

GERMAN REPLY REACHES WASHINGTON OFFICIALS

American Ships Engaged in Legitimate Trade Will Not Be Interfered With Nor Lives on Neutral Ships Endangered.

MAIN CONTENTIONS OF U. S. NOT ANSWERED

Kaiser is Willing to Permit America to Place Four Hostile Ships in Passenger Service—Must Not Carry Contraband—Full Text of Note.

Berlin, via London. — Germany's offer, embodied in the reply to the American note regarding the sinking of the Lusitania and submarine warfare, which was delivered to American Ambassador Gerard is: First, reiterated assurance that American ships engaged in legitimate trade will not be interfered with nor the lives of Americans on neutral ships be endangered.

The text of the note follows: "Berlin, July 8. "The undersigned has the honor to make the following reply to His Excellency, Ambassador Gerard, to the note of the 10th ultimo reference to the impairment of American interests by the German submarine war.

"The Imperial Government learned with satisfaction from the note how earnestly the government of the United States is concerned in seeing the principles of humanity realized in the present war. Also the appeal finds ready echo in Germany and the Imperial Government is quite willing to permit its statements and decisions in the present case to be governed by the principles of humanity just as it has done always.

Anger stems when made recognizable by special markings and notified a reasonable time in advance. The Imperial government, however, confidently hopes that the American government will assume to guarantee that these vessels have no contraband on board, details of arrangements for the unimpeded passage of these vessels to be agreed on by the naval authorities of both sides.

"In order to furnish adequate facilities for travel across the Atlantic for American citizens, the German government submits for consideration a proposal to increase the number of available steamers by installing in passenger service a reasonable number of neutral steamers under the American flag, the exact number to be agreed upon under the same condition as the above-mentioned American steamers.

"The Imperial government believes it can assume that in this manner adequate facilities for travel across the Atlantic Ocean can be afforded American citizens. There would, therefore, appear to be no compelling necessity for American citizens to travel to Europe in time of war on ships carrying an enemy flag.

"In particular, the Imperial government is unable to admit that American citizens can protect an enemy ship through the mere fact of their presence on board. "Germany merely followed England's example when she declared part of the high seas an area of war, consequently, accidents suffered by neutrals on enemy ships in this area of war cannot well be judged differently from accidents to which neutrals are at all times exposed at the seat of war on land when they betake themselves within dangerous localities in spite of previous warnings.

"If, however, it should not be possible for the American government to acquire an adequate number of neutral passenger steamers, the Imperial government is prepared to interpose no objection as to placing under the American flag by the American government of four enemy passenger steamers for passenger traffic between North America and England. Assurances of free and safe passage for American passenger steamers would extend to apply under the identical conditions to these formerly hostile passenger steamers.

"The president of the United States has declared his readiness in a way deserving of thanks, to communicate and suggest proposal to the government of Great Britain with particular reference to the alteration of maritime war. The Imperial government will always be glad to make use of the good offices of the president and hopes that his efforts in the present case, as well as in the direction of the lofty ideal of the freedom of the seas, will lead to an understanding.

"The undersigned requests the ambassador to bring the above to the knowledge of the American government and avails himself of the opportunity to renew to His Excellency the assurance of his most distinguished consideration. (Signed) "VON JAGOW."

"Power of Appeal in Advertising. San Francisco, Cal.—The growing power of the newspaper advertisement and its advance to a higher plane of moral appeal and responsibility were pointed out by Talcott Williams, director of the Columbia University School of Journalism, in an address here, as powerful and encouraging factors in the past half century's newspaper history.

"The moral advance of the advertisement began with the futile attempts to exclude lottery notices three quarters of a century ago. Any man who will compare American advertisements with those of the English, French, German and other European newspapers will find our press and our public not apart, but together, has raised the moral standards of our newspapers to a level nowhere else maintained.

"Truth in the advertisement is more and more enforced under a social law which in all jurisdictions, age by age, imposes heavier penalties and wider sanctions on all written agreements which affect value. The American public has been the first, as its laws and its newspapers show, to see that the advertisement which began as the tool of trade, has become the weapon of democratic instructions.

PROSPECTS FOR CROPS ARE GOOD

ALL OF AMERICAS IMPORTANT CROPS ARE BETTER THAN SIX YEARS AVERAGE.

BIG INCREASE IN ACREAGE

Outlook For Billion-Bushel Wheat Crop is Bright—Record Money Values is Promised.

Washington. — American farmers, confronted with feeding the world while Europe is at war, have planted record acreages of all principal crops. Moreover, official estimates made public by the Department of Agriculture disclose prospects of production exceeding the average of the last six years in almost every important crop. Based on the growing conditions on July 1 some foodstuffs crops give promise of new records. Their money values promise records accordingly.

"Despite wet and cold weather for seven weeks which has retarded growth and cultivation in the important corn states and forces the condition 3.5 per cent below the 10-year average, the new crop is estimated to be 106,000,000 bushels greater than the last 10-year average and 141,000,000 greater than last year's production.

