Smithfield

This Is the Proposed Alliance

by Germany as Revealed by a Letter Signed by Zimmermann. To Make War On United States. Sent Through Bernstorff. President Wilson Has the Letter.

papers Thursday morning con- ing of the Laconia: cerning Germany's attitude to- "The Laconia was torpedoed with-

quences, proposed an alliance board side. tral.

ation, was to be urged to aban-torpedo. don her allies and join in the attack on the United States.

the victorious peace terms Ger- and foodstuffs. many contemplates.

January 19, 1917, was directed asked for the captain. bring Japan into the plot.

von Bernstorff, former German am- immediately after.

entente allies defeated; Germany and exposure in the cold water. her allies triumphant and in world restricted submarine warfare.

tions to von Eckhardt, sent through running. Flares were kept alight by von Bernstorff, is in possession of most of the boats waiting for the the United States government. It is as follows:

"Berlin, January 19, 1917.

"On the first of February we in- til after daybreak." tend to begin submarine warfare unthe United States of America.

we propose an alliance on the follow- perished. ing basis with Mexico: That we shall ritory in New Mexico, Texas and exposure and were buried at sea. Arizona. The details are left to you for settlement.

"You are instructed to inform the President of Mexico of the above in the United States some time ago to the greatest confidence as soon as it is settle some family business affairs, certain that there will be an outbreak and Austin Hoy repeatedly cabled of war with the United States and them not to return until the present suggest that the President of Mexi- crisis was over, but they evidently co, on his own initiative, should com- decided to risk the trip. municate with Japan suggesting adherence at once to this plan; at the same time, offer to mediate between Germany and Japan.

"Please call to the attention of the President of Mexico that the employment of ruthless submarine warfare now promises to compel England to make peace in a few months.

ZIMMERMANN." "(Signed) This document has been in the hands of the government since President Wilson broke off diplomatic relations with Germany; it has been kept secret up to this time, while the President has been asking Congress for full authority to deal with Germany, and while Congress has been hesitating. It was in the President's hands while Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg was declaring that the United States had placed an interpretation on the submarine declaration "never intended by Germany," and that Germany had promoted and honored friendly relations with the United States "as an heirloom from Frederick the Great."

Of itself, if there were no other, it is considered a sufficient answer to the German chancellor's plaint that the United States "brusquely" broke off relations without giving "authen- to enable some men to take little tic" reasons for its action.

When Big Liner Laconia Was Sent to Members of Both Houses, With Few Bottom by German Submarine. Consul Frost's Report Says Liner Was Sunk Without Warning.

Wesley Frost, the American Consul at Queenstown, says a London dispatch dated February 27, has sent An interesting and startling to the American Embassy here the story was carried in all the daily following report regarding the sink-

word the United States. The out warning at 10:30 p. m. in a heavy news story in part follows: | sea while the ship was making 17 Washington, Feb. 28.—The knots. The first torpedo struck on the Associated Press is enabled to starboard abaft the engine room. The reveal that Germany, in plan- engines stopped and the ship turned, ning unrestricted submarine listing to starboard. Most of the warfare and counting its conse-boats were launched from the star-

with Mexico and Japan to make "Twenty minutes later, after most war on the United States if this of the boats were clear, a second torcountry should not remain neu-pedo was fired, striking the engines on the port side. The ship sank 45 Japan, through Mexican medi- minutes after the firing of the first

"The ship was armed with two 4.7-inch guns. The ship's wireless Mexico, for her reward, was was kept in continual action until to receive general financial sup- the last minute. Six rockets also were port from Germany, reconquer sent up, and all the lifeboats were Texas, New Mexico and Arizona equipped with an ample supply of -lost provinces-and share in flares. The cargo consisted of cotton

