THE WEATHER
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THE MORNING STAR

WILMINGTON

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ALLIED FLEETS HAVE BATTERED THEIR WAY NEARER THEIR GOAL

More Turkish Forts Have Been Silenced, But Ships Have Been Damaged.

RESISTANCE IS TERRIFIC

Battle of the Dardanelles Unlike Anything in History, Say Naval Experts.

Excitement in Greece Over the Resignation of Cabinet.

London, March 8. — The British and French fleets have battered their way a step nearer to Constantinople, not, however, without damage to the ships engaged, and the battle for the Dardanelles continues.

More Turkish forts on the Asiatic side have been silenced, according to a statement by the British admiralty, but the Turks are making a terrific resistance and shells from their German-made guns have found more than one mark on the besieging craft.

This struggle for the gateway of the Ottoman capital is the big feature of the war news, and closely linked with it is the sustained excitement in Greece, incident to the resignation of the cabinet of M. Venizelos, who, deeming the entry of Greece into the hostilities on the side of the Triple Entente unwise, could not agree with his king, and resigned.

M. Zaimis has been entrusted with the difficult task of selecting a new cabinet, the complexion of which had not even been tentatively announced tonight.

From the number of ships engaged and the size and range of the guns, the battle of the Dardanelles is unlike anything in history, according to naval experts.

Remarkable Achievement.

At 21,000 yards the huge battleship Queen Elizabeth, of the British squadron, assisted by smaller ships, still is hurling shells across the Gallipoli peninsula into the Turkish strongholds on the Asiatic shore. The admiralty statement carries the operations through Sunday and admits that the Turks not only scored three minor hits on the Queen Elizabeth, but that most of the ships inside the straits, both French and British were struck. None was sunk and there were no casualties. The Turkish forts Rumili Medjidie Tabia and Hamidieh, fringing the Asiatic shore line, were silenced as was the Mount Dardanus battery farther south. The Turkish casualties are not known.

A Turkish statement from Constantinople issued prior to the admiralty statement tonight, insisted that the fighting in the Dardanelles was developing in favor of the Turks. It was stated that no batteries were being destroyed and that the hostile ships were forced to retreat.

Aeroplanes, taking wing from the decks of the besieging craft, are playing a notable part in the operations. One British machine became unmanageable and dove into the sea and another was hit by the Turks 28 times.

Comparative calm seemed to prevail on the Western front and in Poland.

An air raid by British flyers on the German submarine base at Ostend, Belgium, was announced by the admiralty tonight. Six machines participated and returned safely. What damage they inflicted is not known.

One of the most picturesque bits of the day's news is a report from Bucharest, Rumania, that former Sultan Abdul Hamid, of Turkey, has regained his freedom and is gathering his friends and supporters around him. It is asserted that he may seek to play an important part in his country's affairs.

More progress by the British fleet before Smyrna by which Turkish batteries were silenced, is announced in an admiralty statement. Another official statement says that the Turks' loss in the land fighting at the head of the Persian Gulf is 50 per cent larger than previously reported.

BRITISH ADMIRALTY REVIEW

Statement Concerning Operations of Allied Fleet Against the Dardanelles.

London, March 8.—The British admiralty tonight made public the following statement concerning the operations of the allied fleet against the Dardanelles:

"The operations against the Dardanelles are progressing in fine weather. Vice Admiral Sackville H. Carden reports that on the 6th of March the battleship Queen Elizabeth, supported by the battleships Agamemnon and Ocean, began an attack on Forts

(Continued on Page Two.)

AGREEMENT ON THE STATE PRIMARY REACHED

Its Friends Pronounce Measure a Good "Working" Law.

WILL ADJOURN TODAY

Weaver Insurance Bill Becomes Law—A Remarkable Bill Tabled—Pegram State Treasury Bill Passed.

Raleigh, N. C., March 8. — The General Assembly of North Carolina tonight adopted a bill providing for the submission of four constitutional amendments at the next general election. These provide, first, for the restriction of local and private legislation by the General Assembly; second, for the elimination of special charters to corporations by the same body; third, for restrictions in granting charters to cities, towns and incorporated villages; fourth, for the election of emergency judges.

These amendments were defeated at the last general election, when ten amendments to the constitution were defeated.

