

President Asks Authority to Use Force To Protect Rights of American Citizens

Armed Neutrality For the United States Wilson's Answer to German Submarine Program

NOT NECESSARILY WAR

Once Before in Nation's History the Country has Been Called Upon to Assume Similar Attitude

Washington, Feb. 26.—"Armed neutrality for the United States" is the President's answer to Germany's determination to wage a relentless submarine warfare.

In a message delivered at one o'clock this afternoon before a joint session of Congress he asked for means of protecting by use of American land and sea forces if necessary the rights of Americans on the high seas.

Germany's obvious intention, the President indicated is made clearly manifest by a long list of ruthless attacks on neutral shipping. That nation is bent on going ahead with its policy of ruthless and unrestricted submarine warfare.

In the grave international situation which has developed, "material things", the President said, "can no longer be given any consideration. There remains the one great principle that the rights and privileges of American citizens must be upheld."

The President appealed to the joint session for full and immediate assurance that he may exercise any authority that he may deem necessary to handle the situation.

Declaring himself to be a friend of peace and intends to preserve peace as long as possible, emphasizing that he neither asks nor contemplates any step that must lead to war he said that it must be admitted that there is now no recourse except armed neutrality and that the Government must defend the lives and commerce of its people. He stated that he desired Congress to show that it was behind him in that purpose. While asking for power to arm ships he said that he could not be more specific as to when that step should be taken.

The President has not asked other neutrals to follow his course at this time.

The President did not discuss the Austrian situation. He expects the union of all factions that this Government may present a united front to Germany.

President Kept Promise

In the action taken today the President fulfilled the promise made to Congress when he broke relations with Germany. At that time, after saying that he believed Germany would not disregard her ancient friendship with America, he declared that only overt acts on the part of Germany would shake his confidence in the friendly intentions of the German Government. He then promised that if this confidence on his part should prove unfounded he would ask Congress for authority to protect America's rights and interests on the high seas. Apparently in his view the accumulation of German affronts since the severance of diplomatic relations with that country constitute the actual overt act which he would convince him of Germany's determination to risk the friendship of this country.

Filibuster Forced Hand

Everyone at the capital took it for granted that the Filibuster forced the President's hand. It is known that the Navy Department is now prepared at a moment's notice to arm merchantmen if desired.

The President indicated plainly that the action he finds necessary does not definitely mean war. "Once before the United States, when a critical situation developed with France, was called upon to declare a state of 'armed neutrality,' which permitted the arming of merchantmen, the conveying of American ships, and, in fact, every warlike measure short of an actual declaration of hostilities.

The President worked throughout Sunday preparing the message he delivered before Congress today.

CHICAGO TRIES BRICKBAT METHOD

FOLLOW EXAMPLE OF TOLEDO, OHIO, IN PROTESTING TO CITY FATHERS ON QUESTION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 26.—With brickbats and heavy ropes one for each member of the city council to back up their protest, a hundred citizens of Chicago threatened to attend the meeting of city fathers tonight to voice their disapproval of a contemplated sale of the municipal light plant to the Public Service Company of Northern Illinois.

Several weeks ago the citizens committee met at the Hawthorne Auditorium to devise ways and means of bringing the council to their way of thinking. An invitation to the members was accepted by but one alderman, Joseph Laska.

Miss Margaret Haley, president of the Chicago Teachers Federation, spoke at the gathering and recommended the rope as a convincing and persuasive argument.

"A few years ago there was a fight in Toledo, Ohio, similar to this one," she said. "The citizens went in a body and went to the council chamber balcony. They dangled ropes in the face of the council members and the traction company was sold as planned."

"You citizens take ropes and do the same thing. For they know they are in a corner."

Frank E. Adams, a prominent citizen urged that all voters and property owners attend armed with a plentiful supply of brickbats.

The plan was unanimously approved and leading citizens say they intend to carry out their coup tonight.

FISHING SEASON WILL BE GOOD

DARE COUNTY LOOKING FORWARD TO BOTH GOOD FISHING AND FARMING THIS YEAR

Mr. Carson W. Davis, one of Manteo's most progressive merchants, was in the city Monday on his way to New York and other northern markets to purchase seeds for his state.

