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SAY GERMANY WILL ATTEMPT TO STARVE OUT THE ENGLISH

In a Note to U. S. Germany Purposes Ruthless Warfare For the Purpose of Starving Out England.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS POSSIBLY BE SEVERED

Germany officially announced on Wednesday in a note to the United States Government that after February 1st, an unrestricted naval warfare would be carried on. In a memorandum accompanying the note, the zones are defined. Shipping orders are given out to neutral vessels, and the whole plan to the world is out-lined by the Imperial German Government. For days this announcement has been expected, and the Entente Allies state that they are prepared, having assembled a large fleet of "chasers"

Once more the U. S. faces a severance of diplomatic relations with Germany. People are now recalling to mind the utterances of both President Wilson and Secretary Lansing, these being "a world afire" and "verge of war."

"The freedom of the seas" for which President Wilson has stood against Germany, is to be ruthlessly invaded by the Germans, who having seen the effectiveness of England's blockade, and seek to destroy her by sweeping all neutrals off the high seas.

Thus all prospects for peace have vanished in thin air, and its more war and what the end will be, who can say?

An Interesting Character

Today, the second of February has become of National importance because of the movements of a certain member of the animal kingdom, who entered public life years ago. This animal, Mr. Marmot, (*Arctomys monax*), is an American, is neither pro-Ally or pro-German. He does not watch for the peace dove or take orders for cannon balls—all he notes in passing is the weather. Before the Weather Bureau of the United States was established he knew all that it had to learn, and, no doubt, has many a snicker when the Bureau fails to accurately forecast the rains and the sunshine. Those who are acquainted with Mr. Marmot whose favorite and trite alias is Mr. Groundhog, affirm that he comes out from his cave-like homestead, and if he finds Old Sol hidden behind the black and lowering clouds, that he remains out and sports around over the fallen leaves; but if the day is bright and sunshiny, so that Mr. G. H., sees his ugly little shadow he scapers down into his home and remains, for there are to follow forty days of bad weather and he does not care to be out in it. As a weather prophet, he takes off the palm, and there are none to dispute his claims. For those who may desire to know him when they see him, it may be told that he is reddish brown, more or less grizzled with gray, and that he makes extensive burrows in the ground, often injuring crops.

Will Hurt Paper Mill

Representative Joyner, of Northhampton, County, has introduced a bill in the Legislature to prevent the discharge of spent liquids from the paper mill at Roanoke Rapids into the Roanoke River. It seems that the Northampton folks like the taste of shad mighty well, and they have an idea that these aforementioned liquids ruin the shad industry. Be as it may, shad is a toothsome diet, but paper is skyward now with all the paper mills, and it would mean a lessening of the supply to stop even one with the capacity of that at the Rapids. Every effort is being made to defeat the bill, though it was reported favorably by the Committee on Grievances and was referred to the Com. on Fisheries.

The people who live along the Roanoke have seen that something is the matter with the shad supply, and now as the time draws near for the coming of the fish, high hopes are entertained that it will be a good season for fish of all kinds, and shad especially.

Splendid Services

Sunday was an interesting day for the Methodist congregation here, as it marked the first visit of the new Presiding Elder, Rev. L. E. Thompson, who came to hold the Quarterly Conference of the Williamston-Hamilton Circuit. Elder Thompson's theme at the morning service was "the riches of God's people," and in the evening, "the wonderful works and the deep thoughts of the Creator." Both discourses showed the power of the man, whose mind and heart are filled with the spirit of the Master, and who is able to explain the hidden mysteries in language easily understood but beautiful in its expression. At the evening service, the sermon was descriptive of the physical world, and the science of the worlds above and about us.

Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock, the business session of the Conference was held to which everybody was invited, if they desired to come. At the Sunday morning service, the Holy Communion was administered to a large number of the members of the congregation.

For Constitutional Convention

Representative Harry W. Stubbs has again introduced a bill which provides for a Constitutional Convention, as he sees great need for a change in the State Constitution, claiming that the times demand a more progressive chart by which to steer the good ship North Carolina. In it, he would provide against any discussion of prohibition measures. Mr. Stubbs is known as one of the best constitutional lawyers in the State and, no doubt, has a broad vision in the matter, but it is a debatable question whether the people would see the necessity for the Convention, if the opportunity was given them to vote for or against it.

Mrs. James S. Rhodes and little child left yesterday for Atlanta, Ga., and Montgomery, Ala., to visit relatives.

