

## No Ultimatum to Germany Has Yet Been Forwarded

### This the Only Official Word From White House Up to Noon Today And Indications Are That Presi- dent Has Not Made Up His Mind.

### BREAK BELIEVED INEVITABLE IF GERMAN PROGRAM ADHERED TO

### While Nation Awaits Definite State- ment of Policy Bernstoff Packs His Trunk.

(By United Press)  
Washington, Feb. 2.—"Nothing has gone forward to Germany yet" was the only official word forthcoming at noon in regard to the German-American situation.

Indications are that the President has not yet reached a decision but is still struggling with the most serious crisis he has had to meet since the European war started.

The official statement quoted is taken as obviously meaning that the Administration had not at this time communicated in any way with Ambassador Bernstoff. There is also a strong hint that some announcement of this government's intentions may be looked for within twenty-four hours. This announcement may come today after the cabinet meeting beginning at 2:30 and which may last well on toward evening.

Another possible indication that a statement may be looked for by tomorrow comes in a statement issued by the State Department to the effect that the requested instruction to American ships as to their sailing might be looked for by Saturday. Obviously this government must take its position before such instructions can be given.

That there will be no hurried or precipitate action seems certain. Some officials believe that the President may even await to hear from Gerard an official interpretation of certain phases of the German note. The feeling, however, predominates in official circles that a break with Germany must inevitably come if Germany insists in carrying out the letter of her announcement of intentions.

Behind this feeling, however, is another one of uncertainty—as many feel that the unexpected is just what may be looked for from President Wilson.

As a whole official Washington is not so pessimistic as yesterday. Annoyance is expressed at the puzzling attitude of Ambassador Bernstoff. Almost studied gloom surrounds the Teuton Embassy. Officials are unable to understand the declarations, undented in German circles, that the German Ambassador has his trunks all but packed for his departure. Some believe that his intentions in this is to warn the Americans from the danger zone.

## Wants More Submarines

(By United Press)  
Washington, Feb. 2.—Senator Poin dexter today introduced a bill providing for a hundred submarines in addition to the 12 already provided.

## U. S. MUST NOT JOIN THE ALLIES

### W. J. BRYAN DEPLORES GER- MANY'S NEW MOVE BUT IN- SISTS THAT THE SITUATION FOR AMERICA IS UNALTERED

(By United Press)  
Washington, Feb. 2.—"The new move by Germany, deplorable as it is, has not changed the situation," said William Jennings Bryan, while passing through Washington today en route to New York.

"Whatever the result of German renewed submarine activities, the United States must not be induced to join hands with the Allies."

## Guarding Panama Canal

(By United Press)  
Washington, Feb. 2.—Because of the possibilities of danger from the present international situation, army officials have taken steps for extra precaution in guarding the Panama Canal.

## Investigate Stock Exchange

(By United Press)  
Washington, Feb. 2.—The Senate today adopted a resolution, introduced by Senator Ellison Durant Smith of South Carolina, authorizing the Attorney General to investigate buying and selling contracts on the New York Exchange.

Planters charge the exchange with buying contracts at lower figures than spot cotton would bring in the South.

### DELAYED BY WRECK

Capt. E. B. Probst of Manteo passed through the city en route to his home from New Bern. The Captain said he had to get up from his pilgrim berth at about four o'clock Friday morning and walk a half a mile or more in the snow to another train. Train 4 did not get into Elizabeth City until about nine. Instead of six o'clock, this delay being caused by a freight wreck between Washington and New Bern.

### WILL CELEBRATE SALEM DAY

Saturday, February 3rd, in Salem Day, and will be celebrated by all citizens of Salem College throughout the country in honor of the anniversary of granting the charter.

## STEAMER PORTIA TODAY'S VICTIM

### GERMANY'S NEW SEA WARFARE IN ACTIVE FORCE WITHOUT DELAY OR HESITATION

(By United Press)  
London, Feb. 2.—Today's score in Germany's new sea warfare included the Norwegian steamer, Portia, which it is announced here, has been sunk.

### TWO OTHER VICTIMS

Others reported sunk are the Norwegian steamer, Hekla, and Ravenbourne.

## Recalled To Port

(By United Press)  
Rotterdam, Feb. 2.—The Holland-American liner, New Amsterdam, that sailed from Rotterdam Thursday was recalled to port today by official orders.

## Cotton Drops At Liverpool

(By United Press)  
Liverpool, Feb. 2.—American cotton opened at 25 points down this morning.

### PLAY EDENTON TONIGHT

The Elizabeth City High School basket ball boys will play the Edenton boys tonight on the Y. M. C. A. floor, and invite the public to show their pride in the home team on this occasion.

## NEWS NOT SENT BY TELEGRAM

### TESTIMONY TODAY ADDS TO GROWING BELIEF THAT LEAK HAPPENED BY MAIL OR TELE- PHONE

(By United Press)  
New York, Feb. 2.—Frank Dick, employed by the brokerage firm of the Hutton Company, told the House Leak Committee today that he did not see any messages from Washington regarding Secretary Lansing's announcement and if he had he would have attached little importance to them. His admission that he had not seen any messages was backed by the testimony of Frank Packard and Joseph Becker, telegraph operators, that they did not recall any messages.

