

DETAIN MANCHURIA TO PUT GUNS ON HER

American Line Freighter Is Loaded and Awaits Outcome of Issue at Washington.

OTHER SHIPS INSPECTED

Navy Inspectors Ready to Equip the Philadelphia and Kroonland for Defense.

The 14,000 ton American freighter **Manchuria** finished loading last night for London and has her coal and stores on board, all ready for sea with the exception of the crew of 180 officers and men who will not be signed on until the question of arming American ships with guns has been decided at Washington.

The officials of the International Mercantile Marine Company sent the **Mongolia**, a sister ship of the **Manchuria**, away to London unarmed on Feb. 20 and she should be in the danger zone in the English Channel today. In view of the statements made during the last three days by Germany that the submarine commanders have orders to sink everything in sight, P. A. S. Franklin, President of the company, has decided to keep the **Manchuria** until she gets guns and gunners from the Navy Yard to protect her from attack. The **Manchuria** will be followed in ten days by the American freighter **Minnesota** of nearly 21,000 tons which will also be armed.

Assistant Naval Constructor **Garland Fulton** and his staff of ordnance officers inspected the American liners **Philadelphia** and **Kroonland** yesterday in the Erie Basin to see what would be required to equip them as auxiliary cruisers for coast patrol or as armed merchant vessels for the New York-Liverpool trade. The mountings on the **Philadelphia** used in the Spanish-American war were found to be in good condition and measurements were taken on the **Kroonland** for the platforms where the guns are to be mounted.

It is understood that the Assistant Naval Constructor and the ordnance officers will inspect the American liner **Finland** today at her pier at the foot of West Nineteenth Street, and then go to the American freighter **Manchuria**, lying at the Atlantic Transport pier, and measure her for guns.

The American freighter **Silver Shell**, commanded by Captain **John Charlton**, and with twelve Americans in her crew, sailed yesterday for Marseilles with a cargo of case oil, having previously run the gauntlet of the submarines from Cote, in the Mediterranean, to New York. Other neutral steamships sailing yesterday for Europe were the Spanish freighter **Mar del Norte**, the Norwegian steamships **Anna Fostenes**, for Rotterdam, and **Camilla**, for the same port,

carrying food supplies for the Belgian refugees.

The British freighters **Clty of Manila** for Hull, and **Manchester Mariner** for Manchester, also sailed. The French freighter **Venezia** sailed for La Pallice, and the British freighter **Wellington** for the same port.

The American freighter **Jonancy** arrived from Genoa via Philadelphia.

The British freighters **Tascalusa** from Liverpool and **Orpheus** from Gibraltar also arrived yesterday and the Dutch freighter **Algenib** from Rotterdam.

The Cunarder **Orduna**, with passengers and mails for Liverpool, and the French liner **Chicago**, with passengers and mails for Bordeaux, will be in the danger zone on the other side today.

The White Star liner **Baltic**, with passengers and mails from Liverpool, is expected to reach New York on Tuesday, and the Cunarder **Carmania** from the same port is due on Wednesday or Thursday.

CALLS ZIMMERMANN A FOOL.

But That's No Reason, Says Cincinnati Volksblatt, for Us to be Fools.

By Telegraph to the Editor of THE NEW YORK TIMES.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, March 3.—The German Secretary of Foreign Affairs is a fool, to speak plain Anglo-Saxon. He might just as well have offered an alliance to the moon as to Mexico. His silliness, however, does not compel us to act in a foolish way. We know that Mexico cannot hurt us, and that Japan will not join Germany. Hence there is no cause of war until Germany invades our shores. As far as her blockade of the North Sea is concerned, it is no worse than the blockade of our coast by England—not even as bad.

CINCINNATI VOLKSBLATT.

By Telegraph to the Editor of THE NEW YORK TIMES.

CLEVELAND, March 3.—The President broke off the relations with the German Empire when it gave notice of its return to unrestricted submarine warfare. He thereby certainly took a menacing attitude, after we had been in the preceding times repeatedly at the brink of war, for which powerful interests of the United States incessantly worked. To impress upon Germany fear of the danger of war had been one of the aims of our diplomacy. At the same time that we brought that menace one step nearer to realization, the President called upon all neutral nations to join him against Germany for an aggressive purpose; i. e., for that of injecting all the neutrals into this war; and America said it was wise and proper.

Instructions from the German Foreign Office have—as now admitted—brought orders to the German Minister in Mexico to seek an alliance with Mexico, in case the United States should decide to become aggressive, give up her neutrality, and join Germany's enemies. An alliance, to help her defensive. And America says it is a "plot," "a foul intrigue," "a crime."

But why is it virtuous for us to do a certain thing, and criminal and diabolical if our opponent does it?

Some will say now that, since Dr. Zimmermann apparently has admitted this step, we must go to war because of it. We ought to be able to place ourselves in the other fellow's situation. We would then be able to see straight. And we would not be in hysterics as often as we are now.

WAECHTER UND ANZEIGER.