

## RELATIONS WITH GERMANY ENDED; KAISER WARNS THAT SACRIFICE OF AMERICAN LIVES MEANS WAR

## WILSON ANNOUNCES BREAK WITH GERMANY TO A JOINT SESSION OF THE CONGRESS

Fervently Invoking Divine Guidance, President Wilson Formally Advises Congress of His Decision.—Tells in Detail Why United States Could Not Continue Relations With a Warring Power Which Repeatedly Invasives Its Sacred Rights and the Lives of its Citizens. Nation is Now on Verge of War.

Washington.—The severance of diplomatic relations with Germany was formally announced to the country and the world by President Wilson at a joint session of Congress Saturday, February 3, at 2 o'clock.

Fervently invoking the guidance of Almighty God in the step he had taken, the President, speaking deliberately and with great solemnity, said:

"Gentlemen of the Congress:

"The Imperial German Government on the 31st of January announced to this Government and to the Governments of the other neutral Nations that on and after the first day of February, the present month, it would adopt a policy with regard to the use of submarines against all shipping seeking to pass through certain designated areas of the high seas to which it is clearly my duty to call your attention.

"Let me remind the Congress that on the 5th of April last in view of the sinking on the 24th of March of the cross-channel passenger steamer Sussex by a German submarine, without summons or warning and the consequent loss of the lives of several citizens of the United States who were passengers aboard her, this Government addressed a note to the Imperial German Government, in which it made the following declaration:

"If it is still the purpose of the Imperial Government to prosecute relentless and indiscriminate warfare against vessels of commerce by the use of submarines without regard to what the Government of the United States must consider the sacred and indisputable rules of international law and the universally recognized dictates of humanity, the Government of the United States is at last forced to the conclusion that there is but one course it can pursue. Unless the Imperial Government should now immediately declare and effect an abandonment of its present methods of submarine warfare against passenger and freight carrying vessels, the Government of the United States can have no choice but to sever diplomatic relations with the German Empire altogether."

**Germany's Reply.**  
"In reply to this declaration, the Imperial German Government gave this Government the following assurance:

"The German Government is prepared to do its utmost to confine the operations of war for the rest of its duration to the fighting forces of the belligerents, thereby also insuring the freedom of the seas, a principal upon which the German Government believes now, as before, to be in agreement with the Government of the United States.

"The German Government, guided by this idea, notifies the Government of the United States that the German naval forces have received the following orders: In accordance with the general principles of visit and search and destruction of merchant vessels recognized by international law, such vessels, both within and without the area declared as naval war zones, shall not be sunk without warning and without saving human lives, unless these ships attempt to escape or offer resistance.

"But," it added, "neutrals cannot expect that Germany, forced to fight for her existence, shall, for the sake of neutral interests, restrict the use of an effective weapon if her enemy is permitted to continue to apply at will methods of warfare violating the rules of international law. Such a demand would be incompatible with the character of neutrality, and the German Government is convinced that the Government of the United States does not think of making such a demand, knowing that the Government of the United States has repeatedly declared that it is determined to restore the principle of the freedom of the seas from whatever quarter it has been violated."

**No Contingencies.**  
"To this the Government of the United States replied on the 8th of May, accepting, of course, the assurance given, but adding:

1916, it announced that it would take in the event that the German Government did not declare and effect an abandonment of the methods of submarine warfare which it was then employing and to which it now purposes again to resort.

"I have, therefore, directed the Secretary of State to announce to His Excellency, the German Ambassador, that all diplomatic relations between the United States and the German Empire are severed, and that the American Ambassador at Berlin will immediately be withdrawn; and, in accordance with this decision, to hand to His Excellency his passports.

"Notwithstanding this unexpected action of the German Government, this sudden and deeply deplorable renunciation of its assurances, given this Government at one of the most critical moments of tension in the relations of the two Governments, I refuse to believe that it is the intention of the German authorities to do in fact what they have warned us they will feel at liberty to do. I cannot bring myself to believe that they will indeed pay no regard to the ancient friendship between their people and our own, or to the solemn obligations which have been exchanged between them and destroy American ships and take the lives of American citizens in the willful prosecution of the ruthless naval program they have announced their intention to adopt. Only actual overt acts on their part can make me believe to even now.

