

# GERMANY UPHOLDS FORMER ORDERS

ONLY UNARMED MERCHANT SHIPS OF PEACEFUL CHARACTER FREE.

WILL GIVE NO WARNING

Bernstorff Delivers Instructions to Lansing.—Score of Incidents Are Cited.—New Orders Issued.

Washington.—Germany has instructed Count von Bernstorff to inform the United States Government that the assurance regarding the future conduct of submarine warfare, given in the Lusitania and Arabic cases, still are binding, but that they apply only to merchantment of a peaceful character. The German government is understood to contend that armed merchantmen have without regard to the nature of their armament shown themselves not to be peaceful and therefore are subject to destruction without warning.

The instructions direct the German Ambassador particularly to tell Secretary Lansing that British merchantmen armed ostensibly only for defense have not assumed the character of peaceful traders, but that on the contrary they carry guns for the special purpose of attacking German submarines. To support this claim the Berlin Foreign Office has sent the Ambassador for presentation to the state department a list of at least 20 incidents where it is claimed British merchant ships have attacked submarines.

Confidential advices received from Berlin state that German and Austrian submarine commanders already have been given their new orders and that from midnight Tuesday, February 29th, they are authorized to sink without warning all armed merchant ships of the enemies of Germany. It was said also that many of the submarine commanders probably had left their bases of voyages and then even should the United States request the postponing of the opening of the campaign, it would be impossible to get word to many of the submarines. It was stated, however, that so far neither the United States nor any other nation had asked a postponement.

## AGREE ON ARMY BILL.

Regular Army With Peace Strength of 143,000.—Federalized Guard.

Washington.—A growing tendency to provide for a Federal army reserve in addition to the regular army and federalized national guard was manifested in both the house and senate military committees. Members of both committees said they favored a practical test of the possibility of forming a federal volunteer army in peace times on lines somewhat similar to the continental army plan. The apparent intention to abandon the continental project wholly was one of the causes leading up to the resignation of Secretary Garrison.

The house committee agreed upon the general terms of a bill it expects to get before the house in ten days providing for a regular army with an authorized strength of 143,000 men; a Federalized National Guard which reach a fixed minimum strength of 424,000 in five years; adequate reserve systems for both of these forces; and organization of civilian training camps with wide discretion reposed in the war department as to the terms of enlistment, training and government.

Wilson Addresses Gridiron Club. Washington.—President Wilson told members and guests at a Gridiron Club dinner that America ought to keep out of the European war "at the sacrifice of everything except this single thing upon which her character and her history are founded, her sense of humanity and justice."

The address was confidential, since the speeches at the dinners of the Gridiron Club, composed of newspaper correspondents, are not reported. It was made public, however, with the consent of the president and the club, because many of those who heard it urged that it should go to the country.

## Dover Mines Sink Ships.

Dover.—The steamship Maloja, a 12,431 ton vessel, struck a mine and sank within a half hour two miles off Dover. More than 40 persons were drowned or killed as a result of the accident. The Maloja left Tilbury only the day before for Bombay with mails, 110 passengers of all classes, and a crew numbering about 200, most of them lascars. Other passengers were to join the ship at Marseilles. Another ship aiding in the rescue work was also sunk.

## Flood Refugees Suffering.

Natchez, Miss.—Cold weather, rain and sleet added to the suffering of the flood refugees in Tensas and Concordia parishes and those in the back country as well. Temporary shelters, crudely constructed from driftwood and lumber cast off by levee workers, have been built by refugees along the river, mostly negroes. More appeals for clothing and material for building huts were expected by the Natchez relief committee. Very little relief is expected within a week.

## MRS. LOUIS D. BRANDEIS



Mrs. Brandeis is the wife of the eminent lawyer whom President Wilson has selected to fill the vacancy on the Supreme court bench.

## WILSON DEMANDS RIGHTS

CONGRESS FAVORS WARNING AMERICANS TO STAY OFF BELLIGERENT SHIPS.

