

WEATHER.

Increasing cloudiness Monday followed by rain. Tuesday fair, colder.

THE MORNING STAR WILMINGTON

THE ADVERTISEMENTS in these columns give practical, helpful suggestions for holiday buying during the rush this week.

VOL. XCIX--NO. 84.

WILMINGTON, N. C., MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 18, 1916

WHOLE NUMBER 39,798

CONGRESS TAKES RECESS SATURDAY

Will Extend Until January 2; Members Already Planning for Their Vacations.

DO LITTLE WORK THIS WEEK

Sheppard Prohibition Bill Will Be Before Senate Again Today—Legislative Appropriation Measure in the House

Washington, Dec. 17.—With a holiday recess planned to begin next Saturday and extend until January 2, congressional leaders do not hope to accomplish anything before adjournment except the passage of a few appropriation bills in the House and possibly the disposition of the Sheppard Prohibition bill for the District of Columbia in the Senate.

Consideration of railroad legislation and corrupt practice election measures already having been deferred until next month, members already are planning their Christmas vacations, despite the effort made by Speaker Clark and others early in the session to do away with the usual ten-day recess.

Prohibition for the District of Columbia will be before the Senate again tomorrow with amendments providing for a referendum and Senator Smoot's substitute which would not only bar manufacture and sale of liquors for beverage purposes, but also prohibit importing liquor for personal use.

Resuming consideration of the legislative appropriation bill tomorrow, the House probably will pass it not later than Tuesday. Discussion of the National Federal employees, which will be deferred as an amendment, may require several hours.

The Judiciary committee's favorable report on the Webb nationwide prohibition measure probably will be submitted at the end of this week by Representative Carlin, of Virginia, a member of the committee who recently became converted to the dry cause.

Two Families of Wealth are Involved in Murder

Snyder, Texas, Man Shot by Divorced Wife and Her Brother.

Snyder, Texas, Dec. 17.—Two families of wealthy and wide social prominence in the Southwest were involved in the killing yesterday of Edward O. Simmons, a prominent cattle man. Snyder Johnson, a brother of Sims' divorced wife, Mrs. Gladys Sims, was arrested. Witnesses of the shooting told the sheriff today that a dispute over the two Sims children precipitated the affair.

Once Virtually Penniless, is Now Partner of Morgan

Thomas Cochran Has Made Rapid Rise in Financial World in 16 Years

New York, Dec. 17.—Thomas Cochran, president of the Liberty National Bank of this city, who came to New York virtually penniless 16 years ago, will become a partner in the firm of J. P. Morgan & Company on January 1, it was announced tonight.

Mr. Cochran was born in St. Paul, Minn., March 20, 1871, his parents having moved to that city from New York. At the age of 29 Mr. Cochran came to New York City where his first employment was with the Bankers Trust Company. Henry P. Davidson, then president of the First National Bank, discovered him as a member of J. P. Morgan & Company, "discovered" Cochran and secured him, together with Seward Prosser, now president of the Bankers Trust Company, to aid him in plan to reorganize the Astor Trust Company. His rise in financial circles was rapid after that.

Atlanta, Ga. Dec. 17.—A. B. Steele, partner and former president of the Atlanta and St. Andrews Bay railroad, died at his home here today after an illness of several months. Mr. Steele was 61 years old.

BAKER ENDS LEWIS GUN CONTROVERSY

Officially Condemns the Weapon and Assumes Responsibility for Its Rejection.

TESTS NOT SATISFACTORY

Statement Says There is No Official Record That Colonel Lewis Ever Offered His Gun to the Government.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Official condemnation of the Lewis machine gun, extensively purchased for the British and Canadian armies, is expressed in a formal statement issued by Secretary Baker, assuming full responsibility for the action of the War Department with respect to the much-discussed weapon, and directing that controversy among army officers over it cease.

"Whatever responsibility attaches to the condemnation of this gun as a service gun belongs to the War Department," the statement asserts, "and not to the chief of ordnance or the ordnance department. The proceedings of the boards which tested the rifle have been, in each case, duly approved by the Secretary of War."

