

Our Jazz Music Would've Saved Kaiser Wilhelm

So Says Berlin Satirist Who Tells Germans All About Ecstasies of American Syncopation.

By FRANK E. MASON. International News Service Staff Correspondent.

Berlin, April 16.—Jazz music might have saved the kaiser from his fall. "Alte Zeiten, alte Weisen," rejoined Hans Siemsen, the satirist, explaining jazz to Germany in the current issue of the Welt Buehne, or World Stage.

"America, so they say, has no more liquor," writes Herr Siemsen. "But they don't need it. They have jazz bands. These are orchestras that can make you drunk without alcohol. Jazz is a cross between European dance music and American negro music.

"There is a piano, a violin and perhaps a bass viol. But especially there are symphonic drums and a variety of nameless, highly fantastic instruments which, rather than producing music, cause a sort of musical din.

"The fat man who plays these instruments is the soul, the good spirit of the jazz band. He doesn't play them all at once; sometimes he uses this, sometimes that. When the table full of musical appliances doesn't suffice he grabs something from the wall. The pianist and violinist play—well, at least very unEuropean, but the fat man surpasses them all. He gurgles on a bassoon-like horn (the saxophone is unknown to Germany) an independent base melody without bothering in the least about what his comrades are playing.

"Then he decides that for the next passage of music a flute melody is more suitable and picks up a flute. Or he tinkles a triangle. He always knows exactly what is necessary and supplies the music with anything lacks, whether a boom, a shrill cry, or a deep-toned mysterious gong. And if he hasn't anything else to do he sits down beside the pianist, who for a single person is already doing pretty well in imitating a four-handed player, and plays whatever comes into his head—perhaps a chromatic scale. And at the same time he sings a negro melody.

"It is beautiful. Perhaps you think that this is tremulous. It is comical—but it is also beautiful. Like the cubist pictures of Picasso, or the acquerels of Klee. Seemingly senseless and not at all monotonous, in truth in its very discord it has harmony.

"This music, its rhythm which contradicts all common sense, is irresistible, like poison or like alcohol. Jazz music gets into your very bones, into your limbs. It sets those who really understand it into motion like marionettes. (But it must be a real jazz band. The fat man must be a musical genius. There are frightfully poor imitations. Anyone who has heard them must think me an idiot. Beware of imitations.)

"The couple dancing to this hypnotic music are not moving of their own volition, but are controlled by the music. At least, they are in the power of the music if they dance well. They proceed slowly and calmly to the beat of the bass drum. Suddenly the shrill tone of the flute penetrates their very bones, their knees bend and they make several steps with swaying bodies until the bass drum steadies them. Then comes the run on the clarionette and they turn about like a cork screw. This music controls the dancers as if they were dolls jumping at the pulling of a string.

"It's a wonderful sensation to surrender yourself to this rhythm with neither will nor reason. If you have a jazz band, you need no bandy; you need no gin.

"Lack of Dignity. "But the most beautiful characteristic of jazz is its complete lack of dignity. Jazz destroys the last semblance of dignity, of stiffness and propriety. Anyone who fears to make himself ridiculous cannot dance to jazz. The German professor can't dance it; the Prussian reserve officer couldn't dance it. If only all the professors and privy councilors and ministers were compelled to dance to jazz. How human, how amiable, how comical they all would become. The stinging circle of stupidity, vanity and dignity could not exist. If the kaiser had only danced to jazz, all this would never have taken place. Aber, ach! he never learned it. To be German kaiser is easier than to dance to jazz.

C. S. Kelly Relieved as Chief Rail Mail Clerk. C. S. Kelly, chief clerk of the second district of the railway mail service here, was relieved from duty last midnight, according to a telegram received by J. H. Musgrave, superintendent of the railway mail service in Omaha.

F. B. Eastland, former clerk in charge on Union Pacific trains Nos. 5 and 2 on the Ogdan-Omaha division, has been named successor to Mr. Kelly. Mr. Eastland has been in the railway service for 36 years, his appointment to succeed Mr. Kelly was officially approved by Postmaster General Will Hays.

