

# The Laurens Advertiser.

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## AMERICA AND GERMANY ARE NEARING HOSTILITIES

### Diplomatic Relations are Broken Saturday.

### AMBASSADORS GIVEN THEIR PASS-PORTS

Following the announcement of Germany that she would wage unrestricted warfare, President Wilson severed diplomatic relations, war almost unavoidable.

Following the declaration by Germany of unrestricted submarine warfare on all shipping President Wilson Saturday announced the severance of relations with the German government and handed Ambassador Bernstorff his passports. At the same time Ambassador Gerard, in Berlin, was advised of the step this government had taken and ordered to secure his passports. There is very little hope of preventing war between this country and the Teutonic nations. Austria is expected to follow the step if her ally.

Washington, Feb. 6.—President Wilson has broken off diplomatic relations with Germany and warned the Kaiser that ruthless sacrifice of American lives and rights means war.

Similar action is waiting for Austria when she notifies this government that she joins in the campaign of unrestricted submarine warfare.

The president made formal announcement of his action to the country and to the world at a joint session of congress.

Passports have been handed to Count von Bernstorff; Ambassador Gerard with all his staff and all American consuls have been ordered out of Germany. All German consuls in the United States are expected to withdraw that the severance of relations may be complete. American diplomatic interests in Berlin have been turned over to Spain; German diplomatic interests in the United States have been taken by Switzerland. Foreign diplomatic interests which the United States had in charge in Germany have been turned over to various neutrals.

The years of diplomatic negotiation, marked with frequent crises and attended with the loss of more than 200 American lives on the high seas, have culminated with an act which in all the history of all the world always has led to war.

Every agency of the American government has been set in motion to protect the country against acts of German sympathizers. These moves are of necessity being kept secret.

Breaking off diplomatic relations with Germany does not mean war but easily may lead to war. It is an act of protest characterized in the usage of nations as a "measure short of war."

The danger that war may follow is accentuated by the diplomatic history of the world. Modern times show no instance of a diplomatic break between two first class powers that has not been followed by hostilities.

When all the measures short of war have been exhausted, or either nation decides to dispense with them, comes the eventually—war itself.

Indicating to the farthest degree that party lines had been forgotten and that as representatives of the people of the United States they were joined in a common cause for a common purpose, senators and house members with crowded galleries and with every inch of space set aside for diplomats and other distinguished personages filled, today heard the president of the United States tell of high purposes to protect the rights of the people of the United States to the fullest. Long before the president reached the capitol the diplomatic gallery was filled and Minister Jusserand, representing France, entered.

As the president read his message Mr. Jusserand and diplomats from the Latin-American countries were seen to be much affected and with bowed heads heard the words that fell from the president's lips.

A notable feature of the joint meeting of the house and senate was the fact that Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, who has been most bitter in his attacks upon the president, came into the house arm in arm with

### Caranza Wishes Kaiser Well.

London, Feb. 6.—An Amsterdam dispatch quotes the Telegraph as saying a radiogram has been printed in German newspapers stating that Carranza has sent his best wishes to the German emperor from Queretaro.

### Millions Lost

Jacksonville, Feb. 6.—It is estimated from reports reaching here the crop damage in Florida by the severe cold Saturday, Sunday and Monday will probably amount to millions. It is estimated that 75 per cent of the vegetable crop was killed. All oranges on trees are said to be killed and many trees damaged.

### Crews of Scuttled Vessels Held.

Honolulu, Feb. 6.—The engines and boilers in all nine of the German vessels that up in the harbors of the Hawaiian Islands have been disabled by their crews. The crews of the North German Lloyd liners have been arrested, while the crews of the other seven vessels are detained at the immigration station.

### Germany With Us.

London, Feb. 6.—A wireless dispatch from Berlin quotes the Overseas News Agency to the effect that Foreign Secretary Zimmermann in an interview said Germany joined President Wilson in the wish that there may be no conflict.

He said the German government, after an examination of the president's speech to congress appreciates "those words of non-hostile character."

### Zimmermann's Comment.

Berlin, Feb. 6.—After reading the text of President's Wilson message to congress, Foreign Secretary Zimmermann made a statement to the Overseas News Agency that although no official confirmation is reported here that the United States has broken diplomatic relations.

Zimmermann said: "We regret this measure of President Wilson all the more since we are cut off from all direct communication and regular intercourse with the Trans-Atlantic world. While we think we see what reasons prompted the United States government to take this attitude, on the other hand we expect President Wilson to the same extent may recognize the reasons which prompted us to make our decision."

