

COURSE OF NEUTRAL NATIONS RESTS WITH PRESIDENT WILSON

LANSING ASKED FOR ADVICE ON SHIP MOVEMENTS

Steamship Companies Want Official Instructions for Guidance. MARINE INSURANCE SOARS German Note, a Bombshell in Shipping Circles—Falmouth Not Satisfactory Port.

New York, Feb. 1.—A definite ruling and instructions from official sources as to the future movements of the American line steamships was asked of Secretary Lansing today by P. S. Franklin, president of the International Mercantile Marine.

The telegram sent by President Franklin to Secretary Lansing officially advised the State Department that the St. Louis is an American ship, owned by American citizens, insured by the United States War Risk Bureau, carries as passengers American citizens and as cargo such merchandise as is in compliance with the Government War Risk Bureau's regulations with reference to contraband.

The telegram also advised that the liner Philadelphia, operated under the same conditions, now was about 1,200 miles from Liverpool, Saturday, it was said by Mr. Franklin that unless instructed to the contrary by Washington, the St. Louis would sail as usual.

Objection to the destination by Germany of Falmouth as the British port of destination for the American ships also was registered with Secretary Lansing by Mr. Franklin. He stated that Falmouth was a port without adequate terminal facilities, docking conveniences or means of obtaining coal, terming it "absolutely impractical."

Mr. Franklin said tonight that no instructions had been sent by wireless to the ships at sea. Custom officials declined to state whether the only cargo to be cleared after dark, as it was last night. It was learned unofficially, however, that the rules put into effect last night would be continued.

Searchlights on both war vessels constantly scanning the waters over which a ship could pass. Representatives of British and Allied shipping firms here said no definite instructions had been received as to future movements of their vessels.

Marine Rates Go Up. Marine insurance rates and war risks advanced sharply today. Shortly before closing time, a leading American firm of underwriters announced quotations showing an advance of approximately seventy-five per cent over rates made earlier in the week.

Collector Malone Modifies His Order. New York, Feb. 1.—Collector of the Port Malone decided tonight to modify his order under which ships were forbidden to leave port after nightfall, and several vessels were permitted to pass quarantine.

SUNK BY RAIDER. Norfolk, Va., Feb. 1.—According to information received here tonight by Norfolk agents, the Furness-Withy steamship Cambrian Range was one of the recent victims of the German raider operating on the South Atlantic coast.

FORTIFICATIONS BILL IS PASSED BY SENATE. Washington, Feb. 1.—The annual fortifications bill, carrying \$31,000,000 passed by the House Monday, passed the Senate today unamended.

SINKING OF EIGHT VESSELS REPORTED DURING THURSDAY. One of Them Was Dutch—From the Fighting Fronts, Little Activity Is Reported.

Except for a continuation of the feeling of unrest caused by Germany's announcement of a campaign of unrestricted submarine activity there is little of interest in the war news of the day. While Lloyd's reports the sinking of eight vessels, supposedly by submarines, it is presumed that they all were sent to the bottom before the submarine orders went into effect.

On the fighting fronts, there has been little activity aside from the operations of small reconnoitering parties and artillery duels. Petrograd reports a Russian advance near Kalmes southwest of Riga, and the repulse of a German attack near the northern Rumanian frontier.

In northwest Persia, the Turks are credited with gains over the Russians by Berlin. Reconnoitering engagements continue near Kuf-el-Amara and a heavy bombardment also is in progress there.

IN THE AUSTRALIAN THEATER, the Austrians are bombarding with great intensity the region near Lake Garda, and positions in the Gorizia zone and on the Carso plateau.

SENTENCE IS PASSED ON FRANKLIN SAFFORD. Convicted of Perjury, Court Fixes Punishment at Nine Months' Imprisonment.

New York, Feb. 1.—Franklin D. Safford, twice convicted of perjury growing out of the "Oliver Osborne" case, was sentenced to nine months in prison by Federal Judge Hand here today. Execution of the sentence was stayed until May 1.

Judge Hand said he was disposed to be lenient because he considered Safford "only a pawn in the hands of others." Safford, who is in the early 60s, was accused of swearing falsely that James W. Osborne, a prominent attorney, had been the companion of Miss Rae Tanner on a visit to a New Jersey hotel, of which Safford was the clerk. Charles H. Wax testified at the trial that he, masquerading as "Oliver Osborne," was the actual escort of the young woman.

