



AGREES WITH VIEWS OF CENTRAL POWERS

Entente Allies Make Representations Regarding the Suggestions by the United States.

ARMED MERCHANTMEN

America is Likely to Also Consider Such Ships as Vessels of War.

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 12.—Diplomatic representatives of the entente allies have made oral representations to Secretary Lansing regarding the American memorandum to their governments suggesting the disarming of merchant ships, and that armed merchantmen entering American ports might be regarded as warships.

It is believed that Secretary Lansing was informed that the entente governments were unwilling to adopt the suggestion.

Formal replies to the memorandum are expected. It is considered doubtful that the exact position of the United States will be defined until after they have been received. The text of the notes from Germany and Austria which have been handed Ambassadors Gerard and Penfield setting forth the intention of those governments to treat armed merchantmen of the entente as warships are also being awaited.

So far, it was said, the representatives of the entente allies representatives have had to do solely with the American memorandum.

A high official today declared that it was not fair to say at this time that the views of the United States on armed merchant vessels were absolutely in accord with the views of Germany and Austria. Officials will make no decision until the official texts have been received from Berlin and Vienna. Until they arrive state department officials will reserve comment.

There are strong indications, however, that various high officials consider the position of the central powers well founded, in view of the changed conditions of sea warfare.

GIANT STEAMER OF STANDARD-OIL COMPANY LAUNCHED TODAY

(By the Associated Press.)

Newport News, Va., Feb. 12.—The official launching party of the Standard Oil company officials arrived here on a special train at noon to witness the launching of the big oil steamer "Charles Pratt" at the plant of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock company. Included in the party was Naval Commissioner Chamberlain of Washington.

The "Charles Pratt" was by far the largest oil ship ever built in America and only exceeded by a few such ships in the world. Its dimensions are: length, 517; beam, 68; depth, 38; dead weight carrying capacity at 17 foot draft, 17,000 tons. She is the first of five duplicate vessels now under construction here.

COOL SPRINGS STORE BURGLARIZED LAST NIGHT

(By the Associated Press.)

Statesville, Feb. 12.—A large safe in the store of E. P. Sartin at Cool Springs, 10 miles from here, was blown open some time last night and cash amounting to \$40 or \$50, notes, mortgages, stock certificates and other papers valued at several thousand dollars are missing. The robbery was not discovered until daylight.

Two Syrian peddlers who were said to have been seen near Cool Springs were taken into custody and brought here pending further investigation.

Information Wanted.

The Transcontinental Indemnity company, of Detroit, is searching for the address of Mrs. Katie Houston, formerly of High Point, with whom they have some important matters to settle. This company would appreciate any relative or friend putting them in touch with the present of Mrs. Houston.

Virginia Legislature Honors Lincoln.

(By the Associated Press.) Richmond, Va., Feb. 12.—The Virginia house of delegates on the motion of Captain Myers of Richmond, adjourned at noon today in honor of Abraham Lincoln whose birthday this is.

VESSELS ASSIGNED TO NAVAL MILITIA

Department Takes First Step in Creating a List of Naval Reserves.

FOR SUMMER MANEUVERS

Vessels Will Be Sent to Drill Points Along Atlantic and Pacific Coasts.

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 12.—As the first move in the naval department plans to have a large reserve of battleships manned principally by naval reserve men with the Atlantic and Pacific fleet during the summer maneuvers, Secretary Daniels has assigned vessels to the naval militia of several states.

Torpedo boat destroyer Lamson was assigned to South Carolina; the Preston, to Florida; the Flusser, to Louisiana; and the Reid, to Texas.

The vessels are a part of the first division of the reserve flotilla and will be stationed at Key West.

The battleship Kentucky, now in Mexican waters, will be taken to New-York; the battleship Kearsarge to Massachusetts, and the historic battleship Oregon to California.

The cruiser Chicago, now the Massachusetts ship, will be assigned to Pennsylvania, and the cruiser Marblehead, now being used by California, goes to Oregon.

Secretary Daniels has asked Congress for \$77,000 to transport the militiamen to the troop coasts for the maneuvers.

WANTS NO WARSHIP BUILT WITH MONEY GIVEN BY PUBLIC

(By the Associated Press.)

