

THE WEATHER.

Local rains Thursday; Friday cloudy.

THE MORNING STAR

FOUNDED 1837 WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 13, 1913.

SANTA CLAUS

In his hiding just around the corner. It's up to you to tip the people off that he will be here. Write him at 15,000 of them through The Star.

VOL. XXIII—NO. 75.

WHOLE NUMBER 13,510.

FEDERALS PLAN TO TAKE CHIHUAHUA

Rebels Ready to Begin Active Campaign Southward.

REASONS FOR EVACUATION

Quiétude Reigns Supreme at Capital City—Fighting Around Tampico Has Ceased Altogether—Huerta Confident.

Ojinaga, Chihuahua, Mexico, December 17.—Unless present plans are changed, and I see no reason why they should be, the Federal army will leave Ojinaga within a few days to march on Chihuahua.

General Salvador Mercado, commander-in-chief of the Federal army of the north, made this assertion in his camp here today. He said Ojinaga will be evacuated.

The commander's statement was given without the usual reservation attached to military plans. "We came here to replenish our provision train and communicate with the War Department at Mexico City," General Mercado continued. "Our orders are to attack the rebels. There seems to be little prospect of a battle here, for the rebels have not yet appeared in large numbers in this city. I never believed Villa's troops would be sent against Ojinaga for we were ready to meet them with 5,000 men and me at the front of artillery."

General Mercado would not comment on the reason for his evacuation of Chihuahua, except to say that his flight to the border was to enable him to communicate with Mexico City. In Chihuahua he had a plan of obtaining orders or money for the troops.

Should Mercado attack or surround Chihuahua where General Francisco Villa and the main body of rebels are fortified he would check any rebel activity toward Torreon, directly south. Federal officers had information that Federal troops also were moving toward Chihuahua from Torreon.

Juarez, Dec. 17.—Despite General Mercado's statement at Ojinaga that the Federal army would attempt to cross Chihuahua, General Benavides, rebel commander at Juarez, said today that the rebels were preparing for an active campaign southward.

It was General Benavides' intention after reaching Chihuahua to carry the campaign southward and that intention has not been abandoned, General Benavides said. "Already 2,000 rebels are near Ojinaga. If the Federals attempt to march from the border they will be attacked."

That he does not intend to restore the property of foreigners who participated in the revolution and that he considers the expelled Spaniards as having so participated was the justification given by General Benavides for confiscating property in Chihuahua. He said that in expelling the Spaniards in a body he was acting according to the position taken by General Carranza, with whom he was in full accord.

ADMINISTRATION RELIEVED.

By Reassurance of Safety of Americans at Chihuahua.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Reassurance as to the safety of Americans in Chihuahua conveyed by Consul Letcher to Washington officials and believed that the matter immediately upon the reopening of telegraphic communication between that city and El Paso, came as a relief to the administration here. Washington officials had believed that the stories emanating from refugees and Federal partisans to the effect that Americans and other foreigners in Chihuahua would be subjected to gross mistreatment were without foundation, but in the absence of official information it had been impossible to convey definite assurance to the many anxious inquirers alarmed for the safety of relatives and friends.

No Reply from Villa. So far, Consul Letcher has forwarded to the State Department no reply from Gen. Villa to its representations regarding the treatment of the Spaniard residents of Chihuahua, but it is assumed that the consul quickly with the rebel general owing to his military activity. Little doubt is felt that Gen. Villa will heed the admonition of the department officials deprecating the demonstrations in favor of Huerta which are said to have been made by the Spaniard element on the American side of the border.

ONLY SPANIARDS EXPELLED. Villa Denies That Other Foreigners Were Molested in Chihuahua.

Hermosillo, Sonora, Dec. 17.—Gen. Francisco Villa, in a long report received here today by Gen. Carranza, denied that any foreigners were molested in Chihuahua city with the exception of the Spaniards, who were expelled. Villa suggested that Chihuahua City be made a provisional capital.

The foreign consuls asked for guarantees for their countrymen and these were given in full for all except Spanish, Gen. Villa said in his report.

These, as you know, almost entirely have taken an undue part in the internal struggle of our country, and have put themselves always against the cause of the people, of whom we are the defenders."

Presidential Decree.

