

# EDISON WILL SERVE

## ACCEPTS DANIELS' PLEA FOR BUREAU OF INVENTIONS

### TEST PROBLEMS OF WAR

#### Wizard of Flying Spark to Head New Board Which Will Provide Scientific Defenses Against New Perils

##### Submarines to be Considered Especially by New Board.

Thomas A. Edison accepted on Monday an invitation from Secretary Daniels to head an advisory board of civilian inventors for a bureau of invention and development to be created in the navy department.

Mr. Daniels' idea of utilizing the inventive genius of inventors in the navy department is a new departure. The plan is to have several men prominent in inventive research associated in the work.

Among the problems to be laid before the investigators, the secretary mentioned submarine warfare, and he felt sure that with Mr. Edison's wonderful brain to help them the officers of the navy would be able to meet this new danger with new devices, that will assure peace to our country by their effectiveness.

"I have been intending for some time," Mr. Daniels said in his letter, "to write you expressing my admiration at the splendid and patriotic attitude you have taken, as reported in the public press, in the matter of your great inventive genius to warlike subjects except at the call of your own country."

I have deferred writing, however, because, at the same time, I wanted to take up with you another matter to which I have given a great deal of thought—a matter in which I think your ideas and mine coincide.

There is a very great service that you can render the navy and the country at large and one which I am encouraged to believe you will consent to undertake.

"One of the imperative needs of the navy, in my judgment, is machinery and facilities for utilizing the natural inventive genius of Americans to meet the new conditions of warfare as shown in the present war."

I have worked out a plan of a department of invention and development to which all ideas and suggestions can be referred.

There is at present no adequate equipment in the navy which to send them for the careful study required. In addition, our naval officers, particularly those at sea, are in a position to note where improvements are needed and to devise ways in which these improvements can be made. It is my hope, however, neither the time nor the special training, nor in many cases, the natural inventive turn of mind needed to put these ideas into definite shape.

"Where there is a place where they could be sent to be worked out and perfected, I am sure you would be able to make the improvements from this source alone."

There are, unfortunately, no officers now detailed to work which they are called upon to do in order to devote it fully to studying new suggestions and inventions. In addition, our navy is also unprovided with the best facilities for work of pure experimentation and invention with the exception of our testing station at Annapolis, which is as yet a small affair.

"I feel that our chances of getting the public interested and back of this project will be enormously increased if we can have, at the start, some man whose inventive genius is recognized by the whole world, and who in consultation from time to time on matters of sufficient importance to bring to his attention. You are recognized by all of us as the one man above all others who can turn dreams into realities and who has at his command the most wonderful, wonderful mind, the finest facilities in the world for such work. What I want to ask is, if you would be willing, as a service to your country, to act as an advisor to this board to take such things as seem to you to be of value, but which we do not at present have equipped to investigate, and to use your own magnificent facilities in such investigation if you feel it worth while."

This is a great deal to ask, and I, unfortunately, have not the authority to make a definite offer, but I think, of the country at large, together with the feeling of service to your country that you will have, to offer you by way of recompense; yet so clearly have you shown your patriotism that I feel justified in making this request.

"In connection with a new and terrible engine of warfare in the submarine, to consider only one of the big things which I have in mind, and I feel sure that with the practical knowledge of the officers of navy, with a department composed of the keenest and most inventive minds, and with your own wonderful brain to aid us, the United States will be able, in the past, to meet this new danger with new devices that will assure peace to our country by their effectiveness."

"With you, it might be well to associate a few men prominent in special lines of inventive research, and I would like to consult with you as to which of these men should be included, and if you are not able, for any reason, to do this, I will frankly hesitate to undertake the matter at all. Should you feel like accepting the task, however, I think the relief which the country would feel in these trying times at the announcement that you are aiding us in this all-important matter."

"If you could let me know as early as you may how you feel about this, I would appreciate it, as I think we can not be too expeditious if we are going to take this matter up at all."

In announcing Monday night at West Orange, N. J., that he would gladly accept Secretary Daniels' invitation to head a civilian advisory board, Mr. Edison said that he believed the proposal was so important that it should be attended to now, at a time when the war in Europe was bringing before the public encouraging and developing ideas and inventions. He said that he had already been thinking of the matter for some time, and that he had already been thinking of the matter for some time, and that he had already been thinking of the matter for some time.

