

NINE VESSELS SUNK BY NEW GERMAN RAIDER

PATRIOTIC RALLY ASSURED WHEN CITY CALLS SOCIETIES TO FORM LARGE COMMITTEE

Mayor Robbins and the members of the board of public works, Alfred Bavin, Charles E. Marlatt and John McMinn, are going to assume the responsibility for effecting the organization of a large committee, representing the various civic, patriotic, labor, church and fraternal bodies in Richmond, which is to have charge of arranging for an immense patriotic demonstration, to be held in Richmond in about two weeks.

These city officials said today that they would issue a call for a meeting to be held in the council chamber on the evening of Monday, April 9, with the following organizations represented, each by two representatives:

Organizations to be Represented.

Sol Meredith Post, G. A. R., Women's Relief Corps, Ladies of the G. A. R., Sons of Veterans, Ladies Auxiliary, Sons of Veterans, the Trades Council, Daughters of American Revolution, Spanish-American War Veterans, Rich-

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WITH COURSE FULLY DETERMINED PRESIDENT WILSON WRITES MESSAGE

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, March 31—President Wilson, having decided fully with his cabinet upon a course of action to meet the national emergency, today set about the task of reducing the conclusions to writing.

Exactly what these conclusions are will be disclosed officially when the president appears before congress next week to deliver his momentous message.

Indications today, however, were that a formal recognition of the existence of a state of war between the United States and Germany would result.

The disclosure that a definite decision had been reached, was made following a final conference between President Wilson and his cabinet advisors yesterday. Decision was reached quickly and it was said there was no division of opinion on the question.

Just what part the United States would play in the war against Germany will not be developed until after congress defines the nation's status and completes urgent defense legislation.

FRENCH DELIVER EFFECTIVE THRUST COMPELLING GERMANS TO FALL BACK 3 MILES AT SOISSONS

(By Associated Press)

French troops in northern France continue to push back the Germans along the southern end of the German field of retreat.

A final thrust was delivered by General Nivelle's forces last night northeast of Soissons forcing the hostile line back on a three and one-half mile front between Neuville and Vregnay. The French forged ahead east of this line, making important progress and capturing several points of support, according to Paris.

Other hard fighting took place further southeast on the Franco-Belgian front in the Champagne region. Here the French also were successful, repelling five violent counter attacks delivered by the Germans and preventing the recapture of the positions taken west of Maisons De Champagne.

TWO BRITISH SHIPS CARRY CITIZENS DOWN

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, March 31—Two British steamers, the Snowdon Range and the Booth liner Cristian, both with Americans aboard of whom a number are unaccounted for were reported to the state department today to have been sunk without warning by a submarine.

On the Cristian the torpedo which struck the engine room killed five men, two of whom are believed to have been Americans.

REV. THOMAS ADAMS RESIGNS FROM PULPIT HELD FOR 10 MONTHS

(By Associated Press)

Rev. Thomas H. Adams has resigned the pastorate of Central Christian church. His resignation will be announced to the congregation Sunday by William Dunham, president of the church board.

The congregation will hold a called meeting next Thursday evening and at that time the question of choosing a successor to Mr. Adams will be taken up.

Mr. Adams refused to make any statement concerning the reasons for his resignation today. He promised, however, to give his statement for publication "when the time comes."

He has been serving the Central Christian church for the last 10 months, having come to Richmond from Findlay, Ohio.

He refused also to make any statement concerning his next pastorate, although he is understood to have several offers.

CHICAGO TO HOLD PATRIOTIC JUBILEE

(By Associated Press)

CHICAGO, March 31—Citizens of Chicago today held a patriotic demonstration which is to conclude tonight with a mass meeting which its organizers predict will rival similar gatherings of civil war days. The day was set apart by Mayor William Hale Thompson as "Flag Day" and thousands of the national emblems hung in the downtown district and in the residential sections.

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For three months Hindenburg's staff had been "sounding" neutral coun-

tries. Hindenburg's agents reported from the United States, Holland, Switzerland, Norway, Spain, Denmark and Sweden.

Germany yielded to the United States temporarily. Eight months later the Kaiser invited his military and naval leaders to great headquarters in the East for a "birthday dinner." This time Dr. Helfferich, the Vice-Chancellor and other statesmen who opposed a break with America were not invited. It was a military meeting. Only generals and admirals were asked to speak. Von Falkenhayn was not one of them.

"Falkenhayn, when you are versed in foreign affairs, I'll ask you to speak," interrupted the Kaiser. "Proceed, Dr. Helfferich."