Essay Contest to Be Held by Company at Building Show. An essay contest will be conducted at the building show by the Foster-Barker company. Insurance totaling \$8,000 will be given the person writing the best essay on "The Best Reason for Insuring With Foster-Barker." Announcement of the award will be made at 9:30 the last night of the show. Details of the contest may be obtained at the Foster-Barker booth at the show.

Garden Invites Mothers. This is Mothers week at the Empress Rustic garden. Manager Ledoux invites all Omaha mothers to visit the garden and judge its atmosphere with respect to their sons and daughters. No tickets are necessary, he declared, and there is no red tape. All a mother has to do for admission is say she has a son or daughter interested in dancing.

Atlantic Fleet Placed on War Basis 60 Days Before Congress Did Declare War on Central Powers Says Daniels

President Wilson's advice—Putting a navy into war—As Bernstorff received his passports the Atlantic fleet, under Admiral Mayo, went on a war basis—naval communications mobilized by wireless—President calls secretaries of navy and war in conference following dismissal of Bernstorff—Daniels secretary for advice military and naval troops—Immediate preparations taken—President visits Daniels and Baker to discuss personnel of department—"Fire and keep the best men"—First Daniels' order—Point of view, mobilization code to American fleet—Bernstorff of various forces disclosed—"Destroy reference (a)."

By JOSEPHUS DANIELS. Former Secretary of the Navy.

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The Atlantic fleet, under Admiral Henry T. Mayo, went on a war basis at 2 o'clock on the afternoon of February 3, 1917. At the same hour of the same day President Wilson delivered his message to congress severing relations with Germany, and the department of state handed Bernstorff his passports.

I had just finished sending out a one-line dispatch ordering the mobilization of naval communications, when a summons came to me to attend a conference with the president at the White House. He had finished the delivery of his message and returned to his official residence. My message, which put all our communications—radio, telegraph, telephone, mails and signals—on a war basis, read as follows: "One Alati Radicode. Mobilize Naval Communications."

"Secnav" is the code word for secretary of the navy. The order was spattering out by wireless as I walked over to the White House. I found the secretary of war had also been summoned.

Fears German Plotters. The president was anxious concerning the safety of military and naval property. We knew enough about German plotting to feel the very real cause for this anxiety. There were thousands of aliens in the United States, none of whom could be interned legally unless or until war was declared. What might happen under the provocation to alien sentiment which had been given in severing relations with Germany none of us could tell; but obviously the situation was perilous, and demanded the taking of extraordinary precautions.

Orders were immediately sent to every naval and military plant and station in the United States, Hawaii, Alaska, Guam and the Philippines, to bar all visitors and to strengthen guards. The guard for the Panama canal was doubled.

The publication of the movement of naval vessels and of the daily orders to naval officers was discontinued, in order to prevent information of a nature useful to the potential enemy reaching German ears. The ships we had maintained along the coast to enforce neutrality regulations were increased in number, and this consideration for neutrality now became a consideration for our own safety and a virtual coast patrol was established.

Wilson Keeps Close Watch. The president watched every step during these days with closest attention. He was not satisfied with general reports on what was being done.

The Monday following the break in diplomatic relations he appeared suddenly in my office and worked at work on plans, reports and orders. I told him what I had done, and what I was doing. He suggested we go together to the war department. The secretary of war was there, and the three of us spent a long session in discussing the situation.

Some of the things the president said to us are indelibly impressed upon my memory. He told us the breach in diplomatic relations did not necessarily mean war, but brought us so close to the possibility we must put our house in order and be ready for any emergency.

He was concerned about the personnel on our respective departments. "Each of you must surround yourselves with the ablest men you have," he said, and, turning to me, he asked whether I felt that my immediate advisers—the chief of naval operations, the chiefs of bureaus and the officers in important commands afloat—were the right ones to retain in these positions.

"Get and Keep the Best." "They are the best in the navy," I told him. He asked the same question of Secretary Baker, and he replied that his men knew their jobs, and were going ahead with them. Some were necessarily slated for early retirement, but to anticipate this, he thought, would be unwise, occasioning needless alarm and disturbing morale.

