WEATHER.

Rain Saturday; colder central and west, much colder at night. Sunday fair and colder.

THE MORNING STAR

WILMINGTON

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PROTEST ON GROUNDS OF HUMANITY MADE IN BEHALF OF BELGIANS

American Note to Germany Concerning Deportations Read to German Chancellor

ANY COMMENT IS WITHHELD

State Department Merely Announces That 'Charge Grew Carried Out Instructions

TEXT OF NOTE PUBLISHED

So Far as Learned, Germany Has Not Made Any Reply

Washington, Dec. 8—The American government's formal protest to Germany against the deportation of Belgians for forced labor, as a violation of the principles of humanity, was made public today by the State Department. It was in the form of a note cabled to 'Charge Grew, at Berlin, with instructions that he seek an interview with the German chancellor and read it to him, and was given out by the department with the terse comment: "The interview has taken place."

Officials Make no Comment.

Officials refused to add to this statement and so far as could be learned tonight there has been no reply from Germany. All information available, however, indicates that the deportations are continuing and it is known that through earlier informal representations 'Charge Grew learned that the opinion of the German people was that the policy was a military necessity and not in violation of international law.

The American note was put on the cable November 27, the night of the day Ambassador Gerard saw President Wilson, preparatory to his return to Berlin, and the night the Associated Press announced that the United States had made further representations on the broad grounds of humanity.

The note, with the department's statement making it public, follows:

Text of Note.

"On November 29, Mr. Grew, our 'Charge at Berlin, was directed to obtain an interview with the German chancellor and read to him the following:

"The government of the United States has learned with the greatest concern and regret of the policy of the German government to deport from Belgium a portion of the civilian population for the purpose of forcing them to labor in Germany and is constrained to protest in a friendly spirit but most solemnly against this action, which is a contravention of all precedents and of those humane principles of international practice which have long been accepted and followed by civilized nations in their treatment of non-combatants.

"Furthermore, the government of the United States is convinced that the effect of this policy, if pursued, will in all probability be fatal to the Belgian relief work, so humanely planned and so successfully carried out, a result which would be greatly deplored and which, it is assumed, would seriously embarrass the German government.'

'The interview has taken place."

Diplomatic Procedure Exhausted.

With the failure of America's efforts as well as those of Spain and Holland and the Vatican, the only action which officials here apparently believe this government can take, is the full publication of the facts in its possession. Admittedly, diplomatic procedure has been exhausted. The United States does not represent Belgium at Berlin and is declared by officials to have gone even beyond the convention diplomatic rights in the matter.

The Belgian deportations assumed seriousness last August when the State Department reports indicated their wholesale extent. 'Charge Grew on October 26 was instructed to take the matter up personally with Chancellor von Bethmann Hollweg, and to say what an unfortunate effect the continuation of deportations would have on neutral opinions.

'Charge Grew reported that the chancellor had heard his presentation of the case, but had offered neither explanation nor promise. Thereupon a series of conferences followed in Washington between President Wilson, Secretary Lansing, Ambassador Gerard and Colonel House, with the result that the formal protest was dispatched.

BELGIAN LAW-MAKERS SEND PROTEST TO VON BISSING

Havre, France, Dec. 8.—Twenty Belgian senators and 23 Belgian deputies, living in Brussels, have taken the personal risk of sending a signed protest to General von Bissing, German governor of Belgium, against the deportations of Belgian workmen. The senators and deputies at the same time sent copies of their protest to Brand Whitlock, American minister to Belgium, and to the diplomatic representatives of other countries.

"On many occasions during modern

(Continue on Page Eight).

MIDDLE WEST TO GET ARMOR PLANT

This Seems Virtually Certain Following Board's Report on the Proposed Sites

NO CITY YET RECOMMENDED

Location of Plant Will be Made With Regard to Military Advantages. Another Board May be Named to Select the Site.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The $11,000,000 government armor plant is virtually certain to be located at some point in the Middle Western area, it was learned here today. Some point having good connection with the mineral supply sources and transportation facilities to coast points, but sufficiently remote to remove danger of destruction by any hostile invading force, probably will be selected.