Falkenhayn's resignation followed.

Over Thousand Men Join the Colors in First Week's Recruiting Drive

(By Associated Press)

NEW YORK, March 31—On the basis of reports from different parts of the country, Commander John Grady in charge of the eastern recruiting division of the U. S. navy, estimated today that more than 1600 men were enlisted in the service during the last week.

In the eastern division, which extends from Detroit east to the seaboard and as far south as West Virginia, Commander Grady estimates the number of recruits at 500.

He predicts that he will do even better than 1500 men a week in a short time. Scarcely a day passes here without some new development in preparation for war.

COUNTY OFFICIALS TAKE STAND AGAINST FURTHER BRIDGE DELAY

Wayne county commissioners favor letting contracts for the Main and South G street bridges the first week in May if possible.

The announcement made yesterday that several contractors have asked that the granting of contracts for the structures be delayed for about sixty days has caused considerable comment among citizens.

People in general seem to want the bridges—at least the Main street structure—built immediately.

Want Bridges Constructed.

William Cheesman, president of the board of commissioners said today: "I do not see any reason for delaying the bridge any longer. They will not be delayed if it is within the power of the board of commissioners to prevent it."

"I favor advertising for bids next Monday as we have planned. If the war situation becomes more acute and the bids are too high, we can postpone the letting."

William Seaney, another commissioner, said: "The commissioners have been blamed for all delays. They

should not be. If we had had our way about it, all contracts would have been let and the bridges would have been under construction."

Hands Tied Several Times.

"Our hands have been tied several times. When we first asked for appropriations, the county council turned them down. I favor having the bridges built at the earliest time possible. At least we will advertise for bids. If bids are too high, we can reject all."

Andrew Simpson, junior member of the board said: "I will stand with the other commissioners. I favor having the bridges erected at the earliest time possible."

Letter Carriers Become Agents to Detect Spies

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, March 31—A half million postmasters, letter carriers and field agents of various federal departments have been set on trail of spies or conspirators against the United States, under government orders, it was known today.

These are in addition to the multitude of municipal police and detectives who are being organized into a single big machine to gather information on agents of foreign governments.

The work is directed by the bureau of investigation and the secret service.

At least 300,000 city letter carriers and rural free delivery employees alone are under orders to scan letters and packages passing through their hands for evidence of plots against the nation.

Sweden to Steer Neutral Course

(By Associated Press)

LONDON, March 31—Secretary Zimmerman's speech to the Reichstag charging the United States with responsibility for war, if it comes, brought forth today for the first time official admission that the United States government knew in the middle of January that the ruthless submarine decree was to be issued and that after its issuance three days were allowed to lapse to give Germany opportunity to modify or repeal it before the severance of diplomatic relations.

MRS. MARY BAYER CALLED SUDDENLY BY DEATH'S ANGEL

(By Associated Press)

For Indiana by United States Weather Bureau—Showers and colder to night. Sunday fair. Colder.

Temperature Today.

Non.....75

Yesterday.....61

Minimum.....25

Forecast for Richmond and Wayne County, by W. E. Moore—Rain and thunder squalls this afternoon. Partly cloudy and much cooler tonight and Sunday, followed by fair weather.

General Conditions—The Pacific coast storm with a diameter of 2,000 miles has moved rapidly eastward and has extended from Canada southward through the Mississippi valley to the gulf. The storm is causing thunderstorms and very high winds throughout the central states. A cool wave with temperatures below freezing is rapidly following the storm and it is probable freezing weather will reach Richmond during the next 36 hours.

No arrangements for the funeral of Mrs. Bayer have been announced.

Hindenburg's agents reported from the United States, Holland, Switzerland, Norway, Spain, Denmark and Sweden.

Feeling Out the Neutrals.

Germany had been assured by the European neutrals that they would maintain a passive attitude in the event of a ruthless submarine war.

Count von Bernstorff, former ambassador in Washington, reported by code to Foreign Secretary Zimmermann and the Chancellor that an unlimited submarine warfare would be followed by

a break in diplomatic relations, but that America was not prepared to enter the war immediately.

The naval spy system, which has always been the most effective in bringing reports from America, placed such definite information regarding the United States before the Admiralty and naval boards that Admiral von Mueller, chief of the Naval Cabinet, who had been opposed to submarine warfare, was finally won to Hindenburg's plan.

