# SITUATION DEEPLY STIRS WASHINGTON

RelationswithGermany Are "Strained."

# ISSUE NOW UP TO BRITAIN

Administration to Insist on Free Food to Civilians.

### SHIPS NEARING WAR ZONE

Twenty-Seven Vessels From United States, Five Carrying Passengers, Soon to Arrive Within Area of "New Warfare."

BY JOHN CALLAN O'LOUGHLIN. WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 .- (Special.)-Germany has notified the United States Government through Ambassador Gerard that a state of "strained relations"

exists betewen the two nations. This does not mean war. "It does mean, however, that a condition of tension has developed which and the American people

### Problem Confronts Administration. To restore the relations of the two

nations to their former state of friendliness, while at the same time assuring protection to American ships and American citizens traversing the high seas, is now the problem of the President and his Cabinet.

Strained relations have prevailed condition prevailed between the

The President has no intention to permit war to come with Germany. "Impasse" Is Reached.

He is face to face with this situation: lished on Thursday.

Germany in an official communication, declined to grant those assurances, and reiterated the danger from submarines and floating mines to neutrals traversing the "war zone."

The President and members of his Cabinet discussed today the entire subject of relations of the United States with Germany and Great Britain with a view to devising a solution which would be generally satisfactory.

# Warning to Britain in Earnest.

So far as Germany is concerned, they determined to do all they could to obtain a declaration by Great Britain with reference to the freedom of foodstuffs not consigned to the German government or to the German military They determined further to make

clear to the British authorities that this Government was in earnest in the warning sent yesterday against the adoption, predicted by Winston Churchill, First Lord of the British Admiralty, of more stringent measures to prevent food supplies from reaching Germany. If Great Britain will comply with

the urgent representations of the United States, Germany has promised are to receive immediately approxi-

prescribed area. German mines will first term of the school year. be scattered in the paths of shipping.

27 American Vessels Near Zone. Twenty-seven vessels from the Powell gers, will enter the "war zone" on immediately after the inauguration of the "new method of warfare." The United States steamship Jason, "Christmas ship" which conveyed to Europe the gifts of American chil- Ex-Superintendent Still Holds Linn-

dren for the orphans of the war, will be due at Bristol, lying in the Bristol channel on Thursday. To return again to Germany's an-

sertion that a state of "strained re-

Intions" exists: It may be that this will prevent expected interview

the President. It is not likely that the Emperor matter may be taken into court. would care to receive the American Ambassador in view of the attitude adopted by his imperial Chanceller and titlons asking the Council to call

which unquestionably he has approved, special election in the near future Gerard In Tense Atmosphere. Mr. Gerard will present the Ameri-

can communication to the Foreign Office, probably personally, though the atmosphere, as he has described it, is exceedingly tense. He is not expected to humiliate himself, but he has been urged to keep the negotiations alive, for so long as negotiations are in prog-ress the Administration believes there

be no danger of a rupture. Germany, in view of the sentiment which exists, maye decide to tell Mr. Gerard that his presence is no longer

Even this might not be a final rup-

(Concluded on Page 2.)

# 40 AIRMEN ATTACK GERMAN POSITIONS

FOUR TOWNS IN BELGIUM ARE RAIDED BY ALLIES.

Big Guns, Trawlers, Barges and Aerodrome Are Bombarded With Good Effect, Says Admiralty.

LONDON, Feb. 16 .- Forty French and British aeroplanes and scaplanes today attacked the German positions at Ostend, Middelkerke, Ghistelles and Zecsrugge in Belgium and, according to the official report, with good results. Bombs were dropped on gun posi-

tions, trawlers, barges and an aero-The official statement concerning the

air raid says: "The air operations of the naval-wing against the Bruges, Ostend and Zeebrugge district were continued today. Forty aeroplanes and seaplanes bombarded Ostend, Middlekerke, Ghistelles and Zeebrugge.

"Bombs were dropped on the heavy batteries situated on the east and west side of Ostend, on gun positions at Middlekerke, on transport wagons on the Ostend-Ghistelles road, on the mole at Zeebrugge to widen the breach dam aged in former attacks, on the locks at Zeebrugge, on barges outside Blankenberghe and on trawlers outside Zeebrugge.

"Eight French aeroplanes assiste the naval machines by making vigorous attacks on the Ghistelles aerodrame, this effectively preventing German air craft from cutting off our machines. It is reported that good results

were obtained. "Instructions are always issued to confine attacks to points of military mportance and every effort is made by is of serious concern to the President the flying officers to avoid dropping ombs on any residential portions of

# LAW TO FIX LOAF PUT OFF

Mr. Brewster Drops Ordinance for Standards Before Legislature.