The president listened intently to us, and reiterated his desire that only the ablest, most alert and energetic men should be put in places of responsibility.

"Get and keep the best," he said, as our conference ended. We continued developing our plans along the indicated lines. On the same day the order was issued mobilizing all communications. I had sent a dispatch requiring every ship of the three fleets—Atlantic, Pacific and Asiatic—to report immediately on its readiness for war. The condition of the ships, guns, machinery and personnel, together with what repairs or additions might be needed, were imperative matters for information. As a result of this dispatch we knew very quickly precisely where we stood, and were able to meet promptly and effectively the conditions which required attention and remedy.

Events Move Rapidly. After the cabinet meeting of March 20, when decision was reached that congress should be asked to declare war, things moved with increasing rapidity. Admiral Mayo had notified me that he planned to bring his gunnery exercises and maneuvers to an end by April 5, and to start north for home waters. We were anxious to interfere as little as possible with the important practice work off Cuba, but when it was settled beyond reasonable doubt that we were to become a belligerent, we decided to call the Atlantic fleet northward at once. So, following the March 20th meeting, I dispatched an order which headed the fleet for Hampton roads.

Plans to Protect Shipping. That same afternoon, accompanied by Admiral Benson, chief of naval operations, I attended a meeting of the general board of the navy and asked the board, in the name of the president, to draft at once recommendations for some means more effective than that of armed guards

for protecting American shipping entering European ports. In reply, the board reiterated recommendations which it had made on February 4, as follows: (a) Escort vessels to deep water from our ports, and similarly from deep water to our ports. (b) Arrange with the British and French governments for the convey of our merchant ships through the barred zones. (c) Merchant ships to proceed on the high seas from points of leaving and receiving escorts, depending upon their guns for protection, and upon changes of course to follow alternate routes. (d) Arrange with British and French governments a code of signals to be used in directing merchant ships as to routes to be followed and points of meeting escorts. (e) Establish a patrol of the Atlantic coast. (f) Recruit up to the limit allowed by law for emergencies in order to provide crews for patrols and auxiliaries, and to fill battleship complements which have been depleted.

All Ready for War. Obviously some of these recommendations could not be put into effect until a state of war existed. I ordered the office of naval operations to be ready to act upon them instantly when occasion formed. And now I want to give you a document which has never been printed before. It is the text of the mobilization plan sent to every commander of fleets or vessels and to every district commandant. The arrangements were so complete in every detail, and every commander and official knew so well what to do, that it was necessary when war was declared only to telegraph them to mobilize in accordance with this plan—and mobilization was accomplished in a few hours. Here is the document:

NAVY DEPARTMENT. Strictly Confidential. Op-17-D. Washington, D. C. March 21, 1917. From: Secretary of the Navy. To: Subject: Mobilization Plan. References: (a) Chief of Naval Operations Confidential Letter of April 27, 1916. (b) Chief of Naval Operations Confidential Letter of December 11, 1916. (c) Mobilization Order No. 1 of February 5, 1917.

1. The following instructions for mobilization replace references (a), (b) and (c). Destroy references (a), (b) and (c). If either reference (a) or reference (b) has not been received, no report of that fact need be made.

2. Mobilization sheets will be published from time to time giving the organization of the fleet for war, fitting out bases and other information.

3. Whenever a new mobilization sheet for any force is received, the old mobilization sheet for that force shall be destroyed. The mobilization sheet for any force shall remain in effect until replaced.

4. Upon receipt of the message in secret code to mobilize for war, every effort shall be made to assemble ships at the designated rendezvous, at the earliest possible date, ready in all respects for war service.

5. Order of ships in divisions as well as details of organization not otherwise provided for shall be prescribed by the commander-in-chief, or, in case of vessels assigned to naval districts, by commandants of naval districts.

