

THE MORNING STAR

THE advertised article is best, because both the manufacturer and the dealer are not ashamed of it, and will stand behind it.

SUBMARINE QUESTION IS AGAIN LOOMING AS A SERIOUS ISSUE

Germany Accepts Responsibility for Sinking of Liner Arabia Without Warning.

MISTOOK STATUS OF SHIP?

Submarine Commander is Said to Have Taken Vessel to be an Auxiliary Warship.

REGARDED A WEAK EXCUSE

Information Received Shows Ship Was Peaceable Vessel.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Germany's acceptance of responsibility for the sinking without warning of the British liner Arabia with the explanation that her submarine commander took the vessel for an auxiliary warship, has brought the issue over submarine warfare to a more serious and clear-cut basis than anything that has happened since the threat of the United States to break diplomatic relations after the torpedoing of the Channel liner Sussex last April.

Such information as the American government now has shows the Arabia to have been a passenger ship of the Peninsular & Oriental Line, passing through the Mediterranean on a regular voyage.

Among the many passengers was an American citizen, who was rescued.

Would Express Regrets.

The German note, which was made public today by the State Department, says official data is furnished showing that the vessel was an ordinary passenger steamer, "this then would be a case of regrettable mistake from which the German government would promptly draw the appropriate consequences." It is assumed here that the consequences would be an expression of regret and offer of reparation for any injury or danger suffered by the Americans on board.

The note has been referred to President Wilson who is considering personally a review of recent German submarine activities to which the Arabia case comes as a climax. There probably will be no prompt action, as the State Department first must clear up beyond question the exact status of the liner at the time of the attack. Then it will be for the President to decide the course to be followed.

Explanation Regarded Weak.

In official quarters the German explanation is regarded as weak and unsatisfactory, no weight being attached to the statements that the Arabia was painted like a transport and was following a route usually taken by transports, and that the submarine commander saw no Chinese men, but no women and children aboard her. It is realized, however, that if official data finalized establishes the innocent character of the vessel, in view of the Sussex case virtually only one action remains open to the United States, and that would not be taken until every possible consideration had been given Germany's position.

Much Anxiety Felt.

While Secretary Lansing himself refused all comment today beyond the mere publication of the note, it is known authoritatively that Germany's admission in the Arabia case, her similar admission in the Marina case, when the Americans were drowned, and the fact that the sinking of the American steamer Chemung, have combined to create much anxiety. The temporary quietude in the submarine operations which followed the pledges in the Sussex case apparently has been dispelled and officials are recalling the belief then announced that submarine warfare is "utterly incompatible with the principles of humanity, the long established and incontestable rights of neutrals and the sacred immunities of non-combatants."

FOR A "DRY" WASHINGTON

This will be the first effort of prohibition leaders in Congress. Washington, Dec. 7.—First efforts of prohibition leaders in Congress at this session is to be directed toward making the national capital dry. The initial move will be made by Senator Shepard, of Texas, and Senator Kenyon, of Iowa, who will champion the measure from the Republican side.

FOUR VESSELS SUNK

The Danish and Norwegian Steamer and the Danish Schooner Torpedoed. London, Dec. 7.—The Danish steamer Haldan, 1,307 tons; the Norwegian steamer Ella and the Danish schooner Star have been sunk by submarines. The crews were landed. The Spanish steamer Gerona 403 tons is reported to have been sunk.

GREAT EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

Baptist State Convention Will Close Today One of the Best Sessions Ever Held.

TO MEET NEXT IN DURHAM

Mission Theme of Discussions Yesterday, Dr. Mullins Featuring—Heroic Statue of J. H. Mills to be Erected at Thomasville.

(By Rev. W. M. Gilmore.)

Elizabeth City, N. C., Dec. 7.—The present session of the Baptist State Convention, which closes Friday noon, though not so largely attended as others, 345 delegates, will go down in history as one of its very best sessions yet—an epoch making session.

It meets next year in Durham. Rev. Bruce Benton, Rockingham, was appointed foreign secretary of the convention, or his alternate, Rev. R. A. McFarland, Scotland Neck. The entertainment will be on the Harvard plan as for the past two years. North Wilkesboro made a strong fight for the next session of the convention.

The movement launched by which the Baptist hosts of the State are to gird their loins for a great educational campaign to be under the direction of the Board of Education, the trustees of Wake Forest, Meredith and Chowan Colleges, one representative from each of the high schools, together with Walter N. Johnson, Raleigh; B. C. Henning, Elizabeth City; D. L. Gore, Wilmington; W. M. Vines, Charlotte, and W. H. Watherspoon, Laurinburg, is considered the most important action of the convention.

