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GERMANY ADMITS THAT SHE IS LIABLE FOR THE DAMAGE TO NEBRASKAN

Considers Attack Unfortunate, Expresses Regrets and Offers Compensation.

ANOTHER FRYE CASE

Officials Think Another Note to Germany May be Necessary

For Conserving American Rights in War Zone.

Washington, D. C., July 15.—Germany's admission of liability and expression of regret today for the German submarine attack on the American steamer Nebraskan pleased officials here, but it was the general opinion that legal points raised would require the dispatch of a note further to conceive American rights in the war zone.

Legal officers of the American government who examined the German memorandum pointed out that in many respects the case resembled that of the William P. Frye, the American ship sunk by the Prinz Eitel Friedrich.

In the Frye case, Germany contended that it was a fair inference from the language of the Prussian-American treaty of 1828 that an American ship carrying contraband could be destroyed if there were no way to stop transportation of contraband.

Officials take the view that the Nebraskan case proves conclusively that a merchantman must be visited before attack to determine nationality and the character of its cargo.

The German memorandum was the subject of much comment in the quarters because it bears out conclusions reached by Lieutenant John H. Towers, American naval attaché in London, who forwarded fragments of metal found in the Nebraskan with an expression of opinion that the vessel was torpedoed.

This Navy Department's report on the Nebraskan never has been made public, but in view of the admission by Germany today, officials said that the findings of navy officers were confirmed by the German foreign office memorandum.

Secretary Lansing announced receipt of Ambassador Gerard's memorandum in the following statement:

"Ambassador Gerard has telegraphed to the Department of State the following memorandum from the German foreign office relative to the damaging of the American steamer Nebraskan by a German submarine:

"The Germans received from newspaper reports the unjustified and untrue information that the American flag had been damaged by a mine or torpedo on the Southwest coast of Ireland. It therefore started a thorough investigation of the case without delay and a firm conviction was reached that the damage to the Nebraskan was caused by an attack by a German submarine.

"On the evening of May 25 last, the submarine met a steamer bound westward without a flag and with no neutral markings on her foreboard, about 23 nautical miles west of Fastnet rock; no appliances of any kind for the illumination of the flag or markings was to be seen.

"The attack on the steamer Nebraskan was not visible from the submarine. Since the commander of the submarine was obliged to assume from his own experience in the area of maritime warfare that only English steamers, and no neutral steamers travel this war area without flag and markings, he attacked the vessel with a torpedo, in the conviction that he had an enemy vessel before him.

"Some time after the shot, the commander saw that the vessel and the American flag as a coincidence, he, of course, refrained from any further attack. Since the vessel remained afloat he had no occasion to concern himself further with the boats which had been launched.

"It results from this, without a doubt, that the attack on the steamer Nebraskan was not meant for the American flag, nor is it traceable to any fault on the part of the commander of the German submarine, but is to be considered an unfortunate accident. The German government expresses its regret at the occurrence to the government of the United States of America and declares its readiness to make compensation for the damage thereby sustained by American citizens."

LANSING WILL GET BERNSTORFF'S VIEW

Ambassador Believes There is Chance to Negotiate.

BRITAIN IS INCLUDED

He Thinks Last Note Paves Way for Mediation of Contraband and Submarine Questions Between Three Nations.

Washington, July 15.—Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, will present to Secretary Lansing tomorrow the view that Germany's reply to the American note on submarine warfare was intended to pave the way for negotiations by the United States with Great Britain as well as Germany to adjust questions that have arisen over contraband and submarines as affecting the rights of neutrals.

The German ambassador for several days has been anxious to see Secretary Lansing, but the Secretary expressed a preference not to discuss the German reply until he had examined it carefully. Today Mr. Lansing met the Ambassador casually at a club and set tomorrow for the conference.

Count Von Bernstorff is confident his government emphasized in the last note its willingness to work "hand in hand" with the American government for the establishment of the seas principle with the express purpose of entering into negotiations now on the entire question of maritime warfare. He sent through Dr. Anton Meyer-Gerhard the suggestion that the note should contain such an intimation.

Officials of the American government in the last few days have heard reports concerning possible mediation of the questions, but have indicated negotiations along such lines could be begun only if there was assurance if

TENS OF THOUSANDS ARE DROWNED IN CHINA FLOODS

Desolation in Devastated Districts is Terrible, According to Reports Reaching Hong Kong—Canton Isolated Except to Powerful Steamers—Thousands of Houses Have Been Burned.

Hong Kong, July 15.—Tens of thousands of natives, it is estimated, have been drowned by the floods in the Chinese provinces of Kwangtung, Kwangsi and Kiangsi, and the desolation in the devastated districts is terrible, according to the latest reports reaching here.