"The United States is far behind in these matters," said Mr. Edison. "I believe it is highly important for a board of civilians, made up of engineers from leading industries, to be formed for the purpose of looking into the feasibility of ideas developed by young men. While all ideas that are submitted may not be feasible, at least they have the benefit of

# PIERCE GERMAN ATTACK

## CAPTURES 2,581 FRENCH

### Teuton's Struggle Through Argonne in Effort to Reach Verdun.

The German thrust at Verdun has resulted in an important gain. In the Argonne the German report on Wednesday the capture of French positions along a front of a mile and four-fifths, the gain extending to a depth of three-fifths of a mile. The hill known as No. 255 also was taken. The official statement issued Wednesday says:

"Western theatre: Fresh head-on attacks near the Souchez Sugar Refinery were repulsed during the night.

"The French blew up without result a few mines in the neighborhood of Trocux, west of Craonne, and at Certes in the Champagne, our bombardment with hand grenades preventing them from settling themselves into the mined positions.

"In the Argonne a German attack resulted in complete success north-east of Vienne-le-Chateau. Our troops took by storm the enemy positions in the hills extending over a width of three kilometers and a depth of one kilometre. Hill No. 255, La Fille Morte, is in our possession. Two thousand five hundred and eighty-one unjured prisoners, including 51 officers, fell into our hands. In addition 300 injured were taken into our care. Field cannon, two revolver cannon, six machine guns and a large quantity of small arms were captured. Our troops advanced as far as the position of the French artillery and rendered eight cannon useless. There are now standing between the French and German lines.

### NEGRO SLAYS 3 WHITE MEN WHO TRY TO ARREST HIM

#### Farmers of Pulaski County, Georgia, Surround and Kill Barricaded Desperado.

Three white men are dead at Cochran, Ga., in Pulaski county, and a posse estimated to number several hundred farmers, heavily armed, Wednesday surrounded the home of Pete Jackson, a negro farm hand, who is accused of the triple murder. The negro barricaded himself in his home and for some time succeeded in holding off the posse.

A late dispatch from Cochran, Ga., Wednesday says that Jackson, the negro who killed three men and defied arrest, had been shot to death behind his barricade by the posse.

The dead are W. S. Hogg, aged forty, night marshal; Lynn Sanders, farmer, and Jesse Morrison, aged twenty-three, a farm hand. Jackson, according to reports of the posse, was criticised by Sanders Tuesday for some work he had done and the supervisor is said to have been angry. Later, it is alleged, Jackson accosted Sanders, drew a revolver and fired twice, one bullet entering Sanders' heart, killing him almost instantly.

Early Wednesday Hogg and Lawson went to Jackson's home to arrest him, when he was shot and killed. They died shortly afterwards.

### QUIET ON EASTERN FRONT; FRENCH GAIN IN THE WEST

#### Russians Await New Move by Teuton; Enemy—French Straighten Their Trenches.

London, Wednesday: For more than a week the Austro-German offensive in Galicia and Poland has been hanging fire while the Russians, their centers having fallen back on a more advantageous line in the heights north of Krasnik apparently are waiting the next move of the Teuton.

Fresh ammunition and reinforcements being a sign of a sudden revival of activity in the east, but the western front, by reason of the uncertainty as to which side plans a general offensive, now offers the greater possibility of interesting developments.

The French claim their front in the Argonne, after being dented by a violent attack made by the army of Crown Prince Frederick William, has been restored, the net result being a costly advance to the Germans.

The strength of the offensive at that point, leads the British press to speculate whether the Argonne or the Woivre districts will not be selected for a general German offensive.

### RUSSIANS NOT DISTURBED

#### German Movements Cause No Flurry in Petrograd, Czar's Capital.

London reported Friday that Petrograd apparently was not greatly disturbed over the latest German drive, claiming that much severe frontal fighting must be done before the Polish front can be advanced by Hindenburg and Mackensen.

