

FRANCE AND BELGIAN TROOPS NOW READY TO SEIZE RUHR

French and Belgian Soldiers Prepared to Occupy

BRUSSELS, Jan. 10.—The first Belgian troops to be put in motion for cooperation with the French in occupying Ruhr, entrained today for Aix La Chapelle. They totaled eighteen hundred.

PARIS, Jan. 10.—France is now ready to seize Ruhr. The zero hour has been fixed, but until the occupation army marches, the time, the place and the manner and exact objective are held by the government as a military and political secret.

France late yesterday notified England through the French ambassador at London and the American ambassadors at Paris and Brussels, were informed by the French and Belgian governments respectively what France plans to do. The French are now armed with the reparations commission's declaration that Germany is in voluntary default in coal deliveries so there is no apparent cause for further delay.

M. Maguire, war minister, has had a formal conference with Premier Poincaré, assuring him that the army is ready, the technical men, even emergency crews of railroads and telegraphers, in case of strikes in the Ruhr, are awaiting orders at Düsseldorf, and their military escort is impatient to be off.

Some believe that the troops will go forward today while others point out that the movement may be delayed until Thursday. What date is fixed there is no longer any question because the United States or Great Britain may stop the advance by a protest, for the French government and people alike consider it quite settled that Essen will be occupied in a matter of a few hours or days, and that the progressive seizure of the Ruhr can only be stopped by Germany coming to terms.

WANT COUNTY WIDE TAX FOR HIGH SCHOOLS

Alamance Proposes to Give All Equal Educational Opportunity

BURLINGTON, Jan. 10.—The board of education of Alamance county in its recent business session held at Graham adopted resolutions favoring a special county wide tax for the purpose of equalizing the high school privileges of the high school boys and girls of Alamance. The board requested E. S. Parker, representative from Alamance county in the state legislature, to introduce a bill in the present session of the legislature providing for a law that will apply to Alamance county and give the people of the county an opportunity to vote for a special county wide school tax to take the place of the special district school tax now levied in a majority of the school districts providing for more than a six months school term.

The special school tax, if the people of the county are given the opportunity to vote for it and if levied, will provide for central high schools in all sections of the county and thus equalize the high school privileges of the boys and girls pursuing high school courses in the county.

ESTABLISH NEW POULTRY RANCH NEAR DUNN, N. C.

Believed To Be Largest and Best Equipped in the State

DUNN, N. C., Jan. 10.—A new and the largest poultry ranch in North Carolina is now being established near by K. L. Howard, et al., of the Dunn, N. C. Draper, a former cashier of the State Bank and Trust company, who has been successfully engaged in poultry raising for the last three years. The ranch is located on the big Howard farm two miles from Dunn and is being equipped with all the essentials to poultry raising.

The promoters will specialize in White Leghorn chickens, the several hundred fowls of exceptionally fine strain reared by Mr. Draper furnishing the nucleus around which they will create one of the largest flocks in the country.

An incubator of 52,000 egg capacity has been purchased and will be installed immediately. With this machine the ranch will do "custom hatching" for other farmers who desire to go into the poultry business. Day-old chicks will be sold by the thousands to other customers in this locality.

YOUNG MAN DEAD; MOTHER WOUNDED

Coroner's Jury Delays Verdict in Tragedy

DUNN, N. C., Jan. 9.—Boyd P. Smith, aged twenty two years, was recently assisting cashier of the Carolina State Bank, at Dunn, is dead with a bullet through the heart, while his mother, Mrs. Virginia Smith, aged 60 years, is now recovering from two gunshot wounds as a result of shooting which occurred shortly after seven o'clock this morning at the Smith home at Dunn.

While it is generally believed Smith shot his mother while sitting at the breakfast table, a degree of mystery prevails. Three shots were fired in the dining room, two of them striking the table. The revolver, found lying beside Smith was a five chamber gun and contained one cartridge, one that had been slipped and one empty. It could not be ascertained if the gun was in any way connected with the shooting.

Mrs. Smith, when she regained consciousness, said that Boyd had been suffering from the effects of influenza. At breakfast Boyd was apparently in good spirits and ate all the food before him. He was about to leave the table when she told him she heard some on the back door.

"All right, I will go and see who it is," he said. A moment after leaving her the shooting began. Mrs. Smith did not know she had been shot, she says. When the shooting began she fell to the floor and evidently swooned. Later she called for her son. Receiving no answer, she went to his room and there found him dead, and a gun lying by his side. She then gave the alarm and neighbors rushed to the home.