Missions, in its various phases, has been the theme of all the discussions today. Dr. J. F. Love, Richmond, corresponding secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, spoke on the "Supreme Necessity of Baptists Greatly Enlarging their Mission Programme." Dr. T. W. O'Kelly, Raleigh, was elected the State vice-president of the Foreign Mission Board. E. Louis B. Warren, of Atlanta, represented the Home Mission Board.

The convention adopted the recommendation of the Board of Missions, that it lay out its work for next year on a basis of \$140,000 to be raised by April 30, 1917. Of this amount \$55,000 is for the foreign missions, \$37,500 is for home missions and \$47,500 for State missions. The board was also authorized to re-organize its office force so that complete systematic records of all contributions can be kept.

The outstanding feature of today's programme, as it has been of each day, was the mastery address of President Mullins, of the Louisville Seminary, on "A Wholly Baptist Programme."

Secretary E. L. Middleton, B. W. Spillman and W. C. Barrett represented the Sunday school work.

Secretary D. Moore represented the Baptist Young People's work.

Rev. J. Clyde Turner, of Greensboro, made an eloquent appeal for woman's work.

Rev. Baylus Cade, of Lenoir, offered a resolution, which was adopted by a unanimous vote of the convention, that a statue in heroic bronze of John Haynes Mills be erected upon the grounds of the Thomasville Orphanage, of which he was the founder and general manager for many years.

The statue is to have two figures, representing Mr. Mills standing erect and holding a shield over the head of a desolate child. The committee to whom this matter was entrusted is T. J. Taylor, Warrenton; E. F. Aylett, Elizabeth City; Chas. E. Brewer, Raleigh; Gilbert Stephenson, Winston-Salem; Judge E. W. Timberlake, Wake Forest, and Livingston Johnson, Rocky Mount.

The Laymen's Movement was the (Continued on Page Eight).

FURTHER LIMIT ON TRADE WITH RUSSIA

New Restrictions Placed on American Shipments Through Sweden by Great Britain.

PROBABLY A RETALIATION

Step is Believed to be the Outcome of Conflict in Trade Policies Followed by England, Russia and Sweden.

Washington, Dec. 7.—New restrictions on American trade with Russia were announced today by the British embassy in a circular setting forth conditions to govern shipments passing through the blockade lines into Sweden, through which country most American exports to Russia are handled. Aside from goods destined for the Russian government, only 24 commodities can be sent to Russia under the regulations and rigid conditions must be complied with before letters of assurance for the shipments will be issued.

The step is believed here to be the outcome of a conflict in the trade policies heretofore followed by Great Britain, Russia and Sweden, and is understood to have as its object the limitation of Russia's imports through Sweden to necessities, particularly war goods. Sweden, smarting under the British blockade and rationing measures, is said to have taken steps to retaliate which resulted in the more stringent regulations announced today.

List of Goods. The list of goods for which the British embassy will issue letters of assurance to American exporters to Russia and Finland, includes the following, for which such assurances are given under the present regulations:

Binoculars, instruments and thermometers, sulphur tartaric and citric acids, dyes, varnishes, photographic plates, phosphor, machinery, except lathes, carbonate of ammonia, blue copperas (sulphate of copperas); vegetable seeds, paraffin, gas, tar, wax, colophony (rosin); American cotton, salt and rice.

The remaining articles on the list have not been subject to such regulations before, and officials are uncertain what will be the effect of their inclusion in the group which may be shipped under letters of assurance. Most of them are produced from raw material, usually exported from Great Britain. They are: Metals, except lead, rubber, leather, castor oil, graphite, jute sacks, wool, twine, shellac, coconuts Egyptian cotton, woolen materials, and pepper.

Letters of assurance will be granted only if the goods are consigned to the Aktiebolaget Transito, Stockholm, which arranges all Swedish transit licenses.

STRENGTHENS DEMAND FOR THE AUSTRALIAN BALLOT SYSTEM

One of Results of Election Frauds Probe in Buncombe County.

Asheville, N. C., Dec. 7.—Asheville politicians, in company with the greater portion of Asheville's citizenship, are of the opinion that the investigation into alleged election frauds in this county has come to definite stop, for a while at least. The commission will be appointed to carry on further probe of the alleged use of money and other illegal practices in the recent election is regarded as unlikely.

The probe did some good, at least, and served, in a way, to demonstrate that there are some men in the county who are interested enough in dodging such investigation to remain away from homes and businesses for several days.

It has also given a decided impetus to the demand of the people of this county for representatives in the General Assembly work for the passage of a bill requiring the use of the Australian ballot in this State.

RETIRE DISABLED FEDERAL JUDGES AT THE AGE OF 70.

Hoke Smith's Bill Passes the Senate by Pary Vote of 33 to 25.

Washington, Dec. 7.—By a party vote of 33 to 25 the Senate today passed Senator Hoke Smith's bill authorizing the President to appoint an additional Federal circuit judge in any district where the incumbent has reached the age of 70, has served ten years and is suffering from mental or physical disability of a permanent character.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION BILL.

