

## GERMANY'S ANSWER TO U. S. MAKES SITUATION GRAVER

### PRESIDENT FACES SERIOUS PROBLEMS

#### German Crisis and Changed Mexican Policy Develop Grave Situation.

### NO ATTENTION TO AMERICAN REQUEST

#### Officials Point Out Germany Seeks To Obscure and Evade Main Issue Involving Humanity.

Washington, May 31.—Two international problems—one a crisis in the relations between the United States and Germany and the other the administration's determination to bring an early cessation of the internal wars in Mexico—developed for President Wilson today a combination of circumstances hardly paralleled in American history.

President Wilson has prepared a statement to be issued tomorrow warning the Mexican factions that the incessant warfare is forcing the civilian population of Mexico to the verge of starvation and that unless there is some agreement to restore order other means will have to be found by the United States to accomplish this end.

It is felt in administration circles that the warning will be sufficient to set in motion definite plans for peace in Mexico, but there was less optimism with respect to the relations with Germany made graver by the German reply to the American Lusitania note.

The official text of the note from Germany was placed before the president today. Officials generally were profoundly disappointed in the contents of the note, for they pointed out that Germany was endeavoring to obscure and evade the main issue—the question of humanity involved—and sought to interpose technical arguments in matters of law hitherto undisputed under the universally accepted law of nations.

Most important of all it was noted that no attention had been given to the American request for assurance that American lives would be safeguarded in the future.

The course of the United States is expected to be shaped by President Wilson before the day is over, and it will be discussed at tomorrow's cabinet meeting.

President Wilson went for a long automobile ride after reading newspaper comments on the German reply to the note. He had not received the official text. As he was to speak at the memorial exercises at Arlington National cemetery, he will not begin detailed study of the reply before night.

Constantinople, May 30.—

(Via Berlin and London, May 31.)—An official communication issued by the Turkish war office today says that the allies were unsuccessful in their efforts to prevent reinforcements from reaching the Turkish positions at Ari Burnu. A battery on the narrows bombarded the allied position on Seddul Bahr.

London, May 31.—Heavy fighting on the Gallipoli peninsula has resulted in the rout of the attacking Turkish forces, it is announced in an official statement given out today. The casualties of the Turks are said to have amounted to at least 2000. The British losses are given at 300.

### "DOKAY" CEREMONIAL AT SALISBURY JUNE 9

Asheville "Dokays" have received invitations to the ceremonial which the members of Suez Temple No. 73 will give at the annual meeting of the state grand lodge of Knights of Pythias, at Salisbury on June 9.

It is expected that "Dokays" from all sections of western North Carolina will be present for this ceremonial, which will be the last to be held in this section of the state until the fall ceremonial here next September.

The following program has been arranged for the meeting of the "Dokays": 6 p. m. a parade will be held from the armory hall; 7 p. m. dinner at the Empire hotel; 8 p. m. ceremonial at the armory hall, when the "fresh meat" will be given a trip over the sands.

### DISTRICT CONFERENCE OF M. E. CHURCH AT CLYDE

Clyde, May 31.—Glyde District conference of the Methodist Episcopal church will convene at Clyde on Wednesday evening, June 9. Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock, Bishop Theodore S. Henderson will preach. Thursday at 8:30 o'clock a. m., devotions; 9 a. m. organization and business session, the bishop in the chair; 11 a. m. sermon by Bishop Henderson; dinner on the grounds. Two o'clock p. m. business session, the bishop presiding; 3:30 p. m., round table talks. The program will continue until Sunday, the 13th.

### M. L. GIRTON TO TAKE TUCCSON, ARIZ., SCHOOL

Announcement is made that M. L. Gorton, who during the present session has been principal of the Asheville academy school, having only recently resigned, will leave at the close of the work here for Tucson, Ariz., where he will take charge of the Tucson Training school. Mr. Gorton came to Asheville from Hopkinsville, Ky., and has made many friends here who will regret to see him leave.

### NEW STEAMSHIP LINES ARE URGED

Pan-Americans Recommend Routes Between U. S. and South America.

Washington, May 29.—Plans for steamship lines between the United States and South America—the one thing all the delegates to the Pan-American Financial congress agreed was essential for closer relations between North and South America—have been presented by the transportation committee. A permanent committee that would work to develop these plans, and representing the United States, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay, Ecuador and Peru, was recommended.