New York, Feb. 13.—Marjorie Sterrett, a Brooklyn girl, who started a contribution to build a battleship for the United States navy by sending ten cents in postage to a New York newspaper and calling on other children to contribute a dime each, has received a letter from Josephus Daniels, secretary of the navy, in which he returns the ten cent contribution forwarded by the newspaper.

Mr. Daniels wrote that all money for naval construction would be obtained "by taxation in the usual way" and he believed that individual contributions were unnecessary.

VOICE ON NICARAGUAN TREATY POSTPONED TO MONDAY

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, Feb. 12.—Administration senators planned to complete debate on the Nicaraguan treaty today but it was decided, after conference, to adjourn the senate out of respect to the memory of Abraham Lincoln.

This action was taken upon motion of Senator Kern after the body had been in session less than an hour. Senator Stone, chairman of the foreign relations committee, said that he would press for a vote for the ratification on the Nicaraguan treaty on Monday.

CONGRESS ADJOURNS IN MEMORY OF LINCOLN

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, Feb. 12.—Lincoln's birthday was commemorated in Congress today the senate after an hour's session adjourned out of respect to Lincoln's memory and in the house speeches were made on the life of Lincoln by Representatives Rossberg and Wheeler, of Illinois and Lincoln's Gettysburg address was read by Representative Russell, of Missouri.

PRESIDENT'S YACHT ARRIVED OFF NEWPORT NEWS TODAY

(By the Associated Press.)

Newport News, Va., Feb. 12.—The naval yacht Mayflower, with President and Mrs. Wilson on board, arrived at Old Point Comfort, Va., at 1:30 o'clock this afternoon.

The Mayflower dropped anchor off Fortress Monroe and it was said on shore, although not confirmed, that the President intended going ashore.

The Weather.

Partly cloudy tonight; Sunday rain and somewhat colder; light, variable winds.

ALL DAY SESSION RECORDER'S COURT

Judge Dalton Had His "This is My Busy Day" Sign Conspicuously Displayed.

WELBORN FOUND GUILTY

Condemned to Jail Six Months, But Will Not Have to Serve if He Stays "Good."

Joe Welborn was sentenced to jail by Recorder Dalton this afternoon for a term of six months, but execution will be dormant during Joe's good behavior.

Joe was found guilty of the charge of having liquor in his possession for the purpose of sale. It was proved that he was one of three men in the buggy which Chief Gray passed when the chief was on his famous visit to Jamestown, where he arrested Clarence Hayes.

Upon passing the buggy which Joe was in, the chief noticed four suitcases and three men. Later, after he had placed Hayes in jail, the chief went back to investigate and found only two men in the buggy, one of them being Joe and no liquor. Two suitcases, were, however, beside the road not far from Joe and his buggy. The state contended that these suitcases were the property of Joe and such was the finding of Judge Dalton.

In the suitcases were the following articles: one gallon jug of whisky, seven pint flasks, and one pint of wine. It was more "liquor than the law allowed" all right; and the fact that its owner attempted to get rid of it when the officers came up was considered strong evidence that something was wrong.

Judge Dalton was much perplexed as to what to do with Joe. He is suffering from rheumatism and could not work over an hour or so a day at the most. The sentence, as passed, permits him to remain free and out of jail as long as he keeps the law but if he is ever convicted of another violation this six-months jail sentence automatically goes into operation.

The state brought Black Diamond, alias Henry Gilmore, and one of his "laddy frens," Goldie McDonald, to court on the charge of breaking and entering a dwelling for the purpose of committing a felony. The state, however, could not substantiate the charge against this much noted pair. Diamond had been in court so many times that it would take an adding machine to count them up, but he and Goldie both declare that on this time they made no burglarious entry.

The charge is that they entered the home of Mary Caldwell and this fact is admitted. Mary was in jail because she couldn't pay the fine and costs in a little disorderly conduct case, and Diamond roomed at her house. As Mary did not come home, Diamond went in anyway, a place where he thought he had a right to go.

Because of the absence of evidence making out a burglarious entry as contemplated by the law in the opinion of Judge Dalton, the motion of the defendants' counsel for a non-suit was allowed. Again Diamond is free to go and come as he chooses and also carry on his amatory affairs which in the past have been the subject of much amusement, especially to the court officials and attendants.