Safford protested his innocence to the last, and told the court today that in identifying James W. Osborne as "Oliver Osborne," he had given his "honest opinion." It is the intention of the Federal District Attorney it was announced today to rush to trial the many other prosecutions growing out of the Osborne case.

TALKED SITUATION OVER WITH AMERICAN ENVOY. Paris, Feb. 1.—A Havas dispatch from Madrid says: "The Ministers of the Interior and Foreign Affairs, War and Navy, spent the entire night examining the different questions raised by the blockade note of the Central Powers."

CAROLINA DELEGATION ON INTERNATIONAL 'CRISIS'. Washington, Feb. 1.—North Carolina members of Congress view the foreign situation with concern. Expressions made by them today were as follows: Senator Simmons: "It looks much uglier than anything that has happened."

Representative Doughson: "It looks grave and alarming." Representative Webb: "I don't think it is acute yet, and hope the wisdom of the President may keep us out of this horrible war."

HOUSE PASSES IMMIGRATION BILL OVER VETO. Some Success Predicted When It Comes Up in Senate. PARTY LINES ARE IGNORED. Vote Almost Three to One—Presidential Veto Was Because of Literacy Test.

Washington, Feb. 1.—President Wilson's veto of the immigration bill because of its literacy test feature was over-ridden in the House tonight by a vote of 255 to 196. Party lines were ignored in the fight, Republicans and Democrats being almost equally divided on either side.

Tomorrow the action of the House will be reported to the Senate, where the bill passed originally by 64 to 7. An effort to over-ride there advocates of the measure say, is certain to be successful.

For 20 years there has been a fight to establish a literacy test as a restriction upon immigration. Four times such a provision has run the gauntlet of Congress and been vetoed at the White House.

Tonight the House had 25 votes more than the necessary two-thirds majority. Republican Leader Mann and Democratic Leader Kitchin voted together against the President.

CONGRESS UNDISTURBED BY GRAVE SITUATION. Washington, Feb. 1.—Congress worked away today on the legislative calendar, undisturbed by the grave situation brought about by Germany's declaration of ruthless submarine warfare.

"It is incumbent in this grave time upon every American citizen who loves his country," he said, "and is doubly incumbent upon the American Representatives in this House, to do everything that will promote in this hour National unity, National love, National fraternity."

Senators Lodge and McCumber, Republicans, delivered prepared speeches on President Wilson's world peace address, prefacing them with words of caution. The address, which was read by the German note had heaped upon the President a great responsibility, and added "no word shall fall from my lips which might in any possible way embarrass him in such a time."

REVENUE BILL IS PASSED BY HOUSE. Washington, Feb. 1.—The Administration revenue bill containing proposals for a 10 per cent increase in the inheritance tax, passed the House late today by a strict party vote, 211 to 196. It now goes to the Senate, where it will be taken up within a few days.

BRITISH SHIPS HELD UP AT BALTIMORE. Baltimore, Feb. 1.—Six foreign ships left this port today, but three of them, all British, were held up at Cove Point and given orders not to leave American waters.

"BONE DRY" BILL. Salt Lake City, Utah, Feb. 1.—Utah's "bone dry" statute prohibition amendment was passed by the Senate today. It previously had passed the House and Monday will be placed before the Governor for his signature.

NEUTRAL NATIONS OF EUROPE AWAIT LEAD THAT UNITED STATES WILL TAKE IN GREAT WORLD-CRISIS.

London, Feb. 1.—The eyes of Great Britain and all Europe are today focused on Washington. It is recognized that the question whether the United States finally will be drawn into the European War is being decided there. Not only the policy of the United States, but of the neutral European Nations also, is being largely determined in Washington.

British officials decline to speak for publication on the crisis lest any utterances might be construed in the United States as officious attempts to influence the American policy and intrude upon a problem which they recognize is one purely between the neutral Nations and the Central Powers.

SERIOUS CONTRADICTIONS 'STAKING EVERYTHING, WE AT 'LEAK' INVESTIGATION. Its Nature So Serious Committee Decides to Continue New York Inquiry.

