

WEATHER FORECAST.
 Fair tonight. Sunday partly cloudy and warmer. Gentle to moderate shifting winds.

THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

TODAY'S MARKETS TODAY.

VOL. XXII. NO. 343. WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, DEC. 23, 1916. PRICE FIVE CENTS.

WILSON NOTE CAUSES SENSATION IN FRANCE

Premier of New Zealand Grows Insolent Over The President's Move.
CAN SETTLE IT WITHOUT HIS AID.

Allies' Answer to The Teutons' Proposal Now Almost Finished and Ready For Transmission—Will Not be Long But Positive.

Paris, Dec. 23.—President Wilson's note and that of Secretary Lansing continue to be the sensation of the day and take precedent over all other news in the daily papers. The President's action by no means created comment.
 The Allies' answer to the German peace proposal is almost finished, according to the newspapers. The papers have it that the document is not long and sets forth every position clearly.
 London, Dec. 23.—W. F. Massey, premier of New Zealand, speaking in Newbourn church recently said: "It is our duty to go on with the war until the German power is broken and her armies are driven over her borders and not until then is it time for peace."
 "I cannot speak authoritatively on President Wilson's note, but I would like to say to the President of the United States that we have thus far carried on the war without his aid and intend to settle it without his help."

NEW FOREIGN MINISTER FOR AUSTRIA-HUNGARY

London, Dec. 23.—Count Czernin von Chudenitz has succeeded Baron Hohenhausen as the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, according to a Reuters dispatch to a Vienna newspaper.
 Count Chudenitz was minister to Roumania until that country entered into the war.

SUBMARINES WILL SOON BRING MAIL.

London, Dec. 23.—Latest German news is that ordinary mails to the United States will shortly be delivered regularly by a commercial submarine. Mails to other neutral countries will be delivered by similar undersea vessels.

TWO DEEDS.

Few Deals in Dirt Recorded in Register of Deeds Office Today.
 Only two deeds were filed for record in the office of the register of deeds this morning. They were as follows: John E. Farrow to G. W. Rogers, four-acre tract on Masonboro Sound, \$10 and other considerations; Sol Sternberger to Andrew McKay, lot on Ninth street between Swan and Nixon streets, \$25 and other considerations.

NO CHRISTMAS CAROLS FROM THE DISPATCH.

Contrary to the usual custom in Wilmington the carrier boys of the Wilmington Dispatch will not this year be provided with Christmas carols by the newspaper for the reason that the present management does not approve of the idea of its carrier boys, who are amply paid by the paper for their services, receiving gifts of the subscribers at this season of the year. The Dispatch is proud of its present force of carrier boys; they are all bright, energetic, manly young fellows and they perform their duties well, for which they are remunerated through the business office.
 However, there could not be any objection to subscribers remembering the carrier boys on their own initiative at this season of the year, if they care to do so, but the point that the Dispatch wants to make clear is that the subscribers, who pay for their paper through the regular channels, will not be appealed to by the management to contribute anything additional to the carrier boys. Like most anybody else the carrier boys will naturally welcome any remembrance they may receive from their friends, and there will be no objection on the part of the Dispatch to gifts that may be made in this way.

HOW WILL FRANCE PAY THE BILL?

Former Minister of Commerce Answers This Pertinent Question.

