



## DENY PARLEY WITH GERMANY

### Americans Held In Germany Pending More Advices From The Washington Government

#### OFFICIALS ADMIT NOTE CAME FROM GERMANY

(By the Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, FEB. 12.—Sharp refusal to consider hints for a discussion of the submarine situation with Germany unless it be preceded by abandonment of the campaign of ruthlessness and restoration of the Sussex pledges was forecast today.

Official opinion has solidified that Germany's suggestion for negotiations can not be considered while ships are being sunk in a campaign which has brought forth the moral condemnation of most of the neutrals of the world.

Officials, admitting today for the first time the receipt of such an offer through the Swiss minister, regard the suggestion as an attempt to belittle the few and weaken the government's position. They gave intimation that it must be met by compaction.

They regard it as somewhat strange that Germany should now show a willingness to negotiate on a subject which she has put into effect without discussion with this country or any attempt to give the American viewpoint consideration.

#### American Held in Germany.

Berlin, Feb. 12.—(Via Wireless to the Associated Press via Sayville.)—Foreign Secretary Zimmerman today informed the Associated Press that he had requested the Swiss government to make inquiry in Washington regarding the status of the crews of interned German ships in American ports.

Reading an answer the 72 Americans taken by the German raider and brought to the Yarrowdale, whose release had been agreed upon, are being held in Germany, the secretary stated.

#### Ask For Guns.

Washington, Feb. 12.—P. A. S. Franklin, president of the International Mercantile marine, today made formal application to the navy department for guns to arm the passenger liners of the American line.

The request states that the company has been unable to find guns elsewhere.

The department, it was stated officially, has a considerable number of old model 3-inch to 6-inch rifles available for arming ships, but not enough for the conversion of all ships it would require in case of war, and also to furnish armament for all merchantmen.

The question of supplying trained gun crews is more difficult from a departmental point of view. There is objection to withdrawing men from the navy at this time and there is also some question as to what effect such a step would have on the status of a ship. French ship owners furnished guns by the navy were required to make oath that they were to be handled by civilian crews.

#### MRS. INNES PLACED ON TRIAL AGAIN

(By the Associated Press.)

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 12.—Mrs. Victor E. Innes was placed on trial here today on charges of larceny after trust. Two years ago she and her husband were acquitted in San Antonio, Texas, of the charges of killing Beatrice and Eloise Nelms, of Atlanta, whose disappearance never has been cleared.

They were returned here to face charges of converting to their own use something over \$3,000 of cash belonging to the Nelms sisters. Victor Innes was convicted and sentenced to seven years in prison and the verdict recently was affirmed by the state supreme court. Mrs. Innes suffers from tuberculosis, it is stated, and appeared ill when the trial began today.

#### Netherlee Sunk.

(By the Associated Press.)

London Feb. 2.—The sinking of the British steamship Netherlee is reported by Lloyd's.

#### CHARGES BAKERS ARE CAUSING RISE

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, Feb. 12.—Charging that a concerted effort to put up the price of bread Representative Rainey, of Illinois, in a letter today to the Federal Trade commission and the department of agriculture which has been directed by the President to investigate the high cost of food, suggests that certain men be called to testify. The men include the president and secretary of the National Master Bakers' association.

Mr. Rainey charged the bakers with maintaining a lobby here to prevent a favorable action on the pending bill to real the tax on flour which he says would open the market to about 60,000,000 bushels of corn every year.

#### NEW "BONE DRY" LAW INTRODUCED

(Special Legislative Service.)

Raleigh, Feb. 12.—A "bone dry" bill, which he was careful to declare was divorced from either the Anti-Saloon league or Rev. R. L. Davis, was introduced in the senate today by Jonas, of Lincoln.

It would utterly outlaw the stuff as commerce, preventing even the shipment for sacramental purposes but would allow it personally made for that use and would permit physicians to have two quarts monthly, as the individual now does.

Senator Jonas says he is not offering it as a party affair though four Republicans have joined him. "I want to know whether this legislature is for prohibition or not," he said.

The senate alone worked today. It killed the bill designed to do away with the private examination of married women. This was one of Chief Justice Clark's many dissents and Senator Jones declared as his measure died, "the senate would not pass the Ten Commandments if Judge Clark favored them."

#### MAN WHO REBUKED FLAG INSULT TO GET MEDAL

Washington, Feb. 12.—A gold medal is to be presented by the Sons of the Revolution, to Signal Quartermaster Leo H. Likich, United States Coast Guard, who recently in New York, felled a man who wiped his hands upon the National flag. The medal was offered to the District of Columbia organization by Robert R. Bennett, registrar in memory of his son, Tracy William Bennett, and accepted by the board of managers.

Today it reached James Mortimer Montgomery, of New York, general president of the National Society, who will make arrangements for a public presentation ceremony, which probably will be held in Frances Tavern, New York. The society will be represented at the ceremony by a committee, headed by Major General Leonard Wood.

#### Weather.

Fair and continued cold tonight; Tuesday fair with rising temperature; fresh to strong northeast winds along the coast.

