

UNITED STATES FACES WAR WITH GERMANY; WILSON WILL NOT GIVE INCH TO THE KAISER

Washington Looks Upon Break as Inevitable — Neither Country Will Bend, Seems Certain—After Parleying a Year Over Lusitania Incident One Word "Illegal" May Plunge America Into the World War — Only Optimist In Capital Is German Ambassador, Who Belies Own Government — President May Wait for House's Return Before Declaring Relations Between Two Nations Ended—Most Serious Situation Before Administration

(By the United Press)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—Ambassador Von Bernstorff is believed to have been given authority to go as far as a disavowal of the Lusitania sinking, if necessary. Secretary Lansing said this afternoon that confidential negotiations will continue, and that the situation could therefore not be called a dead lock, but he indicated that concessions would not come to the United States.

Situation Is Dangerous.

WASHINGTON, FEB. 5.—A situation of grave import today faces the American people. The embroilment of America in the European struggles, even its participation in the war, is so perilously near that Washington is tensed with anticipation.

Neither Side Will Back Down

After a year of diplomatic exchange over the Lusitania matter, the United States has declared that Germany must satisfy its demands for a disavowal. Germany has made it known that it will refuse. One government or the other must back down. Wilson has declared that the United States will not. The German foreign office has said the same for that government.

There is only one optimist. Ambassador Von Bernstorff today belied his own government, saying the situation is not serious.

Crisis Indicated by President.

President Wilson today clearly intimated that the crisis has been reached, and Secretary Lansing made a statement to the same effect. All administration affairs are submerged under the cloud of war!

Wilson and Lansing today planned to confer at length over Germany's memorandum, which came yesterday. All White House engagements have been cancelled to devote the time to the problem. It is expected that a conference between Lansing and Von Bernstorff will be postponed till next week. The President is expected to reach a decision by the time of the cabinet meeting on Tuesday. It is understood that Colonel House's report is now before the President, and that it strengthened the reports of Germany's unyielding position. Before taking a decisive step to sever relations, it is believed the President will await House's return in a week or so.

One Word Cause of Trouble.

Germany insists that the attack on the Lusitania was not illegal. The United States contends that the sinking was illegal under all national, international, moral and human laws, and demands that Germany repudiate the act of the commander of the submarine.

Suggestions of arbitration from Berlin are not received with favor. The United States cannot arbitrate the slaughter of Americans, women and babies. One more interchange of notes before the break is expected.

German Papers Advise Government to Stand Fast.

London, Feb. 5.—Reports that a break between the United States and Germany is near, was the most prominent feature in today's newspapers. The consensus of opinion is that America's participation in the war is not desirable because the Allies need her munitions, but all agree that it would be a great moral asset. It is reported that in Berlin Bourse prices dropped on reports of the impending break. Berlin papers advise the government not to yield.

ARMY OF ROUMANIA MASSED FOR FIRST CHANCE FOR ACTION

Will Take Field On Side of Allies—Troops On Hungarian and Bulgarian Frontiers—New German Offensive

By HENRY WOOD.

(United Press Staff Correspondent)

Rome, Feb. 5.—The Roumanian army, nine-tenths mobilized, has been massed on the Bulgarian and Hungarian frontiers, prepared to enter the war on the side of the Allies at the first opportunity.

Borders of Belgium Closed.

Amsterdam, Feb. 5.—The Belgian frontier is closed to all travelers. This is believed to indicate that an important troop concentration is going on preparatory to a heavy German offensive.

BRYAN TO SPEAK HAMLETT MARCH 3RD

Hamlet, Feb. 4.—Secretary E. H. Fuller of the Hamlet Y. M. C. A. is in receipt of a letter from Hon. W. J. Bryan advising that he will be in Hamlet on March 3. Mr. Bryan will speak under the auspices of the local Y. M. C. A., using as his subject "The War in Europe and its Lessons to America."

