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# THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

THE WEATHER  
Unsettled

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## ROOT WARNS SHIP BILL MAY PLUNGE AMERICA INTO WAR

New York Senator Fears Measure Probe Will Cost United States Its Neutrality.  
POINTS OUT THE DANGERS  
Tense Feeling of Uncle Sam's Citizens of British and German Extraction Peril.

### MIGHT REED ENTIRE NATION

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Senator Root led the republican attack on the administration ship in the senate today, with a denunciation of the democratic caucus which made the bill a party measure, of the parliamentary tactics by which the democrats have so far forced the republicans to do all the debating, and finally with a denunciation of the bill itself.

"The attitude of the democrats he characterized as a 'conspiracy of silence,' to put through the bill by pressure of 'physical weakness.' For ten days, he said, the minority has been compelled to face the prospect of eight hours of tedious talking without a word of discussion from the majority side and without more than half a dozen democratic members in the chamber.

Measure Not Seem to me that this bill, which would put the government into the business of foreign shipping, is receiving the kind of discussion it should have," he said. "It is important not merely because it involves expenditure of a time when we have been forced to make up a deficit, but also because it embarks the government on a new departure based on a reversal of principle of government long maintained. No such change in policy was contemplated by the people when they put the present administration in power.

"The fact that this measure cannot have that kind of discussion which it demands at this short session of congress," continued Senator Root, "shows that it ought not to pass at this session.

"I have been present in legislative bodies," he said, "when no voice was clear enough, no courage high enough to break away from the custom which accepted and registered the direction of a chief executive. Let us not be too confident that we are proof against that process.

"We abandon today the performance of our function in discussing this measure among ourselves as to whether we should support it, and we have taken one step further than ever before in the process that makes us a registering body rather than a legislative body. We have taken a step fraught with dangers and fatal results to a representative government. We can justify our existence as a body only by the performance of our duty.

"The liberties of a free people depend on the courage and persistency of a minority. They depend also on the independence of thought and action of all members of a legislative body. If we are but to register and another our own judgment, we are contributing our part to a process more fatal to our country than any legislation that we can devise.

London Declaration Interest—Senator Root discussed the declaration of London and read from instructions to German naval commanders at the outbreak of the war, the statement that ships of the enemy transferred to neutral flag were to be regarded as enemy's ships unless the commander of the German vessel stopping them was convinced that the transfer would have occurred even if the war had not broken out.

"The interpretation of the rule was very plain, Senator Root said. 'The ordinary trade in ships was not to be prevented, he said, 'but none of these great powers will permit the citizens of the enemy to rob them of their trade by the transfer of ships they are entitled to capture on the high seas to a neutral flag.'

Senator Root pointed out that although American delegates had contended to have their views on transfer of ships incorporated in the London conference declaration; that was not done and the United States agreed to the final report. 'There is the law of Europe,' said the senator, 'and against that, we will have' (Continued on Page Three, Column Four.)

## WOMAN'S VOLUNTEER RELIEF on their first route march through London. When fully organized and trained the services of this body of women are to be volunteered to the War office.



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## WATSON AND BELL TALK 3,400 MILES

Inventor and Builder of First Telephone Open New Line Across the Continent.  
FIRST WIRE IS USED AGAIN

The first transcontinental telephone line the western hemisphere has ever seen is now complete. The first message sent over that line through Omaha Monday afternoon shortly before 1 o'clock, Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the first telephone, sat in the fifteenth floor of a New York skyscraper in the afternoon and there over the telephone talked to Thomas A. Watson, builder of the very first line of telephone, who was in San Francisco.

Immediately following President Wilson's talk to President Moore of the Panama-Pacific exposition in San Francisco and to Mr. Bell in New York and to President Van of the American Telephone and Telegraph company at Jekyll Island.

It was the method the American Telephone and Telegraph company took of formally opening the first transcontinental line, a great stretch of which has just been completed across the deserts of Nevada, Utah and California, to make direct connection.

The first telephone message between San Francisco and New York has been sent. It was the method the American Telephone and Telegraph company took of formally opening the first transcontinental line, a great stretch of which has just been completed across the deserts of Nevada, Utah and California, to make direct connection.

"I'll tell that Bell, the inventor of the telephone, the man who built the first line, did the talking. They have a 'stand-in' with the company. Most other men could not afford to indulge themselves. Why? Oh, well, it is to cost something like \$2 for three minutes of this cross-hemisphere conversation.

They Did Not Pay. Bell and Watson didn't pay this price, however. They were simply trying out the line, testing the work and the connections. They found the good work took in offices 3,400 miles apart, these pioneers in the telephone business had a good visit about early history of telephones and about the development the great invention had attained since that day.

