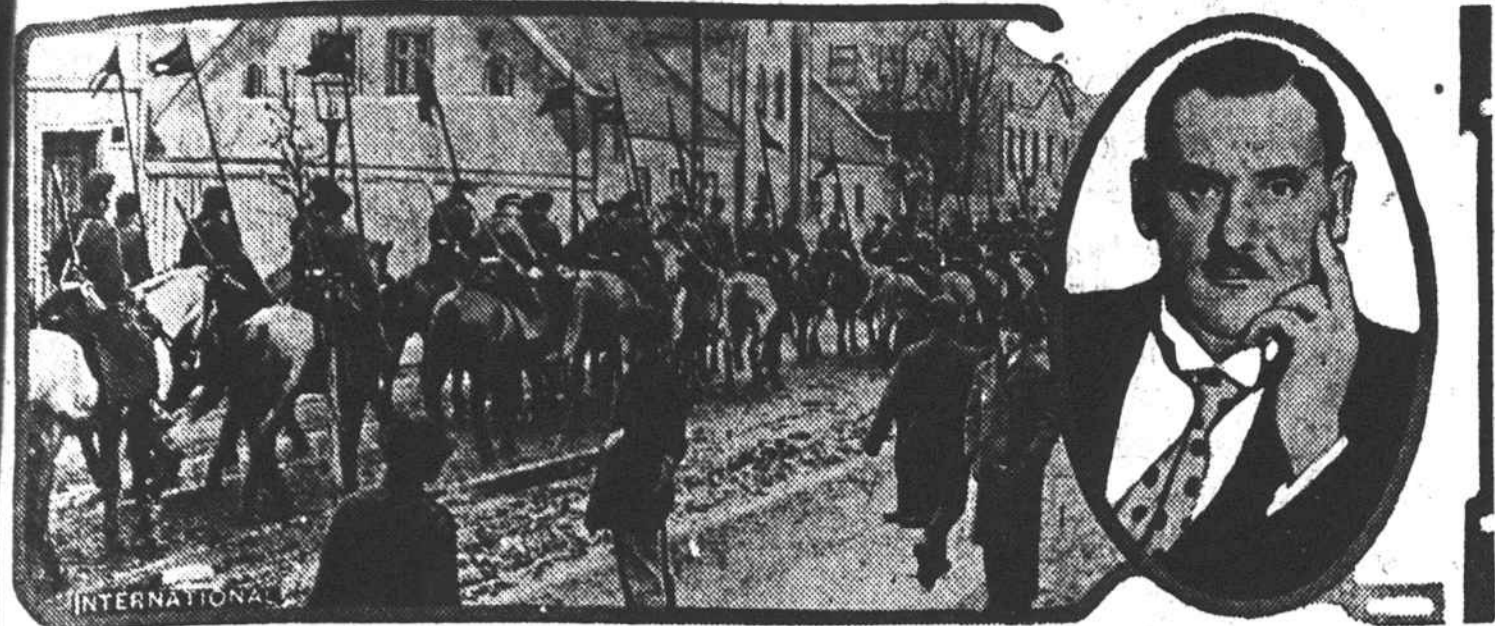


Lithuanians Now in Full Control of Memel



The officers of the Lithuanian volunteer army, led by Commander Budry, as they entered the Memel district. Falck previously declared a free state by the League of Nations council, Memel was not independent very long when the Lithuanians entered and seized control. William Falck, whose portrait is shown above, has been appointed chief of the district.

He-Man's Job to Climb Everest

Member of Former Expeditions Tells of Difficulties Involved in Reaching Top.

New York.—"Why did you want to climb Mount Everest?" This question was asked of George Leigh Mallory, who was with both expeditions toward the summit of the world's highest mountain, in 1921 and 1922, and who is now in New York. He plans to go again in 1924, and he gave as the reason for persisting in these repeated attempts to reach the top, "Because it's there."

"But hadn't the expedition valuable scientific results?"

"Yes. The first expedition made a geological survey that was very valuable, and both expeditions made observations and collected specimens, both geological and botanical. The geologists want a stone from the top of Everest. That will decide whether it is the top or the bottom of a fold. But these things are by-products. Do you think Shackleton went to the South pole to make scientific observations? He used the observations he did make to help finance the next trip. Sometimes science is the excuse for exploration. I think it is rarely the reason."

"Everest is the highest mountain in the world, and no man has reached its summit. Its existence is a challenge. The answer is instinctive, a part, I suppose, of man's desire to conquer the universe."

