Nor Are Washington Officials Surprised at the Admission.

COUNTER-CHARGE IS MADE

That Pan-American Union Against Germany Was Attempted by This Country.

Washington, March 3.—German Foreign Minister Zimmermann's frank admission that Germany did seek to ally Japan and Mexico with her to war against the United States caused no surprise to American officials, al-though it may be said they did not expect so full and free an acknowl-

edgment of the exposure.
Some officials had thought there might be an attempt to discredit the authenticity of the revelations by of-fering an explanation of a different

American officials never have had the least doubt of the authenticity of the evidence in their hands. Minister Zimmermann's defense of

Germany's intrigue on the ground that it only was intended to be carried out in the event the United States did not remain neutral is not taken to change the situation in the slightest

Whether it was presented to the Carranza Government or not, and the fact that it is believed not to have been communicated to Japan do not, in the opinion of American officials, established fact that Ger many, while seeking the offices of the United States to make peace, and while protesting her innocence of any intention to violate American lives, was at the same moment preparing unrestricted submarine warfare and was intriguing to attack the United States with two Allies.

Mr. Zimmermann's references to an alleged "plot" by the United States to unite Pan-America against Ger-many, are regarded with mingled feelings of incomprehension and

The Pan-Anterican Union, the Argentine Embassy and the State De-partment can find record of no such newspaper publication as Zimmernewspaper publication as Zimmer-mann contends revealed the "plot" in

The only event which officials can recall which is susceptible of being distorted into such a charge as Zimmermann makes was discussion early in Secretary of State Bryan's term of office of a plan to surround the Pan-Americas with a neutral zone in which there were to be no naval operations. Nothing ever came of it.

Zimmermann's statement was read today in the Senate and some Senators were at first inclined to think his published instructions to von Eckhardt, German Minister in Mexico City, was a forgery, had the statement read twice.

At the Afgentine Embassy here it was said nothing was known of Foreign Secretary Zimmermann's charge and officials there described it as

Officials of the Embassy had no knowledge of the so-called news article said by the German Foreign paper received here were said to connothing on the subject.

They further declared the Buenos Aires newspaper certainly could not reveal a "plot" when, they are certain by reason of their intimate knowledge and their Government, no such "plot"

ZIMMERMANN ADMITS ALLIANCE WAS PROPOSED

Berlin, March 3-Via Sayville-The following was given out today by the Overseas News Agency, (the official German news bureau):

"Foreign Secretary Zimmerman was asked by a staff member of the Overseas News Agency about the English report that a German plot had been revealed to get Mexico to declare war against the United States and to secure Japan's aid against the United States. Secretary Zimmerman an-

"You understand that it is impossible for me to discuss the facts of this 'revealed plot' just at this moment and under these circumstances. states that Germany expected such a 'plot' is inspired by unfriendnothing but that we would use means universally admitted in war, in case the United States declared war,

The most important part of the al-The whole 'plot' falls flat to

last year suggested to other Ameri-Germany and her Allies. This 'plot' apparently was not conditional in the least. The news as published by La Prensa (Buenos Aires) agrees well with the interpretation given, for instance, by an American newspaperman, Edward Price, in Berlin, and London, who said that the United States was waiting only for the prop-er moment in order opportunely to as-

"The same American stated | that Americans from the beginning of the war really participated in it by putting the immense reson United States at the Entente's disposhl, and that Americans had not de-

IMPORTANT MEETING OF NAVAL CONSULTING BOARD New York, March 3.—A meeting of the Naval Consulting Board, attended by officers of the United States Navy, including Rear Admiral W. S. Sims, president of the Naval War College, was held today to discuss "invocations restricted."

to discuss "important questions pertinent to the conditions now facing the United States."

The meeting was arranged by a The meeting was arranged by a committee of the consulting board, and about 40 attended, representing not only the Navy, but the leading educational, manufacturing, industrial and scientific organizations of the United States.

An authorized statement as to transpired at the meetin said its purpose was to obtain in-formation essential if the country were involved in war or in any other National emergency.

Also Puts Through Resolution for Navy Bond Issue.

Would Postpone 'Bone Dry Date Until July 1-Recess Taken Until 10 A. M. Sunday.

BULLETIN.

Washington, March 4.-The Naval appropriation bill was sent to the President shortly after 1 o'clock this morning, when final congressional action was taken, the Senate agreeing to the conference report, previously accepted by the House.

