dernburg, former colonial secretary of the German empire, made an earnest plea to Americans to recognize the unfortunate effects, commercially and spiritually, which are bound to attend the indulgence of ill feeling on the part of neutrals toward principals in the European war, and pleaded for united and rational effort to minimize the necessarily disastrous results of the struggle.

Dr. Dernburg said: "I do not propose to speak on the war so far as its immediate causes and the guilt for starting it are concerned. The United States are in a most fortunate position not to be dragged immediately into the vortex of the European crisis. While the minds of people on the other side of the water are more or less clouded by the smoke of the battles, by their immediate necessities, by the inflamed feelings attending a struggle for existence, people on this side have the advantage of a clearer vision. They are at the necessary distance, both materially and geographically, to have a better perspective, and they are sufficiently interested to focus, in the broad sense, the issues at stake."

I think everybody agrees that the present European war is a world calamity, threatening prosperity and civilization alike, and that it must be the duty of all well meaning people to see to it that its causes are permanently removed and that the actual state of the world should be brought in harmony with the higher ideals of civilized peoples. The view they must take is one of detachment from the incidents of the day. It must be taken from a higher plane for the common interest of all mankind, and it must come from people who command the trust and confidence of all the warring nations—a trust and confidence that can be acquired only by a high moral standard and an unbiased, impartial state of public opinion, without fear or favor to anybody, but friendly and humanitarian toward all.

America's Commercial Losses.—Already a great deal of damage has been done to the prosperity of the world. Let me speak first of the commercial side. The trade of all countries has been dislocated to an alarming extent. Most of the German overseas trade has been stopped. Neutral shipping is being seriously disturbed. Merchant vessels are lacking, and enormous freights are being charged by the only nation (the English) that has any bottoms to offer. Constant interfering with the shipping of this country has terrified American exporters. This may be a necessary consequence of a state of war, but the danger and the fear must be lest this dislocation of trade should become permanent. Germany, for instance, is thrown now upon her own resources as regards foodstuffs, metals and oil. The importation of cotton is so far harassed by England that the sales opened in England harbors arrive in Europe in condition hardly fit for use. In Germany and Austria 120,000,000 consumers of American produce have been practically cut out from the use of such staple produce, and they must look for substitutes. If a man breaks his arm and it is not properly set at once it will remain crooked and dislocated, or else it must be broken again.

The war waged by England against Germany is a war of starvation. It is based on the contention (contrary to proof and to the rule of three) that foodstuffs going into Germany would primarily serve to feed 7,000,000 soldiers in the field and not 120,000,000 people at home. That, however, of course, produced counter measures.

Every available spot in Germany has been planted this fall with wheat and other foodstuffs imported before, so there can be no doubt that the shortage of 6 per cent of foodstuffs that has so far been imported will be fully made up. To replace wheat bread, rye and corn mixed make a very nourishing bread. American beans are largely replaced by bean, a volatile matter gained in the production of coke. Instead of copper a great many alloys of other metals containing a small percentage of copper are being tried. Instead of American cotton large quantities of Indian cotton come in by way of Italy. The same holds good as to coffee and tea, rubber and other products in which the United States is less interested.

Shall Our Losses Be Permanent? But the advancement of the world is largely based on every member working up to his utmost efficiency. The vast domain of the United States is the producer of the cheapest wheat and cotton, oil and copper. Germany has developed an excellent technical education, shown a very inventive genius and a most complete combination of applied technique and science. The interchange of the goods that have made up the bulk of the trade between Germany and Austria on the one hand and the United States on the other has been a great boon and blessing to the whole world, giving everybody in these countries of a combined population of 210,000,000 people the best and cheapest service under present conditions.

But it is to be feared that this interchange, so necessary for the well being and happiness of a great part of the civilized world, will be permanently disturbed. If the people have once for some considerable time discarded the use of certain products it is difficult to bring them back again to their former habits. As long as a repetition of the present calamity is to be feared the countries must go on to make themselves independent permanently in order not to be placed again in the same straits. Therefore it is highly desirable and most necessary to find some permanent means of avoiding the possibility of recurrence of the present situation, in the interest of the commerce and the happiness of the world.