Concluding that regulation of the many times between the United States size of a loaf of bread is not feasible, and other states. When Sir Liouel City Commissioner Brewster announced Sackville-West, the British Minister, yesterday that he has dropped his prowas dismissed by President Cleveland, posed ordinance fixing 16 ounces as the standard for a Portland loaf. He also two governments. War, however, did has postponed the rest of his proposed measure regulating the size of berry boxes and changing other weights and measures standards of the city until the Legislature gets through considering

many that "American citizens and their gated the bread proposition thoroughly propriation bills, to make unnecessary vessels will not be molested by the and has found that to fix a standard for an extra session. While the House de vessels will not be molested by the and has found that to ma a standard for their bated the Weeks-Gore bill the Senate salaries became exhausted, and the appropriate that the salaries became exhausted, and the appropriate that the salaries became exhausted, and the appropriate that the salaries became exhausted and the salaries became exhausted. by visit and search" in the "war zone" of smaller loaves would cause an un-around the British Isles, to be establegislation should be aimed at quality grossed in the conferences as to the unntity.

### BRITISH VESSEL BLOWN UP Two Explosions Wreck Steamer Off Cape Antifer.

LONDON, Feb. 16 .- A dispatch to Lloyds from Fecamp, France, says the ship purchase measus British steamer Dulwich, Captain Dud- and turbulent fight. ley, bound from Hull for Rouen, was blown up last night 25 miles off Cape Antifer by two successive explosions. none on the steamer had been injured shall be turned over to the Secretary and that all of them could have made their escape in the lifeboats.

The Dulwich was a vessel of 3289 tons and was owned by the British Steamship Company.

### SCHOOLS TO GET \$30,000 County High School Fund to Be

Given to Ten Districts. School districts of Multnomah County

to cancel the orders for the "war mately \$30,000 from the county high school fund. A. P. Armstrong, County The "war zone" decree will enter Superintendent of Schools, is arranging into effect Thursday. German subma- to make payment from that fund to the rines will begin to operate within the districts entitled to receive it for the The districts are: Portland, St.

Johns, Park Rose, Gresham, Troutdale, Valley, Rockwood, Gilbert. United States, four of American na- Pleasant Home and Union High School tionality and five carrying passen- District No. 1, on Columbia Heights, east of the Sandy River.

# **OUSTED HEAD YET DEFIANT**

ton Water Records.

LINNTON, Or., Keb. 16 .- (Special.)-Ex-Superintendent Young, of the water works, who was dismissed by the new water board, of which Mayor Malone Ambassador Gerard from having his is chairman, still refuses to give up the with Emperor books of the plant. Mr. Young has William. This would be regretted by asked that receipts and a statement be given him from the department. The

Annexation to Portland is being considered by a number of citizens and peprobably will be circulated next month.

### TURKS HURL BRITISH BACK Dead Left on Field and 500 Camels

Are Captured.

BERLIN, via London, Feb. 15 .- A dispatch to a news agency from Bagdad says that in an engagement between the advance guard of the Turkish desired; and that it may recall Count left wing and British infantry and you Bernstoff, the German Ambassa- cavalry, the British withdrew, leaving cavalry, the British withdrew, leaving 17 men dead.

The dispatch adds that the right wing ture, for there would remain the chance that each government would name the that each government would name the First Secretary of its Embassy as Charge d'Affaires.

The bitterness of Germany is shown tured 500 camels. Only five Turks were wounded.

# DIE CAST; SHIP BILL

Fate Will Be Decided Within Few Days.

# PRESIDENT STILL CONFIDENT

Previous Question May Be Moved in Senate Today.

HOUSE LATE IN SESSION

Senator Smoot Gives Notice Debate Will Be Continued Indefinitely. Inquiry Into Improper In-

fluence to Begin Today.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 .- The Government ship purchase bill, as an amendment to the Weeks naval auxillary bill, was passed by the House at 1:20 o'clock A. M. by a vote of 215

to 121. WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 .- Democratic leaders in both houses of Congress agreed tonight that the Government ship purchase bill either would be be-fore President Wilson for his signature within a few days or dead so far as

this session is concerned. The House remained in session until late in the night to pass the Weeks-Gore bill, as the amended measure is known, and tomorrow the Administration forces will begin a final effort to get a vote in the Senate on the House amendments over the opposition of Republicans and revolting Democrats.

### Wilson Predicts Passage. Majority leaders spoke confidently to-

day of the prospect of victory, and Henry Hewett, prominent insurance man, dies. Page 11. President Wilson, after a conference with Senator Kern, told callers the bill would be passed.

