

TWO GERMAN SPIES ADMIT THEIR GUILT

Newspaper Men Gather News for Kaiser from England by Agents Sent from Gotham.

DETAILS OF THE PLOT

New York, March 21.—Albert O. Sander and Charles N. Wunnenberg, indicted as members of the central powers war film exchange on the charge of engaging in a military enterprise and sending spies to England to get information for German military authorities today pleaded guilty. They will be sentenced tomorrow.

It was charged by the federal authorities that Sander and Wunnenberg engaged George Vaux Bacon of St. Louis, an American newspaper man, to go to England in the role of a spy and that Bacon received money from Wunnenberg to pay his expenses. It was alleged also that the conspirators furnished Bacon with quantities of invisible or "sympathetic" ink for use in communication between them.

Bacon, who was arrested in England, was permitted to return here to testify against Sander and Wunnenberg before the grand jury. This led, it was said, to the two men pleading guilty.

CALLS CONGRESS TO CONSIDER WAR ACTS OF GERMANY

(Continued From Page One.)

fixed for the extra session—April 16—was announced today. The president's mind finally was made up as the result of yesterday's cabinet meeting, at which practically a unanimous opinion was expressed that, while preparations to put the nation in a full state of armed neutrality were going forward, making—without alone has the war-making power—should be summoned.

The president deliberated on the question until late last night, and early today made his decision. He chose April 2, because he thought it would be impossible for all members of congress to reach Washington earlier.

Will Recite Overt Acts.

In his address at the opening of the extra session the president will recite the overt acts committed against the United States by Germany.

The sentiment in congress is understood to be overwhelmingly in favor of a declaration that, as a result of Germany's acts against the United States, a state of war already exists.

The foremost overt act which brought the president to his decision was the torpedoing without warning of the American merchantman *Vigilancia* with the loss of fifteen lives, some of them Americans.

Will Discuss Other Issues.

The president has not made up his program entirely for presentation to congress, but probably will also discuss universal military training. The Navy department is expected to call for privately-owned yachts and large motor boats for service against submarines. Tentative contracts for such craft have already been negotiated in many cases.

It is known that up to noon yesterday President Wilson told close advisers he still was of an open mind on the question of summoning congress immediately, but that he leaned toward awaiting the extra session called for April 16.

At yesterday's cabinet meeting, however, several of the members went to the White House determined to urge strongly on the president an immediate extra session, which they believed was demanded by the country. Those cabinet members who have been classed as pacifist or with pacifist leaning, it was said, offered no objections of weight, and the president, without giving any indication of his decision, merely heard what every member of his official family had to say.

War Started by Germany.

Officials and diplomats have openly acknowledged that a state of war between the United States and Germany has existed for some time, but that the situation became most pronounced last Sunday when three American ships were destroyed by submarines in quick succession and some American lives were lost.

Practically all the president's closest advisers at once made up their minds that Germany was actually conducting war against the United States and the situation must be met promptly. The principal arguments brought to bear against the United States taking a further step toward war were that practically all that could be done to protect American lives and ships at sea had been done by the arming of merchant vessels and that an acknowledged state of war between the two countries would give Germany an opportunity to carry its submarine warfare to this side of the Atlantic. This latter was somewhat of a secondary consideration, because the navy feels that it is prepared to meet that feature of the situation. It also is argued that having kept the country out of the war so far, the president would be reluctant to enter it now, when there are indications of developments in Europe which of themselves promise to hasten the end of the conflict.

Cabinet Unanimous.

All these arguments were swept aside, however, at yesterday's cabinet meeting, when on the opinion described by members as the most unanimous ever known in the president's official family, it was decided that Germany's acts of aggression against the United States on the seas, its ruthless destruction of American lives in convention of all the principles of law and humanity had come to constitute a state of war being made upon the United States and that there was nothing left to do but call congress to deal with the question.

President Wilson, when he asked congress for authority to arm American merchantmen, declared that he was contemplating no step that would lead to war and that he was not contemplating war itself. Nothing, he

said, but the warlike acts of another nation against the United States could bring the country into war. The president, the cabinet and all official Washington now believe that such a moment has come and that it has not been of this country's choosing.

Calls for all party leaders in congress to hurry back to Washington went out immediately. Speaker Clark is on his way home from New Orleans and is expected here Friday. Democratic Leader Kitchin is in North Carolina and Republican Leader Mann is in Chicago.

At the capitol these congressmen already here agreed that granting of emergency authority in some form will be first business after organization of the house. Outside of all emergency legislation the four failed supply bills—army, military academy, general deficiency and sundry civil—which include some legislation of vital importance to national defense, will be pressed for quick enactment.

