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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, N. B., FRIDAY, MAY 5, 1916

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## Huns Reply to U. S. Note Received at Washington

### Fails to Meet President's Demands, But as Usual Promises Concessions---Declines to Accept Responsibility for the Sinking of the Sussex---Break in Diplomatic Relations May Follow.

WASHINGTON, May 5.—The first portions of the German note were received this morning and read by officials here with undisguised disappointment. The tone of the first portions was of such character that some officials feared a break in diplomatic relations was forecasted. The unofficial copy was sent to President Wilson as rapidly as it was received.

BERLIN, May 5.—Germany's answer to President Wilson's peremptory demand for immediate cessation of submarine warfare against American trade, was sent today by wireless. While it fails to meet American demands in full, there is hope here that it may provide for a satisfactory entente without a breach of diplomatic relations.

At the outset the note declines to admit responsibility for the sinking of the Sussex, though conceding that the evidence held by the United States warrants further investigation. It emphatically repudiates the American charge that German submarines had embarked upon a campaign of deliberate and indiscriminate destruction. Submarine commanders have been given orders, it says, to warn and search merchant vessels, except in the war zone around Great Britain, and though Germany flatly declines to give up the submarine campaign against commerce, some further concessions are offered.

### Germany Offers Some Concessions, But

#### Declines to Give Up Submarine Campaign

In stern language Germany charges the United States with discriminating against Germany and in favor of Great Britain, who is to blame, she now declares, for the beginning of the illegal warfare. Wonder is ironically expressed that the United States cannot extend the same sympathy to starving German women and children that it extends to the victims of submarines. The note says the German government is prepared to do its utmost to confine operations of the war for the rest of its duration to the fighting forces of the belligerents, and notifies the government of the United States that the following order has been sent to the naval forces of Germany:

"In accordance with the general principles of visit of search and the destruction of merchant vessels recognized by international law, such vessels both within and without the area declared a naval war zone, shall not be sunk without warning and without saving human lives, unless the ship attempt to escape or offer resistance."

"But neutrals cannot expect that Germany, forced to fight for existence, shall for the sake of neutral interests, restrict the use of an effective weapon if the enemy is permitted to continue to apply at will methods of warfare violating the rules of international law."

### Claims That Laws of Humanity Are Not

#### Being Followed by Other Belligerents

The note further says: "The German government, confident that in consequence of the new orders issued to the naval forces, the government of the United States will now consider all impediments removed which may have been in the way of mutual co-operation toward the restoration of the freedom of the seas during the war, as suggested in the note of July 23, 1915, and it does not doubt that the government of the United States will now demand and insist that the British government shall forthwith observe the rules of international law universally recognized before the war, as laid down in the notes presented by the government of the United States to the British government on Dec. 18, 1914, and Nov. 5, 1915."

"Should steps taken by the government of the United States not attain the object it desires, to have the laws of humanity followed by all belligerent nations, the German government would then be facing a new situation in which it must reserve to itself complete liberty of decision."

### NAVAL FIGHT IN THE ADRIATIC.

BERLIN, May 5. (by wireless to Sayville).—A battle in the Adriatic between Italian and Austrian warships and aircraft is reported in a statement received here today from the Austro-Hungarian Admiralty. The statement also says Austro-Hungarian airships have raided the Italian city of Ravenna.

## Destruction of Zeppelin at Saloniki

London, May 5.—A Zeppelin raided Saloniki during the early part of this morning, according to a Reuter despatch from that city.

The airship was subjected to a heavy

fire and is reported to have been destroyed. A later Reuter despatch from Saloniki says that the report of the destruction of the Zeppelin has been confirmed. Only one of the crew of 30 on the airship escaped.

T. Gordon Boyne of St. John, is at the Queen.  
W. J. Mowat of Chatham, is at the Queen.

## MORE IRISH REBEL LEADERS HAVE BEEN PUT TO DEATH

London, May 5.—The execution of Patrick H. Pearse, Thomas McDonagh and Thomas J. Clark, leaders of the rebellion, took place in Dublin Castle, according to despatches from Belfast.