In southeastern Galicia the Austro-German armies are advancing across the Diester under a heavy Russian artillery fire and fighting again becoming very keen in the most important portion of the Russian front—in the Caucasus—where both the Turks and the Russians claim successes.

Paris reported Saturday that reinforcements have been sent to the German troops in the Russian provinces of Courland and Kovno with the result that vigorous military operations have been resumed in that section. The Russians are offering a stubborn resistance and are holding strategic positions.

### Expert Judgment and Advice

"In addition to the advisory board of engineers, I also would suggest a station for experimenting. The cost would be nominal. Only a few acres of land would be required with proper buildings and a corps of efficient men calculating to carry out experiments under direction of those suggesting them, after they have been approved.

"It is an important matter and should be put under way at once. The European war has served to draw attention to the need of such an American ideas and inventions have been allowed to slip by, and if this matter is put off until the war is over there is danger of its being forgotten."

### French Aeroplane Raid

Thirty-five French aeroplanes, Paris reported, swept over the railroad station serving the Calonne trench region and dropped one hundred and seventy-one bombs Tuesday, starting several fires. All the airmen returned safely.

### Tennessee Carries Refugees

Alexandria, Egypt, Wednesday: The United States cruiser Tennessee has arrived with six hundred refugees from the coast of Asia Minor, most of whom are Italians and Syrians, and

# ACCUSE ISENHOWER

## HE OPENED FIRE AND STARTED WINNSBORO AFFRAY

### SENSATIONAL TESTIMONY

#### Coroner's Jury Hears Details of Horrible Shooting Affair—"Man in Dark Clothes" Seen, But is Missing—Boulevard Shot as He Came Out Unarmed.

That Sheriff A. D. Hood did not fire the first shot in the court house tragedy that stirred the entire State on June 14 was stated in the testimony of five or more witnesses at Monday's inquest held at Winstonsboro over the death of Ernest Isenhower. By the jury's verdict the death of Sheriff Hood is charged to Clyde Isenhower, Ernest Isenhower, Jesse Morrison and Jim Rawls.

A. L. Scruggs, county treasurer, was the first witness to testify. He introduced the mysterious fellow who wore dark clothes, but was in his shirt sleeves at the time with a dark hat on. On examination of Mr. Scruggs by Foreman J. E. Conn, Mr. Scruggs said he could not say who it was, but he was certain that Isenhower's testimony that he testified that several shots were fired before Sheriff Hood attempted to return the pistol shots.

"Now boys, let's all get around him," was Sheriff Hood's statement as the posse alighted from the automobile as a precaution, said Mr. Beckham, who accompanied the posse across from the county jail to the court house; when on reaching the middle step of the stairs, according to Deputy Beckham's statement, Clyde Isenhower drew his gun from under his coat and began firing at the negro.

"He attempted to intercept the negro's rapid flight up the stairs, but he could not do so, owing to the confusion of the witnesses also saw Sheriff Hood fire, but not until the officer had been hit by several pistol shots. Deputy Barnes Beckham, after being shot, made his way back down the stairs, where Ernest Isenhower covered him with his pistol. Mr. Beckham's last words were, "I want to shoot me. I can't do any harm," caused Isenhower to lower his gun.

"After Mr. Hood had shoved Clyde Isenhower back," said Alexander Broom, who was sitting on the jury, Clyde Isenhower began shooting Mr. Hood. "Several shots came from the back and then the sheriff began to fire," asserted Mr. Broom.

Further on in his testimony Mr. Broom swore that Ernest Isenhower, James Rawls and Jesse Morrison, whose name he learned afterwards, were the three men behind the columns and that the three had pistols. Mr. Broom concluded his testimony by saying that he drew his pistol on Ernest Isenhower while the latter was covering the sheriff. "I saw James Rawls in the act of holding James Rawls at bay.

He spoke to Mr. Richardson as follows: "Would you shoot a white man for a negro?" All of the parties quickly put up their guns. That was the last shot that was fired. Trouble was the opinion of Mr. Broom who had been in consultation with Mr. Hood the previous Saturday afternoon.