The outlook for the billion-bushel wheat yield continues to grow. Latest estimates raise the prospective production to 963,000,000 bushels, an increase of 13,000,000 bushels since the last estimate. Winter wheat, however, shows a 9.7 per cent drop in condition which reduces its prospective production by 8,000,000 bushels. That is ascribed to rains in Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma. Other states were reported practically the same or better than a month ago.

Those reports now at hand in the Department of Agriculture show that corn, winter wheat, oats, white and sweet potatoes and rice are growing on record acreages.

MINNEHAHA ON FIRE

Caused By Explosion of Bomb Possibly Placed By Holt.

New York. — While the steamer Minnehaha afloat at sea with 15,000 tons of war ammunition aboard, was speeding to Halifax, N. S., Atlantic Transport Line officials and authorities here were bending every effort to learn if the blaze could have been the work of Frank Holt, assailant of J. P. Morgan, who had given warning that a steamship would sink in midocean July 7.

Captain Claret's last message said the fire was under control. It started from an explosion in a forward hold far away from the ammunition. Line officials here believe that Captain Claret picked up the wireless warning sent to all ships and had caused a search to be made to ascertain if there were any bombs aboard.

The fact that no further word was received at the offices of the Atlantic Transport Line was taken to indicate that the ship was making good progress.

The Minnehaha left here July 4 for London. She carried no passengers. Her crew numbered nearly 100. The possible fate of the Minnehaha overshadowed 11 other developments in the case of the man who set off the Capital bomb, then shot J. P. Morgan and finally killed himself.

17 Killed in Trolley Wreck. Niagara Falls, Ont. — Seventeen persons are dead and fifty injured, some probably fatally, as the result of the trolley wreck on the slope of Queenstown Heights. Racing to catch a steamer for Toronto, a special car of the International Railroad, loaded with 121 passengers, left the rails on a sharp curve, and plunged into a gully 15 feet below.

Asks Position on Recruiting. Washington. — Sir Cecil Spring-Rice the British Ambassador, formally applied to the state department for a definition of the American government's view as to whether English patriotic societies or other unofficial agencies violate neutrality laws in sending British subjects from the United States to volunteer in the British army. Conferences between the departments of state and justice will be held before an answer is given. A serious diplomatic controversy may develop.

Oppose Extradition of Huerta. Washington. — Notice that any attempt to extradite Gen. Victoriano Huerta to Mexico will be opposed has been given by the state department to Governor Ferguson of Texas and to both the Carranza and Villa leaders. Governor Ferguson recently referred to the department a formal application from the Villa governor of Chihuahua for the extradition of Huerta on various criminal charges and later an influential request for the extradition of Huerta was made by the Carranza agency here.

Abandon Ancient Prison. Washington. — The ancient Mexican fortress of San Juan de Uloa, in Vera Cruz harbor, is declared to be no longer a military prison in a decree published by General Carranza which reached the state department. "During the long years," the decree says, "this fortress has been used to confine in dark, damp and unhealthy cells political prisoners and often those merely accused of sedition and rebellion, subjecting them to serious sickness of body, incurable maladies of mind and often to many deaths.

HEROES IN EVERYDAY LIFE



HOLT TAKES HIS OWN LIFE SENDS OUTLINE OF NOTE

MANY CONFLICTING REPORTS AS TO THE MANNER IN WHICH HE ELUDED GUARDS.

Body Found in Cell Where Keeper Says He Was Killed—Others Say He Jumped Through Window.

Glen Cove, N. Y. — Frank Holt, the Cornell University professor, who shot J. P. Morgan, in his home near Glen Cove committed suicide in the jail at Mineola.

While several of the jail authorities declare that Holt killed himself by climbing through the opening at the top of his cell door and then plunging to the narrow court below, Holt's keeper said he was positive that the prisoner was killed in his own cell where he said he found the body. There were many conflicting reports as to the manner in which Holt met his death, but it was definitely established through Doctor Cleghorn, the jail physician, that Holt died of a fractured skull.

Several of those about the jail said they heard an explosion, the report coming from Holt's cell. This noise, it was believed, was due to the falling of boards from the top of the cell. Jeremiah O'Bryan, the keeper detailed to watch Holt, said he was 15 feet away from the cell when he heard a loud report. He looked in the direction of the cell, but it was dark. Entering he found Holt's body in a pool of blood in the corner.

The excitement that followed the noise brought Warden Hulise and other jail authorities to the scene. District Attorney Lewis J. Smith and Dr. Cleghorn, together with several constables, were soon on the scene and immediately began investigation. Dr. Cleghorn denied a report that Holt had killed himself by chewing a pre-tension cap.

He repeated that death was caused by a fracture at the top of the skull. An explosion which would have blown his head off would have followed an attempt by Holt to chew a percussion cap. A thorough examination of Holt's cell failed, according to the jail authorities, to disclose any weapon or implements of any kind which Holt could have used to kill himself.