Paris, Dec. 23.—"How is France going to pay the bill? By applying to productive occupations the effort she has sustained in war," in the opinion of M. Raoul Peret, former Minister of Commerce. In an interview with The Associated Press he also declared that the theory of reciprocity ought to be applied to the commercial relations between France and the United States after the war. M. Peret is now "rapporteur" of the budget in the Chamber of Deputies—a post equivalent to that of Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives.
 Alexandre Ribot, Minister of Finance, has had the delicate task of borrowing the unprecedented sums that have been swallowed up by war. Raoul Peret who has not much more than half of M. Ribot's 75 years, has before him the task of finding the wherewithal to liquidate the debt.
 "M. Ribot, by his prompt action in issuing short term bonds, rendered an inestimable service to France," says M. Peret. "He gave the French people a chance to show their confidence; they brought him so much money that it was not until the 16th month of hostilities that he found it expedient to issue longer term bonds. Investments in French bonds are never a gamble; yet, in a sense, the purchase of these securities was a wager on the result of the conflict and upon the ability of France to foot the bill. French peasants, laboring men, mechanics, capitalists—men and women of all classes that have money saved up—have been waging in that way a billion a month for nearly two years that France will triumph. Thirty-three and a half billion francs, all told, M. Ribot found in two years time in the pockets of our people."
 "France in a two years effort, accomplished in military preparation what it took Germany 45 years to do. The same effort applied to industrial activity will do as much in solving the grave financial problem the war will have left on our hands; but it is scarcely necessary to say that we shall need time to restore our finances. "It is difficult, and perhaps futile, to make estimates while the great effort is going on, but supposing the war adds 70 billion francs to our present national debt of 30 billions, we shall owe a hundred billion francs. That involves an annual interest of five billion francs, and is sufficient to require serious reflection; yet it does not frighten the French people upon whom the charge is going to fall. They bring their money into the Treasury as freely today as they did after the battle of the Marne when we thought it might be over in less than a year, and they know exactly what they are doing."
 "France has great reasons for wishing to promote closer relations with the United States," said M. Peret, in conclusion. "There are reasons of sentiment and policy besides business reasons. We shall want to see you use more of our products than before, and we shall need more from you. What is desirable, even necessary, to facilitate these growing exchanges is a commercial tariff system. Your ad valorem tariff is the obstacle. It almost kept our industries away from the San Francisco fair. We are happy now that they went there and we have been glad to see your industrial representatives here. It is to be hoped that out of closer intercourse may come a solution to your great benefit as well as ours. It is the theory of reciprocal advantages that ought to be applied."

DR. CRANMER RESIGNS.

Has Tendered His Resignation as a Member of the Board of Health.
 After serving for four years as a member of the New Hanover County Board of Health, Dr. John B. Cranmer yesterday tendered his resignation to Mr. W. A. McGirt, chairman of the board. Dr. Cranmer gave no reason for his resignation other than he believed in rotation in office.
 An effort was made by Dr. Cranmer's colleagues yesterday to get him to remain on the board, but as his term of office expires early in January he stated that his resignation would stand as it is.

BOOZE SWAMPS THE EXPRESS

Embargo Had to be Placed to Catch Up With The Deliveries.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 23.—The Christmas demand for liquor for the "dry" States of Virginia, West Virginia and the Carolinas has swamped the express companies serving these sections. Two companies imposed embargoes on booze shipments from noon yesterday until 9 a. m. today with a view of relieving the congestion.
 The express company officials say that during the past week they have received and handled an average of 35,000 to 40,000 packages of booze each day. The packages vary in size and contain from one quart to five gallons.

BRITONS WILL USE AMERICAN TWINE.

London, Dec. 23.—American twine will be used almost exclusively to bind next year's British harvest. Agents for the United States mills now on the spot have already placed enough orders for this purpose, despite earnest appeals to the farmers to give their business to the home manufacturers on patriotic grounds.
 English farmers were told that if they would buy their twine from the English manufacturers they would affect a saving to the nation of \$1,250,000 and 10,000 tons of cargo space for food shipping. Binder twine, it was pointed out, is bulky, occupying more than two and a quarter times the space required for deadweight.
 The English farmers were also informed by the local trade that the manufacturers in this country were never in a better position to supply all their needs. Stocks were said to be higher than usual because the export of twine is prohibited. Eighty per cent. of the people employed in the local mills are women, so that there was no question of requiring male labor that might be needed on government work. As to prices it was claimed that the British manufacturer could compete favorably with the one across the Atlantic.
 But for some unexplained reason the orders went to the Americans. The English farmers seemingly ignored all these appeals. The position was somewhat complicated in the case of dealers who handle American agricultural implements, as it is usually understood that these agents shall make a point of stocking American binder twine.

HENDERSON GETS MOTOR TRUCK CO.

Raleigh, Dec. 23.—The Corbett Motor Truck Company of Henderson, with a capital of \$1,000,000, of which \$25,000 is paid in, was chartered by the Secretary of State today. The concern proposes to buy and sell motor trucks, automobiles and other motor vehicles and accessories.