The special naval board appointed by Secretary Daniels to consider military aspects of proposed sites has submitted a report on which final choice of a site will be based. It summarizes the arguments of more than 125 cities seeking the award, and without attempting actually to designate a site, presents the board's judgment of localities where the best protection of the factory would be afforded in time of war.

Although the report has not been made public it was learned today that there is little, if any, possibility that the plant will be located in any of the coastal states or in close proximity of the Canadian border.

The board is understood to have followed closely the advice laid down by Congress concerning the location of the plant as a military problem, by eliminating from the field of possible selection all frontier states, particularly those of the North Atlantic held by army strategists to comprise the most exposed areas.

Secretary Daniels, who is studying the report, probably will name another board to inspect localities favorably mentioned and await its report before making a choice.

ONE YEAR RESIDENCE RULE FOR COLLEGE PLAYERS FAILS

Is Voted Down by Southern Inter-Collegiate Athletic Association.

Charleston, S. C., Dec. 8.—By a vote of 17 to 6, the Southern Inter-Collegiate Athletic Association refused to adopt the one-year residence rule for college players at its annual convention here tonight. A substitute motion requiring all first year men participating in inter-collegiate contests to have at least 14 so-called Carnegie entrance units was voted down also.

The association adopted a resolution instructing the president, B. M. Walker, of Mississippi A. & M., to appoint a committee of 28 members for the purpose of classifying all instructions in S. I. A. A. territory. This committee, of which Dean Walter Hullihen, of the University of the South is chairman, will report at the next annual convention.

Carlisle Indian school and the Haskell school were classified as colleges by the association.

NAVAL BASES SOUTH OF HATTERAS NEEDED

Rear Admirals Fiske and Edwards Point Out the Dangers

Urge Establishment of an Adequate Station at Charleston and One in the Gulf—Prof. Cathcart Discusses Deficiencies.

New York, Dec. 8.—The lack of adequate naval stations south of Hatteras as a weakness in the naval establishment of the United States, which it was declared "gives our strategists just cause for concern," was discussed here today by Rear Admirals Bradley A. Fiske and John R. Edwards, both retired, before the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

They spoke after the reading of a paper by Prof. W. L. Cathcart, a naval consulting engineer, of Philadelphia, dealing with the deficiencies of the land end of the country's naval affairs. Admiral Edwards declared that if there were no other way to get money to build up the shore stations he "would cut out one capital ship from the appropriations."

"South of Hatteras there is not a place along the coast where a battleship could go for repairs," said Admiral Edwards. "We need a base at Charleston, S. C., and one in the Gulf to protect the Panama canal. A base at

(Continued on Page Two.)

BAPTISTS VOTE TO MAKE STATE DRIER

State Convention Recommends Most Drastic Legislation on the Liquor Question

MEMORIAL SERVICE HELD

Convention Adjourns at Noon After Considering Temperance, Orphanage and Other "Social Service" Work. "Simple Plan" a Success.

(By Rev. W. M. Gilmore).

Elizabeth City, N. C., Dec. 8.—The Baptist State Convention, which has been in session here since Tuesday, came to a conclusion at noon today with a tender memorial service conducted by Dr. T. J. Taylor. Fitting tributes were made to the memory of Maj. H. F. Schenck, Rev. J. W. Watson, Dr. R. P. Thomas, J. W. Mitchell, Rev. Chas. F. Hopper, Mrs. Martha Vann Holloman and Mrs. Carey J. Hunter.

Social service, which includes the work of the Thomasville Orphanage, Ministers' Relief Board and Temperance, was the department of the convention work considered today.

The report on temperance, which was read by Dr. Livingston Johnson, and the memorial to the next General Assembly, introduced by Rev. R. L. Gay, both of which were adopted by the convention, recommended the most drastic legislation on the liquor question. If the approaching Legislature should act in accord with these recommendations, North Carolina would be as dry as the Sahara desert, or as Billy Sunday says Michigan is, where "a man now has to be primed before he can spit."

Ministers' Relief Work.

The report of the Ministers' Relief Board made by Corresponding Secretary J. M. Arnett, Mebane, shows an increase of contributions, and a strong sentiment was manifested that this department of the convention's work should be enlarged.