First Administration Measure to be Taken Up by House Saturday.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The first of the administration measures to be considered in the House at this session, the vocational education bill, will come up Saturday. It would provide aid for state schools teaching agriculture, trades and industries to boys and girls under 14, the states being required to make appropriations from their own funds equivalent to the amounts they received from the Federal government.

BREMEN LOST IN STORM!

President Lohmann, of Ocean Navigation Company, Makes Statement.

Amsterdam, via London, Dec. 7.—From a statement made by Alfred Lohmann, president of the board of directors of the German Ocean Navigation Company, in which he declined to say anything about the German merchant submarine Bremen except that the vessel was neither torpedoed nor captured, the Cologne Gazette infers that the Bremen was lost during a storm in the Atlantic.

CARDINAL MERCIER "IMPRISONED"

Is Said to be Confined to His Palace by German Authorities.

Amsterdam, via London, Dec. 7.—Cardinal Mercier, primate of Belgium, is confined to his palace by the German authorities, according to the frontier correspondent of the Telegraph, who says he hears this on good authority. The reason given is the action taken by the cardinal against the deportation of Belgians.

RUMANIAN ARMIES EAST OF BUCHAREST STILL FALLING BACK ALL ALONG THE LINE

Russian Attacks Against Austro-Germans Fail to Make Any Impression—Artillery Doing Greater Portion of Work on the Various War Fronts—Explanation of Military Action of Greeks Demanded by Allied Ministers.

part the artillery wings of the belligerent armies are doing the greater portion of the work.

The Rumanian army at last reports was still falling back all along the line east of Bucharest from the Transylvanian Alps to the Danube. Just where it will stop and, with its Russian allies, make a stand against the Teutonic Allies, has not yet become apparent. On the Moldavian west frontier and farther north along the Bukovina border the Russian attacks against the Austro-German forces have failed to make any impression.

An official communication from Berlin says that Bucharest was captured without any fighting except by the Rumanian infantry north and west of the capital. This resistance was quickly overcome, it is stated, and the invaders entered the town from all sides, being received enthusiastically by the populace and decorated with flowers.

Aside from Rumania the greatest interest still is centered in the political crisis in Great Britain. David Lloyd George has formally accepted from the king the post of prime minister and first lord of the treasury, a fact which is considered as indicating that he will be able speedily to form a ministry.

The probable make-up of the cabinet has not been announced. On one of the fronts is a sanguinary battle in progress. For the most

WILL PROCLAIM BLOCKADE OF THE PORTS OF GREECE

Paris, Dec. 7.—The official Journal will publish tomorrow a decree proclaiming a blockade of Greek ports.

BRITISH RANCHMAN SHOT BY BANDITS

Was Killed on His Ranch Near San Pablo de Mecqui, Says Message Reaching Border.

AMERICAN MINER HANGED

Murder of Howard Gray, at Parral, Confirmed by Foreigners at El Paso—Carranza Soldiers' Ears Cut Off.

El Paso, Texas, Dec. 7.—Guillermo Snyman, a son of the late Gen. W. D. Snyman, of Boer war fame, was shot and killed by Villa bandits at his ranch near San Pablo de Mecqui, according to a message received by his friends on the border today.

Snyman was the owner of a big alfalfa ranch near Mecqui, between Santa Rosalia and Chihuahua City. His father died recently in Philadelphia, where another son lives. Snyman was said to have been a British subject.

Howard Gray, an American mining man, was hanged at Parral by Villa bandits when they entered that town November 5, according to a private telegram received here, and later substantiated by two foreigners from that place. Other Americans there were reported to be safe and it was said American property had not been harmed.

Government agents here today reported to Washington today that an American hacienda superintendent named Foster, had been mutilated and then burned at the stake by Villa bandits operating near Torreon. The report was brought to the border by refugees, who also said they had seen 60 Carranza soldiers near Torreon whose ears had been cut off by the bandits. They added that Foster's son had witnessed his father's execution.

It is believed the Palmilla Mills of the Alvarado Mining & Milling Company's plant, at Parral, dynamited after an effort had been made to operate it, arrivals here today said. Jose Ynez Salazar, Villa's second in command, protested and they were closed down.

These refugees said one of the three Iwonsky brothers who are Germans, was arrested and taken to the military headquarters of Villa but was later released.

SAYS HOWARD GRAY WAS UNDOUBTEDLY HER BROTHER

Emporia, Kas., Dec. 7.—Mrs. L. G. Webster, of Emporia, said tonight that the Howard Gray, reported killed in Mexico, undoubtedly was her brother.

"My brother went to Mexico 30 years ago," she said. "He was superintendent of the shipping department of the Alvarado Mining & Milling Company and frequently quantities of silver ore and bars were secreted on his ranch. It must have been that he was murdered to get possession of this silver."