FOOD RIOTS BREAK OUT IN DRESDEN.

London, Dec. 23.—A Rotterdam news dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph says that there were food riots in Dresden on December 17, 18 and 19, which resulted in the troops being called out. The shops closed Sunday and did not open again because they did not have stocks. The dispatch says the women stoned the shops and on Monday paraded and when they marched on the street they were not interfered with by the police. When they passed the King's palace they shouted for food.

SECOND PERIOD OF THE CONTEST STARTED TODAY

Winner of Special Prize Cannot be Announced Until Winners of More Valuable Prizes are Determined.

- THE PRIZES.**
- \$685 Overland Automobile.
 - Ford Automobile.
 - Carolina Beach Lot.
 - \$100 in Gold.
 - \$75 Victrola.
 - \$50 O. K. Mystic Range.
 - \$40 Sellers Kitchen Cabinet.
 - \$25 Wrist Watch.
 - Two \$60 Diamond Rings.

Yesterday witnessed the close of the first period of The Dispatch contest and the competition for the Diamond Ring, and the volume of business and the number of votes cast was the largest since the contest began. From early morning until 9 o'clock at night the contestants and their friends were calling at contest headquarters. Every mail brought subscriptions and thousands of votes from the candidates living outside of Wilmington, who did not find it convenient to call at the office.
 Most of the candidates carried their special ballots issued on subscriptions and the "Bonus Votes" away with them, desiring to hold them until a more opportune time.

TORREN REPORTED CAPTURED.

El Paso, Texas, Dec. 23.—An unconfirmed rumor, saying Torreon has been captured by Francisco Villa's force, was forwarded to Washington by government agents early today. The report stated that the fighting started early yesterday morning and continued until 1 o'clock in the afternoon, when the city was captured.

DECLARES WILSON CAN END WAR

English Pacifist Smuggles Over an Appeal to The President of U. S.

New York, Dec. 23.—A special committee of the American neutral commission left here today for Washington to give President Wilson a letter in which Bertrand Russell, the noted British pacifist, lecturer and philosopher, appeals to the President to end the war in Europe.
 The letter was brought to this country by an unnamed and otherwise unidentified messenger from England—a girl—in order to evade the British censors.
 After asserting that the President now has an opportunity of performing a service to mankind that will "surpass the service of Abraham Lincoln," Mr. Russell states that it is within the President's power "to bring the war to an end by a just peace" and if the war be allowed to continue it may be too late to save European civilization.

SWITCHMEN WIN FEDERAL DECISION.

New York, Dec. 23.—An eight-hour working day and pro rata time for overtime are granted Switchmen's Union by the Federal Arbitration Board in a decision in the switchmen's controversy with the railroads. The award gives an increase of 5 cents an hour for foremen and their helpers.

WEATHER FOR THE CHRISTMAS TREE.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Moderate temperatures, followed by decidedly cold weather about Wednesday, are forecast for the Southeastern States for the week beginning tomorrow. Unsettled weather then until Thursday or Friday, with more rain or snow.

HORSES TO HAVE CHRISTMAS TREE.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 23.—What is probably the first Christmas tree for dumb animals in the history of this country is to be set up tomorrow in Postoffice Square in this city. The Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is sponsor for the unique experiment, which is designed as an influence in teaching drivers to be kind to the beasts in their charge. The big tree will be loaded down with apples, carrots and other things that the horses care for and will be as well decorated as the thousands of other trees in the city which will gladden the hearts of the youngsters on Christmas morning.

AGED LADY DIES.

Mrs. Marie Hewett Passed Away at Hospital Last Night.
 Mrs. Maria Hewett, aged 82 years, died at the James Walker Hospital last night at 8 o'clock following a general breakdown as a result of old age. Surviving her is a son, Mr. R. R. Hewett, of No. 4 Delgado, and one brother, Mr. Henry Hewett, of Charlotte. The funeral will be held tomorrow morning at 9:30 o'clock from the residence of her son at Delgado. Interment will be made in the Delgado cemetery.

AT STANDSTILL IN MACE DONIA.

Paris, Dec. 23.—Bad weather on the Macedonian front on the 22nd of December prevented any military operations, according to the French official announcement this afternoon.

