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## FEELING TENSE AT WASHINGTON

Two Weeks Have Passed Since Note Was Sent Germany.  
FURTHER TENSION CAUSED  
Rumor That German Submarine Sank Nebraskan and That Germany Will Answer Note in Series Adds to Grave Feeling of Officials; German Answer Today.

(By the Associated Press.)  
Washington, D. C., May 28.—The passing of two weeks with no reply from the German government to the note from the United States concerning violations of American rights in the war zones has caused widespread speculation in official and diplomatic quarters.

Two circumstances contributed to the development today of further tension in an already delicate situation—the insistence of reports from London that the American steamer Nebraskan was torpedoed instead of mined, and published intimations that Germany would send a series of notes in answer to the American communication, delaying a discussion of the merits of the question until there was an agreement on facts.

Believed Germany Knows Facts.  
While high officials scrupulously avoided comment, it was evident that they were loath to believe the German government had underestimated the intense feeling of the American people on the Lusitania disaster with the loss of more than one hundred American lives, or would seek delay the reparation demanded by the United States.

Courtesy of Bernstorff, the German ambassador, confirmed the London reports that he had sent wireless messages to the German foreign office declaring the American press was becoming impatient over delay in replying to the German note and that the Nebraskan incident had aggravated the situation. It was explained at the embassy that the ambassador was not expressing his own opinion in these messages but merely keeping his government informed as usual on the state of public opinion in the United States.

Berlin press dispatches saying that Ambassador Gerard had been in daily conference with German foreign office officials and therefore probably was intended to advise the minister who was contained in the German reply, were shown to Secretary Bryan tonight. He said that while the ambassador had said his own sentiments, nothing could be called an outline had been received and that he was not aware that any official information had been given as to the contents of the reply.

The general impression in official and diplomatic quarters was that if the preliminary note from Germany proposed an agreement on the facts of various cases, the American government would follow immediately a counter proposal from President Wilson for a suspension of submarine warfare which might endanger American lives or vessels while the diplomatic discussion was in progress.

The German government, according to published reports, is represented as intending to insist that the Lusitania was armed or unarmed and whether she carried munitions of war. The position of the United States government is that the Lusitania was not armed from an American port and did not resist capture. Whether or not the vessel carried contraband of any character did not enter into the American view appropriate to the rules of international law universally acknowledged, to be given an opportunity to transfer crew and passengers to a place of safety before being destroyed.

## UNDERSEA CRAFT MENACES ENGLAND

Recent Numerous Losses in Dardanelles to Germans Impresses Seriousness.  
THREE VESSELS ARE SUNK  
Two British Steamers and Swedish Bark Torpedoed by German Submarine; Italians Reported Invading Turkey; Germans Claim Further Advance on Przemysl.

(By the Associated Press.)  
London, May 28.—The German submarine menace is bringing officials to realize the great danger threatening England, if Germany increases largely the number of her undersea craft. This has been impressed on the British mind by the success of a submarine operating in the Dardanelles, the over-increasing activity around the British Isles and the threat to carry this form of warfare to the Suez Canal and trade passes through the Mediterranean.

Two Steamers and Bark Sunk.  
Today came reports of the sinking of the British steamers Cadeby and Spanmore and the Swedish bark M. Roosevelt, and a statement that the big liner Erzgebirge was chased and fired on by an undersea boat, but escaped to Havre.

Trade to and from British ports goes on as if there were no submarine danger and it is stated there will be no interruptions in the operations of the Dardanelles. The fleet there will have to assist the army on the Gallipoli Peninsula, taking chances of destruction by submarine, and mines or shell fire.

Italians on Island of Rhodes.  
The Turks and their officers probably will have another invasion to meet before long. Unofficial reports reaching here today are that the Italians have landed on the island of Rhodes, off the coast of Asia Minor, in a first step in an attempt to land on the Asia Minor coast. There has been little or no change in the situation on the eastern or western fronts. The Austrians and Germans claim to have made a further advance in their operations, the aim of which is the encircling of Przemysl, although they are meeting with very stubborn resistance on the part of the Austrians.

Troops of the army of the Caucasus.  
Urumiah, a city of 50,000, is a center of missionary activity for the British and American churches. For weeks missionaries there as well as many thousands of Assyrian Christians have been threatened by Kurds and Turks.

