

## RELATIONS ARE LESS GRAVE, REPORTS SAY

### GERARD'S ADVICES CONSIDERED MORE OPTIMISTIC.

### CERTAIN CONCESSIONS WILL BE MADE

Confidential Dispatches From Ambassador Gerard Received Last Night Indicate that Germany Will Make Concessions to the United States in Response to the American Note Demanding an Immediate Abandonment of the Present Methods of Submarine Warfare. Advances Were Received During Night and Are Highly Confidential.

(By The Associated Press)  
Washington, April 24.—Confidential dispatches from Ambassador Gerard at Berlin indicate that Germany will make certain concessions to the United States in response to the note demanding the immediate abandonment of present methods of submarine warfare.

Whether the concessions will be sufficiently broad to meet the American demand appears uncertain. However, officials reflected an air of hopefulness for an amicable settlement of the issue.

It is understood Ambassador Gerard has received broad intimation that the German government will go to great length to preserve friendly relations with the United States. He is understood to have gained his impression from the officials of the Berlin foreign office including the foreign minister.

### VIEWS OF TWO MINISTERS ON THE EASTER BONNETS.

One Says Them and the Other Says to Wear Them.  
Durham, April 23.—"I am quite sure that the habit and custom of displaying new bonnets and Spring creations on Easter Sunday is destructive of all true spiritual worship on the part of those who do it and it interferes with the devotions of others," said Rev. Melton E. Clark, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Greensboro, who is conducting revival services at the First Presbyterian Church in this city. The words of the Greensboro minister came as the result of questions asked him as to what effect the display of fashions has on the spiritual significance of Easter.

### EGG ROLLING ON WHITE HOUSE LAWN

In Spite of Chilly Weather Thousands of Children Were Present.  
(By The Associated Press)  
Washington, April 24.—The annual Easter egg rolling, an event looked forward to with the keenest interest by the children of Washington, was held on the White House ground today. Despite the chilly weather thousands of youngsters with grown ups as spectators were on hand early to enjoy the sport. There was no class distinction. The children of high government officials mingled with those from the most humble homes.

### ENGLAND AND FRANCE REPLY TO U. S. NOTE

Defend Their Policy in Searching U. S. Ships.  
(By The Associated Press)  
Washington, April 24.—The British ambassador today delivered to Secretary Lansing his government's reply to the American protest against interference with neutral commerce. France concurs in the main with her ally but will participate for herself on minor points. The note is a legal and technical defense of the seapolicy of the two nations.

### WILLIAM McCOMBS NOT TO CONDUCT WILSON'S CAMPAIGN

Chairman of Democratic National Convention Advised President to This Effect Today.  
(By The Associated Press)  
Washington, April 24.—William F. McCombs, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, today notified President Wilson that he will be unable to continue in his present position after the national convention and will be unable to direct the campaign of Mr. Wilson for reelection.

### Forest Fires Raging

Hickory, April 24.—Five hundred people are fighting fires in the Linville river section, according to a report received here today.

"The Crimson Trail," in two parts; "On Dangerous Ground," with Mrs. Cook McQuinn; "The Wrong Bird," with Billie Rhodes, at the Postoffice today.

### REVIVAL SERVICES.

Mr. Abernethy at Central — Tent Meeting Next Week.  
Rev. M. F. Moore, at the morning service at Central Methodist Church yesterday morning, announced that Rev. J. E. Abernethy, of Monroe, would conduct a series of meetings at Central Methodist Church for the next ten days. The meetings will be held twice daily at 10 a. m. and 8 p. m. A song service also will be held each evening beginning at 7:45 o'clock.

The announcement that Mr. Abernethy is to preach here will be received with marked interest. He is well known in this section and is considered one of the ablest ministers and most forceful orators of the Western North Carolina Conference. The first meeting will be held this evening at 8 o'clock and the first song service at 7:45 o'clock.

### A CHINA GROVE MAN ATTEMPTS SUICIDE.

Mr. Paul Safrit Locks Himself in His Room and Fires Pistol Ball in Head.  
Salisbury Post, 22nd.

