

that the federalization of the National announced that the note presented W. Hinsdale, Jr., and Heriot Clarkson.

du

be presented immediately to the Min- co-operate in the accomplishment of

ent seeks," in order that we may

pending bill to enlarge the interstate Commerce Commission. Senator Newlands, chairman of the committee, hones to get action before the March adjournment.

ister of Foreign Affairs of the Government to which you are accredited." The text of the notes themselves then begin identically as follows:

"The President of the United States has instructed me to suggest to the (here is inserted a designation of the Government addressed) a course of action with regard to the present war which he hopes that the Government will take under consideration as suggested in the most friendly spirit and as coming not only from a friend, but also as coming from the representative of a neutral nation whose interests have been most seriously affected by the war and whose concern for its early necessity to determine how best to safeguard those interests if the war is to continue."

At this point the texts vary in the notes to the Central Powers this paragraph follows next:

"The suggestion which I am instructed to make the president has long had it in mind to offer. He is somewhat embarrassed to offer it at this particular time because it may new seem to have been prompted by a desire to play a part in connection lion after million of human lives must with the recent overtures of the Central Powers. It has in fact been in no way suggested by them in its origin and the President would have delayed offering it until those overtures had been independently answered but for the fact that it also concerns the question of peace and may best be considered in connection with other propasls which have the same end in view. The President can only of the great family of mankind has sey that his suggestion be considered entirely on its own merits and as if it had been made in other circumstances."

In the note to the Entente Allies the following paragragh takes the place of the one just quoted:

"The suggestion which I am instructed to make the President has long had it in mind to offer. He is somewhat embarrassed to offer it at this particular time because it may stated in general terms they seem the now seem to have been prompted by same on both sides. Never yet have the recent overtures of the Central Powers. It is in fact no way associ- side avowed the precise objects which ated with them in its origin and the would if attained, satisfy them and President would have delayed offering their people that the war had been it until those overtures had been answered but for the fact that it also concerns the question of peace and may what actual exchange of guarantees, be best considered in connection with other propasls which have the same or readjustments, what stage of milend in view. The President can only beg that his suggestion be considered entirely on it sown merits and as if it had been made in other circumstances." .

Then all the notes proceed identically as follows:

May Take Initiative.

early occasion be sought to call out at least for conference and make the from all the nations now at war such an avowal of their respective views as to the terms upon which the war cert of nations immediately practicamight be concluded and the arrange- ble.

these ends, when the war is over, with every influence and resource at their command. But the war must first be concluded. The terms upon which it

is to be concluded they are not at liberty to suggest; but the President does feel that it is right and his duty to point out their intimate interest in its conclusion, lest it should presently be too late to acmomplish. the greater things which lie beyond its conclusion, lest the situation of neutral nutions, now exceedingly hard to enbe rendered altogether intolerable, and lest, more than all, an injury be done civilization itself which can never be atoned for or repaired. "The President ther fore feels al-

together justified in suggesting an immediate opportunity for a comparison of views as to the terms which must precede those ultimate arrangements for the peace of the world, which all desire and in which the neutral nations as well as those at war are ready to play their full responsible part. If

the contest must continue to proceed towards undefined ends by slow attrition until the one group of belligerents or the other is exhausted, if milcontinue to be offered up until on the one side or the other there are no more to offer, if resentments must be kindled that can never cool and despairs engendered from which there can be no recovery, hopes of peace and of the willing concert of, free peoples will be rendered vair and idle. "The life of the entire world has been profoundly affected. Every part felt the burden and terror of this unprecedented contest of arms. No nation in the civilized world can be said

in truth to stand outside its influence or to be safe against its disturbingeffects. And yet the concrete objects for which it is being waged have

never been definitely stated. "The leaders of the several belligerents have, as has been said, stated those objects in general terms. But the authoritative spokesman of either fought out. The world has been left to conjecture what definite results, what political or territorial changes

tary success ever would bring the war to an end. "It may be that peace is nearer than we know; that the terms which the belligerents on the one side and on the other would deem it necessary to insist upon are not so irreconcilable as some have feared; that an inter-"The President suggests that an change of views would clear the way

> permanent concord of the nations I hope for the immediate future, a con-

ments which would be deemed satis- "The President is not proposing terdam, Deputy Schaper of the Dutch

regulate our conduct in the future. Secretary Lansing's statement, upon which the White House refused to comment, was as follows:

"The reasons for the sending of the notes were as follows: "It isn't our material interest we had in mind when the note was sent, but more and more our own

rights are becoming involved by the belligerents on both sides so that the situation is becoming increasingly critical. "I mean by that, that we are

drawing nearer the verge of war ourselves and therefore we are entitled to know exactly what each belligerent seeks in order that we may regulate our conduct in the future. "No nation had been sounded.