This is pure romance, call it what else you will, and every man recognizes its touch. It leads into jungles and over deep waters and up through the high, thin reaches of the air. Its glamorous trail goes through the doors of moving picture houses and up one flight to the chop suey restaurant. It is inherent in the "dares" of childhood. It makes the timid boy dive from the pierhead, and it sent the British Royal Geographical society's and the Alpine club's expedition nearer the sky than any man had climbed before without taking unto himself wings.

1,700 Feet Yet to Go.

The first expedition sent out by the Royal Geographical society and the Alpine club cost £6,000 and only got as high as 21,000 feet. The second attempt cost £11,000 and reached 27,235 feet. That leaves 1,700 feet to go, and there is no telling how much it will cost to make the last spurt. Moreover, it takes a long time to reach the place where climbing begins. The last stage of the journey is a five weeks' tramp across the Tibetan plains from Darjeeling, mile after mile of bare earth and rock, with meager patches of dried growth in the lee of a ledge or in a slight depression, showing where a little moisture collected in the spring and summer. The pack animals live on this poor fare. The human natives, whom Mr. Mallory believes to be the best of the Mongols, pushed into this desolate corner by their stronger kin, fare hardly better on tsamfa, a coarse sort of barley meal.

Plans for assault on Everest are laid as carefully as for a military campaign. That, aside from the grit and stamina of the climbers, is the most important factor for success. The lack of a cooking pot, an oxygen tank, a canteen or a rope, at the right spot at the right moment, may doom the expedition. The party was able to go as high as they did by the establishment of a succession of base camps, the highest being at 21,000 feet. This meant that each camp must have supplies sufficient not only for the climbers, but also for the porters, who were to carry the equipment necessary to make the next camp. In all, the expedition carried something over twenty tons of equipment, baggage and stores. Pack animals, mostly yaks, were used across the plain and up the slopes as far as the glacier. Beyond that point the work was done by fifty porters, men from the native state of Nepal, whose splendid strength and endurance hold out the hope of establishing camp at a still greater height.

Must Be Perfect Physically.

Other things besides time, money and executive ability were demanded of the expedition; the utmost quality of the climbers, for instance. Perfect physical condition is, of course, essential, for under the most favorable conditions the strain of effort in those aw-

ful altitudes is such that normal fitness is not regained for months after the ordeal. Good heart and lungs are the most important prerequisites. Even perfect organs would not avail without long mountaineering experience. The men were picked on their Alpine records, not so much on the written record of so many feet climbed in so many hours as on the reputations that grow up through the gossip of mountaineers: That so-and-so is a fearful fellow to keep up with, that another is fast and sure and never tires. They had need for every bit of their skill, experience and strength in this struggle.

Perpendicular travel is slow at best, but on the higher slopes of Everest it slowed down to 330 feet an hour—about the length of a short city block, the distance that a good runner can make in ten seconds. Twenty-nine thousand feet of that is no week-end sport.

For instance, no mountaineer experiences vertigo. He wouldn't be one long if he did. The reason the untrained mortal feels dizzy on the brink of a thousand-foot drop is that his eyes find nothing to rest on. The mountaineer's eye is trained to vast spaces all about, and particularly beneath him. There is rarely a vertical wall to be climbed. Almost always there is a slight slope, and here a few degrees mean everything to the eye. Mr. Mallory says that personally he can use with equal facility at the sky end of a few thousand feet of cliff or ice wall any footing that would serve him on lower levels.

A Useful Hint.

Here is a useful hint for incipient mountaineers upon conduct during an avalanche, or rather in an avalanche. If it is of rocks and ice, the affair must be left almost entirely to the avalanche itself. Its constituent parts bounce. You are all right unless you conflict with a trajectory. There is little chance of dodging. Snow is another matter. Its tendency is to pull you under and crush or suffocate you. The point of endeavor is to stay on the surface and to keep your arms up above your head. In the avalanche which killed seven porters and halted his own attempt to reach the summit, Mr. Mallory found himself "swimming on his back." At the end the snow packed in such a way as to push him and others to the surface, instead of dragging them down.