Jess Ingram and W. H. Rankin, two negroes, pleaded guilty to being drunk, but declared that it was the very first time in all their lives that such a thing had happened to them. The drunk cost Ingram \$0.93 and Rankin \$0.31.

Avery Brower pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct and judgment was suspended upon the payment of costs which amounted to \$5.90.

Four negroes, Elmer Jones, Tad Robertson, Henry Pense and Joe Tyson are being tried at this afternoon's session of the court on the charge of gambling, or more specifically for "skinning." Each one is to be a witness against the other.

MISSISSIPPI LEVEES ON EASTERN ARKANSAS BORDER ARE HOLDING

(By the Associated Press.)

Little Rock, Ark., Feb. 12.—Mississippi levees along the eastern Arkansas border continued to hold today against the crest of the flood, which now is at its maximum stage between Arkansas City and Greenville, Miss. The river at Arkansas City came to a standstill Thursday night, due to a break in the Arkansas river embankment near Red Fork, and since has remained stationary.

LIVING WITNESS TELLS OF LINCOLN TRAGEDY



W. F. Ferguson, surviving witness of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln at Ford's Theatre, Washington, on April 14, 1865, says that most of the American histories and all of the motion pictures depicting the famous tragedy give an altogether erroneous impression of it.

Mr. Ferguson, who was the call boy at Ford's Theatre at the time of the tragedy, is now playing the "Life of George Merrick, one of the pirates, in "Treasure Island," and in view of the approaching celebration of Lincoln's Birthday he yesterday described John Wilkes Booth's murder of the President as he and Miss Laura Keane saw it on that never to be forgotten night when Miss Keane was playing "Our American Cousins" for her own benefit.

Few histories record the fact that the box occupied by the President and Mrs. Lincoln and their party was situated at one side of the stage, twelve feet above it, and not in the auditorium, as boxes are built nowadays. Its occupants were looking down on the actors, using the same angle of vision as if they were standing in the wings.

"A curtain was draped before the President's chair," said Mr. Ferguson, "and this completely concealed his features from the audience. We on the stage could see him, but those in front could not, and for this reason the only persons who actually saw his assassination were the occupants of his box and Miss Keane and myself."

FRENCH WIN BACK SOME POSITIONS

Germans Forced Out of Places Captured by Nibbling Tactics in Artois Region.

STRENGTHENING SALONIKI

Allies Preparing For an Attack. Montenegrins Not All Disarmed—Russians Active.

(By the Associated Press.) Latest reports from the western battle front indicate successes for the French in winning back some of the positions lost in the recent nibbling of the Germans at their lines in the Artois and south of the Somme.

From south Russia and Galicia come the announcement that the Russian offensive there is assuming considerable proportions, but without striking results so far being achieved.

Otherwise comparative calm prevails in the widespread war area.

In preparing for eventualities around Saloniki, the allies are strengthening their positions and extending their lines. The French have crossed the Vardar, northwest of the city, and are camping on the right bank of the river.

In Albania the Austrians are reported to be marching on Durazzo with a force not larger than 30,000 men. Much of the Austrian army was left in the region already traversed for guard purposes. According to word from Durazzo, the disarming of the Montenegrins is not yet completed and some of the Montenegrin forces are still offering stiff resistance.

Apparently the Russians are preparing to push still further their aggressive operations along the Bessarabia front, where they have been menacing the Austrian lines in Bukovina. Important movements in Bessarabia are indicated by Bucharest advices.

A royal decree issued in Rome prohibits the importation of German and Austrian goods, their transportation through Italy or exportation from Italian ports being prohibited. Italy, which has never declared war upon Germany, thus formally records the prohibition of commercial relations with her.

PYTHIANS TO HOLD SPECIAL MEETING ON MONDAY NIGHT

Monday night, February 14, will be observed as "Protection Meeting" night by the lodge of Knights of Pythias and an interesting program has been arranged for the meeting. Every member is urged to be present and an enjoyable occasion is looked for.