(Special Star Telegram.)

Raleigh, N. C., March 8.—The conference committee agreement on the difference between Senate and House on the State-wide primary bill was adopted by both houses tonight and the bill ordered enrolled for ratification tomorrow. The basis of agreement is that exceptions as to about fifty counties for county officers and representatives are retained with provision that any of these counties can come under the law as to county officers by vote petitioned for by one-fifth of the electorate, and the amendment is retained providing that names of candidates shall alternate as to their place on the ticket so as to avoid advantage to any candidate as over any other candidates for the same office.

The "oath feature" of the original bill remains out, through house amendment to that effect. The bill calls for primaries for all parties on the second Tuesday in June of each election year. The act as ready for ratification is pronounced by friends of primary legislation a good working State-wide primary law.

Both branches of the Legislature had after midnight "new day" sessions to pass some belated roll call bills and then recessed to 10 o'clock Tuesday when the work of the session will be rounded up and final adjournment sine die taken.

The Weaver bill from the Senate to amend the insurance laws of the State so as to empower the Commissioner of Insurance to hear complaints as to excessive fire insurance rates, pass on reasonableness and make public record of finding, passed the House this evening.

A remarkable bill tabled was one to create a board of examiners composed of lawyers to examine and license lawyers instead of the present system of the examination and licensing by the Supreme court.

The passage of the Weaver insurance bill rounds up the insurance legislation of the session and marks the length the Legislature would go toward regulation of rates of fire insurance by the legislative investigating committee from the last Legislature.

An amusing incident in connection with the final passage of the Weaver bill in the House this evening was that when it was read by title Representative Page stated to the House that it was the investigation commission bill with the 11 sections, or the Kansas law, for regulation of rates cut out. It does provide the much modified substitute for the 11 sections. It also prescribes that in future insurance companies must put up actual securities in bonds or cash instead of surety company bonds as in the past.

The Pegram bill to provide that the State provide the official bond for the State Treasurer and that the banks handling the State fund deposits must pay 3 per cent. on monthly balances passed its readings and reached enrollment for ratification. It also specifies that banks shall not charge the State for cashing or handling checks, drafts or other current paper in connection with the State accounts.

The House at 8 o'clock tonight resumed a steady grind of bills. One of the first passed was by Mintz, of Wayne, requiring that the names of the growers shall be stamped on all packages of berries and truck shipped in this State. Other bills passed included:

Prevent contagious and infectious diseases among live stock.

Regulate the sale of artificially colored flour.

Provide for the departmental printing.

Punish derogatory statements concerning banks.

Protect and promote the commerce of the port of Wilmington by providing that Southport have one instead of two of the port commissioners.

Amend the law as to formation of surety companies.

Provide for whole-time health officers.

Authorize seizure of vehicles in handling liquors liable to seizure and in blockading.

Amend the constitution to curtail local and private legislation A roll call

(Continued on Page Two.)

WILL STOP COTTON FOR GERMAN PORTS

Conditions Laid Down as to Shipments to Neutrals.

DEPENDS ON THE DATES

Great Britain Gives Formal Notice of Treatment to Be Accorded American Cotton in Connection With "Blockade."

Washington, March 8.—Formal notice of the treatment to be accorded American cotton by Great Britain and her allies in the execution of their declared intention to stop all commerce to and from enemy countries was given today in a statement issued by the British embassy. All cargoes consigned directly to ports of an enemy will be stopped, but as to shipments to neutral countries the statement says the following arrangement had been made in London:

"1. All cotton for which contracts of sale and freight engagements already had been made before March 2 to be allowed free passage (or bought at contract price if stopped) provided ships sail not later than March 31.

"2. Similar treatment to be accorded to all cotton insured before March 2 provided it is put on board not later than March 16.

"3. All shipments of cotton claiming above protection to be declared before sailing and documents produced to and certificates obtained from consular officers or other authority fixed by governments. Ships or cargoes consigned to enemy ports will not be allowed to proceed."

At the embassy it was explained that this arrangement, announced in response to appeals by American shippers, anxious over the status of their cotton already on dock awaiting shipment or actually at sea bound for Europe, was temporary merely and would be superseded by the British Order in Council putting into effect the new general retaliation policy to be instituted against Germany.

