VOL. XVII.--No. 237

TERRIFIC OFFENSIVE OF THE GERMAN **ARMIES ALONG HU NORED MILES ENEMY** LINES TODAY; T URKS EVACUATE CITY

Swiss Reports Positive That Teutons Intend Gigantic Assault on St. Quentin, Only 20 Leagues from Paris-Trebizond Will Fall Into Hands of Slavs Without Resistance, Persian Advices Say-Garrison Would Be Trapped Between Two Approaching Armies-Paris Is Confident That Allies Will Hold Own In West-Germans Shifting Artillery and Greatest Struggle Yet Expected to Begin at Verdun

(By the United Press)

LONDON, Feb. 29.-Suddenly shifting their attack, the Germans launched a heavy drive on Verdun from the east, aiming to squeeze the French out and threatening an enveloping movement. Frightful German losses are believed to have caused the Kaiser to cease massed assaults on Verdun.

LONDON, Feb. 29.-The decisive battle at Verdun is beginning. Checked on Pepper Heights, the Germans are bringing up their heaviest artillery to blast away the trenches. There has been indescribable slaughter at the ruins of Douaumont. The Teutons are today attacking along a hundred-mile front, after a lull due to the shifting of artillery. Paris is confident of the failure of the attacks, although expecting the Teutons to fight desperately at the renewal. Swiss dispatches insist that the Verdun attack was but a diversion, and say the Germans Warren, hotel proprietor who, she are ready for a great attack now on St. Quentin, only 60 charged. had wronged her before her miles from Paris.

Ottoman Forces Evacuating Trebizond.

Petrograd, Feb. 29.—The Turks are hastily evacuat-ing the Black seaport of Trebizond and neighboring cities before the advance of the Russians, say Tiflis dispatches. The evacuation was necessitated by the approach of two Russian forces.

All Attacks Repulsed, Says Paris.

PARIS, Feb. 29 .- All German attacks at Verdun during the past 24 hours have been repulsed, it is said officially., The French are entirely in control of the country surrounding Douamont. It is admitted that the Germans have captured the village of Manheulles, eleven miles from Verdun, and are driving now to force the evacuation of Verdun by a squeezing process. The loss of several trenches in Lorraine was admitted, but these have been recaptured, it is said. The heavy bombardment continues. The Kaiser watched the Verdun battle today in a fierce storm, despite the warnings of physicians, prisoners said.

German Hospitals Crowded.

PLANT MAKING GASES FOR ALLIES BLOWN UP Damage \$50,000-Only One Man Injured-Company at Woburn, Mass., Had Received Threatening Letters and Employed Large Force of Guards. But Could Not Prevent the Explosion.

(By the United Press)

Woburn, Mass., Feb. 29 .- A thun-

SECOND EDITION

ferous explosion today blew up a building of the New England Manufacturing Company. making gases for the Allies' bombs. The company had received threatening letters, and the plant was heavily guarded. The uilding was blown high into the air. The men escaped except one injured. The loss will exceed \$50,000.

GIRL BRIDE'S CRIME BEING INVESTIGATED

(By the United Press) Fort Worth, Texas, Feb. 29 .--The defense of Mrs. Katherine Harrison, fifteen-year-old bride, charged with the murder of W. L. Warren, will be that she saved the State the trouble of executing him for assault. The defense contends that she is a child, and cannot be tried.

Fort Worth, Texas, Feb. 28 .- The grand jury today began investigation of the confession alleged to have been made by Mrs. Katherine Harrison, that she shot and killed W. B. marriage. She became the bride, of Harrison, who is 20 years old, two days after Warren's body was found in a road near here December 22, 1915.

