

GERMANY TRUSTS SUBMARINE

IMPERIAL CHANCELLOR SAYS THAT GERMANY IS PLAYING BEST CARD TO WIN.

Bethmann-Hollweg Declares That Seriousness of Undersea Warfare is Fully Understood by Central Powers, But is Only Step to Save Them From Destruction at Hands of Their Enemies.

Berlin, Jan. 31 (via London, Feb. 1).—Chancellor von Bethmann Hollweg and other ministers attended an important meeting of the ways and means committee of the reichstag today at which the entire situation was gone over and new steps planned by the central powers were considered.

The chancellor opened the sitting with a speech of which the keynote words were:

"We have been challenged to fight to the end. We accept the challenge, we stake everything and we shall be victorious."

The secretary of State for the admiralty spoke of the situation from the technical, military and naval viewpoint. Detailed statistical data in regard to the economic position of the world was supplied by the secretary of the interior and Foreign Secretary Zimmerman replied to several special questions.

The committee then went into secret session at which speeches were made by representatives of the Centre, National, Liberal and Progressive parties.

In his address Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg explained why in March and May of last year he had opposed unrestricted submarine warfare, and why again in September, according to the unanimous judgment of the political and military authorities, the question was considered for decision.

The chancellor repeated his previous utterance that as soon as he, in agreement with the supreme army command, reached the conviction that ruthless submarine war would bring Germany nearer a victory the u-boat war would be started.

"By this development of the situation the decision concerning submarine warfare has been forced into the last stage," said the chancellor. "The question of u-boat war, as members of the reichstag will remember, has occupied us three times in this committee—namely in 1914, 1915 and 1916. On each occasion in an exhaustive statement I expounded the points for and against this question. I emphasized on each occasion that I was speaking protempore and not as a supporter in principle or opponent in principle of the unrestricted employment of u-boats, but in consideration of the military, political and economic situation as a whole.

"I have always proceeded from the standpoint whether u-boat war would bring us nearer victorious peace or not. Every means, I said in March, that was calculated to shorten the war constituted the most humane policy to follow. When the most ruthless methods are considered best calculated to lead us to victory and swift victory, I said then they must be employed.

"This moment has now arrived. Last autumn the time was not yet ripe, but today the moment has come when, with the greatest prospects of success, we can undertake the enterprise. We must, therefore, not wait any longer.

"Where has there been any changes in the situation?" the chancellor asked. "In the first place the most important fact of all is that the number of our submarines has been very considerably increased as compared with last spring, and thereby a firm basis for success has been established. The second conclusive reason is the had cereal harvest of the world. This fact already confronts England, France and Italy with serious difficulties which by means of unrestricted u-boat warfare will be brought to a point of unbearable. The coal question, too, is a vital question in war. Already it is critical, as you know, in Italy and France. Our submarines will make it still more critical.

"To this must be added especially one for the production of munitions, as regards England the supply of in the widest sense, and of timber for coal mines. The enemy's difficulties are rendered still more acute by the increasing lack of enemy cargo space. In this respect time and u-boat and cruiser warfare have prepared the ground for the decisive blow.

"The entente suffers owing to lack of cargo space. The lack makes itself felt in Italy and France no less than in England. If we may now venture to estimate the positive advantage of unrestricted u-boat war at a very much higher value than last spring the dangers which arise for us from u-boat war have correspondingly decreased since that time."

The chancellor referred to military affairs as follows:

"A few days ago Field Marshal von Hindenburg described the situation to me thus: Our fronts stand firm on all sides. We have everywhere the requisite reserves. The spirit of our troops is good and confident. The military situation as a whole permits us to accept all consequences which unrestricted u-boat war may bring and as this u-boat war is the means of injuring our enemies the most grievously, it must be begun.

"The admiralty staff and the high seas fleet entertain the firm conviction—a conviction which has practical support in the experienced gained in u-boat cruiser warfare—that Great Britain will be brought to peace by arms. Our allies agree with our views. Austria-Hungary adheres to our procedure also in practice. Just as we lay a blockade area around Great Britain and the west coast of France in which we will try to prevent all shipping traffic to the enemy countries, Austria-Hungary declares a blockaded area around Italy.

"To all neutral countries a free path for mutual intercourse is left outside the blockade area. To America we offer, as we did in 1915, safe passenger traffic under definite conditions even with Great Britain."