All of this testimony gave color to the growing belief that the warning of the pronouncement was known in time for mailing or discussion over the telephone.

## SOUTH AMERICA DIVIDED IN VIEWS

(By United Press)  
Buenos Aires, Feb. 2.—South America is far from united in viewing Germany's announcement of her new sea warfare. The widest divergence in views is apparent in dispatches reaching here today. Your committee opposes Germany's move and five others sympathize with Germany.

## Neutrals Wait For America

(By United Press)  
London, Feb. 2.—European neutrals are awaiting America's decision regarding Germany's new move before acting themselves, it is said.

Messrs. Leonard Woodhouse and Willis Dowdy of Grandy were in the city Friday.

## Community Service

### Greatest Meeting of Series



DR. CLARENCE POE

## THE ALKRAMA THEATRE

11 a. m. Saturday February 3rd

SUBJECT

### "Preventable Social Defects"

Public cordially invited to hear this well known and singularly gifted North Carolinian.

Other Attractions. Come

Central Committee Community Service

## Says Government Should Control Wireless Stations

### Franklin D. Roosevelt, Writing for the United Press, Shows Danger Of Uncontrolled Wireless In Case of War

## EDUCATION BILLS PROVE UNPOPULAR

### THE ENTIRE FIVE ARE REPORT- ED UNFAVORABLY BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE

Raleigh, Feb. 2.—By defeating five educational bills in the large joint committee meeting Thursday morning, the educational status was again static and the dynamic temporarily passed.

The House at the Thursday morning session received reports upon all five, four of which were state-wide and one local to Person. These were all before the joint committee Tuesday afternoon when nine hours of argument left the committee with but a vote. About one-fourth of the General Assembly is expected to be in the Committee and nearly all were present at the session in the office of the Corporation Commission.

The bills have been designated variously. The Page act provided for general county election of school boards, Democratic and Republican alike. The Turner bill prescribed a central commission which appointed these boards and gave minority representation in all counties, likewise changing the six Democratic counties that now have their boards elected. The McRary bill, the Republican measure, chose all county superintendents and boards by the people. The Oates bill, acquiesced at popular election but confined all nominations to the Democratic primaries, the governor appointing as an administrative officer. None would have been elected in the general election. The Tucker bill concerned Person county only.

The McRary bill is said to have been the most ill-fated. Only five voted for it. The Oates bill as a substitute for the Page bill is understood to have received 16 against 19. That was the highest. No other had a peep in. The minority reports were filed and Speaker Murphy suggested the procedure by which the bills must be resumed from the unfavorable calendar. Thursday of next week, February 8, was named as the time for the special hearing.

## TWO THOUSAND RUSH TO STREETS

### TEMPERATURE FOUR BELOW ZERO WHEN GAS EXPLOSION ROCKS BUILDINGS FOR SEV- ERAL SQUARES

(By United Press)  
Chicago, Feb. 2.—There are five known dead, and the police estimate that at least thirty others lost their lives in a gas explosion that wrecked an eighth floor apartment in the congested North of the West side early today.

Two thousand madly packed people were driven from their homes with the temperature at four below zero when the buildings for several squares were rocked by the concussion.

### FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

(Assistant Sec'y of the U. S. Navy)  
Washington, Feb. 2.—As a measure of safety the United States Government should assume control of every wireless station in the United States, except those engaged in purely intra-state business at once. Control of cables and wires is simple, but wireless messages are easily intercepted and by outsiders. There should be government ownership of all wireless apparatus in peace as well as in war time, as a matter of public policy. We shouldn't let the matter wait until trouble is upon us.

The suggestion has been made to Congress and is based fundamentally upon the character of wireless telegraphy. In land telegraph lines and submarine cables each separate wire sends its own messages and does not interfere with the sending of messages on other wires. The handling and assistance of these wires and cables is a matter which can be determined at a moment's notice. The control of these is an easy matter from the military or naval point of view.

Wireless is entirely different. The sending and receiving machinery is small and readily concealable and the actual transmission of the message is through the waves of the air. The means of course, that interference between messages increases necessarily with the number of messages sent unless a perfect system with a central control is initiated. The increase in the number of installations all over the United States has been greater than the development of science in respect to non-interference and the result is growing in confusion.

Quite aside from the general question of the advisability of establishing a government monopoly the considerations in favor of government operation of wireless far outweigh any possible disadvantages.

Central control has been demonstrated to be a necessity. It cannot be carried out successfully except by actual government operation and, more important still, the military and naval requirements are such that it would be unsafe, speaking in a broad sense to wait until after a declaration of war before taking over or closing up hundreds and thousands of small individual, privately owned stations.

The only way by which real safety can be assured is for the Government to exercise this control in times of peace also.

## Boy Is Shot

News reached here from Weeksville late Thursday afternoon of the accidental shooting earlier in the day of Bill Gray, aged 13, by Ortha Parker, a lad of about the same age. The two boys were out hunting when the accident occurred.

Further details have not been received.

Ortha Parker is the son of Mr. C. T. Fraker of Weemsville who is well known here.

WANTS TO GO TO EURGPE  
Mrs. Frank Gray of this city is spending some time in Weemsville and New York.