E. W. Cameron, who gave the most sensational testimony during the progress of the inquest, testified as follows: "I was sitting on the court house, yard when Mr. Hood brought the negro in. As the sheriff and the others were bringing the prisoner out of the jail yard Ernest Isenhower, Clyde Isenhower, Jesse Morrison and Jim Rawls were waiting for the negro to be brought to the court house. As they came in the gate of the court house Clyde Isenhower was fooling with his pistol, getting it out.

"They separated then and Clyde Isenhower came toward the steps and Ernest Isenhower and Jim Rawls went toward the column and Mr. Morrison went that way, too, but I did not see him. Clyde Isenhower stuck his pistol up through the banisters and commenced shooting, but I don't know whether he was shooting at the negro or not. Mr. Hood stepped when he started to shooting, and he reached back to get his gun. There were three or four shots fired before Mr. Hood got his gun out, and I saw him grab himself. I saw Mr. Hood get his pistol aimed point it at Ernest Isenhower and Jim Rawls. "They were shooting so fast I could not tell who was shooting. I was out in the yard. The only one I could see was Ernest Isenhower, and he was on the other side of the column and Mr. Rawls beside the column and I saw a pistol, but I did not see him shoot.

"After the shooting had stopped, I saw Mr. Boulware coming down the steps and Ernest Isenhower shot again. At that time Mr. Rawls was behind the column. After Ernest Isenhower shot at the direction of Raleigh Boulware, who was coming toward the street, Jim Rawls came from behind the column. That was the last shot made.

"I was sitting on one of the benches in front of the court house and had full view of it all. Mr. Boulware never flinched. He kept shooting at the street for good many times, and knew them when I saw them. I have been knowing Mr. Rawls for several years, but I never knew Mr. Morrison until that morning. Some one told me before the shooting that that was Mr. Morrison with Mr. Isenhower.

"When Raleigh Boulware was coming down the steps before he was shot, he did not have a pistol in his hand, and if he had one he had it in his pocket. I saw him keep his gun shooting that morning, but I have not seen him since. He had on dark clothes, but he had his coat on his arm. He had a dark hat on. If I would see him, I would recognize him, but I have not seen him since. I did not see Ernest Isenhower, Clyde Isenhower, Mr. Morrison and Mr. Rawls together before the shooting, but they joined each other out on the streets. The three went on to Ernest Isenhower stopped. I saw Ernest Isenhower, Ernest Isenhower, Mr. Rawls, Mr. Morrison and Mr. Morrison together, but that strange fellow all with pistols, and then the deputies, too. I saw Ernest Isenhower shoot and saw Mr. Rawls with a pistol, but I did not see him shoot. I saw Mr. Rawls shooting him. He could have shot, but the post was in my way."

A. W. Brice's testimony was of little value, since he was not in a position to see much of the tragedy except that he saw Ernest Isenhower shoot from behind the column and that Isenhower fired the last shot of the fusillade. The coroner's jury then took a recess until three o'clock to await the arrival of Edward Lathan, a farmer. Some members of the jury wished to proceed without Lathan, but a lively tilt ensuing, but it finally agreed that Lathan be summoned.

As proof that Clyde Isenhower was committing his act while the sheriff and his posse were crossing the street was introduced on the exam-

# ANOTHER SOUTH CAROLINIAN

## DIES IN GOVERNMENT WORK

### Joseph Holmes, Director of Federal Bureau of Mines, Passes Away From Overwork.

Joseph Austin Holmes, director of the federal bureau of mines at Washington and a widely known geologist, died at Denver, Col., Tuesday of tuberculosis. He had been ill several months and came to Denver four months ago in the hope of regaining strength.

Dr. Holmes was fifty-five years old. He was a native of South Carolina. He had been director of the bureau of mines since its creation by congress in 1910.

Previously he had been chief of the technological branch of the United States Geological Survey in charge of investigation of mine accidents. His service to the federal government began in 1904 when he was placed in charge of United States Geological Survey laboratories for testing fuses and dynamite.

He was a graduate of Cornell University and for a time was a professor of geology and natural history at the University of North Carolina. He was state geologist for that state from 1891 until 1904. A widow and four children survive.

Dr. Joseph A. Holmes, says a Washington dispatch, was regarded by his associates in the government service as the father of the bureau of mines, which by a campaign of education and experiment in the mines reduced the death toll among underground workers. He also was accredited with making "safety first" a national movement.