No consideration of the German overtures or of the speech of Lloyd-George was taken into account in the formulation of the document. The only thing the overtures did, was to delay it a few days. It was not decided to send it until Monday. Of course, the difficulties that face the President were that it might be construed as a movement toward peace and in aid of the German overtures. He specifically denies that that was the fact in the document itself."

Secretary Lansing further said: "The sending of this note will indicate the possibility of our being forced into the war. That possibility ought to serve as a restraining and sobering force safeguarding American rights. It may also serve to force an earlier conclusion of the war. Neither the President nor myself regard this note as a peace note; it is merely an effort to get the belligerents to define the end for which they are fighting."

Secretary Lansing formally declared that he did not intend to intimate that the United States was considering any change in its policy of neutrality, and that the meaning of his statement was misconstrued at first by r 3.

NEUTRALS IN EUROPE START PEACE PLAN

Holland Asked to Co-Operate With Scandinavian Countries and Switzerland to Act as Mediators in Dis-

cussions. Berlin, via Sayville.--A peace movement is being considered by Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Switzerland in which they wish the co-operation of Holland, according to Deputy Schaper, of the Dutch parliament, as quoted in a dispatch to the Overseas News Agency from Rotterdam.

The news agency states: "According to telegrams from Rot-

arliament, in a speech made at Dalf-

The Senate passed the immigration bill with its literacy test provision and it is now in conference.

The National prohibition constituional amendment was reported favorbly from the Judiciary Committee in each House and will be pressed by its champions at every opportunity, although they have little hope of securing the necessary two-thirds majority at this session.

House committees also reported the Borland food investigation resolution with a favorable recommendation and the Susan B. Anthony constitutional amendment for woman suffrage without recommendation. Neither resolution advanced to consideration in the house

## PRESIDENT WILSON NAMES NEW SHIPPING BOARD.

Three Democrats and Two Republicans Selected to Serve For Government.

Washington. - President Wilson nominated the following to be members of the Government shipping board:

William Dénman of San Francisco; Bernard N. Baker of Baltimore; John A. Donald of New York; John Bar, ber White of Kansas City, Mo., and Theodore Brent of New Orleans. The board will have general supervision over freight rates in American waters and is empowered to organize a \$50.000,000 corporation to build or buy merchant ships. The ships built or bought will be available to lease or charter by private interests, but may be operated by the government should private concerns fail to take them. The intent of the law, aside from restoration of

ships for American commerce removed by the war is to open up trade routes which private capital does not consider yet profitable enough for it to enter.

Mr. Denman, who gets the longest term of six years, is a Democrat and a lawyer with experience in Admiralty cases.

Mr. Baker, nominated for a fiveyear term, has had wide experience as a ship owner and for thirty years was president of the Altantic trasport line. He is a Democrat and Mr. Donald, the third Democratic member, was nominated for four years. He has

had a life-long experience in the steamship business.

## KING CHRISTIAN SIGNS SALE OF ISLANDS TREATY.

Copenhagen, via London. - King Christian in Cabinet council ratified the treaty providing for the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United

States. This follows the passage by both houses of the Danish Parliament of

Guard would not meet the country's military needs, said:

of Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg's "I agree with you that voluntary speech and that the Allies had sepamilitary service is not an adequate rately concluded to reject it, although system and probably would break down in time of war as it has done they had informally exchanged views, and would within a few days present before. The National Guard system in particular is economically unwise bea joint reply. cause of the dual control of the forces Mr. Asquith, the former Premier, seconded Mr. Llyod-George's decision

through Washington contained no pro-

WEAVER WINS IN COURT

CONTEST FOR HOUSE SEAT.