James Connolly, who was wounded, cannot yet be placed on trial.

The other three signatories to the proclamation of the Irish republic, Sean McDermid, Eamonn Ceannt and Joseph Plunkett, fell during the fighting.

### Casement's Trial.

London, May 5.—Sir Roger Casement's trial will take place in London within a fortnight, before three or five judges and a jury. Baron Reading, the Lord Chief Justice of England, probably will preside. The Attorney General conducts the prosecution.

Sir Roger has asked Sir Edward Carson to defend him, but it is unlikely that Carson will accept.

According to good authority, Casement, who for some time after his capture was threatened with a serious nervous breakdown, has now completely recovered his health.

### More Rebels Shot.

Dublin, May 4 (via London, May 5).—The following communication was issued this afternoon (Thursday):

Four prisoners, Joseph Plunkett, Edward Daly, Michael O'Hanrahan and William Pearse, were sentenced to death and shot this morning after the sentences had been confirmed by the general commanding.

Fifteen others sentenced to death were later sentenced to ten years penal servitude: Thomas Bevan, Thomas Walsh, Finian Lynch, Michael Mervyn, Dennis O'Callaghan, P. E. Sweeney, Patrick McNestry, Peter Clancy, Wm. Tobin, George Irvine, John Doherty, J. J. Walsh, James McLinn, J. J. Reid and John Williams.

Another prisoner, John McGarry, was commuted from death to 8 years.

Two others, Francis Fahey and Richard Davis, were sentenced to ten years.

### Would Disarm Every Man.

London, May 5.—The Nationalists, according to the Daily Mail, will press the government at any early date to disarm every man in Ireland. The paper says that the Nationalists are quite willing that they should be disarmed, provided that the government does likewise with the Ulster volunteers.

"The demand," says the Daily Mail, "is likely to raise a difficult issue in Irish politics."

## Zeppelin Raider Was Blown Up

Copenhagen, May 5 (via London).—The military authorities at Stavanger, Norway, blew up the Zeppelin L-20 yesterday, when it began to roll dangerously in a strong wind. Soldiers fired upon the airship from a distance of sixty yards. The Zeppelin exploded with a great detonation and was burned. The L-20 was one of the squadron of Zeppelins which raided the east coasts of England and Scotland Tuesday night. On her return journey she was blown ashore on the Norwegian coast, hurled against a mountain side and wrecked.

### WOUNDED IN FRANCE.

Major E. T. McKay, who was in Fredericton with the 23rd Battery, has been wounded in France, where he commanded the 22nd Howitzer Battery.

## Many Colonels Held Prisoners

London, May 5.—Figures on the number of British colonial troops now prisoners in the hands of various belligerents, became available today.

According to these figures they total 37,047, the Germans holding 26,800 of such prisoners, the Turks 9,796, the Bulgarians 449 and the Austrians only two.

## WAS BURNED BY GERMAN CRUISER

London, May 5.—The Norwegian schooner Mars, while bound for England with pit-props, was stopped and burned by a German cruiser, says a despatch from Copenhagen to the Exchange Telegraph Co. The crew was saved.

## COL. CANTLEY ON THE STAND

Ottawa, May 5.—Honorary Colonel Thos. Cantley, President of the Nova Scotia Steel Co., was the witness in the box at this morning's sitting of the royal commission investigating the fuse contracts.

Col. Cantley was a member of the original Shell Committee. He threw little or no light on the fuse contracts. The negotiations for the contracts were largely conducted in his absence.

The examination turned largely on the formation of the Shell Committee and what the members of that body regarded as their legal and moral rights.

Col. Cantley maintained that as they had entered into a contract with the War Office, a contract which he held still exists, they were legally bound to carry it out, and legally entitled to the profits.

Col. Cantley admitted that his firm, the Nova Scotia Steel Co., made the larger part of the steel forgings in the initial contracts for 200,000 shells. He was asked as to whether his Company had got, as alleged in the House of Commons, fifteen million dollars worth of contracts.

"I really don't know," was the answer.

"Was it a large sum?"

"Yes."