6. The following rendezvous are designated for mobilization in case of war in the Atlantic: Battleship Force: Chesapeake Bay after April 5. Until then—as at present. Scout Force: Division 1—Canal Zone; Division 2—Home Yards; Division 3—San Francisco; Division 4—Canal Zone. Patrol Force: As ordered. Destroyer Force: With battleship fleet. Mine Force: With battleship fleet. Train: As ordered by train commander. Submarine Force: New London, Conn. Atlantic Coast Division: Philadelphia, Pa. Pacific Coast Auxiliaries: As directed by commander-in-chief. Philippine Divisions: As directed by commander-in-chief. Naval District Forces: Each force in own district units at ports as directed by district commandant.

For Swift Movement. 7. Plans shall be developed by all officers concerned to provide for the utmost expedition and efficiency of mobilization.

8. The assignment of a vessel to a navy yard for fitting out shall not be construed as an order for that vessel to proceed to the yard designated to strip and fit out, but as an order to call on no other than that yard for aid in fitting out for war service, except by permission of Navy department. The principal mission of each vessel shall be to arrive at its designated rendezvous or at its war station ready for war service in the shortest possible time. The secondary mission of each vessel, in case vessels are ordered to strip ship, shall be to store its surplus supplies, equipment and material resulting from stripping ship at

ment by the officer designated on the mobilization sheet of the estimated earliest date when each vessel could be ready in all respects, so far as material is concerned, for war purposes. These reports shall, for each vessel, consist of name of vessel and date. The message "Alnav availability" calls for a report, but should never be construed as an order to take any steps whatever towards mobilization.

9. When the requirements of vessels as to personnel, material, facilities, or repairs, in fitting out for war service, conflict, they shall be given precedence in the alphabetical order of their assigned precedence letters.

10. Upon receipt of message "Alnav availability," reports shall be made immediately to the department by the officer designated on the mobilization sheet of the estimated earliest date when each vessel could be ready in all respects, so far as material is concerned, for war purposes. These reports shall, for each vessel, consist of name of vessel and date. The message "Alnav availability" calls for a report, but should never be construed as an order to take any steps whatever towards mobilization.

11. Comments and suggestions useful in perfecting the mobilization plan outlined in the mobilization sheets and in this letter are requested.

12. Acknowledge this letter by radio or wire. As a matter of fact the drafting and issuance of this mobilization program had been anticipated in the Navy department by almost a year. It was immediately after the sinking of the Sussex—on April 27, 1916, to be specific—that a mobilization plan was first sent to the fleets. This was "Reference (a)" the destruction of which is ordered above.

Two Wireless Receiving Sets Asked by Radio Men. London, April 16.—The Association of Wireless Telegraphists issued a demand for the increase of methods for securing safety at sea. It is suggested that in order to carry out the provisions of the International Radiographic convention in London it is necessary that two separate receiving installations be provided on liners doing special work, one for continuous 600 metres watch and one for press schedules or special receptions.

It is said that often the wireless is working on press news for six hours continuously, giving ample time for a ship in distress to founder without any of its calls for help being heard by ships in the vicinity.

Even Mayor in Tulsa Gets "Move On" Order. He recently complained to the police chief that members of the force D. Evans believes in Tulsa's "finest."

were not enforcing the "move on" ordinance. "Make the people abide by the law," the mayor commanded. Stopping to talk to an acquaintance a little later, the mayor rested on a box in front of a clothing store. "What's the trouble?" asked a patrolman who "batted in." "Are you tired?" "Nope," replied the mayor. "All right, then, move on and step lively," said the "cop."

The mayor stepped.

Man Confesses He Killed Major on Captain's Orders. Tacoma, Wash., April 16.—Roland P. Pothier, charged with slaying Major Alexander Cronkhite at Camp Lewis in October, 1918, confessed to federal authorities that he was ordered by his superior officer, Captain Robert Rosenbluth, to bring out a loaded gun and "get" Cronkhite. It was announced today by Prosecutor J. W. Selden, who disclosed five alleged confessions made by Pothier.

Advertisement for Hartman's furniture featuring a dining room furniture set, a complete suite for \$85.65, a 50-lb. all cotton mattress for \$8.45, and a cabinet gas range for \$59.75. Includes images of various furniture pieces and promotional text.