Mexico City, Dec. 17.—Presidential decree making the State bank notes legal tender throughout the republic, a guarantee fund to be subscribed by the State banks and deposited in the National Bank and finally, a government guarantee of the bank notes, is the programme decided upon by a committee of five bankers, representing the National, the Bank of London and Mexico, and two or three other concerns, which met this afternoon.

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CAMPAIGN BEGUN TO REUNITE PARTY

Committee Concluded Labors for Reform in Party

REPRESENTATION CHANGED

Southern Vote in National Convention is Trimmed Close—North Carolina Loses Three, While Others Lose More.

Washington, Dec. 17.—The Republican National committee tonight concluded its labor for reform in party procedure, and launched its campaign for a reunion of warring elements, by adopting a resolution providing for a radical change in the basis of representation in National nominating conventions, which would reduce the quota of Southern States from 33 to 16 per cent of the convention's total.

The action of the committee criticized in vigorous terms by several of its members but made unanimous before adjournment, must be indorsed by States entitled to cast a majority of votes in the electoral college before it becomes party law. The committee appointed a sub-committee of three, consisting of Charles B. Warren, of Michigan, Senator Borah, of Idaho, and Governor Hatfield, of West Virginia, to prepare an address to the States urging immediate ratification of the proposal.

This address will be made at the Christmas holidays and leading members of the committee expressed the hope tonight that it would be met by early action. Approval by the States will insure a call for the National convention of 1916, along the lines laid down today. The re-organization plan adopted came as a compromise which reflected the views of many committeemen that Southern representation should be reduced, but not brought to the vanishing point. The resolution reads as follows:

"Confident that the action of this committee, representing as it does practically the unanimous sentiment of the Republican electors of the States, will be ratified by the Republican National Convention."

"Be it resolved, That this committee shall issue a call for the National convention to be held in the year 1916, to nominate candidates for President and Vice President in accordance with the following basis of proportion:

Four Delegates to a State. "Each State shall send to such convention to four delegates at large; one delegate at large for each representative in Congress at large from any State; one delegate from each congressional district, an additional delegate from each congressional district in which the vote either for or against the Republican candidate in 1908, or for the Republican candidate for Congress in 1912, shall have been not less than 7,500 and that for each delegate chosen at large, one delegate shall be chosen in the same manner and at the same time to act in the absence of the delegate.

"Provided, however, that the above basis of representation shall not be made the basis of the call for the National convention to be held in the year 1916, unless prior to January 1, 1915, Republican State conventions held under the laws of the States, or called by the Republican State committees of the States in such number as to vote in the present electoral college, shall ratify the action of this committee in respect to determining its basis of representation."

The following States were mentioned as follows: Aye: Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin—38.

Nay: Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, Nebraska, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia—7.

By the sub-committee, the new plan would reduce the total number of delegates from 1,083, as in 1912, to 993. Under these States would lose delegates: Alabama 9; Arkansas 3; Florida 4; Georgia 10; Illinois 2; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 7; Mississippi 8; New York 10.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

TO EXAMINE HARRY THAW GETS "DIVINE INSPIRATION"

Experts to Say Whether It is Safe to Turn Him Loose Under Bail While Awaiting Trial.

Concord, N. H., Dec. 17.—A commission to examine Harry K. Thaw, to determine whether his liberty under bail would be dangerous to public safety, was announced in a rescript issued by Judge Aldrich in Federal Court today. The commission is to consist of Frank S. Streeter, Concord; Dr. Morton Prince, Boston; Dr. George A. Blumer, Providence, R. I.; and Dr. Charles P. Bancroft, Concord.

In the rescript, which is on "Thaw's application for admission to bail under

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'HYSTERIA' CRIERS ARE DENOUNCED

In Address to North Carolina Society of New York

REGARDING PANAMA ROAD

He Says This So-called "Hysteria" Keeps Party Pledges and Makes Protection-Built Wealth Pay Income Tax.

New York, Dec. 17.—Reactionaries who think to weaken the advocacy of progressive measures by declaring that they are the products of "hysteria," were roundly denounced here tonight by Secretary Daniels, of the Navy, in an address at the dinner of the North Carolina Society of New York.

"A few days ago," Mr. Daniels said, "a distinguished educator from a Southern State in a speech in New York declared that such new and progressive measures as the initiative and referendum were revolutionary. Another distinguished authority, a statesman and an educator, referred to certain modern American political doctrines as 'wild theories,' which common sense and wide experience demand be rejected as the result of hysteria."

