

### SECRECY IN MATTER PEACE NEGOTIATIONS POPE & PRESIDENT

#### Wilson Did Not Even Consult Cabinet in Reply to Benedict

### DELEGATE HAS ANSWER

#### Mgr. Bonzano Got It Monday Night—Hope Expressed That America Can Be of Service at End of the Struggle in Europe

(By the United Press.)  
Washington, May 17.—The President has sent his reply to Pope Benedict's communication on the subject of peace. The reply was given Mgr. Bonzano, the Papal Delegate, Monday night. It replied to the Pope's suggestion in an expression of earnest hope and desire that the United States should not be plunged into the great war, but should maintain neutrality in order to be of service at the war's end.

The greatest secrecy was thrown about the exchange of communications.

#### Cabinet Not In On Secret.

So confidential did the President consider it, that he did not discuss the matter with the cabinet, but had Secretary Lansing aid in preparing his answer.

#### POTATO PLANTING.

Chemist, the Lime Service Bureau, Washington, D. C.

"Do not put barnyard manure, lime or woodashes on the potato ground." This is American experience with an average production of 150 bushels to the acre. "Lime potato ground moderately and use woodashes, if available." This is German experience, with an average production of 350 bushels to the acre. What is the meaning of this contradiction? It means only that scab infected seed develops scab faster than potato in a sweet soil, although the healthy potato in a healthy soil only grows generously when the soil is sweet.

Why is this true? Because the potato is a heavy potash feeder. Potato fertilizers contain ten per cent. potash. You cannot get such this year, and you are therefore, compelled to get the potash from the soil board. This is only possible with lime. The American farmer is, therefore, "between the devil and the deep blue sea," and he must steer a middle course. Lime moderately and be sure to kill all scab and "little potato fungus" on the seed.

For this purpose, mix one pint of formalin from the drug store with thirty gallons of water. Hang the seed potatoes in a sack in the barrel for two hours, then spread on a clean floor washed with the same solution, to dry before cutting. Where "stem rot" is feared, as well as scab, dissolve two ounces of corrosive sublimate in two gallons of hot water. When dissolved, pour into twelve gallons of water in a barrel and hang the sack of potatoes in for one and one-half hours. Dry on a clean floor, wiped with the same solution, before cutting, and do not forget you are handling poison and must wash your hands after using the liquid and cutting the potatoes.

### BAND OF SECOND INFANTRY.

Band will assemble at 7 p. m., May 19. Occasion, review by President of the United States at Charlotte, N. C. Uniform, summer service: cotton breeches, leggings and hats of the new issue and shirts. Men to be neatly trimmed and shaved. D. M.

Mr. Charles Bender, former confidential agent for John D. Rockefeller and now in charge of the Standard Oil's business in this part of the United States, is expected, with Mrs. Bender, to visit Kinston this week.

### MAPS CASEMENT HAD PROVE REBELLION A PRODUCT OF BERLIN

By WILBUR S. FORREST,  
(United Press Staff Correspondent)  
the possession of Sir Roger. Case-  
London, May 17.—Maps found in the possession of Sir Roger Casement support the contention that the Irish rebellion was planned in the Berlin war office. Lieut.-Col. Gordon today testified.  
At the conclusion of the preliminary hearing this afternoon Casement and his confederate were remanded for trial on the treason charge.

### TROOPS RESCUE TWO MEN FROM MEXICANS IN TOWN OVER LINE

(By the United Press)  
Marathon, Texas, May 17.—Jesse Deemer, a rancher, and Monroe Payne, a negro, captured by the Glenn Springs raiders, have been rescued by American troops at an unnamed Mexican town, it is said. The reports are not confirmed.

### AGRICULTURAL

#### Roundtree & Co.'s Cotton Letter.

(Special to The Free Press)  
New York, May 16.—Another wild advance took place in the cotton market last week, carrying December to 13-1/2 cents before the rise culminated. This carried the whole market to a point where selling became sufficient to cause a reactionary movement. This readjustment has now been in progress for two days, and at the close tonight, a setback of over 30 points was shown in October.

After two months of extreme dullness, and a sudden upheaval of a cent a pound in two or three weeks, it is not surprising that sentiment should be more conservative for the time being. Quite regardless of the future course of prices, there is so much cotton in the country that an advance of a cent a pound requires more or less uncertainty as the holders of actual cotton who are willing to sell on the rise offer their holdings, which in turn, must be absorbed by the future market. The test of the advance will come after a natural reaction of possibly forty or fifty points, which may not be impossible considering the rise of over a cent and a quarter. Some have been opposed to the recent advance, while others who desired to get cotton have been waiting for a reaction before coming in. Many spinners, too, failed to cover forward sales of goods by the purchase of hedges, and they buying is likely to be an important factor in due time.