### Vessels that Have Sailed.

New York, Feb. 6.—Five ships, three British and two French and carrying contraband munitions have sailed for Europe since the German blockade was announced. Four of them: the Rochambeau, for Bordeaux, the Adriatic, Carmania and Baltic for Liverpool, also carried passengers. The Kroonland and the New York are the only American passenger steamers at sea. St. Louis detained will not sail before Wednesday noon, agents say.

### SPAIN HAS FIRM REPLY.

Energetically Opposes the Indiscriminate Submarine Policy—Brazil Paper Defends International Law.

London, Feb. 6.—A Madrid dispatch says the Spanish note, known to protest energetically against Germany's new naval policy will be delivered to Berlin today. It will be published in Madrid tomorrow.

Rio Panerio, Feb. 6.—Brazil's reply to Germany will be published tomorrow. The Jornal de Commercio defends with firmness the principles of international law and adds Brazil acts with no intention of provoking a conflict.

Senator Tillman of South Carolina than whom the president has had no more staunch supporter in all his international troubles.

In Washington tonight the feeling is that as in the past, the president has been most careful, prudent and cautious in his dealings with foreign powers and that unless Germany invites the United States to open hostilities by some overt act, the situation may yet be shorn of its calamitous features.

### HALF MILLION MEN BE CALLED IF WAR

This Would Be Volunteer Force Exclusive of the Guardsmen and Regulars. Censor News of Navy.

Washington, Feb. 5.—War and navy department chiefs and employes, busy with plans for any military activity the nation may require, had interest in their task heightened today by a personal visit from President Wilson. Walking over from the White House the President appeared unannounced at the office of Secretary Daniels and after a conference there dropped in on Secretary Baker.

With Secretary Daniels he talked over the amendments to the naval appropriation bill which the house is expected to pass tomorrow, empowering the president to take over shipbuilding plants, munitions works and other private agencies vital to the construction or operation of the navy in war time. The president described his visit to Secretary Baker as "routine." He is understood to have been told just what the army is doing in the way of preparation.

There was no change in the situation at the war department, so far as surface indications went, but there were indications that the question of just what steps would follow a declaration of war or a hostile act are being carefully watched. The most probable course of the administration, in the view of many officials, would be to summon a volunteer force of half a million men and allow the decision as to persisting to universal service systems to await the response to that call. No officer believes voluntary service will apply a force of the size the army general staff has repeatedly declared adequate defense of the country requires.

Further messages from individuals and corporations offering their services continued to flow into the war and navy departments.

In the effort to speed up naval construction, a decision must first be reached as to what type of building is to be given preference. Indications are that energy would be concentrated on building submarines for coast defense work and submarine chasers for anti-submarine patrol and escort duty.

There were further intimations today that general censorship legislation will be among the first enactments sought in the event of war. Increased precautions already have been taken by naval censors at radio plants. Secretary Daniels turned over today to Lieut. Charles Belknap, Jr., of the naval operations bureau, the work of reviewing navy department advices and making public those which do fall under the ban of military secrecy.

### GERMANY FIRM IN INTENTION.

Papers Declare That No Threat Can Frighten It—Consequences Have Been Fully Weighed.

Berlin, Feb. 6.—The general opinion of the German newspapers is that President Wilson failed to grasp the full significance of the situation in Europe. They say if the president really thinks Germany will draw back he "embraces an error."

The Lokal Anzeiger says Germany's step was taken after all possible consequences had been duly weighed and therefore "no threat can frighten us."

Newspaper says, however, it is unwilling to believe President Wilson wants to "participate in a war which is explicitly waged for the destruction of the German people."

The Tageblatt appears confident that European neutrals will not follow American lead because the misery of war has been before their doors for 30 months.

### Mrs. Parker in Washington.

Mrs. Claude E. Parker with her little daughter, Julia, are spending the winter with her father-in-law, Mr. R. E. Parker, in Washington, while Mr. Parker is engaged in government work at Humboldt, Tenn. Many social affairs have been given in her honor. Her charming voice has been greatly admired when she has sung at these functions. It is understood that Mr. Parker has been offered the position of Assistant District Engineer of Washington, D. C., being held in high esteem by the chief of the Treasury department, who considers him one of his most valuable field men.

### RECORD BREAKING WEATHER.

Thermometer Takes a Low Dip and Wind Also Gets to Work.

Laurens experienced the coldest weather Friday night and Saturday morning that it has had in many years. Thermometers broke all low records for recent years. Reports as to the performance of the thermometers vary, some proud owners saying that theirs went as low as 3 degrees Fahrenheit, the readings being taken about day-break Saturday morning. A larger number declare that theirs registered as low as 6 degrees. At any rate the weather was colder than it has been in many years, probably since 1899. The temperature has remained consistently low since Friday.

Sunday night wind and rain was added to the cold, making it very disagreeable indeed. An electric light post on West Main street was blown down about 7:30 o'clock, throwing the city in darkness for some time. Outside of other minor damages, however, the wind was of no serious consequence.

