

United States has been constantly guided and restrained by motives of friendship in its patient efforts to bring to an amicable settlement the critical questions arising from that policy. Accepting the Imperial government's declaration of its abandonment of the policy which has so seriously menaced the good relations between the two countries, the government of the United States will rely upon a scrupulous execution henceforth of the now altered policy of the Imperial government, such as will remove the principal danger to an interruption of the good relations existing between the United States and Germany.

"The government of the United feels it necessary to state that it takes it for granted that the Imperial German government does not intend to imply that the maintenance of its newly announced policy is in any way contingent upon the course or result of diplomatic negotiations between the government of the United States and any other belligerent notwithstanding the fact that certain passages in the Imperial government's note of the 4th inst. might appear to be susceptible of that construction. In order, however, to avoid any possible misunderstanding, the government of the United States notifies the Imperial government that it can not for a moment entertain, much less discuss, a suggestion that respect by the German naval authorities for the rights of citizens of the United States upon the high seas should in any way or in the slightest degree be made contingent upon the conduct of any other government affecting the rights of neutrals and non-combatants. Responsibility in such matters is single, not joint; absolute, not relative."

TEXT OF GERMAN NOTE ON SUSSEX

A Washington, D. C., dispatch, dated May 11, says: The German note admitting that a German submarine torpedoed the channel steamship *Sussex* in violation of assurances given the United States, expressing regret for the occurrence, announcing that the U-boat commander had been "appropriately punished," and declaring a readiness to pay adequate indemnity to Americans, was received at the state department yesterday. The text is as follows:

"Supplementing his note of the fourth instant, concerning the conduct of the German submarine warfare, the undersigned has the honor to inform his excellency, the American ambassador, Mr. James W. Gerard, that the further investigation made by the German naval authorities concerned, in regard to the French steamship *Sussex*, on the basis of the American material, has been concluded in the meantime.

FORMER THEORY DROPPED

"In conformity with the result of this investigation the assumption expressed in the note of the undersigned of the tenth ultimo, that the damage of the *Sussex* was to be traced back to a cause other than the attack of a German submarine, can not be maintained.

"Such an assumption had to be arrived at with certainty from the material in the possession of the German government for itself and without further knowledge of the circumstances connected with the torpedoing of the *Sussex*, the more so as apart from the points enumerated in the note of the tenth ultimo, the following facts had come to the attention of admiralty staff of the navy, through reliable information: March 24, 1916, approximately at the same time as the *Sussex*, an auxiliary warship left the port of Folkestone with a large transport of British infantry on board; on the same day a transport steamer was torpedoed in the channel; a few minutes preceding the explosion of the *Sussex* she had passed through a mass of shipwreckage, which created the impression that a ship had sunk at that spot shortly before.

AMERICAN PROOF

"All these facts justified the conclusion that the only case of torpedoing which could be considered under the circumstances had struck the British war vessel, whereas the *Sussex* had met with an accident in some other way.

"However, on the basis of the American material, the German government can not withhold its conviction that the ship torpedoed by the German submarine is in fact identical with the *Sussex*, for in accordance with this material, the place, the time and the effect of the explosion by which the *Sussex* was damaged, agree in the essential details with the statements of

the German commander, so that there can no longer be any question of the possibility of two independent occurrences.

"An additional reason is constituted by the fact that officers of the American navy found fragments of an explosive in the hold of the *Sussex*, which are described by them upon firm grounds as part of a German torpedo.

DESCRIPTION VARIES

"Finally, the counter evidence, which was deduced in the note of the tenth ultimo from the difference in appearance of the vessel described by the submarine commander and the only reproduction of the *Sussex* then available, has proven to be untenable, inasmuch as, according to a photograph of the damaged *Sussex* now to hand, the characteristic distinctions no longer existed at the time of the accident; while the *Sussex* in the photograph of the *Daily Graphic*, inclosed in the note, only carried one mast, and also showed the white gangway, customary on passenger vessels on the level with the port holes O. W. S., the reproduction of the damaged *Sussex* shows a second mast and a uniform dark color, and thus approaches in her outer appearance the description of the vessel as furnished by the submarine commander.

"In view of the general impression of all the facts at hand, the German government considers it beyond doubt that the commander of the submarine acted in the bona fide belief that he was facing an enemy warship. On the other hand, it can not be denied that, misled by the appearance of the vessel, under the pressure of circumstances, he formed his judgment too hurriedly in establishing her character, and did not, therefore, act fully in accordance with the strict instructions which called upon him to exercise particular care.

EXPRESSES REGRET

"In view of these circumstances, the German government frankly admits that the assurance given the American government in accordance with which vessels were not to be attacked without warning has not been adhered to in the present case.