A fire-swept area of one mile and raging floods are handicapping rescue work in Canton.

The city was in darkness last night, the water having inundated the electric plant.

Missionaries have arrived here seeking the assistance of the United States gunboat, Callao, to aid in the work of rescuing.

Last reports from Canton before communication was cut, said the Christian hospital was in danger from fire.

THOUSANDS DEAD AT CANTON

Tens of Thousands Taking Refuge Upward on House Tops.

Washington, July 15.—Consul General Anderson, at Hong Kong, reported today that Canton was isolated except to powerful steamers, thousands of houses have been burned, American mission property has either been damaged or destroyed, and foreigners are taking refuge at the British consulate at Wuchow. No Americans have been lost so far as known.

The State Department summarized its dispatch on the flood situation as follows: "Canton is isolated except to powerful steamers. On Shamen, (an island in Canton harbor), the foreign settlement is under ten feet of water. Thousands of houses have been burned, American mission property has either been damaged or destroyed, and foreigners are taking refuge at the British consulate at Wuchow. No Americans have been lost so far as known."

LIMIT COTTON SENT NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

Britain Hopes to Fix Supply at Actual Needs.

KEEP IT FROM ENEMY

Germany, It is Alleged, Has Been Getting Its Supply Through Neutral Nations—Announcement in House of Lords.

London, July 15.—The British government hopes very shortly to limit the export of cotton to neutral countries to the precise amount of actual need. The Marquis of Crewe, lord president of the council and Liberal leader in the House of Lords, made an announcement to this effect in the upper house this afternoon.

The Marquis of Crewe's statement was made in reply to a series of questions by Baron Charnwood regarding the supply of cotton and other material through neutral countries to Germany, and whether the government had found that the measures taken since March last were effective.

The real question, he thought, was whether it was advisable to add cotton to the contraband list. On that question there had been a number of misunderstandings and misapprehensions, the speaker said, undoubtedly obtained not only in this country but in neutral countries.

So far as could be ascertained, he continued, the naval measures taken to prevent fresh supplies of cotton from reaching Germany had been successful. The government hoped by continual friendly negotiations to improve the position progressing toward what must be their main purpose; namely, to limit the exports to those neutral countries to the precise amount of actual need. The Marquis of Crewe said that on the question of contraband there could be no mere declaration of any commodity as contraband so long as the government was to admit the export of examining all goods.

Therefore, the government had adopted a policy, which admittedly was novel, but which was rendered necessary by the changed conditions of maritime warfare. The desire of the government was to admit the export to neutral countries of goods presenting

PROPERTY IN JEOPARDY

Many Schools and Other Mission Property are in Danger.

New York, July 15.—Officials of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions here said today that they had received word of property damage or loss of life in the South China district. Much interest was manifested, however, in press reports of the flood, the Presbyterian board having, in the vicinity of Canton, property valued at approximately \$130,000.

In the Canton district there are between fifty and sixty mission stations, doctors and teachers, and it is held to be among the most important of the board's foreign missions.

Records of the board show the flood has placed in jeopardy three kindergartens, ninety-five primary schools and others of various nature making 108 in all. These schools have about 5,000 pupils. Several hospitals, among them one for the treatment of insane, are also in the Canton district.

Among other organizations having mission and hospital property exposed to the flood are the American Bible Society, Southern Baptist Board of the Southern Baptist church, Seventh Day Adventist Mission Board, Foreign Missions Society of United Brethren in Christ, Wesleyan Methodist Society and the Foreign Department, International Committee of the Y. M. C. A. of North America.

GERMANS SPRING BIG SURPRISE ON MILITARY CRITICS

Von Hindenburg Has Renewed Attack on Polish Capital from the North.

BATTLE IN WEST HARD

That Allies Have Made Some Progress on the Gallipoli is Confirmed.

London, July 15.—Abandoning for the time being their attempt to outflank Warsaw from the south, the Germans, possibly under Field Marshal von Hindenburg, who is reported to have said a few days ago that he shortly would astonish the world, have renewed their attack on the Polish capital from the north.

They not only have captured many prisoners south of Kolno, according to Berlin, but have occupied Przasnys, a fortified town fifty miles north of Warsaw, which was taken by von Hindenburg last winter, but retaken by the Russians in their counter offensive.

This claim is partly confirmed by yesterday's Russian official report which stated that the Russians in the face of strong German forces withdrew to their second line of entrenchments.