The Real Trouble. "The real trouble is that this so-called 'hysteria' hurls its party pledges, it does not take from labor the bread it earns, it makes protection-built wealth pay income tax. It incites Senators direct from the people. "They call it hysteria because it means we can have no more senators from the New York Central, no more senators from the Southern Express Company; no more senators from the New York, New Haven & Hartford; no more senators from the Standard Oil Trust.

"They call it hysteria because it prevents the classes from exploiting the masses and brings the government back to the people. After all, the real hysterical are not the people who stand upon the horse tops and cry for reform, but the people who are guarding special privileges and seeing the castles built by privilege tumble down about their heads.

"No Hysteria Victims Are. "No, gentlemen," said the Secretary, "the victims of hysteria are not the forward looking, promise keeping reformers, who quietly combat the people that are objecting to this gospel of progressive statesmanship. It is best for the country, but your hysterical man is that incarnate evil, the man who is self-intoxicated with patriotism who madly waves the Stars and Stripes with one hand and grips his rebate-provided, protection-fostered wealth with the other, and bewails an alleged tendency to put a period to class legislation; who wildy proclaims that we are turning away from those fundamental principles through which we have come to our present high state.

"Legislators in the recent past have been the favorites of great corporations. They have used their power from 'higher up.' The imperial element in the situation made it hard to cure, but at last the axe has been laid at the root of the tree, and the people have demanded that all this must be changed. How? By legalized primaries, even for President; by pure food laws, by an income tax, by a lower tariff, by laws to protect seamen, by regulation of trusts, by the abolition of interlocking directorates and rebates, etc.

"Take the tariff. The men who revised it were not hysterical. They used figures and facts. They were painstaking and scientific. What was the answer? The beneficiaries of protection, the infant industries, gray and hoary with age, and obese from their long pull at the pap hot, cried out 'you are going to impoverish our country.' Four months under the new tariff have passed, and the report of Secretary Redfield declares that the flooding of our markets with the cheap wares of Europe has not happened," as predicted and America's foreign trade is still evidencing a healthy growth.

"The latest exhibition of hysteria is the effort to prevent the passage of the currency bill. It is well known by everybody that this bill is certain to become a law substantially as now framed, and the principal features of it are as good as upon the statute books, and yet those who would destroy confidence in the American government and its ability to control its finances dub as hysteria the effort to pass a long-needed currency reform, promised for years but never until now answered."

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DIFFICULT MATTER HAS TO BE SOLVED

To Be Settled By Attorney General McReynolds

VIRGINIA CITIES FIGHTING IN VAIN

Commission Will Permit the Rates to go Into Effect

POSTAL SERVICE IS SELF SUPPORTING

Government Ownership of Telephone-Telegraph

WILL REACH VOTE BY FRIDAY NIGHT

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Washington, Dec. 17.—Secretary Garrison today asked Attorney General McReynolds to rule on the question whether John Burke, manager of the Panama railway commissary department, whose transactions are under investigation, is a government employe or the employe of a private corporation. Upon the attorney general's opinion will depend the action of the government at the conclusion of an inquiry into a charge that Burke has received gifts or commissions from persons selling supplies to the commissary department. Officials say that nothing in the investigation thus far has indicated any loss to the government.

If Burke is a government employe, the government might proceed against him criminally, otherwise the only recourse would be to proceed civilly to recover from the Panama railway the money Burke received unlawfully.

The Department of Justice already has ruled that Panama railway employes are not in the government employe class. The Panama railway, which held this in an opinion deciding that employes were not entitled to be brought under the government eight-hour working day law, has been held that the Panama railway is a private corporation, chartered under the laws of New York, although the United States government owns it. War Department officials, including officers of the Panama Canal Commission in Washington, today expressed their regret that the Panama canal zone should be connected with a financial scandal. They pointed out that millions had been disbursed for the canal zone, but that the most completed without breath of financial irregularity.

Details of the investigation are being withheld, but it is believed that the present time might defeat the purpose of the inquiry. At the canal commission's office, however, it was admitted officially that the Panama Canal Commission is conducting an inquiry into the Panama Canal Commission, which was based upon charges preferred by Chas. R. Walker, a former subordinate of Burke in the commissary department, alleging that his superior officer was demanding and receiving large commissions from persons holding contracts for supplies. Also it was alleged that Burke had awarded contracts to the Colon Import & Export Co., in which he was a stockholder, for the purchase of supplies worth \$4,500 a year. Several important contracts were placed in Europe.

