

UNITED STATES MAY MAKE AN IMMEDIATE DEMAND UPON TEUTONS TO CEASE THE DAILY SLAUGHTER OF NEUTRAL CITIZENS

President in Direct Charge of Situation—Congress Expected to Take a Hand—Report From Penfield, Making Unofficial Inquiries, Eagerly Awaited—Yet Some Doubt About Submarining of Liner Persia, On Which McNeely, Consular Agent, Was Drowned—Conferences of Wilson and Secretary of State and Stone, and Cabinet Meetings—When Note Will Be Sent to Be Determined Today, Probably

(By the United Press)
Washington, Jan. 4.—President Wilson took charge of the crisis over submarine operations, when he returned here at 7:45 a. m. today with his bride from Hot Springs, Va. Congress also convened today, with a promise of taking a prominent part in the international denouement. The President's immediate plans involve a conference with Secretary Lansing, cabinet meetings and a conference with Senator Stone, the chairman of the foreign relations committee. The principal point to be determined today is whether the government will protest immediately or wait for further information. It may be made immediately in the hope of stopping the almost daily slaughter. Ambassador Penfield's report upon his unofficial inquiries into the Persia's sinking is awaited eagerly. Officials still feel some doubt whether the ship was submarined, and this further clouds the issue.

Warlike Scenes in Washington; Officials Await Final Reports.
Veterans of Congress likened conditions today to those preceding the Spanish war. The steps being taken are of the most ominous nature. The President has sought the counsels of Congress to prepare for co-operation in case of a breach of relations with central powers comes. The gravity of the situation is marked in all official circles. The government will hold back until positive information comes of the details of the Persia's sinking. Congressional leaders will attempt to hold back debate until the difficult case more dangerous until then.

President Says Situation Is Grave.
President Wilson this morning issued a statement admitting the gravity of the situation. He declared he is co-operating with Secretary Lansing to obtain the full facts, and will act then immediately. Chairman Stone of the Senate and Flood of the House, Foreign relations Committee, were called in conference.

Scenes of Horror Described.
London, Jan. 4.—Scenes of horror preceded the final plunge of the Persia, it is reported. The ship turned turtle while the boats were getting away. Monster waves washed a score from the decks. Only twelve of the eighty first-class passengers were saved.

The owners of the Glengyle, another big ship recently torpedoed, say she carried only five passengers, their nationality unknown. Germany "Shocked."
By CARL W. ACKERMAN,
(United Press Staff Correspondent)
Berlin, Jan. 4.—Regret is universally expressed here over the sinking of the Persia, just as the effort was culminating for the repair of Teutonic-American relations. It had been believed the submarine controversy was settled. The sinking of the Persia was a shock to the public. Comment is being withheld for further information.

TODAY'S SALES ON THE COTTON MARKET

From 20 to 25 bales of cotton were sold here today, by buyers' reports, at prices ranging from 10-1-2 to 11 cents. New York futures quotations were:

Open	12.00
January	12.00
March	12.51
May	12.75
July	12.99
October	12.54

AN INTERESTING WEEK ON EXCHANGE

Heaviest Buying in March on New York Cotton Market in Weeks—Liverpool Prices Resumed Soaring—Cost of Getting Staple to England High—Stimulation of the Market

(Special to The Free Press)
New York, Jan. 4.—With the January notices out of the way on Monday of last week the market has acted according to schedule. March sold at 12.22 at the opening Monday, and at 12.52 today, with a gain of thirty points, showing about the advance sustained by the rest of the list.

The week has proved extremely interesting, in that there has developed the heaviest buying in March that has taken place in any one month since the heavy accumulation in July about five weeks ago. In three days it is estimated that one firm took over 60,000 bales March from the market, and this cotton was obtained with very little difficulty. Just what this buying represents is a matter of conjecture. The fact that it took place in March, a near position, instead of May or July, would seem to indicate that the buyers stand ready to take up and pay for the cotton upon delivery. If it were a speculative operation it is reasonable to assume that a later position would have been chosen.

The buying of so large a quantity of cotton had a decided influence on sentiment, inasmuch as with the January liquidation out of the way, Liverpool prices resumed their upward trend. Sufficient selling takes place on every advance, from Southern sources, owing to the enormous quantity of cotton at ports and interior towns, to make a rather slow, creeping market, but the undertone shows decided resistance, and reports from the south indicate that an improved demand for cotton is very likely with the turn of the year.