"The saddest part of it all," said Van Maling, acting director of the mines bureau, is that Dr. Holmes was a victim of overwork and his devotion to his duties in behalf of the safety of the million miners in the United States.

"His continual insistence on going into the mines to find rescue apparatus should have shared the dangers that should have gone only to more robust men, seriously affected his health. Dr. Holmes was a martyr to the cause of safety among the miners and his name is added to the honor roll of those who gave up their lives to the cause."

### ALLIED AVIATORS DROP FATAL STEEL ARROWS

#### Falling From Great Heights They Bury Themselves in the Resting Soldiers.

The arrows which allied aviators are using over the battlefields are two parts, head and shaft. The head measures about two and a quarter inches, and the total length of the arrow is four and a half inches.

Both the head and the shaft are of steel, the flange being formed of two flat pieces of metal set at right angles, the ends of the four flanges thus produced being set into the steel head. The diameter of the whole head is about five-sixteenths of an inch, tapering to a fine point at the whole weight is about twenty-one grams.

A German doctor gave the following description of the use and effect of the allies' arrows at a meeting of the Stuttgart medical society.

Three companies of German soldiers were resting when two aeroplanes circled overhead at a height of about twelve thousand metres. Suddenly one of the soldiers felt a sharp stabbing pain in his right foot, and thought one of his fellow soldiers had stepped on him. He looked up and saw a plane flying overhead. He heard cries of pain all about him.

The horses, too, became restive and two were found to be wounded. Looking at his foot the soldier found an iron arrow protruding from the sole of his shoe. He pulled it out. About fifteen others had been hit and the source of the arrows being discovered the men took cover under wagons.

It was subsequently estimated that about fifty arrows had been discharged, and every third arrow had taken effect.

The importance of the weapons, particularly when dropped on resting soldiers is therefore considerable and the fact that about half the casualties consisted of wounds in the lower limbs shows how vulnerable the resting soldier is to arrows from above.

Evidently the arrows scatter considerably for in one case four companies were simultaneously hit. One case was mentioned of an arrow passing through the scalp without injury, but the soldier was killed by a bullet death by entering the left temple and passing out again by the right.

### WILL OFFER AMNESTY

#### Carranza Will Forgive His Enemies Who Turn to Peace.

Gen. Carranza will issue an amnesty decree to Mexicans who will return "to the true path." His agency at Washington Wednesday received this dispatch from Vera Cruz: "With reference to the occupation of Mexico City, Gen. Pablo Gonzales will afford all kinds of guarantees to natives and foreigners. He has instructions from me severely to punish all crimes against property.

"Within a few days I will, in my capacity as first chief, issue an amnesty decree to all those who have turned their backs in error to the true path and to restore peace and order in the republic."

### MANNING ISSUES PAROLES

#### Follows Recommendation of State Board of Pardons.

Gov. Manning Wednesday morning paroled William Milwee Cook, white, 25 years of age, during good behavior. On January 15, 1915, in the court of general sessions for Richland county, Cook pleaded guilty to the charge of breach of trust with fraudulent intent.

He was indicted for defalcation from the Columbia Mills company, while in its employ in Columbia as paymaster. John S. Wilson, the presiding judge, sentenced him to two years in the state penitentiary, and he immediately began to serve his sentence. Up to Wednesday he had served six months. A pardon was recommended by the state board of pardons.

Recommendation of Mr. Lathan. The witness declared that the deceased Isenhower was fumbling with something hidden by the coat on his arm, and that Clyde Isenhower fired the initial shot, protruding his pistol through the banisters.

With the testimony of E. B. Mason and James Montgomery that four or five shots were discharged before Sheriff Hood attempted to return the shot, the coroner's jury returned a verdict in the following verdict: "That Ernest Isenhower, Ernest Isenhower, Mr. Rawls, Mr. Morrison and Mr. Rawls together, but that strange fellow all with pistols, and then the deputies, too. I saw Ernest Isenhower shoot and saw Mr. Rawls with a pistol, but I did not see him shoot. I saw Mr. Rawls shooting him. He could have shot, but the post was in my way."

