

THE WEATHER.

Fair Wednesday; Thursday increasing cloudiness, probably followed by rain in west portions.

THE MORNING STAR

FOUNDED 1837 WILMINGTON, N. C., WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 17, 1913. WHOLE NUMBER 13,509.

SANTA CLAUS In his hiding just around the corner. It's up to you to slip the people off their heels and make your store headquarters. You can talk to 15,000 of them through The Star.

STILL LEAVING CHIHUAHUA CITY

Villa Confiscates All of Terrazas Property.

MONEY TO BE GIVEN TO POOR

Property Worth Several Millions Taken by Constitutionalists—Wife of American Consul Leaves for Home in States.

Juarez, Mex., Dec. 16.—All the property of Luis Terrazas, Sr., Enrique Creel and Juan Creel, including banks, mines, vast areas of lands, thousands of head of cattle, homes and personal effects, were ordered confiscated to the rebels in an official decree issued by Gen. Francisco Villa today.

Mr. Terrazas, now a refugee in the United States, is one of the richest men in Mexico. His holdings of about two-thirds of the State of Chihuahua are said to place him among the most extensive land holders of the world. The combined estate of the Terrazas and the Creel brothers, his nephews, is valued at many millions of dollars. Enrique Creel was formerly ambassador from Mexico to the United States.

Gen. Villa's decree, issued at Chihuahua City, was sent to Juarez and given out officially. It was intended as a notice that should the revolution succeed neither the Terrazas nor the Creel families will be allowed any indemnity for their losses.

The decree accuses the Creels and the Terrazas families of "withholding taxation and of fomenting the treachery of Orozco and Huerta," and states that the property shall be given to the widows and orphans caused by bloodshed among the Mexicans. All contracts made with the Creels and Terrazas since February 18, 1913, are declared void.

Luis Terrazas, Jr., eldest son of the land owner, is held prisoner at Chihuahua, and the rebels have appropriated to their use as much of the movable property as they could seize.

Efforts were made by rebel leaders working directly with Gen. Villa today to effect some sort of a settlement in regard to the property of the expelled Spaniards. It was said that a proposal was made in which the property was to be given to the Spaniards declared to be worthless.

Two hundred more refugees, including Americans and Spaniards, reached El Paso from Chihuahua today. Among the arrivals was Mrs. Marion Letcher, wife of the United States Consul at Chihuahua.

Mrs. Letcher said if the consul had been prevented by Villa from sending cipher messages to Washington, as had been reported by refugees, she had not heard of it.

Threatened with an attack at Chihuahua by Federal troops reported to have advanced northward from Torreón, Gen. Villa today dispatched 2,000 rebels to guard the head of the Federal troops.

The decision of the Federal troops to show aggressive action was believed to have resulted from the fact that the rebels had retreated to their base in following Gen. Mercado's retreat. Villa has about 3,000 soldiers in the vicinity of Ojinaga and 2,000 in Juarez, which leaves him less than 5,000 in Chihuahua.

With Torreón an important railroad center, directly south of Villa's present position, the Federalists have a base from which the rebels believe a movement toward Chihuahua has begun.

Financial Trouble at Mexico. Mexico City, Dec. 16.—The family of Gen. Zaldívar, Federalist commander in the North, crossed to the United States at Presidio, Texas, today. Gen. Mercado himself could not be found at headquarters.

Between two and three thousand Federal troops left Ojinaga for the southeast. They were under Gen. Orozco and had cannon and machine guns. It was supposed they went to meet the rebel forces, said to number 3,000.

The directors of the Banco Central, the parent institution of the great majority of State banks, with the managers of the Bank of London and Mexico and the National Bank went over the situation carefully at a meeting of the department of finance this evening but the only decision reached was to continue paying at the Banco Central only the reserve deposits of the State bank lasted.

All the State banks have carried with the Banco Central amounts calculated to be sufficient to protect the notes circulating here. The refusal of other banks to redeem them sent thousands of persons who held State bank notes to the Banco Central today where the funds for redeeming the notes of six State banks were soon exhausted.