As far as the cotton situation goes, there has been no radical change for several weeks. The progress of the new crop, which is one of the very important factors, can hardly be termed satisfactory. Many of the best cotton producing counties of Southern and Central Texas have had little or no rain for two months. In addition to this, the situation along the Atlantic coast is not such as to arouse enthusiasm. It has been so dry that a great deal of cotton planted has not come up, much planting has not been done, and temperatures have been above a reasonable average. At the present writing, particularly when the deficiency in the use of fertilizers is taken into consideration, the situation is not overdrawn when it is termed one of the most spotted years. In view of the fact that present consumption is so enormous that the visible supply is now about 1,400,000 bales less than last year, in spite of the large crop of two years ago, the market will be in a most susceptible condition throughout the entire growing season.

There is no denying the fact that war news has had a decided effect on the market. Advices from many directions, emanating from the Central Empires, have been such as to increase the conviction that Germany is getting in a very bad way, and that every month now brings peace nearer. The cotton market has started to discount that event, and fluctuations, for some time to come, are likely to be extensive.

Cotton Seed Oil.—The market has apparently halted for the time being. Would prefer buying at this level.

### MANUFACTURERS OF COUNTRY SHOULD BE THE MOST THOROUGH

#### To Hold the United States' Place in World's Markets, President Tells Head of the Federal Trade Commission in Letter

(By the United Press)  
Washington, May 17.—In a letter to Edward N. Surley, chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, the President today puts his O. K. on the Commission's encouragement of trade for manufacturers' and other similar associations. He appeals for the Commission's closer co-operation with the businessmen "to keep down the mortality rate among American industries."  
He says that if the United States is to be an "important factor in the world's markets we must be more efficient and thorough in production."

### MICHIGAN DEMOCRATS NAMING DELEGATION

Lansing, Mich., May 17.—The Democratic State Convention assembled here this afternoon. Election of delegates-at-large to the St. Louis convention was the only important business on schedule. They are expected to be all for Wilson.

### HUNGARIANS DON'T APPROVE GERMANS' ZEPPELIN WARFARE

Zurich, Switzerland, May 17.—Hungarians disapprove of Germany's zeppelin campaign. They object to it both on grounds of humanity and for what they consider its uselessness.

Newspapers received here from the most important cities in Hungary are almost unanimous in deprecating such methods.  
"By striking terror into the people of England," says the Hirlap, commenting on Zeppelin activities, "it is thought that the government will suffer, as we can now see clearly, the raids do not serve the purpose they were intended for, and only result in the annihilation of civilians."

### BRUTE CHARGED WITH ASSAULTING 4 SMALL WHITE GIRLS IN VA.

Wise, Va., May 16.—Milton Mallory, a negro, 23 years old, is on trial at a special term of the Wise county Court here, charged with having on May 13, assaulted four girls, ranging in age from 8 to 11 years old. Mallory, who has been employed as a porter at an Appalachia (Va.) hotel, is alleged to have given the children candy which had been drugged.  
The four children are daughters of prominent Wise county families. The crimes have created high feeling in this section.

### ELKS STOR WASHINGTON FOR ANNUAL CONVENT'N

(Special to The Free Press)  
Washington, N. C., May 17.—Several hundred Elks arrived here this morning and early in the afternoon to attend the annual State convention. A spectacular parade will be held late this afternoon. Two hundred girls will ride in autos in one section. Joe Tayloe of this city and Washington, D. C., will preside over the convention. Between 800 and 1,000 delegates are expected.

Greensboro, May 16.—With the annual concert in the college auditorium this evening the commencement exercises of Greensboro College for Women came to a close.

### GERMANS FAIL GAIN IN ATTACKS AROUND VERDUN, SAY FR'NCH

#### Two Assaults Repulsed—Gunners Busy Last Night—Offensive On Western Front Has Cost Kaiser 300,000 Men, Stated

(By the United Press)  
Paris, May 17.—German attempts to drive their line forward northwest of Verdun, near Dead Man's Hill, by a grenade assault, failed completely. The war office today reported. A similar attempt was defeated on the east bank of the Meuse northwest of Thiaumont. Artillery of both sides was active on the right bank of the Meuse last night.

London, May 17.—Three hundred thousand Germans have been killed or put out of action at Verdun so far, according to dispatches from the front. The losses have been so severe as to preclude any real offensive at Riga.

### NEWS OF NEIGHBORING CITIES AND COUNTIES IN SHORT PARAGRAPHS

An effort is being made in court at New Bern to break the will of the late Henry J. Staub. Relatives claim he was not of sound mind when he made the will, leaving property worth \$15,000 or \$20,000 to the New Bern Christian Science church.