EXODUS OF LABOR MUST BE STOPPED SAY GEORGIANS

Conference Speaker Is Plain In His Views of the Cause

We reproduce below a portion of a speech made by Dr. N. J. H. DeLoach, director of Alabama's bureau of agricultural research and economics, at the Augusta Cotton conference in Augusta, Ga., recently which dwelt emphatically on the subject of farm labor in the south as follows:

"We had about seventy negroes and I want to say to you that this exodus of labor is inseparably bound up with this exodus of labor. I recently inquired of twenty five colored people in Chicago who had just left the south as to their motive for leaving, why they left, and one of them speaking for five or six others, said, 'Boas, we used to make a living down there in the south growing cotton, but we just naturally cannot do it now; we make a living but the boll weevil gets it, and we get to leave or perish to death.' And the old fellow meant it. I want to tell you, that is what they are doing; you have no idea how scanty their provision is, I mean that they get honestly; they are hungry and I know they are hungry. I visited them in the south here and they are not producing enough to eat; if they can get a little more money, food and clothing somewhere else it is nothing but common sense that they are going to leave; there is a force back of them stronger than any appeal you or I can make, and that is hunger, that is what it is.

We took twenty tenant farmers, out of the seventy I think sixty four or sixty five were colored—Mr. Maness was down there three or four times and we had him preach a weevil sermon down there for them and they have been talking about it ever since. But to say that the weevil has made it impossible for the south to farm with colored labor is to say something that is not true, because it is the simplest matter in the world to show a man how to do a thing, to show him and then let him do it, take him by the hand and show him, and let him help you do it. That is what we did.

CHARGES AGAINST DAUGHERTY FALSE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—Attorney General Daugherty was given a clean bill of health yesterday by the house judiciary committee which investigated against him by Representative Kellar, republican of Minnesota.

In a resolution which was adopted by a vote of 12 to 20, the committee said that on the evidence obtained it did not appear that there was any ground to believe that Mr. Daugherty had been guilty of any high crime or misdemeanor requiring the interposition of the impeachment powers of the house.

The ginners report shows there had been ginned 10,006 bales of cotton in Martin county to January 1st. Last year there was ginned up to the same time 8,773 bales. This is a gain of 1,233 bales—worth on today's market \$150,000.

NOTICE OF SALE

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in that certain deed of trust executed by John Roberson and wife, Sylvia Roberson to the undersigned trustee, and bearing date of February 3rd, 1906, of the Martin county registry, said deed of trust having been given to secure the payment of certain notes of even date therewith, and the terms and conditions therein contained not having been complied with, and at the request of the holder of said notes, the undersigned trustee will on Saturday, the 10th day of February, 1923, between the hours of 12 m., and 1 p. m., in front of the court house door of Martin county at Williamston, N. C., offer for sale, at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash, the following described property, to wit:

A lot of land on Main street in the town of Williamston adjoining the lands of Thomas Roberson and others beginning at Thomas Roberson's corner of Main street, in the town of Williamston; thence up Main street thirty five (35) yards; thence about northwest, parallel with Thomas Roberson's line seventy (70) yards; thence about northeast parallel with Main street thirty five (35) yards to Thomas Roberson's line; thence along the Thomas Roberson line seventy (70) yards to Main street, containing one half (1/2) acres more or less.

This, the 5th day of January, 1923. JOHN L. HASSELL, Trustee. Dunning, Moore and Horton, Attorneys.

THE HARRISON OIL COMPANY IS NOW MAKING STRIDES

Local Concern Getting More Business Than All the Others

In taking an inventory of the things which are making for the material worth of the town and community, one will have to stop and consider the Harrison Oil company, an organization, which sells and delivers all the products put out by the Texas Oil company.

Six months ago it entered the minds of Messrs. George H. Harrison and Gus Harrison to establish tanks, and place on the roads two wagons to serve the people right at their doors. With their proverbial push and energy, these young men are making a phenomenal success along this new line. It is estimated that they are already selling about fifty per cent of the gasoline, sixty five per cent of the kerosene and eighty five per cent of the oils, this, too, right in the territory where other companies have been for years. The gasoline and kerosene are received by boat and stored in a 32,000 gallon tank near the river bridge, and from there distributed by wagons throughout the territory, and lubricating oils are shipped here in car lots. These products are the best that money can furnish.