Embassy officials construed the arrangement as a concession to neutral shippers, as Premier Asquith in announcing the new policy on March 1 merely said: "The treatment of vessels and cargoes which have sailed before this date will not be affected."

Today's statement was regarded here as important, particularly because of its apperent intimation of the extent to which the Allies intend to interrupt commerce between neutral countries in carrying out their determination to stop commercial intercourse with Germany.

It was suggested at the embassy that the restrictions on shipments generally would be the same as those imposed on cotton, and that besides holding up all ships bound directly for enemy countries, the allied warships would stop vessels loaded with products heretofore free from molestation as non-contraband if their cargoes were presumed to be ultimately destined for Germany, Austria or Turkey, Embargoes on re-exportation, it was said, would insure safe passage for such cargoes.

High officials of the American government had no formal comment to make upon the statement, although some said informally they did not know just what it meant. The United States holds to the declaration of its right to ship non-contraband to belligerents and to have uninterrupted legitimate commercial intercourse with neutrals.

Shippers Left in Doubt.

Senator Hoke Smith, of Georgia, and some Charleston merchants who, as representatives of the cotton shippers, consulted with the British ambassador and Mr. Rose, the State Department's trade expert, today were somewhat in doubt as to just what concession they had secured in answer to their appeal, but went away satisfied that the cotton they had afloat or under contract to ship this month, at least, would be safe. Furthermore, they gathered the British opinion that satisfactory arrangements would be made for a continuance indefinitely without undue interference of the cotton trade with the neutral countries of Europe.

State Department officials let it be known that arrangement announced today was made directly between the American private cotton shipping interests and the British government and that the department was not a party to it.

ORDER-IN-COUNCIL AWAITED.

Will Prescribe Methods of Making Reprisals on German Trade.

London, March 8.—Although the Order-in-Council, prescribing methods of making reprisals on German trade is still promised soon, no date has been given. The foreign office emphasizes the declaration that it will not be inflexible so far as affects neutrals, but will permit negotiations in specific cases. As proof of this the special concessions granted cotton shippers is cited.

American Ambassador Page is without advices regarding the United States steamer Pacific, which sailed for Rotterdam from Falmouth last Friday, after having been detained for several days. The foreign office also is without information as to why she was stopped.

Pensacola, Fla., March 8.—A mistrial in the cases against W. H. Knowles, former president and other officials of the suspended First National Bank of Pensacola charged with misuse of the bank's funds, was ordered today by Federal Judge Call, after Jackson Sheppard, a negro juror, had been adjudged insane. Sheppard was stricken last night. It will be necessary to empanel a new jury.

London, March 8.—The admiralty announces that the British collier Pengrave was sung Sunday probably by a torpedo, off Ilfracombe, ten miles northwest of Barnstable county, Devon, England.

PROFIT MUST COME FROM ALL TRAFFIC

Railroads Not to be Made to "Rob Peter to Pay Paul"

SAYS SUPREME COURT

Acts of Several States Annulled by Decision Handed Down, Including West Virginia Two-Cent Passenger Fares Act.

Washington, March 8.—The Supreme Court today laid down the principle that it is beyond the power of the states to require a railroad to carry one commodity or class of traffic with a loss or only nominal profit, even though adequate profit is obtained from its business as a whole within the state.

Under that principle, the court annulled the West Virginia two-cent passenger rate law, as to the Norfolk & Western and the North Dakota lignite coal rate law, as to the Northern Pacific and the Minneapolis, St. Paul & Sault Ste. Marie railroads. Justice Hughes announced the decisions. Justice Pitney dissented.

The court held that when a state selects one commodity or class of traffic for regulation it must apportion to it a proper part of all general expenses and then allow substantial compensation.

"The state cannot estimate the cost of carrying coal," said Justice Hughes in the North Dakota case, "by throwing the expense incident to the maintenance of the road bed and the general expenses upon the carriage of wheat; or the cost of carrying wheat by throwing the burden of the upkeep of the property upon coal and other commodities."

In the West Virginia case, he said: "It would appear to be outside the field of reasonable adjustment that the state should demand the carriage of passengers at a rate so low that it could be justified only by placing upon shippers of goods a burden of excessive charges in order to supply an adequate return for the entire service."

