

# Germany Concedes All In Note to Washington

### STILL SOME DOUBT IN AMERICAN OFFICIAL CIRCLES ABOUT MAINTENANCE RELATIONS HOWEVER; REPLY SARCASTIC, DICTATORIAL

#### Imperial Government Haughtily Demands That United States Bring Britain to Book While Promising That Merchant Vessels Will Be Warned and Non-Combatants Made Immune Except Where Submarining Is Legally Justified—Cabinet Meeting—Final Paragraphs of Note Contained Surprise — Washington Listened With Bated Breath to First Installments, Which Seemed to Indicate Defiance and Argumentative Attitude On Part of Berlin

(By ROBERT J. BENDER, United Press Staff Correspondent)

Washington, May 5.—Within ten minutes after the final vital paragraphs from Germany's reply reached them the Cabinet convened. All, although refusing to comment until the official text arrives, appeared to believe that America's demands had been met. However, there was a degree of uncertainty, in view of the sarcastic tone and insistence that America now bring England to book for alleged violations of international law.

#### Yields to Every Demand.

Berlin, May 5.—Germany has yielded practically every demand. President Wilson has made regarding a complete change by Germany of her submarine warfare. Every possibility of a diplomatic break apparently has been averted. Germany concedes fully to Wilson's contention that no merchantman, passenger or freighter should be sunk without warning, either within or without the war zone, unless they offer resistance or attempt to escape. It says it expects the United States to bring England to terms and if America cannot succeed there, reserves a right to liberty of action.

#### Nothing Indicating Concessions In Opening Parts of Reply.

New York, May 5.—The text of the German reply received by wireless from Berlin today indicates in its early portions a temporizing answer to America's demands that the "present submarine warfare be discontinued if diplomatic relations between the two nations are to be maintained."

The reply declined to admit the torpedoing of the Sussex and declared that Germany "must emphatically repudiate the assertion that the German government thinks it of little avail to enter into the details in the present stage of affairs." The note adds, "more particularly as the United States omitted to substantiate its assertion by reference to the concrete facts."

Germany expresses implicit confidence in the good faith of its naval officers in carrying out their submarine instructions.

The note pointedly emphasizes England's "violations of international law," and expresses regret that America has not taken steps to bring England to book as she has Germany. It reiterates statements made in previous messages.

#### But Does Not Say That Britain Has Not Slaughtered Ruthlessly.

The note says Germany stands ready to observe the principles of international law fully if England also indicates willingness to abandon starvation, and other Allied Powers their alleged illegal methods of warfare. It says that if investigation now progressing shows that a German submarine torpedoed the Sussex, fullest amends will be made. It declares that Germany has frequently proposed suggestions that if adopted would minimize danger to travelers on ships, but "unfortunately the United States decided not to accept the proposals."

Germany again declares that Great Britain, and not Germany, by ignoring all the accepted rules of international law, extended the terrible war to affect the lives and property of non-combatants, and continues that as the matter now stands Germany cannot but reiterate its regret that the sentiments of humanity which America extends with such fervor to the unhappy victims of submarine warfare were not extended with the same fervor to many millions of women and children who, according to the avowed intention of Great Britain, shall be starved, thereby forcing the victorious armies of the Central Empires into ignominious capitulation.

The remainder of the note admits the right of the United States to demand a return to the principles of international law, and concedes to practically every American demand.

"Germany is prepared to do its utmost to confine its (Continued on Page Two)

## CHARTER COMPANY TO BUILD RAILROAD HERE TO WILM'GT'N

### "Duplin Co." Has Capital Stock of Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars

FRED. SUTTON PRESIDENT

#### Proposed to Push the Line Through Duplin and Pen- der Counties to Put City Into Connection With Deep Water to S. E.

(By W. J. Martin)

Raleigh, May 5.—The Duplin Railroad Company of Kinston has been chartered with \$150,000 capital.

Mayor Fred. I. Sutton holds 2,497 shares. It is proposed to build 50 miles of railroad from Kinston through Duplin county via Chinquappin and Beaufort into Pender, and to deep water either in Onslow or New Hanover counties.

## GOLDSBORO HAS MOST DELEGATES AT CONV. CITY OFFICIALS HERE

The following were in attendance upon the sessions of the Carolina Municipal Association Thursday and today:

President T. J. Murphy, mayor of Greensboro; Mayor Jas. I. Johnson of Raleigh; Mayor Fred. I. Sutton of Kinston; Mayor-elect J. D. McNeill of Fayetteville; Mayor J. Ed. Moore of Burlington; Mayor J. W. Turnage of Dunn; Mayor J. T. Tolton of Clayton; Mayor John R. Higgins of Goldsboro; Insurance Commissioner J. R. Young of Raleigh; Fire Inspection Expert Sherwood Brockwell of Raleigh; L. F. Hicks of the Raleigh Fire Department; Commissioner J. R. Hornady of Birmingham, Ala.; Mayor B. S. Skinner of Durham; Commissioner B. A. Merritt of Wilmington; Mayor J. P. Keech of Tarboro; Commissioner D. H. Ramsey of Asheville; Mayor L. Brown and Commissioners C. J. Godwin, B. F. Strickland, F. C. Fry and M. Curley of Pine Level; Councilmen C. W. Peacock, J. S. Draper and J. W. Sautler of Goldsboro; Tax Collector J. S. Warren of Goldsboro; Councilman C. B. Hall of Goldsboro; City Physician T. M. Bizzell of Goldsboro; City Engineer W. E. Gehres of Goldsboro; Chief of Police E. J. Tew of Goldsboro; Councilman J. M. Mathers of Goldsboro; Supt. of Water and Light C. M. Grantham of Goldsboro; Councilman and Finance Chairman L. Weill of Goldsboro; Alderman W. E. Creech of Goldsboro; Alderman J. R. Crawford of Goldsboro; Mayor Ben. A. Joyner of Farmville; Mayor J. C. Gibbs of Fayetteville; Mayor R. H. Salisbury of Hassell; Mayor Henry L. Stewart of Clinton; Mayor Seth Gibbs of Beaufort; Mayor Albion Dunn of Greenville; Secretary O. P. Shell, ex-Mayor of Dunn; Dr. J. M. Parrott, ex-president State Medical Society, Kinston; Mr. E. Y. Clarke, secretary of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, of Atlanta.

Some others in attendance failed to register.

## LOCOMOTIVE FIREMAN BURNED ON AN ENGINE

Branch Sutton, a white locomotive fireman in the employ of the Hines Bros. Lumber Co., was burned in an explosion on an engine in the vicinity of the plant in Southeast Kinston Thursday. Gas from the furnace ignited and seared Sutton's head and body. He was taken to Parrott Memorial hospital. His condition is not supposed to be serious, though for a time it was feared permanent injury had been done his eyes.

Put a sharp edge on your campaign and win a car on the 13th of May.

## RAIN GOD BROKE IN ON MERRYMAKING UP TOWN THURS. NIGHT

### Open-Air Ball and Carni- val, First Thing of Kind Ever Staged Here, Got a Knockout Blow After a Running Start—Repeat it

A certain old felicitous character who often pranks with baseball games and other staged events, all day Thursday thought about taking a crack at the program of the Municipal Convention, but could not make up his mind until about 9:30 or 9:40 p. m. Then, just as the first dance of the big open-air event that Mr. West presented for the visiting mayors in behalf of the citizens of Kinston started, he began to shed tears of joy over the scene, slipped a cog and poured down all over everything. Hundreds had gathered on North Queen street for the spectacle, and the deluge caught many of them.

The open-air dance and carnival on the asphalted street promised to be something extraordinary. Only a dozen couples or so swung out when the band blared on for the first time, but that dozen found the dancing good and scores of others were watching the experiment intently. The probability was that the next set would see the swaying, swishing devices of terpsichore swelled to a large number.

The block between Grainger and Capitola avenues was brilliantly lighted. Streamers of electric lamps arched the roadway between the maples bordering it. Incidentally, those lights will stay where they are for another 24 hours, and tonight the whole thing will be duplicated, unless old Jupe gets over-zealous again.

A considerable number of the dancers repaired to Loftin's opera house, and there danced the evening out in spite of the rain Thursday night.

## PAVING WILL COST NAUGHT AFTER ALL

### Benefits Accruing Will Make Three or Four Hundred Thousand Kin- ston Is Spending Look Like Thirty Cents, Engineer White Thinks— North Carolina Towns Progressive Places

Kinston's hundred blocks or so of asphalt paving being laid will cost the city nothing in the long run, because of the profits to come from impetus given the community by it, the advertising Kinston will get, etc., according to Engineer G. C. White, in charge of the work. Mr. White anticipates more paving.

The average North Carolina town is more progressive than the average Northern town so far as municipal improvements are concerned, Mr. White declared.

"The assessment method being used in the paving here originated in Kentucky, I have heard. Charlotte has done a tremendous lot of paving under the plan and the people there are more anxious than ever for it, so it can be seen that no hardship is worked by the scheme. And in Charlotte the individuals who petition for paving pay all—not 45 per cent. of the cost."

## TRAVELERS HOLDING STATE CONVENTION

(Special to The Free Press)  
Henderson, N. C., May 5.—The State convention of the T. P. A. is being held here with more than 100 delegates already present. The opening session was at 10 a. m.

## HOOD WANTS SUM FOR BEAUFORT PUB. BLDG.

Congressman George Hood has requested a \$10,000 appropriation for a customs house and postoffice at Beaufort.

## PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS, STREET AND ROAD BUILDING WERE THE PRINCIPAL TOPICS AT MAYORS' CONVENTION THIS MORNING

### Enjoyable Entertainment of Municipal Association and Invited Guests by Dr. and Mrs. McNairy at the Cas- well Training School Thursday Night — Concluding Sessions This Afternoon—Importance of Proper School Construction for Safety of Children Emphasized By Brockwell

At the afternoon session of the Municipal Association Mayor Thos. J. Murphy of Greensboro was unanimously re-elected president of the association. The offices of secretary and treasurer were upon recommendation of the Auditing Committee, consolidated, and Mayor Fred. I. Sutton of Kinston was elected to fill the place. The nominal salary of the secretary-treasurer was fixed at \$100 per annum. Six vice-presidents were chosen. They were: Mayors J. L. Johnson of Raleigh, J. D. McNeill of Fayetteville, O. P. Shell, ex-Mayor of Dunn; B. S. Skinner of Durham, Commissioner D. H. Ramsey of Asheville and Mayor Albion Dunn of Greenville.