This move on the part of the Germans has taken the military critics completely by surprise. It was generally supposed that General von Mackensen would, after being strengthened, continue his attempt to reach the Lublin-Chelm railway forcing the evacuation of Warsaw. But as in all their operations, the Germans have done the unexpected.

The new offensive possibly will be general and extend from the Baltic around the East Prussian border to the Vistula, west of Warsaw, for all the Russian troops in this section must be kept busy to prevent them from concentrating at this point, where the Germans hope to break through.

This is the second time Field Marshal von Hindenburg has tried this. His last effort, while it freed East Prussia from the Russian lines, cost the Germans an immense number of men and very nearly involved them in disaster, owing to the muddy ground. Now, however, there are only bad roads, or lack of roads, to contend with, but it is possible that the Germans have built railways to their northern front as they have done in Central Poland.

In France the Argonne continues the scene of the hardest fighting, but of the operations here, as elsewhere in the West, official accounts are contradictory. At any rate, no great movement has been undertaken.

Conflicting reports received tonight from General Sir Ian Hamilton of the success which for some days the allies were reported to have achieved on the Gallipoli peninsula. According to this report, the British lines were captured with 400 prisoners. The Turks, however, claim to have repulsed the allies' attacks.

As anticipated, progress against the Turks is slow. But British military authorities express satisfaction at the gain of an occasional line of trenches, relying on breaking the morale of the Turks and on the exhaustion of their ammunition supply. The British eagerness to have Rumania allow the passage of ammunition through that country to Turkey is taken to mean that the supply is running short.

BIG STRIKE IN GERMAN TOWN IS THREATENED

Iron Workers in Essen Demand Better Pay

Destruction of Machinery at the Krupp Plant is Threatened Unless Promises Made for Three Months Are Met.

Geneva, Switzerland, July 15.—A report has reached Basel that a big strike is threatened at the Krupp works at Essen, Germany. It is said the Union of Metallurgical Workers and the Association of Mechanics demand higher wages, because of the cost of living and shorter hours and because of the great strain under which they work.

The workmen, according to these advices, are in an angry mood and threaten destruction of machinery unless their demands are granted immediately, as they have been put off for three months with promises. The advices add that several high officials have arrived at the Krupp works to straighten out matters, and that Bertha Krupp is expected to visit the plant and use her great influence with the workers.

The Frankfurter Gazette, according to news reaching Basel, has warned the administration of the Krupp plant of the seriousness of the situation and has advised that the men's demands be granted. Meanwhile, the report states, several regiments have been moved to the vicinity of the works.

Great Inventors to Serve United States Navy.



These are some of the great inventors, who, after consultation with Thos. A. Edison, Secretary of the Navy Daniels, may call to serve the United States navy. The Secretary has published a letter to the wizard of East Orange, N. J., in which he calls on American inventors to organize and offer suggestions which may be used to better the navy.

TO URGE RELEASE OF MEAT CARGOES

State Department Preparing Note to Britain.

TO PROTECT PACKERS

They Assert They Cannot Reopen Trade With Neutral Countries Until Interference by Great Britain is Stopped.

Washington, July 15.—In response to an appeal by the American packers, State Department officials are preparing a note to Great Britain urging early settlement or release of 31 cargoes of meat products consigned to neutral countries held by the British government. Representatives of the packers concluded conferences today with Chandler Anderson, special counselor of the department.

Part of the day was devoted by Sir Edward to a continuation of his argument on the rubber consignments aboard two of the meat steamers but he reached also items of meat in the vessels consigned by the Cudahy Packing Company. The meat cargoes will be considered as a whole by the court, although Alfred R. Urien, counsel for the American packers, desired the cases tried separately.

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THAW WILL KNOW HIS FUTURE TODAY

Cheering Crowds Believe He Will be Given Freedom.

STATE WILL APPEAL

The Prosecution Will Take Another Step to Have Prisoner Returned to Matteawan in Event the Court Decides in His Favor.

New York, July 15.—Harry K. Thaw slept tonight in Ludlow street jail for the last time, perhaps, in his life, as a prisoner. Tomorrow morning he is to know whether the future holds for him Matteawan or freedom. Supreme Court Justice Hendrick will then announce his decision on the motion made today to have the order committing Thaw to Matteawan in 1908 formally vacated.

The crowd which cheered Thaw today in his short trip across Chambers street from the sheriff's office to the court room, was larger and more boisterous than that which hailed him yesterday and congratulated him on the verdict of the jury which found him a sane man. And, although Justice Hendrick has not yet announced whether he agreed with the jury's verdict, by which he is not bound in reaching his decision, there was hardly a man or woman among the thousands who applauded Thaw who doubted that the court's decision would be. They seemed to take it for granted Thaw would be freed.