Plans Being Perfected For One of Largest in United States.  
The project will be the only one of its kind in the far South and is chiefly designed to care for and promote the development of American shipbuilding which is expected to grow out of increasing South American and Panama Canal traffic. At present Newport News is the farthest South point for an important private shipyard.

The new plant will occupy about 15 acres, Mr. Hyde said today, with equipment for building 600 foot vessels, including an 800 foot dry-dock and marine railroad. Mr. Hyde expected to close contracts in New York today for construction of the latter equipment.

## CONDITION MUST BE SETTLED WITH MEXICO

President Wilson to Serve Notice on Mexico if Hostilities Are Intolerable.  
ISSUED NEXT TUESDAY  
Demand Will be Made That Warring Factions Feed Starving Population or Else Cease Hostilities; Military Elements Held Responsible for Affairs as They Are.

(By the Associated Press.)  
Washington, D. C., May 28.—President Wilson has decided to serve notice on the warring factions in Mexico that conditions in that country have become intolerable and that unless they themselves compose the situation soon, some other means may have to be employed to accomplish the result.

The first intimation of the President taking this step came in an appeal issued from the head of the American Red Cross setting forth that "due to several years of internal disturbances in many parts of Mexico, have reduced the people to the verge of starvation," and urging contributions to relief funds.

Later the White House gave out the following: President's appeal for aid for the Mexicans was issued in a statement to the executive office that a statement from the President on the present situation in Mexico might be expected within the next few days.

This statement has been prepared and will be issued after the Cabinet meeting on Tuesday and then communicated to the leaders of all the Mexican factions.

Officials at the White House and State Department decline to discuss the President's statement contained, but denied that recognition of any faction was contemplated.

The present action, it was said, was to demand in long since erected, the Austrians and Germans arrive at an early settlement of their troubles or at least provide for the sustenance of the starving population.

High officers referred to the President's forthcoming pronouncement as not meaning "immediate intervention."

## First American Ship to Pass Panama Canal Torpedoed off Irish Coast.



Copyright Bruce Bess.  
The Nebraskan, the first ship to go through the Panama Canal, was the victim of a torpedo or mine off the coast of Ireland, Tuesday, May 18. The photograph here shows of the vessel was taken as she went through the canal in gala array. She was struck while about forty miles southwest of Fastinet, Ireland, and down at the bow, she started back to Queensboro.

When the vessel left San Francisco in August for her trip through the Panama Canal there was much ceremony. The major christened her for the trip.

She is an American built, American owned, and American manned vessel. She was launched at Camden, N. J., in 1905, for the American-Hawaiian Line. She is of 4,409 tons gross, 160 feet long, and 46 feet beam.

The Nebraskan left New York for Liverpool on May 7, with a general cargo, under charter to the Atlantic Transport Line, for one voyage. She discharged her cargo and on May 24 left Liverpool in ballast for the Delaware Capes.

The charter to the Atlantic Transport Line expired when the Nebraskan delivered her cargo in Liverpool. Even though she might have taken munitions of war to England on her eastward voyage she was strictly an American ship, in ballast, bound for an American port when she was damaged. Before the war the Nebraskan plied between New York and Hawaii.

discharged her cargo and on May 24 left Liverpool in ballast for the Delaware Capes.

## BIG SHIPBUILDING PLANT AT MOBILE

Plans Being Perfected For One of Largest in United States.

(By the Associated Press.)  
New York, May 28.—Plans for the construction at Mobile, Ala., of one of the largest shipbuilding plants in the United States were being perfected in New York today by Edward M. Hyde, former president of the Bath (Maine) Iron Works.

Mr. Hyde who has just returned from the South announced the formation of a \$4,000,000 organization to undertake the project which he hopes to have in operation within six months. The concern probably will be called the Gulf City Shipbuilding & Dry-Dock Company and is understood to have the backing of steel interests in Birmingham.

The project will be the only one of its kind in the far South and is chiefly designed to care for and promote the development of American shipbuilding which is expected to grow out of increasing South American and Panama Canal traffic.

## REPRIEVED MEXICANS SENTENCED TO HANG

Were to Die Yesterday—Given Nine Months of Respite.