"The submarine was not seen from Details were left to German the Laconia, but after the second tor-Minister von Eckhardt in Mexi-pedo had been fired and the boats co City, who by instructions launched, a submarine appeared on signed by German foreign Min-the surface, came alongside the boat ister Zimmermann, at Berlin, containing the second officer, and

to propose the alliance with "The submarine commander told Mexico to General Carranza and the people in the second officer's boat suggest that Mexico seek to that a British Admiralty patrol had caught the Laconia's wireless and was These instructions were transmit-coming to the scene. The submarine ted to von Eckhardt through Count made no offer of aid and submerged

bassador here, now on his way home | "Thirteen boats were launched from to Germany under a safe conduct ob- the Laconia. The Hoys (Mrs. Mary tained from his enemies by the coun- E. Hoy and Miss Elizabeth Hoy, of try against which he was plotting Chicago, were in No. 8, which was swamped, its life-belted passengers Germany pictured to Mexico, by being picked up by other boats, but broad intimation, England and the who suffered severely as the result of

"The boats, after leaving the Ladomination by the instrument of un-conia, had to scatter rather widely in order to avoid the danger of col-A copy of Zimmermann's instruc- lision in the 12-foot swells which were patrol to arrive. The patrol began picking up the boats at 4 o'clock in the morning, but had not finished un-

Consul Frost further reported that restricted. In spite of this, it is our an American negro, Thomas Cassey, intention to endeavor to keep neutral a member of the Laconia's crew, was among the lost. He was the only "If this attempt is not successful, American member of the crew that

Most of the deaths occurred in one make war together and together make of the lifeboats which became seppeace. We shall give general financial arated from the others and was support and it is understood that brought to shore at Bantry. Of 22 Mexico is to reconquer the lost ter- persons in this boat, eight died of

Austin Y. Hoy resides here as rep-

resentative of an American firm. Mrs. and Miss Hoy went home to

Death of Mrs. Culbreth.

The many friends of Rev. J. Marvin Culbreth in this Conference were greatly grieved to learn of the death of his beloved wife, which occurred in a hospital at St. Louis, Mo., on February 19, 1917. The immediate cause of her death was pneumonia. She leaves four children, the youngest an infant only two weeks old. She was Miss Bessie Trawick, of Nashville, Tenn. Mrs. Culbreth was not widely known by our people since Brother Culbreth had been out of the State most of the time since his marriage; but she was held in the highest esteem by those who knew her. Brother Culbreth was for many years Assistant Secretary of the General Board of the Epworth League, resigning last fall to take charge of University Church, St. Louis, Mo. He is one of our brightest preachers and holds a large place in the affections of his brethren. Our since sympathies go out to him in this hour of his deep grief.-Kaleigh Christian Advocate.

But it takes little grains of sand drops of water.

Exceptions, Solidified Into a Decision to Stand by Wilson. President Thinks It Would Not be Compatible to Public Interest to Reveal Fully As to the Authenticity of German Letter.

unite Japan and Mexico with her in a of Mr. W. F. Smith. authenticity, Congress today aban-city Wednesday for a short while. doned the delays and obstructions son's efforts to be clothed with express the past few days. authority to deal with the submarine

and by an overwhelming majority, for the past week. passed a bill to empower the Presividing for a hundred million dollar shaking hands with old friends. bond issue. The bill, however, does not contain the grant of authority to use "other instrumentalities" which the President specifically desires and would prevent government war in Four Oaks, were here Sunday spendsurance for munitions ships, a prohibition which the President does not approve.

When the House bill is received in the Senate tomorrow, the Senate bill, which the administration fully commends, will be submitted, and that is expected finally to be accepted by both houses as the law.

Official announcement was made at the White House today that the administration stands behind the Senat bill "first, last and all the time" with its provision for "other instrumentalities."

In the Senate an attempt to ask the President to disclose the government's source of information of the attempted intrigue with Mexico and Japan on the supposition that it came from one of Germany's enemies, was defeated after a sharp and sensational debate. Inster the Senate merely will be glad to see her out again. asked for official notice of the authenticity of the dispatch of instructions from German Foreign Minister Zimmermann to German Minister Von Eckhardt in Mexico City. The President transmitted it immediately with the statement that it would not be compatible with the public interests to reveal further details concerning it.

Solidified Behind President.

