

HICKORY DAILY RECORD

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U. S. PREPARES FOR ACTION

President Hopes For Peace, but Tells Congress to Clear Decks for Action

GERMANY STANDS PAT ON SUBMARINE ORDERS

EVERY PRECAUTION TAKEN TO PROTECT AMERICANS

Whole Power of Government Prepares for Any Eventuality--Seventeen German Ships at Manila are Seized by United States-- Other Late News.

Manila, P. I., Feb. 5.—The naval authorities at 6 o'clock this evening seized the 17 German merchant vessels anchored in Manila Bay. All the crews have been taken off.

Washington, Feb. 5.—Still hoping for peace, but taking every possible step to prepare the country for war, President Wilson today appealed to congress to dispose quickly of all routine business and clear its desks for action.

The president wants congress ready to act if it becomes necessary for him to address it again and ask for authority to use all the force of the United States to protect American lives and ships.

The safe arrival of American ships in English harbors, reported this morning, brought an air of relief to the tension which has prevailed everywhere. Officials hoped the country would not be forced into war, but preparations are being made for any event.

All officials realized that the situation had developed itself into one of tense waiting and careful preparation. They realized that the hoped-for abandonment of the German policy was not likely.

Meanwhile they are putting every agency of the government in motion to meet it. Apparently the next question of great moment that remains to be decided relates to Austria's participation in Germany's campaign of ruthlessness. President Wilson is ready to sever relations also with Austria as soon as it takes the step.

Washington, Feb. 5.—Grimly preparing and with an air of conviction that the nation's course will be shaped immutably for it as Germany makes effective her announcement measures of unrestricted submarine warfare, the United States government has begun a tense vigil that may be broken momentarily or may be long drawn out.

Despite the severance of diplomatic relations with Germany President Wilson believes his long struggle to preserve the country's peace has not been lost. He still hopes that hostilities will be avoided, but that other neutrals adding their voices to that of the United States will unite all major countries of the world in a protest against ruthlessness.

The president's invitation to neutrals to follow his action was contained in instructions to American diplomats to announce the break with Germany to the governments to which they are accredited. It was contained in the following note: "You will immediately notify the government to which you are accredited that the United States, because of the German government's recent announcement of its intention to renew unrestricted submarine warfare, has no choice but to follow the course laid down in the note April 18, 1917 (the Sussex note)."

to protect American citizens engaged in their peaceful and lawful errands on the seas.

"The course taken is, in the president's view, entirely in conformity with the principles he enunciated in his address to the senate, January 12 (the address proposing a world league for peace.)"

"He believes it will make for the peace of the world if other neutral powers can find it possible to take similar action."

"Report fully and immediately on the reception of this announcement and upon the suggestion as to similar action."

Thus it becomes apparent that in the shadow of war the president does not abandon his efforts for peace, and as the first step has moved to direct the moral force of the neutral world to compel Germany's return to an observance of international law at sea.

German Official Tells Associated Press That All Ships Will Be Sunk

Berlin, Sunday, Feb. 4, via London, Feb. 5.—Peaceful continuance of German-American relations after the departure of the respective embassies at Berlin and Washington in the sense as indicated in President Wilson's address to congress appears to be very slight, according to a high official of the government.

It was stated positively in high political circles that the German orders for the conduct of a submarine war could not and would not be modified and that Germany's orders were absolute and final, and that the only security for shipping was in the avoidance of the prohibited zone.

Germany, so the Associated Press was informed, resorted to this measure, after the "shameful rejection by the entente powers of peace overtures and only after the fullest determination" and to use the imperative weapon in the "sense of its threatened interest; Germany cannot relinquish this weapon—the only one promising a speedy end to the war—reluctant as Germany was to take this step.

The government had hoped that the United States would see its way clear to avoiding the danger zone.

Germany therefore, so the high informant of the Associated Press continued, is very keenly disappointed and grieved by the terms of Mr. Wilson's message, but the German order cannot be modified. The informant continued:

"We can only hope and trust that American ships and American citizens will avoid the danger zone laid down in the German memorandum."

Fire in Charlotte late Saturday night destroyed the Johnson building on South Tryon street and did damage amounting to \$100,000 or more. Ten thousand spectators are said to have watched the flames, and it was feared that the whole business district would be swept.