In addition to the buying of March referred to above, Liverpool straddle interests have been very heavy buyers of near positions. It will be recalled that a great deal of cotton was bought in Liverpool and sold in New York many months ago, when differences were comparatively moderate. With ships carrying grain and ammunition rather than cotton, and freight rates exorbitantly high, the cost of getting cotton to Liverpool is so great that that market has advanced to about 3c over New York. This advance abroad has returned so great a profit, the houses interested in the straddle have been taking their profits and shifting the same operation forward into July-August. This position in Liverpool is selling at a discount of about 40 points under March-April, while they are able to sell July in New York at almost 40 points above the price at which they have been covering their March.

This demand for the near positions has had a decidedly stimulating effect on the whole market, and many who were not inclined to take the buying side before the holidays now look for a more active trade with the new year. With advancing prices for all commodities, we trust this hope will be justified by coming events, and we take this opportunity of extending to you our best wishes for a most prosperous 1916.

Col. Fred. Olds, the noted historian of Raleigh, will address the Carolina Club in Greenville tonight.

MONTENEGRINS ARE THE MENACING AUSTRIAN FORCES AT CATTARO

Franz Josef's Men Attempt to Take Mountain Held By Enemy, From Which They Make Austrians' Hold On Base Insecure

By HENRY WOOD,
(United Press Staff Correspondent)
Rome, Jan. 4.—A desperate and important struggle is raging near the Austrian naval base of Cattaro where the Austrians have and land forces and the Montenegrins. The Austrians are attempting to capture Mount Lowcen, retention of which by the Montenegrins, threatens the Austrians' hold on Cattaro.

BABY PLAYED WITH GUN; FATAL RESULT
Burlington, Jan. 3.—The eighteen-months-old child of Ray Morton, an employe of the Lakeside mill at this place, was instantly killed this morning when a gun it was playing with discharged its load into the left eye.

ATLANTA MAN IS KILLED IN A ROW WITH WIFE'S RELATIVES.
Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 2.—J. B. Spier, 38, of Atlanta, was shot and killed on the street here late today after what the police said was an altercation between him, his divorced wife, her father and brother, over possession of the Spier's nine-year-old little daughter, Dorothy. Dr. J. V. Bishop of Burwell, Ga., Mrs. Spier's father, and her brother, H. A. Bishop of Atlanta, who were with her, were arrested.

FIRE WRECKS HOTEL IN CONNECTICUT CITY

One Killed and Six Injured at Waterbury—Many Suffering From Exposure—Guests Leaped Four Stories As Structure Burned—Dead Victim & Man—Cold Struck Survivors

(By the United Press)
Waterbury, Conn., Jan. 4.—One man was killed and six injured and many are suffering from cold and exposure as the result of a fire which destroyed the Connecticut Hotel here today. Many persons leaped from the fourth story.

BULLETINS

(By the United Press)
SWEDISH LINER SEIZED BY GERMANS.
Copenhagen, Jan. 4.—The Swedish liner Ceylon has been seized by the Germans and escorted into Swinemunds, it is reported.

COLLISION AT GIBRALTAR, SHIP SUNK.
London, Jan. 4.—The British liner Geelong, of the Peninsular & Oriental Line, has been sunk in collision with the British steamer Benvilston off Gibraltar. All hands were saved. The damage to the Benvilston is unreported.

MRS. WILSON HAS HER FIRST HOME BREAKFAST
New Mistress of the White House Arrived at Executive Mansion Today and Took Personal Charge—Has Task of Arranging Numerous Wedding Gifts as Initial Work On Premises

(By the United Press)
Washington, Jan. 4.—The new mistress of the White House took personal charge today. The first breakfast of the couple "at home" was had this morning. The first work confronting the bride was arranging the scores of wedding presents.

THE CONSCRIPTION BILL READY, IRISH NOT INCLUDED, SAID

Sir John Simon Quits Cabinet as Result of Opposition to Measure

DERBY RECRUITS CALLED
Half Million Unmarried Eligibles Who Refused to Enlist Under Proposition to Be Forced Into Service Now

(By the United Press)
London, Jan. 4.—The cabinet today finished the conscription bill. It is now ready for introduction. The bill is the result, it is announced, of the failure of the Derby recruiting scheme, under which over half a million available single men refused to enlist. These will be called by conscription.

Simon Resigns From Cabinet.
Premier Asquith today confirmed reports that Sir John Simon, secretary of State for Home Affairs, had resigned from the cabinet, owing to the opposition to the conscription campaign. The public is assured that Ireland will not be included in conscription.