WHAT SOME OF THEM ARE DOING WITH THE EXTRA DAY IN YEAR

(By the United Press) Minneapolis, Feb. 29.-Ten civic organizations chose today, an unusual date, for launching a campaign against mosquitoes, in this city surrounded by a State that has 10,000 lakes. It is planned to eliminate every puddle in the state where wa-

ter stagnates. Dallas, Tex., Feb. 29 .- Three bish- birthday today. He would be fortyns. Luther E. Todd of St. Louis, W. four years ald had he heep

TO UPHOLD WILSON SCHOOL ORATORS TO AT THE CONVENTION DEBATE BIG Will Attempt Nothing to "Preparedness" to Be Dis-

clares Democratic State Chairman of Nebraska After Talk With Bryan

KINSTON, N. C., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1916

THE THE THE DAILY FREE PRESS

(By United Press)

Washington, Feb. 29 .- The upholding of Wilson by Bryan for renomination is expected to lead to a solid Nebraska delegation to the convention in favor of Wilson. He won't seek to inject into the platform preparedness nor the diplomatic policy for repudiating Wilson. it is authoritatively stated by Judge W. H. Thompson, the Nebraska State chairman, following a visit to Mr. Bryan at Miami. Judge Thompson is a personal political friend and adviser of Mr. Bryan. The people misunderstand Bryan, he said.

DAVID EVANS TAKEN **IN PAMLICO COUNTY**

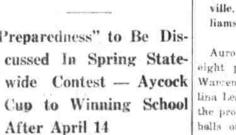
New Bern, Feb. 29-David

PROGRESS OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

Hughes vs. Moseley, an action concerning a note, was concluded in Civil Superior Court today, the jury finding for the defendant, colored, in all the issues.

THE ODDEST STORY IN THE DAY'S NEWS

Dallas. Tex., Feb. 29.-Mayor H. D. Lindsley celebrated his tenth ties participated and the Winston-Salem high school was awarded the



(Special to The Free Press) Chapel Hill, Feb. 29.- The quesion of preparedness will be threshschools, from Murphy, Cherokce county, in the west, to Manteo, Dare county, in the east, are working on

the question, "Resolved. That the United States should adopt the policy of greatly increasing its navy." On March 31, 1,200 of these debaters, who will have been chosen as representatives in preliminaries held in their respective high schools, will

> meet in a State-wide debate on this question of preparedness, the occasion being the annual triangular contest of the High School Debating Union. Each debating team enters this contest with the view of winning the Aycock Memorial Cup, the trophy provided by the inter-collegiate debaters of the University of North Carolina.

Each school enrolled for this contest is grouped with two others for a triangular debate. every school having a team on the affirmative ide of the question and one on the acgative. The schools winning both debates send their representatives to Chapel Hill to compete for the Aycock Cup in the final contest to be neld here April 14.

The High School Debating Union, onducted by the Bureau of Extenion and the Dialectic and Philanthropic literary societies of the University of North Carolina, was organized in 1912-13. In the first year of the union's existence, 90 schools in 40 counties took part in the debates,

and the Pleasant Garden High School of Guilford county, won the cup. In 1914, 150 high schools in 64 coun-

was a minor event compared to reve-

lations which he would make Seymour

declared he would bring forth a wit-

ness who would reveal extensive sal-

Today's hearing on the Eaton-Rowe

DIES BRITISH CITIZEN

Landon, Feb. 28 .- Henry James,

Henry James was born an Ameri-

an but died a British subject. In

such an attachment for the country

ish cause in the European war.

BUFFALO BILL AT

the novelist, died today.

case itself developed little of interest.

HENRY JAMES, NOVELIST,

ary splitting in the city hall.

PRO. BASEBALL ASS'N FOR V. BERNSTORF first Town to Respond to Proposition for League is Smallest Considered-Believed Likely Combination Would Be Kinston, Greenville, Washington, Aurora, Williamston, Plymouth

FOUR PAGES

Aurora, the smallest town of the right proposed by Lawyer Lindsay Warren for the semi-pro. East Carolina League, is the first to respond to the proposal. "We will be there with balls on," was the message that Warren has had at his office in Washington from the Aurora fans. That town will employ four professional

men, that using the maximum permitted in Warren's plan, and will ed out in 325 North Carolina high guarantee à self-supporting club. schools this spring. Already 2,000 Aurora has not a thousand poulayoung debaters in the State high tion. It will send a dozen representatives to the meeting in Washington on March 15.