Mr. Davis said that the fishing season now bids fair to be a good one. He had already made a good beginning. The cold weather a few weeks ago "chilled" the hopes of the fishermen for the time being, but he is ready to make the season a better one and Davis is looking forward to good fishing and to more and better farming this year than ever before.

Manteo has had good business all winter, continued Mr. Davis. School work is going forward with a swing and Manteo is keeping up with the times.

Mr. Davis was accompanied on his northern trip by his little five year old son. "He keeps me from getting homesome when I'm away from home," says Mr. Davis.

CHRIST CHURCH SAYS FAREWELL

The congregation of Christ Church presented a handsome gold Howard watch to Mr. Ashby at Sunday morning's service. Solicitor J. C. B. Ehringhaus making the presentation address in fitting terms and expressing for the church appreciation of Mr. Ashby's services as rector.

Christ church was filled to overflowing when at night the congregation of that church was joined by the congregations of the First Methodist, the First Baptist and Cann Memorial Presbyterian churches on the occasion of the farewell sermon of the retiring rector, Rev. C. A. Ashby, who goes to the Church of the Good Shepherd at Raleigh.

Prayer was offered by Rev. J. B. Black, pastor of Cann Memorial and by Dr. B. C. Henning, pastor of the First Baptist church. Excellent music was rendered by the choir of Christ church.

Mr. Ashby expressed appreciation of the cooperation of the churches of all denominations in religious work during his stay here and of the personal friendship of members of other denominations.

He spoke also with deep feeling of the loyalty of Christ church during his rectorate and expressed the belief that he could scarcely expect such united loyalty to be duplicated in another field.

SPECIAL PICTURE WEDNESDAY NIGHT

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SECURES 'TROUBLES OF A STOREKEEPER' A BUSINESS PROBLEM FEATURE STORY

The Chamber of Commerce has just completed arrangements to bring to Elizabeth City "The Troubles of a Storekeeper," a four-reel feature film produced by the Eschmayer Company of Chicago for the National Cash Register Company. It will be presented at the New

Program For New Theatre

"Bought and Paid For" was the biggest hit on Broadway as a play and has been enlarged and improved greatly in motion pictures, say its critics.

This is tonight's attraction at the New Theatre and in addition there will be an Ekko Kaesler feature, "Lizzie's Lingerie Love."

Tuesday's matinee will show "The Girl with the Green Eye" and other popular story.

NEGRO FOLK SONGS PLEASE AUDIENCE

POPULAR LUNCHEONETTE WAS FILLED WITH APPRECIATIVE CROWD ON SATURDAY EVENING

Genuine old-fashioned enjoyment was written upon the faces of the crowd at Scott & Twiddy's luncheonette Saturday evening as they sat at tables or thronged the passage ways and listened to the negro folk songs by the Oak City Jubilee singers. An odd combination of the new-fashioned cabaret and the sentiments of bygone days, perhaps, but the result, at any rate, was a most delightful evening.

As the quartet would sound the quaint minor notes of one old melody from the audience would come the call for another of the almost forgotten favorites suddenly recalled to memory. "Three times or more during the evening 'Everybody talks about Heaben ain't gone dar' was about Heaben ain't gwine dar" was sung by request and the same thing occurred more than once in regard to other numbers that were especially enjoyed.

Dunbar's "The Party" was recited with a rhythmic swing and spontaneity that made instant appeal to the audience, and original compositions by the quartet were also appreciated.

The quartet came to Elizabeth City for a concert at Roanoke College Institute on Friday night, and quite a number of white citizens attended this concert, enjoying it so thoroughly that Mr. Twiddy arranged for further opportunity of hearing the Jubilee singers Saturday evening.

COMPANY ELECTS DIRECTORS

The Grier-Whitthurst Insurance Company has elected the following board of directors for the coming year:

C. W. Grier, F. M. Grier, Sr., J. V. Whitehurst, C. E. Thompson, J. G. Gregory, T. P. Nash, and S. H. Johnson.

Theatre in the Hinton Building on Wednesday night 28th at 8 P. M.

This film has been shown all the way from New York to San Francisco and from Chicago to New Orleans before Merchants Association, Chambers of Commerce, and other business organizations. It was on the program of the National Anti Child Convention at Philadelphia and conventions of the National Association of Grocers and Druggists. Many state Retail Merchants Associations have profited by seeing it. Its presentation here along with a lecture on difficulties in retail merchandising by Mr. Farley promises to be one of the most interesting set of pictures ever shown here. After this picture a Bole Bird feature will be shown. The usual price will be charged.