"It's easy enough to breathe," he explained, "and while you keep perfectly still you feel all right. But when you try to move, you have a bad time getting started. Then you have to pump so hard to keep going that you wear yourself out. When I came back from the expedition, the muscles of my diaphragm were tremendously developed just from breathing." (N. B. Why wouldn't breathing rarefied air be splendid training for opera singers?) Oxygen, inhaled in small doses, will

keep you from freezing to death. This fact a part of the expedition discovered during one night spent 25,500 feet above sea level, in the grip of a furious storm. The insane wind threatened every minute to sweep them and their tiny tent off the slope, and the cold gripped them with fatal creeping numbness, in spite of their heavy woolen clothing, windproofed and electrically heated. Hot drinks were impossible, because the water boiled at such a ridiculously low temperature. Alcohol was a dangerous stimulant, from the point of view of altitude, not morals. Oxygen was the last chance and the first whiffs brought the tingle of returning life.

"Climbing in the Alps," said Mr. Mallory, "is wonderfully exhilarating, but scientists say that, above 18,000 feet, altitude is physically and mentally depressing. Your perceptions are all slowed down. For instance, toward the end we were making only 330 feet an hour. In the Alps we would have been going at four times that rate, yet I didn't realize that we were climbing slowly."

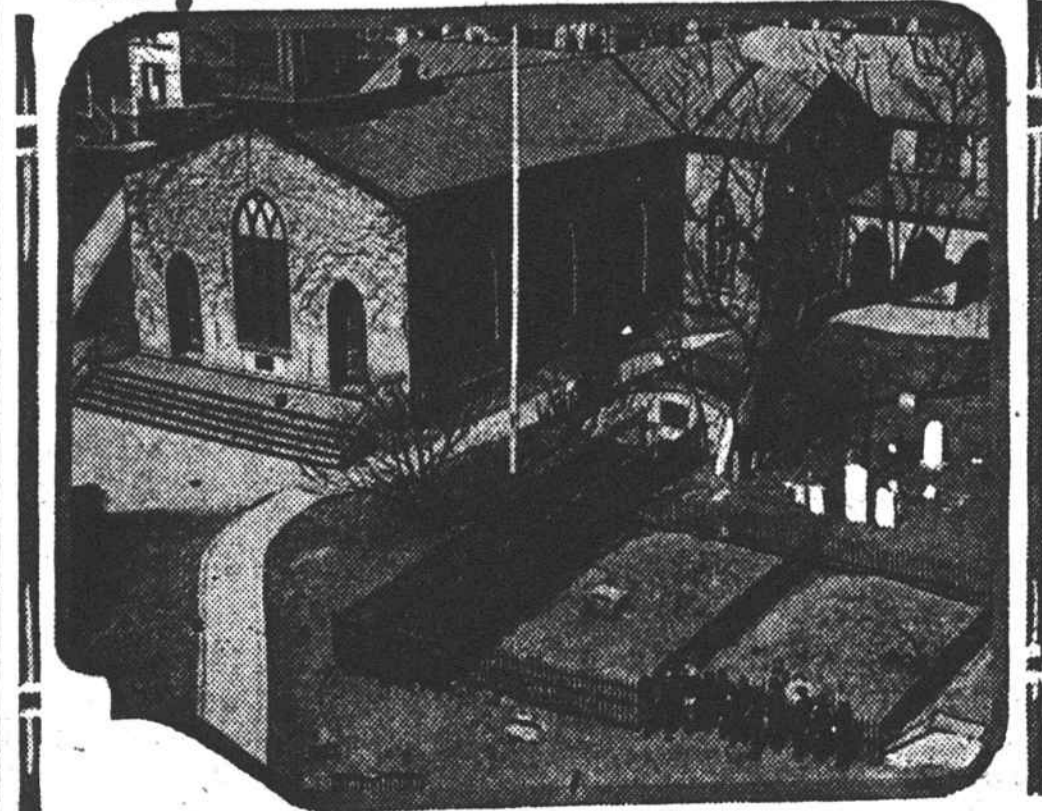
Depends on Oxygen.

Hope of ultimately reaching the very top of Everest depends largely on the increased use of oxygen and the establishment of a camp at 27,000 feet. One scientist told Mr. Mallory that they should remain at that altitude for as many as five days, since acclimatization would greatly lessen the strain of exertion. The chief obstacles to this scheme are that every day of good weather must be used, and the difficulty of finding a possible camping place. There are no levels or adequate shelters. This makes it almost impossible to sleep and very hard to secure a tent. Some one has suggested that they blast a shelter out of the mountain side.

If a returned explorer is properly polite and becomingly modest, his manner will give you the impression that he has done nothing that any earnest and industrious young man might not get up and do. For instance, Mr. Mallory will tell you that his real job is teaching English literature and history at the Charterhouse school for boys. He was in the habit of spending every August in the Alps, and when he was asked to go with the Everest expedition, he thought he'd do it "for a change." His chief interest is in writing, and he had a book on Boswell published a few years ago. He could tell you a lot about Boswell if you weren't so obviously interested in mountains.