Democratic considerations at the extra session include the shipping board amendments to enable the government to take over foreign ships building in American yards and additional revenue-raising legislation.

Question of Finances.

The secretary of the treasury now has authority to issue obligations of the United States in the form of bonds or short term certificates of indebtedness amounting to \$74,000,000. Of this total about \$100,000,000 was authorized by congress to cover expenses of the Mexican situation, the Alaskan railway and the government armor plate plant. About \$70,000,000 was to be used to build a government nitrate plant and for the use of the shipping board. Of the rest \$150,000,000 is for use by the president in connection with any emergency requiring expedition of naval work. This leaves \$254,000,000 on which there are no restrictions which would be available just as soon as these necessary obligations were issued. Secretary McAdoo was said today not to have prepared to issue any bonds immediately, but whenever he so determines they can be put on the market in short order.

It would be a simple matter for congress to wipe out the restrictions on the \$74,000,000 total if the president and Mr. McAdoo recommended it.

U. S. NOW PASSING THE VERGE OF WAR

(Continued From Page One.)

resources necessary to stand behind the flag.

Plans for the army are not so fully matured. It is believed, however, that President Wilson will recognize the possibility of the army participation in the war when he addresses congress by discussing the need of universal military training. In a tentative way plans for marshalling the full strength of the regular army, the National Guard and the raising of a volunteer army of 500,000 men have been worked out in the Army War college.

The volunteer army of 500,000 is planned as a nucleus of what eventually would be an army of 3,000,000 and would be assembled in training camps.

Big Plants Are Ready.

The mobilizing of industrial resources has gone much further. Hundreds of great corporations, through the efforts of the council of national defense, have prepared themselves to utilize their full efficiency in the defense of the nation.

Henry Ford, the Detroit automobile manufacturer, has offered, and the government has accepted, his great plant to be operated without profit in event of the war. Charles M. Schwab has announced that his Bethlehem plant, now greater than Krupp's, will be used entirely for the government. The United States Steel corporation and a hundred other great industrial organizations have been making plans for their participation. Yesterday the great copper interests notified the government that they would supply the army and navy with their vital supplies of copper at about half the market price.

When the president addresses congress he is expected to go into the details of the situation very fully, particularly as to how it affects the future of the United States.

May Ask Half Billion.

While it is not known how much money President Wilson may suggest to congress as necessary to meet the situation, leaders in the senate have held the view that not less than \$500,000,000 should be granted at once in case war is declared. It is not probable that legislation giving such a sum would meet with any opposition.

Quite aside from the task of protecting American lives and rights against aggression on the high seas, the president has considered the broader question of the preservation of civilization, the distribution of world power after the war, a natural arrangement of the world's peoples in governments and an effective league of nations to protect the world against another cataclysm of war.

The influence of the United States in the conferences which will make peace is everywhere admitted as not to be overestimated.

One of the measures now under consideration by the federal shipping board is the building of a large standardized fleet of small wooden cargo steamers to carry supplies through the submarine zone. The question of participation of an American army on the European battlefields, was touched upon, it was understood, as one of the possibilities of the future, but not to be considered as a prospective step now.

Woman Who Killed Husband Faints on the Witness Stand

Denver, Colo., March 21.—Unnerved by the ordeal of yesterday afternoon and today on the witness stand, Mrs. Stella Newton Moore Smith, on trial for the murder of her husband, collapsed just before noon as she was telling the judge the story of her unhappy married life. Mrs. Smith had reached the period of her relations with Smith on the eve of the murder when she broke down completely, after making sensational accusations against the dead man.

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EXPECT TEUTONS TO TAKE AGGRESSIVE

Officials Believe Germany Will Extend Operations Against United States at Once.

ALLIES' DIPLOMATS GLAD

Washington, March 21.—With the knowledge that the United States is practically certain to declare a state of war existing, many officials believe that Germany may begin warlike operations against the United States in a fuller sense.

Although The Hague convention of 1907, to which both the United States and Germany are signatories, declared that hostilities shall not begin without formal notice to belligerents as well as neutrals, it is recognized that The Hague treaties have been so openly disregarded during the war in Europe that no compliance with them may be expected with any confidence. Before The Hague convention there was ample precedent for beginning of hostilities without formal war declarations.

The precedents of history show that the great majority of world's conflicts have been begun before formal declaration of war was made.

According to authorities on international law a condition of war arises in three ways:

First—A declaration of war.