LACONIA TORPEDOED WITHOUT WARNING

GERMAN RETREAT NOT YET ENDED

NEWLY OCCUPIED POSITIONS OF ALLIES OPEN UP MANY NEW POSSIBILITIES

WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS (United Press Staff Correspondent) With British Armies, Feb. 26.—Barrages on which the Germans lavished great defensive works which they declared would fall only after the greatest price ever paid by a victorious army is now directly threatened by the greatest German retirement since "stationary warfare" began two years ago.

Exhilarated in their newly won possession of the historic towns of Miraumont, Petit Miraumont, and Pys, the British are today exploring the limits of the German retreat.

The backward movement by the enemy may not be ended. The newly occupied ground opens up many possibilities.

Holland Is New Problem

(By United Press) Washington, Feb. 26.—The great German retreat before the British is the result of the call for more men for the Holland front. Allied diplomats here declared here today. These diplomats say that with Holland more beligerently inclined than at any time since the war began, she represents a big problem for the German army.

Tonight's Show At Alkrama

Francis Bushman and Beverly Bayne will be seen at the Alkrama tonight in "The Hidden Hand," and Mabel Talifano in "The Dawn of Love"—one of many extraordinarily good programs of which the public has taken special note recently.

Tuesday afternoon a special matinee at five cents to everybody, will be shown, "Lieutenant Danny, U. S. A.," featuring William Desmond and Enid Markey.

RETURN FROM WESTERN TOUR

Mr. James E. Adams of the Floating Theatre, with a number of the members of the company, returned Sunday night from the winter's engagement at San Francisco and Michigan. The other members of the company will arrive in a few days and the Floating Theatre which has been docked here for re-fitting and redecorating, will open its doors on March 9th.

FOR SALE Good MILK cow Eight years old. Fresh April 1st. Lemuel Jennings, R. F. D. 2, Box 31.

FOR SALE A splendid family milk cow. Very gentle. Apply to Dr. J. H. White. Itpd.

Cunard Liner Sent to Bottom Off Irish Coast

London, Feb. 26.—The Cunard Liner, Laconia, was torpedoed this morning, off the Irish coast without warning. 270 passengers are reported rescued. Six Americans were on board.

New York, Feb. 26.—A message to the Cunard Line here reports one life lost when the Laconia went down.

Kut El Amara Recaptured

London, Feb. 26.—Kut El Amara has been recaptured by the British. The Turks are in full retreat.

Name Of Candy Too Warlike

(By United Press) Philadelphia, Feb. 26.—Far famed Philadelphia scrapple a confection once eaten always remembered is now barred from entering Britain because its name sounds like shrapnel. Henry W. Thornton, American General Manager of the Great Eastern Railway, being a native Philadelphian, fond of scrapple, recently wrote from London to a friend here to send him some scrapple. The friend never received the letter. Thompson investigated and found that the British censor refused to pass the letter, because of the belligerent sound of the word.

Moyock Briefs

Moyock, Feb. 24.—Miss Kate Stallins spent Sunday with her parents, Rev. and Mrs. N. P. Stallins.

Mrs. E. H. Charlton spent Saturday in Norfolk on business.

Mr. C. E. Gray spent Saturday in Norfolk.

Misses Margaret Sanderlin and Mary Bowser are spending the week with Mrs. Herman Newbern, at Gregory.

Mr. Eugene Foreman of Hickory Virginia has accepted a position here with Mr. J. W. Poyner.

Mr. W. R. Dudley has been very ill for the past week.

Mr. D. W. Hagley who has been suffering from sticking a nail in his foot is improving.

The Monday morning program at school was as follows:

Story, by Rufus Garrett. Song, Misses Aydtlett and Jarvis. Recitation, Graham Poyner. Recitation, Alma Lee. Song, on Victoria. "Bake dab" (Chicken pie).

The teachers were delighted to have so many of the patrons present.

Rev. M. W. Hester spent Monday in Snowdon, N. C.

WEATHER OR NO Cloudy Monday night and Tuesday. Probably rain.

If you kill too many drinks at midnight you will be half shot at sunrise.