Fearing continuing payments, the bank management closed its doors this afternoon, pending a possible arrangement. The drain on the deposited reserves of the remaining State banks has been heavy and it is realized that does not affect the solvency of the parent institution or necessarily of the State banks. Each individual concern may or may not be able to meet its obligations, but the conditions made it

COMMITTEE MAKES VARIOUS CHANGES

Have Ample Power to Readjust Convention Rules

BASIS OF REPRESENTATION

Southern States Not to Have As Many Delegates in Convention of That Party as Previously—Other States Have More.

Washington, Dec. 16.—After five hours of debate the Republican National committee tonight determined that it was clothed with ample power to re-adjust the composition of the party's National convention and had authority to make reforms in convention rules and procedure that have been demanded by many elements since the convention of 1912 and the Democratic victory at the polls last November.

With little bitterness and no tangible evidence that differences which arose over methods could not be reconciled, the committee took steps which have been agitated in the party for 30 years and which have been vital factors in many exciting conventions in its latter day history.

With a dissenting vote the committee decided to make a change in the basis of representation in National conventions which will greatly affect Southern States, gave full recognition to the principle of the primary in the election of delegates to such conventions approved laws regarded such elections adopted by several States which provide that all delegates be selected at large, and accepted the principle that delegates properly accredited by State authorities shall be placed in the temporary convention roll, in formally it had been agreed that the new basis of representation should be referred to the Republicans in the various States for ratification.

The only difference of opinion that developed on the surface was over the question of the machinery to be used to effect the reforms. Of the 49 committee members who voted on the roll call taken it favored the calling of a special convention to bring about these changes, and 35 declared themselves opposed.

This roll call by States resulted as follows: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming—35.

Aye—Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Washington and West Virginia—14.

After this ballot progress was marked by a friendly spirit, with an expressed desire to harmonize and to face the "common political enemy" with a re-united and solidified party. The party's faith in primary election of delegates and in the right of a State to choose them at large but details of the method of reducing Southern representation were left to a special committee composed of Chairman Hillis and Committeemen Warren, of Michigan; Borah, of Idaho; Smart, of Utah; Hadley, of Louisiana (proxy); Lowell, of Nebraska; Baskrook, of New Hampshire; Barnes, of New York; Saunders, of Tennessee, and Remmel, of Arkansas. The sub-committee expects to make a report at a meeting

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CIVIL IMPROVEMENT CLUBS

To be Organized in Every School District in Every State is Purpose of Society.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Organization of civil improvement societies in school districts of every State in the union is the object of the Common Club formed here today by a group of prominent public men with Joseph W. Folk, solicitor of the State Department, as president. The charter membership includes Secretaries Bryan, Lane, Wilson, Daniels and Redfield; Assistant Secretaries Osborne, of the State Department; Roosevelt, of the Navy Department; Breckenridge, of the War Department, and Hamlin, of the Treasury Department; Joan Burke, treasurer of the United States; Senators Ashurst, Hughes, Walsh, Pittman, Owen, Saulsbury, Chamberlain and Hollis; Joseph P. Tumulty, secretary of the President; Joseph E. Davis, commissioner of corporations; Cato Sells, commissioner of the Indian affairs, and Louis D. Brandeis.

EXPLANATIONS IN ORDER FROM CLUB

Secretaries Garrison, Daniels Hear from Officers

NO DISRESPECT WAS MEANT

Carabaos in Their Fun Went Too Far and Regret It—Advance Matter Was Prepared in Rush and Not Closely Read.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Secretaries Garrison and Daniels received today an explanation from Major Gen. Aleshaire, U. S. A., Brig. Gen. McIntyre, U. S. A., and Rear Admiral Howard, U. S. N., of the incidents at the recent dinner of the military order of the Carabao, which had aroused the displeasure of President Wilson and his cabinet.

These officers of the organization submitted copies of the songs and lines in the travesties and satires upon administration policies and members of the cabinet, with a letter of regret that anything should have given offense.