#### A COLD WAVE GRIPS NEW YORK CITY

(By the Associated Press.)

New York, Feb. 12.—Rivers and bays about New York are filled with heavy drifting ice today interfering to some extent with navigation. For the first time in five years the Hudson is solidly frozen for the three mile stretch between Tarrytown and Nyack.

Hundreds of persons have walked from shore to shore and several autos have safely negotiated the trip.

10 Below.

Cleveland, Feb. 12.—The thermometer registered ten degrees below zero here today. It was the coldest since February 10, 1883 when the temperature dropped to 16 below.

40 Below.

Saratoga, N. Y., Feb. 12.—It was 40 degrees below today, the coldest of the winter.

#### ONE BIG VESSEL IS SUNK TODAY

(By the Associated Press.)

During the morning and early afternoon today only one large vessel was reported a victim of the new German submarine campaign, the British steamer Netherlee of 4,227 tons. Two small steamers brought the total tonnage up to 4,968 for the period.

In the field of military operations the British are pushing ahead on the Somme, according to their latest reports, which recorded a gain of more than three-quarters of a mile in the Ancre region. Berlin reports the operations to have been a series of attacks extending from Seres to the Ancre river, which were sanguinarily repulsed, the British, however, occupying some trenches.

The French on the western front are confining themselves at present to raids, several of which are reported by Paris to have resulted successfully.

Outpost encounters and surprise attacks in comparatively small force are the only events along the Russian front recorded in the statements.

#### CARRANZA WOULD BAR MUNITIONS

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Feb. 12.—General Carranza has sent a note to the United States, Argentina, Brazil and Chile, as well as all neutral nations, asking them to join an agreement to prohibit the export from their countries to the warring nations of foodstuffs and munitions of war.

#### Official Reports Received.

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, Feb. 12.—Official reports on the arrival of former Ambassador Gerard and his suite at Zurich, Switzerland, reached the state department today from American Minister Stovall at Bern. They added nothing to that already published.

#### New York Freezing.

(By the Associated Press.) New York, Feb. 12.—A drop in the temperature of three degrees above zero at 7:30 a. m., today brought here the coldest weather of the season. The forecast was that it would be warmer.

#### WHEN LINCOLN WAS IN TENNESSEE RECALLED

"Any American Boy Cannot Rise to Lincoln's Height," Says General Coleman Dupont.

(By the Associated Press.)

Louisville, Ky., Feb. 12.—Kentucky for the first time in its history will celebrate the birthday of Abraham Lincoln today. In various ways the memory of the emancipator will be honored by residents of his state.

The last session of the general assembly made Lincoln's birthday a legal holiday. In the state schools and state institutions will be closed. In the majority of the churches of Louisville and other cities preachers and educators will deliver addresses on the life and character of Lincoln.

#### Nation-wide.

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, Feb. 12.—The national capital today joined in the celebration of Abraham Lincoln's birthday anniversary. Exercises were held in Congress, the schools and at patriotic gatherings.

A feature of the day was that arranged for tonight for various patriotic societies at which former Speaker Cannon is to speak on "Reminiscences of Lincoln." He is said to be the only man now in Congress who had an intimate acquaintance with Lincoln.

#### Speaks On Lincoln.

Cumberland Gap, Tenn., Feb. 12.—The time when Lincoln lived in this rugged region was recalled by General Coleman DuPont, of Delaware, in presiding today at the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the founding of Lincoln Memorial university, which, during the past three days, has brought many distinguished men here to pay tribute to Lincoln.

"It would be too much to say that any American boy can rise to Lincoln's height," said he. "Let us all fervently hope that no crisis shall ever come to pass that shall call for another Lincoln. But here are facts that should spur and inspire, and doubtless do spur and inspire every young man of today. Lincoln was not a youthful prodigy; he was neither precocious nor angelic. He was not divinely gifted. He was just a plain American boy, plainer than most, at the beginning of his career. Born where life was hard and comforts meager he had neither luck nor circumstance in his favor. He had as poor a chance as any boy ever had to become great and his success came only through the discipline of toil. He put his foot on adversity and rose to opportunity. He did what any American boy can do and ought to do, make the most of life's chance.

"The people of those great Cumberland hills are of the stock from which Lincoln sprang and among the cabins in those rugged fastnesses are youths whose lives now parallel his early days. We should all take young interest, yes, pride, in these young mountaineers. And we should encourage them in the effort they are making, so apparent here at Lincoln Memorial university, to acquire an education as Lincoln acquired it, by painstaking and persevering struggle and sacrifice."

"This college is doing a wonderful work, and an even more wonderful future is before it. The paths of commerce, I might say, progress, now circle about it, and avoid it, even as in Lincoln's day, but the roadbuilders who are linking states and cities with broad highways from coast to coast will one day come upon it, and the miracle will be wrought. The Southern mountains will be reclaimed; their pure American blood will pulse with a new patriotic fervor and the nation will find here in these fastnesses a treasure of civil, moral and political wealth for the enriching of our civilization."

