

FULL LEASED WIRE SERVICE

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1918.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

WEATHER:
North and South Caro-
lina—Probably rain to-
night and Wednesday.

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PARLIAMENT IN OPENING HEARS KING

King George Urges Britain to
Prosecute War With All
Her Vigor

LONGEST PARLIAMENT
IN MODERN TIMES

Eight Session Opened With
a Brief Speech By the King.
Much of the Ceremony Dis-
persed with

London, Feb. 12.—In his speech at the opening of Parliament today King George said the struggle had reached a critical stage which demanded more than ever, the full use of the country's energies and resources.

Full recognition is offered of the principles upon which a honorable peace can be concluded, the king declared, it is the duty of the king to prosecute the war with all his vigor they possess.

Following is the King's speech: "My Lords and Gentlemen: The necessities of war render it imperative for me, after but a brief interval, to summon you again to our deliberations. The aims for which I and my allies are contending were recently set forth by my statement in a statement which required the emphatic approval of my people throughout the empire, and provided a fair basis for settlement of the present struggle and re-establishment of national rights and international peace in the future.

The German government has, however, ignored our just demands and it should make restitution for the wrongs it has committed and furnish guarantees against their unprovoked repetition. Its spokesmen deny any obligations for themselves in denying rightful liberties of others. Until a recognition is offered of the only principles on which an honorable peace can be concluded, it is our duty to prosecute the war with all the vigor we possess.

"I have full confidence that my allies in the field, in close co-operation with those of my faithful allies, will continue to display the same heroic courage and my people at home the same unselfish devotion, that have already frustrated so many of the enemy's designs and will ensure the ultimate triumph of the righteous cause."

"I have summoned representatives of my dominions and my Indian Empire to a further session of the Imperial War Cabinet in order that I may again receive their advice on questions of moment affecting the common interests of the empire."

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons, you will be asked to make available provisions for the requirements of the combatant services and for the stability of our national finance."

"My lords and gentlemen, the struggle in which we are engaged has reached a critical stage which demands more than ever our united energies and resources. I confidently commend to your patriotism the measures which will be submitted to you and I pray that the Almighty may bestow His blessing on your efforts."

Members of both Houses of Parliament assembled early today for the opening of the eighth session of the longest Parliament in modern times—a session which is virtually certain to be the last and which will be followed by a general election upon extended franchises with women voting for the first time in the country's history.

King George, accompanied by the Queen and Prince of Wales, performed the opening ceremony at noon in the absence of some of the customary spectacular features. It was deemed in view of the war that the king and queen would not wear their coronets and military members of both Houses wore the plain dress instead of the flashy gold-laced full dress uniform.

After the King read his speech and his majesties had left the House of Commons an address replying to the king's speech was moved in both Houses—a formalities which gives one of the chief opportunities for debate in any session.

The proceedings on this occasion probably will be full of interest and importance and may cover the whole of the day. Political circles have been buzzing the past few days with various rumors, showing that the king is expected in the debate. One rumor is to the effect that a government amendment condemning the king's opposition bench.

LINCOLN'S BIRTH ANNIVERSARY WAS DULY CELEBRATED

Many Patriotic Meetings Were
Held Today Throughout
the North

LEWIS DENOUNCED
GERMAN WAR LORDS

Country Urged to Fight for
"the Democracy Implan-
ted by Lincoln and Ad-
vanced by Wilson"

Washington, Feb. 12.—Germany's war lords were scathingly denounced and Americans urged to fight for "the democracy implanted by Lincoln and advanced by Wilson" in an address commemorating the birthday of President Lincoln, delivered today by Senator Lewis, of Illinois. The German peace offers were declared to be only a "ruse to murder."

Struggles of the world's democracies to retain their liberty were recounted by Senator Lewis, quoting the German poet Goethe that "those who have liberty must fight to keep it." He referred to President Lincoln as "the apostle of the liberty of man, and the standard-bearer of the democracy of the world." This nation's progress and freedom, he declared, is the world's inspiration for republican government.

"No democracy was ever founded," he said, "that did not have to fight to continue its existence or maintain its ideals."

From the envy of our situation, from jealousy of our progress, hatred was aroused in the hearts of others, America's institutions of freedom, inspiring mankind to her example, inflaming the souls of the royal rulers of Prussia with fear and inspiring them to the work of destruction of all that America stood for and was living for. This to the world was necessary that they might avoid American influence upon the hearts of the liberty loving German people."

"It has been charged," Senator Lewis said, "that America, under President Wilson, would continue war to force governments and people of foreign lands to take our form of government."

This he denied, asserting "the President fights for democracy, as a right of the whole world."

The promise of President Wilson to "make the world safe for democracy," he added, "is no threat to make the world take democracy. It is but the assurance of the effort to give the world its chance to take democracy."