The chancellor here read the note to the United States and said that corresponding notes had been sent to the other neutral states. He concluded as follows:

"No one among us will close his eyes to the seriousness of the step we are taking. That our existence is at stake every one knows since August 4, 1914, and this has been brutally emphasized by the rejection of our peace offer. When in 1914 we had to seize and have recourse to the sword against Russia's general mobilization we did so with the deepest sense of responsibility toward our people and conscious of resolute strength which says: 'We must and therefore we can.' Endless streams of blood have been shed, but they have not washed away the 'must' and the 'can.'

"In deciding to employ our best and sharpest weapon we are guided solely by all the circumstances that come into the question and by the firm determination to help our people out of the distress and disgrace which our enemies contemplate for them. Success lies in a higher hand, but as regards all that human strength can do to enforce success for the fatherland, we are assured, gentlemen, that nothing has been neglected. Everything in this respect will be done."

U. S. WORKER COMING.

Dr. William A. Brown of Chicago to Be Here February 9th.

Dr. William A. Brown, of Chicago, missionary superintendent of the International Sunday School Association, will be the chief speaker at the Sumter County Sunday School Association meeting which will be held in Trinity Methodist church on February 9. An interesting program has been arranged for the morning, afternoon and night sessions and it is desired that a big attendance be on hand.

Mr. C. L. Cuttino is president of the County association and Mr. C. E. Stubbs is secretary.

The program for the county convention is:

Morning Session.

10:15—Devotional Service—By Dr. R. S. Truesdale, pastor Trinity Methodist Church.

10:30—Story Telling for Character Building—By Miss Agnes Ravenel, Elementary Superintendent.

11:00—The Sunday School Organized for Service—By R. D. Webb, General Secretary.

11:30—Reports of County Officers: (a) President, (b) Secretary-Treasurer, (c) Division Superintendents.

11:45—The Three Great Superlatives—By Dr. William A. Brown, Missionary Superintendent International Sunday School Association.

12:20—Appointment of Committees. Adjournment for Dinner.

Afternoon Session.

3:00—Devotional Service—By Dr. W. E. Thayer, pastor Sumter Baptist Church.

3:10—Reports of District Presidents.

3:20—The Growing Sunday School—By R. D. Webb.

3:50—Fundamental Principles in Work with the Teens—By Miss Agnes Ravenel.

4:20—The Rights of the Child—By Dr. William A. Brown.

4:50—Reports of Committees. Adjournment.

Night Session.

7:30—Devotional Service—By Rev. J. P. Marion, pastor Sumter Presbyterian Church.

7:45—Our Program of Service in South Carolina—By R. D. Webb.

8:10—The New Day in Sunday School Work in South Carolina—By Dr. William A. Brown.

Columbia, Feb. 3.—At the request of his father, Theodore McCloud was met at the Seaboard station yesterday morning by Policemen Talon and Kramer and will be held awaiting further advice from the father, who lives in Sumter. The boy had evidently run away from home.

TO PROTECT AMERICAN RIGHTS

TILLMAN SPEAKS PLAINLY OF CRISIS.

Would Use the Navy—Thinks Every Ship, Man and Gun Should be Employed in Defense of Sea Trade.

Washington, Feb. 1.—The situation arising from Germany's announced intention to pursue a ruthless submarine warfare in the future was regarded by senators today as the most serious which has confronted the United States since the war in Europe began. Although some of the senators were willing to express their views on the declaration of Germany, there was a general air of waiting and expectancy about the senate chamber.

"What will the president do?" was the question on every lip.

The opinion was expressed that he probably would make some announcement to congress or to the congressional leaders before finally acting. It was recalled that in a former crisis it was stated that the president would fully inform congress or the leaders before he took any final steps looking to the breaking off of diplomatic relations with Germany or any of the belligerents.

Senator Tillman, chairman of the naval affairs committee, said there was only one thing to do in the circumstances.

"We should tell the diplomatic representatives of Teutonic governments in Washington to pack up and go back to their fellow barbarians at once. We should protect the rights of the people of the United States on the high seas with every man, ship and gun in our navy. The suggestion is intolerable to contemplate."

MISS H. F. RONAN RESIGNS.

Principal of Confederate College for 28 Years Resigns.

Charleston Post.