Two sub-committees reported, differing only in the proposals of procedure submitted. One was signed by Delegates A. Diaz of Argentina, Cavalcanti of Brazil, Cosio of Uruguay, and proposed: A fast line of 10,000 ton steamers to be installed between the United States and Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo and Buenos Aires, capable of making the voyage to Rio in 15 days. As compensation for services rendered they were to be exempt for five years from all fiscal charges and to enjoy all the facilities that other vessels enjoy. Bids were to be called for not later than December 31, 1915, to be acted on within three months and if possible awarded to the builder that could make the earliest deliveries. North and South America would agree on the expenses.

It was agreed by other members and Delegates Verga of Chile, that there should be two fast steamship lines.

### OFFICERS RAIDED SIX ILLICIT 'STILLS SATURDAY

Sheriff Mitchell and Deputies Conducted Raid Saturday Night in So. Hominy.

In a raid through a cove in South Hominy township, Saturday night Sheriff E. M. Mitchell and Deputies Luther Revis, C. G. Lanning and Will Wright, found six deserted plants where the illicit manufacture of stills had been going on. Two of the stills showed that they had not been deserted for 30 days, while the others were very old and had been abandoned for several months.

The officers left here early Saturday evening and went direct to South Hominy, acting on information that they had received early in the week. Arriving on the scene the officers at once started an investigation and found one deserted plant after another, until a total of six had been discovered.

In several places men's clothing was found and it was evident that the parties who operated the stills in the past had thrown away old pieces of clothing that they did not care for.

Two of the deserted plants were within half a mile of houses while the others were very far from any dwelling. No clues whatever were found and the officers have nothing which would tend to connect anyone with running the places.

### DECREASE IN RAILWAY ACCIDENTS IS SHOWN

Washington, May 29.—Decrease in railway accidents is shown in the report for the final quarter of 1914 made public today by the interstate commerce commission. It shows that 1,162 people were killed and 41,930 injured. Of the killed, however, only 78 died in train wrecks.

### HARRISON HEADS YADKIN

Salisbury, May 31.—Directors of the Yadkin Railroad company, in special session here, elected Fairfax Harrison president of their company to succeed the late A. B. Andrews, who was president from the time the road was built until his recent death. The road runs from Salisbury to Norwood.

### SUBMARINE WAR ACTIVE AS NOTE WAS PREPARED

Several Merchant Ships Sent Down While German Foreign Office Wrote Reply to U. S.

### SIX LARGE VESSELS LOST IN TWO DAYS

French Take Group of German Trenches North of Arras and Advance Slightly North of Arras.

London, May 31.—German submarines were unusually busy while the German foreign office was engaged in preparation of an answer to the American note on the Lusitania. The last few days it was pointed out have provided a heavy bag of big merchant vessels. These include the steamer Ethiope of 3,700 tons and the Cullochmoor of 3,500 tons sunk by subsmeribles on Friday in approaches to the English channel. On Saturday the British steamer Ping Suey, belonging to the Holt line, was attacked twice by the German undersea craft within the space of five hours but succeeded in running into Plymouth harbor. Another steamer, the Glenlee, of 4,000 tons, was sunk somewhere between the English and French coasts recently.

In the North sea the German submarines recently sent the Russian ship Mars to the bottom, and the loss of the British steamers Stennymoor and Cadby was also reported.

Thus in the space of two days six ships of considerable size have been sent to the bottom by submarines and six lives have been lost. Furthermore the trans-Atlantic liner Megantic had a narrow escape from an attack by a German submarine.

London observers are drawing attention to these cases, particularly in connection with the presentation of the German note.

The lull along the western front has been broken by the French who claim they have taken a group of German trenches in the Hilkelm region and have made good progress north of Arras. With the British co-operating, the French appear to have made slight progress north of La Bassee.

Mistrial in Turner Suit. Stateville, May 31.—The suit of Alton Turner against Iredell Telephone company and the city of Stateville for \$15,000 damages for injuries received from a live wire owned by the city while working for the Iredell Telephone company, resulted in a mistrial.

### WEATHER FORECAST

Unsettled tonight and Thursday. Probably showers.