AUSTRIA BACKS GERMANY IN NOTE?

Washington, Feb. 5.—While officials refuse to admit that Austria's formal announcement of her decision to Germany's declaration of unrestricted submarine warfare has been received, there is reason to believe that it is in the hands of the state department.

FRENCH MAKE RAID ON GERMAN TRENCHES

Paris, Feb. 5.—South of the Somme a German raid south of Vaux last evening was repulsed, the war office announced today. The French made several incursions into the German lines without losses.

BRAZIL TO FOLLOW THE UNITED STATES

Rio Janeiro, Feb. 5.—The note of protest which Brazil will dispatch to Germany in answer to her unrestricted warfare is completed but will not be sent until there is an exchange of views between some of the American government. The president and cabinet will hold a conference today.

MAY FOLLOW U. S. London, Feb. 5.—Reuter's Rio Janeiro correspondent says there is reason to believe the reply of the Brazilian government to the German note will be in harmony with the attitude of the United States.

RUSSIANS THINK END NEARER NOW

Petrograd, Feb. 4, via London, Feb. 5.—The diplomatic breach between the United States and Germany became known here at noon today and aroused general enthusiasm. The consensus of opinion was that it was calculated to bring an early end to the war. The common opinion in mercantile circles is that the United States will be involved.

CREW OF INTERNED GUNBOAT SET THEIR VESSEL ON FIRE

Honolulu, Feb. 5.—The crew of the interned German gunboat Geier set the vessel afire, according to the authorities here. The gunboat was of 1,604 tons and was interned shortly after the war began. She was built at Milhelmshaven in 1894.

MARKETS

COTTON FUTURES

New York, Feb. 5.—There was a renewal of the advance at the opening of the cotton market today and first prices were 10 to 34 points higher. The market soon eased off on coverings before the end of the first hour.

	Open	Close
March	15.20 to 15.36	15.88
May	15.35 to 15.22	16.90
July	15.30 to 15.25	1.08
October	14.85 to 14.93	15.63
December	15.00 to 15.20	15.56

HICKORY MARKETS

Cotton 15 3-4
Wheat \$1.90

CHICAGO WHEAT

Chicago, Feb. 5.—Nervousness and small trade was the most noticeable feature on the wheat market today. Opening prices, which ranged from 1-8 off to 3-14 up with May at 1.67 3-4 to 1.69 1-2 and July at 1.49 1-2 to 1.50, were followed with many changes, the bears having the advantage.

THE WEATHER

For North Carolina: Fair and continued cold tonight. Tuesday fair with rising temperature. Fresh to strong west winds except in west. Gales along north coast diminishing tonight.

AMERICAN LINER HAS BRAVED PERIL

New York, Feb. 5.—The American line received a cablegram today saying that the steamship New York, carrying passengers, left Liverpool at 5 p. m. Saturday. She is the first American passenger ship to sail since the promulgation of the new German orders.

RUSSIA ANNOUNCES SOME HEAVY ATTACKS

Petrograd, via London, Feb. 5.—The Germans are continuing their attacks in the north, the war office announced today.

NO COURT OPINIONS ARE EXPECTED TODAY

Washington, Feb. 5.—No decision in the constitutionality of the Adamson eight-hour law or other important cases before the supreme court is expected today.

WILSON TALKS WAR WITH SECRETARIES

Washington, Feb. 5.—President Wilson at conferences today with Secretary Baker of the war department and Secretary Daniels of the navy discussed legislation intended to put the country in a state of preparedness.

SENATE TO ENDORSE PRESIDENT'S COURSE

Washington, Feb. 5.—A resolution endorsing President Wilson's action in severing relations with Germany was introduced in the senate today by Chairman Stone of the foreign relations committee. It emphasizes the president's expressed desire to maintain peace. After the roll call Chairman Stone requested that the resolution go over until tomorrow.

TRIED TO BOMB COLLECTOR MALONE

Washington, Feb. 5.—Custom Collector Malone at New York reported to the treasury department today that he had found a bomb under the steps of his home.

ZERO TEMPERATURES FELT IN ALL PARTS OF STATE

Asheville Experienced Four Below Zero During Night and Hickory Two Above--Snowstorms General Over State--Some Weather Reports by Wire.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 5.—Another severe cold wave has overspread all sections of the country east of the Rocky Mountains except southern Florida and New England. It follows a storm which developed suddenly Saturday night over the north central states and advanced eastward rapidly.

