

# GERARD LEAVES GERMAN CAPITAL

## Quits Berlin for Switzerland. Financial Aid Offered to Stranded Americans.

(By the International News Service.)  
Berlin, Feb. 10.—(4 p. m.) Unless un-  
foreseen events overthrow present plans  
in the eleventh hour, Mr. and Mrs. James  
W. Gerard and 202 Americans will sail  
out of Berlin in a special train within  
less than four hours and at dawn on  
Sunday will be on neutral Swiss soil,  
well on the way to Zurich, whence they  
will proceed to Spain for the next boat  
homeward bound.

On the eve of his departure, the former  
American Ambassador made a brief  
statement, announcing that he would  
give no interview of any kind to any  
person until he had reported in person  
to President Wilson. His statement was  
made to warn the world that anything  
he will be "quoted as saying" between  
now and the time he meets the President  
in Washington will be ignored.

Late tonight information came from  
a responsible and well-informed quarter  
that when the former Ambassador  
reaches Switzerland, he will use the first  
opportunity since the diplomatic break  
to send a confidential message to Wash-  
ington. The correspondent's informant  
strongly hinted that the message  
might be included tangible suggestions  
to the American government to the end  
of averting war between the two  
countries.

Possible to Avert War.  
The belief that it is yet possible for  
Germany and the United States to es-  
tablish a common meeting ground on  
which to bring about measures that will  
fully safeguard American ships and  
lives, without impairing the efficiency  
of the U-boat weapon, is held in the  
circles here even tonight, when the  
semblance of official connection between  
the two governments is about to vanish  
in the person of Mr. Gerard.

Reports that pacific negotiations are  
contemplated will not dawn.  
A joyful surprise came yesterday to  
scores of Americans who as a result of  
the diplomatic break found themselves  
to face the prospect of being  
stranded in a country that may sooner  
or later be at war with them. Mr. and  
Mrs. Gerard and Mrs. and Mrs. Jacques  
Mayer, of New York, made it known that  
lack of funds will not stand in the way  
of these Americans returning to the  
United States. They offered to assist  
financially all those desirous of return-  
ing but lacking funds.

At 11 o'clock this morning a little army  
of Americans assembled at the railroad  
station and for several minutes the  
multitudes of baggage inspection were gone  
through. This was arranged so as to  
prevent delay at the border. Every pos-  
sible courtesy was shown the Americans  
by the customs officials. The pieces of  
baggage mounted into the thousands.  
Most of the Americans are taking with  
them the bulk of their belongings.

The route via Sigen to Zurich was de-  
cided upon in preference to that to Basel,  
since it is shorter.  
It is only fair to record the painstaking  
and courteous shown Americans every-  
where in Berlin. Among all Germans,  
high and low, there appears to exist a  
"gentlemen's agreement" to avoid even  
the slightest hint of hostile sentiment.

There are still many Americans here  
who have been unable thus far to obtain  
permission to leave, but no difficulty  
is expected. The authorities are strictly  
enforcing the "fortnight rule," stipulating  
that two weeks must elapse in which  
applications for leave are investigated.  
Sweden. It was learned today, has taken  
over German interests in Russia and  
Egypt. Holland is acting for British af-  
fairs in Germany, and Spain is repre-  
senting Japanese, Rumanian and Serbian  
interests in Germany, in addition to tak-  
ing over the business of the American  
embassy.

# BRAZIL PUTS U-BOAT ISSUE UP TO BERLIN

## Ocean Blockade Neither Legal Nor Ef- fective, Rio Officials Hold.

(Special to the Washington Herald.)  
Rio Janeiro, Feb. 10.—Foreign Minister  
Lauro Muller, in replying to President  
Wilson's suggestion that other neutral  
nations take the same position as the  
United States respecting the German  
submarine campaign, will inform Wash-  
ington that Brazil has declared to Ger-  
many that she does not recognize the sub-  
marine blockade as effective, according  
to reliable reports.