Be not beguiled, O, armchair explorer! Stick to the comparative security of your subway strap. For this quiet young man's casual comment raises the ghost of such a tremendous adventure as the fireside mind can scarce conceive; of crawling along knife-edges in the teeth of a bitter wind; of chopping footholds up the face of a wall of ice; of moving on where each step may very reasonably be expected to be the last, and yet taking that step, and the next, and the next after that; of pushing up and up in spite of frozen fingers and toes, in spite of laboring heart and bursting lungs, until death is certain just ahead, and then turning back just as steadily, to wait for the next opportunity.

Grave of Pocahontas in New York



Photograph shows a general view of St. Anne's Episcopal church at One Hundred Forty-first street and St. Anne's avenue, the Bronx, New York, which is said to be the resting place of Pocahontas, the Indian maiden who saved the life of Capt. John Smith. It was believed that the body of the Indian girl was taken to England and buried there. A research party was to have sailed for England shortly in an effort to locate the grave, but it recently became known that the body had been brought back to New York, and buried in the graveyard of St. Anne's church, which was built originally by Governor Morris, one of the earliest executives of New York. The body is said to rest in a vault in the graveyard.

MARCH FIRE LOSS RISES SHARPLY

MORE THAN HALF MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF PROPERTY DESTROYED.

125 WERE DWELLING FIRES

Largest Single Loss Was That of Furniture Plant at Lexington, \$100,000.

Raleigh. Property to the value of \$674,671 was destroyed by fire in North Carolina during March as compared with a property damage of \$476,452 for March of last year, according to the report of Stacey W. Wade, Insurance Commissioner. This does not include the loss from forest fires which, in the opinion of the Insurance Commissioner, will duplicate the figures of damage to buildings and contents during the month.

On the total March loss for North Carolina, the property immediately at risk aggregated \$3,775,251 with total insurance of \$2,669,125.

Of the 204 fires during March in which the loss reached \$5,000 or more, there were 20 with a total of \$544,135 leaving a loss for the entire other 184 of only \$130,566. The largest single loss was that of furniture plant at Lexington, \$100,000. Other large single losses were at Raleigh, supply store, \$63,000; Wadesboro, garage and contents, \$60,000; Charlotte, store, \$53,000; Asheville, garage, \$46,000; Greenville, planing mill and lumber, \$45,000; Statesville, business building, \$23,000.

There were 125 dwelling fires, with total damage of \$178,546, valued at \$668,955, and insured for \$362,916.

Among the other classes of property involved were 15 stores, 11 industrial plants, 8 garages, 5 schools and 5 warehouses.

Of the cause of fires, the principal were defective flues and shingle roofs, 95; unknown 40; gasoline ignition, 6; oil stove explosions 5. Unusual for the time of the year were two fires reported from lightning in March.

According to Commissioner Wade's estimate of the value as well as interest of the fire record for the month of March, follows:

- Asheville: 17 fires, \$453,650 at risk, \$200,750 insurance; \$49,752 loss.
- Charlotte: 17 fires, \$276,800 at risk, \$196,450 insurance; \$59,752 loss.
- Durham: 10 fires, \$37,750 at risk, \$27,550 insurance; \$15,265 loss.
- Fayetteville: 7 fires, \$30,725 at risk, \$11,250 insurance; \$60 loss.
- Greensboro: 8 fires, \$120,400 at risk, \$27,300 insurance; \$10,330 loss.
- High Point: 4 fires, \$35,700 at risk, \$16,800 insurance; \$31,710 loss.
- Raleigh: 11 fires, \$101,600 at risk, \$20,500 insurance; \$65,935 loss.
- Rocky Mount: 10 fires, \$347,225 at risk, \$19,150 insurance; \$935 loss.
- Winston-Salem: 11 fires, \$38,025 at risk, \$18,300 insurance; \$4,070 loss.
- Tarboro: 3 fires, \$86,950 at risk, \$12,450 insurance; \$1,120 loss.
- Albemarle: 3 fires, \$21,000 at risk, \$19,600 insurance; \$5,215 loss.
- Lumberton: 4 fires, \$8,250 at risk, \$2,800 insurance; \$1,375 loss.
- Reidsville: 3 fires, \$7,650 at risk, \$3,600 insurance; \$4,275 loss.
- Wilmington: 16 fires, \$307,250 at risk, \$240,350 insurance; \$16,625 loss.
- Total: 128 fires, \$2,992,475 at risk; \$2,102,350 insurance; \$268,752 loss.
- All other towns 44 fires; \$485,450 at risk, \$372,025 insurance; \$270,612 loss.
- Rural and suburban: 23 fires; \$136,600 at risk; \$68,000 insurance; \$103,180 loss.
- Grand total: 204 fires; \$3,775,251 at risk; \$2,669,123 insurance; \$674,671 loss.

