

# The Fayetteville Index

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## President Addresses Congress

### WOULD PUT COUNTRY IN STATE OF ARMED NEUTRALITY

#### Alliance to Defeat United States Proposed By Germany

**President Wilson Declares that the Lives of Citizens and the Commerce of this Country Must Be Protected—Congress Makes Appropriation To Arm Merchant Vessels Immediately**

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 20.—The President's speech at the joint session of congress follows:

"Gentlemen of the Congress: I have again asked the privilege of addressing you because we are moving through critical times during which it seems to me to be my duty to keep in close touch with the Houses of Congress so that neither counsel nor action shall run at cross purposes between us.

"On the third of February, I officially informed you of the sudden and unexpected action of the imperial German government in declaring its intentions to disregard the promises it had made to this government in April last and undertake immediate submarine operations against all commerce, whether of belligerent or of neutrals, that should seek to approach Great Britain and Ireland, the Atlantic Coasts of Europe, or the harbors of the eastern Mediterranean, and to conduct these operations without regard to the established restrictions of international practice, without regard to any considerations of humanity, even which might interfere with their object. That policy was forthwith put into practice. It has now been in active execution for nearly four weeks.

"Its practical results are, not fully disclosed. The commerce of other neutral nations is suffering severely, but not, perhaps, very much more severely than it was already suffering before February 1, when the new policy of the imperial government was put into operation. We have asked the co-operation of the other neutral governments to prevent these depredations but I fear none of them has thought it wise to join in any common course of action. Our own commerce has suffered, is suffering, rather in apprehension than in fact, rather because so many of our ships are timidly keeping to their home ports than because American ships have been sunk.

**TWO AMERICAN SHIPS SUNK**  
"Two American vessels have been sunk, the *Houatonic* and the *Lyman M. Law*. The case of the *Houatonic*, which was carrying foodstuffs consigned to a London firm, was essentially like the case of the *Frye* in which, it will be recalled, the German government admitted its liability for damages, and the lives of the crew, as in the case of the *Frye*, were safeguarded with reasonable care.

"The case of the *Law*, which was carrying lemon boxes, was disclosed a ruthlessness of method which deserves grave condemnation, but was accompanied by no circumstances which might not have been expected at this time in connection with the use of the submarine against merchantmen on the German government has used it.

"In sum, therefore, the situation we find ourselves in, with regard to the actual conduct of the German submarine warfare against commerce and its effects upon our own ships and people, is substantially the same that it was when I addressed you on the 3rd of February, except for the tying up of our shipping in our own ports because of the unwillingness of our ship owners to risk their vessels at sea without insurance or adequate protection, and the very serious congestion of our commerce which has resulted, a congestion which is growing rapidly more and more serious every day.

**NO OVERT ACT, BUT—**  
"This in itself might presently accomplish, in effect, what the new German submarine orders were meant to accomplish, so far as we are concerned. We can only say, therefore, that the overt act which I have ventured to hope the German commanders would in fact avoid has not occurred. "But, while this is happily true, it must be admitted that there have been certain additional indications and expressions of purpose on the part of the German authorities which have increased rather than lessened the impression that, if our ships and our people are spared, it will be because of fortunate circumstances or because the commanders of the German submarines which they may happen to encounter, exercise an unexpected discretion and restraint rather than because of the instructions under which those commanders are acting.

**GRAVEST SITUATION**  
"It would be foolish to deny that the situation is fraught with the gravest possibilities and dangers. No thoughtful man can fail to see that the necessity for definite action may come at any time, if we are in fact, and not in word merely, to defend our elementary rights as a neutral nation. It would be most imprudent to be unprepared.

"I cannot in such circumstances be unmindful of the fact that the expiration of the term of the present Congress is immediately at hand by constitution of limitation, and that it would in all likelihood require an unusual length of time to assemble and organize the Congress which is to succeed it.

"I feel that I ought, in view of that fact, to obtain from you full and immediate assurances of the authority which I may need at any moment to exercise.

**WANTS CONGRESS' SUPPORT**  
"No doubt I already possess that authority without special warrant of law, by the plain implication of my constitutional duties and powers, but I prefer, in the present circumstances, not to act upon general implication.

(Continued on Page Three)

#### Idaho Officials Kill Anti-Japanese Bill



GOV. M. ALEXANDER OF IDAHO SEN. PERRY MITCHELL REP. B. ANDERSON

When the German difficulty loomed big a week ago Secretary of State Lansing made a hurried visit to Senator Borah of Idaho in Washington, asking him to use his influence with Governor Moses Alexander of Idaho and members of the legislature to kill the anti-Japanese alien land bill,

which had been introduced in the lower house of the legislature by Representative Anderson and passed. Senator Perry Mitchell, president pro tem, of the State Senate, was asked to use his influence against the measure and the upper house killed the bill.