Members of both houses of Congress, some skeptical of the authenticity of the astounding revelations of Germany's intrigue; others feeling that it had been permitted to become public for its effect on Congress and throughout the country, met the situation with mixed emotions, which, with a few possible exceptions as the day's developments were unfolded, solidified into a decision to stand behind the President.

Gongressmen, classed with the socalled pacifist group in the House who have been opposing a grant of authority to the President on the ground that it would be a step toward war, announced that they would vote for the armed neutrality bill in the belief that to arm the President to protect American rights might be the way to avoid war .- News and Ob-

MICRO BOOSTERS' CLUB.

Micro, March 1 .- A new and interprosperity. As a result a Boosters' its completion by September 1st. progressive little town.

in Home Science.

ciated by every one.

are willing to give their support hour. when called upon. They are antici-

Work on New Methodist Church Now Under way. Infant Child Found Dead in Bed. The Automobile Accident at Smithfield. Cupid Gets in Some Good Work. Other Items of Local and Personal Mention.

Benson, March 1.-Mrs. Sallie Washington, March 1 .- Aroused by Stewart, of Wilson, was in town for the disclosure of Germany's plot to a short visit this week at the home

Mr. O. A. Barbour has been con-

Mr. Preston Woodall returned

dent to arm merchant ships and pro- in the city Wednesday and Thursday

were visitors to Smithfield Wednesday on business matters.

ing the day with friends.

He was a juror for the week. township, was here Monday afternoon. Mr. Lassiter is one of the fore-

most farmers of Johnston County. Mr. W. D. Boon went up to Raleigh Monday afternoon to meet Mrs. Boon, who has been visiting in Norfolk and Elizabeth City for the past

ten days. Messrs. N. T. Ryals, Pias Hudson, others went up to Smithfield Monday on business.

Rev. H. H. Goff was a visitor to our city Sunday and Monday.

Mrs. Walter Massengill who has been quite sick for the past few days, is improving slowly. Her many friends

Mr. C. T. Johnson is in Baltimore of dry goods. He will return the last bill.—Associated Press Dispatch. of the week.

to Richmond for a couple of days the first of the week.

Prof. Henry Holmes, of Rocky Mount, was here Sunday and Monday on a short visit to his father, Mr. J. B. Holmes.

Mr. James Raynor was a visitor to Durham Monday on matters of busi-

she is able to return home this week.

Mrs. C. G. McCreight and Miss Mary Gordon, of Hamlet, and Mrs. R. R. Covington, Jr., of Laurinburg, N. C., were visitors at the home of Mr. osition for a referendum. and Mrs. J. R. Barbour Friday and

has accepted a position with J. W. bill, for Congress has the right to rived Sunday and will make Benson bia." their home in the future.

and Mrs. Mack Ruffin Parrish died district without giving the people a last Saturday night and was buried vote. Sunday afternoon. The child was apparently well Saturday night on retiring and was found dead early Sunday morning.

Work has been begun on the new esting business venture has recently Methodist church here. The old build- many friends of the contracting parbeen launched in connection with our ing is being moved away and mate- ties. The ceremony was performed by little town of Micro. It has been rial is being placed for the new build- Rev. A. R. McQueen, of Dunn Presfound that here in the heart of the ing. The building will cost about byterian church, and the couple left sand beds, splendid raw material can twenty-five thousand dollars when immediately afterwards on 89 for the be procured for the advancement of finished and the contract calls for former home of the groom in Atlan-