General Manager M. L. Kesler, of Thomasville, presented the work of the orphanage, showing that this institution is now taking care of 500 children at an annual cost of about $55,000.

The work of the publicity committee of the Orphanage Association of this State, of which M. L. Shipman is chairman, insisting on the people of North Carolina giving the value of a day's work as a Thanksgiving offering to the orphans, has born rich fruit.

Dr. Livingston Johnson delivered a stirring speech on "The Duty of the State to the Child."

For Delinquent Girls

The convention went on record as favoring a State board of public welfare and gave its hearty approval to the movement to establish a home for unfortunate girls and women.

The committee consisting of Walter M. Gilmore, Walter N. Johnson and J. Clyde Turner, appointed by President J. A. Oates to arrange the programme of the next convention, to be held in Durham, was instructed to secure Dr. W. J. McGlothlin, of the Louisville Seminary, or some other capable man, to deliver a series of addresses in connection with the convention.

The addresses of President Mullins this year proved to be a most valuable feature.

This session was the first time the convention has been operated in accordance with the "simple plan" which is the grouping of the various departments of the convention's work. It has proven wonderfully successful.

While there was little room for "spread eagle" oratory, the business of the convention was transacted with dispatch.

Preliminary to taking up the morning's topic, the convention directed President Oates to appoint a press committee to use such means as might

(Continued on Page Two.)

RAILWAY LEGISLATION LIKELY TO BE DELAYED

Labor to Offer Substitute for Compulsory Arbitration

Determined Efforts Being Made Against Proposal—President Determined to Avoid Such Situation As Faced in September

Washington, Dec. 8.—Congressional action on President Wilson's railway legislative program probably will await the result of determined efforts of labor leaders to draft a substitute for all forms of compulsory arbitration which will be agreeable to the employees, employers and the administration.

The determination of the President to undertake making impossible by law such a situation as he faced last September in the railroad dispute has aroused labor to great activity. The unofficial alliance between the American Federation of Labor and the four railway Brotherhoods arranged recently at Baltimore is bearing its first fruit in conferences between representatives of both organizations to draft a plan that will shelve all compulsory arbitration bills. Congressional leaders are inclined to go slowly on the president's program pending announcement of labor's proposals, provided they are

(Continued on Page Six.)

STRANGE SHIP IS BELIEVED TO BE A GERMAN RAIDER

Allied Shipping in the North Atlantic is Warned by British Naval Authorities

VESSEL ALLOWED TO PASS

Was Permitted to Proceed as Dutch Steamer After Being Intercepted Off Scotland

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 8.—Entente allied shipping was warned by British naval authorities tonight to be on the lookout for a strange vessel, believed to be a raider, which was intercepted on December 2 off the northwestern coast of Scotland, and allowed to proceed under the impression that she was the Dutch steamer Gamma. Later it was learned that the Gamma was at Kirkwall on that date and did not leave until December 3.

The identity of the supposed raider has not been determined. Admiralty officials apparently suspect that, if she is a hostile craft, she may carry mines for dropping off this port, the center of British naval activity off this continent and the point of departure for Canadian troop ships. The vessel could reach here from the position where she was last reported by tomorrow or Sunday. The text of the warning follows:

"A vessel was intercepted at 3 a. m. December 2 in latitude 59.36, No; longitude 12.42 W., and was allowed to proceed under the impression that she was a vessel named Gamma. Latter was at Kirkwall at the time, clearing 11 a. m. December 3.

"Identity of former not yet established, but description is as follows:

"About 1,200 tons, black hull with red bottom, white upper works, one funnel. Thought to be plain black, no Dutch flag on bow. She was apparently in ballast, steering a course about west-southwest. Vessel may be raider".

RECORDS SHOW THERE IS GERMAN SHIP NAMED GAMMA

New York, Dec. 8.—Maritime records show that there is a German steamer called the Gamma which is of almost the same tonnage as her Dutch namesake. The Teuton craft has been in the German coastwise service. Her

(Continue on Page Eight).