A most distressing affair occurred at China Grove late Friday afternoon when Mr. Paul Safrit, a young man of about 30 years, and a son of Mr. Chas. Safrit, of that place, attempted suicide by shooting himself in the forehead, over the eye, with a 32-pistol. He was given first aid attention by Dr. Edwards of Landis and immediately hurried to the Whitehead-Stokes sanatorium in Salisbury. Word from that institution this afternoon at 3 o'clock was that he was in a serious condition but that it was impossible at that time to make any prediction as to the outcome of his injuries, and at that hour he was reported to be partly conscious, although he was unconscious last night.

The unfortunate man is married has a wife and several children. He went to his room and locked himself in before firing the shot that may cost him his life. He was conscious when discovered and said his reason for the rash act was family trouble, so it is learned. He was a machinist by trade and no one suspected that he had any intention of self-destruction.

### VILLA IS LOCATED

Report From Ojinaga Says He Is at Agua Chilli, 100 Miles South of Ojinaga.  
Presidio, Tex., April 23.—A messenger has reached Ojinaga, opposite here, with the report that Villa is at Agua Chilli, 100 miles south of Ojinaga in the Camarago district with 200 followers. One hundred and fifty Carranza soldiers are encamped on the Choncha river about four miles from Ojinaga. There has been no explanation of the presence of Carranza forces near Ojinaga. It is said they will endeavor to prevent the crossing of any American troops from this point.

### CORDIAL INVITATION TO ALL

The Tribune is requested to advise that Rev. J. E. Abernethy will be present to preach at Central Methodist Church this evening at 8 o'clock and that he desires to meet, in this initial service, every member of Central church, and as many of those of other churches, and of the community as will come.

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## FATAL ACCIDENT AT THE DEPOT SUNDAY

### SAMUEL C. BLACKWELDER KILLED BY A TRAIN.

### WARDEN ISELEY SERIOUSLY INJURED

Bodies of the Young Men Found Only a Short Distance Apart But at Different Times and by Different People.—It is Supposed, However, That They Were Struck by the Same Train, Presumably a Freight.—Iseley Was Carried to Salisbury and is in a Hospital There.—Blackwelder's Body Was Horribly Mangled. Buried Yesterday.  
Samuel C. Blackwelder, familiarly known as "Doc," yesterday morning was found dead and Warren Iseley was found with one leg broken and other injuries beside the railroad track near the overhead bridge at the depot. What train hit them and in what manner they came to the point where the fatal accident occurred is not known. Blackwelder's body was discovered by a man who was going to meet a morning train, which passes here about 5 o'clock and Iseley was picked up and carried to Salisbury by the crew of a freight train. It is supposed, however, that the two men, who knew each other quite well, were together when the accident occurred, and that both were struck by the same train, presumably a freight.

Blackwelder's body was picked up and carried to H. B. Wilkinson's undertaking establishment, where it was prepared for burial. It was found almost opposite Kerr Bleachery, having been dragged there from a point opposite the cattle pen, according to evidences along the tracks. Iseley was picked up near the cattle pen, it is understood.

Blackwelder was 24 years of age and was unmarried. He is survived by his father, Daniel Blackwelder, two sisters, Mrs. G. O. Cloninger, of Charlotte, and Mrs. Marshall Edwards, and three brothers, Giles and Crit Blackwelder, of Concord, and Walter Blackwelder, of Belmont.

The funeral was held yesterday afternoon at Rocky Ridge. Iseley is married and lives at Cannonville. A report states that surgeons found it necessary to amputate one of his legs, but that his chances for recovery were considered fair.

### HENRY FORD LEADS NEBRASKA FOR PRESIDENT

Received 97 More Votes Than Cummins in Race for President.  
(By The Associated Press)  
Omaha, Neb., April 24.—Returns from last Tuesday's primary, compiled today, gave Henry Ford a lead of 97 votes over Senator Cummins in the race for President.

### NAVAL APPROPRIATION BILL LARGER THAN BEFORE

Includes Public Works and is on Basis of Building Program For 1917.  
(By The Associated Press)  
Washington, April 24.—The annual naval appropriation bill as framed by the House Naval Sub Committee and submitted in a confidential spirit to the full committee today for consideration Thursday, carries \$207,652,174 against \$189,656,985 for the current fiscal year. This includes public works and is on the basis of the Navy Department's building programme for 1917.

