



EDITORIALS

NEW YORK, MARCH 15, 1916

**AMERICAN CITIZENS KEEP OFF
BELLIGERENT VESSELS.
KEEP YOURSELVES AND YOUR
GOVERNMENT OUT OF
TROUBLE.**

HAIL TO THE IRISH REPUBLIC

IF at the coming peace conference England will contend for the freedom of Belgium, we trust that Germany, backed by the United States, will contend for the freedom and independence of Ireland. Such also was the consensus of opinion at the Irish Race Conference at the Hotel Astor. More than eighteen hundred Irish men and Irish women there declared their unalterable opposition to England and their unalterable opposition to those traitors in high places, who, deserting the sacred traditions of Washington would enmesh the United States in a shameful alliance with the despoiler of Ireland. The members of that committee, including such men as Recorder Goff, Victor Herbert, Judge Cohalan, James K. McGuire, Mgr. Brannan and others of high distinction in church and State, cannot be regarded as pro-German but in the words of Justice Goff, England's extremity is Ireland's opportunity. Germany cannot be looked upon as pro-Irish, but the freedom of the seas can be guaranteed only by the freedom of Ireland. All good Americans, irrespective of descent, but notably those of the Irish and of the German race, should exert whatever pressure they can upon the Government of the United States so that in the peace negotiations Uncle Sam will be the spokesman of Irish Republicanism.

THE PRESIDENT'S "VICTORY"

CONGRESS administered a crushing defeat to the Administration. Senate and House refused to commit themselves on the subject of armed merchantmen, in spite of the President's urgent appeal. The House charitably saved the face of the President by tabling the McLemore resolution. The gesture is graceful. The fact remains: It refused a vote of confidence to the Administration. The President cannot claim that the country indorses his policies.

The fatal tabling of the resolution was opposed by more than one-third of the members of the House. Two Congressmen of the President's own party, Mr. Page, of North Carolina, and Mr. Sherwood, of Ohio, have announced their resignation because they are unwilling to accept the responsibility for the equivocal war policy of Mr. Wilson's semi-British Administration. President Wilson may read what comfort he can into these resignations. Resignation constitutes his only victory in the House. The country knows, and the world knows, that more than two-thirds of the members of the House are in favor of warning Americans from entrusting their lives to armed merchantmen.

The situation in the Senate is not unlike that in the House. The strategy of Senator Gore turned an apparent victory for the war party headed by President Wilson

into a crushing defeat. It takes the Administration organs several columns to prove that the vote in the Senate on the Gore resolution was a "victory" for Mr. Wilson. All that appears on the record is that the Senate overwhelmingly tabled a motion that the death of a foolhardy American citizen traveling on an armed merchantman be regarded as a cause for war. This action on the part of the Senate is unquestionably in accordance with the sentiment of the people. If Mr. Wilson is determined to make war in accordance with some secret treaty or "understanding," he will have to look for another excuse.

We believe there will be a "show down" before many days in both Houses of Congress. We believe Mr. Wilson would rather be President than be right. The country will stand behind the right rather than behind the President.

The British Ambassador looked down with amusement, from the Diplomatic Gallery, while the House gave his servants in this country their chance to shout "victory." Meanwhile, in the Senate, Senator Sutherland, born in Buckinghamshire, England, was attacking Germany. What a howl would arise in the newspapers if the German Ambassador exercised his right to look down on the proceedings in Congress from the Diplomatic Gallery, while a German-born Senator attacked England!

LEAVES FROM A LOST PORTFOLIO

TO show that when it comes to romancing we can do as well as the Providence *Journal*, we published "Leaves from a Lost Portfolio" purporting to be the report of a British diplomatic agent to Sir Edward Grey. Unlike the Providence *Journal* THE FATHERLAND does not resort to forgery. While the romances published by the Providence *Journal* are for the most part fabrications, without a vestige of truth, "Leaves from a Lost Portfolio," under the guise of satire, reveals certain facts on the subject of the British propaganda, unearthed by our investigation, which should be known to the public.

THE MOEWE

EVERY American heart thrilled when the news appeared that the gallant *Moewe* had safely anchored in a "home port." The cruise of this daring German raider marks one of the most brilliant chapters in the history of the war. In the course of a few months she had done enormous damage to the enemy. Fifteen vessels were either sunk or captured by Count Dohna-Schlodien's craft, and on board the *Moewe* when she anchored was a million marks in gold taken from British steamers. The exploits of the German crew of the *Moewe* and their commander has invoked admiration even from their enemies. Like the *Appam*, the *Moewe* has endeared itself at once in the heart of all Americans.

ONE WEAKNESS NEVER MANIFESTED

PRESIDENT WILSON has evidence convincing to himself that he is a genuine neutral. The British, he chortles, find him pro-German. The Germans find him pro-British. But nobody finds him pro-American.