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By Overt Act State Of War Exists

Wilson May Summon Congress

United States Government on Verge of Decided Declaration to

60 U-BOAT CHASERS ORDERED

(BY UNITED PRESS)

LONDON, March, 20.—American consul confirms the statement that the Vigilinea, one of the American submarined vessels was warned.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—The president is still undecided what additional action to take in the German crisis.

The president is called for this afternoon to discuss the matter and may reach a decision late today.

It is taken for granted by all high officials that a state of war exists with Germany.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—Aggressive steps to put the navy of the United States in readiness to fight submarines under any condition were taken today, as an answer to the German defiance conveyed through the destruction of the American ships Vigilinea, City of Memphis and Illinois. Under the personal direction of President Wilson, Secretary of the Navy Daniels instituted drastic measures to put the navy in shape to meet war conditions, which Washington tonight was convinced are imminent. Naval preparations were given an extraordinary impetus after President Wilson conferred for half an hour with Secretary of the Navy Daniels. This conference followed on the heels of a report to the president by Secretary Lansing on the latest acts of destruction in the German submarine zone.

There was a growing feeling in Washington today that a "state of war" already exists between the United States and Germany. State department officials declined to comment on this phase of the situation declaring that "the matter is too serious for discussion." It was stated that any comment will have to come from the president, himself, it was known, however, that some of the president's advisers favor an official declaration that Germany's acts in the submarine zone have amounted to a "state of war."

Others in the president's cabinet believe that congress should be called together at once, rather than on April 16, and that immediate and vigorous steps to combat the submarine menace should be taken. Meanwhile the president withheld all comment and dealt with the increasing gravity of the situation, only by augmenting the military and naval preparations for a possible state of war. After the president and his naval chief had reviewed the situation the following steps were taken.

An emergency appropriation of \$115,000,000 made by congress to enable the president to hasten naval construction in the event of a crisis was made available by the president for immediate use. This is part of an authorized bond issue of \$150,000,000, a part of which is to be used for increased constructions.

Secretary Daniels ordered sixty "submarine chasers," motor boats, 100 feet long, and with 35 knots speed built at once at the New York navy yards, and announced that bids would be opened from private ship yards tomorrow for some 200 more of this type of craft. It was stated that the New York yard will begin the delivery of these crafts in sixty days. All will be paid for out of the emergency appropriation.

Two Germans Drowned at Phila.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 20.—Navy messages today state that only two men are missing from the German interned vessels at Philadelphia, who made their escape. These are believed to be drowned while the others caught were picked up in the water, nearly frozen. They were all well supplied with money.

USUAL FIFTY CENT REDUCTION NOT TO BE MADE APRIL 1st BY N. Y. COAL DEALERS

New York, March 19.—The usual fifty cents a ton reduction in the price of coal will not be made this April 1 by New York dealers, it became known here today. The large operators allied with the anthracite roads may not offer any reduction at all and those who decide upon a decrease, if they do, are not expected to make it more than twenty-five cents.

Eight and nine dollar coal is the prospect for New Yorkers this summer. Meantime many of the dealers are preparing to face trial in Federal court here on indictments charging conspiracy to boost prices.

RETIRED TYPEWRITER MAGNATE, 73 WEDS CANADIAN WOMAN 38, TODAY

New York, March 19.—Harper Benedict, 73, retired president of the Remington Typewriter Company and the man to whom is credited much of the development of the typewriter as a commercial asset, was married here today to Miss Catherine Josephine Magil Geddes of Hamilton, Ontario, granddaughter of the Very Rev. J. Gamble Geddes, who was dean of the Niagara diocese, Ontario and of the late Colonel Charles Magil, formerly Mayor of Hamilton. Since his retirement in 1913 Mr. Benedict has been living with his daughter and son-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Archibald A. Forest, here.

News From The State Capitol

Negroes Agitate For Political Recognition.