NO DOUBT THAT THERE WAS 'CORNER' IN COAL

Punishment for the Price Manipulators Being Studied

Programme Providing for Grand Jury Investigations Throughout Country Will be Laid Before President Today.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Officials conducting the government's inquiry into the high cost of living virtually completed tonight a programme to place tomorrow before President Wilson and Attorney General Gregory, providing for simultaneous grand jury investigations throughout the country. Details as to the number and locations of the proposed inquiries were not disclosed. It was said that doubt no longer existed as to whether there had been combinations to boost coal prices and that effective means to punish those who have violated the law in contributing to the rises were being studied.

President Wilson and the cabinet discussed the situation today and, it is understood, decided to await further disclosures before reaching a conclusion as to recommendations to be made by the President to Congress.

In Congress, the House Commerce committee decided to defer action on measures bearing on the subject until after the holidays.

United States Attorney Anderson, of Boston, conducting the investigation, established headquarters at the Department of Justice, called at the White House for several hours with Interstate Commerce Commission officials, spent some time with Oliver E. Pagan, the department's expert on drawing indictments, and dispatched fresh instructions to the field force of investigators throughout the country.

Indications are that the Department of Justice wil concentrate on inquiring into the operations of coal dealers and minor railroad employes in the Middle West to determine whether cars were deliberately drawn from normal channels to aid in increasing prices.

Interstate Commerce Commission statistics are understood to show that at the height of the rise in coal prices at a time when there was an apparent shortage in the supply hundreds of loaded cars stood untouched in railroad yards in the Middle West. Some cars, investigation is said to have disclosed, have been held loaded from four to six weeks and one case has been reported where a car has been held loaded 106 days.

METHODISTS VOTE FOR A DRY NATION

Ask Legislature to Make Prohibition More Stringent and Put Ban on Patent Medicines

MEET NEXT IN GREENVILLE

Bishop Arraigns Preacher Who Grumbles About Appointment—Committee to Solve Advocate Problem. Preachers Advanced.

(Special Star Telegram).

Durham, N. C., Dec. 8.—The North Carolina Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, adopted a resolution here today memorializing Congress for Nation-wide prohibition and to enact a law prohibitive of sales in Washington City and to stop the mails from distributing liquor advertisements.

The next General Assembly of North Carolina was petitioned to prohibit the sale of hard cider and winer and curtail the sales of proprietary medicines which are are productive of drunkenness. Numerous bitters, also extracts of lemon and vanilla and Jamaica ginger were included in this list.

The 1917 session of the conference will meet with Jarvis Memorial church of Greenville. J. M. Daniel, the Greenville pastor, extended the invitation, which was seconded by L. L. Nash, of Hamlet. This town was the unanimous choice. D. H. Tuttle, of Burlington, spoke briefly of the great character whose name Jarvis Memorial church bears.

Temperance Resolution.

The resolution submitted by the temperance forces were emphatical in its claims and forceful against its foes. One paragraph reads:

"The temperance forces of the Nation are united. All the organizations have declared for and are now working for National constitutional prohibition and a measure to submit this matter to the states is pending at Washington. During this Congress the Anti-Saloon League of America and other temperance organizations will press for its passage. They will also work for a law to prohibit the sale of liquor in the City of Washington and to prohibit the mails from carrying liquor advertising matter. Your committee recommends that the conference memorialize Congress for the passage of such legislation and we instruct the secretary to sign the proper memorials and hand them to Superintendent Davis to be sent to the Senate and House of Representatives."

Bryan Invited to Speak.

The next biennial convention of the Anti-Saloon League will meet in Raleigh about the middle of January, 1917, and Secretary R. L. Davis announced to the conference that William Jennings Bryan had been invited to speak. A committee will wait upon him.

Bishop John C. Kilgo opened devotional services this morning with a severe arraignment of the preacher who grumbled about his appointment because he thought he was too big for the job. He characterized the few such preachers in the North Carolina Conference as guilty of trying to parade their brazen infidelity and trying to glorify themselves. There is not a charge in the conference too little. Preachers should represent Christ anywhere. He likened the humble pastor to Paul, who embodied self abnegation, willing to humble himself with his fellowmen, but he said some of the modern preachers had not been able to master this material prosperity, all of which blinds our eyes. Consciously or unconsciously we come to be men who set aside God's standards for these world standards.