Ill Feeling Commercially Unfortunate.—A difficulty is added by the great deal of ill feeling shown in the United States toward Germany and Austria, for reasons which I do not want to enter into now, but which I do not consider justified. Certainly this ill feeling is most unfortunate from a merely commercial viewpoint. All business has its foundation in trust and confidence, because it is carried on on credit. And if this ill feeling (unwarranted as I consider it to be) is to continue it will add greatly to the difficulty of the situation. We in Germany believe that the people here have been influenced by false reports and have been unable to get at the truth. But there are signs that Germany and Austria are commencing to think that the truth ought to have penetrated over there by this time, and it is humanly intelligible (much as I should like to contradict it) that resentment should spring up and make itself felt. This may be to the interest of Great Britain, since (according to the utterances of its statesmen) she desires to capture and to steal German commerce and shipping (I use this word reluctantly, but I have no other). The way in which German trademarks and patents are being captured in England, but it is certainly not to the interest of this country. And it seems to me necessary that the discussion as to who brought on the war, who commands a higher civilization, and that all these unfounded tales of atrocities should now be dropped in order to gain that view from a higher plane. The view that gathers its force from a looking into the future should prevail.

territory of others or into neutralized parts of the world is a casus belli. While it may be therefore perfectly legitimate to patrol, for the sake of security, the coasts of every country within its territorial waters, there is, on the other hand, no fundamental principle that can be recognized for any patrolling outside of these territorial waters. It is precisely like sending troops into foreign territory. It is a "free sea" that we are all fighting for, the United States as well as Germany, as Russia, as Serbia. It is a closed and "bottled up" sea that Great Britain tries to hold and force upon the rest of the world. How can this end be brought about? Nominally the Suez canal is neutralized, but it is under British guns. The Dardanelles are under Turkish guns. The strait of Gibraltar is under the guns of the fortress of that name. The British channel is stopped up by the British with the help of the neutralized Low Countries. The Baltic is blocked in the Sound. The only truly neutralized waterway, the Panama canal, is under the practical command of Bermuda, the Bahamas, Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad and Georgetown, seven British naval bases in its immediate vicinity, most of them closer to the Panama canal than is the United States. The Red sea is bottled up by Aden and the island of Perim and the strait of Singapore by that city.

One might try to secure the necessary freedom by the neutralization of all these waterways, indispensable to free shipping, but we know that such neutralization treaties have only a very frail existence. As Lord Derby said in 1855 regarding the Belgian neutrality treaty, he took "very little stock in papers of that kind." On the other hand, Francis Lynde Stetson quoted three days ago Lord Lansdowne the leader of the Conservative party in Great Britain, as follows:

"He (Lord Lansdowne) remarked quietly to his colleagues in the house of lords that "sooner or later" the nations would have to decide to what extent a belligerent power, controlling narrow waters which form a great trade avenue for the commerce of the world, was justified in entirely closing such an avenue in order to facilitate the hostile operations in which that power might find itself involved. And, enlarging the inquiry to all its philosophic bearings, he observed, "Just as public opinion in any country would be slow to tolerate arrangements under which a local trade dispute might have the effect of paralyzing the whole industrial life of the country, so public opinion among the great nations would be slow to tolerate a state of things under which a local conflict involving only two powers would be allowed to create such serious detriment and disturbance to the whole trading community of the world?"

So it may be questioned whether the end sought can be reached by measures of that kind with any degree of safety in times of war. The other alternative would be to forbid the high seas to men-of-war of any nation whatsoever, to relegate them to the territorial waters and permit only such small cruisers as are necessary to avoid privateering. If that should be done the world as it is divided now would come to a permanent peace. The safety of the countries would rest on their home defense, no danger of invasion need be anticipated by any nation, every nation could develop freely its peaceful intercourse without being afraid at any time of being forced and stopped by a superior power, and the enormous outlay for naval armament could be used for peaceful purposes, and, as a necessary consequence of such a measure, battleships, cruisers and submarines should become useless and have to be "scraped," "scrap" them! Would it not be better to destroy this investment than to continually threaten and impair the peace, the development and the freedom of mankind?