On both sides of the Capitol belief weights and measures legislation that the ship bill would be abandoned note, requested assurances from Ger- Mr. Brewster says he has investi- all efforts centered on disposing of apcontinued its discussion of cloture rules, next moves to be made,

Previous Question to Be Moved. Reports had it that the Administration forces tomorrow would attempt previous question, and thus forcing a Cobb. vote on a motion to concur in the House salaries pretty bad."

The ship bill as it will go to the Senate from the House includes the ship purchase measure as agreed on in Sen The dispatch said that seven men of ate caucus, and a provision that two the crew of the steamer arrived in years after the close of the European Fecamp last night. They reported that war ships acquired by the United States (Concluded on Page 3.)

# INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 42.1 degrees; minimum, 39.2 degrees.
TODAY'S—Rain; southerly winds. Legislatures.

Senate passes prohibition bill in haif an hour. Page 1, Governor Lister robukes Washington Legislature in veteing McArdle bills. Page 4. Idaho Senate falls by one vote to override Governor's veto. Page 4. House passes anti-trading stamp measure. Page 5.

Page 5.
Senate passer bill to prevent rainous competition among public utilities. Page 4.
Three members of Senate committee would not labor and material bond clause to lease of sait lakes. Page 5.

cuse is cleared of work in proparation for final adjournment Friday night. Page & War. Fleet of 40 zeroplanes and seaplanes rate Helgium town held by Germans. Figge I

French capture two miles of German trenches in Champagne district. Page 2.

Steel company refuses \$450,000 order for shells to be used in war. Page 17.

Germany suggests that United States furnish warship convoys to insure safety of its merchantmen. Page 2. British believe Germany is still obtaining copper, despite precautions. Page 7.

National. Fate of ship-purchase bill to be decided within few days. Page 1. Domestic.

Stork arrives absolutely without warning in Chicago home. Page 3. Oregon exhibits at San Francisco nearly all in place. Page 3. -President Roosevelt is summon Judge Dayton's hearing. Page 7. sport.

Roy Moran to be traded to Atlanta, says McCredic. Page 12. McCredic. Page 12.
"Mose" Payne, Oregon's star distance run-ner, sends wird he will return to college this week. Page 12. Oregon defeats 1dnho. 29 to 19. Page 12. Washington High defeats Columbia Uni-versity in basketball. Page 12.

Commercial and Marine. Higher prices asked by sellers check trade in local wheat market. Page 17. m local wheat market. Page 17.

Renewal of export 1 tying lifts wheat at Chicago. Page 17.

Further decline in rate of exchange on London. Page 17.

All hids on lightvessel No. 50 may be jected as too low. Page 13. State Federation of Labor lawmakers to act on amendment calling for party pro-portional representation in Legislature, Page 11. Portland and Vicinity.

Oregon Betail Merchants' Association I convention condemns mail-order house Page 14.

itney profit in Portland figured by en gineer at \$1.75 a day. Page 18. idge Gatens refuses to settle church trouble. Page 1.

### DEPUTIES WANT TO EAT was current that if present plans for Representative Cobb Tells District bench, ended rather undramatically Attorney Evans He May Get Aid.

Circuit Judges and District Attorneys n Oregon have had no pay since January 1. At that time the fund for their propriation of the 1915 Legislature to cover this is not yet available. Yesterday District Attorney Evans called S. H. sides, leaving only a small open space Cobb, chairman of the House ways and for the attorneys and witnesses. tance telephone.

"I wish you'd fix some way so we can

would be equivalent to passage of the passed a bill providing for the indigent from Topeka Monday especially to suffering severely, ship purchase measure and end the long poor. I'll see if we can't include Dis- testify in the church suit. trict Attorneys in that."

# Iowa Cattle Infected.

to have been entirely suppressed in this locality. The state veterinarian has ordered the slaughter of 107 cattle in

BREAD-THE ISSUE NOW AND IN THE BEGINNING.

Church Doors Cannot Be Opened by Carry 22NG

# ATTORNEY TAKES EXCEPTION

Women "Packed Like Sardines" to Hear Case.

# TRUST RESTS WITH CHURCH

Judge Gatens Declares Court Cannot Assume Ecclesiastical Powers, but Settlement Must Come or Tax Assessor Will Act.

"The court cannot assume ecclesias tical powers. I have no more right to say the doors of the Taylor-street church shall be opened than I have to say that services shall begin at 10 But if that property isn't used for church purposes, somebody is

going to have to pay taxes on it." This, in effect, was the decision of Circuit Judge Gatens late yesterday in the First Methodist Episcopal Church to force the "regulars" to open the doors of the Taylor-street church, which had been closed as a result of to enjoin the church authorities from lower Vistula. selling the property.