#### POLITICS IN CITY GETTING WARM FOR ELECTION

Rumor Has It Republicans Are Planning to Make a Strong "Spring Drive" On City Offices.

(By the Associated Press.)

"High Point," so a visiting journalist with a turn of mind distinctly political once wrote, "takes its politics very seriously" and that visitor seems to have sized up the situation in a very few words. He was referring to county, state and national issues when he wrote that; citizens assert that the interest in those issues is passive, very much so, when compared to municipal politics. And with the proposed amendments to the city charter whereby there will be a primary held in April and an election in May to be submitted to the voters during March, on the 13th to be exact, politics is rapidly warming up in the city, even though there are none of the street arguments taking place as yet—the weather is too cold for the outside oratory just at present.

As is well known, the act to amend the present charter of the city, which was offered by Representative Carter Dalton and quickly passed by the house and senate, shortens the terms of Mayor Pickett and Councilmen Davis and Alexander by two years, they having been the recipients of the four-year appointments when Representative Robert Brockett, Sr., put the commission or city manager form of government through in 1915. Councilmen Smith and Terry were the two-year men and their time expires, according to the original plans and specifications, during the coming May. The Dalton act makes the time of all five members of the council expire simultaneously but it must first be approved by the voters of the city. That's what will cause the battle of ballots during March.

The Dalton enactment or amendments, makes the city election a non-partisan affair, or at least that is what was intended, so certain politicians assert. It provides that as many candidates as choose to make the race may enter the primary from each of the four wards of the city and the two from each ward having the largest number of votes will be eligible for the May election. The mayor may be chosen from any ward of the city, but the representatives of each ward must have their residence in the ward they seek to represent.

Now here is where politics enters the scene, silent-like it is true, according to rumors gleaned from sources that admittedly are Democratic. "Those persons who cast their ballots Republican when exercising the rights of suffrage outnumber those who vote the other way in the city and it is said—rumored mind you—that there have been several meetings held silent-like lately by the Republicans who are a-plottin' to get a corner on the city offices and thereby control the city. The Republicans have a plurality and while the amendments were drawn and are to be submitted to take the city elections from politics as far as possible by making them non-partisan, the followers of the G. O. P. are said to be plotting to make the city elections savor more strongly of politics and things political in the future than ever before. As stated before, all this comes from Democratic sources—no Republican could be found today who would affirm or deny the Democratic assertion that meetings had been held recently by members of the party in the majority locally for the purpose of devising plans.

Those citizens who play politics as the national indoor and outdoor sport, pastime and frenzy are soon to begin plotting in earnest and then the words of the visiting journalist will be borne over stronger and more emphatic than ever. In fact the kettle is already sizzling but so far has failed to boil over.

#### THIRTEEN DIE WHEN BIG HOTEL IS BURNED

Guests Trapped on Fourth Floor Are Forced to Jump—A Score Plunged Into the Burning Debris.

(By Associated Press.)

Minneapolis, Feb. 12.—At least 13 persons were believed to have lost their lives in a fire which destroyed the Kenwood hotel here shortly after midnight, according to the police estimates. In addition to the known missing there are eleven others who were reported to have been away from their rooms at the time of the fire not yet reported to the police. One woman is known to be dead. The Kenwood hotel was a four-story building. A score of persons were injured, some seriously, by leaping from the top floors when the fire escape became heated.

One woman jumped to her death from the third floor. Police and fire department officials believe that nearly a score were precipitated into the basement by crumbling floors and buried in the debris, over which thick layers of ice have formed.

Many of the 76 guests were transients and the actual death list may never be known.

When the fire started most of the down town apparatus was fighting another fire and it was nearly 15 minutes before the first company arrived.

While several of the injured were in a serious condition it was said that most of them would recover.

#### NEW AMBASSADOR FROM MEXICO

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, Feb. 12.—Ignacio Bonillas, one of General Carranza's representatives on the Mexican-American commission has been named ambassador from Mexico to the United States.

Mr. Bonillas is now at Palm Beach. It is expected he will come here this week to present his credentials at almost the time Henry P. Fletcher, American ambassador to Mexico is received by the Mexican government.

#### NEW PHARMACIST NOW WITH THE HART DRUG COMPANY

J. A. Trent an experienced pharmacist, formerly with J. P. Stowe and company, Charlotte, has accepted a position with the U. A. Hart Drug company and entered upon his new duties today. Mr. Trent is a registered man and comes highly recommended. The addition of the new pharmacist gives Mr. Hart a registered prescription mixer always in the store.

#### FOURTH AMERICAN SHIP PUT OUT TO SEA FOR WAR ZONE

New York, Feb. 12.—The fourth American ship under the American flag to sail from here for a European port since Germany's renewal of unrestricted warfare got away last night. She is the freighter Owego bound for Genoa carrying a general cargo of 2,500 tons. Her master and many of her crew are Americans.

#### Markets Closed.

(By the Associated Press.) Chicago Feb. 12.—The Chicago board of trade and grain organizations of the United States were closed today on account of Lincoln's birthday.