Leaders Hope to Continue to Give Executive Free Hand in Dealing With Grave Problems.

Washington.—Agitation in Congress for action warning Americans off armed ships of the European belligerents suddenly grew to such proportions that the Democrats of the foreign relations committee voted to canvass the sentiment of the house on several pending resolutions of that nature.

Sentiment in the senate in favor of some such action, also was openly expressed, but at the end of a day of surprises, tension and agitation such as had not been seen in Congress in some time, the word came that President Wilson still was unalterably opposed to any such action by congress and believed that he would only be embarrassed thereby in the negotiations with Germany.

To widely circulated suggestions that the situation had reached a point where the president would lay it before congress, that Secretary Lansing might in some way define the attitude of the government in a communication to Senator Stone and that a time had been fixed within which the United States would expect Germany to signify her intention to abandon the announced intention to sink armed merchant ships without warning, the uniform statement was made officially that nothing had been determined upon, and that the situation though grave, still was a waiting one, that no final position would be announced until Berlin was heard from. The sudden developments at the capitol brought surprise and apprehension to the administration leaders. While confronted with the possibility of congressional interference with all its grave aspects ranging from a defection from the administration policy to downright embarrassment of the president and the secretary of state, the leaders were confident they would control the situation and leave the executive branch of the government free to carry on diplomatic negotiations with Germany.

## NO PEACE, DECLARES ASQUITH

War Will Continue Until Rights of Small Nations Are Secured.

London.—Premier Asquith found himself unexpectedly face to face in the house of commons with a new demand for the government's views on peace. He took up the gauntlet almost eagerly and in a brilliant 15-minute speech made it clear that the British government's determination to carry the war to the end without compromise had not abated a jot or tittle since the early days of the struggle.

The only terms of peace Premier Asquith offered to the enemy countries were contained in the historic announcement which was the outstanding feature of his speech at the London Guild Hall in November, 1914, which he repeated: "We shall never sheathe the sword, which we have not lightly drawn, until Belgium—and I will add, Serbia—recovers in full measure all and more than they have sacrificed; until France is adequately secured against aggression; until the rights of the small nations of Europe are based upon an unassailable foundation and until the military dominance of Prussia is wholly and finally destroyed."

## Ten Thousand Persons Need Food.

Natchez, Miss.—Approximately 10,000 persons, mostly negroes, in the flooded district of northern Louisiana are in need of assistance, according to Mayor M. Davidson of St. Joseph. The negroes who conduct their own farms are reported to be suffering the most, while comparatively few white planters are able to care for their tenants. Planters and citizens of Newellton, said Mayor Jacoby over the telephone, are of the opinion that Government aid should be given the flood victims there.

# THE ENTIRE NAVY SYSTEM AT FAULT

ADMIRAL WINSLOW CITICIZES WORKINGS OF SYSTEM BEFORE COMMITTEE.

WOULD TAKE FIFTY YEARS

Without Radical Changes Would Take Long Time to Produce Efficient Fighting Force.

Washington.—The United States navy's whole system of government and operation, from education of officers to questions of ship and gun construction, was sharply criticized before the house naval committee by Rear Admiral Cameron McR. Winslow, commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet. Without radical changes, the admiral declared, a fully efficient fighting force comparable to the British navy could not be produced in 50 years.

The witness said the system of education at Annapolis Naval Academy was wrong and urged restoration of the old grade of midshipmen in the fleet. Boys should enter the service at from 14 to 16 years of age, he said, spend two years in preliminary schooling ashore, then go to sea to acquire the "sea habit" from actual contact with things of the sea before completing their educations ashore.

The polytechnic education now given midshipmen at the Academy is utterly unsuited, the admiral declared, to the training of men to handle ships and combinations of ships at sea. He could see no value to be gained from making all navy officers experts in higher mathematics, and thought constructors, engineers, and ordnance experts, should be trained as specialists and never be called upon to command ships.