The statement shows that the inspector general was directed to investigate the whole matter of the treatment of the Lewis gun, named after its inventor, a former army officer, when the controversy reached the stage where open letters from high ranking army officers were published.

A board of officers already had agreed with previous boards that the gun was not suitable for extensive purchase for the army. The inspector general's conclusions are reported in today's statement. In addition to the two paragraphs already quoted, it finds no official record that Col. Lewis ever offered his gun in any way to the United States government; that the American Arms Company in 1912 made the only offer of 100 guns at \$1,000 each, with license for government manufacture on a royalty basis that tests of the gun were conducted by regularly constituted boards, that the Savage Arms Company in April of this year wrote General Crozier, chief of ordnance, expressing entire satisfaction with the work of the last board; that the gun's failure to pass its endurance test caused its exclusion from field tests, and, finally, that:

"The records do not show any hostility on the part of General Crozier or the ordnance department to the Lewis gun, but do show that the department, by direction of its chief, afforded the owners of the gun every possible facility in placing it before the testing board."

NEW CHURCH AT WINTERVILLE

Baptists to Erect \$25,000 House of Worship—Present and Future Needs

Winterville, N. C., Dec. 17.—The Baptist church, preparing to rebuild on the site of the high school maintained by the denomination here which was destroyed by lightning last summer, will cost more than \$25,000, it is expected. Spare rooms will be included to take care of a growing enrollment.

MUST TRY TO PREVENT EVASIVE ALLIED REPLY

Frankfurter Zeitung Discusses the Proposals for Peace.

Says if There is to be Restriction of Shipbuilding by Naval Powers, the United States Must Also Come Under Terms.

Amsterdam, via London, Dec. 17.—The Frankfurter Zeitung, in an article on the peace proposals, says: "Germany must try to prevent the Entente from giving an evasive answer. We expect a wide cleavage of views at the outset of the negotiations but great apparent divergences of opinion will have less significance when the oral explanations are offered. The standpoints of both parties are already partly identical as regards the general fundamental aims of the war, and the German note must be understood as meaning that part of the German proposals relating to the re-establishment of international conventions for the avoidance of international conflicts and guarantee of international peace.

TO FIGHT REPEAL OF ADAMSON LAW

Its Author Says Congress Would 'Spank Both Sides to the Controversy, if Necessary.'

IS STRICTLY A LABOR LAW

Mr. Adamson Says Roads and Employers May Settle Their Own Wage Disputes—Talks of Agreement Said to Be Proposed

Washington, Dec. 17.—Reports that railroad and brotherhood heads in peace conference have planned to propose the repeal of the Adamson act and the substitution of a working agreement of their own making for it, today aroused Representative Adamson, author of the law, to declare that Congress would "spank both sides to the controversy if necessary."

Mr. Adamson, who is the House representative of President Wilson in railway legislation matters, is willing to co-operate in any plan employees and employers may evolve for the interpretation of his law as applied to working conditions, but will vigorously oppose repeal of it, as he thinks will the majorities of both houses.

"Congress will not agree to any repeal of the Adamson law," he said tonight. "The measure when passed in good faith, and it is a constitutional enactment regulating hours of labor and not wages. Let the roads and their men settle their wage disputes. If it becomes necessary to spank both sides, we'll spank them, though I hope that that won't be necessary."

FOUR-YEAR-OLD BOY KILLED WHEN AUTO TURNS TURTLE

Five Others Injured in Fatal Accident Yesterday Near Gastonia.

(Special Star Telegram.) Gastonia, N. C., Dec. 17.—Garnett Smith, aged four, was instantly killed, his father, Barnett Smith, a well to do merchant of Kings Mountain, and the latter's wife were badly bruised, at the collision the evening when Smith's car turned turtle a mile west of the city. Mr. and Mrs. Jason Fry, also of Kings Mountain, who were riding with them were more or less seriously injured.