FOR FIRST TIME IN HISTORY

Memorial Service Will be Held Christmas In Statuary Hall.

(By George H. Manning.)
 Washington, D. C., Dec. 23.—On Christmas Day for the first time in the history of the United States, a memorial service will be held in historic Statuary Hall at the Capital in honor of a person to whom no monument or bronze or marble has been erected in that world-renowned chamber. This unusual tribute of respect is to be paid to the late Inez Milholland Boissevain, the famous federal suffrage leader, whose tragic death in California a few weeks ago followed her tour through the suffrage states in the interest of woman suffrage.
 Permission to use Statuary Hall on Christmas Day for that purpose was granted to the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage today by Speaker Champ Clark. As far as known, it will be the first time, not only in the history of the United States but of any country, that a parliamentary or legislative hall has been thus given over for a memorial to a woman in no way connected with the government.
 Arrangements were being made for a national memorial to be held in New York on Christmas Day, but when it was found that the Capital could be obtained for the purpose it was promptly decided to transfer the exercises here. A service will be held in New York later, probably on New Year's day, but it will be local or state in character.
 As benefits the day, the place and the person to be honored, plans are being made to have the Statuary Hall services as full of rich significances and as deeply impressive as possible. Beautifully appropriate music will be a chief feature of the program, and is being selected and arranged with particular reference to its suitability for the occasion.
 One of the most gifted suffrage speakers in the country is expected to be the principal orator of the occasion.

BRITT HAS NOT LEG TO STAND ON

That is The Decision of Supreme Court In Supplemental Opinion.

Raleigh, Dec. 23.—That James J. Britt hadn't a leg upon which to stand his case against the Buncombe county board of canvassers, was the supplemental and carefully written opinion of the Supreme Court today.
 The astonishing thing is that it could have ever have gone so far with the law so unmistakably against him at every turn. The court's opinion written by Justice Allen, finds that Judge Shaw had no authority to issue the alternative mandamus; finds that Supreme Court could not concern itself with the title to office, with charges or counter charges, and was bound by all the facts set up from Judge Adams and his court.
 It follows somewhat the principle of Preacher Tom Trott's brother "Walt" who never would play baseball unless he could "knock on both sides." The court does a little knocking which could just as easily be euphemistically called moralizing, and while it would hold all unmarked ballots in the late congressional contest legal, it would not accept the "amended and supplemental returns" if these returns, as the "plaintiff contends, were made up after the registrars and pollholders had fully performed their duties and without calling the registrar and pollholders together in a body."
 Thus it appears that the court settles the dispute as to unmarked ballots and hereafter there will be no ruling necessary. It is contended by Mr. Britt that the amended and supplemental returns were made, not by assembling the election officials together, but were "handpicked" as he contends, and based upon statements of pollholders who say they recalled so many unmarked ballots as having been cast. As the case will hinge largely upon the unmarked ballots in congress it is said by Mr. Britt's friends that congress awards election certificates upon ballots that exist and have not been destroyed, not upon those annulled.
 But Mr. Britt had no law on his side in the late contest before the supreme court. There was little for the upper court to review. Judge Allen begins his opinion after a recitation of the facts at great length, by observing that the court "is not trying the title to the office of Congressman. This is manifest because Mr. Weaver is not a party to the action. The court then shows that each house in congress shall be the judge of the returns, qualifications and the judge of the election of its members.
 "Nor is the questions before us as to who is entitled to the certificate of election and commission. We can make no order in reference to the certificate and commission because the state board of canvassers ascertains and declares the result of the election for congressman and certifies it to the secretary of state.
 The only parties to this action are Britt, plaintiff, vs the Board of Canvassers ascertains and declares the result of the election for congressman and certifies it to the secretary of state.
 The only parties to this action are Britt, plaintiff, vs the Board of Canvassers of Buncombe County and the object of the action is to compel by mandamus the members of the defendant board to reassemble and to certify as a result of the election that the plaintiff received 4,037 and his opponent 4,325 votes.
 "We are of the opinion that Judge Shaw was without authority to issue the writ (alternative mandamus) for the reasons stated by Clark, Chief Justice, in Moore vs. Moore, 131 N. C. 376: "Under our rotating system, the judge holding by rotation the courts of a district, has during the six months he is assigned thereto, sole jurisdiction therein, just as a resident judge had when there was no rotation, except in the cases otherwise specifically provided by statute."
 Elsewhere the court declares that the action for remedy was by mandamus and not by injunction, as seen from the complaint, so that the purpose is not to restore to the plaintiff his previous condition, changed by the wrongful act of the defendant, but to compel the defendant to do an act which it had refused to do. The gravamen of the complaint, the court says, is "that the defendant canvassing board met November 9 and declared that the plaintiff had received 4,037 votes and Weaver 4,325."
 "The defendant denies that the result was ascertained or declared November 9 because of the fact that the returns from three precincts were not present and there was no final action. Judge Adams has found the facts in this controversy with the defendants and his finding is conclusive upon us as the statute regulating the application for mandamus shows. (Revisal, section 824.)