The note is whether say that Brazil  
leaves with Germany the responsibility  
for all acts from which Brazilian merchan-  
dise may suffer in violation of interna-  
tional law.  
The note is a protest, the final para-  
graph reading:  
"The Brazilian government, in spite of  
its sincere and keen desire to avoid any  
disagreement with the nations at war,  
believes it to be its duty to protest  
against this blockade, consistently  
to leave entirely with the imperial gov-  
ernment the responsibility for all acts  
which would involve Brazilian citizens,  
merchandise or ships and which are  
proven to have been committed in dis-  
regard of the recognized principles of in-  
ternational law and of the conventions  
signed by Brazil and Germany."

# BROTHER OF JOHN D. ILL IN CHARITY HOSPITAL

Cleveland, Feb. 10.—Frank Rockefeller is  
in the Charity Hospital, following an  
abdominal operation. His condition is  
reported good. He is seventy years old.  
His critical illness brought no recon-  
ciliation with his brother, John D. Rocke-  
feller. The two have been at odds for  
nineteen years as the result of a dis-  
agreement over business. Following is  
the statement issued just before the oper-  
ation:  
"Frank Rockefeller has not sent for  
his brother, John, and will not send for  
him, nor will he advise his brother of his  
illness."

# Must Flash Ticket To Get Into Capitol

Policing of the Capitol will be  
supplemented by restriction of  
those entering the building after  
office hours, to persons bearing em-  
ployer's tickets or cards of admis-  
sion to the press galleries. The  
order goes into effect tomorrow.

The tickets were distributed yester-  
day and in effect authorize mem-  
bers of the Capitol force to stop  
any suspicious looking person and  
demand that he display a ticket.  
Visitors will not be barred from  
the Capitol during the hours when  
it is officially open unless there is  
a suspicion they mean mischief.  
In addition to taking these extra  
precautions, the Senate yesterday  
passed a resolution offered by Sen-  
ator Overman for the Committee  
on Rules providing for fifty special  
officers to police the Capitol. These  
men will serve until March 15 un-  
less there is an extra session of  
Congress. They will be paid \$3 a  
day. An appropriation of \$6,000 is  
provided to meet the expenditure.

# ON VERGE OF WAR

## Situation Ominous, Lansing Tells Fellow Alumni.

Secretary of State Lansing last night  
repeated his ominous warning that "we  
are on the verge of war," made by him  
on December 21, the day after President  
Wilson had sent his peace note to Ger-  
many. He was addressing the fourth an-  
nual banquet of the Amherst College  
Alumni Association, of which he is a  
member, held in the banquet hall of the  
New Willard.

"This is a time of anxiety for us all,  
of heavy responsibility for some of  
us. We are looking forward into the  
uncertainties of the future and we are  
striving to read what it holds in store  
for us and for our country. We can  
hardly close our eyes to the fact that  
we are standing near to the verge of  
the war which has for two and a half  
years wasted the great energies of Eu-  
rope and brought untold woes to man-  
kind.

"Ominous though the situation may  
seem, it is always the hope that our  
country may be spared the terrible calami-  
ty of being forced into the conflict. It  
is now, as it has been from the begin-  
ning, the wish and endeavor of this  
government to remain at peace with all  
the world if it can do so with honor.

A Time to Think.  
"I cannot discuss here the supreme  
subject of American thought today, either  
to review the past or to prophesy for  
the future. In the existing uncertainties you  
must realize that it would be unwise for  
me to do so. It is not a time to speak;  
it is a time to think earnestly  
and deliberately. It is a time for courage  
and self-restraint rather than for sur-  
render to the natural impulses which are  
aroused by great events affecting the  
national honor, the national duty, and the  
national welfare of our country. I  
shall not talk to you of these events.

Continued on page two.