**The Only Alternative.**  
"If this inveterate confidence on my part in the sobriety and prudent foresight of their purpose should unhappily prove unfounded; if American ships and American lives should in fact be sacrificed by their naval commanders in heedless contravention of the just and reasonable understandings of international law and the obvious dictates of humanity, I shall take the liberty of coming again before the Congress to ask that authority be given me to use any means that may be necessary for the protection of our seamen and our people in the prosecution of their peaceful and legitimate errands on the high seas. I can do nothing less. I take it for granted that all neutral Governments will take the same course.

"We do not desire any hostile conflict with the Imperial German Government. We are the sincere friends of the German people and earnestly desire to remain at peace with the Government which speaks for them. We shall not believe that they are hostile to us unless and until we are obliged to believe it; and we purpose nothing more than the reasonable defense of the rights of our people. We wish to serve no selfish ends. We seek merely to stand true alike in thought and in action to the immemorial principles of our people which I have sought to express in my address to the Senate only two weeks ago—seek merely to vindicate our right to liberty and justice and an unimpaired life. These are the bases of peace, not war. God grant that we may not be challenged to defend them, by acts of willful injustice on the part of the Government of Germany."

**Withdrawal of Pledge.**  
"The Imperial Government, therefore, does not doubt that the Government of the United States will understand the situation thus forced upon Germany by the Entente Allies' brutal methods of war and by their determination to destroy the Central Powers, and that the Government of the United States will further realize that the now openly disclosed intention of the Entente Allies gives back to Germany the freedom of action which she reserved in her note addressed to the Government of the United States on May 4, 1916.

"Under these circumstances, Germany will meet the illegal measures of her enemies by forcibly preventing after February 1, 1917, in a zone around Great Britain, France, Italy, and in the Eastern Mediterranean all navigation, that of neutrals included, from and to England and from and to France, etc., etc. All ships met within the zone will be sunk."

"I think that you will agree with me that, in view of this declaration, which suddenly and without prior intimation of any kind, deliberately withdraws the solemn assurance given in the Imperial Government's note of the 4th of May, 1916, this Government has no alternative consistent with the dignity and honor of the United States but to take the course which, in its note of the 18th of April,

## HOUSE PASSES BILL OVER WILSON'S VETO

IMMIGRATION BILL GETS THE TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY IN THE HOUSE.

### PARTY LINES WERE IGNORED

Vote Was Almost Three to One—President Wilson Vetoed Bill Because of the Literacy Test as a Restriction Upon Immigration.

Washington.—President Wilson's veto of the immigration bill because of its literacy test feature was overridden in the House by a vote of 286 to 106. Party lines were ignored in the fight, Republicans and Democrats being almost equally divided on either side.

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. President Cleveland first disapproved a bill on this ground and Congress sustained his action. President Taft was the next to reject it. On that occasion the Senate voted to override the veto but the House failed to give the necessary two-thirds majority by nine votes. In 1915, President Wilson refused to permit a bill to become law with the literacy test incorporated. The House lacked only four votes to override his action then and the Senate did not consider the veto message.

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

Those voting to override the veto included 149 Democrats; 131 Republicans, four Progressives, one Prohibitionist and one Independent. Opposing them were 55 Democrats, 49 Republicans, one Progressive and one Socialist.

### CONGRESS UNDISTURBED BY GRAVE SITUATION.

Work Aways on Legislative Calendar.—Air of Restrained Excitement.

Washington.—Congress worked away on the legislative calendar, undisturbed by the grave situation brought about by Germany's declaration of ruthless submarine warfare. There was an air of restrained excitement at the Capitol, but the leader on both sides seemed disposed to wait calmly for action by President Wilson.

In the House, the only public reference to the situation was made by Majority Leader Kitchin, who pleaded for a reconsecration of patriotism to the union.