### Textile Show at Boston.

Boston, April 24.—An exhibition of domestic dyes will be one of the features of the fifth National Textile Exhibit, which opens here today. The dye makers will show what they have done to supply the dye needs of the textile industry. Textile machinery in full operation making all sorts of cloths and fabrics, fill an immense building. Groups of mill men from all sections of the United States and Canada are attending the exposition. The National Association of Cotton Manufacturers will meet Wednesday and Thursday, and Hon. Joseph E. Davies, head of the Federal Trade Commission will address the meeting.

### A Villa Bandit Publicly Executed.

(By The Associated Press)  
El Paso, Texas, April 24.—Public execution at Chihuahua City is to end the career of Pablo Lopez, the Villa bandit captured Saturday near Santa Isabel, according to passengers arriving here today. A similar fate awaits the three men taken with Lopez.

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### PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWS.

Senator J. F. Cook Offers Twenty Dollars in Gold for Best Composition.  
The following letter will be received with interest by the students of the schools:

Concord, N. C., April 13, 1916 To The Board of Education, Cabarrus County, N. C., and Co. Supt. D. S. Lippard, Secretary.  
To make living, either in the city or country, more pleasant, is a wonderful accomplishment. All agencies worth while seem bent on making it possible for all to get out of life the greatest amount of enjoyment and success. The strides made in the recent past to arouse a larger interest in Rural Life are commendable. The Seed Corn of the human race, if we are to judge by the birthplace of the many who are now largely the leaders in every activity that concerns the very best interest of mankind, has been grown in the rural districts. The tendency towards the city even now is too great; and to encourage a more lively appreciation of the possibilities of the country and to arouse a deeper study and concern in rural life, it is my pleasure to make this offer:

I have arranged all matters by which the County School Board may offer annually to the pupil of the Public Schools of Cabarrus County twenty dollars in gold for the best composition on the subject: "How to Make Rural Life More Attractive." The rules governing said contest to be later announced by your Board. A study of this subject, even by the pupils of the public schools, I am persuaded, will be of inestimable value in bringing about those things for which we have been long striving. If the proposition appeals to your wisdom and promises an increased interest in the great work which you direct, I shall be pleased and honored to make secure for years to come the prize above mentioned, and you are, therefore, at liberty to make the promise of this prize to the successful pupil of the public schools.

With an abiding faith and hope in the child of today, and with sentiments of high regard, I am, Yours very truly,  
J. P. COOK.

### STANLY DEMOCRATS NOMINATE A TICKET.

Ex-Sheriff T. B. Forrest, of Albemarle, is Named for House of Representatives.  
Albemarle, April 23.—The Democratic convention for Stanly county was called to order here Saturday afternoon at 1:30 by the chairman of the Democratic executive committee, R. L. Smith. R. L. Brown was made chairman and A. P. Harris, secretary. When the convention was organized it proceeded at once to nominate a full county ticket. All the old officers were nominated for re-election except Representative Luther Post. In his stead ex-Sheriff T. R. Forrest, of Albemarle, was nominated as the candidate for the house of representatives.

### FOREMAN KILLED.

Badin Foreman Injured While Watching a Steam Shovel Work.  
(Special to The Tribune)  
Salisbury, N. C., April 24.—Burton Clapsaddle, aged 40 years, of Rhinehardt, W. Va., died in a local hospital this morning on account of injuries received at Badin last Friday. He was a construction foreman and while standing on a gravel bank watching a steam shovel work about 15 feet beneath the bank gave way and he was precipitated to the bottom of the embankment. He is survived by a wife and eight children.

### DR. COX LEAVES FOR ST. JOHN'S.

Salisbury Post.  
Rev. Dr. George H. Cox, pastor of Calvary Lutheran church in Spencer and Christ Lutheran church in East Spencer, who resigned some weeks ago to accept a call to the pastorate of St. John's church, Cabarrus county, will move to St. John's parsonage on May 2nd and will deliver his first sermon as pastor there on the following Sunday, May 7, the installation service being held on Sunday, May 14. Dr. Cox goes to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of Rev. C. E. Flesch, Union church, five miles east of Salisbury.

## ANOTHER LULL IN THE VERDUN BATTLE

### FRENCH STILL NIBBLE AWAY AT POINTS, HOWEVER.

### INFANTRY PRACTICALLY INACTIVE

Again a Comparative Lull is Reported in the Verdun Battle, the Infantry on Both Sides Remaining Practically Inactive.—The French Have Been Nibbling Away at the German Lines Just West of the Meuse, However, and Report Making Further Progress in the Hand Grenade Attack—Soon to Be Resumption of Fighting at Dead Man's Hill.  
(By The Associated Press)  
Again there is a comparative lull in the Verdun battle, the infantry on both sides remaining practically inactive. The French have been nibbling away at the German lines just west of the Meuse, however, and report making further progress in a hand grenade attack northwest of Cauresnet woods.

