

News Without Bias Views Without Prejudice

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Gerard Called German Bluff

Teutons Tried to Get American Ambassador to Sign Guarantee That German Ships In American Harbors Would Be Permitted to Sail In Case of War.

Americans Still Detained

United Press Correspondent Declares That Departure of Large Number is Delayed by Germany With Sinister Purpose.

By CARL S. ACKERMAN. Berne, Feb. 12.—Germany is delaying the departure of a large number of American citizens in Berlin for possible retaliatory measures in case the United States declares war. The German foreign office is striving to keep America out of the war but the German military party long ago prepared for American hostilities and so is only lukewarm in its support of the statesmen. The demand was practically made of Gerard before he left Berlin that he sign a treaty guaranteeing permission for German ships to leave American harbors in case of war. This "ultimatum" was backed by a threat to hold American correspondents as hostages if such action was not taken. Gerard, it is reliably reported, told the German official who brought this threat that if Americans were forced to remain in Germany, America would regard such action as cause for war, and refused to sign the treaty. EDITOR'S NOTE—This is the first dispatch from Ackerman since he passed beyond the control of German censorship. He is a member of the immediate party of Gerard.

GERARD LEAVES SPAIN FEB 24TH

AMERICANS IN HIS PARTY SAY GERMANY WILL NOT STARVE NOW. WILL KEEP UP SUBMARINE WARFARE

Berne, Feb. 12.—Gerard expects to sail for the United States on February 24th from Barcelona, Spain.

Americans in his party declare that while Germany is suffering greatly from the British starvation blockade, the nation is apparently far from starvation now. They also declare that every German official is apparently resolved to continue the policy of unlimited submarine warfare.

Gerard refused to give an interview.

THE NEW YORK DOCKS TODAY

CAPTAIN REFUSES TO SAY BY WHAT ROUTE HE GOT THROUGH DANGER ZONE AND REACHED HOME

New York, February 12th.—The American liner, New York, docked today after a race through the submarine zone and passage from Liverpool which Captain Roberts characterized as "uneventful except for bad hallostorms."

The Captain refuses to say what route he took but passengers said that the liner followed a course far to the south of the usual line.

GIVE MASQUERADE PARTY

The T. E. L. Class of the First Baptist Sunday school will give a masquerade party at the home of Mrs. Bert Davis on Southern Avenue Tuesday night at eight o'clock. Admission will be ten cents. Ice cream cones will be served.

Miss Clem Huddle has returned from spending her vacation at...

NEW THEATRE OPENS TUESDAY

MANTINEE PERFORMANCE AT 2:30 SHOWING THE BLUEBIRD PLAY, "THE EAGLE'S WINGS" AS PART OF PROGRAM

The new theatre in the Hinton Building will give its initial performance on Tuesday afternoon at 2:30.

The matinee will offer on its program the Bluebird feature, "The Eagles Wings," and in addition the Ford weekly, "Dewey's Funeral."

This first performance suggests something of the class of plays which the new theatre will present. Its specialties will be Pathe, Bluebird, Cline and Edison features, with Ford's weekly, and the Elko Comedies. Theatre goers will be particularly interested in the nationally advertised "Bluebird" plays, which emphasize in their slogan "The Play's the Thing" the idea of giving the public the best to be had in motion pictures.

The new theatre, says its manager, Mr. Louis, "will be the regular home of Bluebird plays". Speaking of the equipment of the new playhouse, Mr. Louis says "This is the only theatre this side of New York with the new 1917 Simplex machine. This machine is approved by the New York Fire Underwriters.

"We have also what is known as the gold screen, which gives to pictures a warm flesh tint, making a marked improvement over the dead black and white effect of the ordinary screen."

Mr. Leslie Wardoff will be at the piano. The first show, "The Eagles Wings" is one of much interest in connection with current happenings in national and international affairs.

"The Eagle's Wings" is a Bluebird feature written by Rufus Steele, a story of national defense. The play opens with a fight in Congress over the question of National Preparedness, then takes the audience to the Mexican border. Millionaire Wright who has opposed the measure in Congress, in his experience with Mexican bandits become convinced of the necessity of such a measure. Writing to the War Department for an army to defend the border, he receives the reply that the department has no such army.

Wright returns to Washington where he vigorously advocates preparedness, swings the tide of popular opinion, brings the captains of industry to the aid of the government so that foreign intrigue is baffled in short order.

Scenes depicting preparation for war by the United States government, together with a fascinating love story contribute to make the drama one intense thrill of interest from start to finish. The picture is said to have been seen and praised by President Wilson.

Miss Eula Pappendick who has been attending school at Greenville is at home for a few days.

ASKS IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS AGAINST RESERVE BOARD

Charging Conspiracy With Big Business in Framing Legislation and Appointment of Board

Washington, Feb. 12.—Charging high crimes and misdemeanors in the administration of the currency law, Representative Lindburg today asked impeachment proceedings against Governor Harding, Paul Warburg and other members of the Federal Reserve Bank Board.

Lindburg charged "conspiracy" with the Morgan company and the Kuhn Loeb Company in which Warburg was a former partner, with the First National Bank of New York City and other banking interests declared that Warburg acted in framing the reserve legislation in the interest of "big business" and

MR M A HAWKINS DEAD

Mr. M. A. Hawkins died suddenly Saturday evening at half past two o'clock at his home on Cherry street at the age of fifty two.