### COMMITTEE OF REICHSTAG STUDY SUBMARINE QUESTION.

Berlin, via London.—Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg and other Ministers attended an important meeting of the Ways and Means Committee of the Reichstag, at which the entire war situation was gone over and new steps planned by the Central Powers were considered. The Chancellor opened the sitting with a speech of which the keynote words were:

"We have been challenged to fight to the end. We accept the challenge; we stake everything and we shall be victorious."

### "NOT GUILTY" VERDICT IN SPANELL CASE.

San Angelo, Tex.—Harry J. Spanell, who was found not guilty in district court here 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 on \$5,000 bond. It was stated that Spanell probably will be placed on trial at Coleman in May for the killing of Butler.

## UNRESTRICTED NAVAL WARFARE

GERMANY GIVES WARNING OF RENEWAL AND EXTENSION OF SUBMARINE BLOCKADE.

### CRISIS CONFRONTS U. S.

Peace and Means of Peace Go Glimmering With Announcement of Central Powers of Proposed Naval Policy.—A Starvation Blockade.

Washington.—Germany has declared unrestricted submarine warfare. A starvation blockade of England, the like of which the world never has seen, was announced in notes delivered to American Ambassador Gerard in Berlin, and to the State Department here by Count Bernstorff.

Thus begins the long-feared campaign of ruthlessness, conceived by von Hindenburg, it was said here, on a magnitude never even contemplated by von Tirpitz.

Again the United States faces severance of diplomatic relations with Germany, with all its eventual possibilities. President Wilson's repeated warnings of "a world afire" and Secretary Lansing's "verge of war" statements are being recalled in the Capital with feelings of apprehension and misgivings.

Germany's action is the super-crisis of all those that have stirred the American Government in two and a half years of world war.

Talk of peace in Europe and means of preserving the peace of the world have gone glimmering.

President Wilson, incredulous at first when the unofficial text of Germany's warning was brought to him, at once called for the official document which had just been presented to Secretary Lansing by the German Ambassador. Mr. Lansing absolutely refused to make a comment. President Wilson began at once a careful study of the document.

### What Will President Do?

President Wilson has the task of deciding what shall be the course of the United States. Three immediate steps appear among the possibilities. The United States might solemnly warn Germany against a violation of her pledges; it might be decided that the German warning is sufficient notice of an intention to disregard those pledges and a sufficient warrant for breaking off diplomatic relations; it might be decided to await the results of the blockade and determine the course of the United States as the actual operations to develop.

On almost every side Germany's drastic action is interpreted as an open confession of the effectiveness of the British food blockade. It is regarded as a determination to strike back in kind. German officials in the United States estimate the food supply on the British Isles will last a month. Admittedly the plan is to carry starvation to the doors of England with swift, staggering strokes, as a fulfillment of Germany's announced determination to use every weapon and agency at her command to end the war quickly. She counts on the operation of an unheard-of number of submarines to deliver blows to bring England to her knees within 60 days. One German official here predicted the war would be over in a month.

Conveyed to the world as the answer to the refusal of the Entente Allies to talk peace, Germany's latest warning says:

"From February 1, 1917, within barred zones around Great Britain, France, Italy and in the eastern Mediterranean—all sea traffic forthwith will be opposed."

### ENTENTE ALLIES READY TO MEET GERMAN MOVE.

To Meet Such a Situation, Great Britain Has Been Assembling Fleet of "Sub. Chasers."

New York.—Great Britain and her Allies are prepared to meet Germany's moves in her submarine campaign, it was authoritatively asserted in shipping circles here.

The ports of Liverpool and Bordeaux will be kept open at all hazards. British steamship representatives asserted, even if it becomes necessary to convoy every merchantman which crosses the Atlantic. The first step to be taken by the British Admiralty, which virtually controls the merchant fleets of the Allies, will be to arm every ship with guns fore and aft for defensive purposes, it was predicted.

To meet the emergency, the British Government has been assembling for months, it was said, a large fleet of small, fast cruisers to be used as "submarine chasers."