# HELD UP AT GUN POINT; CHOKED AND PUMMELED

## Albert Bright Assaulted by Negroes, Who Are Driven Off by Passers-By.

Held up at the point of a gun in the  
hands of a gigantic negro, and choked  
and beaten about the face by another  
member of the gang, while still a third  
negro rifled the pockets of his trousers,  
Albert W. Bright, a patient at St. John's  
hospital, 323 Fifth street southeast, was  
saved from a severe beating and prob-  
able robbery only by the timely action of  
three interns from Providence Hospital,  
who were passing at the time.  
The daring hold-up took place at the  
northeast corner of the Senate Office  
Building, First and C streets northeast,  
at 9:50 o'clock last night. The young  
physician and Mr. Bright chased the  
negro through Shotwell Alley, but were  
outdistanced.  
According to the story told Detectives  
Wise and Wright by Mr. Bright, he was  
on his way from his home to the Union  
Station to take a train for Pittsburgh.  
The car on which he was a passenger  
was blocked at East Capitol and First  
streets, and he decided to walk the rest  
of the distance to the station.  
Mr. Bright was not badly injured, and  
he took the midnight train for Pitts-  
burgh. All that the highwaymen secured  
from their victim was a pocket knife.

# HE TOLD HOW GERMANS COULD INVADE AMERICA

Paris, Feb. 10.—French military writers  
are reaching the book written in Berlin  
in 1901 by Hans Franz von Edelheim,  
captain of the Second Uhlans of the  
Prussian Guard, describing a proposed  
German invasion of the United States.  
Edelheim wrote that Germany would  
be able to mobilize quickly and transport  
on board numerous German leviathans,  
a huge invading army. He admitted that  
England also had a sufficient number of  
transport to invade the United States,  
but pointed out that because Canada is so  
vulnerable, England would never dare  
risk a war with the United States.

# PAPER AT HARRISBURG ALONZO'S SECRET'S SAFE; HE'S IN THE HOSPITAL!

Harrisburg, Pa., Feb. 10.—The Star, an  
afternoon newspaper, will make its last  
appearance today. The plant has been  
purchased by the Harrisburg Telegraph.  
The Harrisburg field hereafter will be  
covered by but one afternoon newspaper.  
In an announcement today the Tele-  
graph says the combining of the papers  
was a necessity "the outcome of un-  
precedented conditions in printing trades,  
requiring economies of the most radical  
nature with which the reading public is  
not yet familiar."

# ABANDON PLAN TO ARM LINERS

## Shipping Interests Place Traf- fic Squarely Up to Government.

(By S. D. WEYER,  
International News Syndicate.)  
New York, Feb. 10.—"We are help-  
less. It's up to the government."  
Such, in substance, reads the ver-  
dict sounding the death knell to  
American passenger traffic to England  
and France, while unrestricted U-boat  
warfare keeps on. It was rendered  
late this afternoon by P. A. S. Frank-  
lin, president of the American Line,  
who, in a formal statement given out  
to the press, said:

The American Line decision means  
that the St. Louis, which has been lying  
at her dock "at the point of de-  
parture" for ten days with a fair-  
sided booking of passengers and 5,000  
sacks of United States mail, will stay  
there, as also will the St. Paul, ready  
for more than a week to sail for Liver-  
pool. The third American liner, the  
Philadelphia, now in Liverpool, also  
will remain tied up.

It means that the German submarine  
"blockade" has in addition to tying  
up the bulk of cargo shipping, com-  
pletely stopped American passenger  
traffic, for bow to the German stipu-  
lations the American Line will not.

Prefer to Dock Ships.  
Rather than take orders from the Ber-  
lin government to paint its vessels in a  
certain prescribed way and to make only  
one prescribed port, Falmouth, choosing  
only one prescribed route, the company  
decided to lay up its vessels, meanwhile  
putting "the issue of protection squarely  
up to the government.

The eyes of all shipping men are di-  
rected to Washington. The consensus is  
that now that the American Line has  
definitely declined, by force of necessity,  
to fling the defiance of American private  
enterprise into the teeth of the U-boat  
menace, the American government will  
take it upon itself to find ways and means  
for the exercise of the right of Ameri-  
can passenger ships "to traverse all parts  
of the high seas."

Mr. Franklin's announcement came as  
a bomb-shell to the shipping circles. It has  
been so consistently reported that plans  
to arm the St. Louis were well under way  
and that she would sail Wednesday. The  
sudden abandonment of all efforts in that  
direction caused a most profound stir.  
Early in the afternoon, the report was  
current that the International Mercantile  
Marine, the controlling corporation, had  
virtually contracted for two 4-inch guns  
Continued on page two.