The resignation of Miss Harriet F. Ronan, for twenty-eight years principal of the school, was submitted this morning at the annual meeting of the Confederate College, and Miss Susan K. Masyck, former assistant principal, and who has been acting as principal since Miss Ronan's illness forced her to retire, has been elected temporarily to fill her place.

Miss Ronan had during her 28 years of active service been absent from her duties as principal only three days. She was quite sick, however, some time ago, and although recovered now, has taken this action on the advice of her physician.

The board of control was elected for the ensuing year, and held a meeting for the purpose of organizing after that of the association had come to an end. Mrs. W. B. Frost was elected president.

Glimpses of the Dark Corner.

Dark Corner, Jan. 31.—It is raining again here this morning. We are having lots of rain these days, so much that farmers have done very little towards preparing for another crop.

We are having measles around here and they are still here. Mr. Arthur Johnston has had them and is well. Mr. Joe Johnston has had two children, Misses Bertha and Maggie (those two running girls of field day fame) to be very sick with measles, but they are better. He has four more children and his wife to have them yet.

Rev. Corbett of Dalzell, the new Methodist preacher, spent last Saturday night and Sunday at the "Sycamores" with Mr. T. H. Osteen and preached a fine sermon at the church here yesterday at 4 o'clock. He is to preach for us again on the second Sunday in February at 11 o'clock in the morning, and Rev. William Haynsworth will preach for us the same second Sunday at 4 o'clock p. m. The Sunday school and prayer meeting are getting along nicely at the church here.

Mr. Dewey Reynolds, a young man from Paxville, led the prayer meeting here last night. Come again young brother.

Mr. L. E. Avin had one of his mules hooked by one of his cows some days ago and the mule has not been so it could work since, but is seems to be getting better now.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Johnston visited Mr. H. C. Scott, their son-in-law, at Paxville yesterday.

Mr. Rollin Scott of Paxville visited his uncle, Joe Johnston, here yesterday.

Mr. R. N. Owen and son, Mr. John Owen, of Orangeburg, visited at the "Sycamores" a few days ago.

Mr. Douglas Bartlette of Sumter visited his grandmother, Mrs. S. A. T. Lackey, here some days ago.

Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Kolb of Privateer attended preaching here Sunday evening and heard Rev. Corbett.

I have been suffering a good deal of late which is the reason I have not written more for the Watchman and Southern. Hope to write oftener in the near future. "Hard Times."

AMERICAN POLICY DETERMINED

BELIEVED THAT WILSON HAS DISPATCHED NOTE TO GERMANIES ON SUBMARINE WARFARE

Matter is Kept Secret and Only Few Officials Know Contents of Communication Said to Have Been Formulated—German Ambassador Said to be Expecting Severance of Diplomatic Relations.

Washington, Feb. 1.—Whatever course of action President Wilson has chosen to meet Germany's declaration of unrestricted submarine warfare is known only to three or four members of his official family. Neither the cabinet as a whole nor the foreign affairs committee of congress.

One high official close to the president declares tonight that no communication had been sent to Berlin or to Count von Bernstorff, who outwardly was expecting a severance of diplomatic relations.

There was every indication in official quarters that a note had been determined upon but the indications as to whether it actually had been dispatched were about evenly divided, with a few high officials as authority that it had not and some others who gave intimations of a belief that it had.

From under the curtain of official silence drawn closely over every move today came various indications taken everywhere as index figures pointing towards the probable course of the United States.

It was undisputed that the government would not permit Germany's announcement to stand without challenge but whether President Wilson's answer will be a solemn warning of a break in diplomatic relations if Germany's campaign of ruthlessness is carried into execution or actually a severance of relations without further waiting, remained undisclosed.

White House officials and Secretary Lansing followed the same course they have adopted in previous occasions when a communication had been dispatched to Berlin and they were awaiting its receipt in the German capital before making any announcement in this country. It was a matter of absolute silence; that refusal to disclose any information, however, to discuss the subject in any way or to answer any inquiries upon it.

All the day's developments followed this same course, which has become familiar to close observers of the procedure of the administration when it is dealing with a foreign crisis.

Secretary Lansing began by defining himself to all callers. Notwithstanding that it was the regular day for receiving representatives of foreign governments at the state department, he declined to receive such persons as the British and Japanese ambassadors and they were turned over to subordinate officials.

