

July 3, 1918

#### SWEDISH SHIPS EMPLOYED BY OUR COUNTRY

The government of the United States will, as much as it is in its power, to look after the interests of the Swedish ship owners when using the 400,000 tons of the Swedish merchant fleet, which are at the disposal of the American government in accordance with the recently signed agreement between the United States and Sweden. It can be assumed that the relationship between our government and the Swedish ship-owners will be along the same principles as those with the Dutch ships, which now have been taken over by the same, and deserve the same part of the contract between the American government and the Dutch ship-owners, which recently was published by the authorities in Washington for the general public.

The appointed ships will be returned to their owners in the harbor where they were located when they were assigned to disposal for American service, or to some other harbor in accordance with a special agreement, as soon as the current extra ordinary situation has ended and under no circumstances later than when the appointed ships are located at the day the peace treaty is signed. In case any of the appointed ships is lost the American government pledge to pay the owner an amount corresponding to its value according to special basis of calculation, about which information will be share with the owners. These (owners) have the right to instead demand that the American government as soon as possible after the war is over will replace the ship; same size, type, class, value and age. The American government needs to be notified within thirty days from the date when the message about the basis of calculation of the ship was sent to them. In such a case the government of the United States commits to pay 6% interest annually of the value of the ship from the day it was lost. All monetary amounts, which will be paid according to agreements, will be paid in the District of Columbia in American coins (currency), where an exchange rate of \$4.75 per pound sterling will be used.