Messrs. George and Gus Harrison have made this business a home company; they live in Williamston, own and pay taxes on property they are among the most active business men in the county. They mean business, they get business; they have established a permanent business, and are also bringing business to Williamston, thereby adding a large quota of usefulness to the community. They richly deserve the patronage of the public, and are getting a big per cent, as stated above, of the business. With rare wisdom, and an enlarged vision, these men are striving for greater things, both for themselves, and the town at large.

Bank That Failed a Year Ago Now Pays a Good Dividend

KINSTON, Jan. 10.—The little bank at Pink Hill, said town at the southern extremity of Lenoir county, has set a record for successful manipulation under a receivership. The bank at Pink Hill failed more than a year ago, going under simultaneously with another bank company, operators of a chain of stores in this section. The company had its headquarters at Pink Hill. Allie Whitaker, young lawyer of Kinston was named as receiver for the institution. Mr. Whitaker's methods were unusually thorough. He left no possible loop hole for further embarrassment of the bankrupt company.

About a year ago the Pink Hill Bank and Trust company was organized and took over the receivership of the suspended institution. Prominent business men and planters of the Pink Hill section and Kinston bankers backed the new bank. It was stated here today that the institution had declared two per cent dividends in 12 months. State banking authorities were reported to have termed the receivership the most successful in North Carolina.

Whitaker and the new bank have accomplished remarkable results in putting the affairs of the old bank into shape, it was said. Pink Hill has a population of only 350. It is the trading center for thousands, however.

SUNDAY SERVICES LOCAL CHURCHES

CHRISTIAN CHURCH A. J. Manning, pastor. Sunday school 9:45 a. m., W. C. Manning, superintendent. Sermon by the pastor at 11 a. m. and also at 7:30 p. m.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH Church school 9:45 a. m., H. M. Stubbs, superintendent. There will be no other services Sunday.

SERVICES AT BAPTIST CHURCH A. V. Joyner, pastor. Sunday school 9:45 a. m., J. C. Anderson, superintendent. Sermon by the pastor 11 a. m. At 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon pastor will preach at Burras school house. Jr. B. Y. P. U. 6:45 p. m. Sermon by the pastor 7:30 p. m., subject: "The Crisis of a Soul." Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7:30. Sr. B. Y. P. U. Wednesday evening 8:15.

To all the services of our church, we give you a cordial invitation and a warm and hearty welcome.

IMPORTANCE OF EARLY POISONING OF BOLL WEEVIL

Most Effective Plan Say Farmers at Georgia Conference

One of the points that was most stressed in the Cotton conference at Augusta, Ga., recently was the importance of starting to poison before there is a percentage of infestation by the boll weevil. Heretofore and probably until the present time the federal government advocates poisoning after there is ten per cent infestation. It was pointed out by Frank Barrett, that there is no way to ascertain when there is a ten per cent infestation. It may be ten per cent, when one thinks it is only one per cent; there is no way to tell whether the infestation is ten or fifty per cent.

J. C. Maness, of the Georgia State Board of entomology, stated that the state board does not agree, and never has agreed with the federal government, about waiting to poison. He urged, as did Mr. Barrett, that the poison should be applied as soon as the cotton has been chopped out, or before there is any sign of infestation thereby killing the winter supply of weevils. It was when the government's method was ably attacked by Mr. Barrett, that the audience cheered lustily for its first time. The state of Georgia was the first state in the cotton belt to advocate poisoning at once. Farmers who have carried out this method, have been successful in raising a heavy crop. Hon. Ira Williams, of the state board, also spoke. His talk was along the lines of the others, regarding the culture of cotton and the control of the boll weevil.

L. D. Hill of Gough, Ga., a practical farmer, who has perfected a method, known as "molasses mixture" delivered an address on the control of the weevil, giving his experience with the dusting and molasses methods. It is understood that "molasses mixture" is a misnomer. There are a number of ingredients in the mixture and the molasses is used to hold them together. Mr. Hill claims that he has a compound that draws the weevil to it, while the dusting methods has to wait until the weevil finds it. The molasses mixture, it is contended, will not wash off with a rainfall of one and a half inches. The molasses furnishes the necessary moisture.

Mrs. S. R. Biggs, Jr., and little son, Billy, are visiting Mrs. Biggs' sister, Mrs. Badham of Edenton. They will spend some time there.