Copies of Mr. Warren's circular letter forwarded to Kinston fans outline his scheme in full. "I believe that if this plan is adopted, the expenses attached there o will be very small and that the league will be practically self-supporting." he says. "A schedule of fifty games would be sufficicat"-each team playing two at home and two abroad every week. He would like to see at least six teams in the association, although he has addressed interested parties in eight towns. The safest combination that could be devised, probably, would be Kinston, Greenville, Washington, Aurora, Plymouth and Williamston, the last named three being small

places but "enthusiastic and willing to put up the money."

ENGLAND FEELS QUITE CHESTY OVER ITS BIG ARMY NOW IN HARNESS

By WILBUR S. FORREST, (United Press Staff Correspondent) London, Feb. 16-(By Mail-There is a brand new germ in the British air. Atmospheric atoms that had the general effect of something akin to gloom several months ago and which prompted British statesmen made in the Lusitania matter, so far and public alike to speak less con- as neaceful merchantmen are confidently about the final outcome of cerned, but that the presence of guns the war, have disappeared. These implies intent to resist. Submarine atoms have been replaced by bright- can't warn liner if the liner plans to er colored atoms; peppy, optimistic fire, the memorandum says, and cites little tikes.

Head of State Department Does Not Like "Improper Publicity" **REBUKE IN A STATEMENT**

THE WEATHER

PRICE TWO CENTS FIVE CENTS ON TRAINS

ANOTHER CALL DOWN

ROM SEC'Y LANSING

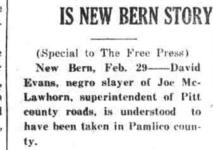
Remarks That Quotations From Latest Memorandum From Berlin Made Public In U. S. Did Not Come from Officials

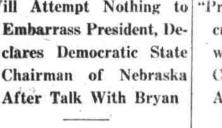
(By the United Press) New York, Feb. 29 .- The going into effect of the merchantmen decree is now a matters of hours. Eight big liners are ready to sail from here with hundreds of passengers. Six Italian vessels have armed at New York and are now ready to sail. Several ships are now in the war zone.

Washington, Feb. 29 .- Secretary ansing today administered another lirect rebuke to Ambassador Von-Cornstorff for what he believes to e improper publicity. He issued a delement announcing that statements of the contents of the German memorandum outlined by Von Bernstorff yesterday were not made pubic by himself, nor the department, and that no statements have been made expressing the Department's views of the memorandum. The statement followed the printing this morning of purported paragraphs from the memorandum.

Mr. Lansing conferred with President Wilson today preceding the cabmet meeting.

The text of the German memorandum obtained by the United Press saya Germany will keep its pledges a secret British admiralty order to attack submarines. The reason for submarines is that they fear attack.





SAYS BRYAN CERT'N HUNDREDS OF HIGH AURORA WANTS SEMI-

LONDON, Feb. 29 .- Over forty-five thousand Germans have been killed at Verdun, the central news says a dispatch from Amsterdam. Eight thousand corpses still line two miles of the front. Endless trains of the wounded are arriving at Metz and the hospitals at Coblentz, Treves, Cologne and other German cities are overflowing.

German Report On Battle.

BERLIN, FEB. 29.-The Germans have captured a small armored work northwest of Douaumont, itisofficially said. Nearly seventeen thousand prisoners have been taken in the Woevre region, east of Verdun. The Germans have passed Dieppe, Abacourt and Blancee, and captured Manheulle and Chamlon.