Certificate of Election Issued to Zebu-

Ion Weaver of Tenth North Caro-

lina District.

The commission was issued by the

Governor after the State Supreme

Court an hour previously had dis-

missed Britt's appeal from the action

of Judge W. J. Adams, of the Bun-

combe County Superior Court, in re-

fusing to grant a writ of mandamus

to compel the Buncombe County board

of canvassers to declare the vote of

that county cn the face of the returns

as they appeared on November 9. The

returns of three precincts in the coun-

ty not officially reported at that time

were included when the county can-

vassing board acted on November 17.

Britt still was ahead in the county

but Weaver had gained enough in the

three precincts in question, to over-

U. S. OFFICIALS THINK

PREMIER LEAVES ISSUE OPEN.

APPROVED BY BAKER.

by the Federal Government and the with even stronger words, and almost State." at the same moment Earl Curzon was Taking up the report on the mobiliinforming the Lords that the Governzation of the guard Representative ment would enter no conference that Tilson then asked:

"Don't you think that in view of the did not guarantee for Europe the free enormously greater task of the reguand independent existence of Nations, lar service as the agent which congreat and small. ducted the mobilization, the regular army fell down harder in proportion

than the National Guard." "We make many criticisms of our-

elves," Geeral Scott said, adding that a report on the Army's share in the n obilization already had been asked for and would be presented.

"That is what I want to appear in this record," said Representative Tilson, "because I want to show that no set of officers, no matter how well lon Weaver, Democrat, by Governor trained, could make this National Craig. Guard system work."

W. J. BRYAN APPROVES APPEAL FOR PEACE.

Lengthy Wire Sent Wilson by Former State Secretary Congratulating Him Upon Efforts to End Wad. Washington .- President Wilson received a telegram from former Secretary Bryan congratulating him on his note to the belligerents. It said: "You have rendered an invaluable service to a war-stricken world in asking the belligerent nations to set forth in specific terms the concessions and assurances which they deem necessary to the establishment of a lasting peace. It would be a reflection upon the nations at war to doubt that they

to reveal.

no matter how far these statements may be apart, will clear the air and afford a basis for negotiations and when negotiations begin they are not likely to terminate until an agreement is reached, because neither side will consent to assume resposibility for continuing the unspeakable horrors of this conflict, if any reasonable terms framed which would be sanctioned by Mr. Baker and possibly by President can be cesured.

"Accept cordial congratulations and Wilson. The President has said he my earnest wish for the success of the would not attempt to reach a decismovement which you have had the ion on the subject until a definite plan was placed before him. honor to inaugurate."

## COMBINATION TO CONTROL PRICES IN COAL MARKET

New York .- That there are grounds Washington .- The first official imfor the suspicion that the recent increase in the price of coal was the pression here of Lloyd-George's reply

result of an "artificial and illegal com- to the German peace proposals with bination," was the statement made by the announcements of Russia, Italy trict Attorney at Boston, who is in and France, is that it does not forecharge of the government's national close further moves which might look

Second Amendment: Heriot Clarkposals of terms, but was a paraphrase so nand J. O. Carr.

> Third Amendment: A. M. Scales, W. S. Wilson and J. E. Pegram.

> Fourth Amendment: J. W. Ruark, J. E. Pegram, E. T. Cansler and C. C. Taylor.

After the meeting of the joint committee, the committee of the Municipal Association met. J. D. McNeill, Fayetteville; Heriot Clarkson, Charlotte; J. W. Ruark, Wilmington; J. W. Hinsdale, Jr., Raleigh, being present. It was decided to draft two laws on behalf of the municipal corporations of the state, one a general law looking to the organization of municipal corporations and the other a general law looking to the financial affairs of the cities. On the first committee were apointed Messrs. Clarkson, McNeill and Taylor, and on the second committee Messrs. Ruark and Hinsdale were appointed. It is understood that these Raleigh, N. C .- A commission as sub-committees will immediately begin epresentative in Congress from the work on the preparations of the bills Tenth District to succeed James J. in question which are of wide import-Britt, Republican, was issued to Zebu- ance and concern to the state.

Interest in Forestry Meet.