Secretary Garrison will confer with Secretary Daniels tomorrow and a joint report will be made to President Wilson. Mr. Daniels said tonight his suggestion to Rear Admiral Howard that he decline to accept the presidency of the Carabao society to which he was recently elected, extended to other prominent officers in the navy. "In view of the criticism of the recent dinner," said Mr. Daniels, "I don't think it would be wise for any of the older officers to take office in the organization now. When ever anything that is offensive or reflects on the administration has been taken out it might be all right for them to take an active part."

Mr. Daniels pointed out that the President as commander-in-chief of the army and navy could not permit reflections on his policies to be open to satirized by army and navy officers. He did not comment on the letter received from the three officers of the Carabao. "This letter, addressed to the Secretary of the Navy, requested by him."

"We have been appointed by the committee in charge of the recent annual dinner, Military Order of the Carabao, to submit to the Secretary of the Navy, requested by him."

"I have received a number of letters asking me to be a candidate," said General Carr at the Raleigh club here and the stock will consist at first of 250 shares at \$100 a share. Application has been made for a charter.

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SCHMIDT DEFIANT IN COURT

Calls His Lawyers Fancy Names When They Declare Him Crazy—Friends Testify.

New York, Dec. 16.—The father, the sister and a boyhood chum of Hans Schmidt swore on the witness stand today that Schmidt has been crazy for years. They were first witnesses for the defense in Schmidt's trial for the murder of Anna Amuller. Before they testified Schmidt jumped to his feet and dramatically shouted:

"It's a lie," as his lawyer outlined his case to the jury, saying he expected to prove that Schmidt was insane now, and had been so for years and always would be. Insanity was a family trait among Schmidt's kin, according to Heinrich Schmidt, the prisoner's father. Several relatives hanged themselves, several tried suicide by drowning and one shot himself. Schmidt's sister said her brother's heritage of insanity came from both parents. When he was a boy, she said, he had religious mania so marked that the neighbors dubbed him "The little chaplain."

The Rev. Father Markert, of Teahachy, Ill., who went to school with Schmidt in Germany, testified that he believed the prisoner to be of infirm mind and that he had been so for 12 years.

CARR BOOM GROWS

Clark, Stedman and Brawley Boosting Him

AMENDMENT IS DEFEATED

Root Declares That When Present Administration Goes Out of Office He Would Be Over Seventy Years of Age.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The currency fight in the Senate during a greater part of today raged about the question of safeguards against the over-expansion of money. Senator Root renewed his declarations of Saturday that the administration bill was inadequate in this regard.

Democratic Senators insisted that the measure carefully guarded against any danger of inflation and consequent panic. Administration forces detested another attempt to amend the bill when they laid on the table an amendment by Senator Hitchcock, proposing an increase in the Federal reserve board from seven to nine members. The motion carried 35 to 22.

Senator Root, in his attack on the bill, declared that the Democratic Senators had emphasized the fact that the proposed Federal reserve board would be the only barrier against the popular, agreeable and constantly demanded enlargement of the money of the country.

"It will be a broken reed," he declared, "a futile hope. We are taking a long chance that we have no right to take."

Root Not a Candidate. During the currency debate in the Senate today Senator Root took occasion to announce that he had no Presidential aspirations, and would not accept the Republican nomination were it offered him.

"My friends do not have made these kindly suggestions, forget," he said, "that before this administration comes to a close I will have reached the age of 72 years. It would be manifestly impossible that I should be President of the United States. I could not render service. I would not undertake it, I would not accept the nomination and I could not accept the office."

"Suggestions of political advancement for me," said Senator Root, "are mere expressions of friendship and affection from my friends. My political and public career is now drawing to a close. No political ambition whatever finds a place in my mind."

Senators Bristow and Williams defended the guarantee provisions of the bill. Senator Williams took the position that no attempt was being made to institute a government guarantee of bank deposits. He declared that the provisions under discussion provided simply for the segregation of a part of the earnings of the regional banks as a fund to insure depositors against losses through the failure of banks.