Furthermore, the justice declared, such action could not be justified as a "declaration of public policy" to develop an infant industry or to make one community independent of another.

"While local interests serve as a motive for enforcing reasonable rates," he added, "it would be a very different matter to say that the state may compel the carrier to maintain a rate less than reasonable to build up a local enterprise.

"That would be to go outside the carrier's undertaking and would be equivalent to an appropriation of its property to public uses upon terms to which the carrier had in no way agreed. It does not aid the argument to urge that the state may permit the carrier to make good its loss charges for transportation. If other rates are exorbiatnt they may be reduced."

The court left undetermined the exact elements to be considered in fixing a value for railroad property for rate making purposes, accepting the findings of the states in each case as showing substantial compensation had not been allowed for the service embraced within their laws.

WAGE ARBITRATION HEARING.

"Ability of the Railroads to Pay" the Question Yesterday.

Chicago, March 8.—"Ability of the railroads to pay" occupied today's session of the board of arbitration in the Western railroads wage arbitration.

W. J. Lauck, a statistician employed by the engineers and firemen seeking higher wages of the railroads involved, analyzed reports of the roads since 1900 and drew the conclusion that abundant returns had been paid on investments, and saved for improvements, but still leaving a surplus from which wage advances might be paid without materially affecting returns to stockholders.

James H. Sheean, attorney for the railroad, questioned Mr. Lauck's figures, remarking that vital factors had been omitted from his calculations.

MATTER OF BERTHS.

Constitutionality of Wisconsin Statute Before Supreme Court.

Washington, March 8.—Constitutionality of the Wisconsin statute prohibiting sleeping car companies from making up an upper berth over an occupied lower berth unless the upper was engaged was argued today before the Supreme Court.

"I prefer to have the upper made up when I sleep in a lower," suggested Justice McReynolds.

"The law is based on the comfort and desires of the great mass of the traveling public and not upon individual cases," replied Assistant Attorney General Webb, of Wisconsin, who was defending the law.

CAN'T MAKE ENDS MEET.

According to Evidence Presented by Western Railroads Yesterday.

Chicago, March 8.—Today's hearing on the petition of 41 Western railroads for increased freight rates on some commodities was devoted to presentation of statistics purporting to show that because of increased operation costs and forced reductions in rates, they were unable to maintain the roads up to the standard demanded by the public and still pay adequate returns for investment.

New York, March 8.—Max C. Anderson, millionaire theatrical manager, died at his home here today of a complication of diseases.

PANAMA EXPOSITIONS NOW OPEN

San Francisco ——— San Diego

The Chesapeake & Ohio Railway offers very low rates. Many variable routes. For full information, write Jno. D. Potts, G. P. A., Richmond, Va. (ad'vt.)

The "Clean Up and Paint Up" Twins

WILMINGTON'S GUESTS OF HONOR ALL NEXT WEEK.

IMPROVEMENT IN MEXICAN AFFAIRS IS DEMANDED IN NOTE SENT GEN. CARRANZA

Unless Situation Grows Better Speedily, With Respect to Foreigners and Their Interests, He is Warned That Steps Will be Taken by United States to Obtain Protection for Them—Most Emphatic Yet—Battleships Ordered to Vera Cruz.

Washington, March 8.—General Carranza has been informed in a note from the United States government that unless there is improvement in conditions with respect to foreigners and their interests in Mexican territory under his control, such steps as may be necessary will be taken by the American government to obtain the desired protection.

The note is the strongest and most emphatic document that has been sent by the Washington government to Mexico since the correspondence with Huerta a year ago. Carranza is warned that the United States has viewed with deep concern the growing complaints made by foreigners generally against his administration of affairs and now, in effect, demands an early change.

The contents of the communication were revealed to several ambassadors and several ministers here who expressed satisfaction at its urgent language. Some regarded it as an entire change of the country's policy toward Mexico.

American Consul Silliman should have presented the note to Carranza today. A copy of it was sent to the Brazilian minister at Mexico City to be shown to General Obregon, the Carranza commander. In the meantime some movements of American warships have been ordered, the effect of which will be a naval demonstration that some officials hope will convince General Carranza of the determination of the American government to obtain a change in conditions in Mexico City.