# TALK OF MEDIATION

## BERNSTORFF SAYS GERMAN REPLY WAS TO PAVE WAY FOR GENERAL AGREEMENT

### Offers as Mediator Between Great Britain and Germany, Thereby Regulating Neutral Commerce and Submarine Warfare.

Much interest was created in Washington yesterday afternoon by a statement made by Secretary of State Lansing, which seems to indicate an amicable settlement of the issue with Germany. He declared that the dispute with Germany over submarine warfare might be settled by oral assurances from the German government that the demands of the United States government would be complied with, if accepted by the United States in the form of written promises.

Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, presented to Secretary Lansing Friday the view that Germany's reply to the American note on submarine warfare was intended to pave the way for negotiations with the United States with Great Britain as well as Germany to adjust questions that have arisen over contraband and submarines as affecting the rights of neutrals.

The German ambassador for several days has been anxious to see Secretary Lansing, but the secretary expressed a preference not to discuss the German reply until he had examined it carefully.

Count von Bernstorff is confident his government emphasized in the last note its willingness to work "hand in hand" with the American government for the establishment of the freedom of the seas principle with the express purpose of entering into negotiations now on the entire question of maritime warfare. He said through Dr. Anton Meyer-Geyer the suggestion that the note should contain such an intimation. Having followed his suggestion, the ambassador is certain his government will accept a tender of good offices for the mediation of the disputes. This would involve an acceptance by Great Britain of the services of the United States as mediator to bring about termination of the British reprisal—the order in council—as well as German submarine attacks on merchant ships.

Officials of the American government in the last few days have heard reports concerning possible mediation, but always have indicated that negotiations along such lines could not be undertaken until the German commanders in the meantime would be guided by the principles for which the United States is contending—that Americans on unarmed ships which do not raise the German flag should be treated as neutrals. German officials at Washington, however, emphasize is placed on the fact that Germany in the last month has not torpedoed even enemy ships without warning, and that this practice probably will be continued. In support of this confidence German officials drew attention to a statement given out by the Overseas News Agency, an official agency, in Berlin Wednesday, which said:

"The loss of human life was remarkably small since the submarine war began. Precaution and giving ample warning and time for crews to leave their ships if no resistance was offered."

Officials at Washington who read the statement admitted that if this policy were maintained, the principle for which the United States asked assurances in its note of June 9 would be complied with to a large extent.

While temporary abandonment of the practice of attacking either American or belligerent vessels without warning, although it is contemplated that this will not be necessary, as owing to the speed of the boats, they can make port whenever necessary. Furthermore, they can be equipped with light wireless sets. Each boat will displace about four tons.

### PROTEST SENT PRESIDENT AGAINST BRITISH EMBARGO

#### Cotton Leaders at Columbia Will Send Letter of Protest to President Wilson.

The prospects for the South in the coming crop year are recognized with optimism, provided the cotton pickers are not hampered by certain differences of opinion between this country and England over the embargo placed upon cotton being shipped through the neutral ports of Holland and the Scandinavian countries. The support is given by the regional reserve bank system in financing the new crop.

This is the consensus of opinion arrived at Saturday during an informal conference of the cotton leaders in the cotton movement who gathered at Columbia.

Congressman A. F. Lever, who was designated to act as chairman, was requested to prepare a letter to be presented to the president of the United States, expressing strongly the attitude of the people of the State.

Mr. Lever, as chairman of the committee on agriculture of the House of Representatives, was requested to go to the president of the United States, in order to make a solid platform in presenting this question, and to ask an audience with the president.

It is understood that this matter is to be made immediate and imperative, and the sense of the meeting was that public agitation and newspaper discussion might be suspended pending the outcome of a hearing in Washington.

Among those in the conference, who made extensive information was Congressman Lever, chairman of the committee on agriculture; Col. E. J. Watson, president of the Southern Cotton Congress; Dr. Wade Stackhouse, of Dillon, president of the State Cotton Congress; Col. J. Arthur Banks, senior partner in the cotton planter; Col. M. Cooper, a large cotton planter; ex-Senator John L. McLaurin, State cotton warehouse commissioner, who made a report on conditions in Georgia also; T. B. Stackhouse, manager of a number of cotton warehouses in the State; and Walter B. Sullivan, publisher of the Columbia Record, who led in the "Buy-a-Bale" movement last year.