Washington, March 4.-The Sixtyfourth Congress was approaching its close early today, with failure of some of the major Administration measures certain and the fate of others hanging

Held up by the determined opposition of a small group of Senators who threatened to prolong debate until the end of the session struck at noon, the President's armed neutrality bill was giving the leaders most concern.

The naval bill, with its provisions for continuing the big building program, was one of the measures that been caught in the legislative jam, but it was saved when the Sen ate shortly after 1 o'clock interrupted debate on the neutrality bill long enough to approve a conference re-port already accepted by the house. There was no prospects that the Senate would interrupt its session un-

til expiration at noon. By a vote of 284 to 86, the House adopted a joint resolution designed to postpone until July 1 enforcement of Minister to have been published re- the "bone dry" amendment to the cently in La Prensa. Copies of the postoffice bill, which became effective when the President signed the bill today. Supporters of the resolution entertain a faint hope that it can be rushed through the Senate before ad-

ournment. Some members of Congress, includof relations between the United States ing Representative Randall, of California, the prohibitionist, contended that the resolution would not legally extend the effective date because the bill, including the Reed amendment, already had been signed by the President, and its provisions could changed only by passage of a law

> Others said if it passed the Senate the resolution could be signed by the President on the legislative day of March 3, the same date of his signature of the bill, and would stand in ourt as a part of the bill itself.

At midnight, house Democratic and Republican leaders reached an agreemen to recess until 10 o'clock Sunday morning as soon as the conference report on the naval bill is disposed of. It was believed this would be finished in another hour.

Without a roll call the house later agreed to the conference report on the naval bill itself. Only Senate approval and the President's signature now are needed to complete enactment of the measure, but it was uncertain when the Senate would act. The separate resolution for a bond issue of \$150,000,000 to provide for hastening construction of naval ves sels was passed by the House towithout opposition.

until 10 a. m. AMERICAN OFFICER KILLED IN EUROPE

The House recessed at 12:52 a. m.

Rome, via Paris, March 3 .- Maj. Elvin R. Heiberg, American military attache here, was killed in a fall from his horse while visiting the Austro-Italian front. Major Heiberg was on an excursion with a platoon of Italian cavalry, when his horse became frightened. He was thrown, his head struck a rock, and died shortly afterwards. The body is being brought to whence it will be sent to the

Growing Charlotte Must Have More and Better School Facilities.

ALMOST HALF-MILLION TONS OF SHIPPING WAS SUNK BY SUBMARINES

Germans Hardly Made Half Their Goal for February - British Make Further Gains in France.

British troops continue to maintain their daily progress against the German lines on the Ancre front in France. On Saturday, Field Marshal Haig's forces, London records, made an average advance of a quarter mile on a front of nearly five miles in the face of stubborn German resistance.

The latest gain was made east of Pulsieux Au Mont and north of Gommecourt, which would bring it VICE PRESIDENT TO DO SAME law, by the plain indication of my constitutional duties and powers." He paume line, where it has been re-ported the Germans were expected to make a stand

Berlin says there have been violent infantry encounters on both banks of the Ancre, and it is ap-parent Crown Prince Rupprecht is offering greater resistance to the British attempts to advance than he has done recently.

Near Sailly-Saillisel, several miles

south of the scene of the British advance, and northeast of Gueudecourt, the Germans are said to have at noon, privately and without cereattacked the British lines. Repulsed at Gueudecourt, the Germans, by a bombing attack, gained ground east of Sailly-Saillisel. The lost ground is eported to have been regained in its entirety by the British. On the reof the western front, raids and artillery engagements have oc-

Hamadan, in Persia, 240 miles northeast of Bagdad, the goal of the present British advance in Mesopo-tamia, has been captured by the Rusaccording to a Teheran despatch. The occupation of Hamadan may presage another attempt by the Russians to advance into Mesopotamia from the east to aid the British

forces there.
In a raid on Russian lines west of Volhynia, which were penetrated nearly a mile, Berlin says the Jermans destroyed the Russian works and took 122 prisoners.

There has been no great activity elsewhere on the western front, and heavy snows are reported in Ruma-Raids and artillery actions are reported from the Macedonian and ustro-Italian fronts.

Except for the announcement in London that the Greek steamer Proconnissos, of 2,769 tons, has been sunk by a submarine, no reports of losses from German submarine activities have been issued from the Entente The French admiralty announces that it will not issue a daily list of submarine losses, but will give out a weekly summary. Figures youched for in London show that German submarines destroyed 490,-000 tons of merchant shipping in Feb-ruary. This figure is less than half the 1,000,000 tons which Berlin has claimed would result from unrestricted submarine warfare.