Will Crawford, colored, shot by another negro, eHenry Jones, at James City Sunday night, is dead.

New Bern expects 300 visitors when the Epworth Leagues of the State hold the annual conference there next month.

Bruce, Pitt county, Tuesday had the heaviest rainfall in six or seven years—3.17 inches.

### LUNSFORD KILLED WIFE AND COMMITTED SUICIDE

Warsaw, May 16.—James Lunsford of Kenansville, a young man of 35 years, shot and killed his wife as she sat reading a newspaper in her room and turning his weapon, an automatic shotgun, on himself pulled the trigger with his toes, inflicting a wound in his abdomen from which he died instantly.

### BOTH PENNSYLVANIA LEADERS CHALLENGED

Harrisburg, Pa., May 16.—Controlling organizations of both the leading political parties in Pennsylvania go to the primary polls today to defend their titles.

The movement to wrest the Republican leadership from Boise Penrose, senior United States Senator, is headed by Governor Martin G. Ebrubough. He is backed by the Philadelphia faction.

On the Democratic side the leadership of National Committeeman A. Mitchell Palmer, former congressman, is challenged by Congressman Michael Liebel of Erie.

### ROCKEFELLER EXPECTED TO ADDRESS BAPTISTS

Minneapolis, Minn., May 17.—John D. Rockefeller was expected to be among the 3,000 delegates for the International Baptist convention, which opened an eight-day session here. He is to make an address.

### GREENSBORO COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT OVER

Greensboro, May 16.—With the annual concert in the college auditorium this evening the commencement exercises of Greensboro College for Women came to a close.

### MRS. WILSON GOING TO CHARLOTTE WITH PRESIDENT FRIDAY

#### Will Spend Saturday in North Carolina City—Governors Three States to Be There—Chief Executive to Make Speech

(By the United Press)  
Washington, May 17.—The President leaves Washington Friday night for Charlotte, N. C., to address a gathering in commemoration of the signing of the Declaration of Mecklenburg. He arrives at Charlotte on Saturday morning, and will review an industrial parade, attend a reception marked by the attendance of the Governors of both the Carolinas and Virginia, deliver an address at 12:30 and attend a luncheon in his honor.  
He leaves Charlotte Saturday evening to return to Washington. He will be accompanied by Mrs. Wilson and Dr. Cary T. Grayson.

### REUNIONS AS LONG AS THERE ARE ANY VETS.

Birmingham, Ala., May 16.—There will be a re-union of the old Confederate soldiers as long as there is a handful to reunite, according to the sentiment expressed at the opening session of the annual reunion of the United Confederate Veterans here today.

### ALABAMA SOLDIERS ENFORCING STATE PROHIBITION LAW

(By the United Press)  
Mobile, Ala., May 17.—Two companies of State infantry are at Girard enforcing prohibition, the county officials being helpless. The troops have orders to close every blind tiger.

### BULLETINS

(By the United Press)

#### VOTE ON BRANDEIS WEDNESDAY.

Washington, May 17.—Agreement to vote on the nomination of Brandeis as a member of the Supreme Court next Wednesday, was reached today by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

#### NAVAL BATTLE OFF BELGIUM.

London, May 17.—British destroyers and monitors engaged in a short fight off Belgium yesterday, the Admiralty announced. The Germans withdrew. The British suffered no losses.

#### NOTHING DOING ON COTTON EXCHANGE

No cotton was sold on the local exchange today.  
New York futures quotations were:  
Open Close  
May ..... 12.94 12.94  
July ..... 12.90 13.08  
October ..... 13.03 13.16  
December ..... 13.21 13.30  
January ..... 13.27 13.34

#### ULSTERMEN WOULDN'T LISTEN TO ASQUITH

Belfast, May 16.—Stubborn disinclination to accept anything in the way of a government which might imply the future subjection of Ulster to home rule was evident today on the occasion of Premier Asquith's visit to Belfast, which lasted only a few hours.

Mrs. J. W. Ferrell has returned to Greenville after a visit here with Mrs. E. V. Ferrell.

### THREE AMERICANS ON CANADIAN SHIP SUNK ON TUESDAY

(By the United Press)  
Washington, May 17.—Three Americans were aboard the sunken Canadian steamer Eritrea, the United States consul at LaRochele, France, cabled the State Department, while Lloyds' yesterday reported that the Eritrea was torpedoed, the consul said she was sunk "presumably by a mine."

### FORMER AMBASSADOR OUTLINES PLAN FOR INTERNATIONAL COURT

(By the United Press)  
Mohonk Lake, N. Y., May 17.—Former American Ambassador to Germany Andrew D. White will outline the possibilities of establishing an international judicial court to settle disputes between countries and prevent future wars, at the conference on International Arbitration which began here today.