A Reciprocal Celebration.
Petersburg, Va., Feb. 12.—A reciprocal sort of celebration as a return compliment for the manner in which Pennsylvania soldiers at Camp Leu-

WATER PASSES 60 FOOT MARK AT CINCINNATI

Only the Breaking of the Ice
Gorge Can Prevent Great
Damage Now

Cincinnati, Ohio, Feb. 12.—With the river at this point showing a stage of 60.5 feet early today and continuing to rise at a rate of 2 feet an hour, river men contend that only the breaking of the ice gorge below this city can save it from a disastrous flood. The United States weather forecaster has announced that the water will go about 65 feet if the dam holds. This will be 15 feet above the danger line and will inundate a large area of ground on both the Ohio and Kentucky sides of the river. Already the low lands of Cincinnati and about one-fourth of the city of Newport, Ky., are under water, but relief measures have been prompt and this, coupled with the moderate weather has reduced the suffering to the very minimum among the stricken families.

At places and is expected to break at any time.

A NEW DIPLOMACY BY SPOKESMEN OF WARRING NATIONS

Negotiations on a Vast Scale
Looking Toward Peace
Now Going on

LIGHT OF PUBLICITY
ON GREAT ISSUES

Old Method of Secret Round
Table Conference Passes.
President Clears up
Confusion

Washington, Feb. 12.—Actual negotiations of a new type and on a far greater scale than heretofore known, as seen by old school diplomats in the recent series of addresses by spokesmen of the warring nations, outlining terms.

Although President Wilson's latest address to Congress is regarded as a clear reiteration of America's determination to continue to fight until the military masters of Germany are ready to consider peace on the principles of justice, it was pointed out negotiations on a vast scale really are going on.

These "extra-official negotiations," as they are called by diplomats, depart radically from the ancient and accepted practices of diplomacy. Instead of being conducted in the secrecy of round table conference, the great issues are now being expounded and critically analyzed in the light of publicity and the world's forum.

The President addressed Congress to clear up any confusion resulting from the recent speeches on peace terms by Count von Hertling, the German Chancellor, and Count Czernin, the Austrian Foreign Minister. In the address of Count von Hertling, the President found no approach to peace but only a proposal to end the war on German terms.

The Austrian Premier, however, the President said, seemed to see the fundamental elements of peace with clear vision and probably would have gone further had it not been for Austria's dependency upon Germany.

STILL DISCUSSING
EIGHT HOUR BILL

Washington, Feb. 12.—Discussion of the eight-hour railroad bill was continued today with Timothy Shea, acting president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, engineers and hostlers ready to resume his testimony before the railroad wage commission.

Mr. Shea is asking that the members of his brotherhood receive an increase in pay amounting to 10 per cent, generally, with a minimum wage of \$3.50 per day.

AIRCRAFT BUSY OVER
AMERICAN SECTOR

With the American Army in France, Monday, Feb. 11.—It was bright and clear today and a considerable number of aircraft was over the American sector. The enemy machines were busy taking photographs and making observations, and a number of air fights resulted. One group of three enemy airplanes flew so low that they became targets for anti-aircraft and machine guns and were driven off.

The artillery continued active on both sides. The enemy dropped shells in a number of villages behind the American lines and the American artillerymen replied. Only one man was reported wounded during the past 24 hours. He was injured by a bursting shell in a village behind the lines. Several American patrols reached the enemy entanglements last night without encountering any Germans.

READY FOR DRAFTING
BRITISH SUBJECTS

London, Feb. 12.—The convention between the British recruiting mission and the United States draft authorities under which it is expected 200,000 British subjects in this country will be subject to service in the British army has been agreed upon, it was announced today by Major Mitchell Innes, legal adviser to the British recruiting mission. The agreement only awaits ratification by the Senate and the signatures of President Wilson and King George to become effective. All the subjects between the ages of 20 and 41 are liable to call.

Recruiting missions from France and Italy are soon to be sent here for a similar purpose, it is said.

Midwinter Fair at Orlando, Orlando, Fla., Feb. 12.—With a large attendance of visitors, including many tourists from the North, Orlando's annual Sub-Tropical Midwinter Fair was opened today under the most auspicious circumstances. The day was given over to the opening festivities and the display of the many exhibits gathered for this year's fair.



NEW CHIEF OF STAFF AN EXPERT ARTILLERIST.—Major-General Peyton Conway March, U. S. A., was recently selected to be chief of staff of the United States Army. General March, although one of the youngest army officers to attain the rank of Major-General, is held to be one of the most widely experienced men in the army and of unusual qualifications to act as chief of staff. He is 53 years old. "Quick action and team work" might be written above his door. Copyright, Clinedinst

PRESIDENT TO CONFER WITH CONGRESSMEN

Leaders of Both Parties to Be
Frequently Consulted on
War Questions

Washington, Feb. 12.—President Wilson will begin a series of conferences tomorrow with Congress leaders—both Republicans and Democrats—on all phases of war legislation.