## QUIET IN DUBLIN

Dublin, May 5.—Only one shot has been heard in Dublin since late last night. The military authorities continue to destroy large quantities of arms and ammunition.

## RUSSIAN ARMY GROUPS IN ASIA MINOR ARE DOING GOOD WORK

### Three Objectives Will be Reached in the Near Future---Wonderful Co-operation Displayed---Heavy Fighting Reported on the Italian Front.

PETROGRAD (via London), May 5.—Since the fall of Trebizond, the three Russian army groups in Asia Minor have been making steady progress toward Beiburt, Erzingan and Diarbekr, and it seems highly likely that these three objectives of the Caucasus armies will be reached in the near future.

A majority of the Turkish forces and reinforcements are concentrated against the armies of the Russian centre, prepared to defend Erzingan, and the next important engagement probably will be fought in this neighborhood.

A remarkable feature of the Russian operations in this theatre has been the close co-operation and the even character of the advance achieved by separate army groups from the Black Sea coast to Bitlis. Although separated by high mountain ranges, and embarrassed by all sorts of topographical difficulties, the Russians have succeeded in conducting their movements in perfect unison, defeating all Turkish designs to flank and cut off the sea coast forces from those operating elsewhere.

### TURKISH PLANS FOR THE RECOVERY OF LOST TERRITORY IN ARMENIA COLLAPSE

The daring Turkish plans for the resumption of the offensive and the recapture of lost territory in Armenia now appear to have collapsed, and the Turkish campaign seemingly has become purely a defensive one only. The sole aim of the Turks at present apparently is to defend the three strongly fortified ports of Beiburt, Erzingan and Diarbekr against a further Russian advance. The local Turkish offensives in the Urumiah region, as reported officially, is regarded as an isolated manoeuvre and without important relation to the main situation.

The German activity on the Dvinsk front, which is particularly intense in the lake region south of Dvinsk, continues without material change in the situation.

### ITALIAN OFFICIAL REPORT TELLS OF SEVERE FIGHTING AND HEAVY LOSSES FOR ENEMY

ROME, May 4 (via London, May 5).—The following official communication was issued today: "In the Tonale zone, after an intense artillery fire, the enemy made three successive attacks in force against our Castellazzo position. Each time he was repulsed with heavy losses, and left in our hands thirty prisoners. On the Adamello sector columns of the enemy attacked Crozzon di Fargarida, on the north and Crozzon di Laroa and Caution Pass, on the east. One column was permitted to approach within a hundred metres, when it was overwhelmed by artillery, machine gun and rifle fire. The enemy retreated in disorder, with huge losses."

"Between the Adige and Brenta there has been the usual artillery activity. Our artillery bombarded the Callino station and the Fordoss Belsonne, making numerous hits. On the Col Di Lana another ineffectual enemy attack on our positions northwest of the summit was delivered. In the middle Isonzo region our artillery shelled Tolmino, aiming at the enemy supply depots in this zone."

### GREAT AERIAL ACTIVITY REPORTED IN THE ENTIRE THEATRE OF OPERATIONS

"There has been great aerial activity in the entire theatre of operations. The enemy dropped bombs in the Valcomonica, the valley of Anzici, the plateau of the lower Isonzo, and the towns of Ravenna and Gervia. A few persons were wounded. The damage was slight."

"Two of our dirigibles bombarded at night trenches and batteries in the camps of the enemy in the vicinity of Rubbia, Moira and Berglia, in the Vipacco and the aredrome at Assevizzo, east of Gorizia. They threw on their objectives explosives weighing two tons with visibly effective results."

"While returning one airship was lost under conditions as yet unknown, falling into the enemy's territory near Gorizia. The others returned unharmed."

### ALLIES OCCUPY FLORINA.

ATHENS, May 5.—It is officially announced that the Allies have occupied Florina. Florina is a town in northwestern Greece near the Serbian frontier and about fifteen miles south of Monastir.

### DIRIGIBLE DESTROYED.

LONDON, May 5.—A Zeppelin dirigible balloon was destroyed yesterday by one of the British light cruiser squadrons off the Schleswig coast, says an official announcement issued by the Government today.