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England – America

During the ongoing war it has been pointed out several times how both sides have insulted America. With both sides we mean England and Germany because the other allied countries have basically without exception acted in a way towards the United States that leave us no reason to protest. But England and Germany have gone so much further with contempt for the obligations that current human rights regulations have put upon the neutral countries.

The difference between Germany's and England's aggressions have been that Germany's has caused loss of American lives while England's has been restricted to loss of material values. Other than that, England has probably acted aggressively more often and with more arrogance than Germany. If one can dare to express the characteristics of the countries, one would say that Germany has been more violent, England has been more impudent.

President Wilson has, as earlier has been mentioned, protested to the English government with reference to the aggressions the English has carried out with large losses for American trade. Similar protests have been given by the Scandinavian countries. It is actually based on the special trade connections between American and the Scandinavian countries that the aggressions have been carried out. Consider that America is a neutral country and the Scandinavian countries also are neutral, it would appear that no country involved in the war would interrupt the connection between these countries in any other way than what international law acknowledge as a right for country in war to do to a trade ship from a neutral country.

In his latest protest to England President Wilson mentions that America does not recognize England's right to make up new judicial laws for the war on the sea any more than Germany's right to make new laws. What either of them is in need of – military necessities – is not a reason to forego established rules. The president is using the same argument with both England and Germany.

President Wilson explains in his protest that the American government has nothing to remark against England's blockade of their enemies' harbors, as England's actions seem to be based on that. A ship from America loaded with corn and other items on their way to a Swedish harbor, can be hailed by an English warship legally based on international law. The English ship has the right to make sure that the ship isn't filled with contra-band and destined for an enemy harbor. But, it doesn't give them the right to escort the neutral ship to an English harbor and prevent it from reaching its destination to deliver its goods. It could be, that sometimes they are suspicious that the goods were meant for Germany, but the paperwork on the ship will state that the destination is a Swedish harbor. The suspicion alone, however, doesn't give them the right to confiscate the cargo. Such aggressions from England is common these days.

Because of its superior position at sea England thinks they can do what they want and create whatever rules they need to defeat Germany. Just like Germany has done with its submarines. They are just alike when it comes to putting law and rights to the side. America has the same issues with both, and so have the other Scandinavian countries. It is possible that all the protests in the world from the neutral countries won't lead to a change in the tactics and contempt for international

law that England and Germany show, but the protests will make a difference at the very end when the day of final accounting of the war is here.

Wilson's Third Note

The third note from our government to Germany is now in the hands of Jagow. It is a literary and diplomatic masterpiece and presents in a short and direct way our country's position regarding the submarine warfare. The following words are at the core of the note:

“The rights of neutrals in time of war are based upon principle, not upon expediency, and the principles are immutable. It is the duty and obligations of belligerents to find a way to adapt the new circumstances to them.”

The answer is if not in form, so in reality an ultimatum.

One Swedish and one Norwegian ship destroyed

The Swedish bark ship *Capela* and the Norwegian, *Nordlyset*, both loaded with timber and on their way to England, were blown up in the North Sea last Thursday by a German submarine. All crewmembers were saved.

Italy has signed a permission order for Switzerland to import food. It got monotonous in the long run to eat only cheese, even if it was Swiss cheese.