SENATE APPROPRIATES FOR FLOOD SUFFERERS

Washington, Feb. 4.—The Senate today passed a bill by Senator Robinson of Arkansas, appropriating \$100,000 for the relief of flood sufferers in the Mississippi valley and its tributaries and authorizing the Secretary of War to lend tents for those made homeless in this stricken territory.

PETITION COMMUTATION FOR MRS. IDA B. WARREN

Winston-Salem, Feb. 4.—A petition is being circulated and freely signed, asking Governor Craig to commute death sentence of Ida Ball Warren to life imprisonment. The woman was convicted with Sam Christy of the murder of her husband, G. J. Warren. The petition is circulated by Mrs. Clifford Stonestreet, whose husband is serving three year sentence on county roads, he being convicted of implication in the crime. Mrs. Stonestreet is a daughter of Mrs. Warren.

FAYETTEVILLE BANK WILL MAKE GOOD TO DEPOSITORS, STATED

(Special to The Free Press) Washington, Feb. 5.—Comptroller of the Currency Williams declared today that the failure of the Fourth National Bank at Fayetteville, was not due to loose management. It is believed depositors will recover in full.

Fayetteville, Feb. 5.—The National Bank Examiner in charge of the affairs of the Fourth National Bank here, suspended Friday, says there is good reason to believe that the depositors will lose nothing. The President, H. W. Lilly, says the institution was forced to suspend temporarily on account of losses sustained several years ago and disquieting rumors that have had the effect of greatly restricting its business and have led to the withdrawal of many depositors.

BELIEF IS GENERAL THAT OTTAWA FIRE WAS PLOT'S RESULT

Stared From Electric Wire That Had Been Tampered With, Thought—Sir Wilfred Laurier Says It Was Incendiary

(By the United Press)

Ottawa, Feb. 5.—The greatest roundup of Allens since the beginning of the war has been started by the authorities. They are trying to apprehend all foreigners who left Ottawa the night the Parliament houses were fired.

Incendiarism. Regarded Certain.

Ottawa, Feb. 5.—Members and employees of the Canadian Parliament are unanimous in the belief that Thursday night's fire in the government buildings was the work of a plotter, who started the blaze from electric light wires.

Sir Wilfred Laurier made it plain in an address today that he believed the blaze was incendiary. A committee is to be named to make a full inquiry. Charles Strony, a Chicago musician, who was held as a suspect, has been released.

What is believed to have been an attempt to blow up the great Victoria bridge, was frustrated today by guards, who shot at a man creeping in the darkness amongst the abutments.

WAR DEPARTMENT IS AGAINST IMPROVING UPPER NEUSE RIVER

Reports Adversely on Congressman Hood's Pet Scheme—Such Action Is Expected Since Project Had Been Frowned Upon

The War Department, says a report from Washington, reported to Congress Friday adversely on the project for improvement of Neuse river between Goldsboro and New Bern.

Such action had been expected, since a report of the Board of Engineers who investigated the project some months ago indicated that a favorable report would not be forthcoming. The engineers did not think the benefits that would accrue from a deeper, straighter and wider channel would be compatible with the expense of the undertaking.

The improvement of the upper part of the Neuse was Congressman Geo. Hood's pet scheme. The new Representative from the Third district hoped to see steamer competition with the rail lines running into Kinston and Goldsboro, and river transportation afforded the small places along the stream. The Kinston and Goldsboro Chambers of Commerce backed the Congressman and furnished the district engineers with a mass of data and lots of argument.

Mr. Hood, it is believed, will not press further action on the project in the near future, but hopes yet to see the improvement achieved within a few years.

The funeral of S. J. Nobles was held near Greenville on Friday. Mr. Nobles, who was 51 years of age and prominent in Pitt county, died in a Norfolk hospital. He was a bachelor.