On The Issue. Col. Eugene T. Wilson, chief assistance officer for the Panama Canal Commission, and head of the department, under which Burke is employed as manager of the canal commissary department, today characterized as absolutely untrue the intimation that Burke had received large commissions for supplies, according to Lieut. Col. Wilson.

Rumors to this effect were current on the Isthmus two months ago, but investigation showed that Burke had no such contracts, according to Lieut. Col. Wilson.

Mr. Burke is in the United States on a vacation.

Indianapolis, Dec. 17.—John Burke here this afternoon denied he had ever received money from any source other than his salary while connected with the Panama commissary department.

"There is not a word of truth in this," he said.

OUTLINES

Postoffice money orders bought by foreigners in New York to be sent back to the old countries for Christmas by over \$7,000,000.

Secretary Daniels delivered an address before the North Carolina Club in New York City last night.

The Federals in Mexico are planning to retake Chihuahua city while the rebels are planning a more extensive campaign southward. Huerta has issued an order making all State bank notes National money.

Democratic leaders in the Senate are confident that a vote on currency will be reached by Friday night. They are waiting for the signature of the President's signature by Christmas.

The Republican National committee changed the basis of representation in National nominating conventions to be held in the year 1916, to nominate candidates for President and Vice President.

The Interstate Commerce Commission's hearing of the North Carolina interstate freight rate matter at Greensboro will close today.

Governor Craig will be back in his office in Raleigh Saturday. His health has greatly improved under treatment at Hot Springs, he says.

New York markets: Money on call steady, 3 1/4 to 3 1/2 per cent; ruling rate 3 1/2; closing 3 1/4 to 3 1/2. Sp. cotton quiet; middling uplands 12.90; middling Gulf 13.15; no sales. Wheat steady; No. 2 red 1.00 to 1.01. Corn firm; No. 2 84 to 85. Rosin quiet. Turpentine 92.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

VIRGINIA CITIES FIGHTING IN VAIN

Commission Will Permit the Rates to go Into Effect

POSTAL SERVICE IS SELF SUPPORTING

Government Ownership of Telephone-Telegraph

Washington, Dec. 17.—A declaration in favor of the principle of government ownership of telephone and telegraph lines and an assertion that the postal service now is self-supporting for the first time since 1883, are features of the annual report of Postmaster General Burleson, transmitted today to Congress.

Concerning the acquisition of telephone and telegraph lines, Postmaster General Burleson says that the government has demonstrated its capacity to conduct public utilities, and, from his present information, he is inclined clearly to the taking over by the Postoffice Department of the telegraph lines and, possibly also, of the telephone lines, discussing that the postmaster general says:

"A study of the constitutional purposes of the postal establishment leads to the conviction that the Postoffice Department should have control over all means of the communication of intelligence. The first telegraph line in this country was maintained and operated as a part of the postal service and it is to be regretted that Congress saw fit to relinquish this facility to private enterprise. The monopolistic nature of the telegraph business makes it of vital importance to the people that it be conducted by unselfish interest and this can be accomplished only through government ownership.

Evidence of Ultimate Policy. "The act of July 24th, 1866, providing for the government acquisition of the telegraph lines upon payment of an appraised valuation and the act of 1902 directing the postmaster general to report to Congress the probability of connecting a telegraph and telephone system with the postal service by some feasible plan," are evidences of the policy of this government ultimately to acquire and operate these electrical means of communication as postal facilities, as is done by all the principal Nations, the United States alone excepted.

Financial Operations. Postmaster General Burleson presents an elaborate statement of the financial operations of the Postoffice Department including a discussion of the methods of bookkeeping, which he has changed.

General Financial Policy. As to the general financial policy Postmaster General Burleson says: "The dominant policy of the present administration will be to conduct the postal service for the convenience of the public and not for profits. Its controlling purpose will be to promote efficiency by the complete standardization of the service, which will be attained by harmonizing equipment, adjusting the personnel, and se-

Only Virginia Cities Object. Although there are some discriminations in favor of the carriers in North Carolina and other States in which they operate, it was shown that North Carolina has more freight business than any other State. The Southern, Seaboard and Coast Line, than any other State. Other witnesses were examined during the day.