But the decision is not final. Judge Gatens permitted attorneys for each of the contending factions to submit decrees, which he would examine. Martin L. Pipes, attorney for the "insurgents, said he proposed to submit authorales showing that the court did have authority to order the church opened.

"Regulars" Complete Their Case. Thus the trial, which has proceeded for two days without a judge on the late yesterday when John B. Cleland, ounsel for the "regulars," announced

that he had completed his case. The day's testimony, taken for the benefit of the stenographer, had been full of minor sensations. The court room had been crowded, as usual, with women "packed like sardines" on all

to shut off all debate by moving the eat regularly up here," he told Mr. Kan., about the time the breach in the was the first witness on the stand yes-"Well," retorted the solon, "we just terday morning. Dr. Young had arrived

# Wilson Pamphlet Arouses.

A pamphlet written by Dr. Clarence True Wilson in opposition to the plan JESSUP, Ia., Feb. 16 .- The foot and of consolidating the First and Grace mouth disease has broken out six miles churches came in for discussion in the east of here, although it was thought morning. A copy of this pamphlet was "The contents of that pamphlet are (Concluded on Page 11.)

# Tuesday's War Moves

GREAT BRITAIN received yesterday through Walter Hines Page, the American Ambassador, Germany's offer to withdraw her threat of a submarine blockade against Great Britain if the British navy would permit the free movement of foodstuffs to the

civilian population of Germany. 15here is no expectation in London Great Britain is already preparing to retallate against Germany by placing under more stringent control destined to German ports, and a proclamation momentarily is expected declaring a blockade of the German coast, or, at any rate, the prohibition of foodstuffs destined for Germany. The Cabnet, with its naval and military ad visers, considered this question yesterday, and it is understood the decision is awaiting the formal confirmation of the Privy Council, from which all prolamations emanate.

In the meantime British and neutra vessels are moving as freely as usual, with the exception of those belonging to a few Dutch lines, which have reduced their number of sallings. Norwegian and Danish insurance com panies have given instructions that steamers insured by them shall have their national colors, the names of the ships and the country of their origin painted conspicuously on the sides of all vessls.

Holland and Italy, like the United States, have protested to Germany against her sea war-zone threat, and have asked Great Britain not to make free use of neutral flags. Similar representations are expected to be made to the two countries today in a joint note by Nopway, Sweden and Denmark.

For the time being questions of dilomacy are arousing more interest than the actual fighting, although mil-Itary movements of the first importhe suit of the "insurgent" faction of tance are taking place, especially along the Eastern line. The German offensive, strongly supported by fresh troops, is being pushed with great vigor, both along the East Prussian the consolidation of two churches, and frontier and in Poland north of the The Russians have evacuated East Prussia except for a small area near Lyck, where they are opposing the German advance, and also are apparently failing back in North Poland, for the Germans announced yesterday that they have occupled Plock and Bielsk, which the Russians recaptured from them a hibition element, sided and abelied by

While the Germans seem to have nflicted heavy losses on the retiring Russian armies, military men in Lonon and the newspaper correspondents Petrograd continue to refer to the Muscovite movement as a strategical retirement to the fortified line which lies along the Nieman River through Koyno, Grodno and Lomza and thence southwest to the fortress of Novee

the First Methodist Episcopal Church, back, but they continue to hold the faith who had resigned and gone to Topeka. Carpathian passes farther west and several sections which he did not speare putting up a stubborn resistance to cifically mention. "Some of my deputies want their church's body politic began to widen, the Austro-German offensive in that region. Here the fighting is taking place in deep snow, and both sides are

The large number of troops the Germans are using in the east, it is believed by military observers, will prevent for some time any attempt by the Germans to break the deadlock in the

Although there have been no events of outstanding importance on this front, a long official report of the operations of the British force, from November to the beginning of February, ssued yesterday, shows that there althe ground, the report says there has been a lot of trench fighting, in which the Indians and British territorials dis-

tinguished themselves. high tribute to the Indians and of the territorials says they have far more than justified the most sanguine hopes entertained of their value in the field. The report adds that reinforcements

are arriving regularly. The first of the promised by-weekly reports of the doings of the British measures of consequence. The House army in France also was issued yester- passed a bill designed to put trading made in the region of La Bassee, where the naval militia at a reduced approthe Germans are said to have suffered priation; a bill to put loan sharks and levere losses, and that the British ar- pawnbrokers under the supervision tillery has shown marked superiority the State Bank Examiner; the bill over that of the Germans.

new German offensive in Alsace, which propriations for co-operation with the is designed to stop the French advance Government in agricultural education which, it is said, threatens the com- wise disposing of a number of other munications between that town and subjects.

has left Athens. rupture of diplomatic relations between of revenue raised by taxation in either of the immediately preceding two to have been affected by the Albanian years. invasion of Serbia.

comorrow the motion of the labor party, method is provided for calling a specalling on the government to fix maximum prices for food.