Washington .- North Carolina will be well represented at the International Forestry Conference to be held in Washington January 18 and 19. The state has particular interest in this meeting because the North Carolina Forestry Association meets in Raleigh January 24 and 25.

J. S. Holmes, the state forester, has written to P. S. Ridsdale, secretary of the American Forestry Association, asking for all the data on the international conference. Mr. Holmes requested that all printed matter in connection with the fight to check the spread of the white pine blister disease be sent to him and to these men: Major W .A. Graham, Commissioner of Agriculture; Prof. Franglin Sherman, State Entomologist; Prof. W. N. Hutt, State Horticulturist; Dr. B. W. Kilgore, State Chemist.

Secretary Ridsdale extended an invitation to these men to attend the international conference particularly as the North Carolina association Spencer .- Numbers of heavy teams ton meeting. The Governor of every state have been asked to send delegations also, in order to discuss state co-operation in fighting the blister disease which threatens white pine valued at \$365,000,000. The department of agriculture has sent out warning bulletins on the disease and Secretary Ridsdale has obtained a half dozen experts to discuss the subject.

## Mt. Olive Exports Heavy.

Mount Olive .- The year now rapidly drawing to a close has been the most prosperous this section has ever experienced, more than a million and a half dollars worth of farm products having been shipped from here to Northern and Northwestern markets, represented by the following crops: represented by the following crops: Strawbrries. \$40,000; Irish potatoes,

rality of nine votes in the district. fighting or to assume that they have any purposes which they are unwilling COMPULSORY SERVICE IDEA "A definite statement by both sides, Washington. - The agitation for some form of compulsory military service in the United States received qualified support from Secretary Baker before the House Military Committee, encouraging opponents of the present volunteer system to predict that legislation for a change might be

come Britt's lead and give him a pluknow the ends for which they are

factory as a guarantee against its re- newal or the kindling of any similar conflict in the future as would make it possible frankly to compare them. He is indifferent as to the means taken to accomplish this. He would be hap-	clined to act as peace mediators and that they wish the co-operation of Holland: Deputy Schaper advocated	tion instruments will take place in Washington probably towards the end of January.	came here to confer with Special As-	Central Powers have suggested. This view is held by officials of the ad-	\$146,450; cantaloupes, \$30,000; beans, 8,000; corn, \$1,000; cucumbers, \$8,- 000; cotton, \$900,00; cotton seed, \$40,000; tobacco, \$50,000.
the initiative in its accomplishment, in any way that might prove acceptable. In which he speaks and the objects	line."	TEOTONS DRIVE BACK FOE AFTER SHARY BATTLE.	STOCK MART THROWN INTO FRENZY OVER PEACE NOTE		Road Drags Busy in Rowan. Spencer.—Numbers of heavy teams with immense drags were set to work
but he has no desire to determine the method or the instrumentality. One way will be as acceptable to him as another if only the great object he light into the affairs of the world."	"HIKE" CAUSES DEATH OF SIX GUARDSMEN.	tral Powers continue to drive the	through the most exciting day in its history with one exception. President	Lane and his colleagues on the Mexi- can-American Joint Commission plac-	an. A stretch of 25 miles is being
"He takes the liberty of calling at- tention to the fact that the objects. The note to the Entence group will be delivered to Great Britain, France, Italy, Japan, Russia, Belgium, Monte-	cutred here during the last 10 days from pneumonia.	Bessarbia, there has been fittle in- portant activity on the battle fronts of Europe.	ers, followed by Secretary Lansing's first explanatory statement of its in- tent, were the occasion of frenzied	sponsibility of deciding whether the American Government should continue its efforts to effect a satisfactory and	Spencer, who has a contract working under the direction of State Highway Engineer W. L. Spoon. In addition to removing the ice Mr. Earnhardt
ents on both sides have in mind in this war are virtually the same as stated in general, terms to their own people It is being delivered to all neutral		Petrograd announces, were forced to retire northward under heavy attacks from numerically superior hostile forces.	fairly dwarfed all the oerations which followed on the peace proposals from Germany. Prices were slaughtered to the extent of five to fifteen points.	amicable adjustment of the question affecting the relations of the two countries, and then adjourned until after the holidays.	will keep a force at work on the highway continuously dragging and replacing sand.