elaborate supper, furnished by the the hand being crushed when the ma- from Georgia. Boosters. The perpetuation of this chine in which he was riding struck Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Lee spent Sunsupper displayed a wonderful talent a telephone pole. Mr. Eli Morgan, day here with relatives. Mr. and Mrs. whose arm was broken, is able to be Lee were married Saturday afternoon Soup, chicken salad, coffee and am- out again. The accident occurred in near Banks, N. C. Mrs. Lee before by a Coast Line passenger train at brosia were served, after which a front of the Smithfield Schoold build- her marriage, was Miss Etta Bridges, Broad street crossing about two years number of the members of the club ing, Monday afternoon. The machine of Banks, N. C. The groom is a well ago while in the act of getting off made some interesting talks on the was being driven by Elton Hudson known farmer of Lower Johnston the train, and lost a leg, recovered aim of the Boosters and we all felt and the several young men were on County. sure it would only be a short time it going to Selma to attend the basket until their influence would be felt and ball game between the Benson and Capps, who lives near here, was mar- Court last week. Mr. West was in the their work would be greatly appre- Kenly teams. Mr. Hudson lost control ried Sunday afternon, by J. M. Britt, employ of the Company as flagman of the machine and it struck a 'phone Justice of the Peace, to Miss Sarah at Broad street crossing. He was The wives of the Booster Brethren pole while running about 30 miles an McLamb, a daughter of Mr. Henry represented by attorneys R. L. God-

The marriage was a surprise to the Benson.

House Passes Senate Bill to Make Measure Gets Through House With District of Columbia Dry, While Senate and House Conferces Reach Agreement Under Which "Bone Dry" Measure is Virtually Assured Enactment.

Washington, Feb. 28.-Prohibition won a double victory in Congress tonight when the House passed by a vote of 273 to 137 the Senate bill to war upon the United States and then Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Matthews, of make the National capital dry and dulged in a long and vigorous disconvinced by official evidence of its McColl, S. C., were visitors to our Senate and House conferees on the cussion of the crop lien bill as agreed postal appropriation bill unexpected- upon by Governor Bickett and the ly added an agreement under which Farmers' Union and reported favorwhich have checked President Wil- fined to his home with Lagrippe for the Reed "bone dry" amendment is ably by the legislative committee and virtually assured of enactment.

Wednesday from Baltimore and other ply measure had been abandoned by reading was roll call and stood 78 The House, after a ten-hour debate Northern Cities where he has been the conferees, who last night submitted a resolution to continue exist-Mr. C. C. Barnes, of Durham, was ing postal appropriations for another year. Tonight, however, they got together on a report which includes the chants in keeping sales on lien agree-Messrs. M. T. Britt and R. F. Smith Reed amendment, prohibiting shipment of liquor into prohibition States, and which they expect to present in the like. The amendments lost out Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Barbour, of both housese tomorrow or Friday.

was no doubt of its acceptance in Racken, of Columbus, Pritchard, of Mr. C. W. Anderson has been in Senate and House. They are taking it Madison, Beasley and others led the Smithfield this week attending Court. for granted, too, that President Wil- advocacy, and Stubbs, Clark, of Pitt. son will approve both that and the and King, of Nash, with others, op-Mr. Edgar Lassiter, of Elevation District of Columbia prohibition bill, fell by the wayside.

The District bill, which would become effective November first, was for qualified verdicts in capital cases. brought to a vote after a stubborn The vote was 25 to 19. opposition had delayed for several A bill passed for the regulation hours, the final roll call which the and sale of cotton seed meal. leaders knew would mean passage. All The Person bill for publication of P. B. Johnson, Chas. Johnson and action and watching for an opportuni- House, after a motion to table was ty to put the measure into a position lost. that would mean its failure with the

this week buying his Summer stock special rule substituting the Senate oners shall be classified in three

Rev. A. T. Lassiter was a visitor NINE CONGRESSMEN VOTE AYE.

All The North Carolina Delegation Except Mr. Pou Vote to Make District of Columbia "Dry."

Washington, Feb. 28.-The North Carolina Congressmen helped to put through the "dry" bill for the District of Columbia. On the final pas-The many friends of Mrs. C. T. sage of the bill the following named Johnson, who has been in Rex Hos- voted for the bill: Representatives pital for several days, are glad that Small, Kitchin, Hood, Stedman, Page, Godwin, Doughton, Webb and Britt, and against it, Pou.