New York, Feb. 1.—Contradictory testimony given late today in the "leak" inquiry was regarded by the Congressional Committee as of so serious a nature as to cause the committee to abandon a plan formulated earlier in the day to discontinue the hearings in New York because it was felt that the international situation demanded the presence of the representatives in Washington.

Testimony differs as to whether F. A. Connolly, the Washington broker and partner of R. W. Bolling, President Wilson's brother-in-law, sent his forecast of the President's recent peace note to E. F. Hutton & Co., New York brokers, over his private wire or by some other route.

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"NOT GUILTY" VERDICT IN SPANELL CASE. Defendant Will Next Be Tried on Charge of Killing Lieut.-Col. Butler.

San Angelo, Tex., Feb. 1.—Harry J. Spanell, who was found not guilty in district court here today for the killing of his wife, Mrs. Crystal Spanell, was granted change of venue to Coleman County on the indictment charging him with having killed Lieut. Col. M. C. Butler, of the United States Army, and was released late today on \$5,000 bond.

Submarine Fired on American Schooner. According to Letter From Skipper of Letter to Norwegian Vice-Consul in Pensacola.

Pensacola, Fla., Feb. 1.—The American schooner, William Jones, was fired upon by a German submarine, apparently in the Bay of Biscay, seven miles west of the Azores, according to a letter from Capt. Charles Shrader, master of the schooner, which was received by Alex. Zellus, Norwegian Vice-Consul here today.

JO-JO SAYS. Mrs. Byrne Accepts Conditional Pardon. New York, Feb. 1.—Counsel for Mrs. Ethel Byrne announced today she would accept Governor Whitman's pardon which will release her from prison on condition that she refrain from further disseminating birth control information.

CONVICTS ON STRIKE. Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 1.—Demanding that the warden of Banner mines be removed, 200 negro convict miners have gone on a strike in the depths of the mine refusing to come out or to permit any one to enter.

COLD WAVE WARNING IS SENT TO SOUTH. Washington, Feb. 1.—Warning of a cold wave in the South tomorrow with freezing temperature extending into Florida Friday night or Saturday morning, was issued today by the Weather Bureau.

COURSE OF ACTION IN NEW CRISIS KNOWN ONLY TO PRESIDENT AND FEW MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET.

In Official Quarters, There Are Indications That Note Has Been Determined Upon, but Opinion Is Divided as to Whether It Has Already Been Sent to Berlin—Ambassador Bernstorff Expecting Severance of Diplomatic Relations.

No One Believes That Germany's Announcement Will Be Permitted to Go Unchallenged, but Whether Another Warning Will Be Sent or Actual Severance of Relations Without Further Delay Will Be the Step, Remains Undisclosed—President and Secretary Lansing Confer, but Both Refuse to Make Any Disclosures, and the Secretary Even Declines to See Foreign Ambassadors—Memorandum Transmitted With Germany's Note Handed to State Department.

Washington, Feb. 1.—Whatever course of action President Wilson has chosen to meet Germany's declaration of unrestricted submarine warfare is known only to three or four members of his official family. Neither the Cabinet as a whole nor the Foreign Affairs Committee of Congress has been taken into his confidence.

One high official close to the President declared tonight that no communication had been sent to Berlin or to Count von Bernstorff, who outwardly was expecting a severance of diplomatic relations.

White House officials and Secretary Lansing followed the same course adopted on previous occasions when a communication had been dispatched to Berlin, and they were awaiting its receipt in the German Capital before making any announcement in this country.

Secretary Lansing began by denying himself to all callers. Notwithstanding it was the regular day for receiving representatives of foreign Governments at the State Department, he declined to receive such persons as the British and Japanese Ambassadors, and they were turned over to subordinate officials.

ONLY DOUBT SEEMS TO BE WHETHER THERE WILL BE ANOTHER WARNING OR SEVERANCE OF RELATIONS. Washington, Feb. 1.—Among all officials capable of knowing the probable course of President Wilson in the present crisis, the only point of doubt seems to be whether a communication to Germany will carry only a warning, or whether it will consider Germany's declaration sufficient in itself for action.

Count von Bernstorff fully expected the action of the United States to be swift and decisive. It became known that several times during the last week he has attempted to discourage Americans from sailing for Europe.

Hurrying to Washington. Chairman Stone, of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, who has been in St. Louis, telegraphed to the White House that he was hurrying back and would arrive at 1 p. m. tomorrow.

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