POSSIBLE EXTENSION OF WAR TO THE PACIFIC

Forecast by Inquiry Made at State Department by Chinese Official.

Washington, March 3.-Possible exension of naval warfare to the Pacific was forecast again today in an inquiry by a Chinese Legation offi-cial at the State Department as to what this country had done on the armed ship problem. It was stated that the issue shortly will confront China, and that experi-

of this country in meeting it would be of value. Some time ago, the Japanese Em-bassy here asked the State Department as to the passage through the Panama Canal by armed ships, un-der the understanding that Japan intended to take precautionary meas-ures against the submarine peril. Later reports from Japan stated

that Japanese vessels using the canal for entrance into the Atlantic would be defensively armed. Whether Japan intends to arm her whole merchant marine, or whether

China's inquiry was necessitated be-cause Japanese boats armed to enter the Atlantic also touched at Chinese ports at the other end, is unknown. There has been deep agitation in Japan, not only because of the sinking by submarines of Japanese ves-

sels in the Mediterranean, but also because of the fear on armed raiders entering the Pacific. ort time ago, The Nichi Nichi, a leading Japanese paper, reported that such a raider had sunk two British vessels in the South Indian ocean

Insurance rates at once went up and

means of protection were hastened.

TO GET OFFICERS FOR RESERVE CORPS

Department Announces Plans for Competitive Exami-

Washington, March 3 .- Plans to recruit at least 50 members in the Reserve Officers' Corps with rank of lieutenant or captain in each gressional district were announced to-

day by the War Department. "An examination is necessary," says a Department statement, "but inasmuch as personality and probable efficiency are given great weight by the regular Army officers who conduct the examination, there reason why eligible men should hesitate to apply for commissions on account of being rusty or even deficient on technical military matters."

STUDENT AT VIRGINIA IS PLACED IN ARREST

Charlottesville, Va., March 3.—S. Dabney Crenshaw, IV., son of S. Dab-ney Crenshaw, secretary of the Vir-ginia-Carolina Chemical Company, of Richmond, was arrested here today charged with grand larceny and maliciously burning the chemical laboratory of the University of Virginia. He was released under \$10,000 bond furnished by his father. It is charged that young Crenshaw,

a fourth-year student at the University, sold about \$2,000 worth of platinum from the laboratory and that he started the fire which destroyed the laboratory to cover up the theft. A portion of the platinum, it is alleged, was found in Crenshaw's room in a fraternity house. The laboratory was burned January 26

Ceremony Will Be Private, in Office at the Capitol.

National Capital a Riot of Patriotic Colors for Monday's Gala Events.

Washington, March 3 .- President Wilson will take the oath which makes him President of the United States for another term, tomorrow, probably where he expects to be signing bills during the closing hours of Congress. He will take the oath upon the same Bible he used when sworn in as Governor of New Jersey and later when he took his first oath as President. It is a family heirloom.

Monday, the President will take another oath at the open air inaugural ceremonies at the Capitol, just before he delivers his inaugural address. There was ample precedent in law for the President to take no oath at all until Monday, but he elected to take it tomorrow.

Vice President Marshall probably will do the same thing, and repeat h part of the ceremony in the Senate chamber Monday.

The inclement weather prevailing nearly all the week has not dampened the inaugural enthusiasm any, because the Weather Bureau has made a prediction that while it may be unsettled Sunday, it probably will be fair and colder Monday.

Inaugural crowds which raved the capricious weather of March will consider themselves lucky to find anything but rain or snow. Everything is in readiness for the eremonies which promise to be a great demonstration of Americanism. Coming at a time when the country faced with foreign complications of the gravest sort, the note of pa-triotism dominates all else.

The American flag and the red, white and blue comprise the whole scheme of decorations. Tonight hundreds of "Old Glories" are ripping and fluttering in the white beams of floodlights and the dome of the Capital Cap itol down at the foot of Pennsylvania avenue looms up over Peace monument brighter and sharper than it stands on a sapphire day.

A great fighre of light shoots through the darkness and points at the tip of the Washington monument, making it look as if it were the top part of the shaft suspended 500 feet in the

Before the White House, the "court of honor" in which President Wilson will review the inaugural procession is a flood of light. The "courts of State," constructed along Pennsylva-nia avenue are illuminated in a similar way, and the broad avenue is looped, trimmed and decked with hundreds of strands of glimmering Hopes Tennessee Senate Will Relamps.