Mr. Hawkins went to bed Friday night, seemingly in his usual health having worked Friday until stopped by bad weather.

Born in Richmond, Mr. Hawkins lived in Hertford for twelve years before coming to Elizabeth City in 1913. He is survived by his wife and one daughter, Mrs. G. A. Goodwin.

His remains were taken to Hertford for interment where the funeral service was conducted by Rev Ormund at two o'clock Sunday afternoon.

PLAY AT BEREA

A play "Viel Versa", will be given at Berea schoolhouse Friday night February 16th after which refreshments will be served. The public is cordially invited to attend. Admission will be fifteen cents and the proceeds of the evening will be used for the school.

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IN NORTHERN MARKETS

Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Walker for Northern markets to buy the spring stock for Walker and Company. They will return about March 1st.

BUYING SPRING MILLINERY

Miss Sallie Perry, Miss Vera Hyatt, Mrs. M. Hill, and Miss Florence Markham are in New York City to purchase Spring Millinery for their customers.

LITTLE BOY BURNED

The little boy of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Barnes on Center street was painfully but not seriously burned Thursday when the child's clothing caught from a stove.

TONIGHT AT EIGHT O'CLOCK

Grigs Commandery of Knight Templar no. 14 will meet tonight in the Masonic Hall at 8 o'clock. Business of importance will be discussed. New drills are to be taken up after which a Banquet will be served. All members are requested to attend in full dress uniform.

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Administration Impatient Over Detention Of Vessels

Feeling That Germany Ought Not Be in a Position to Say She Has Driven Shipping From Seas

Navy Has Suitable Guns

Which May Be Condemed for Use in Protection of Merchant Vessels at Sea

Officially Made President

(By United Press) Washington, Feb. 12.—President Wilson was today officially declared the next President of the United States.

Before both houses of Congress assembled in the House of Representatives chamber—according to constitutional provision—Vice President Marshall, formally opened and counted the ballots of the 531 Presidential electors, which—as known to the world for these months—placed President Wilson and himself at the helm of Government for another four years. The ballots, sealed and certified by the secretaries of state of the various states, were opened by clerks in the presence of the assembled members and senators, and checked up by tellers. The result was then announced and the Senate returned to its chamber, the ceremony concluded.

Show Kiddies How To Play

(By United Press)

Austin, Tex., Feb. 12.—Sedate college professors and husky football warriors will join pretty coeds to-night in playing "ring around a rosy," "pussy wants a corner" and other more or less interesting kid games as part of the program of home economics week. The games will be staged by the woman's physical training department of the University of Texas as a compliment to the State Canning Club agents who are meeting here. These agents and many rural school teachers complain that one of the bradest things they are up against in training children is co-operative playing. They say they fear modern children are losing the art of playing. The profs, foot ballists and co-eds are going to show 'em how.

NOW IN NEW QUARTERS

The Grice Whitehurst Insurance Agency is now occupying its new quarters on Poindexter street and has the air of being both busy and ready for business.

WEATHER OR NO

Our idea of a musical genius, is one whose note is good either way—play or pay. Fair and continuing cold tonight Tuesday fair with rising temperature.

Ray Tracy left Monday for New

By CARL D. GROAT

(United Press Staff Correspondent) Washington, Feb. 12.—Administration officials began today to share the impatience of the shipping men over the forced detention of American vessels in home ports because of the German U-boat war.

This feeling appears likely to hasten the solution of the question of armament for merchantmen.

As predicted Saturday by the United Press on official hints, the solution of this question will be either the direct or indirect assistance of Navy Department guns to merchant ships dearing them. The feeling is that Germany ought not to be in a position to say that she has driven shipping from the seas through fear of her submarines.

Despite the talk of German attempts to stave off war, this government doubts that Germany is preparing to modify her undersea campaign.

Reserve guns of the Navy, designed for use on merchant auxiliaries, and submarine chasers will probably be available soon to American ship owners who brave the German danger zones.

The Navy department has a number of these guns which, it is said, could be condemned for use on merchant ships or loaded directly, if necessary. They are just the type needed for the merchant ships.

Officials have suggested the condemnation of the guns to make them available for ship lines without putting the official seal on the transfer.

GOVERNMENT GUARDS WIRELESS

The Government is guarding against having any confidential or false news wirelessly to Germany.

DISCUSSION NOW IMPOSSIBLE

Any discussion between the United States and Germany of the means of averting war is impossible until Germany has stopped her restricted submarine warfare. This is the attitude of government officials here, today.

LEGISLATURE BANS FREAK LEGISLATION

(By United Press)

Bismark, N. D., Feb. 12.—North Dakota's farmer legislature isn't going to take up its time with freak bills. This became apparent today when the only near approach to a freak on the calendar was a bill providing that bob sleds shall be 56 inches wide. This is not freakish, since smaller gauge runners cut up snow roads in this snowy country.

PLEAD FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

(By United Press)

Chicago, Feb. 12.—The importance of bringing back to popularity the old time custom of family worship wherein the other members gathered round while father read the Bible will be stressed at...