After a conference tonight between President Wilson and Secretary of the Navy Daniels, it was learned on high authority that two or more battleships will be ordered from Guantanamo to Vera Cruz, probably tomorrow. The entire Atlantic fleet of 21 battleships is at Guantanamo within two and a half days sail of Vera Cruz.

Only one war vessel, the battleship Delaware, is at Vera Cruz, but, in addition to any battleships that may be sent from Guantanamo, five warships will be in that vicinity in a few days. The Delaware will remain there indefinitely; the cruiser Tacoma left Port au Prince, Haiti, today for Vera Cruz; the bungoat Petrel is en route from Mobile, Ala., and the cruiser Des Moines is bound from Progreso to Vera Cruz, while the gunboat Sacramento is at Tampico. Other available light draft vessels, more valuable than battleships in tropical waters, are the gunboats Wheeling and Nashville, held in readiness with the armored cruiser Washington in Haitien and Dominican waters.

Acute Crisis Reached.

That conditions again have reached an acute crisis was admitted at all the government departments.

Asked whether the United States intended to use physical force to obtain a compliance with its requests, Secretary Bryan today replied that "nothing had been decided on yet, beyond representations."

Latest reports from Mexico City indicate a menacing condition of affairs for the 25,000 foreigners there, of whom 2,500 are Americans.

The Carranza authorities have commandeered all medicines and medical supplies in the chief hospital and sent them to Vera Cruz. An appeal has been made to the United States to dispatch a hospital ship to Vera Cruz to send medical supplies to the capital and the Mexican Red Cross has sent an urgent petition for protection against the Carranza authorities. Typhus fever and smallpox have broken out in the capital as well as at Tampico.

In the face of threatened riots and the famine in Mexico City, the State Department today received a note sent to all diplomatic representatives in Mexico City announcing on the authority of General Carranza that the capital would be evacuated by the forces of General Obregon.

Secretary Bryan said that, while Carranza had invited the diplomatic corps to move to Vera Cruz, or to any other town under his jurisdiction, though stating that this would not be considered by him as an act of recognition, it is understood that the diplomatic corps feel that their departure from the city of Mexico would not be best for the foreign interests under their care.

Vigorous Protests Entered.

Te diplomatic corps entered a vigorous protest to Carranza against the proposed evacuation of Mexico City, declaring that some garrison should be left to preserve law and order.

According to the Carranza agency's advices from Vera Cruz, General Obregon intends to leave a garrison in the capital.

Asked whether foreigners actually were suffering, Secretary Bryan said that it was 'the fear of the future rather than the effect of the present that had caused the serious state of affairs and that this was due to things Obregon had proposed, such as the cutting off of all communication."

"The effects also of the language used by Obregon," said Mr. Bryan, "has been to emphasize the danger from mobs because of utterances calculated to stir up feeling against foreigners."

The Secretary declined to discuss the contents of the latest representations. From other sources, familiar with what the American government has said to Carranza, however, it was learned that the note, while not in the uature of an altimatum was virtually of the same effect.

There was clear indication in it that the United States had made repeated representations in vain with respect to Carranza's treatment of foreigners and that a point had been reached where it was necessary for the first chief to take into consideration the serious steps which the United States might feel compelled to take to obtain an improvement of affairs.

Carranza's decree and those of his subornidate generals have been a constant cause of embarrassment to foreign governments. The imprisonment of priests and the confiscation of property, the expulsion of the Belgian and Spanish ministers and the treatment of foreign consuls generally have been charged in official reports.

Cardinal Gibbons' Visit Significant.

The visit in this connection of Cardinal Gibbons to New Orleans to talk with Archbishop Moret, who has just been expelled by Carranza from Mexico, together with other priests, was regarded by diplomats here as of the utmost significance.

Many diplomatic representatives here cabled their governments that steps of a most important character had been taken by the United States which probably would cause Carranza to change his attitude toward foreigners. Some of the ambassadors said they thought the note sent by the United States to Carranza, clearly implied that the use of force might be the next development if there was not a favorable change in conditions.

Specifically the United States has been making separate representations to obtain the following things from Carranza:

Permission for the international relief committee, composed of wealth residents of Mexico City, to use the funds they have collected for supplies to succor the starving and destitute, and the placing at their disposal of transportation facilities to bring food into the capital.