Thousands are pouring into the city. Troops, bronzed and hardened from months of service on the Mexican border are here to line the avenue Monday as the President passes by, the first time since the first inauguration of Lincoln that soldiers have been present in that way.

Hundreds of young military are about in their attractive uniforms; other visitors have crammed tels and all available places.

President Wilson has asked that his inauguration be a simple one, and aside from the great manifestations of patriotism which are seen on every hand, it will be a simple affair, lackng pomp.

Governors of States are arriving tonight in gold laden uniforms, Democratic clubs, Boy Scouts, suffragists, civic organizations and the world and his wife, were coming in as the advance guard of the great crowd which will begin to pack the city Sunday and early Monday.

The President himself has given little attention to the preparations for his inaugural. Late today he took a short walk with Mrs. Wilson and in-spected the "court of honor."

A large group of relatives and friends, including Col. E. M. House, are guests at the White House. Members of the Cabinet were notified late today to be at the Capitol thortly before noon tomorrow to advise the President on bills passed in the last hours of Congress, and they will be present when he takes the oath of office.

the solemnity and dignity of its place in American institutions, promises to killed. be a great spectacle.

JO-JO SAYS

The inauguration, quite aside from



itain and coiger; colder and probab-

WILSON MAY DECIDE TO ARM VESSELS ON OWN RESPONSIBILITY

s Expected to Take Opportunity to Further Discuss Situation in Inaugural Address Monday. Washington, March 3.-Whether President Wilson will undertake to

arm merchantmen if Congress fails to pass the armed neutrality bill granting him specific authority was a subject of speculation in the Capital to-The President declared in his address seeking congressional action that "no doubt I already possess that

added that he preferred in the present circumstances not to act upon general "implications." The Navy having already made preparations for arming merchant-men, it was the opinion of some Administration officials that the President might decide to carry out that policy even if Congress does not act.

He has given no indication of his intention. The impression grew that the President would take the opportunity to discuss the situation in his inaugural mony in his office in the Capitol, address Monday. Although he has written it, it has not been sent to the public printer, and last minute changes may be made. Mr. Wilson remained up until near-

> touch with the Senate situation BRIEFS FILED BY STEEL CORPORATION

ly midnight tonight and kept in close

Presenting Defense to Dissolution Suit Brought by the Government.

Washington, March 3.-In briefs led today with the Supreme Court, the United States Steel Corporation, directors and subsidiaries presented their defense to the Federal Government's dissolution suit.

The corporation, the defendants assert, was not formed with intention to monopolize or restrain trade, has not done so, has actually had a bene-ficial and not harmful effect upon the iron and steel industry, is a "good" combination, and has neither power nor has it shown disposition to control production prices or crush competitors.

With admitted control of 40,9 per cent of domestic consumption, the briefs assert, "this falls far short of controlling the supply—and obviously cannot control the price."

straint of trade, not necessarily re- against the German submarine block- quences would not be traint of "competition."

Relying upon the "rule of reason" application made by the Supreme Court, the defendants ask dismissal of the Federal prosecution.

That President Roosevelt was not deceived in the corporation's acquisition of the Tennessee Coal and Iron properties in 1907 and that they were bought to prevent a worse panic is insisted in the briefs.

PRESIDENT SAYS WORD FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE

consider Vote on Votes-for-Women Measure.

Washington, March 3.-President Wilson telegraphed the president of the Tennessee Senate today expressin an earnest hope that the vote by which that body killed a woman suffrage bill a few days ago would be recon-

The measure already had passed the lower house of the Legislature, and the President said he felt the upper house was shirking a moral responsibility when it refused to accept it.

The telegram follows:
"Hon. W. R. Crabtree, president of the Tennessee Senate: "May I not express my earnest hope that the Senate of Tennessee will reconsider the vote by which it rejected the legislation extending the suffrage to women? Our party is so distinctly

to me the moral obligation is complete. "WOODROW WILSON," **EVIDENCE IN LACONIA** CASE IS ALL IN HAND

pledged to its passage that it seems

Shows That Twenty-Five Ameri-

Washington, March 3 .- All the evidence on the destruction of the optimistic Administration leaders al-Laconia now compiled at the State most impossible. Department shows that 25 Americans were put in jeopardy of their lives by the German submarine. Three were

Norwegian steamer Nyland, which bore one American, show the ship was warned, and that all had opportunity to escape.