From the days boys entered the academy, he said, a system of selection should be applied to govern promotions, eliminating men unfitted for the daring, nerve-racking tasks that would be theirs in war. He added that fellow officers should determine these qualifications and that a plan of this sort was being worked out by the navy department.

With two opposing fleets sweeping toward each other over the sea for an action to be carried out at a speed of 20 knots or more, the admiral insisted, there would be no time for hesitation by any ship commander. He told of how he trained a squadron of four dreadnaughts he commanded two years ago until his orders were carried out within six seconds of the time he gave them, 60 maneuvers being carried out in a single forenoon.

## GERMAN ATTACKS CONTINUE.

Object of Great Onslaught is Great French Fortress of Verdun.

London.—Along the front in the region of Verdun the Germans and the French continue the great struggle which began several days ago with the Germans on the offensive and their aim evidently the great French fortress of Verdun.

Notwithstanding a heavy fall of snow the Germans to the north of Verdun have attacked with what Paris terms unprecedented violence and with large forces, French positions at several points but according to the French official communication the attacks were without success. Especially has this been true at La Cote du Poivre, about four and a half miles north of the fortress, the attainment of which would give the Germans a good vantage point from which to operate against Verdun.

The artillery on both sides along the entire battle front is keeping up an incessant bombardment of opposing positions. So intense are the detonations of the big guns that the sound of them has penetrated eastward to the left bank of the Rhine in Rhenish Prussia.

Heavy casualties are being inflicted by both sides and the Germans claim that they have taken many prisoners—the aggregate at last reports totaling more than 10,000.

## Justice Kelly Defends Brandeis.

Washington.—Louis D. Brandeis' part in the New York and New England Railroad litigation in 1892 was defended before the senate sub-committee investigating Mr. Brandeis' fitness to be a supreme court justice by Justice Kelly of the New York supreme court, who employed him. Those opposing Mr. Brandeis charged that he had been employed to wreck the road. "Mr. Brandeis was not employed to wreck the road," Justice Kelly told the committee. "It was already wrecked."

## Oppose Compulsory Training.

Detroit, Mich.—The department of superintendence of the National Educational Association at its closing session here went on record as opposed to compulsory military training in the public schools. The advocates, however, favored a plan whereby the "American youth" who wishes to receive military training should be given the opportunity.

## W. W. VENABLE



W. W. Venable, who fills the chair in the house of representatives left vacant by the death of Congressman Witherston of Mississippi, was elected on a "preparedness" platform and already has made a speech warmly advocating adequate national defense. Mr. Venable was born at Clinton, Miss., September 25, 1880. He was circuit judge for the Tenth judicial district of his state before he went to Washington. He did not take his seat until the middle of January.

## NEW BRITISH MINISTER

WILL HAVE IN CHARGE THE BLOCKADE AND ORDERS-IN-COUNCIL.

Will Administer Order-in-Council and Handle Trade Passing in and Out From Neutral Countries.

London.—The government through the Marquis of Landsowne, announced in the House of Lords that it had decided to turn over all matters connected with the blockade of Germany to one man who would rank as a full-fledged cabinet minister. It is understood that the new post will go to Lord Robert Cecil, who since the formation of the coalition government has been under-secretary for foreign affairs. He will retain this post joining the cabinet as blockade minister.

The new minister will be charged with the administration of the order-in-council regulating the blockade, as well as responsibility for the general policy and practice of the government with respect to trade passing into or from neutral countries.

Lord Robert Cecil is a lawyer of wide experience and a young man, as members of the British cabinet go. In the foreign office he has been intimately concerned with the blockade operations, particularly in their relation to the complicated matters touching belligerent and neutral rights. His elevation to the cabinet will give the Unionists another representative in the coalition councils.

The whole question of the blockade was threshed out at considerable length in the house of lords this evening. Baron Sydenham and Baron Beresford making the principal appeals for a stricter blockade, while the Marquis of Landsowne and Baron Buckmaster defended the government. It was Baron Beresford's maiden speech in the house of lords and his plea was spirited and epigrammatic.