# REVOLUTIONARY PLOT DISCOVERED IN CUBA

## Army Officer Among Others Arrested, Say Havana Reports.

(By the International News Service.)  
Havana, Feb. 10.—A plot to overthrow  
the Cuban government has been unearthed  
according to a statement made today  
by Aurelio Hevia, secretary of the In-  
terior.  
It is understood some arrests have been  
made. Among those arrested, it was  
said, was at least one army officer and  
perhaps more.  
The first intimation the public had of  
the alleged anti-government conspiracy  
came when Minister Hevia notified the  
military and civil authorities he had re-  
ceived news of the plot.  
A searching investigation was at once  
started by the military authorities and  
the police. There has been considerable  
political unrest in Cuba since the presi-  
dential election in November.

# THINK U-BOAT VICTIM WAS FLEEING MURDERER

## Richard Wallace, Slain in Eavestone Wreck, Believed a Fugitive.

Fitzgerald, Ga., Feb. 10.—Local au-  
thorities feel certain Richard Wallace,  
the American negro who was killed when  
the British collier Eavestone was tor-  
pedoed, is the same Richard Wallace who  
was under indictment for the murder of  
an A. E. & A. call boy, nine years ago.  
Wallace made his escape. It was re-  
ported at the time that he went to  
Boston and shipped as a stoker on an  
ocean liner. About three years ago, a  
negro filling the description of Wallace  
was arrested in Columbia, S. C., con-  
victed and sentenced to hang.  
A local newspaper investigated the case,  
and secured a second trial. It was proven  
that the convicted man was Emanuel  
Ford and he was given his liberty.

# FRANCE ABLE TO FIGHT ONLY 9 MONTHS LONGER

## 1,250,000 Soldiers Killed, 700,000 Crippled, Says Ambulance Man.

Chicago, Feb. 10.—France can last nine  
months longer, according to Robert  
Davidson, an American who returned  
home today after driving an ambulance  
in France.  
"French officers declare that the coun-  
try's strength will last that long," said  
Davidson. "Already 1,250,000 soldiers have  
been killed, 400,000 permanently crippled  
and 300,000 partly crippled. These figures  
are not given out over there."

Quickest Service to Baltimore.  
Every hour on the hour, Baltimore  
and Ohio, \$1.75 round trip, Saturdays  
and Sundays.

# Submarine War Nets Germany 4 More Ships

Mantola, British, 6,228 tons.  
Lullington, British, 2,816 tons.  
Solbakken, Norwegian, 2,616 tons.  
Bechthire, British, 1,277 tons.  
Total, four ships, 13,937 tons.  
Sunk since February 1:  
American, one.  
Other neutrals, twenty-nine.  
British, forty-two.  
Other belligerents, seven.  
Total, seventy-nine.  
Total tonnage, 194,015.

# FOUR SHIPS IN DAY

## Tonnage of Destroyed Vessels Now Totals 164,015.

(By the International News Service.)  
London, Feb. 10.—German U-boats to-  
day, the tenth day of unrestricted war-  
fare in the barred zone, sent to the  
bottom four vessels with an aggregate  
tonnage of 13,937. Three British ships  
and one Norwegian were sunk. Two  
lives are known to have been lost in  
the sinking of the latter.

Today's toll brings the total tonnage  
destroyed by U-boats since February 1  
up to 164,015. Altogether seventy-nine  
ships have been reported sunk.  
The most serious British loss today  
was the steamship Mantola. Built only  
last year she was one of the newest and  
most modern steel cargo-carriers in the  
British merchant marine. She hailed  
from Glasgow and was owned by the  
British-India Navigating Company.

A small boat containing three Engli-  
shmen and one American negro, members  
of the crew of the torpedoed British  
steamer Dauntless, has been picked up  
at sea by a trawler, according to a  
dispatch from Madrid. The occupants  
had been without food for five days  
and were taken to a hospital.