The party had been to York, S. C., and were en route home when the accident occurred. Fry was driving, having asked Smith to let him try his hand at the wheel, and stating that he had had experience running autos. They met another car. In passing it the young driver apparently became excited and put on full speed.

SAYS RADIUM A FAILURE AS CURE FOR CANCER AND TUMOR

Report on Tests Made by Dr. Wood, of Columbia University

Washington, Dec. 17.—After exhaustive tests upon rats, mice and guinea pigs, the use of radium as a cure of cancer and tumors has been found to be a failure, according to the annual report of Dr. Francis Carter Wood, head of the Crocker Cancer Research Fund of Columbia University, made public tonight.

MEXICAN BANKERS ARRESTED

British Subject and Eight Others Held at Mexico City

Laredo, Texas, Dec. 17.—William Mitchell, a British subject, manager of the Bank of London and Mexico, with Rafael Sandoval, Wilhelm Happer, Miguel Castellanos, Gustavo Montaudon, Federico Prial, Vicente Echegaray and Francisco J. Livera, members of the board of counsellors of that bank, were arrested in the City of Mexico, according to newspapers received tonight. No cause for the arrests is given beyond the statement that the men declined to obey an order of General Carranza.

PRESIDENT GIVES \$2,000

Sends Personal Check to Help Pay Off Democratic Campaign Debt

RUMOR OF MUTINY AMONG VILLISTAS

General Salazar Reported to Have Separated From Villa and Joined Murguia.

CAMPAGN IS KEPT SECRET

General Trevino Passes Through El Paso—Villa Forces Nearer Peshing's Force Than at Any Time Since Chihuahua Fight

Chihuahua, Mex., Dec. 17.—During the strict secrecy kept by General Murguia in his campaign against Francisco Villa, rumors have reached here of the separation of General Salazar from Villa and of his unconditional surrender to government forces. Another rumor has it that Villa's followers had a battle among themselves at Santa Teabel over the division of spoils taken from Chihuahua City.

TREVINO AND PARTY PASS THROUGH CITY OF EL PASO

El Paso, Texas, Dec. 17.—General Trevino, until recently commander of the Carranza forces in Chihuahua City, arrived here today and left tonight for Eagle Pass, on his way to Queretaro. General Trevino's brother, Francisco Trevino, will govern Chihuahua, and several staff officers accompanied him.

WILL RECEIVE CARRANZA'S ACTION ON PROTOCOL TODAY

Philadelphia, Dec. 17.—Without knowing whether General Carranza had ratified the protocol signed at Atlantic City, the American members of the American League for a New International Commission, Secretary of the Interior Lane, Judge George Gray and Dr. J. Mott arrived here tonight to get from the Mexican commissioners tomorrow the answer given by the Mexican executive. Secretary Lane, chairman of the American group, informed them in an informal meeting tonight of the communication he had received from the Mexicans in which Carranza's representatives had said that they would submit tomorrow his "comments" on the protocol, which had been placed before him by Alberto J. Utrera, Carranza's secretary.

JOHN H. WHITEHOUSE, M. P., FAVORS LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Liberal Member of Parliament Delivers Address in New York

New York, Dec. 17.—Formation of a league of nations to insure lasting international peace following the termination of the present war, was endorsed here tonight in a speech by John Howard Whitehouse, liberal member of the parliament. Mr. Whitehouse is here studying educational methods with the view of introducing them in England after the war.

LEAVES WORLD COURT.

John W. Hill Elected Chancellor of Lincoln Memorial University.

Akron, O., Dec. 17.—The first public announcement that John Wesley Hill, head of the World Court Movement, has been elected chancellor of Lincoln Memorial University, at Cumberland Gap, Tenn., and has resigned the general secretaryship of the world court to accept, was made by Rev. Mr. Hill today, while a guest of F. A. Selberling, a trustee of the university.

STEAMER STILL ASHORE

Norwegian Tramp Sticks Fast Despite Efforts to Float Her

Brigantine, N. J., Dec. 17.—The Norwegian trawler Juno which went ashore off Little Beach Life Saving station early yesterday, was still hard aground tonight. The coast guard cutter Mohawk and a tug made several ineffectual attempts during the day to pull the Juno in deep water. Another tug has been summoned from New York. The captain and crew of 23 men remain aboard.