# ITALY IS SHAKEN AGAIN any levy necessary to be made for the

Earthquake Damages More Homes in standing warrants already issued. Province of Aquila,

ROME, Feb. 16 .- Another earthquake n the province of Aquila today dam- day by the Senate. of them dangerous for habitation.

Bill Called Most Drastic in Union.

# ONLY ONE "NO" VOTE IS CAST

Mr. Kellaher Is Dissenter and Two Attack Clauses.

## HOUSE O. K. IS EXPECTED

Trading Stamps Are Routed by Both Legislative Arms-Busy Day Is Passed Disposing of Important Acts.

BY RONALD G. CALLVERY. STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Feb. 14, (Staff Correspondence) -- What Chairman Farrell, of the Senate committee on alcoholic traffic, approvingly pro nounced a more drastle probabition bill than that of any other state in the Union now has passed both houses. It slid through the Senate this afternoon in just half an hour, with only one dissenting vote, but with several protests trailing in its wake. The one opposing vote came from the habitual minority. He (need I say it was Senator Kella her?) remarked as he cast his vote that were the only Senator who had nerve

### Two Object to Chuses. It doubtless did require some nerve

enough to do so.

to vote against a bill that has had the organized backing of what Scuator Day terms the "most advanced of the prothe liquor interests." Those who ob jected to the terms of the bill yet voted aye were Day and Strayer, Ser ator Day insisted that the bill was so drastic that it would promote turmoil. keep the issue alive and probably make necessary the summoning of a special

ession of the Legislature. Senator Strayer expressed the conviction that section 24 is unconstitutional. It authorizes the Attorney-General to send deputies into countles to displace, in the performance of their Heavy fighting also continues in the duties, any District Attorney who may Carpathians and Bukowina. In Buke- refuse or fall to enforce the law. He lso protested against the lack of good shown in the incorpora

# Concurrence Is Required.

As has been suid numerous times tire sections of the bill that are considered objectionable and a violation of the promises made by the Committee of One Hundred are those which place a low limit on importation of liquors for home consumption and make consignees' receipts subject to public inspection. Criticisms also have been or fered to the inquisitorial features and to section It mentioned by Sepator Strayer. The bill will have to go back to the House tomorrow for concurrence in a number of amendments. All but one of these are corrections of typographical errors. The exception is the Despite the weather and the state of use of the word "ethyl" in place of the sale of alcohol by druggists for scientific and mechanical purposes, Senator Farrell explained, in his brist General French in the report pays speech in support of the bill, that ethyl embraces alcohol made from grain, molasses or fruit sugars. The House it expected to concur without protest and

### the Governor will sign the bill. Both Houses Have Busy Day.

Both houses passed a day prolific is It says that progress has been stamps out of use; a bill maintaining changing the time of paying taxes and There was no further news of the reducing penalties; the bill making aptoward Muelhausen, or of the French under the terms of the Federal Smithoffensive in the vicinity of St. Mihiel, Lever bill, besides adopting and other-

# Mr. Bingbam's Bill Important.

The Senate adopted the certificate-Turkey apparently are becoming more of-necessity bill relating to utility corstrained, Although Turkey has offered porations and Senator Bingham's bill reparation for the insult to the Greek placing a limit on tax levies in cities, military attache at Constantinople, it is reported that the Greek Minister has bill is of more than ordinary importleft the legation in charge of a secre-tary, being dissatisfied with Turkey's the law in Colorado and it prohibits The Turkish Minister also the raising of a greater revenue by thems. This is believed in taxation in any one year than 6 per some quarters to be the first step in the cent in excess of the greater amount

In the event the tax-levying authority is of the opinion that the tax lim-The British Parliament will debate ited by the law will be insufficient a cial election to authorize excess taxation. The levy can only be increased by a two-thirds vote at such election The set does not limit the amount of purpose of paying bond, debt or out-

# Trading Stamps Lose.

The anti-trading stamp bill passed by the House was passed later in the jest cruelly with the merchants who

aged many houses, rendering a number tax measure by those who desire to The population, greatly alarmed now issue trading stamps, coupons and has even abandoned the undamaged other evidences of value or rebate with \* (Concluded on Page 4.) houses, fearing another catastrophe.