## Britain's Forces Continue Gains

**Make Progress On Both Sides of the Ancre River France—Rounding Up Turks Recently Driven Out of Kut Amara—Engaging the Ottoman Troops On Three Sides**

On both sides of the Ancre river in France the British forces continue to make progress. North of the stream the important village of Gommecourt and the village of Puisieux Au Mont and trench systems near them have been captured, while south of the river the forces which previously had taken Ligny passed eastward and occupied Thilly, about a mile southwest of Bapume, and a trench at Sully-Failliet.

The capture of Gommecourt was followed by the driving of the British line a thousand yards northeast of that place. Whether the Germans sectors is not stated by the British official communication.

On the remainder of the front in France and Belgium minor attacks and artillery duels continue. Near Clerf, Arras and Lens, successful raids were carried out by the British and a German raid northeast of

Armentieres was repulsed. Comparatively quiet prevails in Russia and Galicia. Along the northwestern frontier of Roumania, in the Jacobeni-Klimedjag sector, the Turks have captured several hill positions from the Russians and taken more than 1,500 men prisoners. Reports in admitting the loss of the positions, says that a counter-attack gave the Russians possession of one of the positions.

In the Tigris region the British, in quest of Bagdad, are rounding up Turks recently driven out of Kut El Amara. The latest British official communication, says King George's message on Monday was engaging the Ottoman troops from three sides 50 miles northwest of Kut and that the Turks had abandoned quantities of arms and ammunition and other war stores and thrown guns, including four Howitzers, into the Tigris.

**Mexico Was To Recover Texas, New Mexico and Arizona and Receive Financial Assistance—Document Was In the Hands of the President When He Broke Relations With Germany**

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 1.—It has been revealed that Germany, in planning unrestricted warfare and counting its consequences, proposed an alliance with Mexico and Japan to make war on the United States, if this country should not remain neutral.

Japan, through Mexican mediation, was to be urged to abandon her allies and join in the attack on the United States.

Mexico, for her reward, was to receive general financial support from Germany, reconquer Texas, New Mexico and Arizona—lost Provinces—and share in the victorious peace terms Germany contemplates.

Details were left to German Minister Von Eckhardt in Mexico City, who, by instructions signed by German Foreign Minister Zimmerman, at

Berlin, January 19, 1917, was directed to propose the alliance with Mexico to General Carranza, and suggest that Mexico seek to bring Japan into the plot.

These instructions were transmitted to Von Eckhardt through Count Von Bernstorff, former German Ambassador here, now on his way home to Germany, under a safe conduct obtained from his enemies by the country against which he was plotting war.

Germany pictured to Mexico, by broad intimation, England and the Entente Allies defeated; Germany and her allies triumphant and in world domination by the instrument of unrestricted submarine warfare.

A copy of Zimmermann's instructions to Von Eckhardt, sent through Von Bernstorff, is in possession of the United States Government.

**GERARD IS WARNED BY HIGH GERMAN OFFICIAL NOT TO SAIL FROM SPAIN**

BERLIN, Feb. 28.—When Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg had concluded his address in the Reichstag, speeches were made by various party leaders, including Dr. Peter Spahn, leader of the Center party, who reaffirm confidence in the submarine warfare.

Referring to the blockade of German ports, he said:

"America has protested against this but she has refused to follow us. With full appreciation of the seriousness of the situation, we must hold on and conquer, whatever President Wilson's decision may be.

Count Von Westarp outlined peace terms, saying:

"Sufficient war indemnity must be collected to arm us against dangers of the future and to provide for resumption of economic competition. We must retain Courland and Livonia (Russia) as they offer ground for colonization, and a German population there will protect our interests on the Baltic. At Briey and Longwy (Northern France) we can find useful coal and iron. The harbor at Antwerp we cannot do without.

"Our decision on unrestricted submarine warfare is irrevocable. We regret the recent loss of Dutch ships. Let this be an earnest warning to neutrals.

"President Wilson's attempt to bring neutrals to his side completely failed. We rejoice in that and also that after our rupture with America Mr. Wilson is done for as a peace mediator so far as we are concerned.

"The chancellor's words regarding

**GERMANY SAYS THE CONQUERED SOIL MUST BE RETAINED BY TEUTONS AFTER WAR**

CORUNNA, SPAIN, Feb. 28.—via Paris—It became known today that former Ambassador Gerard has been warned personally by a German friend in high official position against sailing from Spain for the United States.

The warning has not become known except to those men who are in Mr. Gerard's confidence, but among them there is a feeling of anxiety in regard to the Americans sailing today on the *Infanta Isabel*. Mr. Gerard regards the warning as having been given in seriousness.

**Thaw Mental and Physical Wreck**

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Mar. 1.—Harry K. Thaw is a physical and mental wreck, according to a report made today to Captain of Detectives Tate by Dr. John Wanamaker, 3rd, a police surgeon, who was present yesterday when New York alienists examined Thaw at a hospital here. Thaw was taken to the hospital seven weeks ago when he cut his throat while police were searching for him on a warrant charging him with beating a Kansas City boy in a New York hotel.

The Thaw family today is contemplating its plans for a lunacy proceedings instituted by Thaw's mother last Monday. The first hearing will be held March 12.

The capture with America will not to have their effect outside the house and in certain quarters in America which thus far have not recognized the situation clearly.