For the revised and enlarged edition  
"of The War and Humanity," which  
P. Putnam's Sons will publish about  
the middle of February, the author,  
James W. Beck, has been working  
on his introduction and has brought his  
discussion of the moral issues of the war down  
recently to the basis of diplomatic  
relations between the United States  
and Germany.

In the first edition of this book, which  
appeared in May, 1916, the author, in discussing the  
questions of preparedness and the submarine  
crises, criticized the Administration's  
Policy of President Wilson. In his introduction  
the new edition the author has  
modified the views therein expressed  
and, by the courtesy of P. Putnam's  
Sons, the Times publishes Mr. Beck's  
comments upon the present relations  
between the two countries, similarly  
to a advance of the publication of  
the revised edition.

R. ALFRED ZIMMERMANN,  
von Jagow's successor as the  
Imperial Secretary for  
Foreign Affairs, has  
xpressed his "attitude" at  
the prompt and  
summary action of President Wilson  
in severing diplomatic relations with  
Germany. Mr. Zimmermann has an  
extraordinary faculty for "astonishment," and,  
while the incident has been less  
severe than the crisis of  
excommunication, he then expressed his  
astonishment at the  
announcement that the world should show  
no more concern about the execution of  
one woman.

We suspect that Dr. Zimmermann's astonishment has also the character of disappointment and that Germany did not expect the prompt action which  
President Wilson so wisely and courage-  
ously took. This was not altogether  
disappointing, for, as a result of Presi-  
dent Wilson's well meant but, as the event  
proved, misguided attempts at interven-  
tion, Germany had, for the moment  
until she issued her sacrificial  
call to civilization by her note of Jan. 31,  
a clear aim to avoid the humiliation  
of diplomacy which is a reflex of  
belligerent diplomatic negotiations. The mood of  
the Entente Powers was temporarily  
impaired by the attempt of the United  
States to bring about premature nego-  
tiations.

At this point Germany made another of  
its stupendous diplomatic blunders.  
Just as the invasion of Belgium was  
launched for the sake of  
peace, so has the invitation of  
Germany to America to become  
her loyal ally been made for the sake of  
peace, and that is the reason why the  
action is based on the condition that  
"American ships and American lives  
should in fact be sacrificed," and those  
who may feel that it is not entirely  
worthwhile to ask that the  
Government of America's action was thus  
basically excused within the rights of its  
own citizens and not upon the broader  
and more vital rights of non-belligerent.