Raleigh, Feb. 5.—North Carolina last night and today experienced the coldest weather in many years as the result of a wind, rain and snow storm that was general throughout the state.

Asheville, with a temperature early today of 4 below zero, was one of the coldest places in the state. At 8 o'clock, however, the thermometer was rising and registered 28 below zero.

Greensboro, with 1.8 above zero, experienced the coldest weather since 1898.

Raleigh experienced the coldest weather in more than five years, the thermometer this morning at 7 o'clock registering 6 above. From 7 o'clock last night the thermometer dropped 40 odd degrees.

The cold wave that swept over this section Thursday night, Friday and Saturday was returned with usury Sunday night and Monday morning, a violent snowstorm playing an accompaniment during the early part of Sunday night. The wind howled nearly all afternoon and then towards night literally raged. Shortly after 7 o'clock a young snowstorm developed, later changing into a blizzard of the kind you read about in South Dakota.

And the Mercury, which on Saturday morning went down to three degrees above zero, added a point and registered two degrees some time during the night. The change was kaleidoscopic almost, for at 6 p. m. Sunday, the government thermometer registered 41 degrees above. At 8:30 this morning, when the reporter obtained the data from Professor Barb, the mercury stood at 9 above.

Many Hickory people spent the greater part of Sunday thawing out water pipes and went to bed thinking that all was well. They arose

Hickory Military Boys, on Arrival Tuesday, Will be Held Here Several Days

Mayor S. L. Whitener today received a telegram from Gen. B. S. Royster, adjutant general, at Raleigh, informing him that the Hickory company would arrive here Tuesday and requesting that the armory be fitted up to quarter the troops for several days. Mayor Whitener accordingly has given orders and the armory will be ready to receive the boys.

this morning to find that all the Sunday labor was lost, and that pipes which had refused to freeze during the first wave were stuck up tight. If there were at score of pipes frozen Saturday morning, there were three score frozen this morning.

Many readers recalled the prophecy of Col. Geo. M. Yoder, the ancient weather and political prophet of the county, and his sign of the crawfish and full moon dope caused them to wish he had not done it. The colonel prophesied a snowstorm about February 6, and when the weather turned warm Sunday many people, if they thought of his prophecy at all, allowed as how Colonel Yoder will not be coming across with such awful predictions; and then the blizzard came on the night of the fourth.

Church-goers were caught in the rush of the blizzard. The worst came just about the time the doors were thrown open and the congregations were leaving the buildings. With a sweep that blew snow into the interior of the churches, the wind bombarded the churches.

The electric power went off just after church, and some residents went into dark homes. The lights were on again in a few minutes, however, and remained on during the night.

Fears of fire were felt all during the afternoon and policemen and firemen, apprehensive of alarms, kept in readiness to respond to the fire stroke of the alarm. It was realized that a spark of fire, occurring anywhere in the city, was likely to sweep a whirlwind of flame through the entire town, and there was genuine relief when rain and snow came.

Some Temperatures The minimum temperature Saturday was three degrees above zero, the maximum 32. The minimum Sunday was 19 above, the maximum 43.

At 6 o'clock Sunday evening, as has been stated, the mercury registered 41 degrees and then it jumped down to 2 degrees some time during the night.

The sun came out bright and warm this morning, however, and the weather moderated considerably during the day. As was the case Saturday, plumbers were busy today, and there were fears of bursting ranges. No accidents had been reported at an early hour today.

The wind swept out window panes in some houses and sent snow into all parts of many places. The damage, considering the intensity of the wind, was not as great as might have been expected.

Reports of low temperatures are reported from many places in the state. It was 4 degrees below zero Saturday at Hot Springs, N. C., at Raleigh it was 9 above. The mercury stood around 12 and 15 at many places, and at Tampa, Fla., it was freezing cold.

The governor of New York has called out the state troops there for military duty and in other industrial states the militia is being mobilized.

Should war result with Germany, the national guard troops will render effective military service.

Mrs. J. Worth Elliott, president of the Woman's Club today ordered a couple of hams and sandwiches and coffee will be ready for the boys when they return. It is expected that they will be permitted to "ration" at home—at least those who live in Hickory—until they are mustered out or called on for other military duty.