A wireless message picked up here to-  
day stated that the U-boat which re-  
cently sank the Peruvian ship Lorton in  
Spanish waters flew the French flag.  
The Lullington, another British vessel,  
of 2,816 tons, was sunk. Her crew was  
saved.  
The destruction of a Norwegian ship-  
the Solbakken—was reported by Lloyds.  
Two of her crews were killed.  
The total tonnage of the Lullington,  
Mantola and Solbakken was 12,299.

# FIRE SWEEPS PLANT OF MORTUARY MAKERS

## Union Switch and Signal Co. Menaced by Dangerous Blaze.

(By the International News Service.)  
Fitzburgh, Pa., Feb. 10.—Fire starting  
late this afternoon spread rapidly at the  
plant of the Union Switch and Signal  
company at Swisshaven and it was believed  
the entire plant might be destroyed.  
All available fire-fighting apparatus, in-  
cluding the company's own trained de-  
partment, were on the scene.  
This plant has been working on huge  
munitions orders and has been under  
heavy guard. The origin of the fire is  
unknown.

The fire started in the shell-making  
department and spread with such rapidity  
that half an hour after it was discovered,  
the entire plant seemed doomed. Several  
thousand men are employed at the  
plant but it is believed all reached safety.  
The Union Switch and Signal Company  
is one of the largest subsidiaries of the  
Washington Electric Company. It is  
understood that their shell contracts have  
amounted to several million dollars.

# FIVE GREAT LINERS STILL ON HIGH SEAS

## Quintet of Trans-Atlantic Vessels Carry U. S. Citizens.

New York, Feb. 10.—The safe arrival  
of the Spanish liner Baltich at Liver-  
pool leaves five more big passenger ships  
on the high seas. The liners, together  
with their date of departure from New  
York and their quotas of Americans, fol-  
low:  
Adriatic, White Star, sailed February  
3, carries 6 Americans; Rochambeau,  
French, sailed February 4, carries 13  
Americans; Saxonia, Cunard, sailed Janu-  
ary 26, carries 1 American; Cedric White-  
Star, sailed February 8, carries 4 Ameri-  
cans; Dante Alighieri, Italian, sailed Janu-  
ary 27, carries 8 Americans.

# Negro Snatches Purse; Runs, But Gets Caught

A negro snatched a pocketbook from  
the hand of Miss Lillian Johnson as she  
was about to enter the Brunswick apart-  
ment on R street, near Fourteenth, about  
10:20 last night, and disappeared down an  
alley.  
Miss Johnson screamed, whereupon the  
attention of three young white men was  
attracted, who, accompanied by Police-  
man A. W. Esser, followed the negro  
down to New York avenue, where they  
overtook him.  
The pocketbook, containing \$23.27, ac-  
cording to the police, was found in the  
thief's pocket. The negro gave his name  
as Jerry Simpson, 25, and his residence  
as 2016 L street northwest.

# Hold Noiseless Banquet; Make Speeches With Hands

Without the utterance of a spoken  
word, the Kappa Gamma Fraternity of  
Gallaudet College held its seventeenth  
annual banquet in the red room of the  
New Ebbitt last night.  
Many speeches were made, but they  
were all delivered by gestures, the men  
listening in mute approval.  
Among those who spoke were Charles  
C. Marshall, Henry Austin, Dr. Hall, Al-  
bert Hall and Messrs. Vallant, Seaton  
and Farpel. The committee on arrange-  
ments included H. J. Stegeman, James  
Sullivan, B. Schow and C. Ozier.

# DIRECTS PROBE OF FOOD COST

## President Orders Federal Trade Commission and De- partments to Act at Once.

President Wilson today directed that  
a Federal inquiry be made at once into  
the question of the nation's food supply  
and the high prices of foodstuffs. The  
Federal Trade Commission and the De-  
partments of Agriculture and Justice have  
been instructed to conduct the probe.  
"An adequate supply of foodstuffs is  
a matter of concern to the nation at all  
times; it is of peculiar importance at  
present," the President declared in a  
letter to Chairman Harris of the Fed-  
eral Trade Commission.