### CONFEDERATES TAKE RICHMOND

"Thin Gray Line" Occupies Confederate Capital for Reunion Which Begins Tomorrow.

### SPECIAL EXERCISES ARE UNDER WAY TODAY

Reunion Will Last Through Thursday and Ends With a Grand Ball—The Program.

Richmond, May 31.—The Southern Memorial association and the Sons of Confederate Veterans met here today. The Hollywood Memorial parade also took place. These were preliminary to the reunion of the United Confederate Veterans which begins here tomorrow and ends Thursday. It is estimated that about 60,000 people will attend.

Parade Shortened. New York, May 31.—Owing to advanced age of most of the Grand Army Veterans who will participate in memorial day exercises the grand parade was shortened to less than half a mile. The members of four grand army posts, detachments of regulars, many national guards and naval militiamen, Spanish war veterans and other organizations participated in the exercises.

The convention will be called to order by General George P. Harrison, of Opelika, Ala., appointed to preside in the enforced absence of General Bennett H. Young, commander in chief, now in a hospital.

The veterans will be welcomed by Governor Henry C. Stuart and Mayor Ainslie, and by Judge G. Gardner Tyler, son of former President John Tyler, who will address the visitors on behalf of the Virginia veterans. The meeting will then be turned over to General Harrison, who will respond on behalf of the visitors. Sessions will be held Tuesday and Wednesday and on Thursday will be held the reunion parade, and on Thursday afternoon will be laid the corner stone of the Equestrian statue to General Stonewall Jackson, the site for which is located on Richmond's most beautiful avenue and not far from the monuments to Davis, Lee and Stuart. For the first time in the history of confederate reunions a northern military organization will take part in the military pageant and occupy a position of honor. The Governor's Foot Guard of Connecticut, will be here as the personal escort of Governor Marcus H. Holcomb, who will be the guest of Governor Stuart. The foot guard will be entertained by the Richmond Light Infantry blues battalion.

Captain John Lamb, chairman of the general reunion committee, estimates that there will be 60,000 strangers here, including veterans, visitors and state militia.

The veterans will be quartered in a large brick building at the state fair grounds, designated for the occasion as "Camp Stuart." Emergency relief stations have been established along the line of march and hospital arrangements for those who may fall ill or suffer accident have been made with the city's largest hospital. All the state military commands have been ordered here and will arrive on Wednesday. The war department has designated the marine band at Fort Monroe to accompany the cadets from the Virginia Military Institute, known as the "West Point of the South."

The reunion will end on Thursday night with a grand ball in honor of the sponsors and a ball given by the Richmond Blues to the soldiery from Connecticut.

### BULK OF VANDERBILT ESTATE TO YOUNGER SONS

New York, May 31.—The bulk of the estate of Alfred G. Vanderbilt, who perished on the Lusitania, estimated to be worth more than \$5,000,000 is left in trust under his will to his infant sons by his second wife, Margaret Emerson Vanderbilt. These sons are Alfred G. Jr., and George William H. Vanderbilt, son by his first wife, Elsie French Vanderbilt, who was divorced from him to receive a trust fund of \$5,000,000 and other property. He had already received a statement from his father.

### GERMAN REPLY INVITES DELAY

### FRANK BEGINS HIS LAST FIGHT

Makes Application to Prison Commission to Commute the Sentence from Death to Life Imprisonment.

### DATE OF EXECUTION SET FOR JUNE 22

Case Has Been Fought in Every State and Federal Court—The Counsel Has Strong Arguments.

Atlanta, May 31.—The last fight to save the life of Leo M. Frank began today before the Georgia state prison commission which is asked to commute his sentence from death to life imprisonment. The Frank case has been fought throughout every court, state and federal, without reverse of the original verdict and this appeal for clemency is the last resort. Frank's execution is set for June 22.

Former Congressman W. M. Howard was prepared to emphasize in his argument for Frank the doubt said to have been expressed by Judge Roan who presided at the trial, as to Frank's guilt, the dissenting opinion of two judges of the state Supreme court and the dissenting opinions of Justices Holmes and Hughes of the United States Supreme court, to which Frank applied for a writ of habeas corpus.

Frank's counsel was also expected to file the letter Judge O'Ran is said to have written a few days before his death in which he is said to have reiterated his doubt as to Frank's guilt and urged executive leniency.