## FLEET THIRD IN POWER.

Admiral Badger Thinks United States Fleet Occupies Third Place.

Washington.—The object of the building policy formulated in 1903 by the navy general board, it was disclosed before the house naval committee, was to keep the United States ahead of Germany in the race for naval supremacy. The statement was made by Rear Admiral Charles J. Badger, a member of the general board, who explained that the policy had contemplated a fleet of 48 first line battleships by 1919 to accomplish its purpose.

The statement did not go into the record of the hearing and Admiral Badger did not amplify it to show why the board had thought such a cause necessary. The admiral was replying to a suggestion that the object of the old policy, abandoned this year by the board for the first time, was to keep the American navy in second place. While that was the effect it had, he said, the real object was to keep ahead of Germany.

## Francis Accepts Russian Post.

Washington.—David R. Francis, secretary of the interior in Cleveland's cabinet, and former governor of Mississippi, told President Wilson he would accept the post of ambassador to Russia to succeed George T. Marye, who has resigned. His nomination will be sent to the senate as soon as inquiry is made of the Russian government whether he is acceptable. He is called on the president with Senator Reed of Missouri, who will confer with him about his duties.

# EMPEROR DIRECTS BATTLE IN FRANCE

GERMANS AND FRENCH ENGAGE IN ONE OF THE GREATEST BATTLES OF WAR.

FRENCH LINES NOT BROKEN

Germans Force Back French Wings—Feroocious Onslaughts Continuous.—Heavy Toll Both Sides.

London.—Inspired by the presence of their Emperor and led by Crown Prince Frederick William, the German troops are engaged in one of the greatest battles of the war on the Western front centering around the fortress of Verdun. Attack has followed attack against the French line after bombardments, incessant and terrific, continuing for several days.

While the Germans have been unable, despite the rain of shells and ferocious onslaughts by the infantry, to break the French line, nevertheless the French on their right and left wings have been compelled to withdraw their lines, respectively to the south of Ornes and behind the town of Samogneux, six miles north of the fortress.

Only between Malancourt and the left bank of the Meuse has there been a diminution in the intensity of the artillery fire. With Brabant, Haumont and Samogneux and the wooded sections north and northeast of Beaumont, in their possession the Germans from the Meuse eastward to Fromezey are forcing the fighting, seemingly regardless of cost of life.

The French guns have answered the German guns shell for shell and the casualties on both sides are very great. The French official report describes the battlefield between the Meuse and Ornes as piled with German dead.

In Champagne at several points, and in the Argonne Forest German works have been pounded by the concentrated fire of the French guns, while in Lorraine, the French repulsed a German reconnoitering party that attempted to capture a French post north of St. Martin.

On their end of the line near Hully, the British exploded a mine and occupied the crater and also bombarded German trenches near Frelinghien and Boesinghe.

## PACIFIC FLEET EASY VICTIM.

Admiral Winslow Says One Battleship Could Capture All.

Washington.—While the House Military Committee was taking steps to ward getting its bill for increasing the regular army and federalizing the National Guard before the house within ten days, the Naval Committee was being informed by Rear Admiral Cameron McR. Winslow that the entire Pacific fleet might be an easy victim for one good enemy battleship.

Admiral Winslow said the force under his command was wholly inadequate, even with all its reserves called out, to meet any probable enemy in the Pacific. Navy department plans for meeting an emergency there or in the Atlantic, however, he said were confidential matters of strategy.

Testimony of Brig. Gen. William Crozier, chief of army ordinance, before the fortifications committee, revealed that the war department plans for coast defense contemplate placing the heaviest new fortifications at the mouth of Chesapeake Bay, which he described as one of the several places where "facilities for land operations are so good that it is worth while to especially fortify them to prevent that operation." At other points, such as Rockaway Beach, New York and San Francisco, he said 16-inch guns mounted in turrets would be added to the batteries.

## Bank of Essen Falls.

London.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Zurich says: "The failure of an important bank at Essen, Germany, is announced. It is believed many Krupp workmen lost their savings."