The President seeks to ascertain defi-  
nitely whether current high prices are  
due to manipulations of trusts or due  
to economic causes. Following fast upon  
the President's order, officials charged  
with handling the inquiry held hurried  
conferences and laid plans for an im-  
mediate prosecution of the work.

May Not Possess Power.  
"Many necessary facts are not avail-  
able," the President stated, "and it is  
questionable whether any single agency  
of the government at present possesses  
the requisite power and equipment to se-  
cure the information needed to enable  
both public and private instrumentalities  
to render their fullest service to the peo-  
ple."

"It is obvious that there will be no suf-  
ficient incentive to enlarge production if  
there does not exist an unobstructed and  
economical system of distribution. Un-  
justifiable fluctuations in prices are not  
merely demoralizing; they inevitably de-  
ter adequate production.

"It has been alleged before committees  
of the Congress and elsewhere that the  
course of trade in important food prod-  
ucts is not free, but is restricted and  
controlled by artificial and illegal means.  
It is of the highest public concern to as-  
certain the truth or falsity of these al-  
legations.  
"No business can be transacted effec-  
tively in an air of suspicion. It is al-  
leged that the nation and one of the closest  
of the evils and abuses are accurately deter-  
mined, so that proper remedies, legisla-  
tive or administrative may be applied. If they  
are not true, it is equally essential that the  
public be so informed, so that unrest and  
dissatisfaction may be allayed. Bread  
and other food tickets will be introduced  
unless the people ration themselves along  
reasonable lines.

Continued on page four.

# GERMANS CAN'T STARVE BRITAIN, SAYS EDITOR

## Expects War's End Within Three Months by Allied Attacks.

(By the International News Service.)  
London, Feb. 10.—The war will be de-  
cided within the next three or four  
months, according to Robert Donald, edi-  
tor of the Chronicle and one of the closest  
students of war conditions in England.  
Mr. Donald does not minimize the dan-  
gers of Germany's submarine blockade but  
holds that there is absolutely no chance  
for Britain to be starved.  
"Discussing the situation today he said:  
"The war may not end but it will be  
decided within the next three or four  
months. This decision will be helped by  
the allies' piercing the western front, by  
Russia driving the enemy back, by an  
advance by Italy and the holding up  
the enemy in the Balkans, to say nothing  
of decisive operations elsewhere.  
"Great Britain is blockaded but she will  
never be starved and communication with  
the world will not be interrupted. Bread  
and other food tickets will be introduced  
unless the people ration themselves along  
reasonable lines.

# MILITAMEN ORDERED TO LEAVE THE BORDER

San Antonio, Tex., Feb. 10.—Orders  
for the departure for home of National  
Guard organizations now stationed on  
the border were issued by the military  
authorities here today as follows:  
February 11, Troop A, South Caro-  
lina Cavalry, Company A, Field Engi-  
neers, Field Hospital No. 1, and Ambu-  
lance Company No. 1, all stationed at  
El Paso.  
February 12, Sixth Pennsylvania In-  
fantry, from El Paso.  
February 14, Fifth Maryland In-  
fantry, from Eagle Pass.  
February 20, Third Brigade Head-  
quarters, Eighth Infantry, and Com-  
pany G, Engineers, all of Pennsylvania,  
from El Paso.

# Freddie Haskins Wins Cabaret Bride at Last

Chicago, Feb. 10.—Freddie Haskins, son  
of Robert C. Haskins, president of the In-  
ternational Harvester Company, is pre-  
pared to face parental wrath today. A  
marriage license was issued to Frank  
Haskins and Josephine F. Gordon yester-  
day, and today Miss Joy Gardner, cabaret  
dancer, whose name off-stage is Joseph-  
ine F. Gordon, is wearing a thin gold  
band on the third finger of her left hand.  
Last November, private detectives in  
the employ of young Haskins, who then  
went to Kansas City, where Miss Gardner  
was dancing at a hotel cabaret, and  
brought him home.