Derby Recruits to Colors Feb. 8th.
Single men between 23 and 26 years of age, enlisted in the Derby campaign were today called to the colors, to report on February 8.

WOULD HAVE UNITED AMERICAS FORTIFIED AGAINST THE WORLD

Washington, Jan. 3.—Possibility of a combined attack by two foreign powers to break down the new Pan-American doctrine evolved from maintenance by the United States and acceptance by South and Central American Republics of the Monroe Doctrine is one of the fundamental bases for the national defense plans formulated by army and navy strategists. They believe it essential in the formulation of a national military policy, it was learned tonight, to provide against the eventuality of an assault upon the doctrine by either an Asiatic or a European power, or even by an alliance of two such powers, which might hurl forces simultaneously at the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

A navy equal in strength to those of any two world powers, except Great Britain, and an army prepared to fight for the integrity of the Pan-American idea anywhere in Pan-America is the ultimate aim of the plans of the military experts.

BELIEVES SMALL BOYS ROBBED MAN'S SAFE

J. F. Davis, a North street fish dealer who complained to the authorities Monday that the safe in his place was robbed of about \$130 sometime between Saturday night at the closing hour and Monday morning, stated today that he entertains suspicion against small boys, not named. No special pains had been taken in closing the safe, it is reported, and access to it for the thieves, who got into the building without trouble, was easy, it is supposed. No arrest had been made this morning.

AGAIN HERE IS THE QUESTION 'WHAT IS AN AMATEUR?'

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 4.—"What is an amateur?" was the question before the U. S. Golf Association which is to meet in annual convention here today. Whether a man employed by a sporting goods house is or can be an amateur will be discussed. The case of Francis Ouimet will be considered. Whether Ouimet, by being transferred from the golf department to another department by his firm, was placed above criticism, will be discussed.

CONGRESS INTENDS TO DISCUSS HABITS OF ALLIES AS WELL

Won't Stop at Threshing Out Crisis Occasioned by Submarines' Activities—75,000 Cases of Pellagra Last Year

Washington, Jan. 4.—Committee consideration of speeches on the floor of Congress is planned on the international situation. Sharp attacks on the submarine campaign and the Allies' commercial interferences are certain. The navy program hearing begins tomorrow, and the army hearing on Thursday. The Senate naval committee today considered Tillman's bill for a Federal armor plant. **Blue Asks \$100,000 to Fight Pellagra.** Seventy-five thousand pellagra cases, causing a tenth as many deaths, occurred last year, Surgeon General Blue today reported to Congress, seeking a \$100,000 appropriation to investigate rural sanitation as the cause.

To Keep Navy Officers From Talking.
Naval officers will not be allowed to talk in public, it was learned today, when Secretary Daniels refused to allow Admirals Fiske and Knight to address the Chicago Commercial Club. **Senate Pays Respect to Lamar.** The Senate today swore in Senator Smith of South Carolina and adjourned out of respect to the last Justice Lamar of Georgia.

WINTER OF GHASTLY HORRORS AWAITS THE SOLDIERS IN SERBIA

By WILLIAM G. SHEPHERD,
Monastir, Serbia, Dec. 24.—(By Mail.)—Balkan soldiers suffer more than those of any other nation. How the Bulgarians, the newcomers, will conduct their medical corps, remains to be seen. Winter imposes almost insurmountable difficulties on an army in the Balkans, owing to the few roads and the almost incessant mud and rain. The Germans and the Austrians, with their automobile ambulances, have dodged the hardest and worst parts of Serbia. The German line extends down into Serbia only 50 miles and the Germans seem satisfied with that. There is little chance of their coming further. The Austrian line reaches only slightly deeper into the little Ally country. The Austrians and the Germans appear to have the single intention of connecting with the Bulgarians, if possible, in the northeastern tip of Serbia, and avoiding the Bad Lands. But the Bulgarians will have no such easy going. Their wounded and sick must be carried on springless wagons drawn, oftentimes, by oxen which plod through the knee deep mud in a slow and dismal procession. Some of the difficulties that will be faced by the Bulgarians may be measured by what I have seen along the roads near Monastir and in the hospitals here. Most of the Serbian wounded suffer from gas gangrene, owing to the lack of attention imposed by the long, slow cart journeys. Small wounds that would have meant only a week in the hospital if prompt medical attention could have been given, are killing men with pain or poison. American as well as Serbian doctors are helpless against gas gangrene. Quinine is being tried in Serbia now and wounded men are being given doses almost unbelievably large and potent and the doctors fancy that the gas gangrene victims are helped slightly by the new treatment. Explosive bullets are another cause of horrible suffering in the Balkan fighting.