Want "Greatness."

Bishop Kilgo said the particular type

(Continued on Page Two.)

EUROPEAN WAR DUE TO THE CENSORED PRESS

Opinion of Dean Walter Williams, Speaking to Editors

At Newspaper Institute Talcott Williams Declares American Press Must Lead Public Opinion—More Than 100 Editors Attend

(Special Star Telegram)

Chapel Hill, N. C., Dec. 8.—More than a hundred Carolina editors attended the sessions of the Newspaper Institute here today. The speeches of Deans Talcott Williams and Walter Williams tonight on the newspapers, relation to democracy and the nation at large came as a fitting climax. Talcott Williams declared:

"It is the American press and most of all the rural American press which must create, educate and lead American public opinion through the steps which will give an acequate reason for preparedness, not merely in National defense but in the wider work of safeguarding the world."

Dean Walter Williams showed the great influence for good press could be in a democracy, not merely through editorials, but the news columns. He attributed the present European war to the censored dispatches which held back news and invented stories instead.

The handling of State news corres-

(Continued on Page Two.)

RUSSO-RUMANIANS SO FAR SHOW NO LET-UP IN RETIREMENT EAST

16-INCH GUNS FOR NEW SHIPS URGED

Enormous Increase in Size and Power of Battleships Recommended for 1918 Program

SLIGHT INCREASE IN SPEED

Universal Service in Both Army and Navy Discussed by Witnesses Before Two House Committees Yesterday.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Preliminary work on the 1918 National defense programme moved forward again today in the Naval and Military committees of the House, with Rear Admirals Badger and Fletcher, of the Navy's general board, before the former and Quartermaster General Sharp before the latter.

The two admirals recommended an enormous increase in the size and powed and a slight increase in speed for the battleships to be provided at this session of Congress.

Because of the tendency of the European navies to build even larger ships and guns and because it is believed Japan already is building a more powerful ship than has yet been planned for the United States, Admiral Badger said the board had recommended main batteries of twelve 16-inch guns, an increase of 50 per cent. in gun power over 1917 ships, and a speed of 23 knots an hour.

A statement issued today by Secretary Daniels indicates that the recommendations of the board will be approved by the department. The new dreadnaughts will displace probably more than 40,000 tons as against the 32,000 for the Pennsylvania class and succeeding ships.

"Our new ships will embody the general characteristics of armament the general board recommends," the Secretary's statement said, after explaining that only the question of limited facilities led the Secretary to alter the board's recommendations as to the number of ships to be laid in 1917.

"I agree thoroughly with the general board," it added, "that we should build this year as great a part of our programme as possible and I think my recommendations have reached the limit of that possibility if, indeed, I have not exceeded somewhat the practical capacity of our shipyards."

The board recommended the construction of four battleships and two battle cruisers, while the Secretary held that three battleships and one battle cruiser was all that could be undertaken in view of the tremendous programme contracted for this year.

General Sharpe told the military committee that the Army stil is far behind in recruiting for the 1917 increment of the authorized increase. His statement was line with that of Major General Scott, chief of staff, in his annual report, made public today. General Scott declared that universal military training and service would be the only solution to the recruiting problem.

Universal service also came up at the Naval committee hearing Admiral Badger saying that this was the "one grand answer to all problems of obtaining crews for Navy ships."

COTTON DROPS OVER FIVE DOLLARS A BALE

Break Caused by Heavy Liquidation and Short Selling

New Orleans Market Experiences One of the Widest Declines Ever Recorded in Any One Session of the Exchange.

New Orleans, Dec. 8.—The most violent fluctuations of the season and one of the widest declines ever recorded in any session of the local market carried the price of cotton at one period today 103 to 113 points, or $5 to $5.50 a bale below the level of yesterday's close. Heavy liquidation of long contracts and terrific hammering by short sellers caused the break, which followed the larger Census Bureau returns on ginning to December 1 than expected and a rumor that Greece nad declared war on England.