Rocky Mount, Feb. 28 .- Defying

arrest, George Collins. a young white

man of Faucette township, Halifax

county, yesterday fired upon and fa-

tally wounded Deputy Sheriff C. M.

on a warrant by the officer charging

him with having jumped a board bill,

and with a shotgun opened fire on the

stomach that resulted in Deputy

Hawkins' death within a few hours.

Rio de Janeiro, Feb. 28 .- All Bra-

zil is preparing for the annual three

day Mardi Gras carnival, early in

March. The annual carnival cele-

brated in Rio de Janeiro, as a gorg-

eous spectacle claims to far over-

leans. It is estimated that \$1.000,-

000 was spent on siphons of perfume

WELL KNOWN

PECULIAR FACTS ABOUT

Washington, Feb. 29 .--

Leader Kitchin wears a

alone last year.

isn't in its place.

WORTH OF PERFUME.

THEY SQUIRT \$1,000,000

BANKER RUNS MACHINE OFFICER KILLED BY MAN OVER BOY; MAY DIE **HE SOUGHT TO ARREST**

Salisbury, Feb. 28 .- With a crushed hip, a hole in his head and a badly bruised body, Joseph Owen, a 7year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Owen of Salisbury is in a critical Hawkins. The young man was sought condition at a local hospital tonight as a result of being run over this afternoon by a 5-passenger automobile owned and driven by Mr. W. T. Busby, assistant cashier of the People's officer, inflicting a wound in the National Bank here.

DIAZ GOES TO MEXICO **TO START NEW REVOLT**

Washington, Feb. 28 .- Felix Diaz, who has been watched for several months by Department of Justice representatives because of suspected activities in violation of American shadow that of Venice or of New Orneutrality, apparently has left the United States for Mexico with the intention of launching a revolution against the Carranza de facto gov ernment. Information reaching officials here indicates that he hopes to organize and lead the troops of his native State, Oxaca, and such other forces in Southern Mexico as he can drooping from a corner of gather about him. General Diaz left when a briar pipe, black New Orleans Friday for Havana.

Methodist membership campaign to be inaugurated in Texas and New Mexico, March 12.

Tulsa, Okla., Feb. 29 .- Tulsa busi- 000 offer for the Democratic national ness men selected the extra day in

the year to celebrate Prosperity Day. in addition to the usual carnival features, a battery of public speakers will tell Tulsa what a regular city it

ELECTION BATTLE OVER RACE PROBLEM

St. Louis, Feb. 29 .- After a stiff legal fight against the holding of an election on the subject, St. Louis voters today are deciding by ballot whether negroes here shall be compelled to live within residential districts selected for them. The Segregation Bill, as the plan is called. would prevent whites and negroes from living in the same blocks and would compel white persons to move from their homes in blocks the majority of whose residents are negroes. Negroes would be prohibited from

living in blocks in which the majority of the residents are white. Should segregation win, negroes and white interests opposed to the proposed law, will attack it as unconstitutional, they said today, on the ground that it is discriminatory.



Winston-Salem, Feb. 28 .- The Davie county courthouse at Mocksville was destroyed by fire tonight. The origin is not known. The building was erected five years ago and cost over thirty thousand dollars. A oneweek's term of the Superior Court opened there this morning.

R. Labbuth of Birmingham, Ala., and day earlier. As it is, he has a birth 50 counties entered the contest and E. E. Hoss of Muskogee, Okla., were day only once every four years, and the Wilson high school was the winhere today to aid in planning the 1900 hears a centennial year he had ner of the cup.

none from 1896 to 1904. It was chiefly through Mayor Lindsley's influence that Dallas made the \$100.

convention.



(By the United Press)

Copenhagen, Feb. 29.-The Gothenburg steamer Knippla, of 500 tons, has been mined south of Falsterbo, outside Swedish territorial waters. Fifteen of the crew and two women passengers were saved.

THOUSAND PROBABLY LOST WITH SINKING SHIP.