The place of next year's meeting called forth many invitations. Mayor J. J. Jimison asked the convention to come to Raleigh, Fayetteville, Durham and Wilmington put in claims for the 1918 convention, yielding to Raleigh. The convention unanimously chose Raleigh. The time is to be selected later.

The morning session of the Carolina Municipal Association was called to order by President Murphy at 10:30 and the program was entered into at once.

Former Mayor J. C. Gibbs of Fayetteville read a most interesting paper on the all-important question confronting every municipality, namely: "Parks and Playgrounds." Mr. Gibbs pointed out the great importance attached to the matter of affording adequate parks and public amusement opportunities, by the great cities of the country, but said he, the cities and towns of North Carolina had not yet realized what it meant to provide these necessities for the youth.

Following Mr. Gibbs' address, Mayor Johnson and Commissioner Ramsey and others informally discussed the matter from the viewpoint of their own cities, and told the convention what was being done to fill the needs. Commissioner Hornady spoke of the problem of the children skating on sidewalks and suggested that if the municipal authorities expected to keep the children from the sidewalks they must provide other places for the skaters.

Commissioner Merritt of Wilmington spoke on the subject of "Streets and Roads." He told of the experience in road and street building in New Hanover and Wilmington. The roads of New Hanover are considered models, and Mr. Merritt's remarks were listened to with added interest on that account. He said that \$250,000 had been expended and 70 miles of first class macadam road were had to show for the expenditure. Mr. Merritt answered a number of questions of the members of the association. He said that his county was now assessing 10c on the hundred for the road fund to properly provide for the up-keep. Convict labor and a bond issue were employed in the road making.

Mr. Gilbert White, the municipal engineer in charge of the improvements going on in Kinston and many other places of the State and South, was present, and gave some valuable information and suggestions about street and road work. He went into the various phases of the selection of materials and methods of laying and up-keep.

Deputy Insurance Commissioner Sherwood Brockwell spoke on school construction with reference to the safety from the fire risks. Mr. Brockwell's remarks were most interesting and forcefully set forth the need for greater care in the construction of the schools. The ordinary construction afforded veritable

death traps, he said, because of the smoke possibility. He urged that the stairs be so constructed as to be what was termed smoke-proof, and offered a plan, approved by various experts in school construction and fire prevention, which would, he said, give the children ample opportunity to get to safety before smoke filled the passages and stairs, whereas in the average building they were filled within two minutes after the fires started and then escape or rescue were cut off. The convention, on motion of Mayor Skinner of Durham, voted a resolution of thanks to the State Insurance Department and pledged its support in taking necessary steps for the protection of the children.

After the appointment of some committees the convention adjourned to meet again this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

#### Meeting at Caswell School.

Thursday afternoon the Carolina Municipal Association delegates and a number of Kinston people, invited by Dr. and Mrs. McNairy to share the pleasures of the occasion, were the guests of the Superintendent of the Caswell Training School. There were between two hundred and two hundred and fifty gathered at the school. They were shown through the various buildings and entertained with a program of song and recitation given by the pupils of the school. A most creditable program it was. Those who had the privilege of visiting the school before anticipated at least some of what was in store for them, for not only has the hospitality of Dr. and Mrs. McNairy become famous, but the great work that they are doing in relieving the most unfortunate class of life is an inspiration and a revelation to those who go and see for themselves. The members of the association who had not before visited the school were loud in their praises of the work being done.

Supper at Caswell School. The guests were entertained at a delightful course supper, Rev. John H. Griffith acting as toastmaster. Rev. Mr. Hanrahan invoked the blessing for the occasion while Dr. J. M. Parrott of Kinston, former president of the North Carolina Medical Society, made his address, scheduled on the convention program, his subject being "Public Health."

Dr. Parrott pointed out in a most graphic and convincing way the splendid accomplishments of the little effort that had, comparatively speaking, already been put forth. He urged conservation, emphasized the fact that the government was appropriating huge sums to conserve its timber, soil, mineral and animal resources, but had not yet come to the point of appreciating the necessity for conservation of its greatest resource, its men and women. Dr. Parrott said that 2400 out of the 3000 babies which on an average died in North Carolina every year was due to ignorance and causes easily prevented. He estimated that there were 9,000 deaths in North Carolina every year from transmissible diseases, easily prevented. In spite of this unfavorable record he pointed out that the death rate in North Carolina had been materially decreased in the past three years and he predicted that with the proper institutions and observance of preventive measures and health safeguards known now to medical science that the longevity of mankind would be restored and equal to that enjoyed by the patriarchs of old.

President Murphy of the Association expressed appreciation for (Continued on Page Four)