Back in Boston, June 2, 1876, Bell and Watson stretched a piece of copper wire 3½ feet free. Watson took a receiver at one end and Bell at the other end and spoke into a transmitter that measured in size somewhere between a frying pan and a waashtub.

"Come here Watson, I want you," was what Bell said. Watson came running in, showing that he had heard the message. The telephone was assured.

First Wire Is Used. Yesterday the old original copper wire was used again. It had been cut in two and thirty feet of it had been applied over each end of the 3,400 miles of wire across the continent.

When Watson and Bell closed their visit yesterday another new long-distance connection was made between Jekyll Island, Florida, and New York City. Theodore N. Vall, president of the American Telephone and Telegraph company, who is speaking at the island, the island, held conversation with Bell in New York. It was planned that President Wilson should also talk to San Francisco, but when the hour came the president was busy with state matters at Washington and could not meet the plan.

Karlsruhe Sinks 11 Ships in Fortnight  
BERLIN (By Wireless to London), Jan. 25.—It is reported from Leipzig that the German cruiser Karlsruhe has sunk eleven commercial ships during the last fortnight.

Leipzig is in central Germany, several hundred miles from any port. It is not likely that news concerning the Karlsruhe, in the ordinary course of events, would reach Leipzig in advance of Berlin. The Karlsruhe is one of the few German warships still on the high seas. It has sunk a large number of British and French vessels, successfully eluding hostile warships that for weeks have been pursuing it. On January 21, it was reported that the Karlsruhe had been sighted off Porto Rico.

HITCHCOCK RESOLUTION WILL COME UP ON TUESDAY  
(From a Staff Correspondent.) LINCOLN, Jan. 25.—(Special.)—The bill to endorse the Hitchcock resolution relative to neutrality was taken up in the committee of the whole in the senate today and its recommendation for passage moved by Howell of Douglas. Several members being absent, however, progress was reported and the bill was set for special order of business at 11 o'clock Tuesday morning.

## CHANCELLOR SAYS ENGLAND ACTING A HYPOCRITE PART

Von Bethmann Hollweg Asserts Britain Protests Alleged Tonten Barbarities While Winking at Allies' Crimes.

LET'S RUSSIA ABUSE HELPLESS  
German Prime Minister Also Accuses France of Mistreatment of Its Enemies.

HORRORS OF PRISON CAMPS  
BERLIN, Jan. 25.—(Via London.)—In the future no will be decided by England's "magnanimous appeals," in the name of civilization and humanity, said Dr. Theobald von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German imperial chancellor, after revisiting methods of warfare which he said had been adopted by Great Britain and its allies.

What Impressed Premier. The correspondent sought to obtain the views of the chancellor and foreign minister on Anglo-American relations with particular reference to British interference with American shipping. No official information had been received concerning the contents of the British reply to the American note so that they were unwilling to discuss the statement in detail. One section of the note, as given in newspaper dispatches, made a particular impression, however, on the chancellor. It was the paragraph in which Great Britain indicated that it had been acting on the principle that foodstuffs were conditional contraband and that England had not interfered with shipments of foodstuffs not intended for the armed forces of an enemy or for a hostile government. In this connection the chancellor pointed out that no official information had been received shipments of grain or other provisions had reached Germany from America during the war.

Statement by Chancellor. The chancellor then made the following statement: "I shall not comment on the British note of January 7, as far as facts and questions concerning trade are concerned. Sir Edward Grey, however, considered it appropriate to add two statements intended to carry weight far beyond the scope of this particular interchange of notes. I mean the paragraph wherein he speaks of leaving open the question of permitting food supplies not intended for the enemy's armies or government or his ships upon an existing treaty, we had abandoned the rules of civilization and humanity.

"It should not be forgotten that this year England set out to starve over 65,000,000 people directly by cutting off their food, indirectly, by closing the arteries and their commerce. In attempting this it did not refrain from destroying a considerable part of the trade of neutral nations. Now it is beginning to dawdle on Great Britain that it cannot force us to submission by these methods.

Grey Tries to Create Precedent. Sir Edward Grey inserted the sentences in question in order that the reply might stand as a document which would show England's magnanimity, which actually never existed. Sir Edward Grey permitted to act in such districts, to have expired.

Would Consider Favorably. "The imperial government would, however, be disposed to consider favorably any wishes of allied and neutral countries respecting the establishment of consular offices in the districts in question excepting, of course, those districts where military operations are still in course.

In Belgium consular activities in the provinces of East and West Flanders would accordingly not be permitted at present. With regard to other parts of Belgium, consular offices would be permitted to act for the present in Brussels, Antwerp and Liege, but not at other points.

The imperial government would not consider the issuance of formal exequaturs advisable to consular offices, whose names are communicated to the foreign office, but would simply be granted temporary recognition to enable them to act in their official capacity under reserve of the usual investigations respecting their records.