ANNOUNCEMENT AS TO MAIL ON THE LACONIA

Washington, March 3 .- Mail lost

when the Cunard liner Laconia was sunk, the Postoffice Department nounced today, included that addressed to European countries, except Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, Turkey and Russia, received at New York from noon February 14 to noon February 17, as well as that for South America, West Australia and India. Mail for Holland received at New York from January 19 to February 17, and for Norway, Sweden and Den-mark, from February 1 to February 17, and parcel post mail for Great Britain and Ireland received at New York from January 27 to February 17, also was lost.

GERMANY PROMISES AID FOR FLEMISH FREEDOM

London, March 1 .- The aid of Germany in establishing the independence of Flanders was promised by Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German Imperial Chancellor, to a deputation saying the President ought to wel-representing the Activist-Flemish par- come explicit direction from Con-ain had "violated all laws of Mar-You never can tell. Many a man says grace over his meals who doesn't dispatch from Berlin received in Ambother himself to pay the butcher. Sterdam and transmitted by Reuters. Tavenner, of Illinois; Cooper, of Wis-

UNYIELDING EFFORT ON PAR FOR ARMING U. S. MERCHAN

Every Effort to Negotiate an Agreement Whereby the Measure Could Be Put Through Failed, and Open Desire to Defeat the Measure Avowed by Some of Its Opponents.

Democratic and Republican Senators Approving President's Program Circulate Manifesto Through Chamber, to Be Issued to the Public if Opponents Succeed in Preventing a Vote-Statement Sets Forth That Those Behind the President Feel That They Have Been Deprived of Their Votes by Filibustering Tactics-Bitter Denunciation by Hitchcock, Hardwick and Others of Those Trying to Bring Measure's Defeat, but These, as Well as Patriotic Appeals, Fails to Weaken the Opposition.

Washington, March 3.-With President Wilson's armed neutrality bill facing failure because of the opposition of a small group of progressive Republicans, Democratic and Republican Senators favoring it prepared tonight a manifesto to show the country just where the responsibility will rest if the measure is not passed.

At midnight, when the debate had developed strong indications that the bill's opponents intended to prevent a vote before the session expires at noon tomorrow, the manifesto had been signed by more than a majority of the Senate, and friends of the bill said that in the end it would bear the signatures of 90 per cent of the Senators.

It was the intention to hold back the document until it became certain that no vote would be permitted, and then to read it into the Senate record with the names of those who had stood behind the President's program attached. The leaders had not entirely abandoned hope of saving the

measure, and some of them thought circulation of the manifesto for signatures had increased the possibilities of passage. It was conceded, however, that that possibility still was a remote one.

AGREEMENT FOR PASSAGE OF BILL IS SOUGHT BY LEADERS

Mere size and power alone of a combination, the defendants declare, the part of a few progressive Republican Senators to Rill the bill authorizing President Wilson to arm Americant Senator LaFollette.

The most serious of the construct of trade, not reasonable respectively. Democratic leaders tonight appealed to some of the Republican failure of Congress to respond to the leaders to negotiate an agreement for President," Senator Simmons added, a compromise on this proposed legislation for "the welfare of the coun

The Democrats, in cloakroom conferences while the tenacious filibuster continued on the Senate floor, declared to some of the Progres and Republicans that it would be a most serious blow to American prestige in this world crisis to refuse the President any legislation in response they had not sunk any Ameri to his appeal for authority to arm ships in their barred sone, it was only American ships for protection against the German submarine blockade. The minority leaders were told that failure of the armed neutrality bill not only would be a humiliation to America abroad, but would be fearful in its encouragement of dissen-

sion at home. Senator Simmons, of North Carolina, chairman of the finance com-mittee, was chosen by the Administration forces to open negotiations. He conferred first with Senator Brandegee, of the regular Republicans, and Senator Kenyon, representing the progressive Republicans, both of whom have supported the bill, urging them to intercede with Senators LaFoliette, Norris, Gronna and Cum-

Open Opposition.

These four progressive Republicans refused earlier in the night to accept any proposition to expedite passage of the bill, and some openly declared they would defeat its passage if possible

At 9 o'clock, nothing had resulted from the negotiations, but it was reported that the Democrats had offered to accept the House bill in lieu of the Senate bill if a bill could be assured before noon tomorrow. With a vote on the House bill, no cnfercans Were Placed in Jeopardy Senate bill should be passed some time tomorrow, it would have to go

Senate bill should be passed some time tomorrow, it would have to go back to the House.