Legal formalities today were brief. They consisted in Thaw's appearance before Justice Hendrick and the formal motion of John B. Stanchfield, chief of the Thaw lawyers, that the writ be vacated.

If the decision tomorrow is in Thaw's favor, the State will appeal, according to Deputy Attorney General Cook. There would then come before the court the matter of bail for Thaw until the appeal should be decided. The state has signified that it would oppose Thaw's release on bail, but that if it should lose this point, it would ask that the bond be made high, \$40,000, or thereabouts. Justice Hendrick today indicated that he would possibly accept bail and in that event he said, Thaw would be free to go where he willed.

When Thaw was taken from the sheriff's office today, it happened that he was pushed into an elevator whose door was closed before a deputy sheriff could enter. Realizing that he was unguarded, Thaw commanded the elevator attendant to stop, made him go back, reopen the door and admit a deputy.

"I don't want anybody to think I'm trying to escape," he said.

Washington, D. C., July 15.—Mrs. Katie E. Kellithan has been appointed postmistress at Cerro Gordo, Columbus county, succeeding H. McD. Kellithan.

AMERICA TO GIVE UNALTERABLE VIEW ON ARMS SHIPMENTS

Reply to Austro-Hungarian Note as to Supplies Shipped to Allies.

WILL CITE ITS RIGHTS

Precedents and International Law Serve to Justify Country's Action.

Washington, July 15.—The United States probably will send within another fortnight a reply to the Austro-Hungarian note contending that extensive shipments of war supplies from this country to the Allies are "not in consonance with the definition of neutrality."

Unofficially word came today that Turkey would follow Germany and Austria in making representations and should a note from Turkey arrive, officials would delay sending their answer so as to inform the Germanic allies simultaneously of the unalterable view of the United States on arms shipments.

Germany repeatedly has laid emphasis on the trade in arms between the replying to representations from the United States and the Allies. In a note replying to representations from the American government on the newly proclaimed war zone, the legal right of the citizens of the United States to trade in arms was conceded, but it was argued that it was equally right or neutral "to stop trade in contraband, especially the trade in arms, with Germany's enemies" because of violations of other neutral rights by Great Britain.

A memorandum from Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, dated April 4 was devoted entirely to the discussion of the alleged violation by the United States of infractions of international law by Great Britain and pointing out that it was necessary in connection with shipments of arms to take into consideration "not only its formal aspect of the case, but also the spirit in which the neutrality is carried out."

The Austrian note, extracts of which have appeared in newspapers from Amsterdam, points out that the American government would be "entitled to prohibit the export of war material if the trade in contraband takes the form of dimensions whereby the neutrality of the country will be endangered."

Details of the American answer have not been divulged, but it is understood the United States not only will cite its rights under international law, but will recall precedents in previous wars in which Germany and Austria have been interested, while shipments of arms were carried on in extensive proportions.

The State Department has not made public the text of the Austrian note and will not do so, until the reply is ready.

Austria Shares German Standpoint. Cologne, Germany, July 15 (via London).—The Cologne Zeitung, commenting on the Austrian note to the United States says:

"This announcement of the Austro-Hungarian government to the United States is an act of defiance to its ally of the highest value. Austro-Hungary thus takes her diplomatic place alongside of Germany in the single instance in which the United States has been involved in a serious diplomatic discussion with a neutral state, just at the moment when the diplomatic relation had become strained to the critical point."

"This means that by the despatch of the note, President Wilson now knows that at least Austro-Hungary shares the German standpoint and doubtless is determined to follow all the consequences of this standpoint."

Sent at Germany's Request. London, July 15.—A dispatch from Berlin to the Exchange Telegraph Company says: "The Austro-Hungarian protest to America is a sequel to the recent conference at Vienna between Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German imperial chancellor, and Gottlieb Von Jagow, the German foreign minister, and Baron Stephen Burian Von Rajecz, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister."

"The protest was sent at the request of Germany, and Turkey will follow suit. The object is to warn America that a rupture of relations will mean also a rupture with Germany's allies."

CONVENTION OF COTTON MEN AND MEAT PACKERS

May be Held in Washington to Confer on Foreign Trade.

(Special Star Telegram). Washington, D. C., July 15.—A big convention of cotton growers and shippers and meat packers may be held in Washington this fall to devise some means of getting their products to neutral foreign countries, in case the negotiations with Great Britain, now being conducted by the State Department, are not concluded satisfactorily.

From representatives of the packers now in Washington it was learned that the Southern shippers have approached the packers with such a proposition and that the governors and practically all of the congressional representation of the cotton States have expressed themselves in favor of the movement.