Would Like Neutrals at Least. "In view of the peculiar circumstances existing on military occupation, the imperial government would be grateful if only such persons should be nominated as are assuredly friendly to Germany or have at least neutral convictions.

In bringing the above to the attention of the embassy, the foreign office has the honor respectfully to request that the American government may be notified in the above sense. As the embassy is aware the German government has already recognized Consul General Diederich at Antwerp, assuming this to be the wish of the American government."

Supreme Court to Reopen. WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—The supreme court today announced it would take a recess after announcing opinions February 1 to February 3.

## The National Capital Monday, January 25, 1915.

The Senate. Met at 11 a. m. Secretaries McAdoo and Redfield presented a joint report on the ocean shipping situation. Senator Root led the republican attack on the administration ship bill. The Philippines committee considered changes in the preamble of the house bill, enabling a greater measure of self-government to the islands.

The House. Met at 11 a. m. Representative Talcott of New York introduced a bill to double the number of cadets at West Point. The agricultural appropriation bill was introduced by the District of Columbia appropriation bill.

## NEW BATTLE LINE 300 MILES LONG

Austrian and German Forces Start Offensive Move in Hungary, Bukovina and Galicia.

GERMANS USING A NEW DEVICE  
PETEROGRAD, Jan. 25.—(Via London.)—There has been pronounced activity along the entire Austrian front of 300 miles during the last few days. This is regarded here as marking the initiation of the plan for an Austro-German offensive movement, which is believed to have been adopted recently, with the object of clearing the Russian invaders from Bukovina, eastern Galicia and northern Hungary.

In Galicia, between the Vistula and Jasolka rivers, approximately thirty miles east of the Dunajec, General Brojewski, commander of the fourth Austrian army, has undertaken a forward movement in the direction of Przemysl. Whether this is an attempt to relieve Przemysl, which has been under siege for several months, or to withdraw from Bukovina, is not clear. Simultaneous attacks are recorded on the Russian positions in Bukovina, in the vicinity of Kimpulung, and in the south Polish provinces of Radom and Kielce, along the line from Inowol to Koniska, and thence to Bobrowka, where heavy artillery engagements have occurred.

Northward there appears to have been little change. Northwest of Warsaw, from Radosnow to Dolzryn, on the Vistula, the Germans are still on the defensive. On the left bank of the Vistula, west of Warsaw, and along the line to Radom, the Germans are stubbornly attempting to advance. Between Borghinow and Gumin, twenty-five miles west of Warsaw, desperate hand to hand fighting is reported. The village of Borghinow has changed hands several times as the armies surged back and forth. At last reports it was not occupied by either side, as neither of the opposing forces is able to hold it.

German Use New Device. In pushing the German push into improved steel shields, which were moved forward for the protection of trench diggers. Behind these shields the diggers worked until two lines of trenches had been pushed to within a few hundred yards of the Russian position. So close was the advance that the German trenches were held on the point of a bayonet investigation would be riddled with the firing of bullets from the opposing trench. Fighting of this character went on for days with no noticeable advantage for either side.

No less stubborn is the action on the line between Granow and Kurdyanov, southeast of Plock. In this vicinity the Germans are said to have moved forward in the open, over field streets with diggers, many of whom had fallen by the progress made here, as the light went on between the lines of trenches was slight. Neither the Germans nor the Russians were able to get in more than a few yards.

Fireman Denies Story He Was Hurt In Surprise Test  
CHICAGO, Jan. 25.—A dramatic situation was presented before the board of arbitration in the western railroad case case today when O. F. Modenbach, a fireman, who a month ago testified that William W. Thompson, his engineer in the winter of 1908-9, jumped from the engine and was injured, was confronted by Thompson. Modenbach denied the incident in detail and insisted that his previous testimony was correct.

Modenbach reiterated that he and Thompson were running on the Oklahoma division of the Rock Island railroad when suddenly confronted by the red signal of danger, which proved to be a surprise test. Both jumped, he said. Witness escaped with bruises, but Thompson struck collarbone and was laid up for three weeks.

Thompson said he was employed on the Rock Island for two months in the winter of 1908-9. He said that he had orders to meet a train at Dover, Okl., and although for a moment a switch light showed danger his train was under control and the signal was corrected without incident, except that his engine was out of fuel. He did not jump, had never broken his collarbone, he said.

Warren S. Stone, president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, of whom Thompson said he was a member, demanded that the witness produce a skidgraph to prove that his collarbone had never been broken.

"That is a matter of personal privilege with the witness," put in James M. Sheehan, attorney for the railroad. "I'm agreeable," he told Thompson. "If I have any broken bones I'd like to know myself."

English Armored Merchantman Lost  
LONDON, Jan. 25.—It was officially announced at the admiralty today that the British armored merchant vessel Vikon had been lost off Ireland with all hands. The vessel, it was stated, either struck a mine or foundered.