# ACT FOR WAR NATIONS.

Berlin (via Sayville wireless), Feb. 10.—  
Sweden and Holland, as well as Switzer-  
land, will represent the some of the Ger-  
man interests in hostile countries, the  
Overseas News Agency stated today.  
Sweden will act in Russia and Egypt,  
and Holland in the French zones in  
Northern Africa. Spain will act in Ger-  
many for Japan, Rumania and Serbia,  
as well as the United States. Hol-  
land will act for England.

ALLIES BOMB ZEEBRUGGE.  
Amsterdam, Feb. 10.—The German  
naval base at Zeebrugge has been bom-  
barded by a squadron of Allied aeroplane-  
planes, says a dispatch to the Telegram  
last night.

# GERMAN PEACE PARLEY REPORTS REPUDIATED; SPEED PLANS FOR WAR

## Officialdom Sweepingly Denies that Kaiser Seeks Conference with U. S. to Avert Hostilities Over U-Boat War.

Out of the war clouds hovering over the crisis between the United States  
and Germany last night came the vague suggestion that Germany was willing  
to discuss means of preventing actual hostilities.  
The suggestion came apparently out of the air, and no one in official  
Washington would accept the responsibility for it. It left the White House  
and the State Department gasping with astonishment, and met with authori-  
tative denials from practically every official source of information in Wash-  
ington. But its effect was apparent.

The White House, the State Department, the German Embassy, and the  
Swiss Embassy, now handling German affairs here, declared they had never  
heard of the suggestion.

# TUMULTY ISSUES STATEMENT

## Brands Report of Teuton Note to President, Asking Further Discussion of "Sub" Edict, as a Complete Fabrication.

The publication of the report that Germany had addressed to this country  
a note suggesting that the two nations discuss ways and means of pre-  
venting actual hostilities caused a furore in administration circles.  
Secretary to the President Tumulty declared that the White House had  
never heard the slightest intimation of such a communication; that so far  
as the White House knew the report was a complete fabrication, and that its  
publication was a matter of "deep suspicion."

Meanwhile it was stated in administration circles that the international  
situation remained unchanged, and that the few vessels reported sunk in the  
German submarine zone during the day offered no indications of the dreaded  
"overt act" which will prompt the next step in the German crisis.

# RESERVES RIGHT TO ARM.

The State Department made it clear  
that the administration reserves the  
full right to arm American merchant  
vessels whenever it may deem such  
action necessary. This announcement  
was made official and was designed to  
deny various reported contentions that  
neutrals have no right to mount guns  
on merchant ships for their defense.  
It was made plain that the United  
States will insist upon its right to  
arm its ships for their protection, no  
matter what position other nations  
may assume.

No indication was forthcoming,  
however, as to whether this announce-  
ment was preliminary to the mount-  
ing of guns on the ships of the Ameri-  
can Line, now held in New York. It  
was made clear that the right of ship-  
owners to arm their vessels had been  
plainly set forth in statements to the  
owners by the department, and the  
department said yesterday they would  
adhere strictly to this position.

Shipping is Big Issue.  
It was recognized that the question of  
American shipping was yesterday the cen-  
ter of the international situation. Con-  
gress was confronted with the issue  
through resolutions introduced by Repre-  
sentative Platt, of New York, demanding  
information as to the administration's  
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# COMPELS SERVICE

## Senator Chamberlain Frames Bill Forcing Army Service.

Universal military training and compul-  
sory military service for citizens of the  
United States would be provided by a bill  
recommended to the Senate for passage  
yesterday by the Senate Military Com-  
mittee. Chairman Chamberlain of the  
committee said last night that in view  
of the present international crisis he  
would press the measure in the Senate  
at the earliest possible moment.  
The Chamberlain bill is not the universal  
training measure drawn by the General  
Staff of the army, and Secretary of War  
Baker said last night he was not pre-  
pared to commit the administration to  
the supporting of the Senate proposal.  
The younger classes would be age  
of 19 and 20 unless he could show a  
certificate of military training.  
Arrange for Religions.  
The exemptions in the bill would ex-  
clude from service the physically