The guarantee of a line of communication between Mexico City and Vera Cruz so that foreigners may have access to the sea and that communication

(Continued on Page Eight.)

DENUNCIATION OF REV. R. L. DAVIS PUT ON SENATE RECORD

Scathing Remarks of Republican Senator Jonas Endorsed by the Body.

MANY BILLS ARE PASSED

Busy Sessions of House and Senate Held—Senator Ward Apologizes to Senator Gilliam—Appropriation Bill Passed.

(Special Star Telegram.)

Raleigh, N. C., March 8.—Senator C. A. Jonas, speaking for himself and the seven Republican senators, delivered a scathing denunciation of Superintendent R. L. Davis, of the State Anti-Saloon League, this afternoon that was voted by the Senate to be spread upon the journal as a permanent record. It was a personal privilege in reply to an article in the Sunday morning newspapers in which Davis recounted the Grier bill's having passed the House 103 to 7, been reported without prejudice by the Senate committee and defeated " by a solid vote of the seven Republicans and some Democratic friends of prohibition who voted for an amendment to submit the bill to the vote of the people. The Senate afterwards passed the amended bill 43 to 5."

This, Mr. Jonas said, is deliberately untrue and uttered with the deliberate intent of casting odium on himself and the other six Republicans and an attempt to make cheap political capital out of a great moral question. He reminded the superintendent that it was a Democratic Senate committee that reported the bill without prejudice instead of favorably as Davis wanted it to do and that it was 19 Democrats with the seven Republicans who voted for the reference to the people. After declaring that the attack by Superintendent Davis can do harm only "where the facts and true character and methods of the author are not known," the statement continues.

"Mr. Davis does not inform the public that his presence on this floor had become so obnoxious to senators that he was removed from the bar of the Senate by a motion made and adopted. He slanders the House and conference committee by intimating that he controlled both. If that be true he gave the people of the State the privilege of using legally a million and a half gallons of beer annually for beverage purposes rather than allow them to have prohibition if they want it. The liquor dealers surely must be satisfied with his work.

"Yet I do not reply to him in kind and say he is not a prohibitionist. I know he is one of at least $890.81 worth. But I do say that his attack is not endorsed by the prohibitionists of the State, of whom I am one. Seven Republicans out of 50 senators and those seven all voted for the bill, yet they defeated it, says Mr. Davis and he calls himself the 'voice of God.'"

Bills Passed by Senate.

In the Senate this afternoon, the appropriation bill was put through its readings after an amendment to increase the appropriation to the Agricultural and Technical College, Greensboro, by $2,000.

On motion of Senator McMichael the salary of the Commissioner of Labor and Printing was increased from $2,400 to $3,000.

Other bills passed included:

Make the party primarily liable a defendant in torts.

Enlarge the powers of the Beaufort county board of education.

Regulate pawnbrokers.

Re-run and re-mark the State line along Brunswick county.

Amend the Pitt county road law.

Improve roads in Duplin.

Change the boundaries of Goldsboro.

Amend the charter of Hoffman.

Provide election in Duplin on special road tax.

Road tax in Columbus county.

Provide county home in Beaufort.

Incorporate Currituck and Dare Railroad Company.

Amend Revisal so as to allow married women to give evidence against husbands in cases of slander.

Increase of clerks in the Department of Education.

Provide treatment for indigent tubercular persons.

Amend the law as to appointing trustees in cases of assignment.

Allow directors of Confederate Women's Home actual expenses.

Inquire as to whether various State schools should not collect more tuition.

Amend the law as to protection of liability contracts.

Exempt printers, linotype operators and millers from jury duty.

Bills were tabled to extend jurisdiction of magistrates to $200 and to provide for expert witnesses to be summoned by the court.

Bills Passed by House.

During the afternoon session of the House bills passed including:

Allow carnivals and shows at Morehead City.

Indemnify the estates of deceased partners.

Amend the law to prevent infantile blindness.

Authorize a deed for the site of the Sir Walter Raleigh monument in Nash Square.

Amend the law as to the protection of the oyster industry.

Amend the law as to profane language on public roads in Brunswick and Stanly counties.

Increase the punishment for burglary committed with the use of explosives, making minimum 25 years' imprisonment.

Require gas and electric companies

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