Owen Makes Speech. At tonight's session Senator Owen made a lengthy argument in support of the provision of the administration bill making deposits of the regional bank notes and the present National bank notes available for use as reserve at the option of the Federal reserve board.

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FIRST RURAL CREDIT SYSTEM

To be Launched in North Carolina is That Organized in Catawba County, at Hickory.

Hickory, N. C., Dec. 16.—First in this State to put into effect suggestions offered by the North Carolina members of the special commission which last summer visited Europe to inspect rural credit systems there, Catawba county has practically completed the organization of a rural credit association modeled after the building and loan plan, along the lines submitted to the commission.

The office of the association, which will be known as the Catawba County Rural Credit Association, will be located here and the stock will consist at first of 250 shares at \$100 a share. Application has been made for a charter.

OUTLINES

Secretaries Harrison and Daniels have received from the officers of the navy explanations of the recent indiscretions taken part in by members of the club at their annual dinner. A negro woman who shot and killed a 12-year-old white boy at Madison, N. C., because he would not do as she told him, was spirited away to Stoneville and placed in jail for safekeeping. Angry citizens want to have a lynching.

FIGHT CENTERED ON SAFEGUARDS

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GLASS DEFENDS CURRENCY BILL

Can't Understand How Root Was Elected to Senate.

DEFINES SENATOR'S CREED

In an Address in Richmond Yesterday He Answers Attack Made Upon Administration by New York Senator.

Richmond, Va., Dec. 16.—Representative Carter Glass, chairman of the House committee on Banking and Currency, in an address here tonight warmly defended the administration's currency bill against the "Greenbackism" and "flat money" charge launched by Senator Root in the Senate on Saturday and retaliated with a sharp attack on Senator Root.

"On the floor of the United States Senate last Saturday," said Mr. Glass, "Senator Root, of New York, characterized the measure as 'Greenbackism run mad.' Unacquainted with the subject which he undertook to discuss he described it as proposing a return to the reserve issues of 1896."

"I take it that the duty of a United States Senator is to preserve the public from National harm is more than overbalanced by his moral obligation never to sound a false alarm and never to permit himself to be deflected from the path of strict truth to gain a point of vantage. And yet he did sound a false alarm and sounded it upon information which he himself admits he secured second hand from another Senator."

"When one's reputation is added to his renown as a great lawyer and his fame as an international statesman, and the subject involved relates to the tender fabric of National credit, when such a man tries with a subject of this moment, he is guilty not only of grave indiscretion but of downright treason to his country."

"When the above said of Frank A. Vanderlip," said Mr. Glass summing up a sharp reply to the statements made by the New York banker, "may be accounted and applied to Mr. Root. God alone knows how men who understand the currency bill so little as to charge it with greenbackism and every rural carrier with a capital of \$25,000,000, or have attained to a seat in the United States Senate."

MORE PAY FOR RURAL CARRIERS

Washington, D. C., Dec. 16.—If a recommendation made by the House committee on post-offices and post-roads is adopted by Congress, every rural carrier in the United States will receive an increase in pay approximately \$50 per year. The action was taken by a unanimous vote of the committee and probably will be taken by a law. P. R. A.

great majority of the people would be against it as they were in 1908 when the question was debated in the campaign of that year. It is one of the most taking and plausible of the many nostrums which are being dealt out to the public because its proposers believe it will be popular.

No guarantee of bank deposits plan. Senator Weeks said, could operate to prevent panics. He declared if the deposits in banks were to be insured, the insurance should be provided along legitimate insurance lines.

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THIRTY-EIGHT PERSONS MEET DEATH IN MINE

New Castle, Colo., Dec. 16.—Thirty-eight men were killed in the Vulcan mine of the Rocky Mountain Fuel Co. today by an explosion of coal dust.

Two miners were rescued after the underground workings had caught fire. All the victims were married, and all but six or eight were Americans.