600 CARRANZA TROOPS KILLED.

A Fruitless Attempt is Made to Capture a Villa Stronghold.

Laredo, Texas. — Six hundred Carranza troops were killed in an all day battle in a fruitless attempt to capture Paredon, a Villa stronghold about 30 miles northwest of Monterrey, according to reports here. Eighteen thousand men were reported engaged in the battle with total casualties on both sides of 2,000. Carranza reinforcements renewed the attack.

About 8,000 Carranza troops under Gen. Jacinto B. Trevino advanced along the railroad from Villagarcia, a village about midway between Monterrey and Paredon. The advance followed a true during which both sides buried the dead, who during two weeks incessant fighting about Villagarcia had fallen so thickly as to menace health. The Carranza officers estimated that Villa had nearly 10,000 men concentrated at Paredon under Generals Urbina and Chao.

Charles R. Conant Dead.

New York. — Charles R. Conant, of New York, a banker and financial expert, died in Havana of hemorrhage of the stomach. He was in Cuba at the request of the Cuban authorities to reform the financial system of the republic.

Evelyn Thaw Will Not Testify.

New York. — Evelyn Nesbit Thaw, summoned by the state to testify against Harry K. Thaw, her husband, in the jury proceedings to determine his mental condition, reached New York from her camp at Chatsaugay Lake, near Malone, N. Y., and announced she would stand on her constitutional rights and refuse to take the stand against her husband. Deputy Attorney General Cook asserted that as the hearing was a civil proceeding the court could direct her to testify and he would ask the court to so direct.

Preparing Naval Program.

Washington. — The naval program to be presented to congress, in the light of the lessons of the European war, has not been definitely framed, notwithstanding the fact that Secretary of the Navy Daniels and his advisors have had the subject under consideration continuously for months. The building plans for the coming year will not be completed until the last moment, when probably, President Wilson will say the final word as to the number and type of ships the navy department will request.

SEVERE STORM VISITS MISSOURI

DAMAGE BY TORNADO MAY AGGREGATE HALF A MILLION DOLLARS.

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St. Louis. — A tornado and cloud-burst which swept St. Louis and St. Charles counties caused damage which may aggregate half a million dollars, isolated several small towns, blew half a passenger train off the tracks and deluged parts of the affected district with four inches of rain in half an hour.

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Dutch Steamer Lost.

London. — The Dutch steamer Albergen, which left New York March 30 and Newport News April 1, for Port Spain, has been posted at Lloyd's as missing.

To Conserve Food Supply.

London. — The Earl of Selborne, president of the Board of Agriculture, moving in the House of Lords for a second reading of a bill to prohibit the slaughter of young stock to preserve the meat supply, expressed the opinion that the Germans were putting their whole shipbuilding strength into the construction of submarines. German submarines, he said, were taking a steady toll of British ships and as the war continued it is probable that more submarines would be engaged in this task.

Trouble in Dye Situation.

Washington. — Further complications in the efforts of American textile manufacturers to induce Germany to permit shipments of coal tar dyes to the United States were reported to the Department of Commerce by Commercial Attache Thompson, Barring of American cotton from Germany by the British order-in-council was the primary obstacle in the way of gaining German access to shipments and now to that has been added reports of the exporting of American dyestuffs to Britain.

A Tour For Investigation.

Washington. — A tour of investigation to cover the Middle West, the Pacific Coast and the South was announced by the Federal Trade Commission. Hearings will be begun in Chicago July 19, and the commission will travel for nearly two months. Exporting manufacturers will be examined and asked for suggestions as to the best means of building up the country's export trade. Various commercial and industrial organizations will be consulted to secure a general view.

WANT PROHIBITION SUBMITTED TO PEOPLE.

Anti-Saloon League Adopts Resolution Urging Congress to Submit Constitutional Amendment.

Atlantic City, N. J. The national convention of the Anti-Saloon League of America unanimously adopted resolutions urging Congress to submit the question of national prohibition to the people in the form of a constitutional amendment.

"The nation is rapidly moving toward the absolute prohibition of the beverage liquor traffic," the resolution said. "Already more than two-thirds of the counties and more than three-fourths of the municipalities of the country are under prohibition. Eighteen of the 48 states have adopted prohibition laws while the legislatures of four other states have submitted the question to an early vote of the people. When the prohibitory laws become operative in all these 22 states more than 50,000,000 people will be living under the prohibition and 50 per cent of the area of the nation will be no-license territory."

Congress Also Urged to Bar Intoxicants from Interstate Commerce and to Prohibit Use of the Mails for Transporting Liquors and Carrying Liquor Advertisements into Dry Territory.

Investigation of Lumber Rates. Washington. — A general investigation of the rates and practices of all common carriers in the United States in connection with transportation of lumber and lumber products was announced by the Interstate Commerce Commission. Hearings will be set later.

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Asks Position on Recruiting.

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