REPUBLICANS SPENT \$87,285

Democrats in West Virginia Spent Only \$8,220 in Recent Campaign.

Charleston, W. Va., Dec. 7.—The total expenditure of the West Virginia Republican executive committee during the recent campaign totalled \$97,285, more than the Democratic state committee's \$3,220, or about \$70 more than the total contributions, according to statements filed with the secretary of the state here today by the treasurers of both organizations.

The Republican report showed that 372 contributions were received, the Republican National Committee giving \$25,000.

TWO STRIKERS CONVICTED.

Motorman Found Guilty of Dynamiting Street Car in Atlanta.

Atlanta, Dec. 7.—J. L. Wilson, a striking motorman, was convicted by a jury in the superior court here late today of dynamiting a street car on November 7, last, in which several persons were injured. The jury recommended mercy. J. R. Gunter, another striking motorman, was convicted on a similar charge last night and a sealed verdict opened in court this morning. The men will be sentenced tomorrow.

HIGH PRICES DUE TO SOME EXTENT TO SPECULATION

Federal Investigation Points With Increasing Directness to This Conclusion.

BELIEVED TO BE CRIMINAL

Special Attention Now Being Given to Alleged Manipulation in Coal "Corner."

Washington, Dec. 7.—Information gathered from many sources by government officials conducting the nationwide inquiry into the high cost of living pointed with increasing directness tonight to the conclusion that the soaring prices of certain necessities of life were due, to some extent, at least, to the manipulators of food and other speculators who had combined to force quotations upward.

These combinations are believed by the government investigators to have been criminal in character, rather spasmodic and rather short lived.

Special attention is being given just now to alleged price manipulation in the so-called coal corner, which recently resulted in sending prices to a panic level. Investigation of the high prices of coal, hardly yet begun, has already convinced some officials that there was no warrant whatever for \$12 coal in Boston and New York other than the activity of these alleged combinations.

Whether men who profited most can be punished under Federal laws is said to be still under consideration.

Every Federal agency with even a remote relation to the situation was called to play its part in the investigation. A mass of material has poured into the Attorney General's office, all of which will be studied and utilized where available.

At the same time officials made clear their conviction that no small part of the rise in prices was due to natural economic causes. These include the international balance of trade and the amount of currency in circulation, having a direct bearing on the situation, although not generally understood.

United States Attorney Anderson, of Boston, in charge of the inquiry, today conferred with officials in the departments of Justice, Agriculture, Commerce and Labor and had a long conference with Chairman Meyer of the Interstate Commerce Commission with reference to interstate shipments of coal. Mr. Anderson shortly will visit Chicago, where a Federal grand jury is conducting an inquiry, and hopes to visit Detroit, Cleveland, Kansas City and Minneapolis.

Present activities of the department's investigation are understood to center about Chicago. Trade boards, butter and eggs exchanges, produce, sugar, coffee and other food exchanges, it was authoritatively advanced, have not been investigated.

Primarily the general investigation by the government will be confined to foodstuffs and coal, it is said, but it leads to uncovering indications that cornering of commodities, such as leather and clothing, are affected, they will be followed.

The investigation has shown, say officials, that flour would be much higher were it not for the unusually large hold-over of wheat from last year's crop. The advance in the price of beans—nearly 300 per cent in some instances—is said to have followed unusually large shipments of canned beans to Belgium by the Commission for Relief in Belgium. Butter has advanced to a price to which it might normally be expected to advance, but eggs are said to be unwarrantably high.

Eggs in 193 storages reporting December 1, amounted to 1,794,740 cases, compared with 2,787,802 cases in the same establishments a year ago. Holdings of creamery butter in 189 storages totaled 58,627,236 pounds, against 71,848,767 pounds on December 1, 1915. The indicated decrease in holdings during the month of November was 40.6 per cent and 23.9 per cent for butter.

REPUBLICANS SPENT \$87,285

Democrats in West Virginia Spent Only \$8,220 in Recent Campaign.

Charleston, W. Va., Dec. 7.—The total expenditure of the West Virginia Republican executive committee during the recent campaign totalled \$97,285, more than the Democratic state committee's \$3,220, or about \$70 more than the total contributions, according to statements filed with the secretary of the state here today by the treasurers of both organizations.

The Republican report showed that 372 contributions were received, the Republican National Committee giving \$25,000.

TWO STRIKERS CONVICTED.

Motorman Found Guilty of Dynamiting Street Car in Atlanta.

Atlanta, Dec. 7.—J. L. Wilson, a striking motorman, was convicted by a jury in the superior court here late today of dynamiting a street car on November 7, last, in which several persons were injured. The jury recommended mercy. J. R. Gunter, another striking motorman, was convicted on a similar charge last night and a sealed verdict opened in court this morning. The men will be sentenced tomorrow.