PRISON REFORM NOW IN EFFECT

RALEIGH, N. C., March 20.—The disbandment or "mustering out" of the Third Regiment and the Regiment band at the State Fair grounds in Raleigh is the event of the week here. The soldiers are being welcomed with open arms and they are mighty glad to get back to North Carolina. Co. B. and the Third Regiment Band were mustered in at Raleigh and most of the members of those organizations make this their home. Measures have been taken to provide "jobs" for those needing them. Other towns are expected to pursue a like course and see to it that none of the returning guardsmen shall hunt in vain for work.

With the disbandment of the guardsmen their military service is not necessarily ended, for they are subject to the call for troops any time within the period embraced in the terms of their enlistment. But at present there is but small chance of any of the Tarheel army boys ever smelling German powder or gas. Some N. C. men in the navy may get a taste of war if events progress to the eventuality of actual war on the seas, but that possibility is still remote.

Thoughtful students of current developments see in the sudden and unheralded overthrow of the Czar of Russia, the head of the most despotic monarchy on earth, the forerunner of a liberalized German regime that will soon come into existence by an irresistible demand of a people (outside the organized militarism) who are sick of war and carnage and near starvation—if not through actual revolution that will overthrow the present ruling powers. With Czar Nicholas and Kaiser Wilhelm removed from control a basis for peace between Russia and Germany—Austria could be agreed on, and Great Britain could not afford to oppose it.

Advises Negroes' Return to Politics

A weekly newspaper published and edited by negroes in Raleigh is advocating a "return to politics" by the negroes of North Carolina.

The race as a whole in this state would be justified in equipping Jesse Holmes with a full-size arsenal and starting him out to annihilate its fool friends, for the worst enemy the negroes have could not advise them to more suicidal cause of action, or attempt at action.

Since the menace of "negro domination" in politics was removed—for it was removed and did not voluntarily withdraw itself—the negroes of North Carolina have enjoyed a degree and period of progress and prosperity never equalled before. In the city of Raleigh their moral, physical, industrial and financial development has been most remarkable. Negroes in business for themselves abound and many of them are succeeding handsomely. Every profession and nearly every trade is represented. Hundreds of negro families that depended on their labor as servants in families and menial work by the men today own their own homes and are in good circumstances.

Automobiles owned and driven by negroes are to be seen on every street every hour of the day. Many white men here today do not have an income as great as that of many negroes—and to look upon the finery displayed (Especially on Sundays) by wives and daughters of some negroes, you could well wonder what size treasury they have access to. The average white women "can't touch her." But some have better sense and don't "put it all on their backs."

Current Comment on the Court

A good deal of feeling has been stirred up here over the threatened railroad strike and some of the more radical thinkers have found it necessary to rush into print and denounce the railway brotherhood people as "conspirators" and advise their indictment by grand juries and trial in the superior courts on the charge of conspiring to starve the people—and the like. Reports of scarcity of food on hand were wildly handed about and some newspapers added to the general scare by printing unwarranted statements along that line (and correcting them later) but everybody has survived it all so far and at this writing expecting an "amicable settlement" of the trouble. But there's one element to the contention that could have helped the situation and didn't—that august body of lawyers, who constitute the Supreme Court of the U. S., not only popular with one side of the present contention at best. But, last I lay myself "liable" to something, perhaps enough has been said on this dangerous subject. Still, it does seem that the court could have "sustained the Adamson 8 hour law a week ago as well or not.

New State Prison Management

Considerable interest is manifested over the new State Prison Management, with Mr. Collie as the new Supt. The directors are all new men, also except Chairman Verner, although they are not very prominently or widely known. The old officers of the prison and state farms have been reelected. Busbee, Warden and Captains Rhenn and Christian as farm Superintendents. Dr. Register, who has a reputation for kindness to the convicts has been "temporarily" selected. The new regime is charged with carrying out the prison reform conditions laid down in the Turner law and the whole State demands and will watch closely to see that this is faithfully done. Ample means and machinery are provided by the law and it is up to Supt. Collie.

Managers Agree to Union's Demands

After Fifty Hours Conference an Agreement is Reached.