The early market was active and business reached enormous proportions by noon when brokers were unable to keep abreast of the selling orders wired in from all directions. This was the climax of the selling wave, for in the afternoon shorts bought liberal covers to realize their profits, and this demand gave the market a steadier tone causing a partial recovery. The close was at a loss for the day of 76 to 92 points.

Seemingly Little Resistance is Being Offered to Forces of the Central Powers

MAY HALT AT BUZEU RIVER

Troops of Von Mackensen Have Captured 18,000 Prisoners and Twenty-Six Guns

RUSSIAN DRIVE A FAILURE?

Claims of Success in the Verdun Region Conflict

Pursuit of the retiring Russians and Rumanian forces in eastern Wallachia by Field Marshal von Mackensen continues, but how far the Teutonic advance has progressed is not made clear in the latest official communication. Berlin chronicles the continuation of the advance along the whole front and Petrograd says the Russians and Rumanians have been retiring since the evacuation of the Rumanian capital.

Apparently Little Resistance.

Seemingly the retiring defenders of Rumanian soil are offering little resistance and are endeavoring to reach the line of the Buzeu river before the Austro-Germans can break through the Moldavian frontier, and get in their rear or Bulgarians or Germans can cross the Danube around Tchnavoda and outflank them. However, there has been little activity either on the Transylvania-Moldavian frontier or in Dobrudja. The Germans have repulsed a Russian attack in the Trotus valley and the Russians report the checking of an offensive movement in the Oiteuz valley. Petrograd says all has been calm in Dobrudja and along the Danube.

18,000 Prisoners Captured

In the rounding up of the forces cut off by their advance on Bucharest, the troops of Von Mackensen have captured 18,000 prisoners and 26 guns. The Rumanian troops isolated in western Wallachia, numbering 8,000, have been taken as well as 10,000 of the forces operating around Predeal and Altichanz passes.

Undeterred apparently by the checking of their offensive in the Carpathians, the Russians have again taken the initiative there, Petrograd states. The present Russian attempt is taking place south of Jarovnik. Berlin says the Russian offensive in the Carpathians can be said to be a failure and declares only local attacks have occurred in that region. The repulse of a Russian attack on the Dvina front below Riga is also recorded by Berlin.

Fighting in Verdun Region.

Hill 304 in the Verdun region and the forest of Apremont, southeast of St. Miehel, have been the scenes of the only reported activity on the western front. Paris claims the Germans were ejected from a section of the trenches on Hill 304 but Berlin asserts the troops of the crown prince repulsed French attempts to retake the trenches. The Germans, Paris records, succeeded in gaining a footing in French trenches in the forest of Apremont, but later were ejected by a counter attack.

Heavy fighting around Struvina, east of Monastir on the Macedonian front, is recorded by Paris, which says the Serbians checked three attacks by Germans and Bulgarian troops. Serbian attacks near Trentino west of Monastir, were repulsed, Berlin states.

Snow in the Trentino region and rain on the Carso is hampering infantry action of the Austro-Italian front.

HALLOW'S CONDITION BETTER

His Assailant Adjudged Deranged—Tony Davis's Injuries Fatal

(Special Star Telegram)

Goldsboro, N. C., Dec. 8.—The condition of Joe Hallow, at the Goldsboro hospital, so seriously wounded yesterday afternoon by Charley Farfour, was very much more hopeful today, although the ball is still somewhere in his neck and his physicians have deemed it not prudent to probe for it at this stage of his condition. It is quite determined that his assailant was suffering from mental derangement.

Tony Davis, colored, died at a local hospital last night following accidental injuries he received Thursday at an oil tank near A. C. L. depot, when an oil car passed over the middle of his body.

CHOSEN VICE PRESIDENT.

Josephus Daniels, Jr., Honored by Young Men's Democratic League.

New York, Dec. 8.—Josephus Daniels, Jr., of Raleigh, N. C., was elected a vice president of the National Young Men's Democratic League at its annual meeting here tonight. Frank D. Shelley, of New York, was elected president, and William F. McCombs was made chairman of the advisory committee.

Letters from President Wilson and Mr. McCormick, thanking the organization for its campaign work, were read at the meeting.