### HOUSE BURNS WHILE OCCUPANT IS IN JAIL

Man Loses Liberty and House, It Is Said, Through an Enemy.

P. M. Jordan, deputy insurance commissioner, arrived home Saturday from a trip to Taylorville, Alexander county, where he has been investigating a mysterious fire. A dwelling house at that place, belonging to Miss Sarah Pierce and occupied by her brother who lived in it alone, was destroyed by fire one afternoon under circumstances that seemed to indicate incendiarism. On investigation Mr. Jordan found a state of affairs that led to his swearing out warrants for Julius Martin and his son, Arthur Martin. It appeared, so Mr. Jordan states, that there had been a feud of sixteen years between Martin and J. R. Pierce, who occupied the house in question. Martin had caused the arrest of Pierce on May 13, and being unable to give the \$1,000 bond required of him Pierce was committed to jail. On the following Monday afternoon the unoccupied house was burned. The trouble between the families and the alleged threats of Arthur Martin that he would burn the house led the insurance commissioner to have the Martins arrested and placed under \$500 bonds for their appearance before a magistrate on June 4. Mr. Jordan says that one witness for the state will swear that he saw one of the Martins set fire to the house.

### REFUSAL TO BE FIRED COST THIS OFFICER \$10.

Pass Christian, Miss., May 31.—Refusal to be ordered and for breaking the lock placed on his office, John D. Northrop, city tax collector, was fined \$10 and costs by Justice of the Peace Brandt. Council declared the tax collector's office vacant and temporarily named A. E. Lang.

Answer to American Note on Lusitania Is Framed to Result in Further Discussion of Matters.

### INSISTS LUSITANIA WAS NOT PEACEFUL VESSEL

Recalls Proposals Submitted to Berlin and London Designated to Put an End to Submarine Warfare.

Berlin, May 31.—Germany sent the following reply to the American note concerning the sinking of the Lusitania:

The undersigned has the honor to submit to Ambassador Gerard, the following, the answer to the communication of May 15, regarding the injury to American interests through German submarine warfare.

"The imperial government has subjected the communication of the American government to a thorough investigation. It entertains also a keen wish to co-operate in a frank and friendly way in clearing up a possible misunderstanding which may have arisen in the relations between the two governments through the events mentioned by the American government.

"Regarding, firstly, the cases of the American steamers Cushing and Gulfight. The American embassy has already been informed that the German government has no intention of submitting neutral ships in the war zone which are guilty of no hostile acts, or aviators. On the contrary, the German forces have repeatedly been instructed most specifically to avoid attacks on such ships.

"If neutral ships in recent months have suffered through the German submarine warfare, owing to mistakes in identification, it is a question only of quite isolated and exceptional cases, which can be attributed to the British government's abuse of flags, together with the suspicious or culpable behavior of the masters of the ships.

"The German government in all cases in which it has been shown by its investigations that a neutral ship, not itself at fault, was damaged by German submarines or aviators, has expressed regret over the unfortunate accident and, if justified by conditions has offered indemnification.

"The cases of the Cushing and the Gulfight will be treated on the same principles. An investigation of both cases is in progress, the result of which will be communicated to the embassy. The investigation can, if necessary, be supplemented by an international call on the international commission of inquiry as provided by article III of The Hague agreement of October 18, 1907.

The Falaba Case. "When sinking the British steamer Falaba, the commander of the German submarine had the intention of allowing the passengers and crew a full opportunity for a safe escape. Only when the master did not obey the order to leave to, but fled and summoned help by rocket signals, did the German commander order the crew and passengers by signals and megaphone to leave the ship within ten minutes. He actually allowed their twenty-three minutes time and fired the torpedo only when suspicious craft were hastening to the assistance of the Falaba.

"Regarding the loss of life by the sinking of the British passenger steamer Lusitania, the German government has already expressed to the neutral governments concerned, its keen regret that citizens of their states lost their lives.

"On this occasion the imperial government, however, cannot escape the impression that certain important facts having a direct bearing on the sinking of the Lusitania may have escaped the attention of the American government.

Information Differs. "In the interest of a clear and complete understanding which is the aim of both governments, the imperial government considers it first necessary to convince itself that the information accessible to both governments about the facts of the case is complete and in accord. The government of the United States proceeds on the assumption

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