### ELEVENTH ANNUAL SEASON OF VIRGINIA LEAGUE

Will Open Today, With Bright Prospect for a Record Year.  
(By The Associated Press)  
Newport News, Va., April 24.—The eleventh annual session of the Virginia baseball league opens today with games between Newport News and Rocky Mount, at Rocky Mount; Norfolk and Portsmouth at Portsmouth and Hopewell and Eftersburg at Petersburg. The season will be split into two halves, the first half to end with the games of July 1 and the second half on September 9.

### TO MAKE INVESTIGATION OF WASHINGTON FIRE

Which Last Night Destroyed the Southern Railway's Building.  
(By The Associated Press)  
Washington, April 24.—Investigation was underway to determine the origin of the fire in the business district here last night, which gutted the general office building of the Southern Railway, destroying valuable records and doing damage estimated between \$100,000 and \$150,000. The general opinion is that the blaze was due to spontaneous combustion.

### NEGRO SOLDIERS HAVE FOUGHT WITH MEXICANS

Is Report That Has Been Circulated by Mexicans.  
(By The Associated Press)  
El Paso, April 24.—Neither General Bell at Fort Bliss, or military headquarters at Columbus, had any information today regarding a Mexican report that American negro soldiers had had an engagement with civilians at Satevo. The report, which is not credited, said several negroes were killed.

### CARRANZA ASKS U. S. FOR EARLY REPLY

To His Note Suggesting That American Troops Be Taken From Mexico.  
(By The Associated Press)  
Washington, April 24.—General Carranza has asked for an early reply to his note of April 10th, suggesting that American troops be recalled from Mexico. This was learned officially today in connection with the fact that the Mexican ambassador sought an interview with Secretary Lansing.

### CHICAGO WHEAT.

Sharp Reaction Followed Development of Strength in Market Today.  
(By The Associated Press)  
Chicago, April 24.—Notwithstanding that considerable strength developed in the wheat market today a sharp reaction followed. Opening quotations, which ranged from one half to three fourths up with May at 112 3-8 to 3-4 and July at 112 3-8 to 5-8 were succeeded by slight additional gains and then a sudden descent.

### GET A COUPON BOOK THE NEXT TIME MY DRIVER COMES.

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### Aeroplane Driven From Dover by British Gun.

(By The Associated Press)  
London, April 24.—A hostile aeroplane appeared over Dover this morning and was attacked by British guns. It was driven off and dropped its bombs.

## CHASE FOR VILLA STOPPED, IT IS SAID

### DELEGATES ELECTED.

Delegates to State Convention Which Meets at Raleigh Next Week.  
At the Democratic county convention Saturday the following were elected to the State convention, which meets in Raleigh April 27th:

Township 1—Jno. A. Barnhardt, C. W. Abernethy, D. L. Morrison.  
Township 2—P. P. Townsend, R. V. Caldwell, W. F. Cannon, Chas. Cannon.  
Township 3—C. H. Hamilton, Jno. C. Johnson, W. Lee Smith.  
Township 4—Jno. W. Cook, W. Lee Barnhardt, B. L. Umberger, C. E. Lowe, Dr. H. H. Cauble, D. B. Castor, D. A. Earnhardt.

Township 5—Jno. W. Cress, J. C. Misenheimer, R. F. Cline.  
Township 6—Jno. A. Sather, Geo. Watts, R. J. Klutz, Anderson Cruse.  
Township 7—F. G. Dry, G. A. Culp, George L. Klutz.

Township 8—Lee Foil, L. A. Lipe, Rev. Paul Baringer, H. J. McAllister, Prof. G. F. McAllister.  
Township 9—Paul Widenhouse, J. L. D. Barringer, Geo. C. Shinn.  
Township 10—R. L. Hartsell, Sr., N. J. McManus, J. B. Greene, Jr., W. H. Post.