The Admiralty has so arranged sailings and bookings, it was explained, that they can be changed without delay to meet whatever circumstances may arise. The assertion was made that there will be no interruption in the sailings from American ports of ships flying the flags of the Entente Allies.

A marked advance in marine insurance rates was considered to be inevitable. One way rates for American vessels were seven per cent, while there was a ten per cent war risk rate on ships clearing for Mediterranean ports.

## FORMAL RELATIONS ARE TO BE RESUMED

FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS TO BE RE-ESTABLISHED WITH MEXICO.

### HOPE TO SOLVE PROBLEMS

Administration Will Make Effort to Solve Questions With Carranza and Also Aid Him in Establishing Constitutional Government.

Washington.—Full diplomatic relations with Mexico are to be resumed immediately in an effort by the United States to solve through formal channels the troublesome questions pending with the Carranza de facto Government, and for its moral effect in urging Carranza to restore order and set up constitutional Government. It was announced after a Cabinet meeting that Henry P. Fletcher, confirmed as Ambassador to Mexico months ago, would leave for his post in a few days, accompanied by his Embassy staff.

There has been no American Ambassador at Mexico City since Henry Lane Wilson was recalled after the killing of Madero and Huerta's assumption of power, and formal diplomatic intercourse has not existed since Huerta handed Charge Nelson O'Shaughnessy his passports April 23, 1914, upon the landing of American marines at Vera Cruz. Since the recognition of the de facto constitutional Government subordinate officials have been in charge of the Embassy.

Ambassador Fletcher will go by steamer from New York to Vera Cruz and from there to Queretaro or to Mexico City, if by that time General Carranza has re-established his Capital there. He is expected to arrive at his post a few days after the last American soldier has crossed the border into the United States. Capt. Frank R. McCoy, of the Third Cavalry, has been detailed as military attaché of the Embassy.

Although no official notification of the intention of General Carranza has been received, it is taken for granted that he will at once send to Washington an accredited Ambassador. Eliseo Arredondo (now in Mexico on leave of absence) has been here as Ambassador designate for more than a year.

It was indicated that the sending of Ambassador Fletcher would be followed by an order for the return of many consuls to their posts. Consular representatives at all interior posts were withdrawn last summer.

### BELGIANS ARE STILL BEING FORCED TO ENTER GERMANY.

Report From the Hague Says Deportation Continues at Lighter Rate.

The Hague.—The deportation of Belgian workmen continues, but at a lighter rate than previously, according to information from an unquestionable source. It is said that the deportations from Brussels now are being made at the rate of about 350 men daily. Many of these men, it is alleged, are not idlers, but skilled workmen who have been engaged for at least a part of their time in their trade.

In some provinces the Belgians, it is said, are adopting methods of passive resistance in efforts to escape deportation. This resistance takes the form of failing to appear at the appointed place for examination. Out of 1,700 men called in five communes near Malines, not more than one-half presented themselves. Thereupon the German military authorities arrested three prominent men in each commune, holding them as hostages until the appearance of the absentees who in the meantime were hunted by squads of soldiers. In Brussels many of the summoned men who failed to appear now are in hiding.

About one thousand Belgians called with the work of the American Relief Commission—members of provincial and communal committees of helpers and storehouses, mills or soup kitchens—have been deported to Germany over the strong protest of the commission.

### ADMINISTRATION LEADERS HALT DEBATE ON PEACE

Washington.—Debate on President Wilson's world peace address ended in the senate for several hours here it was halted by concerted action of administration leaders. Then Senator Cummins' motion to take up his resolution to set aside time for a general discussion of the subject was tabled by a vote of 38 to 30. Senator Martine, of New Jersey, was the only Democrat to vote with the Republicans against the motion to table.

### DECIDE QUESTION OF EXTRA SESSION LATER

Washington.—President Wilson told callers that the question of an extra session of Congress after March 4 depended upon the legislative results of the present session. He said he could not decide whether to summon an extra session until he is in a position to know definitely what action on his legislative program will be taken during the remaining weeks of the present Congress.