WILMINGTON HAS NEW SHIRT FACTORY.

Wilmington, Jan. 3.—The Wilmington Shirt Company, a new enterprise for this city, has leased the plant of the Willard Bag & Manufacturing Co., and in a short time will begin the manufacture of shirts, its entire output for two years having already been contracted for.

COMMISSIONERS DID NOT ADOPT MEDICAL INSPECTION SCH'OLS

Declined to Appropriate for Work—Board of Education Agreed to Pay \$100—Service Cannot Be Had In Near Future

By not taking action either way the Board of County Commissioners Monday killed the movement for medical inspection of school children in this county. The Board, it was proposed, should pay about \$200 in the event the Board of Education and the school authorities of Kinston and LaGrange should appropriate \$200 between them, apportioned like this: Board of Education, \$100; Kinston, \$75; LaGrange, \$25. The Board of Education assented. It is believed the Kinston Board of School Trustees would have donated \$75 readily. There is small reason why the LaGrange trustees should not have furnished the nominal sum of \$25.

Dr. G. M. Cooper of the State Board of Education was here last Friday in the interest of the medical inspection work now being conducted under the Board's supervision. The work is now being carried on in Alamance and Rockingham counties with agreeable results. Dr. Cooper had hoped to send a man here about the middle of the month for a stay of 30 or 40 days to inspect every white school child in the county, rendering a report on every child inspected.

It is said the Board of Commissioners' reason for declining to accept the proposition was that "there are too many things ahead of the county" to be provided for from the public funds. It is known that if the county has medical school inspection under the arrangement proposed it will be in the not very near future.

COUNCIL WOULD ASK OF RECORDER ABOUT CONDUCT HIS COURT

City Clerk Instructed Draft Letter of Inquiry to Recorder Today

WHY SOLICITOR APPEARS
And Why State Warrants Are Issued In the Cases Where City Ordinances Are Violated and Other Questions Propounded

Drafts of three or more ordinances from Recorder Wooten which he desired to have passed by City Council were promptly tabled when carried before Council at its regular meeting Monday night. Members of the Board of Aldermen laughed. According to one member of Council, they thought the Recorder was trying to "throw sand in their eyes." The proposed ordinances, it was said by one city official today, were "not worth printing." They pertained to the machinery of the Court. One directed the Chief of Police, who is clerk to the Court, to pay over to the proper receiving officer all funds without directly settling with the Solicitor of the Court for his fees or salary. There is an ordinance now which covers this point and the money is turned into the city treasury to be disbursed from there. The Free Press is informed.

Alderman Webb moved for and the Council passed an order directing the City Clerk to write the Recorder asking him to submit to Council information on the following:

Why State warrants are issued in violation of city ordinances.
Why a solicitor is allowed to draw fees in trials for violations of municipal ordinances.

By whose "invitation" a solicitor appears in cases which would come within the jurisdiction of a magistrate where there is no Recorder's Court. The letter is expected to be written by Clerk Coleman this afternoon.

One administration member said today that the reason why Solicitor Shaw appears in cases which a justice of the peace could try is that in the past, when the Court was first instituted, he was "requested" to appear and that no one has ever stopped him from appearing. The Solicitor, the official supposes, does not realize that in each case in which he appears a separate request is necessary.

The probing of the Court by the administration will be watched with interest. The hearty manner in which it has been started indicates that there will be no let up until the Court conforms in its procedure with what the Aldermen think is proper. It appears, from the ordinance suggested by Judge Wooten, mentioned above, that the Court would like to rid itself of some of the responsibility for the Solicitor's zeal in prosecuting petty misdemeanors and the like.

MRS. DELANEY GOES TO SON IN PRISON

(By the Eastern Press)
New Bern, Jan. 4.—Mrs. C. Delaney of Schneckady, N. Y., is here to investigate the predicament of her son, Francis Delaney, accused of flashing checks in Norfolk, Raleigh, Kinston and this city. Mrs. Delaney said upon arrival that when she received a telegram from the young man stating that he was in jail she declined to accept the truthfulness of his story, thinking he was scheming to get money. Delaney married Doris Sheridan, a thorax girl, in Kinston week before last. She has gone to New York. She has declared her intention to "stick by" him when he gets out of trouble. Mrs. Delaney, the mother will plead with the judge for leniency when the young man is brought to trial. She has enough money, she thinks, to make good the bad checks.