All of the members except Messrs. Small and Pou voted against the prop-

"I voted for the bill," said Mr. Small. "Failing to get a referendum Mr. J. B. Moore, of Murphy, N. C., I could not conscientiously oppose the Whittenton. Mr. and Mrs. Moore ar- legislate for the District of Colum-

Mr. Pou took the position that pro-The six-months-old infant of Mr. hibition should not be put upon the

> The bill passed today goes into effect November 1, and the next Congress will be "bone dry."-H. E. C. Bryant, in News and Observer.

ta, Ga., where they will spend their Club has been added to our already Mr. Carl Barefoot, who was hurt honeymoon. They will make Benson in the automobile accident Monday, their home on their return. Mrs. Wood The ladies were favored on last is now in Highsmith's Hospital in is well known and has many friends Monday evening, February 26th, by Fayetteville. The physicians say that here, while the groom has been here having the privilege of serving an his arm will possibly be to take off, only a short while, having moved here

GERMANY, MEXICO, JAPAN, AMERICAN LIVES ARE LOST. CONGRESS BEHIND PRESIDENT. AT THE CAPITAL OF BANNER. DOUBLE PROHIBITION VICTORY. BICKETT CROP LIEN PASSES.

Big Majority. Prison Reform Bill Passes Senate. Teachers' Certification Bill Gets Through the House. Lincolnton Suffrage Bill Tabled in House.

From Mr. W. J. Martin's letter to the Wilmington Star, we make the following extracts concerning the work of the Legislature Wednesday:

The House Wednesday night inin the end passed the measure by a Hope of agreeing on the postal sup- big mapority. The vote on second

Thereafter Representative Stubbs sought to get in amendments that would reduce the record work of merments, especially relief from keeping time of sales, cash and time price and and the bill passed as it came from The leaders thought tonight there the committee. Representative Mc-

The Senate passed the Justice bill

day and until late in the evening they a North Carolina official blue book stood by their guns, exhausting every with State officers and employees and parliamentary expedient to ward off their pay passed and went to the

The Senate passed Wednesday, the expiration of the session Sun- Turner bill to regulate the manageday. * * * * * * * * * ment of State prisoners. It provides After several hours the prohibition that all prisoners sentenced to two champions despaired of passing at all or more years must go to the State's the House bill reported from the Dis- prison; hiring out of prisoners is trict of Columbia committee with nu- forbidden; they must not be worked merous amendments, and adpted a more than ten hours per day and prisclasses, those proven to be orderly, those untried and incorrigibles, first class to receive an allowance of 20 cents per day, second class 10 cents and incorrigibles nothing.

Corporal punishment is forbidden and separate cells for prisoners under sanitary supervision by the State Board of Health required. System of fines and demerits are provided. No one addicted to drink must be employed in the prison. Judges are called upon to pass minimum and maximum sentences and each prisoner must be examined when received as to mental condition and capacity for

Third reading roll call bills passed the Senate in the following order:

Provide for enlargement of graded school districts in incorporated towns; Special tax for Selma; Amend the Wilmington police pension act; Amend the 1915 law applying to cities and towns; Bonds for Richmond County

The Senate bill by Senator Jones to extend the suffrage to the women of Lincolnton on municipal questions, was laid before the House and was tabled on motion of Representative

The House took under consideration and finally passed by a good majority the State-wide bill for certification of first grade teachers through a State board of examiners, six in number, three men and three women, who are to be also the conductors of the teachers' institutes. It was argued at length and finally passed by a very large vote with an amendment for the Governor to appoint the members of the board of examiners and institute conductors without nomination through the executive committee of the Teachers' Assembly.

Gets Seven Thousand Dollars.

Mr. Festus West who was run over from the railroad Company, seven Mr. J. C. Capps, a son of Mr. Gid thousand dollars in Harnett Superior McLamb, who also lives near Benson. win and E. F. Young, and Clifford Mrs. Lillie Wood and Capt. Robert | Nathan Johnson, age 75, was mar- and Townsend appeared for the Railpating a great many outing and so- Collins were married here at the home ried Sunday to Frances Richardson, road Company. The suit was brought cial evenings a little later in the of Mrs. Wood, yesterday afternoon. age 70, both colored, and residents of for twenty thousand dollars .- Dunn Guide, 28th.