Der Nährwert des Kriegsbrottes.—Verschiedenen Gerüchten gegenüber, als ob das neue in Deutschland gesetzlich vorgeschriebene Kartoffelbrot dem Normalbrot an Nährwert erheblich nachstiehe, betont Prof. Kühn, daß, da es sich nur um eine geringfügige prozentuale Verminderung der bisherigen Brotmengen mit den neuen Zutaten handelt, die Einbuße an Nährwert und Ausnützung in Wirklichkeit ganz unbedeutend sei. Nimmt man an, daß ein schwer arbeitender Mensch täglich etwa 400 Gramm Schwarzbrot genießt, so würde er damit etwa 24 Gramm Eiweißzubringung aufnehmen. Entfällt dieses Brot 20 Prozent Kartoffelmehl, so verringert sich der Eiweißgehalt der Brotmischung des Tages um höchstens den fünften Teil, d. h. um etwa 5 Gramm. Das ist wiederum kaum der zwanzigste Teil der gesamten Eiweißmenge der täglichen Nahrung eines erwachsenen Menschen. Selbst wenn nun auch noch die Ausnützung der Nährstoffe des Kartoffelbrotes um einige Prozent schlechter anzunehmen ist als beim Roggenbrot, so ist der Verlust an Nährstoffen jedenfalls so gering, daß eine Beeinträchtigung der Volksernährung nicht zu befürchten ist. Auch hinsichtlich des Geschmackes sind die Veränderungen so unbedeutend, daß die Mehrzahl der Gesser die Beteiligung von 20 Prozent Kartoffelmehl kaum oder nicht unangenehm empfinden.

What Is the War About?—In view of this grave situation, the absolute necessity of drawing the lessons from this universal disaster and of stamping out the causes that brought it about, it is incumbent on all independent minds to examine into those causes in order to find out, not why the people took up arms, but what their ends are and their ambitions, so that those nations that are free to express their sentiments shall speak up and help in the right direction. To my mind the whole fight and all the fight is, on the one side, for an absolute dominion of the seven seas and, on the other side, for a free sea, the traditional mare liberum.

A free sea will mean a cessation of war danger and a stopping of world wars. There is no doubt that the struggle commenced because Serbia found herself deprived of an outlet to the Adriatic sea, in consequence of the jealousy of the Mediterranean powers. The cause of Serbia was taken up by the Russian empire, which is fighting now, as for a hundred years, for an outlet from the Black sea. She is fighting Germany because of the Russian feeling that the way past Constantinople was going over Berlin—a feeling that seems perhaps justified by the fact that Turkey has now joined the dual alliance. The Japanese, by occupying all the islands formerly in the possession of Germany in the Pacific, want to strengthen their hold on those waters and bring them under the command of the Japanese fleet. The English have time and again declared that their dominion of the channel and the North sea depended upon a neutral Belgium; that Britain must rule the waves as a matter of safety for the empire. Germany has for years back had to prepare a navy of its own in order to protect its rapidly growing overseas trade in case of an emergency just as has now arisen. The British have chased all German merchant vessels from the high seas, and British statesmen have repeatedly declared that the German navy must be utterly destroyed.

America Involved by British Action.—Even the United States, which has no part in the European struggle, has had to take up that same fight with England because of the violation of its own doctrines regarding contraband, the stopping of the ships, the searching of cargoes, the compulsory purchase of supplies needed by England and the delaying of quite innocent American shipping. I cannot but consider the whole situation a most anomalous one. The British doctrine is that England must dominate on the high seas, and her policy has been to fortify those seas by at least sixty naval stations all around this continent and around the whole world. That doctrine leads further of necessity to the claim that the British empire begins at the tree mile limit of other territory—a claim that has no foundation either in the law of nations in a higher sense or in the feeling of the civilized world. The sea is free to all. It belongs to no nation in particular, neither to the British, nor to the Germans, nor to the Americans. The rights of the contiguous nations cease with the territorial line of three miles from low tide. Any domination exercised beyond that line is a breach and infringement on the rights of the others. The sea is the common property of all the world, and the patrolling of the sea by any one force is a breach and violation of that right. The evidence is now conclusive that heretofore and for a considerable time back all mercantile shipping has been done under British permission and tolerance and that Great Britain could stop it at any time she chose. She has done so now, not only in making war on her adversaries, but in taking action to the very great detriment and dislocation of the trade of neutrals. But the sea is not only in law a free territory and the common property of all the nations, but it is also the vital instrument for human activity in commerce and trade, the lungs from which this activity draws its nourishing and upbuilding breath, and the voluntary closing and locking up of those lungs can at any time destroy the whole body. The High Seas Must Be Freed. If you want to do away with wars in the future we must put the prize for which these wars are being fought beyond the reach of any one competitor. The most re-establisht "free sea" to be placed on exclusively by the merchant marine of all nations. Within their territory the peoples have a right to take such measures for their defense as they think necessary, but the sending of troops and war machines into the

# HARD TIMES SKIDOO BALL

.... des ....

## Omaha Musikvereins

### Samstag, den 30. Januar 1915

Hoher Preis für das Kostüm, das die harten Zeiten am besten kennzeichnet.

Eintritt 23 Cents

Einladungen von den Mitgliedern zu haben.