Thaw Obtains Freedom.

Supreme Court Justice Hendrick Priety in his decision of the jury which declared Harry K. Thaw sane. Thaw was then given his freedom on thirty-five thousand dollars bail.

Harry Thaw and party arrived in Atlantic City, N. J., Friday night. They plan to stay over until Saturday morning.

Austrians Invade Russia.

Dispatches from Austrian headquarters Friday say that after a heavy bombardment the Austrians have crossed the Diester at Uelchikupie, on the Russian border, where the Austrian crown lands of Galicia and Bukovina and the Russian province of Bessarabia meet.

### BRITISH MINERS STRIKE WITH COUNTRY AT WAR

#### Government Applies Munitions of War Act to Coal Mining Industry but Men Go Out.

Despite the action of the government in applying the munitions of war act to the coal mining industry it is practically certain that a large number of men will go back to work in South Wales, thus curtailing the supply of coal for the naval vessels.

The Federation of Miners of the United Kingdom, the labor leaders and the general public upon whose support the miners would depend to end the strike, are all urging them to continue work until an agreement can be reached, but the executive council of the South Wales union by a majority vote refused to support this recommendation.

It is not believed, however, that the men themselves are divided and the South Wales union has not the funds to finance a long struggle; the miners' federation, after its recommendation, is not likely to assist the miners in any possibility that the government will utilize the miners who have not left the country to work the mines.

This dispute which jeopardizes the work of the navy, occupies the public mind in England above all other matters, and official reports of the fighting in the East and West take second place.

### FRENCH POSITION SAFE

#### Military Expert Says Souchez Cemetery is Not Important.

Loss of the Souchez cemetery and adjacent trenches, indicated in the French official statement, does not affect the principal French defenses in that region, according to French military writers. It is a warning, however, says Col. Rousset, in the Petit Parisien that will not be neglected.

The Germans visibly are redoubling their efforts to capture Verdun. After the failure of their plans in the forest of Aronne they are trying by the same means to capture the Verdun district to obtain the most accessible parts of the citadel by attempting to establish batteries with the idea of reaching the city. The outer works, however, in the opinion of the French military officers, are solidly guarded and are equipped with all means for reply.

Daniels Goes to See Edison.

Because Thomas A. Edison was too busy in his laboratory to go to Washington, Secretary of the Navy Daniels has announced his intention to visit the inventor at West Orange, N. J., to discuss naval affairs.

# COTTON STORED JUNE RUNS 2,000,000 BALES OVER 1914

## Manufacturers in 11 Months Use 77,000 Bales Less—Exports Drop 753,288 Bales.

Cotton manufacturing showed increased activity in June, taking 68,655 more bales of cotton than in June last year, and 17,000 bales more than in May last, the total being 14,900 bales, the census bureau announced Wednesday.

During the 11-month period ending with June, however, cotton manufacturing was 77,000 bales less than in the corresponding period a year ago. In all, 5,100,322 bales were used against 5,177,322 in 1914.

Cotton spindles active during June were 31,250,592 compared with 30,948,048 last year.

Linters used during June were 54,683 bales, against 29,993 last year, held in manufacturing establishments 195,149 bales against 88,882 last year, held in independent warehouses 106,029 bales against 53,508 last year, and exported 13,065 bales.

Cotton on hand June 30 in manufacturing establishments was 1,602,446 bales compared with 1,556,559 last year and in independent warehouses 2,085,347 compared with 63,487 last year.

Warehouses and manufacturing establishments together held 3,707,492 bales on June 30 against 1,787,086 bales a year ago.

Imports were 39,129, equivalent 500 pound bales compared with 49,010 last year.

Exports in June were 294,391 running bales, including linters, compared with 295,570 last year. Exports during June were only 1,187 bales less than in June last year, notwithstanding the effect of the European war. In the 11 months the exports were only 15,288 bales less than the previous year, the total reaching 8,271,502 bales against 9,924,590 last year.