Enactment of the law under such circumstances seemed to the most optimistic Administration leaders aland Lodge, Fall, Sutherland and Nelson. most impossible. While negotiations for some form

of compromise were proceeding, several Senators sought to induce friends Reports on the submarining of the it in order to force its determined of the bill to refrain from discussing apponents, LaFollette, Norris, Gronna and Cummins, to take the floor. None had yet spoken, reserving themselves for the last 12 hours of

the session in the hope of talking the

measure to death. Senator Norris openly declared he would kill the bill if he could. "No more disastrous thing could happen to this country at this hour than for Congress to refuse to President Wilson the authority he has asked," declared Senator Simmons, after he had opened negotiations with

some of the Senators on the minority

Refers to Mexico. "If we had not told Americans to get out of Mexico, or stay there at their own risk, Germany never would have sunk the Lusitania or other ships with Americans aboard," Senator Jones, declaring that the President should have notified Germany that a policy different from the Mexican would be pursued as to mar-

"Germany had the right to assume that we would pursue the same policy regarding Americans in British territory as we did as to Americans in Mexico" he argued.

Hope that Senator Stone's amend-ment would be adopted was ex-pressed by the Washington Senator,

effect upon Germany adduced by "but the encouragement it might give to harmful propaganda at home." "If we want the President to arm American ships and sink German

aster submarines, we should direct him to de-do so, not pass discretion and re-sives sponsibility for decision on to him." said Senator Jones. The Allies, he said, had closed the sea to American commerce, and if

because the ships had not gone there. Cites Blockade of Greece. Senators Sterling and Nelson ected, saying that the Allies, in their blockade always had observed inter-national law. In reply, Senator Jones cited the blockade of Greece, reading reports of resulting starvation that country and of the sinking of Greek ships.

"This shows that England would, if necessary, do the same thing that Germany is doing," he continued. "The Allies have no more regard for "The Allies have no more regard." rights of neutrals than Germany, uness it is necessary for their preservation."

While the negotiations continued Republican and Democratic Senators standing behind the President's pro-While the negotiations continued gram prepared a manifesto to be is-sued to the public in case the few opponents of the bill succeeded in preventing a vote by noon tomorrow. The manifesto, which every Senator favoring the bill will be asked to sign, sets forth that those who stand behind the President feel they have been deprived of their votes by filibustering tactics preventing the m

ure from coming to passage before the end of the session. Manifesto Circulated. The manifesto was circulated throughout the Senate shortly before ence would be necessary. If, in the throughout the Senate shortly before face of the existing filibuster, the midnight, but was not to be given

> son, for the Republicans.
> One Senator said that at least \$6 per cent of the Senate members

would sign. Senator Hitchcock, in charge of the bill, said that the situation was more hopeful in view of the negotiations. Senator Hardwick denounced bitterly those threatening to defeat the bill, and pleaded that it be passed, "to keep peace, support the Presi-dent, and let the German Government know that we will not submit to murder on the seas."

Senator Cummins took the floor to make a long speech against the bill. He said there had been "persistent attempts to distort" the attitude of attempts to distort" the attitude of the measure's opponents, and that he based his opposition upon constitutional objections against abandoning to the President the war-making powers of Congress, and added:

"I look upon German submarine warfare on merchant ships as unspeakably atrocious. I have no words of justification for the practice of the Imperial German Government in this regard. I have no word of justification for the practice of the Imperial German Government in this regard.

regard. I have no word of just cation for the British act in spre ing explosive mines over the Favoring arming of merchantmen. Senator Cummins said he would expect them to sink German subma-rines on sight, providing they carry

no munitions. Not Act of War. "Arming them is not an act of war, but of defense," he said. "Ger-many might declare war as a result, but we must meet that issue." and interfered with our commerc

(Continued on Page Two.)

therefore may be allowed to limit my answer to what is mid in the English reports, which certainly are not inspired by sympathy for Germany. The English report expressly wished to remain on terms of friendship with the United States, but that we had prepared measures of defense in case the United States declared war against Germany. I fail to see how liness on our part. It would mean

leged plot is its conditions and form. the ground in case the United States does not declare war against us. And if we really, as the report alleges, considered the possibility of hostile acts of the United States against us, then we really had geasons to do so.

"An Argentine newspaper a short while ago really 'revealed a plot' when it told that the United States United States. can Republics common action against

(Continued on Page Two)