(By the Associated Press.)  
Florence, Ariz., May 28.—Five Mexicans sentenced to hang for murder today at almost the last minute were given a respite by the Board of Pardons.

With every legal obstacle to their hanging set aside, the board granted a nine weeks' respite that the men might be hanged in the morning.

The Board of Pardons granted a reprieve of nine weeks in order that the men might be hanged singly.

## AUSTRIA PREPARED TO SAY ROME PAPERS

Italians Cannot Penetrate Enemy's Territory With Much Rapidity.

Rome Fears Aeroplanes  
Caution Will be Made to Protect Against Austrian Aircraft; Italian Craft Ready to Engage in Battle Any Time; Reported 1,300 Italians Held by Austrians.

(By the Associated Press.)  
Rome, May 28.—Via Paris.—The newspapers of Rome, while expressing satisfaction at the reports of rapid penetration of Austrian territory, point out that the initial swift advance cannot be kept up indefinitely.

The Austrians are well prepared to offer resistance behind carefully constructed defenses long since erected. The Tribune says the Italian advance to Altissimo involving a climb up steep hills for a distance of more than nine miles, was a brilliant feat.

Fears that Austrian aeroplanes appear over Rome have caused officials to take special measures of protection. In the first place a very close watch is to be kept along the Adriatic coast.

After the session, the delegates were guests of Secretary Garrison at a special drill on the parade grounds at Fort Myer. Tomorrow they will meet in the final general session of the conference and in the evening will be guests of Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo at a closing banquet.

## DELEGATES WANT VISIT FROM U. S.

South American Representatives Would Have Delegation Visit Their Countries.

RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED  
Congressman Flood Says Future Leadership Rests on Americas; Sec. Garrison Declared Conference Marked New Chapter in American History.

(By the Associated Press.)  
Washington, D. C., May 28.—Another step toward the improvement of business and financial relations between the Americas was taken at the Pan-American Financial Conference today when delegates from the Southern republics unanimously approved a resolution calling upon the business and commercial interests of the United States to unite within the next six months in naming a delegation to visit all the South and Central American countries.

Members of this delegation, the resolution proposed, shall be the guests of the various nations. The plan was proposed by Minister Pena, of Uruguay.

Adoption of this resolution and a report from the committee on uniform laws for all American relations marked today's general session.

The committee on uniform laws suggested a high commission of nine members from each country to consider uniformity in statutes relating to many subjects which vitally concern business and commercial intercourse between the republics.

## WILL IMPROVE OUR UNDERSEA CRAFT

Sec. Daniels Has Named Capt. Grant to Command Atlantic Submarine Flotilla.

FIRST-CLASS SUBMARINES  
This is Purpose in Designating Supervisor to Command Flotilla; Defects Will be Studied and Remedies Applied; Secretary's Wishes Are to Be Carried Out.

(By the Associated Press.)  
Washington, May 28.—In line with his announced intention to develop the submarine arm of the navy and eliminate its present faults, Secretary Daniels today designated Capt. A. W. Grant, one of the highest ranking officers of his grade, to command the Atlantic submarine flotilla and exercise general supervision over that branch of the service.

Captain Grant, who now commands the battleship Texas, will assume his new duties next month, with headquarters aboard the flotilla flagship. He will have as his assistant Commander Yates Sterling, now commanding the flotilla and an expert on underwater craft, whose testimony before a congressional committee during the last session gave the public some interesting details about the weaknesses of the boats under his charge.

A department statement issued tonight announcing Capt. Grant's designation said:

"While Captain Grant will be in immediate command of the Atlantic submarine flotilla and aboard the flagship assigned to the command of the flotilla, he will also have general supervision of the submarines of the Pacific and in other parts of the world, insofar as the general policy of the development and organization is concerned, the idea being that a determined effort is to be made to put every unit of the submarine flotilla in first-class condition to perform all of the functions for which it is designed.

## FRANK WITNESS IN DAMAGE SUIT

Case Against Pencil Factory for \$10,000 for Death of Mary Phagan.  
CONLEY ALSO WITNESS  
Franks Attorneys to Make Effort to Establish by Them That Girl Was Killed in Factory; To be Examined Wednesday; Prominent Men Asking Clemency for Prisoner.