### FIFTY-MILE MOTOR BOATS ARE TO ROUT SUBMARINES

#### Allies Plan for Thirty-Foot Craft to Mount Guns and Outrun Anything Built.

The C. C. Smith Boat and Engine Company, New York, and the British, French, and Russian governments to submit estimates for the construction of powerful motor speed boats, of sufficient strength to permit the mounting of guns or more light guns, to be used if it is understood, in running down German submarines in the waters around England and France and in the Baltic. The British government, it is understood, wants a fleet of at least one hundred of these craft, while the Russians, it is said, want thirty or forty. The number wanted by France is not known.

The boat proposed is to be thirty feet long and seven feet beam; guaranteed to make fifty miles an hour. It will be easy to operate and even when traveling at great speed will be able to turn sharply. The Smith factory is in Canada, near Detroit, on the St. Clair River, and so no possible violation of American neutrality is involved.

The power of the boats will be furnished by twin engines, each of two hundred and fifty horse power, and the guns will be mounted one on each side just forward of the driving gear. Each boat can carry, if necessary, fuel and supplies sufficient to last several days, although it is contemplated that this will not be necessary, as owing to the speed of the boats, they can make port whenever necessary. Furthermore, they can be equipped with light wireless sets. Each boat will displace about four tons.

### GERMANS WANT THE UNITED STATES TO OFFER AS MEDIATOR BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND GERMANY, THEREBY REGULATING NEUTRAL COMMERCE AND SUBMARINE WARFARE.

#### Much Interest was Created in Washington Yesterday Afternoon by a Statement Made by Secretary of State Lansing, which seems to indicate an amicable settlement of the issue with Germany.

Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, presented to Secretary Lansing Friday the view that Germany's reply to the American note on submarine warfare was intended to pave the way for negotiations with the United States with Great Britain as well as Germany to adjust questions that have arisen over contraband and submarines as affecting the rights of neutrals.

The German ambassador for several days has been anxious to see Secretary Lansing, but the secretary expressed a preference not to discuss the German reply until he had examined it carefully.

Count von Bernstorff is confident his government emphasized in the last note its willingness to work "hand in hand" with the American government for the establishment of the freedom of the seas principle with the express purpose of entering into negotiations now on the entire question of maritime warfare. He said through Dr. Anton Meyer-Geyer the suggestion that the note should contain such an intimation. Having followed his suggestion, the ambassador is certain his government will accept a tender of good offices for the mediation of the disputes. This would involve an acceptance by Great Britain of the services of the United States as mediator to bring about termination of the British reprisal—the order in council—as well as German submarine attacks on merchant ships.

Officials of the American government in the last few days have heard reports concerning possible mediation, but always have indicated that negotiations along such lines could not be undertaken until the German commanders in the meantime would be guided by the principles for which the United States is contending—that Americans on unarmed ships which do not raise the German flag should be treated as neutrals. German officials at Washington, however, emphasize is placed on the fact that Germany in the last month has not torpedoed even enemy ships without warning, and that this practice probably will be continued. In support of this confidence German officials drew attention to a statement given out by the Overseas News Agency, an official agency, in Berlin Wednesday, which said:

"The loss of human life was remarkably small since the submarine war began. Precaution and giving ample warning and time for crews to leave their ships if no resistance was offered."

Officials at Washington who read the statement admitted that if this policy were maintained, the principle for which the United States asked assurances in its note of June 9 would be complied with to a large extent.

While temporary abandonment of the practice of attacking either American or belligerent vessels without warning, although it is contemplated that this will not be necessary, as owing to the speed of the boats, they can make port whenever necessary. Furthermore, they can be equipped with light wireless sets. Each boat will displace about four tons.

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# CONSIDERS REPLY

## WILSON GIVES THOUGHT TO GERMAN SITUATION

### Action of German Submarine in Case of American Ship Normandy Reminds Officials That in Practice Our Last Note is Not Being Violated by Submarine Commanders.

The first official announcement of President Wilson's immediate plans for dealing with the situation that has arisen between Germany and the United States came Tuesday night in a telegram from Cornish, N. H., to Secretary Tumulty, stating that the president would return to Washington soon to lay the entire subject before the cabinet.

The message indicated that the president had arrived at no