St. John, N. B., Dec. 17.—Word of the total wreck of the British schooner Laura E. Melanson, of the coast of New Brunswick, in Saturday's storm was received here tonight. The mate was the only member of the crew lost.

FURTHER GAINS ARE MADE BY THE FRENCH IN THEIR DRIVE IN VERDUN REGION

Berlin Admits Loss of Village of Bezouvaux and the Wood to the West—Mackensen's Armies Cross the Buzen and Calmatniul Rivers in Rumania, Capturing 1,150 Prisoners and Much Booty—Russian Positions Stormed.

BRAZILIAN BARK WITH TWELVE ABOARD LOST

Went Down in Snow Storm Friday Night Off Jersey Coast.

The Nettis was Being Towed by the Tug Garibaldi to New York—Captain of the Tug Tells of the Disaster.

New York, Dec. 17.—The Brazilian bark Nettis, with 12 men on board, was lost during the snow storm Friday night off Barnegat, on the New Jersey coast, according to Captain Moroech, of the tug Garibaldi, on her way here from Maranhao, Brazil, to be converted into a steam vessel.

WILL NOT BE CANDIDATE

District Attorney Marshall Will Not Seek Re-Appointment

New York, Dec. 17.—H. Snowden Marshall, United States district attorney for the southern district of New York, announced tonight that he will not be a candidate for re-appointment when his term expires on May 7, next, but will return to private practice.

TO RAISE LINER POWHATAN.

Merchants and Miners' Steamer Sunk in Twenty Feet of Water.

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 17.—Tugs and barges connected with local wrecking concerns this afternoon began the actual work of raising the Merchants and Miners' liner Powhatan, sunk Wednesday night off Willoughby Beach, following a collision with the British tanker Telega. Divers have completed the task of stopping up the great rent in the ship's side. The Powhatan will be raised with pontoons, pumped out and carried to the Newport News ship yard for rebuilding. The wreckers are confident they will be able to float the steamer now resting in 20 feet of water.

HAS NEW PLAN TO ENCOURAGE PEACE

Believes Big Sum to Help European Non-Combatants Would Have Powerful Influence.

SUGGESTS \$500,000,000 FUND

Frederick C. Walcott Addresses Large Number of Senators and Representatives—Action of Allies Awaited With Interest.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Frederick C. Walcott, of New York, who recently investigated conditions in Poland and Belgium for the Rockefeller Foundation, told a number of Senators and Representatives who met tonight at the home of Miss Mabel T. Boardman, of the Red Cross, that a fund of \$500,000,000 collected in this country and offered for relief of non-combatants in Europe would be a powerful peace influence at this time. He said such an act would tend to create popular demonstrations for peace among civilian populations of warring nations, because they would be anxious for the assistance in rehabilitating their homes and restoring normal living conditions.

FORTY PERSONS LOST

ON SPANISH STEAMER

The Pío IX Was Sunk in Storm Off Canary Islands December 8.

New York, Dec. 17.—Eleven survivors of the Spanish steamship Pío IX, wrecked in a storm and sunk several hundred miles off the Canary Islands on December 8, arrived here today on the steamer Buenos Aires. Eleven others were reported to have been saved by a French transport. Forty of the crew, including the captain, were drowned. Nine of the men on the Buenos Aires were picked up from an improvised raft and two of them from a ladder.

GERMANY DOES NOT WANT CESSATION IN FIGHTING.

London, Dec. 17.—Telegraphing from Copenhagen, the correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company quotes the Frankfurter Zeitung as saying: "Germany does not want a cessation of fighting, but merely a conference at which all the belligerents shall openly state their peace proposals."