ADAMSON LAW DECLARED VALID

(BY UNITED PRESS)

WASHINGTON, March 20.—Prominent railroad heads and officials of the interstate commerce commission stated today that congress would be asked to pass a law increasing freight and passenger rates to reimburse the railroads for the increased wages demanded by the brotherhoods and consented to by the railroads to avoid a strike.

NEW YORK, March 20.—The threatened strike of 600,000 railroad employees was averted today. The agreement between the chiefs of the four big brotherhoods and the conference committee of the railways came at the end of two days and nights of discussion.

The conferences were conducted by president's committee of four, headed by Franklin K. Lane, secretary of the interior. The conclusion was reached at 6 o'clock yesterday morning.

The agreement reached now grants the eight hour day to the 400,000 engineers, firemen, conductors and railway trainmen. The brotherhood chiefs abandoned their demand for pay at the rate of time and a half for overtime. Pro-rata pay for overtime was accepted.

The compromise, according to statements today by officials of the committee of railways will cost the railroads of the country \$60,000,000 a year. They admitted that a demand will be made upon the interstate commerce commission for the privilege of raising rates. F. K. Lane, just before his departure for Washington, stated his belief that the railroads would be entitled to some compensation.

ADAMSON LAW IS VALID

Six hours after the agreement was reached, the announcement that the United States supreme court had upheld the Adamson law by a vote of five to four, reached the successful federal mediators, the railroads committee and the brotherhood chiefs.

In his oral opinion—that of the majority—Chief Justice White declared that in the face of public necessity employes of a corporation engaged in such public business as railroading had no more right to strike than "soldiers in the ranks, in the presence of an enemy" had the right to desert.

Duke Nicholas Idol of the Hour

PETROGRAD, March 20.—Grand Duke Nicholas is the idol of the hour. Popular always he is toasted by everyone as the man who has saved Russia. It was he, the people say, who advised the Czar to abdicate, and when the news percolated through the capitol the people celebrated as for a festival.

COTTON TESTS AT STATE COLLEGE

West Raleigh, March 20.—The Textile Department of the North Carolina State College has again been chosen by the Office of Markets and Rural Organization of the U. S. Department of Agriculture to conduct tests on cotton manufacture, the results of which will be of immense value throughout the country.

The tests now in progress will give important data as to the waste and tensile strength of a number of popular varieties of Upland cotton, such as Triumph, Acala, Lone Star, Rowden, Trice, and Half and Half, in comparison with each other.

The work is being done under the supervision of Mr. Wm. S. Dean, a graduate of the N. C., State College Textile Department, Mr. G. H. Anderson, a graduate of Clemson College; Mr. C. E. Coburn a graduate of Lowell Textile School; Mr. C. E. Killingsworth a graduate of Mississippi A. & M. College; and Mr. R. V. Hellams, a graduate of Georgia School of Technology.

LADY HAMILTON CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY BY WORKING IN MUNITIONS FACTORY

LONDON, March 19.—Lady Mary Hamilton, daughter of the Duke of Abercorn, celebrated her 21st birthday by working all day in a munitions factory, just as she has been doing for

more than a year. During this time she has had one lay off, due to a rather bad accident.

They say Lady Mary is more than average pretty, which likewise is true of Lady Capell, daughter of the Earl of Essex, who began her war service as a nurse and is now a chaffouse. The latter's younger sister, Lady Joan, is parlor maid at Londonderry House, a hospital for officers. The roll of beauty on-the-job also includes Yvonne Fitzroy, daughter of Sir Almeric Fitzroy, who has been nursing in the Balkans under severest conditions for many months. There are others, also.

GRANDSON OF TRANSATLANTIC CABLE LAYER INVENTS AUTOMATIC TORPEDO

(BY UNITED PRESS)

WILLISTON, N. D., March 20.—C. J. Field, grandson of Cyrus K. Field, the man who laid the first transatlantic cable and turned it over to the American government, has invented a torpedo, designed to guide itself on a magnetic control, into the bowels of enemy vessels. The torpedo attaches itself to the ship by magnetism and remains there until its explosion, which is controlled by a timing device. Government tests credit the torpedo with seven out of eight perfect explosions.