Men in charge of the rescue work asserted tonight that it probably would be a day or two before bodies could be recovered. Before sundown, the mine had been cleared of gas and a thorough exploration of the wrecked workings was made.

NEGRO WOMAN SHOT 12 YEAR OLD WHITE BOY

Stoneville, N. C., Dec. 16.—Mary Eliza Mitchell, a negro woman from near Madison, N. C., was rushed to jail here in an automobile last night by Sheriff Frances E. Kemp, to save her from being lynched by citizens of that community for the killing of Howard Parish, a white boy, 12 years old.

THOM ARGUES FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Against the Petition of the Virginia Cities

IN HEARING AT GREENSBORO

Notable Aggregation of Celebrities Gathered in Old Guilford Court House for Hearing Before Chairman Clark.

(Special Star Correspondence.) Greensboro, N. C., Dec. 16.—Attended by many leading men of North Carolina, officers of the Just Freight Rate Association, State officers, railroad officials and representatives of the business interests of certain Virginia cities and their attorneys, the hearing of Virginia cities' petitions to prevent the putting into effect the proposed freight rates into North Carolina as agreed upon between the State and railroads last summer, was begun here today before Judge Edgar E. Clark, chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The sessions are being held in the Guilford county court house, the ancient building that will soon give way to a modern county building. Not in a long while has the court room been the scene of a gathering that more vitally affects the welfare of the State, nor one that has been attended by more celebrities than gathered in there this morning at 10 o'clock.

The morning session was given over to the statements of General Counsel A. P. Thom, of the Southern Railway Company, who outlined the case of the carriers; Attorney James of Washington City, member of a big law firm that has been employed by the Chambers of Commerce of Lynchburg, Roanoke, Norfolk, Richmond and Petersburg; Hon. E. L. Travis, chairman of the North Carolina Corporation Commission, and others. In the afternoon the taking of evidence was begun. Most of the evidence will be documentary in character and will be very voluminous.

Here for the first time Judge Edgar E. Clark, chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission; Attorney General Thomas W. Bickett, of North Carolina; Chairman E. L. Lewis, judge of the U. S. District Court of the North Carolina Corporation Commission; Secretary A. J. Maxwell, and Assistant Secretary J. S. Griffin of the Interstate Commerce Commission; Vice President B. Andrews and General Counsel A. P. Thom, of the Southern Railway; attorneys representing the carriers; A. E. Seaboard Air Line and other railroads; President Fred N. Tate, of the Just Freight Rate Association; representatives of the Virginia cities and a large number of private citizens and shippers.

From the Virginia cities are E. S. Goodman, traffic manager of the Richmond chamber of commerce; W. A. Cox, traffic manager of the Norfolk chamber of commerce; J. H. Martin, secretary of the Petersburg chamber of commerce; John Wood, secretary of the Roanoke chamber of commerce. These cities are represented by the firm of Littlefield, James, Balard & Frost, of Washington, from whose offices are Francis B. James and E. E. Williamson.

Other organizations represented. Mr. J. T. Ryan, of High Point, represents the North Carolina Wholesale Grocers' Association. Charlotte representatives of the State when they were seeking a fair deal at the hands of the railroads. He declared that even with these rates Carolina cities would not then be on an equal basis with the rest of the country.

Mr. James, for the Virginia cities, declared that the new rates were unfair for Virginia; that the reductions were secured by North Carolina by means of threats of retaliatory legislation and like means and that they now had lower rates than the Virginia cities.

Travis Reviews Fight. Mr. Travis reviewed the history of the rate fight in North Carolina, cited an opinion of the Interstate Commerce Commission seven years ago suggesting the very thing that had been done and cited authority and facts to show that Virginia cities will still be better off than North Carolina when the new rates go into effect.

A. J. Maxwell, secretary of the North Carolina Corporation Commission, was on the witness stand all the afternoon. Many documents were introduced.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Secretary McAdoo today issued a supplementary income tax regulation extending the time for filing itemized monthly list returns of commission and registered interest payment for November required by previous regulations to be filed on or before December 20th in January 15th.