TEUTONS ADVANCE IN EAST

WHILE FRENCH GAIN IN WEST

Berlin, Dec. 17. (via Sayville).—Teutonic armies invaded Rumania, having crossed the Buzen and lower Calmatniul rivers, in Eastern Wallachia, according to the statement issued tonight by the German headquarters staff.

RUNS BRITISH BLOCKADE

German Steamship Reaches Stavanger From Norwegian Port.

Berlin, Dec. 17. (via Sayville).—The German steamship Prinz Friedrich Wilhelm, which has been anchored at Odde, near Bergen, Norway, since the beginning of the war, has arrived at Stavanger, according to a dispatch from Christiansia to the Frankfurter Zeitung, "after having broken the British blockade outside Bergen."

GOVERNOR TRAFFIC OFFICER.

Operates Semaphore While Christmas Fund for Poor is Raised.

Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 17.—Governor Tom C. Rye today operated a traffic officer's semaphore on a downtown corner, holding up traffic while businessmen and young ladies sold papers to occupants of vehicles to raise a Christmas fund for the poor. Over \$4,400 was raised.

HAS NEW PLAN TO ENCOURAGE PEACE

Believes Big Sum to Help European Non-Combatants Would Have Powerful Influence.

SUGGESTS \$500,000,000 FUND

Frederick C. Walcott Addresses Large Number of Senators and Representatives—Action of Allies Awaited With Interest.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Frederick C. Walcott, of New York, who recently investigated conditions in Poland and Belgium for the Rockefeller Foundation, told a number of Senators and Representatives who met tonight at the home of Miss Mabel T. Boardman, of the Red Cross, that a fund of \$500,000,000 collected in this country and offered for relief of non-combatants in Europe would be a powerful peace influence at this time. He said such an act would tend to create popular demonstrations for peace among civilian populations of warring nations, because they would be anxious for the assistance in rehabilitating their homes and restoring normal living conditions.

FORTY PERSONS LOST

ON SPANISH STEAMER

The Pío IX Was Sunk in Storm Off Canary Islands December 8.

New York, Dec. 17.—Eleven survivors of the Spanish steamship Pío IX, wrecked in a storm and sunk several hundred miles off the Canary Islands on December 8, arrived here today on the steamer Buenos Aires. Eleven others were reported to have been saved by a French transport. Forty of the crew, including the captain, were drowned. Nine of the men on the Buenos Aires were picked up from an improvised raft and two of them from a ladder.

GERMANY DOES NOT WANT CESSATION IN FIGHTING.

London, Dec. 17.—Telegraphing from Copenhagen, the correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company quotes the Frankfurter Zeitung as saying: "Germany does not want a cessation of fighting, but merely a conference at which all the belligerents shall openly state their peace proposals."

TEUTONS ADVANCE IN EAST

WHILE FRENCH GAIN IN WEST

Berlin, Dec. 17. (via Sayville).—Teutonic armies invaded Rumania, having crossed the Buzen and lower Calmatniul rivers, in Eastern Wallachia, according to the statement issued tonight by the German headquarters staff.

RUNS BRITISH BLOCKADE

German Steamship Reaches Stavanger From Norwegian Port.

Berlin, Dec. 17. (via Sayville).—The German steamship Prinz Friedrich Wilhelm, which has been anchored at Odde, near Bergen, Norway, since the beginning of the war, has arrived at Stavanger, according to a dispatch from Christiansia to the Frankfurter Zeitung, "after having broken the British blockade outside Bergen."

GOVERNOR TRAFFIC OFFICER.

Operates Semaphore While Christmas Fund for Poor is Raised.

Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 17.—Governor Tom C. Rye today operated a traffic officer's semaphore on a downtown corner, holding up traffic while businessmen and young ladies sold papers to occupants of vehicles to raise a Christmas fund for the poor. Over \$4,400 was raised.

"The Central Powers base these proposals on the conviction that their own rights and just claims today are not in contradiction to the rights of other nations. In addition the Central Powers declare they do not want to annihilate or destroy anybody and that the peace proposals will be of such a nature as to guarantee the establishment of a lasting peace. "To go further in outlining the peace (Continue on Page Eight).