For the first time members of both parties are to be taken into the White House councils in the consideration of war legislation, and in this way the administration expects to smooth out some of the difficulties which confront the war program. The pending bill to empower the President to consolidate executive department functions and redistribute work among them, now openly opposed by the Republicans, will be one of the first subjects to come up. Some of the Democrats do not favor it, and the Republicans openly denounce it as conferring too great authority.

The bill, however, is the administration's counter proposal to the Senate Military Committee bills to create a super-war cabinet, and a ministry of munitions. The President is represented as being unalterably opposed to the committee plan and many members of Congress are just as opposed to the President's plan.

The purpose of the conference is to arrive at some compromise on this subject first, but there is every indication that they will be carried on throughout the war.

The President's move is regarded as the first step toward taking members of both parties more into his confidence, and toward calling Republicans actively into the war councils.

GARFIELD TO SUSPEND
HEATLESS MONDAYS

Washington, Feb. 12.—Fuel Administrator Garfield is expected to rescind tonight the heatless Monday order. At a conference today with Director General McAdoo, he went over the fuel and transportation situation and was convinced that railroad embargoes will serve better.

Despite floods from melting snows, Fuel Administration officials believe there will be no further difficulty in getting coal to the preferred list of consumers established when the closing order was put into operation. This list gives coal first to householders, ships, public utilities, public institutions, and to certain war industries.

Roosevelt Rested Fairly Well.
New York, Feb. 12.—Theodore Roosevelt passed a fairly comfortable night and was resting easily this morning, it was stated at the Roosevelt hospital, where he underwent operations last week because of abscesses in his ears.

TRADE RELATIONS AND QUESTIONS OF PEACE

The Brest-Litovsk Conference
Spent Much Time Discuss-
ing Trade Matters

New York, Feb. 12.—Negotiations for the renewal of Russo-German trade relations, conducted at Brest-Litovsk simultaneously with the discussion of a treaty of peace, are reported upon in recent issues of German newspapers reaching this country. The account of the first seven days of negotiations made to the main committee of the Reichstag by Director Johannes of the foreign office, show that the Bolshevik leaders held the same view of the unfairness from a Russian viewpoint of the Russo-German commercial treaties of 1894 and 1904 as had their predecessors under the old capitalistic order.

The Bolsheviks were unwilling to renew these arrangements which they considered were forced upon Russia during periods of financial depression.

The question of American trade bulked largely in the preliminary discussions. The German representatives in endeavoring to disprove the Russian contention that the balance of trade under the old arrangements was against Russia argued that large quantities of imports into Russia were really of American origin, though brought in through German ports.

German houses under pre-war conditions controlled the Russian market so far as many American manufactured articles were concerned, having obtained exclusive selling agencies.

That Germany, Austria-Hungary and the other Central Powers contemplate forming a customs union was established definitely during the negotiations. Russia obviously would not be allowed to avail itself of the reduced or abolished duties of this customs union. On the other hand, Germany evidently intends to work for free right of access to the Russian market for its protégé state, the "independent" kingdom of Poland.

One of the weak points of the German plan for a protectorate of Poland attached to the Austro-German system is the fact that the prosperity of Russian Poland as an industrial area was built upon free access to the Russian interior markets within the Russian customs barriers and neither Germany nor Austria-Hungary wish to admit Polish manufacturers to open competition in the home markets as a substitute for the Russian market.

Moore War Commission Meets.
Cleveland, Ohio, Feb. 12.—Members of the war commission of the Supreme Lodge of the Loyal Order of Moose gathered here today to complete plans for the expenditure of \$600,000 war relief fund. At the same time the thirtieth anniversary of the national order was celebrated.

AN AIRPLANE MAIL SERVICE THIS SUMMER

LONDON NEWSPAPERS
COMMEND THE SPEECH

President Wilson's Address
Receives Prominence Us-
ually Accorded Him

London, Feb. 12.—President Wilson's address is given the same prominence that all his utterances receive in the morning newspapers, but the text reached the newspapers too late for more than perfunctory comment on a few outstanding sentences. The President's attitude toward the speech of Count von Hertling receives the main attention and in this the President is regarded as having gone to the heart of the matter.

In the address The Times sees an important refutation of "the Bolshevik illusion that Prussian militarism can be exercised by rhetoric" and commends the serene confidence with which President Wilson adheres to the belief that the war will not end without establishing the reign of right and justice.

The Daily News believes that it was not an accident that the President's reply to Von Hertling and Count Czernin was delivered on the eve of a new session of the British Parliament and thinks that its significance will not be lost on the House of Commons, in view of conditions "which arise generally from the gravity of national affairs and specifically from the vague and disquieting situation created by the last Versailles conference with its menacing suggestion of another reaction in the direction of a 'knockout blow.'"

