

GERMAN PROPAGANDA IS PROBED BY U. S.

Bruce Bielaski Has Long, Con- ference With Secretary of State Lansing

(Special Despatch to The Globe.)

Washington, Aug. 15.—A. Bruce Bielaski, chief of the division of investigation of the Department of Justice, who has charge of the Federal investigation into the charges that Germany is conducting an illegal propaganda in the United States, including efforts to stir up labor trouble and interfere with U.S. munitions exports, was summoned to the State Department to-day by Secretary of State Lansing. A long conference ensued, at which the reports of Mr. Bielaski's agents were taken up.

Secretary Lansing would not discuss the conference, except to say that the State Department itself is not making an investigation. Attorney-General Gregory, however, said that the Department of Justice is prepared to prosecute any violation of the neutrality laws or other Federal statutes.

"The department will act in any case where a violation of neutrality laws is brought to its attention, or where its investigation discloses such violations of law," was his comment.

"Has the Department of Justice taken any official notice of the published charges?" he was asked.

"No," replied the Attorney-General. "The investigators of this department will go over these charges as they would any other matter brought to our attention, but up to this time no action has been taken.

No Warrant for Action.

Officials of the department made no secret of the fact that much of the matter that has been published already has been brought to their official notice and was in the files of the department. In it the department appears to be told there is nothing so far that would warrant action by the Government.

The only question that seems to concern the State Department is whether Ambassador Bernstorff has been personally active in these domestic matters. Herein, so far as the developments have progressed, would appear to be the only excuse for action by the State Department. There are precedents for asking for the recall of an Ambassador or Minister whose activities have been displeasing.

The Passport Frauds.

Unofficial stories declare that the Government has come into possession of a bag of documents, among which have been found proof of German official activity against the peace of the United States, including passport frauds of the widest ramifications, and designed to assist German reservists to reach their home land. It is also asserted that a list of names of German **reservist** officers in this country who were to be returned to Europe on forged passports is in the hands of the United States Government; that it was prepared by Capt. Horn, who made and signed a confession to the Government that what he did he was ordered to do by his superior officer connected with the German Government. Horn was imprisoned for trying to destroy a railway bridge between Maine and New Brunswick.