The following program has been prepared for the night:

- The Order of the Knights of Pythias, by L. E. Williams.
- Nathalie, the Founder of Our Order, by Col. D. H. Milton.
- Pythianism as a Character Builder, by L. W. Blackwelder.
- Our Obligation to Our Order, by George Wood.
- The Insurance or Protection Department, by W. L. Stamey.

STAG PATROL MEETING HELD LAST EVENING

The stag patrol of the Boy Scouts met with Secretary Paul A. Stamey on East Washington street, last evening. This is the youngest patrol of them all, yet it is showing much activity. There are 11 members, the full quota, each one enthusiastic, as follows: Robert Marshall, assistant patrol leader; William Lee Smith, Paul A. Stamey, secretary; Lawrence Council, treasurer; Jack Nance, Carl Council, Hal Reynolds, Royster Tucker, Charles McAnally, Julian Sales and Dewey Deamed, patrol leader.

A very interesting program was carried out last evening. A debate with the query: "Does Money Cause More Crimes Than Poverty?" will be debated next meeting. Affirmative, Paul A. Stamey and Julian Sales will uphold the affirmative, and William Lee Smith and Robert Marshall the negative.

The patrol meets each Friday night and the next meeting will be with Scout Hal Reynolds, on Steele street.

LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY WAS OBSERVED IN NEW YORK

(By the Associated Press.)

New York, Feb. 12.—Lincoln's birthday was observed today by the closing of the New York stock exchange, the consolidated stock exchange, the produce exchange and the cotton exchange.

Most of the banks of the city were also closed as the day is a legal holiday.

PRESIDENT EXPECTED TO NAME GARRISON'S SUCCESSOR MONDAY

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, Feb. 12.—Aboard the naval yacht, the Mayflower, on its way down the Potomac to the Chesapeake bay, President Wilson today is considering the selection of a successor to Secretary Garrison.

It is expected that the President will make his decision known immediately following his return.

A score or more of names, including cabinet officers, members of Congress and other prominent persons have been suggested to the President as a possible successor to Mr. Garrison.

The President is said, however, to be giving foremost consideration to Secretaries Lane and Honston and Counsellor Polk, of the state department.

Several names have been suggested to the President to succeed Henry Breckinridge as assistant secretary of war, but it is not expected that this selection will be made until the new secretary is consulted.

SOMEBODY CRIED "WOLF" AND CANADIANS HURRIEDLY GATHERED

Niagara Falls, Feb. 12.—Information from reliable sources was received here today of hurried precautions taken at Niagara Falls, Ontario, yesterday to resist a threatened "invasion of German forces from the American side."

A force estimated at 500 men and three machine gun squads were rushed there and placed on guard at the power plant and the international bridges. The men slept under arms last night. The report was current that the "army of Germans" was on its way from Buffalo. There was apparently no foundation to the report.

THE RESIGNATION AS VIEWED BY LEADING GERMAN NEWSPAPERS

(By the Associated Press.)

Berlin, Feb. 12.—(Via London.)—Although press dispatches do not contain anything regarding the circumstances of Secretary Garrison's resignation, the Lokal Anzeiger sees an indication that a majority of Congress is opposed to "the new form of militarism by proclamation which President Wilson expected to take the wind out of the sails of his Republican opponent, and above all the sabre-rattling Roosevelt." This newspaper expressed the opinion that Congress undoubtedly represented the majority sentiment in America in opposing the abandonment of old principles.

The Morgen Post says: "The feeling in Congress plainly is thoroughly peaceful. The propaganda for a gigantic armament which has been staged by Secretary Garrison and Secretary Daniels has received thus far no sympathy from the representatives of the people. Mr. Garrison and his assistant already have resigned and the secretary of the navy may soon follow."

HICKORY MAN FATALLY HURT BY FALL FROM HORSE

Hickory, Feb. 12.—George H. Miller, eight years a railway mail clerk between Salisbury and Knoxville, was fatally injured late yesterday by being thrown from a horse three miles north of Hickory. He died in a local hospital at 9:30 o'clock last night.

Mr. Miller's horse became frightened and he was thrown in some way against a stump. Several of his ribs were fractured and he received other serious internal injuries.

The deceased is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Miller, and seven brothers and sisters.