NOTHING IS WRONG WITH KINSTON AS A MEAT MARKET, SAYS

Farm Demonstrator McCrary Declares Farmers Who Get Poor Prices for Product Do Not Deserve Better

(By the United Press)

"Men who complain that there is not a market here for home-raised meat don't know what they are talking about," said O. F. McCrary, the agent of the Agricultural Department in Lenoir County, today. "Hogs, I have heard it said, cannot be sold here at a profit," he stated. "There is nothing wrong at all with the market. They don't market their meat in businesslike fashion those fellows who talk of an unsatisfactory market. They kill and dress the hogs and then bring them on to Kinston regardless of what the situation may be at the moment. There may be too much meat on hand already. They may not have taken sufficient pains with the product. There may be other reasons, why they do not get top prices."

"There are some planters in the county who grow meat who know how to market it. Herring Bros., for instance, who conduct a farm at Falling Creek along modern lines, produced 49 hogs averaging 200 pounds. They sold 6,000 pounds right off at 10 cents. They did not go helterskelter about the work of disposing of it at a profit, but secured orders in advance, took pains with the product, and made a respectable profit. They have been encouraged. They are going to build concrete feeding floors and a dipping vat to rid their animals of lice. The floors and vat will be the first in the county, I think. And they are going in for hog-raising on a big scale this year.

"It isn't at all a perishable product. Why don't these people prepare their meat to keep and market it when there is demand for it, thus securing the best prices?"

BULLETINS

(By the United Press)

PHILIPPINE AMENDMENT PASSED.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 5.—The amendment to the Philippine bill was passed in the Senate last night, and is expected to pass in the House, to educate the natives and abandon coaling stations.

FELIX DIAZ BEING WATCHED.

Washington, Feb. 5.—Felix Diaz is at New Orleans, believed to be preparing for an expedition into Mexico through Guatemala. He is being watched, it was said today at the Department of Justice.

INSANE MAN WHO TOOK OWN LIFE HADN'T BEEN IN PRISON IN KINSTON

A report from Raleigh says F. L. Collins of Jones county, inmate of the Central Hospital for the Insane, hanged himself in his room in that institution. He was 32 years of age and had been in the asylum only a month. He used bed clothes to hang himself with.

The Sheriff's office here today stated that Collins was not a man of the same surname who was in the county jail here for several weeks for insanity. That person was L. E. Collins of Onslow county, since returned home.

DEFENSE LOOKS FOR ACQUITTAL OF MRS. MOHR BEFORE NIGHT

Judge Advises Jury That Woman Should Not Be Found Guilty Unless the Same Verdict Is Returned Against Negroes

(By the United Press)

Providence, Feb. 5.—Mrs. Elizabeth Mohr may know her fate before night. Judge Stearns delivered his charge to the jury this morning. The defense is confident, but is preparing an appeal in case the decision is adverse. Lawyers for the defense expect a quick verdict. The judge declared that the jury cannot find the woman guilty without also finding Brown and Spellman, negroes on trial with her, guilty.

KITCHIN NOT LESS DETERMINED, SAYS

Still Believes In "Reasonable Preparedness"—President Has Said Nothing That Affected His Opinion on Matter of National Defense—Nation Not Open to Attack, Leader Thinks

(Special to The Free Press)

Washington, Feb. 5.—Floor Leader Claud Kitchin, principal opponent in Congress of the President's preparedness program, declared today that nothing the latter had said in his recent speeches on the subject had tended to change his views. The United States is not open to attack by any power, said the North Carolina Congressman, occupied as are all the other first-class powers with the world war from which they cannot spare a man nor a gun. He thinks ships now building and authorized will bring the navy up to equality with any other for defensive purposes. He is still for "reasonable preparedness."

IMPLICATE MAN IN THE DEATH OF YOUNG GIRL

Yadkinville, Feb. 4.—According to the verdict returned by the jury appointed by Coroner W. E. Rutledge to find the cause of the death of Miss Ophia Miller, the young woman who died here several days ago under circumstances which indicated the guilt of a man who had been paying her court, the unfortunate girl came to her death through taking medicine given her by Harvey Lynch, who it is alleged, advised her to take the medicine to hide a wrong he had done her.