Humbers were in great demand Sunday morning, after pipes had begun to thaw out and the breaks to disclose themselves. Some houses had as high as ten bursted pipes, while several had boilers to burst causing considerable damage. Taken all together, the past few days have been busy ones for plumbers and anxious ones for housekeepers.

Considerable mistletoes are left for grain. It is thought that the ones have been severely damaged and so have some of the other cover crops. Wheat has stood the cold very well.

### Death of Mrs. John W. Simmons.

Dials, Feb. 5.—Mrs. Nell McCall Simmons, the young wife of John W. Simmons, died at her home at this place Tuesday night, after an illness of about ten days, the immediate cause of her death being pneumonia.

Mrs. Simmons was a young woman with many lovely attributes of character, a consistent member of Dials church, and numbered her friends by the score. A little over a year ago she was happily married to John W. Simmons, who together with an infant son, her mother, Mrs. Alec McCall, one sister, several brothers and a large family connection survives.

Wednesday afternoon surrounded by a large concourse of sorrowing friends and relatives the remains were interred in the cemetery at this place, the services being conducted by her pastor, the Rev. G. G. Harley.

The casket was covered by many pretty flowers, especially lovely being the handsome floral cross given by the members of the Bible class of which the deceased was an active member.

### Dr. D. W. Daniel to Speak.

Unusual interest is attached to the meeting of the County Teachers Association Saturday on account of the fact that Dr. D. W. Daniel, of Clemson college, is on the program for an address. Dr. Daniel has won a wide reputation as a platform speaker and is in great demand on the chautauque and lyceum circuits. The fact that he is a native of this county gives added interest to his appearance here. The meeting is scheduled to open at 10:30 a. m., and Dr. Daniel's lecture will begin shortly after the opening. His subject has not yet been announced. The public is invited to hear him.

### Fell Off Freight Car.

Will Boyd, a negro porter on the mixed passenger and freight train which goes to Greenville every morning, fell off the top of a box car of the moving train Monday morning and was painfully wounded about the head. Boyd, who is reported to be a very good workman, was on top of one of the box cars making his way from the engine to the passenger coaches. He slipped on ice which had formed on the car and fell over on the ground. He was not missed by the train crew until they reached Barksdale Station, but in the meantime he had crawled to a negro house some distance away and secured help. He was brought to Laurens in a buggy and was given medical attention.

### Preaching at Highland Home.

Rev. Graves L. Knight will preach at Highland Home Baptist church next Sunday Feb. 11th, at 11 o'clock in the morning. The public is cordially invited to attend this service.

### TRAXLER IS ASKED FOR RESIGNATION

Postoffice Department Made the Demand of Greenville Postmaster Saturday. Congressman Recommends Thos. H. Pope.

Washington, Feb. 5.—It became known here today that the post office department on Saturday demanded the resignation of David B. Traxler, postmaster at Greenville, and notified him that Representative Nicholls would be asked to recommend his successor. Mr. Nicholls has already recommended Thomas H. Pope, a nephew of the late Judge Pope, and state secretary of the P. O. A.

Mr. Traxler was in Washington today but it is unknown what efforts have been made to bring influence to bear to induce the department to reconsider its action. Mr. Nicholls when asked about the matter, stated that he had nothing whatever to say, but admitted that he had been prevailed upon to make the recommendation.

It will be recalled that some time ago Mr. Nicholls filed charges against Mr. Traxler, alleging pernicious political activity. Upon these charges the department detailed two inspectors to investigate the affairs of the office. These inspectors have made their report and the action taken by the department is based upon that report. It is impossible to ascertain the nature of the inspectors' report.

### March Past Party.

The ladies of the Wednesday Club will give a "march past party" in the store-room next to the Power Drug Company next Tuesday afternoon and night. The proceeds are to be used in buying new books for the library and paying off some very pressing obligations overhanging this worthy institution. The ladies state that the library is in sore straits and needs the money. The plan they have adopted of "hasting" the funds is guaranteed to please. In a few words it is as follows: They have inveigled the merchants around the city into giving various articles of value, worth anywhere from 25c on up to a Dollar or more. These articles are going to be placed on sale next Tuesday at a "dime a shot," as long as they last, first come first served, stock is limited, cash with every purchase, no goods exchanged, etc. In addition, a musical program is promised, but those who do not like music need not stay away on that account for they may not have it. They don't think they will.

### NO DRILL TONIGHT.

Only Those Who Have Enlisted Recently are Expected at the Armory. On account of the practically impassable roads the local military company, The Traynham Guards, will postpone their regular Wednesday drill of this week until Wednesday of next week. The members are requested to take this as an official notice. All of the new members, that is those who have enlisted since Christmas, are directed to report at the armory at the usual time in order to prepare the necessary papers for drawing pay for January.