The admiralty in its statement says: "It has been missing for some days and must now be accepted as lost with all its officers and men. The cause of its loss is uncertain, but as some bodies and wreckage have been washed ashore on the north coast of Ireland, it is presumed that during the recent bad weather it either foundered or being carried out of its course, struck a mine in seas where the Germans are known to have laid them."

Collier Farn and Crew Interned for the War  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—The German government has accepted the alternative offered by the United States in the case of the prize collier K. D. 3, formerly the British collier Farn, and has consented to its internment for the war, with its crew, at San Juan, Porto Rico.

## BRITISH PUBLIC IS ENTHUSIASTIC OVER SEA FIGHT

Victory in Battle Between Dreadnoughts and Cruisers Calms Fears of Inhabitants of the East Coast.

GERMAN REPORT IS DIFFERENT  
It Says English Cruiser Was Sunk and All Kaiser's Ships Save One Are Safe.

NEW LINE FORMING IN AUSTRIA  
The Day's War News

GERMAN official report of yesterday's engagement in the North Sea says that "according to information available" a British battle cruiser was sunk. This is at direct variance with the official English version of the fight, which states that none of the British vessels was lost.

VIENNA reports the Austrians have administered a definite check to the Russian army which invaded Bukovina. An official statement makes no mention of the hurried Russian retreat and heavy losses reported previously. The statement shows that the Russians again succeeded in penetrating passes of the Carpathians.

RUBIAN armies have been attacked by Austria in conjunction with the German forces in the east, in accordance with the plan believed in Petrograd to have been adopted by the Teutonic allies. Austrian forces have struck at their opponents all along their 300-mile front. Heavy fighting is in progress, but so far as its known in Petrograd no important results have been achieved as yet.

DESPERATE fighting at close quarters is in progress in central Poland, where many men have died from cold.

SEVERE encounters continue in Alsace and the Argonne. Neither the French nor the German official statements claim marked successes.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—The news of the first battle between dreadnoughts, yesterday's engagement in the North Sea, has aroused much more enthusiasm among the British public than either the fight off Heligoland or off the Falkland Islands, although both of these engagements perhaps loomed larger in actual results.

In the English people the combat of yesterday means the triumph of their long time confidence in their big gun fleet and it calms the fear of the east coast of frequent repetitions of the Harlepool and Scarborough raid. Sir David Beatty, the youngest admiral in the British navy, has become the most popular hero of the war.

oo The German official report on Sunday's fight admits the sinking of the cruiser Bleucher, but offsets this loss with the assertion: "According to information available one British battleship cruiser was sunk." This statement has been directly denied by the British admiralty, which says: "No British ships have been lost."

This engagement keeps up the reputation of the present war for Sunday fighting, which has been so frequent, both on land and sea, and that Sunday has now come to be a day of increased vigilance rather than of relaxation.

No important developments in the land fighting on either front have been reported in the weather in the west has resulted in considerable activity, which, however, has thus far produced no notable results.

New Line Forming at Bukovina. The contending forces in Bukovina are forming for a new battle, and the Austrians claim the advantage in the preliminary skirmishes. The Austrian claim also that they have driven back the Russian advance through some of the Carpathian passes.

The Turks, according to London reports, (Continued on Page Two, Column Four.)

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## The Weather

Temperatures in Omaha Yesterday, Hours, Deg.

6 a. m.	21
8 a. m.	21
10 a. m.	21
12 m.	21
2 p. m.	21
4 p. m.	21
6 p. m.	21
8 p. m.	21
10 p. m.	21

Comparative Local Record.

Highest yesterday	21.5	1914	1913	1912
Lowest yesterday	21	21	20	20
Mean yesterday	22	22	21	21
Precipitation	0	0	0	0
Temperature and precipitation departures from the normal:				
Normal temperature	30	29	28	28
Deficiency for day	9	8	7	7
Total excess since March 1	64	64	64	64
Normal precipitation	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Deficiency for day	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total rainfall since March 1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Deficiency since March 1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Deficiency for year, period, 1913	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Deficiency for year, period, 1912	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Reports from Stations at 7 P. M.  
Station and State Temp. High-Rain-  
of Weather P. m. est. Fall.

Cherokee, clear	14	0
Davenport, clear	14	0
Denver, part cloudy	23	0
Des Moines, cloudy	23	0
Dodge City, cloudy	23	0
Landor, clear	16	0
North Platte, cloudy	16	0
Omaha, cloudy	16	0
Public, clear	20	0
Pacific City, cloudy	16	0
Salt Lake City, pt. cloudy	23	0
Santa Fe, snow	23	0
Shelburne, cloudy	12	0
Sioux City, cloudy	12	0
Valentine, clear	14	0