Highway Commission Meets.

The state highway commission straightened out one of its most delicate tangles when it agreed on the construction of about 50 miles of roadway in the mountains. Disagreements among the commissioners centering on the proposal to construct a highway from Marion through Little Switzerland resulting in compromises at the meeting that will build the Marion-Little Switzerland road, a highway from Marion to Micaville and put seven miles of hard-surface above Old Fort to connect with the Buncombe county line.

The present route of the Marion-Little Switzerland highway, some 21 miles will be used instead of a new route proposed by advocates who had been pressing this territory's claim before the commission. The highway commission will expend \$75,000 on its construction.

National Guard's Strength, 2,520.

The North Carolina National Guard has reached a strength of 2,520 officers and enlisted personnel, the Adjutant General's office announced. This is the greatest strength of the guard since the war and represents all save a small per cent of the full strength allotted to this state.

Several new organizations, in waiting for recognition, are not included in the statement of strength and all over the state recruiting campaigns are in progress preparatory to the summer encampments.

Parker Reports Peach Shortage.

"The most conspicuous agricultural condition right now is the shortage in the peach crop of the whole state, even the Sandhills probably will not make as much crop as has been expected. Other early blooming fruit was seriously damaged also. However, apples may make a fair crop."

This is the introduction to the official March crop report issued by Frank Parker, statistician, of Federal and North Carolina Department of Agriculture.

"The wheat crop for the state shows a condition of 83 per cent of the full crop, which is eight per cent; below the condition of a year ago, but five per cent above the condition in December," the report continues. "The price 1.46 per bushel is only six cents less than a year ago. The general growth and stand of the crop is good, the cold weather not having damaged it. The acreage is less than for the previous crop."

"The oat crop is much the same as with wheat, showing the condition of 89 per cent with good stands and growth. Rye also has the same condition and trends as the oat crop. The winter clover shows an 88 per cent condition, which indicates a good supply of both seed and hay for the early summer. This being the first clover inquiry at this season, no comparative figures are available.

"The prospective supply of pork may be had from the number of breeding sows compared with a year ago. This shows four per cent increase for the state and six per cent for the nation. According to the report the present number of productive swine is slightly above the usual.

"The farm conditions show a trend toward better wages than a year ago. This can be accounted for by a ten per cent shortage in the supply as compared with a year ago, while the demand for farm labor at current wages shows an equivalent need as compared with a year ago.

"The spring and summer supply of eggs and fry's will be same as last year and perhaps slightly more than the usual, according to reports received from all parts of the state. Our supply of milk also will be larger as the number of milk cows show a three per cent increase.

"The season is late as shown by the five hundred reports representing all counties, which show that there is perhaps twenty per cent less acreage plowed to April 1 than was the case a year ago and also with the usual year. The effect of tenants is reflected by the two per cent decrease in plow land to be cultivated this year, because of the reported ten per cent decrease in land worked by tenants and croppers.

"The weather conditions show that the cold periods of March did considerable damage to the early truck and fruit but perhaps helped the soil and winter crops. The boll weevil has many farmers scared, but apparently not enough to prevent increases in the cotton acreages in most counties of the State. The favorable price of tobacco and cotton is the cause."

May First Declared "Bundle Day."

May 1 has been declared "Bundle Day" in North Carolina and the people of the Tar Heel state are asked to send all of their cast-off winter clothing to the Neal East Relief, in a proclamation issued by Governor Morrison.

Dr. E. C. Brooks, state superintendent of public instruction, is state chairman this year for the clothing campaign of this great humanitarian organization. Most counties of the state have completed their financial campaigns to feed the uniformates in the oldest Christian nation in the world and the people are now asked to send in winter clothing which they are casting off.

Dr. Brooks points out that every complete suit of warm clothing in which there is still some wear will save a human life. Straw hats and cotton goods or summer clothing can not be used. Last winter, in spite of the generosity of American people, many froze to death or suffered from acute rheumatism or pneumonia.