"THE PEOPLES BANK"

Papers of incorporation have been issued for the People's Bank of Williamston, J. G. Staton, A. R. Dunning and C. H. Godwin being incorporators. The authorized capital is \$100,000, and just as soon as sufficient furniture and stationery can be had, the bank will open for business in the Hoyt Hadw. Co's. building next to the Dennis Simmons Lumber Company's office on Main Street. The situation is in the heart of the business section, where it is accessible to the business men at all times. Nearly five hundred shares of stock were sold, and many more could have been, and this sets forth the broad scope of the bank, which begins life under fair skies. Mr. C. H. Godwin, who has been with the Bank of Martin County for years, is too well known in banking circles to need any special endorsement, and the fact that he will be Cashier of the new bank, insures its broad, liberal policy toward the people of the town and county.

Attractive Quarters

Messrs. Dunning & Moore, who have recently formed a partnership for the practice of law, have moved into their offices on the second floor of the Leggett building, 114 Main Street, it being the same building in which F. K. Hodges conducts a merchandise business. The suite of rooms occupied by Dunning & Moore has been attractively arranged, and consists of the main office, the stenographer's room, and an office for private consultation. The arrangement of the rooms makes for a larger amount of work to be handled by the firm, and prospects are splendid for the building up of a practice unrivalled by any in Eastern Carolina.

Martin County There

It was noted with interest that Martin County people took part in the Shriners Minstrel at Raleigh on Monday evening. These were, Mr. Homer Peel and Misses Chloe and Alice Guirkin, the latter daughters of a former Martin County man, who has lived in Raleigh for some time. No doubt, they contributed largely to the success of the minstrel in which the Shriners of the city took so much interest.

A. & M. College Record

We are in receipt of the Quarterly Record of the A. & M. College, West Raleigh, N. C. It is filled with illustrations showing the work in Agriculture, Chemistry, Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Textile Industry. The value of this college to the State is beyond estimate. From it go young men who are trained physically and mentally for the battles of life. It is one of the big North Carolina assets.

Will Be Decided Later

The article in the paper of last week relative to the County Commencement was not intended to convey the idea that the holding of the Commencement had been definitely settled. Supt. A. J. Manning and the Teachers Association will discuss the matter at the next meeting, which will be held as soon as practicable. An early decision in the matter is desired as much time is required to prepare for it if the Association decides to hold the Commencement.

BUSINESS MEN ORGANIZE

Seeing the need for a more thorough cooperation of the different interests of the county, a number of citizens of the county met in the reception room of the Lotus Club, Monday afternoon, and organized under the name of the Martin County Business Men's Association with John L. Hassell, President, W. H. Crawford, Vice-President, Clayton Moore, Secy-Treas., and an Executive Board composed of T. F. Harrison, Alonzo Hassell, C. D. Carstarphen, Theodore Roberson and R. G. Harrison.

Organization and cooperation never fail to accomplish something, and when directed along the proper lines are always helpful. With leaders like these, we may expect splendid returns and great good to result in building up interest in our institutions, in our homes, and in our business.

The slogan is: "Kick every man you find sitting on the tail of progress, yelling 'Whoa!'"

The Annual Two Quarts

The bill to aid the fight for temperance in the State was introduced on Monday in the Legislature by Representative Gardner of Yancey County. This bill was drafted and approved in the offices of the Superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League, and while it does not entirely prohibit the keeping of a drop of whiskey, it cuts down the supply to two lone quarts yearly.

Another section makes it a misdemeanor to drink or to be drunk in public, and gives the State power to confiscate all vehicles used in the transportation of whiskey in opposition to the law.

The clause permitting the receipt of and liquor reads as follows:

"That any person, not a minor, may receive one shipment of spirituous liquor, not more than two quarts, or one shipment of malt liquors not more than three gallons for medical use each calendar year under the following conditions: The person may apply to the clerk of the court of the county in which he lives for a permit to receive by transportation by a common carrier spirituous or malt liquors for medicine. At such time he must make affidavit that he is a citizen of the county that he has not received any spirituous or malt liquors in twelve months, that he wants this shipment for medical use only and that he wishes to receive it at the express office nearest to his home. Such permit shall then be granted by the clerk or his duly appointed deputy, who shall affix the seal of his office thereto and said permit shall contain the name of the applicant to whom the shipment is to be delivered, the place from which the shipment is to be made, the amount to be shipped, the date of granting the permit, and the express office nearest the home of the applicant to which the shipment must be made. The said permit must be executed in duplicate. The original shall be delivered to the applicant to be sent by him to the shipper to be posted on the outside of the package containing the liquor. The permit so used authorizes the public carrier to transport and deliver the package. The duplicate must be filed in the clerk's office in the same manner that the duplicate permit for shipment of alcohol is filed."

