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# The Daily Mail

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\* The Weather. \*  
\* Maritime: Strong northwest \*  
\* winds, local snow falls or flur- \*  
\* ries, but mostly fair and very \*  
\* cold. \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1917

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## DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH GERMANY HAVE BEEN SEVERED

### President Wilson Takes Drastic Action at Last

**Von Bernstorff Handed His Passports and Ambassador Gerard is Recalled---The President to Explain His Action to a Joint Meeting of Congress.**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—Diplomatic relations with Germany have been broken. Count Von Bernstorff has been handed his passports, and Ambassador Gerard has been ordered from Berlin.

Notice of the break is outlined in detail in the address President Wilson will deliver to a joint session of Congress at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

In spite of the fact that this became known definitely officially, the White House and State Department would not discuss the situation in any form. The President completed his message to Congress early this morning and arrangements for his appearance were immediately made.

Whether the break with Germany would be accompanied by a similar break with Austria-Hungary could not be learned definitely. Inasmuch as Austria is understood to have endorsed the action of Germany, however, this action is expected to follow if it is not already taken.

The State Department notified Ambassador Gerard to ask for his passports.

The decision to break was reached after the President's conferences with the cabinet and members of the Senate yesterday. The President by these conferences came to the conclusion that the country would stand solidly behind him in breaking off diplomatic relations with Germany.

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

#### Members of the Cabinet and Senators

##### Had Taken President's Decision for Granted

The President's address to Congress, while guarded closely, reviews the negotiations with Germany, climaxed by the note giving warning that the Berlin government had removed restrictions on submarine warfare.

The decision to break was taken for granted by many Senators with whom he talked late yesterday and by members of his cabinet. Although he did not give his decision in those conferences, his outline of the situation gave such a serious picture that it was generally believed that he had come to the conclusion that he could follow no course but break relations with Germany.

Mr. Wilson remained in his study in the White House all morning, and saw no callers. It was learned he began the preparation of his address to Congress shortly after his return from the Capitol last night.

While the steps leading up to the break were being taken, apparent calm prevailed at White House and State Department.

#### Diplomatic Break With Germany was

##### Necessary to Maintain Nation's Honor

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—A break with Germany on account of the submarine menace was regarded as inevitable in all quarters here today. The only question yet to be determined apparently was when it should be precipitated, and by what form. Action before Monday was in President Wilson's mind, according to one of the fifteen Senators who conferred with the president at the Capitol nearly two hours last night.

Most Senators were declared to feel that a diplomatic break was the least the United States could do to maintain its honor, and that Count Von Bernstorff, German ambassador, should be given his passports today.

A few, notably Senator Stone and Senator Leads, counselled against assuming that Germany's notice in itself meant invasion of neutral rights, and urged that the diplomatic relations be continued until some overt act of a submarine compelled a severance. A third course, suggested by the President, but looked on with disfavor by a great majority of Senators, was to send another warning to Germany.

#### BREAK IN COTTON MARKET.

New York, Feb. 3.—May contracts broke 30 points in the cotton market from the opening prices of 14.30, on receipt of news that diplomatic relations with Germany had been severed. They soon afterwards rallied 12 points.

### DEMANDED RELEASE OF AMERICANS

Washington, Feb. 3.—The United States has formally demanded of Germany the immediate release of the Americans who were taken prisoners on prize ships by the raiders in the South Atlantic.

### Opposition Forces Getting in Shape

The Opposition forces in York are getting ready for the fray, and promise to make the coming election one of the liveliest in the history of the county.

Mr. Geo. F. Burden, county convenor, is here today making arrangements for a convention which will be held at an early date. A splendid suite of rooms in the Spahn building, Queen street, formerly occupied as law offices by Crockett & Guthrie, have been secured for committee rooms and will be opened early next week.

### Steamer St. Louis Did Not Sail

New York, Feb. 3.—The International Mercantile Marine announced today the postponement of the sailing of the American liner St. Louis from noon today until noon Sunday, "on account of a shortage of steam coal."

#### PERSONAL

Mr. J. L. White, of Grand Falls, is registered at the Barker House. Mr. M. G. Teed, of St. John, arrived in the city last night.