### Ans Council Bluffs.

— Den Bemühungen des Carl Kommissars S. W. McKee ist es gelungen, die Streitigkeiten zwischen dem Carl Board und den mit der Amtsbekleidung des Missouri Fluss Ufers beauftragten Regierungsangehörigen zu schlichten. Die Late View Carl Angehörigen protestierten gegen das willkürliche Fällen von Weiden innerhalb des Parkes, die zu "Kip-Mapping" verwandelt wurden. Die Regierung verpflichtete sich, in Zukunft keine stützenden Weiden mehr zu pflanzen.

— Am letzten Donnerstag fand eine Versammlung des Stadtraths sowie angegebener Bürger statt, in der die Notwendigkeit eines neuen Rathhauses erörtert wurde. Die Stimmung der Redner war dem Vorhinein günstig, doch hobte man keine bestimmten Entschlüsse, da man sich nicht einigen konnte, wie man das nötige Geld am besten aufbringen könnte und nicht geneigt war, die an sich schon hohen Steuern noch anzuhäufen.

— In einer Versammlung der Beamten der Harle-Haus Drug Co. wurden alle leitfähigen Beamten wiedergewählt. In Stelle des verstorbenen B. Greer von Turman trat E. J. Raymond von Des Moines.

— A. S. Dollen und Carl Ball waren am letzten Freitag Gefängnis halber in der Stadt.

— Charles Schmidt von Avoca war letzten Donnerstag im Court Haus.

— Frau Louis Pittmann und Frau Bill Pittmann, beide aus Hancock, traten am letzten Freitag Council Bluffs einen Besuch ab.

— Das Brod ist teurer geworden; bald müssen auch wir Kriegsbrot essen. Nun sind auch die Eier wieder schiefen. Das Dutzend frische Eier kostet 45 Cents, und dabei muß man noch froh sein, daß man überhaupt welche bekommt. Die "frischen" künstlichen Eier sind zwar billiger, kosten nur 35 Cents, doch findet man keine antiändige Henne, welche bereit ist, die Verantwortung für deren Geburt auf sich zu nehmen.

— Folle vier Monat lang war Ernest Willage der freie Mensch der Welt, und biß auf allen جوان unter dem feine weggen glücklichen Mitmenschen Fußten, nachdem er aus der Erziehungsanstalt zu Eldora ausgeschliffen war. Leider hatte die Polizei keinen Sinn für Humor, als er in einen Frachtwagen der North-Western Bahn einbrach, und jandte ihn zur Beroollkommenung seiner Studien unter Bewachung von Staatsagent E. C. Vial wieder zurüch nach Eldora.

— In einem großen Erfolg gestaltet sich der am letzten Donnerstag von den jüdischen Vereinen im Auditorium gegebene Tanz. Die Musikavalle des Herrn A. Smith sorgte für die Tanzmusik. Der Wekerlich soll zum Ban eines neuen Tempels beitragen.

— Der sieben Meilen nördlich von Missouri Ballen wohnhafte Farmer Fred Amover erklärte Kontur. Die Schindlen belaufen sich auf \$1843.50, die Dedung auf \$714.80.

— George Eicher, J. D. Erlwin, Ed. Bier und J. E. Prany wurden am Donnerstag Morgen wegen Friedensstörung verhaftet. Der Fall kam am Freitag zur Verhandlung.

Die Pharmäder sind wieder fleißig an der Arbeit, uns vor dem Verderben zu bewahren. Eine Anzahl neuer radikaler Gesetzesvor schläge in Bezug auf den Getränkeverkauf wurden dem Haus und Senat unterbreitet. Die wichtigsten von ihnen sind: Vorschlag zur Aufhebung des Alkohols, Vorschlag, den Prozentatz der Steuern für die Wirtschaftskredit in den größeren Städten von 51 auf 60 Prozent zu erhöhen, die Anzahl der Wirtschaften herabzusetzen, indem sie ein Saloon auf 2,000 Einwohner je ein auf 1,000, Vorschlag, alle Städte unter 1,000 Einwohnern "troden" zu machen, und zur Einführung des 7 Uhr Schlußes.

Wächter Walter C. Nopes von New York wurde zum Massenwähler der Rock Island Bahn ernannt. In Betracht kommt nur das im State Iowa gelegene Eigen thum der Bahn.

Deutsches Haus

Offizielle Ankündigung

Sonntag, den 31. Januar 1915

Ball des Omaha Plattdeutschen Vereins

Sonntag, den 6. Februar 1915

Ball des Deutschen Damen-Vereins

In Vorbereitung: Großer Preis-Maskeball am 20. Februar

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