Second—A proclamation or manifesto declaring that a state of war exists.

Third—Through the commission of hostile acts of force.

One authority on international law describing ways in which hostilities may begin without formal declaration says "acts of force by way of reprisals, or during a pacific blockade, or during an intervention, might be forcibly resisted * * * hostilities breaking out in this way."

When the word that the president had summoned congress went through the allied embassies this morning it was received with acclamation. There is not a diplomat in the corps who does not believe that it means the entry of the United States into the great war, bringing its wealth, its armed forces, its great resources and its moral power to the side of the entente allies in which they feel in their battle for the preservation of civilization and democracy.

President Wilson's action today was quickly followed by predictions at the capitol that congress speedily would declare a state of war existing. Chairman Flood of the house foreign affairs committee said he expected congress would quickly pass a resolution declaring that a state of war exists and endorsing the president's course.

Congress Will Act Promptly.

"Congress will declare that a state of war exists, will endorse the president's stand and will make whatever appropriations are necessary to enable the president to carry forward the war plans as quickly as possible," said Mr. Flood.

"There probably will be an appropriation of very much more than the \$100,000,000 proposed in the armed neutrality bill which passed the house and failed in the senate. There will not be any material opposition to immediate legislation along these lines."

Senator Poindexter, republican, of Washington said today that "congress will pass quickly a law authorizing a limited war on German submarines."

"I expect congress," he said, "to take vigorous action immediately."

May Open Ports to Allies.

It became known that yesterday's cabinet meeting, discussing what active steps the United States should take after a declaration of war, considered the opening of American ports to warships of the entente allies, the opening of the vast credits to the allies for their supplies and co-operative action with the allied fleets in clearing the submarines out of the shipping lane and guarding the transport to Europe.

A resolution to open all American ports to the allied warships was introduced in the last session by Senator Sausbury, president pro tempore of the senate and a member of the foreign relations committee. It was sent to that committee and not discussed at the time. Senator Sausbury, however, is known to have dis-

Panama Canal Is Closely Guarded By United States

Washington, March 21.—Army officers feel no uneasiness as to the security of the Panama canal in the present crisis, despite many published reports that the big waterway is exposed to raiding parties intent upon crippling it.

Washington Paper Suggests Norris Has Way to Test Public

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

Washington, March 21.—(Special Telegram.)—Senator Norris expects to leave on a short speech-making tour of Nebraska on Thursday or Friday.

His first speech in defense of his position on armed neutrality will be made at the Auditorium at Lincoln on Monday evening. It was stated by Senator Norris' secretary that the request made on Governor Neville for a special election on his recall has been refused, and that the senator will now devote the next two weeks in explaining to his constituents why he stayed in the ranks of the "willful twelve" as the president denominated the senators who participated in the armed neutrality filibuster.

The Washington Times, discussing editorially Senator Norris' request for a special election, says among other things:

"Senator Norris expressed wish not to stay longer in the senate if he is found to misrepresent his people is commendable. In the absence of the recall for federal officers, he proposes an election to determine whether he shall remain in the senate. If the senator is really in earnest, he can compel an election. Let him resign his commission to the governor, as Senator Bailey once did, only without any string tied to the resignation, and there will be a vacancy to be filled. Then he can test his acceptability with the people of Nebraska by running for the office again. Senator Conkin and Platt once resigned their offices expecting the legislature of New York to vindicate them by re-electing them. The legislature disappointed them, it is true.

"But the people of Nebraska might not disappoint Senator Norris. The plan is worth trying if Senator Norris really wants to know how his people feel about him."

Fourth Victim of Poisoned Home Canned Greens Dies

Boise, Idaho, March 21.—Claude Richards, aged 22, member of the Richards family of Carey, poisoned last week by eating home-canned greens, died this morning. He is the fourth victim to succumb, his mother and two sisters having died Sunday and Monday. The father, Samuel P. Richards, may recover.

Wife Murder and Suicide.

Chicago, March 21.—Charles E. Nevin died today of a bullet wound inflicted by himself after shooting and killing his wife. Jealousy is supposed to have caused the tragedy. Nevin was 40 years old, his wife 29.

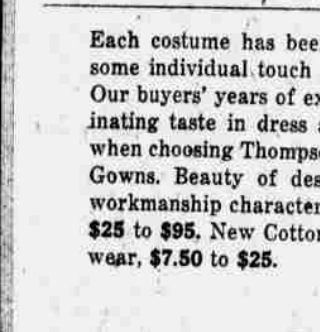
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