Clothing should be sent to the local Neal East Relief chairman or to the Neal East Relief clothing warehouse in Raleigh. Parcel post shipments in sacks is preferred but clothing can be shipped by freight if most convenient to the shipper.

Joslin New Purchasing Agent.

H. V. Joslin, for the past two years Assistant to the Chairman of the State Highway Commission, has been made purchasing agent of the commission to succeed W. S. Fallis, transferred to other work with the Commission, and L. R. Ames, assistant to Charles M. Upham, chief engineer of the commission, to become assistant to the Chairman under arrangements put into effect.

Appoints Members of oBards.

Several appointments of members on various boards of directors in the State were announced by Governor Morrison.

Mrs. I. P. Jeter, of Morganton, is appointed member of the board of the North Carolina School for the Deaf, while Mrs. A. C. Miller, of Shelby, is reappointed to membership on the same board.

James P. Stowe, of Charlotte, was appointed to the State Board of Health to fill the unexpired term of Charles M. Waddell, of Asheville.

SLACKENING OF RECENT BUYING

MORE CAUTIOUS TONE APPARENT IN FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL CIRCLES.

PRODUCTION IS GOING ON

Government's Move in Sugar Investigation Had an Unfavorable Effect on Market.

New York.—With recent buying movements showing further signs of slackening, a somewhat more cautious tone was apparent in financial and commercial circles during the past week. This was attributed partly to the fact that consumers are now covering for some time ahead and partly to the passing of special demands occasioned by the spring season. It also seem to be the news that the numerous wage increases have had a sobering effect in some quarters. In any event, the change in sentiment was due not to apprehensions lest the business revival may have reached its peak but to misgivings lest the advance in prices and cost is in danger of being overdone.

A specific unsettling factor in the commodity markets was the attorney general's petition for an injunction to restrain trading in sugar futures at New York. In this petition the attorney general takes the ground that the rise in the price of raw sugar which has taken place since February 1, has had no economic justification and that it has resulted from a combination and conspiracy by the sugar exchange, its officers and members and their clients or principals. In rebuttal the trade maintains that the rise in prices has occurred in response to growing indications of a smaller Cuban crop, and points to the fact that the Himely estimate, which is emphasized in the attorney general's petition, was reduced from 4,102,857 tons to 3,750,000 tons.

Whatever the merits of the case may be, it is clear that the petition exercised an unfavorable effect on sentiment in commodity markets. Sugar futures reacted sharply and then steadied, the spot commodity meanwhile easing slightly and then recovering to the previous high price, thus reflecting the opinion held by refiners that lower prices are not likely to prevail. Cotton meanwhile turned distinctively heavy, the May delivery losing about 1 3/4 cents and closing the week only slightly above 27 cents. Wheat prices also reacted after recent strength. While both of these commodities moved partly in relation to factors peculiar to themselves, such as weather conditions it was believed in most quarters that the government's theory in the sugar matter had unsettled sentiment. It was also felt, however, that this particular action was not to be accepted as setting up a principle to be followed in the case of the other exchanges.

Kaiser is Victim of Brain Storms.

London.—Former Kaiser Wilhelm, one time war lord and ruler of a powerful nation is suffering from "brain storms," in his refuge of exile in Holland, said a Doorn dispatch to The Daily Mail.

Reports were recently printed in European and American newspapers that both the Former Emperor and the former German Crown Prince were failing mentally.

"Ex-Kaiser Wilhelm is not mad, but he is morbid," said the Doorn dispatch to The Daily Mail.

"An old abscess in the inner part of his ear is causing deafness and brain storms. The attending physicians are worried.

"Wilhelm underwent a rejuvenating course of treatment, but the effect is wearing off. He has morbid intervals and spends much time poring over the Bible. His health is failing rapidly.

"The Crown Prince is mentally all right, but is bored to distraction in his lonely home on Wieringen Island."

Youth Run Over and Killed.

Winston-Salem.—The five year old son of "Razz" Leight, farmer of the Walkertown section, near here, was instantly killed when run over by an automobile. A coupe with two men dashed by, swerved to the side of the road where the child was playing, crushing him fatally. The car did not stop, and as yet the police have not ascertained the name of the driver.

Overlooked Effective Weapons.

Washington.—Germany while introducing poison gas and other devices to add to the horrors of the World war overlooked one of the most effective weapons of modern warfare invented and patented by a German two years before the conflict began.

A search of the records of the American patent office has disclosed it was announced by the interior department, that the armored tank, first used in the war by the British.