Will Close Case Today. Chairman Edgar E. Clark, who is presiding over the hearing, announced that he would give the carriers, the Corporation Commission and the Virginia cities until tomorrow night to offer testimony and he will then close the case. The evidence is being taken in shorthand and after it is transcribed the commission as a whole will take up the case and enter its order. It is confidently believed that the commission will permit the rates to go into effect.

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JOE UNDERWOOD OUT DEBATE IN CONGRESS

In Support of Godwin For Re-Election.

Over Proposed Ownership of Alaska Railroads.

Government May Build Several Hundred Miles of Road From the Coast to Inland Coal Fields.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Spirited debate in the House today marked the beginning of consideration of the bill for a government-owned railway in Alaska. Advocates of the measure described at length the project to the coast of Alaska to the rich coal fields in the interior. Its opponents argued that the territories committee had estimated and "the game was not worth the candle."

The debate is to be resumed next Wednesday, unless Congress has adjourned by the Christmas holidays in the meantime and the Democrats in charge of the bill expect a vote without delay.

Representative Houston, of Tennessee, chairman of the territories committee, and Representative Lenroot, of Wisconsin, led the fight for the measure. Mr. Houston said a bond issue of \$35,000,000 would meet the cost of the undertaking. Representative Lenroot declared that Alaska's present railroads were dominated by the so-called Guggenheim interests.

GUGGENHEIM INTERESTS.

GOVERNOR CRAIG WILL BE IN RALEIGH SATURDAY.

Has Greatly Improved Through Treatment at Hot Springs.

(Special Star Telegram.) Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 17.—Governor Craig writes from Hot Springs, Ark., that he will be in the executive office here Saturday of this week to resume the reins of State government, and that he has very greatly improved through the special treatment for rheumatism received at Hot Springs.

Leut. Gov. Daughtridge will be here as acting governor until Governor Craig returns, but he is declining to consider the general run or applications for pardons or transit any business that can wait for the return of Governor Craig.

(Special Star Telegram.) E. C. Duncan Talks. Republican National Committeeman E. C. Duncan told the committee today that North Carolina Republicans had no terrors of the representation basis which reduces Southern representation at National conventions.

"Without outside interference," said Mr. Duncan, "North Carolina Republicans will go to the next National convention with a strong delegation."

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DEMOCRATS IN SHORT CAUCUS

Bill Will be Completed All Except the Signature of President Before Christmas Holidays—Big Work Ahead.

Washington, Dec. 17.—An agreement to vote on the final passage of the administration currency bill "on the legislative day of Friday, December 19th," was reached in the Senate late today. The agreement provides that debate tomorrow and Friday shall be limited to 15 minutes for each Senator upon each amendment or upon the bill itself.

While the executive day may run over into Saturday, it is the expectation of Senate leaders that the bill will be passed before midnight Friday night.

If important amendments are pending at that time, however, a recess may be taken until Saturday morning.

Democratic Leader Underwood, of the House, was in conference with Senate leaders today in preparation for the final stages of Congressional action on the currency measure. It is thought that but two days will be taken for the completion of the bill in the joint conference committee. House leaders have kept in close touch with all changes made by the Senate, and they expect President Wilson's signature to be attached to the measure before Christmas. The big task of organizing a Federal reserve board and creating the vast system of regional banks will then begin.

The Senate spent today in consideration of further amendments proposed by Senator Hitchcock, defeating by 41 to 37 his amendment to extend the guarantee of bank deposits to cover State banks that joined the new system as well as National banks. Senator Hitchcock's amendment, approval of this idea, but the Democrats would not support it because it had not received the endorsement of the caucus. A motion by Senator Owen to extend the increase from 90 days to 180 days the maturity date of paper that could be submitted for re-discount at the regional banks also was defeated, 39 to 34.

Hurried Caucuses. The Democrats gathered in a hurriedly called conference at 6 o'clock tonight to settle the amendments to the bill. The amendments were approved by a vote of 39 to 34.

The list of amendments submitted to the caucus included many of these proposed by Senator Hitchcock and approved by the caucus. The list of amendments submitted to the caucus included many of these proposed by Senator Hitchcock and approved by the caucus.

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