

# WARNING BY DODD OF A DICTATORSHIP

## Ambassador to Germany Is Told a 'Billionaire' Is Ready to Support It

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.  
RICHMOND, Va., May 11.—William E. Dodd, Ambassador to Germany, stated in a letter printed today in The Richmond Times-Dispatch that he had been informed that a man who "owns near a billion dollars" was ready to support "and of course control" an American dictatorship.

Mr. Dodd, who was formerly Professor of History in the University of Chicago, did not name the "billionaire" in his letter, which was sent March 1 to Senator Carter Glass of Virginia, Senator Burkley of Ohio and others. Much of the letter was a defense of President Roosevelt's Supreme Court proposals.

"There are individuals of great wealth," the Ambassador wrote, "who wish a dictatorship and are ready to help a Huey Long. They are politicians who think they can gain powers like those exercised in Europe. One man, I have been told by personal friends, who owns near a billion dollars, is ready to support such a program and, of course, control it."

Mr. Dodd declared that "all of us who know something of our history believe in our system and must do what we can to support our President, even if we wish to amend some of his reform measures."

The letter, captioned "Should Not the Majority Govern?" reviewed various crises in the history of this country and asserted that the situation now is "more dangerous than at any time since Lincoln."

The Ambassador described "the Borah campaign" of 1919 as the most familiar example of "anti-democratic urging." At that time, he wrote, the masses of peoples were hoping for the application of President Wilson's "democratic plan for peace." In the United States, he continued, "half the Republicans and about all the Democrats favored the world application of democratic principles," yet "the Borah group of Senators were willing to defeat the world peace plan because they personally disliked Wilson or feared the principles of democracy."

"A minority of the Senate finally defeated Wilson's plan and we are now in as dangerous a world position as in 1914."

The Ambassador assailed rulings

of the Supreme Court in its early days and attacked John Marshall's and much of the letter was a defense of and plea for the President's court reorganization proposals.

Referring to the existing situation, Mr. Dodd wrote: "The party which re-elected Roosevelt on an overwhelming majority last year decides to do as both parties have done in the past, in grave danger of losing the democratic system. If the party breaks up, the 80 per cent anti-democratic press may do what the 80 per cent pro-slavery press did in the South in 1830-60."