DARING PLOT TO KILL ENGLAND'S PREMIER--DAVID LLOYD-GEORGE

Pull The Stumps

The land-clearing problem, considered in terms of total acreage of lands yet to be developed, seems tremendous. Considered in terms of what each individual farmer can do to get the undeveloped land on his farm under the plow, and the problem is not half as formidable.

In the opinion of experts and the experience of men who already have cleared their land of stumps, every farmer, no matter what his circumstances, should clear not less than two and one-half acres per year, or if he has boys to help, five acres a year. The rewards for such application in the majority of cases will be good, and they may be great.

The A. J. Kirstin Company, Escanaba, Michigan, who are advertising in these columns, have issued a book entitled, "The Gold in Your Stump Land," and will advise the farmer what methods to use in clearing land, whether the stump puller or dynamite, or a combination of both is the best method.

Farmers Institute

Owing to the bad condition of the roads leading to Williamston, the Farmers Institute here last Friday was not as well attended as former ones. A few farmers came in, and the Institute party made it interesting for them. Mrs. Holland, who was with the party, addressed the pupils of the High School, and they were pleased that she should visit them.

The Institute workers bring with them a wholesome lesson for the farmers, farmer's wives and others who are interested in the building up of the county and State. The Agricultural Department is assisting in unlocking the rich stores in the soil of Carolina.

To Begin Operations

The Roanoke Peanut Company is making all preparations to begin operations in the near future. Their four-story building has been erected for more than a year, but it was not deemed advisable to operate it before this time. It is the purpose of the company to operate for several months, at least. A large stock of peanuts has been stored for the plant, and prospects are splendid for the successful operation of the same. Among the brands of the nuts which will be cleaned are, Jumbo Hippo, Dixie Queen, Roanoke Chief, Extra Large Va. Shelled. The officers of the Company are President, J. H. Saunders; Vice-President, Leslie Fowden; Sec-Treas. H. H. Cowing.

Any number of operatives required can be had here among the colored people, who are always anxious to work in such plants. Without doubt Williamston is the best location in this section for a peanut factory, as it is situated in the finest peanut section of the South, and is the largest market in the world for the Virginia peanuts direct from the producers.

If you have not bought enough mules for the year's crop go to see the stock men who advertise in these columns and get the best.

Three Suffragets and One Man Plot to Poison David Loyd George--Are Arrested But Plead Innocent.

AGITATION FOR BETTER PROTECTION

Scotland Yard detectives have found what they are sure is a plot to kill Premier Lloyd-George of England, and chief assistant. There are three women and one man in the plot; Wheeldon is their name, and the women are suffragettes and the man, is against compulsory military service. All four of them assert their innocence. The plot was to poison the two men. Lloyd-George is very democratic in his actions, and the government has been instant in its protection of the Premier and the others, who are in the service of the Kingdom.

It will be remembered that Lloyd-George succeeded Premier Asquith, who resigned, and that he a man of the people to whom the affairs of the government were intrusted at the greatest crisis in England's life during the present war.

High School Club

The boys of the High School under the leadership of Prof. Bundy have organized a Club. They have rented the rooms which will be vacated by Dr. Cone, and are acquiring furniture and fixtures to make it pleasant and comfortable. The entrance and the monthly fees are reasonable. The boys are very enthusiastic, and, no doubt, the Club life will be very helpful in many ways, as wholesome pleasure may be had in the rooms, when otherwise the boys might be in the way of temptation. Then the establishment and maintenance of the Club will give the members that dependable feeling, which the manly boy always likes to possess.

Printed Letter Heads

When I get a letter from a farmer written in ink on a printed letter-head, I assume at once that here is a reading man and an intelligent farmer, and much the contrary is the impression when I get a letter scrawled in pale pencil on dark poor paper which makes it hard for old eyes to read. Then another advantage in the printed letter head, especially when the letter is from a business man, is that many of these business men make their signature in the most complex manner, and but for the printed name at top I could hardly know to whom to send the reply. One can guess at a good deal in any one's letter, but cannot guess at a signature that is unreadable.—W. F. Massey, in The Progressive Farmer.

The business men of the town met at the Lotus Club on Monday afternoon.