"As was intimated by the undersigned in the note of the fourth instant, the German government does not hesitate to draw from this resultant consequences.

"It, therefore, expresses to the American government its sincere regret regarding the deplorable incident, and declares its readiness to pay an adequate indemnity to the injured American citizens. It also disapproved of the conduct of the commander who has been appropriately punished.

"Expressing the hope that the American government will consider the case of the *Sussex* as settled by these statements, the undersigned avails himself of this occasion to renew to the ambassador the assurance of his highest consideration. "VON JAGOW."

HAIL, COMMONER

[N. H. Trimble, in Columbia, Mo., Times, May 5, 1916.]

As a great Democrat Columbia greets you, our guest today!

For twenty years you have stood in the foremost rank of those who contend for the people. It has pleased and inspired us to see you struggling there.

You have fought mighty battles, winning some, losing others, but behind every conflict a high and worthy motive forced you on.

Missouri has stood with you in almost every struggle. Though you sorely wounded our pride we believe you acted in good conscience, therefore our faith remains.

Your war against war has opened our eyes to hidden enemies who would dip our flag in blood that they may wring profit out of our agony.

Peace, wreathed with garlands of honor is that for which you earnestly contend.

Those who paint you as an advocate of national weakness and ready surrender pay small attention to the vigor of your many combats.

We recognize that you and our honored President seek the same ends. Wilson finds in you a closer sympathy and truer support than in many who brand your bravery as party treason.

The attitude of diplomatic insistance which Mr. Wilson assumes has its rational interpretation in your demands for national calm.

Good friend, continue on in your campaign for righteousness and honor. Your enemies will multiply as your purposes are attained. The dishonest politicians of all parties, the grinder

of labor and grabber of wealth, the distiller and brewer with their nasty horde, these, and many more will blacken your name,—if they can.

We welcome you to Columbia today, Commoner, we listen to your words, we honor your courage, we long for your vision. As you leave us take along the wish of good will which must ever follow the man who dares to do right!

One quarter of the surplus wealth of the world is possessed by the United States, according to statisticians, although but 6 per cent of the people of the world are found within our borders. The reason why our surplus is so great is that we have been free for a century from the craze for armament that has cost the great nations of Europe billions in that time. There is no other reason, for as a matter of fact individually we are more extravagant than the people of any other nation. Yet there are those who would use the fact that we have more than our ordinary share of the world's wealth as an argument why we should arm ourselves as heavily as those that have sunk their surplus in preparations for war that naturally resulted in war.

The preparedness forces have sent out over the country a moving picture play in which the spectacle is shown of the principal coast cities being bombarded and captured and the interior invaded by a large foreign army. Being scared themselves, these men think that the rest of the country can be as easily frightened into turning its pocketbooks over to them. The real American spirit is not found in the money marts of the east, and it will be demonstrated by its actual possessors in the form of a swift resentment at being regarded as weaklings.

An organization represented to be composed of a thousand St. Louis business men deluged the Missouri members of congress with telegrams asking them to favor a navy equal to any other on earth, and a standing army of 250,000 men with a million reserves. None of the signers accompanied the demand with an agreement to enlist in either branch of the service. Laboring men are expected, under their program, to do the fighting for these patriotic gentlemen.

It will be but a few months now until a large assortment of republican campaign orators will essay the task of explaining to the American people why, by means of a high tariff, which is expressly designed to keep out imports, it would have been possible to secure more revenue at the customs houses than a low tariff, made for revenue purposes only, has yielded. It will be some explanation, all right.

Senator Borah was so greatly opposed to being entered in the republican contest for a presidential nomination that he demanded that his name be taken off the primary ballots in those states where enthusiastic friends had placed him in nomination. Which would indicate that William had had experience before in chasing will-o'-the-wisps and is disinclined to spending money foolishly.

Republicans who saw in the sugar clause of the democratic tariff an assault upon a great industry and a menace to industrial prosperity, declare that the action of the administration in repealing that clause is a costly blunder. They think only in terms of protection, and do not realize that a tariff that is constructed for revenue purposes should conserve revenues by legislation.

The argument on behalf of plunging this nation into an extravagant expenditure for an armament that will make war more certain, is progressing rather slowly. Those who opposed it were first called mollycoddles, then white-livered Americans, but the preparedness dictionary has been unequal to furnishing a third argument.

An illuminating viewpoint as to what constitutes real patriotism is furnished by those interests that have united in manufacturing news and bringing pressure to bear to force intervention in Mexico because Villa raided an American border town.

In our pride of rectitude we should not forget that sometimes they do things in Mexico that reach directly to the seat of trouble. Fifty stockbrokers in Mexico City were arrested the other week charged with spreading false reports of the international situation in order that they might profit thereby.