NOTICE OF SALE

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in that certain deed of trust executed by W. H. Stallings to the undersigned trustee, and bearing date of August 27th, 1916, and of record in the public registry of Martin county in book H-1 at page 483, said deed of trust having been given to secure the payment of certain notes of even date therewith, and the terms and conditions therein contained not having been complied with, and at the holder of said notes, the undersigned trustee will on Saturday, February 10th, 1923, between the hours of 12 m., and 2 p. m., in front of the court house door of Martin county at Williamston, N. C., offer for sale, at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash, the following described property to wit:

Those certain tracts or parcels of land known as Cut Cypress swamp and bounded as follows: Beginning at Wiltz Veneer company's line of Roanoke river; thence up said river to the upper mouth of Cut Cypress swamp; thence down Cut Cypress and other streams to Wiltz Veneer company's line; thence along said line to the beginning, containing one hundred and fifty (150) acres more or less.

Second tract: "A one fourth undivided interest in and to that certain tract of land known as Broad Creek fishery; bounded on the north by the Broad Creek; on the east by Roanoke river; on the south and west by Calm Point swamp. Containing one hundred (100) acres more or less.

Third tract: "A one half undivided interest in and to that certain house and lot in the town of Jamesville and bounded as follows, to wit: On the south by the Williamston road; on the west by Fate McAllister, and on the north and west by the streets, and being the same premises upon which the said W. H. Stallings resided, and containing two acres more or less. This, the 8th day of January, 1923. A. R. DUNNING, Trustee.

FORD TO MAKE NORFOLK HIS EXPORT POINT

Shipments for the West Coast Will Go Through That Port

Henry Ford has given personal assurances that he expects to use Norfolk as his principal exporting point for the shipments of Ford automobiles to the west coast and far east.

The Federal Motor Truck company has already begun use of the port for traffic to the same destinations, the first carload of trucks having arrived Tuesday, for transportation to the west coast. Announcement that the Ford Motor company will begin the movement of Ford cars through Norfolk revives interest in the Ford plans for the establishment of a large assembling plant at Norfolk to handle its export business.

Also there is seen considerable significance in this connection with reports that Mr. Ford is negotiating for the purchase of the Virginia railway following his purchase of immense coal fields in Kentucky.

Baptists Start New Year with Good Organization

The Sunday school of the Williamston Memorial Baptist church began its New Year at 9:45 last Sunday morning with 165 present; seven new pupils, and 4 visitors; five classes having 100 per cent attendance, and only 33 absent.

There were very few changes made in the officers and teachers for the next year, a list of them being as follows:

- Class No. 1, Mrs. O. S. Anderson and Mrs. P. B. Cone, teachers.
Class No. 2, Mrs. A. T. Crawford and Miss Mary White, teachers.
Class No. 3, Mrs. B. S. Courtney, teacher.
Class No. 4, Miss Daisy Wynne, teacher.
Class No. 5, Dr. J. D. Biggs, teacher.
Class No. 6, Mrs. J. D. Biggs, Mrs. W. J. Hodges, secretary.
Class No. 7, Miss Carrie Tell White, teacher.
Class No. 8, Mr. B. S. Courtney, teacher.
Class No. 9, Mrs. A. V. Joyner, teacher.
Class No. 10, Mr. Hugh Horton, teacher, Rev. A. V. Joyner, assistant.
Class No. 11, Mr. R. S. Critcher, teacher.
Superintendent, J. C. Hodges.
Assistant superintendent, Raymond Taylor.
Secretary, Wm. P. Hodges.
Assistant secretary, A. T. Crawford.
Treasurer, Mrs. A. T. Crawford.
Organist, Miss Ellen Cowan.
Music director, Mrs. Wheeler Martin.
Superintendent home department, Mrs. Harry Meadow.
Superintendent cradle roll department, Mrs. Lawrence Peel.

The Sunday school has a place for every one, young and old, and invite all who are not members of some other Sunday school to join with them.

Claude Kitchin Is Ill With Pneumonia

SCOTLAND NECK, Jan. 10.—Representative Claude Kitchin, democratic leader in the lower house of congress, who is seriously ill at his home here with pneumonia, was reported as holding his own at 9 o'clock tonight. Dr. O. H. Smith, his physician, stated tonight that both Mr. Kitchin's lung are slightly affected by the disease.

Dr. Smith said the disease had no developed beyond a mild form. At 9 o'clock Mr. Kitchin's temperature was 101 and his respiration was said to be fair. The physician said he could not say that the congressman was better, but said he was holding his own nicely.

Members of the family said Representative Kitchin seemed to be resting comfortably tonight and they felt much encouraged over his condition.