BAKER FURNISHES
SHIPPING STATISTICS

Washington, Feb. 12.—Secretary Baker today transmitted to the Senate Military Committee the shipping statistics upon which he based his estimates of transporting a million American soldiers to Europe this year. The information was labeled "highly confidential," and will be considered in executive session of the committee, as the basis for final cross examination of Mr. Baker, probably later this week and behind closed doors.

The information was compiled largely by the general staff and is understood to give complete details of both American and allied tonnage available for transport service.

FAMOUS MARDI GRAS
HAS BEEN ABANDONED

New Orleans, Feb. 12.—For the first time since the war between the States, New Orleans today failed to celebrate the Mardi Gras with the customary festivities, masking and parades. Owing to the war all the formerly characterized the fete day, were abandoned by the city authorities and by the various carnival clubs.

The city authorities forbid masking today on the ground that it might permit enemies of the nation to commit unlawful acts while disguised. All the balls and social affairs usually given during the few months just preceding Mardi Gras by the carnival organizations also were dispensed with this season.

THE PALMETTO STATE
LEGISLATURE CLOSES

Several Important Measures
Were Adopted in the 35
Day Session

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 12.—The South Carolina General Assembly closes today after a 35 days' session. The principal war measure passed by the body was an act creating a State Council of Defense and providing an appropriation of \$45,000 for its support. A law was passed providing for the Australian ballot system for the towns and cities of the State. The Assembly ratified the national prohibition amendment but declined to pass a "bone dry" law, leaving the quart-month law in force but strengthening it so that the quart may be secured only for sickness.

An injunction law against lewd houses was passed at the urgent request of the War Department.

Mail Between Washington,
New York and Philadelphia
By the Air Route

POSTOFFICE ASKS FOR
BIDS ON MACHINES

Will Begin With One Round
Trip Daily and Be Enlarged
Later—Will Be Permanent
Service

Washington, Feb. 12.—Establishment of an airplane mail service between Washington, Philadelphia and New York during the coming summer was indicated today when the Postoffice Department called for bids on five airplanes for that service.

The service will begin with one round trip a day and later may expand. First class mail only will be carried at the outset.

The bids will be opened February 21 and the planes are to be delivered not later than April 25 this year. Arrangements have been made with the War Department to release a sufficient number of motors to equip the machines.

It is not the purpose of the Postoffice Department to make this an experimental service, Postmaster General Burleson announced. "Its practicability is to be assured before the establishment of the route. Once established, it is to remain a permanent service."

Congress has appropriated \$100,000 for use in establishing aerial mail service. Each airplane will be required to carry 300 pounds of mail a distance of not less than 200 miles without stop, at a maximum speed with full load of 100 miles an hour, a minimum speed of 45 miles and a climbing speed of 6,000 feet in 10 minutes.

A special postage rate will be charged for letters carried by airplane if Congress will sanction it with the necessary law. The rate contemplated is 25 cents per ounce or fraction thereof.

WAR FINANCE TO
HELP CONDITIONS

Washington, Feb. 12.—Creation of the War Finance Corporation will have salutary effect on the next Liberty Loan, S. R. Bertron, a New York and Philadelphia banker, today told the Senate Finance Committee. Some such legislation, he said, was necessary to carry on the business of the country.

Mr. Bertron told the committee he favored the appointment of a commission for the selection of local committees in each Federal Reserve district to pass on proposed security issues.

Among Eastern bankers, he said, there is "almost universal approval" of the bill in general.

REPUBLICAN LEADERS
STILL IN SESSION

St. Louis, Feb. 12.—The executive committee of the Republican National Committee this morning took up the contest from Tennessee between Jesse M. Littleton and John J. Gore. Electioneering for chairman of the National Committee continued all morning preparatory to the meeting of the National Committee this afternoon.

Fred Stanley, of Wichita, national committeeman for Kansas, was mentioned today as a candidate for chairman of the National Committee. Party leaders this morning inquired into his qualifications and there were evidences that he was seriously considered, in view of the struggle between the supporters of John T. Adams, of Iowa, and Will Hayes, of Indiana.

AUSTRIANS RENEW
ATTACK ON ITALY

Berlin, Feb. 12, (via London).—British Admiralty per Wireless Press.—After a day of lively artillery fire on the Sette Comuni plateau on the Italian front, the Austrians attacked south of Sasso Rosso, clearing supporting positions and capturing nearly 180 prisoners, army headquarters announced today.

Motor Trucks Carry Supplies.
Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 12.—Sixty-three motor trucks in charge of army engineers and carrying war supplies left here this morning for New York. A further development of motor truck transportation of army supplies to the seaboard will depend on the success of the trip. Weather conditions are unfavorable, many country roads being flooded.