## Munitions Train Attacked.

Seattle, Wash.—Attacking a Great Northern freight train loaded with automobiles and war supplies for shipment to Russia from Seattle, in the Northern Pacific freight yards here six or eight men cut the air hose between cars in five places, and cut the train in four sections. The train crew fought them off and captured two who gave the names of Sam Rusky and John Ross, and their nationality as Australian. Officials said it was known that the train carried supplies for Russia.

## Emperor William With Army.

London.—Emperor William has established his headquarters at the German positions facing Verdun, according to information received from Berlin by The Evening News by way of Copenhagen.

The dispatch which is dated February 23 says: "It is reported that the Emperor is more energetic than even, making daily speeches to the troops and encouraging the soldiers not to yield. His Majesty is mainly interested at present with a desire to break the French army at any point."

# THE EUROPEAN WAR A YEAR AGO THIS WEEK

Feb. 28, 1915. Germans advanced west of the Vosges, forcing French back four miles.

French took many German trenches in Champagne. Russians continued successful attack along whole western front. Turks evacuated Sinai peninsula. German embassy at Washington denied Steglar's stories.

March 1, 1915. Two German corps defeated at Przasnysz. Oesowetz bombarded by Germans.

Turkish forces under Esaad Pasha massed on Asiatic side of Dardanelles. Norwegian steamer rammed off English coast. Premier Asquith announced allies would cut off Germany from all trade with rest of the world. Hamburg-American line officials in New York indicted for conspiring against U. S.

March 2, 1915. British gained ground near La Bassee.

Russians won Dukla pass and took 10,000 Germans near Przasnysz. Austrians were defeated near Stanislau but gained in the Carpathians. Russians shelled Czernowitz. American Red Cross sent supplies and nurses to Serbia and Germany.

March 3, 1915. Russians advanced from the Niemen and the Dniester. Austro-Germans driven back in Galicia.

Germans demolished two Oesowetz forts. Russians defeated Turks in the Caucasus. Allied fleet silenced three inner forts of Dardanelles. Germany modified relief ship rules. Heavy fighting near Basra, on Persian gulf.

March 4, 1915. Hard fighting in the Vosges. In Melancourt woods Germans sprayed French with burning oil and chemicals.

Russians checked Austrian drive in Bukovina. German submarine U-8 sunk by British destroyers. Allies began landing at Seddul Bahr, Dardanelles.

March 5, 1915. Germans were checked at Reims. German armies in north split up by Russian advances. Turks abandoned campaign against Egypt. Allied fleet bombarded Smyrna. Germans sunk French ammunition ship at Ostend. Zeppelin raid over Calais failed. Zeppelin L-8 wrecked near Tirmont.

March 6, 1915. Russians attacked in center of eastern line and gained in North Poland.

Austrians gave ground in East Galicia. British warships battered Dardanelles forts, destroying one. Asia Minor ports shelled by allies. Smyrna forts being silenced. Allies' landing party on Dardanelles suffered severely.

## Shipping Pigs in Baskets.

The lot of domestic animals in the East is not enviable, particularly when enduring transport from one place to another. Fowls are always sent to market with their legs tied, so that it is impossible for them to move. Live pigs are transported in the Straits Settlements by steamer or barge, shipped singly in wicker work baskets just large enough to take a single pig. In this cramped and uncomfortable position, for the animal's legs are tied, making it nothing more than a living log, it is often shipped long distances. Water is thrown over the animals and occasionally they are allowed to drink, but nothing is given them to eat.—Popular Science Monthly.

## Banana Flour in United States.

Banana flour now is being made on a large scale and is imported to the United States from Porto Rico. It has added much to the wealth of the island as well as giving the United States a new product for the table.

## Worst Kind of Dust.

Dust is everywhere, but the worst kind of dust is that which is confined within the four walls of a room. The dust is always germ laden, because it is infested with effete matter thrown off by human bodies.