PLENTY OF GIFTS SENT SOLDIERS IN MEXICO

Christmas Presents By The Ton Have Been Sent to Expedition.

LIST INCLUDES MANY THINGS.

Candy and Tobacco By The Barrel and Cigars By Tens of Thousands Received.

Field Headquarters in Mexico, Dec. 23.—Twenty-five thousand dollars would not cover the cost of the presents the people of the United States have sent to the soldiers of the punitive expedition, it was estimated today by the committee in charge of the Christmas celebration. Although a majority of the gifts come from various Red Cross chapters hundreds come from individuals.
 The six large tents, where the packages are stored, resemble department stores. Among the large consignments are 41,000 cigars, 11,000 pounds of candy, 300 pounds of smoking tobacco, 6,000 comfort bags, 2,000 Christmas packages, barrels of homemade jelly and two complete sets of baseball equipment.

CHICAGO TO PROVIDE CHRISTMAS CHEER.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 23.—If anyone in Chicago does not share in the spirit of Christmas this year, it will probably be his own fault, for nothing that foresight can direct is being neglected to make the holiday one of happiness for all. Churches of every denomination have arranged for special services, numerous dinners are to be given to those who are unable to provide their own turkey, and the usual accompaniments, and even in the hospitals, asylums, prisons, and homes for orphans and the aged, celebrations will be held. The downtown missions, the Salvation Army, the Volunteers and similar organizations have arranged to give the customary free dinners and entertainment for the poor. Several of the largest halls and assembly places in the city have been engaged for these dinners. In addition, approximately 10,000 of the city's poor will sit down to Christmas dinners in their own homes as guests of Chicago Lodge of Elks No. 4. The lodge, in accord with its annual custom, will distribute baskets to 2,000 families.
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YULETIDE CAUSES EXODUS FROM CAPITAL.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 23.—Outgoing trains today carried hundreds of congressmen and other public officials who are going to their respective homes to spend the Christmas holidays. Both houses of congress and the supreme court have adjourned for the customary recess. Not until the day following New Year's will the machinery of Government again get in full swing.
 The President and virtually all of the members of his cabinet, as well as many others holding high positions in the Government service plan to remain in Washington over Christmas. The social and other attractions of the capital at this season have increased to such an extent during the past decade that the number of those leaving the city for the Christmas holidays have decreased to a noticeable extent. This year the exodus is confined almost wholly to congressmen and other officials living in near-by states.

REPORT OF COTTON CONSUMED BY MILLS.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 13.—"The report of the Census Office on the consumption of cotton in the mills of the United States in the month of November and in the four months ended November 30 shows the Southern mills still increasing their need," said President Harrison, of Southern Railway Company today.
 "The consumption in Southern mills in November amounted to 333,033 bales, an increase of 16.66 per cent. over November last year, as compared with consumption in the mills of all other States of 351,049 bales, an increase of 9.49 per cent. over November last year.
 "In the four-months period consumption in Southern mills amounted to 1,275,964 bales, an increase of 19.05 per cent. over the corresponding period last year, as compared with consumption in the mills of all other States of 951,411 bales, an increase of but 5.97 per cent. over last year. In the four months the consumption of cotton in the Southern mills exceeded that of the mills of all other States by 324,553 bales, or 34.11 per cent."