### BREAK MEANS NO CHANGE IN COMMERCIAL RELATIONS

**But It is an Act of Protest and May be Followed by A Declaration of War---No Treaties Have Been Terminated.**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—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.

#### Rights of Hyphens.

The rights of Germans in the United States and of Americans in Germany are practically unaffected by the severance of diplomatic relations. No treaties are terminated or suspended but remain in full force and effect unless either government later decides to denounce them, which, under international practice, generally calls for a notice of one year.

#### Consuls to Remain.

German consuls in the United States and American consuls in Germany holding their places by virtue of treaties, continue to perform their usual functions.

The ninety or more German merchant ships tied up in American ports may be used by the United States, but the German owners ultimately must be compensated.

#### Col. Guthrie to Quit.

Lieut. Colonel Guthrie is said to have informed some friends this week that under no consideration would he accept a nomination at the approaching election. He has had enough of politics as carried on in York and will devote his attention to military matters, as he has been doing for some time. It is said that Mr. Pinder has selected Mr. Charles D. Richards, barrister, of this city, as Col. Guthrie's successor on the ticket.

#### The Poultry Show.

The poultry show of the York and Sunbury Poultry and Pet Stock Association will open in the Edgecombe building, King street, on Tuesday evening, with addresses by Mr. J. B. Daggett, Mr. Seth Jones and others. Judging will begin on Tuesday morning. There are a large number of entries and the show promises to be a great success.

Dr. O. E. Morehouse, of Upper Kewick, was in the city today.

### HUNS MADE GHOSTLY ATTACK ON BRITISH TRENCHES NEAR YPRES

**Attempted a New Dodge But It Failed To Work---Were Met With a Storm Of Machine Gun Fire and Sustained Heavy Losses.**

(A. P. Staff Correspondence.)

WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES IN FRANCE, via London, Feb. 3.—The German raiders who made the attacks yesterday morning against the British trenches south of the Ypres salient looked for all the world like the famous Klux Klan, the crusaders of reconstruction days in the Southern States of America. They were clad in white sheets fashioned into a sort of smock, wore white hoods and masks, and sought thus to cross the snow covered No Man's Land without detection.

The raiders came over in two waves, only to be hurled back with heavy losses in killed and wounded.

#### Many Crimson Splashes in the Snow Followed

##### A Fusilade from the British Machine Guns

They swept into a perfect storm of machine gun fire and there were crimson splashes in the snow wherever one of the strange white figures fell.

There was a ghostly appearance to this effect throughout. It was attempted at the misty hour, when the late winter moon light fades into the dawn.

After an all-night vigil in the front line trenches the soldiers never are apt to be jumpy as morning approaches. On this occasion there had been the usual preliminary German bombardment and something was expected, but not the ghostly apparitions which eventually greeted the gaze of the sentries as they peered in the chilly half light into the barren stretch of white separating their trenches from those of the enemy.

#### Ghosts or Germans, the Sentries Took No

##### Chances and Promptly Opened Fire

Regardless of whether they were ghosts or Germans, the sentries knew that the proper thing to do was to shoot, and there came the crackle of rifles all along the line.

One Irish officer stood and let go with his revolver. Then the machine guns chimed in and the first wave of the line was broken when the second came over.

Two Germans managed to plunge into a British trench, but they got out so quickly that they left behind them an unused can of dynamite, many grenades and a rifle. One of the two died in the British wire entanglements as he attempted to retreat.

#### British Tommies Were Restrained With

##### Difficulty From Chasing the "Ghosts"

An officer commanding a portion of a trench under attack reported today that while some of his troops had been under fire for the first time he had difficulty in restraining them from pursuing the retreating "ghosts."

An incident which shows that the humane spirit has not vanished in this war occurred recently when some German prisoners appeared behind the British lines with British gas masks slung across their shoulders. Inquiry developed that the British army authorities have ordered this precaution so that prisoners may have the same protection from gas from their own lines as their captors enjoyed.

### MAY REMOVE GERMAN CREW FROM S. S. APPAN

Newport News, Va., Feb. 3.—A coastguard cutter has gone alongside the German prize ship Appan, and it is thought the German prize crew will be taken off immediately. Two torpedo boat destroyers joined the superdreadnought Arkansas off the Virginian Capes on immediate duty.