### The Puzzle Picture.

The puzzle picture for the children may be found today on an inside sheet of the paper. Hereafter, it will be placed there instead of on the front page. The pictures should be kept and sent in to The Advertiser after the last number, No. 9, is issued.

### R. E. Garlington Dead.

Robert Edward Garlington, who has been in the state hospital in Columbia for a number of years, died there last week and the remains were brought here for burial. The remains were interred in the Garlington plot in the Laurens cemetery, simple religious services being held at the grave.

### Teddy and Four Sons are Ready.

Oyster Bay, N. Y., Feb. 3.—Col. Theodore Roosevelt tonight pledged his support to President Wilson in upholding the honor of the United States. He offered to the country his own services and those of his four sons in the event of hostilities.

### Austria Will Probably Follow Suit.

Washington, Feb. 3.—A long despatch received today from Ambassador Penfield in Vienna is understood to announce the adhesion of Austria to Germany's course.

## LOWER HOUSE PASSES PROHIBITION BILL

Goes to Third Reading by Big Majority.

SENATE EXPECTED TO PASS IT ALSO

Richey "All-Tight" Measure Would Prevent Importation of Alcoholic Beverages into the State in Any Quantity. Resolves Large Majority.

The "all-tight" prohibition measure, introduced in the lower house of the General Assembly by Representative Richey, of this county, passed today reading at the Saturday morning session, which indicates that it will pass in the lower house. It has yet to go before the Senate. According to well informed sources, it is very likely that the bill will also be passed in the Senate and will become Governor Manning law by his signature. Gov. Manning has not yet indicated whether or not he would veto it.

The "one-day" measure was first taken up by Mr. H. P. Barnwell, Jr., of Barnwell, moved to strike out the enacting words.

Mr. Richey defended his measure. He had been dubbed by the daily newspapers as the "minority leader" of the house, he said. By what authority he did not know. He had voted for Governor Blease and had no apologies to make for it, but nobody had delegated him to lead the minority forces and he did not want the fact that he had supported Governor Blease to act against the passage of his state-wide bill. The principal cause of the lawlessness and disorder in this state today was liquor," he said, "and I do not want the fact that I belong to the Blease party to lead any of you to vote against this prohibition measure." He pleaded for his bill "in fairness to yourselves, to your families, to your state, to your country and to your God."

The test vote came on Representative Searson's motion to strike out the enacting words, the house refusing to do so by the emphatic majority of 73 to 23.

Those who voted for Mr. Searson's motion, which was to kill the Richey bill, were: Representatives Bailey, Barnwell, Carter, Clyburn, Crews, G. B. Davis, J. E. Davis, E. J. Dennis, Duncan, Fripp, Fromberg, Hamblin, Hemphill, Keenan, J. O. Kelly, Lanford, Lesesne, McCants, McMillan, Mishoe, Moore, Passaligau, Pickens, Seabrook, Searson, Sensesney, Whaley, Young—28.

Those voting against Mr. Searson's motion, which was for prohibition, were: Representatives Hoyt, Anderson, Atkinson, Berry, Booth, Boozer, Boyd, Boykin, Bradford, Byrd (Clinkscapes, Coley, Cochran, Daniel, R. E. Dennis, Johnson, Dominick, Duckworth, J. J. Eaddy, S. O. Eaddy, Edens, Ellis, N. G. Evans, Finley, Fuller, Fulmer, Godwin, Graham, A. Hall, Jr., E. H. Hall, Hamer, Harrison, Hines, Horton, W. W. Johnson, King, Lane, Liles, Long, Macfarlan, D. E. McCutchen, W. J. McCutchen, McLain, Mitchell, McSweeney, Mitchell, Middleton, Morse, Neuffer, Nichols, Norton, Nunn, Owens, Pegues, Purley, Rawlison, Rector, Rehnold, Richey, Riley, Rogers, Sanders, Scott, Shull, S. E. Smith, Strom, Summers, Thomas, Toole, Walker, Williams, Wingard, Wright—73.

There were various amendments involving a quart a month; an election on the subject next year; requiring permits from the judge of probate; and others. The house agreed to Mr. Daniel's, which eliminated the privilege of storing at home or in one's private room, also allowed the insertion of word "wine" so as to have no mistake about the intention to allow "wine" for sacramental and medical purposes. The bill originally said "alcohol" in referring to those provisions.

The Richey bill, as amended, went to a third reading in this shape:

"Be it enacted by the general assembly of the state of South Carolina:

"Section 1. That it shall be unlawful for any person, firm, corporation or company to ship, transport or convey any intoxicating liquors from a

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