Paris, Feb. 29 .- The French auxiliary cruiser Provence, sunk in the Mediterranean Saturday, it is officially reported. A thousand persons are believed to have been lost. Eight hundred were saved.

Ten boats are at the scene of the disaster seeking survivors. The Provence was formerly a trans-Atlantic liner. Some survivors have been landed at Malta, some on the Greek island of Melos.

AT LEAST SIX DEAD IN MINE EXPLOSION

(By the United Press)

Cumberland, Md., Feb. 29 .--Six Persons are reported to be dead and twenty injured, buried under debris by an explosion in the Davis Coal and Coke Company's mine at Kempton, W. Va.

From the big government buildings in Whitehall to the smallest London shop there is a marked change in the conversation. Every man in the street knows that Britain is getting PROMISES TO REVEAL ready for the big show. The aver-

age Britisher still throws out his **BIG GRAFT IN CHICAGO** hest if the navy is mentioned, But aday he will show a broader exmanse of shirtfront when it comes to Chicago, Feb. 28 .- Asserting that the Easton-Rowe graft controversy

telk about the army. The predominant topic of interest has become the Tommies.

With about 4.000,000 men in khaki, Stedman, attorney for Mrs. Waller England is preparing to do things in Page Eaton, former head of the Sothe spring, on land. That is comcial Welfare Department, who has mon talk. No Britisher has los) any charged she had, been compelled to of his confidence in the Navy, but zive up part of her salary for the he has given up hope that the Cerbencht of a member of Mayor Wilman fleet will come out and fight, so liam Hale Thompson's family, today he is leaving the navy to control the seas and taking for granted that it will.

Cabinet members, peers and plebians alike look forward to the spring campaign. The government leaders who six months ago modified their earlier pronouncements that "Germany must be crushed" to the gentler assertion that "the war cannot cease until the enemy has evacuated France and Belgium and restored the rights of smaller nations" are today reasserting the former statement with vigor. The reason is said to be new confidence in the army.



and sympathy with its people that he desired to throw his moral weight. Charlotte, Feb. 28 .- O. P. Heath, and personal allegiance into the Britsenior member of the cotton firm of O. P. Heath & Co., shot and killed himself in his office here today. He was one of the oldest merchants in 71ST MILESTONE TODAY the cotton business in this section and one of the largest operators. Two Cody, Wyo., Feb. 28 .-- Colonel Wm. years ago he met financial reverses,

F. Cody, "Buffalo Bill," Indian scout, but was apparently doing a thriving showman and character dear to the business at this time. He was about hearts of the youngsters of three gen- 60 years old and leaves a family, also erations, is hale and hearty at his several brothers, who are prominent home here today, his 71st birthday. cotton manufacturers in this also avere heard.

AMERICAN MURDERED BY VILLISTAS, SAID

(By the United Press) Washington, Feb. 29.-Grover C. Varn, an American, has been murdered at Pome, Durango, Mexico, by Villistas, says a State Department report. Labor conditions in the Mexican capital are unsettled.

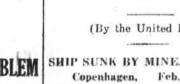
HAITI IS NOW A REAL PROTECTORATE OF U.S.

Washington, Feb. 28 .- The Senate ate today unanimously ratified the treaty with Haiti under which the United States assumes a protectorate over the turbulent island republic, aking over control of its finances and police, guaranteeing its territorial integrity and undertaking to develop its resources. The treaty has already been approved by the Haitien Congress and its terms virtually are n operation under the eye of a strong American marine expedition.

FIRE IN LUMBER MILL EARLY THIS MORNING

The East Kinston Company exlingshed a small fire at Hines Bros.' Lumber Mill, East Kinston, al 5 a. m. today, before the downtown firemen arrived. The blaze was in a boilerroom at the plant, damaging the roof some. The damage was stated to be slight. The firemen responded in a rain.

The Pitt county Republicans Satarday in a short convention appointed delegates to the various conventions. No speeches nor resolutions



(By the United Press)