Representative Kitchin contracted a cold early Sunday and pneumonia developed Sunday night. He suffered a break down more than a year ago but his health had improved to such an extent that he had planned to return to Washington in the near future to resume his work as minority leader in the house.

Mr. Nathan Orleans returned yesterday from New York where he has spent the past ten days purchasing goods for the firm of W. R. Orleans, and visiting his daughter, Miss Minnie Orleans.

PARTY LEADERS LIKELY TO SHUT AT BEER PLANS

Neither Party Impressed with Wet Claims of the Public

While there are often kaleidoscopic changes in politics, there is nothing in sight to indicate that either political party will be gold bricked into a position of gainy weakening or the prohibition law in their 1924 platform. A political party is usually slow to get back of a lost cause, especially one which lacks in popular support.

Recent results this year prove the noise made by the wet camp is altogether out of proportion to the votes that camp can deliver at the polls. Last November's election weakened the beer and wine cause. In spite of all the efforts of the wets, their gain in congress is negligible. They cannot count as many votes in the new senate as in the present body, while the lower house will continue to be at least two to one against any weakening of dry laws.

When political parties realize that in every congress elected since the submission of the eighteenth amendment, the dries have controlled both branches by a two thirds vote, or better, how can wets expect party leaders to come to their rescue? Political parties always look about for live and popular issues—not for unpopular ones.

Newspapers of all shades of political opinion agree that the present administration leaders headed by President Harding are shaping the course of the republican party so that in 1924 it will champion the dry cause and declare for the strict enforcement of the present law—for it is not believed this law will be changed during the life of the congress elected in November.

This course will naturally cause the democratic party to do one of two things—take up the cause of the beer interests, or refuse to burden itself with such a handicap which will mean the destruction of the party.

PAVING WILL BE DISCONTINUED FOR NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS ON THE HIGHWAY TO WASHINGTON

Work on the Williamston-Washington highway will be discontinued for several weeks stated an official of the Southern Willite Paving company yesterday, owing to the condition of the roads. It is impossible to keep the work going on at this season of the year without causing a great deal of needless expense so it was decided to stop work until the middle of February or the first of March. Mr. C. T. Warring, general manager of the southern branch of the Willite Road Construction company of Pennsylvania has gone to Pittsburgh, Pa., to attend a meeting of the board of directors of the company.

A WORD TO "TROJAN"

"Trojan," in Tuesday's edition, certainly had perched on his nose a pair of wonderful spectacles with rose-tinted lenses. Evidently, he had bided on the popular formula of Dr. Cone, and arranged something like this: "Year by year in everything, we are growing bigger and bigger." That's all right, "as a man thinketh, so is he." The same can be said of a town as well as of the individual. The larger the vision, the greater the result.

But we notice that "Trojan" failed to enlarge the business of the pet bootleggers, which have made Williamston an unsafe spot on the map; so from this omission, we judge that he does not think that the vicious business is conducive to the betterment of the community, though we rather suspect that some folks have a mean idea that to live and grow, the gullet must be always wet with some old concoction, the making, drinking and selling of which is contrary to moral or civil law. This class of citizen is a barnacle on the body politics, and must be eliminated before the town can hold up its head.

"Here is good place to come and invest your dollars." Inness from the bootlegger and not the inness from the bootlegger and not the bootlegger from the business? There is no sale without a customer, and if the public would boycott those whose breath comes to it laden with the taint of fermented molasses, whether it be the merchant, salesman, lawyer, doctor, drayman or the street cleaner, this town of ours and others, too, would realize some of the visions of men like "Trojan."

We are pulling for a "Williamston Beautiful," while the morals of the town are as dirty as some of the back lots, and that is saying something, too.

Governor's Program Proposed Legislation

Duplication of 1921 appropriation of \$8,000,000 for extension of State institutions.

Additional \$15,000,000 bond issue for state highways.

Constitutional limitation of state's power to contract debt to five per cent of assessed value of property, and establishment of sinking fund to retire outstanding bonds.

Stabilization of fish and oyster industry, with annual planting of 3,000,000 bushels of oysters of insects to admit salt water and establishment of fish hatcheries on inland streams.

Establishment of state banking department.

Establishment of a state commission of commerce and industry.

Establishment of water transportation commission and establishment of state steamship lines, with an appropriation of \$2,000,000.

Additional appropriations for state educational and health work.

MINE SWEEPERS AND SEAPLANES IN N. C. MOREHEAD CITY, Jan. 9.—Three government mine sweepers arrived in port today. Eighteen seaplanes stopped over on their way south, while others more are expected to pass