OVERCASH DENIES HE KILLED YOUNG WIFE

Statesville, Feb. 4.—Houston Overcash, on trial here for the murder of his wife, took the stand in his own behalf today. He denied his guilt, declaring that he was at his home at the time his wife was shot at the home of her parents some miles away, and branded much of the evidence introduced by the State as false.

DYESTUFFS FROM CHINA FOR DURHAM COMPANY

Wilmington, Feb. 4.—Three tons of indigo dye are on their way to Durham, for the Erwin Cotton Mills, from China, this unusual shipment having been recorded in the local customs house. Durham is in the Wilmington district. The dye came through Seattle, and is being shipped by rail.

TEXTILE MEN SWAP COMPLIMENTS WITH KEATING'S BACKERS

Telegrams On Child Labor Questions Exchanged By Two Bodies

"NOT RIGHT SOLUTION"

Say Southern Mill Operators of Bill—Call Attention to Situation In New York With Regard to Employing Children

(Special to The Free Press)

Charlotte, Feb. 5.—The Keating child labor bill was discussed by representatives of the Southern branch of the National Association of Hosiery and Underwear Manufacturers in session here yesterday. The bill was declared to be: "Not the proper solution of the child labor question," supported by "distorted facts," and "handled in a way to excite factional feeling." Non-partisan handling of the tariff question through a commission was endorsed, and resolutions were passed favoring legislation to prevent the selling of foreign products in American markets at the close of the war, at prices less than those prevailing in the countries of origin.

Sharp Tilt With Child Labor Conference.

A telegram was sent the National Child Labor conference, now in session at Asheville, advising that "if conditions are as bad in Southern mills as have been painted by you, something should be done for the relief of the children." "Explanations" were called for, including one of why the "Keating bill was so drawn by you as not to affect tenement house work in New York, where you well know that children of five and six years of age work for 12 to 15 hours per day under the most unfavorable conditions."

The answer came: "Do you wish us to understand that the commonwealths you represent are so impoverished that the burden of family support must rest on the shoulders of little children under 14 years of age? Would adequate wages to adults help relieve this poverty?"

"We have no funds to support poor families."

"We hope the Keating bill will do for the tenement children in New York what local workers have been unable to do. The Keating-Owen bill will clearly affect products of New York tenement manufacture in interstate commerce just as it will affect interstate commerce in the products of Southern or any other textile mills."

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON BRANDEIS ARE TO BE STARTED WEDNESDAY

(By the United Press)

Washington, Feb. 5.—Public hearings will open Wednesday on the fitness of Louis Brandeis for the Supreme Court place, it was decided today at a meeting of the Senate subcommittee.

ENGLAND IS DRAFTING THE APPAM PROTEST

(By the United Press)

London, Feb. 5.—A formal note of protest against the turning of the Appam over to her German captors is being drafted at the Foreign Office.

NEW BERN TAKES THE ADVICE OF PROFFITT AND TALKS OF TOYS

Following the advice given by Edward W. J. Proffitt, the New Englander who visited Kinston Wednesday and spoke to the Chamber of Commerce that night, New Bern business interests are considering the establishment there of a toy factory as an experimental enterprise, it is reported on excellent authority. Mr. Proffitt suggested to the Chamber here that this section could produce wooden toys for the entire country; he said its scrap wood that could go into toys is being burned up. Toy plants could be operated more cheaply here than anywhere else in the United States, probably. He al-

PREPARING ALREADY FOR THE SEASON AT THE ATLANTIC HOTEL

The Norfolk Southern Railroad is even now making preparations for the summer season at Morehead City. That resort will be "boosted" to the limit this year. The railroad's big hotel, the Atlantic, at Morehead City, is to be renovated during the coming three months, and an early opening is expected to be made. It is not known who will manage the house. The manager may be announced next week, however, it is known. so told New Bern the same thing. It is said the New Bern business men will take the matter up with Northern capitalists at once.