It became known then that Mr. Lansing was engaged at work "on something for the president."

Shortly before noon the secretary went to the White House, taking with him some documents and instead of going to the executive offices he and the president conferred undisturbed in the mansion itself, where he and the president remained for more than an hour.

When he left the president Mr. Lansing refused absolutely to discuss the situation or answer any inquiries. Then later in the day when he met the newspaper correspondents he said, "Gentlemen, I have nothing to tell you; neither will I answer any questions."

He modified this later statement only to say he had no communication throughout the day with the German ambassador, adding that there was no prospect of any announcement during the night.

Among all officials capable of knowing the probable course of the president, the only point of doubt seemed to be whether a communication to Germany would carry only a warning or whether it would consider Germany's declaration sufficient in itself for action. All seemed to take it for granted that a decision had quickly been determined upon.

It was pointed out that one reason for withholding knowledge of the president's course is the necessity of completing certain arrangements, many of a physical character, to prepare the country for eventualities which would be expected to follow a diplomatic break. The safeguarding of American ports, safety of Americans in Germany, the presence of German ships in American harbors and many other considerations are among them.

The last correspondence with Germany which demanded the total abandonment of such submarine warfare as the central powers are about to resume, declared that the United States would sever diplomatic relations "altogether." That is interpreted as leaving no opportunity for half way measures; it means the withdrawal of Ambassador Gerard and the whole embassy staff from Berlin and

the closing of the German embassy here. Inasmuch as any action by the United States would be directed against Germany as a nation and not against her ambassador as an individual, it was not thought likely that a severance would be announced by the delivery of passports to Count von Bernstorff but would be preceded by formal notification to Berlin of the American government's decision. The delivery of passports to the ambassador would be left as formality of the future.

Germany's views as expressed in this note is that neutrals should not object to the German blockade inasmuch as they have been unable to raise the British blockade. American ships venturing into the barred zones, it was frankly stated, would be in danger of being sunk but it was declared that Germany and her allies would give up the campaign of ruthlessness should neutrals acting together cause Great Britain to raise her blockade, or should there be a peace conference.

Austria and Turkey are expected to make similar war zone declarations. The first notification that Austria has joined Germany was in the news dispatches from Paris. No official announcement had reached here tonight.

The only announcement the German ambassador made today was to deny published reports that he had told a friend that he expected to receive his passports within 48 hours. There was no denying, however, that Count von Bernstorff fully expected the action of the United States to be swift and decisive. It became known that several times during the last week he has attempted to discourage Americans from sailing for Europe. He has declined to write letters of introduction for friends and on other pretexts without disclosing his knowledge of what was about to happen has done his best to discourage them from going to Europe.

Chairman Stone of the senate foreign relations committee, who has been in St. Louis, telegraphed to the White House that he was hurrying back and would arrive at 1 p. m. tomorrow.

On a previous occasion the president told members of the committee that before breaking relations with any country he would inform them.

Col. House spent the day here but left tonight for New York. In addition to a long talk with the president he saw Secretary Lansing, Counselor Polk of the state department; Secretary McAdoo and Postmaster General Burleson.

Public opinion in this country is being carefully considered not so much as a decisive force, but as indicating the limit of the first step to be taken. The officials realize that a severe mental wrench must be experienced to turn public thought from hopes of peace to the eventualities of German's action.

There apparently is no division in official opinion that Germany's announcement justifies this country in severing diplomatic relations, or taking belligerent steps to safeguard American rights. The present situation is regarded as representing a mature policy made in full consideration that it will cost the friendship if not the neutrality of the United States and probably other neutrals.

Preparations are now known to have been under way in Germany for months and the information that had been allowed to pass the censorship to have been entirely misleading. The fact stands out that official Germany has held off from such a policy not because of international law or consideration for the United States, but because it did not feel it expedient at an earlier time.

WOULD STOP FUTURE PRICES.

Charleston, Feb. 1.—The Charleston cotton exchange today wired New York and the New Orleans cotton exchanges asking them to discontinue future quotations until normal conditions are restored. Wires were sent to many exchanges throughout the South asking that similar requests be sent New York and New Orleans. This step was taken because the disorganization of the market following Germany's declaration for unrestricted naval warfare which sent cotton far below its intrinsic value. No steps have been taken to close the local market and the matter will go before the membership of the exchange as a whole first.