Township 11—D. V. Krimminger, A. H. Litaker, W. N. Isenhour, J. Lee White.  
Township 12—J. P. Cook, L. T. Hartsell, J. F. Cannon, M. H. Caldwell, W. W. Flowe, J. F. Goodman, W. H. Gibson, R. C. Benfield, T. J. Hendrix, J. B. Womble, C. S. Smart, A. F. Hartsell, C. H. Barrier, A. E. Hoover, M. L. Widenhouse, J. I. Freeze, J. L. Miller, J. B. Sherrill, R. E. Harris, A. B. Palmer, Mr. J. P. Cook was named as chairman of the delegation.

### THE STOCK MARKET.

Wall Street Responsible for Strength Today in the Stock Market.  
(By The Associated Press)  
New York, April 24.—Wall Street, the more encouraging tenor of foreign advices, was largely responsible for the pronounced recovery in prices of leading stocks at today's active opening advance of one to three points were registered by Crucible Steel, Studebaker, Baldwin Locomotive, General Electric, the copper, Marine, preferred, and industrials, while Mexicans also rebounded sharply. United States Steel rose a point on an initial sale of 2,000 shares subsequently adding to this gain. Erie and Southern Pacific manifested firmness, but the movement was not altogether upward as was demonstrated by a heaviness of Canadian Pacific and minor rails as well as obscure specialties.

### THE COTTON MARKET.

Was Active and Unsettled During Today's Early Trading.  
(By The Associated Press)  
New York, April 24.—The cotton market was active and unsettled during today's early trading. The opening was barely steady at a decline of 7 to 11 points. There was considerable coverings as well as some trade buying and prices later steadied up from the lowest with May advancing to 11.78; July 11.96 and October to 12.16.

### VILLA COMING NORTH AGAIN?

(By The Associated Press)  
El Paso, Tex., April 24.—According to Mexicans arriving here from the interior today reports have been spread that Villa is coming north again with the object of attacking American forces. They say the bandit leader has some 300 followers and will be joined later by another leader of the Torreón district, who has 1,500 men and General Bannoles, whose command numbers 1,000 men.

### SAN ANTONIO, APRIL 24.—FRANCISCO VILLA, SLIGHTLY WOUNDED, BUT NOT INCAPACITATED, WAS REPORTED TO HAVE MOVED INTO THE MOUNTAINOUS REGION NORTHWEST OF PARRAL. THIS INFORMATION, WHICH HAS REACHED GENERAL FUNSTON, IS FROM A SOURCE THAT CAUSES HIM TO REGARD IT AS AUTHENTIC. VILLA WAS LAST REPORTED SEEN AT MONOVA, ABOUT 85 MILES SOUTHWEST OF SATEVO, WHERE THE MOST ADVANCED OF GENERAL PERSHING'S FORCE WERE YESTERDAY.

### FIELD HEADQUARTERS, AMIQUIPA, MEXICO, VIA WIRELESS TO COLUMBUS, N. M., APRIL 24.—AMERICAN MILITARY AUTHORITIES TODAY OBTAINED RELIABLE INFORMATION THAT FRANCISCO VILLA HAS NOT CROSSED THE DURANGO-CHIHUAHUA LINE. HE IS SAID TO BE EITHER DEAD OR HIDING IN THE SIERRA MADRE MOUNTAINS, NORTHWEST OF PARRAL. TODAY'S REPORTS WERE THAT HE WAS LAST SEEN NEAR MONOVA.

### NORTH OF PARRAL.

San Antonio, April 24.—Francisco Villa, slightly wounded, but not incapacitated, was reported to have moved into the mountainous region northwest of Parral. This information, which has reached General Funston, is from a source that causes him to regard it as authentic. Villa was last reported seen at Monova, about 85 miles southwest of Satevo, where the most advanced of General Pershing's force were yesterday.

### ALTHOUGH CONVICTED THAT VILLA HAS BEEN LOCATED HIS IMMEDIATE PURSUIT PROBABLY WILL NOT BE RESUMED. TO FOLLOW HIM INTO THE MOUNTAINS OF THAT REGION WITH SMALL DETACHED FORCES EITHER OF INFANTRY OR CAVALRY IS REGARDED AS IMPRACTICABLE AND THE PLANS FOR CONCENTRATION OF GENERAL PERSHING'S ARMY WILL BE CARRIED OUT ALONG LINES RECOMMENDED BY GENERAL FUNSTON AND APPROVED BY SECRETARY BAKER.

### VILLA COMING NORTH AGAIN?

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