## TORPEDO BOAT PUTS IN AT MOREHEAD

THE BAGLEY, USED AS MINE LAYER, HURRIEDLY FILLS BUNKERS WITH COAL.

### EXCITES COAST INHABITANTS

Rumored That Beaufort Harbor is to Be Mined.—Submarines Are Also Seen Off the Coast.

New Bern.—The torpedo boat Bagley, being used as a mine layer, came into Morehead City's harbor unexpectedly, and made hurried arrangements for filling her bunkers with enough coal for a long cruise. It was rumored, although the officers commanding the ship declined to affirm or deny the report, that Beaufort harbor was to be mined. Later it was announced that the torpedo boat Warden and the submarine K-2 were outside and the Bagley was cast off and departed.

Authoritative information is to the effect that the Bagley is conveying the other two boats to some unknown point and, it is said, that she will return to Beaufort harbor later. The people at Morehead City and Beaufort are highly excited over the affair, and fear they are in danger of being attacked in case possible developments occur.

### Tar Heel Troop Movements.

Camp Stewart, El Paso, Texas.—The First Regiment, entrained for home Friday, was everybody in the best of health and spirits. The Second Regiment band gave the departing troops a farewell serenade, and everybody remaining here turned out to see them off. They go to Asheville by way of Kansas City and Memphis.

The Third left Friday morning for points on the border, and are scattered along the international boundary, line from El Paso to Las Cruces. They went in sixty big motor trucks. They made a record seldom equaled in getting away—striking camp and loading in thirty minutes.

The First leaves three sick men in the camp hospital at Fort Bliss, these will follow as soon as they are able to move. Two prisoners were also left. Private James R. Tate, of Company E, to begin a six months' sentence at Fort Bliss for insubordination, and Private Willie J. Ashe, Machine Gun Company, who will be sent to Fort Leavenworth to serve two years for selling government property.

### Duplin Must Build Fence.

Warsaw.—The order against the county commissioners of Duplin to restrain them from building the fence around the county was dismissed by Judge C. C. Lyon at the hearing at Kenansville.

The mandamus to compel them to build the fence was heard at the same time, and the Judge issued an order of premonitory mandamus compelling the commissioners to build the fence as required by the statute.

The statute requires the building of a fence around the county, or "such parts thereof as border on stock law territory," and around all the old special stock law districts, about 219 miles of fence estimated to cost over \$100,000. The sentiment in the county has changed considerably since the vote was taken in 1915, and a great many of the people who voted for the free range are now opposed to the old system, and to the paying of a tax for building the fence.

### Goldsboro Sets Higher Goal.

Goldsboro.—A preliminary meeting of a score of representative business men of Goldsboro was held to talk over the plans for the erection in the near future of a Community House for Goldsboro, and in connection with same the need of a public swimming pool, a gymnasium, entertainment rooms and auditorium. Those present at the meeting listened to a very interesting talk by Mr. Joe Rosenthal, who stated that it would take a larger sum than \$30,000, the amount first suggested, in fact, that to build and properly equip such a building it would take at least \$50,000.

### Cuts Sister in Head With Axe.

Statesville.—A distressing accident occurred, when Regina, the six-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. DeWitt Hoover, of Statesville, was struck on the head with an axe by her 10-year-old brother Neil, who was chopping wood. The little girl approached her brother, who, unaware of her presence, struck her in the top of the head with the blade of the axe. The skull was penetrated. The brain was uninjured, however. The child was removed to a hospital. It is stated that the child will recover.

### Fence Around Buffalo Herd.

Asheville.—Work on the great wire fence that is to inclose a herd of bison and elk in the Government's share of Pisgah forest, on the Vanderbilt estate, is progressing rapidly, and half the fence has already been erected. The pasture, with the extra high wire fence, is declared to be the only one of its kind east of the Mississippi, and is attracting a great deal of attention throughout this section. When completed, the elk and buffalo will be in plain sight of the motor road leading to Mt. Pisgah.

## BLOCKADE ZONES DECLARED BY KAISER