Washington, Feb. 1.—Constitutionality of South Carolina's law providing for licensing of insurance brokers and prohibiting residents of other States from writing fire insurance policies, was brought into question by an appeal filed with the supreme court today by Philip LaTourette, a New York insurance broker.

Washington, Feb. 2.—Without debate the senate today passed a resolution introduced by Senator Smith of South Carolina, directing the attorney general to investigate the operations of the New York cotton exchange to ascertain if there is any restraint of trade.

HOUSE OVERRIDES VETO.

VOTES AGAINST WILSON ON LITERACY TEST.

Republicans and Democrats Go Against President in About Equal Proportions.

Washington, Feb. 1.—President Wilson's veto of the immigration bill because of its literacy test feature was overridden in the house tonight by a vote of 286 to 106. Party lines were ignored, Republicans and Democrats being almost equally divided.

Tomorrow the action of the house will be reported to the senate, where the bill passed originally by 64 to 7. Advocates of the measure say the senate is certain to follow the house action.

For 20 years there has been a fight to establish a literacy test as a restriction upon immigration.

Four times such a provision has run the gauntlet of congress and has been vetoed at the White House. President Cleveland first disapproved a bill on this ground and congress sustained his action. President Taft was the next to reject it. On that occasion the senate voted to override the veto but the house failed by nine votes to give the necessary two-thirds majority.

In 1915 President Wilson vetoed a similar bill with the literacy test. The house lacked only four votes to override his action then and the senate did not consider the veto message.

Tonight the house had 25 votes more than the necessary two-thirds majority. Republican Leader Mann and Democratic Leader Kitchin voted together against the president.

One hundred and forty-nine Democrats and 131 Republicans voted to override the veto, as did four of the five Progressives who voted. Randall, the Prohibitionist, and Kent, the Independent, making a total of 286. Against overriding the veto were 55 Democrats, 49 Republicans, one Progressive and the lone Socialist in the house, Meyer London, making a total of 106.

Only four of the South Carolina delegation are recorded as voting: Messrs. Aiken, Byrnes, Nicholls and Ragdale. All voted to override the veto.

CLEAR SPANNELL OF CHARGE.

Jury Acquits Him of Killing Wife—Faces Second Trial.

San Angelo, Texas, Feb. 1.—A verdict of not guilty was returned after less than two hours' deliberation today by the jury trying Harry J. Spannell of Alpine, Texas, in connection with the killing of his wife, Crystal Holland Spannell, last July.

Spannell was granted a change of venue to Coleman county on the indictment charging him with having killed Lieut. Col. M. C. Butler and was released late today on \$5,000 bond. It was stated Spannell probably will be placed on trial at Coleman in May for the killing of Butler.

When news of his acquittal was taken to Spannell's cell in the county jail he gave vent to his emotion and sobbed his wife's name repeatedly.

Spectators who were in the court room cheered when the verdict was read.

POLICE CHIEF HURT.

A. P. Welch of Olanta Suffers Gunshot Wound.

Olanta, Feb. 1.—Monday night some one broke into the residence of Eli Lee, about five miles east of Olanta. Mr. Lee telephoned Chief A. P. Welch of Olanta to bring his bloodhound. He reached the scene about 11 o'clock and the dog had no trouble in following the trail to the house of a negro, Enoch Hickson. There were several negroes in the house. They put out all lights and refused the policeman entrance. He went to a window and turned his flashlight into the room, and as he did so, some one shot him with a shotgun, the greater part of the load going through his coat near the right pocket and only two shots taking effect, and that in his right arm. It is thought that the person doing the shooting aimed at the flashlight in Welch's hand and that this saved the policeman from being killed. It is thought that the negro who did the shooting, and probably some others, escaped from the house before sufficient help could be secured to guard the house. After daylight yesterday A. P. Welch, assisted by a rural policeman, arrested five negroes and placed them in the lockup here. A razor strop, said to belong to Mr. Lee, was found in the pocket of one of the negroes arrested.

New York, Feb. 2.—Mrs. Margaret Sanger, birth control advocate, and her associate, Miss Fania Mondell, were found guilty today of disseminating information forbidden by law. They will be sentenced February 8.

Mrs. Sanger is a sister of Mrs. Ethel Byrne, who went on a hunger strike when sent to the workhouse for 30 days after her conviction on a similar charge.