(By the Associated Press.)  
Atlanta, Ga., May 28.—Leo M. Frank, under sentence of death for the murder of Mary Phagan, and James Conley, a negro, who is serving twelve months imprisonment as an accessory to the crime, were summoned today as witnesses in the \$10,000 damage suit of the Phagan girl's mother, Mrs. J. W. Coleman, against the National Pencil Factory. They were cited to appear before a commission next Wednesday. Counsel for the plaintiff will seek to establish by them that the girl was killed in the factory.

The trial of the suit will not begin for at least two months, it was said, but as Frank is under sentence to die next month, and Conley will be liberated next Wednesday counsel for Mrs. Coleman decided to have them examined without further delay.

While Frank is testifying before the commission the State Prison Commission is expected to be hearing his petition for commutation of the death sentence to life imprisonment. Senator Kern asks Clemency.

United States Senator John W. Kern, of Indiana today telegraphed to the State Prison Commission asking clemency for Frank. The telegram which was received at Gov. Slater's office, said:

"I have reviewed proceedings in the Frank case step by step with great and increasing interest and as a lawyer with forty years experience, I beg to express my belief in the fact that the death sentence to be meted out to the man who was a martyr in the estimation of millions of American citizens if you permit him to be executed, I have no objection to your board will be guided by sentiments of humanity as well as justice and will give this unfortunate creature the benefits of doubt which reach all the minds of all impartial men."

John A. Boykin, a prominent lawyer of this city, wrote the prison commission that the late Judge Ross who presided at Frank's trial, had expressed to him grave doubt as to Frank's innocence and believed that he received threatening letters during Frank's trial and while the motion for a new trial was pending.

Other letters in behalf of Frank were received from United States Senators William Courtland Dyer, of Missouri; Charles McNary, of Oregon; Lewis, Illinois; and Roush, Louisiana; Congressmen Byron, Tenn.; Hill, Conn.; Coleman, Penn.; Dugre, Louisiana; Eleton, California; and Indian, Indiana; and Harry Pratt Judson, President University of Chicago; Mayor James H. Preston, of Baltimore, and David H. Forgan, banker of Chicago.

## SWIFT AND OTHER PACKERS INDICTED

Charged With Violating Interstate Law Regulating Shipments.

(By the Associated Press.)  
Chicago, Ill., May 28.—Swift and other packers were indicted by the Federal grand jury today, charged with violating the law regulating interstate shipments of meats and packing house products.

There were twenty-nine counts in the indictment, of which twenty-five bear a maximum fine of \$20,000 and a minimum fine of \$1,000 each, and the remaining four a fine of \$5,000.

An indictment also was returned against Armour & Co., and Joseph (Pineberg) and William Euckerman who are charged with conspiring to violate a Federal statute in the shipment of frozen eggs alleged to have contained decayed material.

## BANKRUPT BROKERS MUST PRODUCE RECORDS

Will Show Transactions With Riggs' National Bank or Officers.

(By the Associated Press.)  
Washington, D. C., May 28.—The District Supreme Court today issued subpoenas requiring trustees of Lewis-Johnson & Company, bankrupt stockbrokers here, to produce their records of stock transactions with the Riggs National Bank or its officers.

The action is an outgrowth of the legal fight between the bank and treasury officials, whose counsel charge, the records show, six thousand such stock transactions, the regularity of which they question.

## PRESIDENT RECOVERING

Was Too Indisposed, However, to Hold Cabinet Meeting.

(By the Associated Press.)  
Washington, D. C., May 28.—President Wilson, who had virtually recovered this afternoon from a slight indisposition, which, coupled with the lack of any pressing business, led him to cancel the regular Friday Cabinet meeting. The President was in bed during the morning but late today took an automobile ride and attended to some important matters.

## CONGRESSMAN RITCHIE HAS NOT URGED EXTRA SESSION

Denies Report That He Urges Early Dealing Revenue Situation.

(By the Associated Press.)  
Washington, D. C., May 28.—Representative Claude Ritchie, of North Carolina, new majority leader in the House, in Washington today denied reports that he had urged an extra session of Congress to deal with the revenue situation. The President has been urged to convene an extra session with the President, said Mr. Ritchie.

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