After the conference word was

285 SURVIVORS SENT ASHORE BY SEA EAGLE AFTER BARK CANBRONNE HAD BEEN CRIPPLED; TWENTY-ONE SHELLS FIRED AT THE HONGARTH

(By Associated Press)

RIO JANEIRO, March 31—A new German raider, slipping past the British warships on guard in the North Sea, has reached the South Atlantic and sent nine or more merchantmen to the bottom.

According to survivors from the sunken vessels, the raider is the Sea Adler (Sea Eagle) a formidable armed craft operating with the same successes and daring as its predecessor the Moewe, which recently returned to a German port after playing havoc with shipping in the same waters.

News of the activities of the raider was brought to Rio Janeiro by the French bark Canbronne which arrived here yesterday. She had on board 285 men from the crews of vessels sunk by the Sea Adler.

The Canbronne encountered the raider on March 7, at latitude 21 south, longitude 7 west, a point in the Atlantic almost on a line with Rio Janeiro and about two-thirds of the way to the African coast.

After the survivors had been put on the Canbronne she was ordered to proceed to the coast of Brazil, a voyage of twenty-two days.

The thoroughness with which the Germans carried on their work of destruction is shown by their treatment of the Canbronne. On deciding to send this vessel to Brazil with their prisoners they cut away part of her mast and destroyed some of her sailings with the idea of delaying her progress to Brazil and keeping secret as long as possible the presence of the raider in the south Atlantic.

All papers on the Canbronne were seized and a large part of her cargo was destroyed.

The survivors who have reached here can give no definite account of the movements of the Sea Adler, although they say that most of the vessels were sunk off the Brazilian coast. The Hongarth put up the stiffest fight. It required twenty-one cannon shots fired from a distance of two miles to sink her.

It is related by survivors that their reception on the raider was such as to discourage any attempt to make trouble.

The Germans were lined up on the deck, every man heavily armed as each new contingent of prisoners were taken on board.

PROPOSE TEMPORARY HOUSE ORGANIZATION TO HEAR PRESIDENT

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, March 31—Republican house leaders rounded up their members for a caucus today with hope of smoothing out factional differences over house organization plans, presenting a solid front, and winning four of the five independent votes necessary for election of a speaker.

Representative Mann, Republican floor leader in the last congress, expected to offer in the caucus, his proposal for bi-partisan organization of the House and Rep. Towner was ready to argue for his plan to organize the House temporarily, even under Speaker Clark, to receive President Wilson's message.

WALTERS RETURNS TO STATE SCHOOL

(By Associated Press)

Basil Walters, a member of the Palladium reporter staff for about a year, coming to The Palladium from the school of journalism at Indiana University, today severed his connection with this paper to resume his studies at the state university. He has accepted the position of managing editor of the Daily Student, a university publication. Walters made an unqualified success in his work for The Palladium.

WARMEST DAY Since October

(By Associated Press)

This was the warmest day since October 8, 1916.

Walter Vossler at the pumping station reported at noon today and the mercury stood at the 75 degree mark.

"It is very unusual for a winter to pass without at least two or three very warm days," Mr. Vossler said.

RECLUSE LEAVES FORTUNE

(By Associated Press)

BOSTON, March 31—More than \$100,000 in cash was found by executors of the estate of Albert F. Whittemore, an aged recluse when they searched his house in the west Roxbury district and a safe deposit vault yesterday. Whittemore, a civil war veteran, had lived alone for 25 years.

DEFENSE COUNCIL MEETS

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, March 31—The entire membership of the Council of National Defense and its advisory commission, the agency through which national resources will mobilize for war, assembled here today for reports on what has been effected.

STOCK EXCHANGE QUIET

(By Associated Press)

LONDON, March 31—The stock exchange had a quiet session today with base metal shares a feature of strength especially Australian.

German Raider Carried Enough Supplies For Crews Covering Eighteen Months

(By Associated Press)

RIO JANEIRO, March 31—The French bark Canbronne, which arrived here yesterday with 285 members of crews of vessels sunk by a German raider, reports that she fell in with the raider on March 7 at latitude 21 west and longitude 7 south.

According to the Jornal Do Brasil,

the raider was loaded with mines which explains the destruction of vessels off the coast of Brazil. The commerce destroyer is reported to be armed with two guns of 105 millimeters and 16 machine guns. The vessel has three masts and is equipped with wireless. Its crew consists of 64 men under the command of Count Uckner.

Treatment is Very Good.

According to the refugees, the raider left Germany on Dec. 22 escorted by a submarine. They say that the commander declared that the German emperor and the crown prince alone knew of the expedition. No comment.