(Special to The Free Press)

Raleigh, N. C., May 17.—Health insurance, according to the State Board of Health, is a matter that is claiming no little attention in many Northern States from both a public health point of view and as concerns labor and industrial conditions. Massachusetts, New York and New Jersey have before their legislatures bills which provide for the legislation necessary to meet the needs of this subject.

The scheme of health insurance that these three states are seriously considering have the following outstanding features: That for all wage earners receiving less than \$1,200, health insurance shall be compulsory; that others who so desire may participate in the plan, and that the following shall be the benefit to be derived: Medical and nursing attendance not to exceed six months in the year and surgical supplies not to exceed \$50; a cash benefit during sickness or incapacity not for more than six months in the year; a maternity benefit for working mothers, and a funeral benefit of not more than \$50.

The fund for this system of insurance is to be made up of contributions from workers, 50 per cent. from employers, 40 per cent. and from the State, 10 per cent.

Health insurance is already working successfully in a number of countries, and it is believed that it is only a matter of time when all progressive States of the Union will be seriously considering it.

### HEAVY DAMAGE FROM VIRGINIA CLOUDBURST

Danville, Va., May 16.—News was received here this morning of a disastrous cloudburst in Franklin and Pittsylvania counties which has done damage estimated at thousands of dollars.

### BAPTISTS PLAN HELP FOR NEEDY CHURCHES

Asheville, May 16.—Plans for concentrating efforts on completion of the \$1,000,000 fund to aid the 4,000 homeless Baptist churches in the South, will be one of the subjects to be brought to the front at the 61st annual meeting of the Southern Baptist convention.

Will Jackson, a colored convict, doing 12 months for purse-snatching, escaped from the county roads Tuesday. He was a trusty and abandoned a wagon he was driving.

#### AN IDEAL SPRING LAXATIVE.

A good and time-tried remedy is Dr. King's New Life Pills. The first dose will move the sluggish bowels, stimulate the liver and clear the system of waste and blood impurities. You owe it to yourself to clear the system of body poisons, accumulated during the winter. Dr. King's New Life Pills will do it. 25c. at your druggist.

### CRUISER GROUNDED ON NANTUCKET REEF IN TERRIFIC STORM

#### Uneasiness Caused When It Was Reported Members of Crew Were Lost—The San Francisco Floated Off Without Aid

(By the United Press)  
Boston, May 17.—Driven by a terrific gale which swept the New England coast, the United States cruiser San Francisco, Capt. Belknap commanding, grounded on middle Nantucket shoals early this morning, radio reports to the Charlestown Navy Yard said.

Despite high seas, no damage was done to the cruiser and she was floated off without assistance a few hours later.

An early wireless message saying eight men had lost their lives afterward proved unfounded. The vessel is now resting at anchor a short distance from the shoals. When a wireless from the San Francisco was first received the battleship New Hampshire and cutters Acushnet and Gresham rushed to her aid.

### DR. CY. THOMPSON A VISITOR IN THE CITY

Dr. Cyrus Thompson of Jacksonville, N. C., one of the best-known men of this part of the State, was here this morning. Dr. Thompson was en route home from Greenville. He was looking well. He was taking not the slightest interest in politics, he said.

In an address to the students at E. C. T. school, Greenville, Monday night, the famous Onslow county physician declared that "the world rests in the hands of teachers." He did not like to see persons make the teaching profession a stepping-stone to law or business.

### CADMAN TO BE ON THE CHAUTAQUA PROGRAM

To be heard here on the program of the Chautauqua, during the week of June 14-20 will be Dr. S. Parkes Cadman, pastor of the great Central who was a feature of last year's festival.

Dr. Cadman is one of the greatest irresistible forces on the platform—a torrent of thought, words and enthusiasm. "Makers of America" is his subject this year.

### GRAND LODGE OF ODD FELLOWS MEETS WILSON

Wilson, May 16.—The Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows of North Carolina assembled here today for a two-day's session. The opening exercises were held this evening at 8 o'clock.

### TWO SENTENCED TO DIE IN THE ELECTRIC CHAIR

Wilmington, May 16.—Tom Merrick, colored, convicted of the murder of young Leon Hudson, a white man, some months ago, was yesterday sentenced to be electrocuted on July 14. This was his second conviction and sentence.

Lawrence Swinson, colored, convicted of burglary in the first degree, was sentenced to be electrocuted on July 7.

#### FOR YOUR CHILD'S COUGH.

If your child has a cold, nose run or coughs much, get a small bottle of Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar-Honey. It is a pleasant Pine-Tar-Honey syrup, just what children like and just the medicine to soothe the cough and check the cold. After taking, children stop fretting, sleep good and are soon entirely well. Insist on Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar-Honey. 25c. at your druggist.