

WEATHER.

Fair and colder Saturday; Sunday probably fair.

THE MORNING STAR

WILMINGTON, N. C. SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 6, 1917

MONEY spent in advertising in the right way is a sound investment for every business man here and everywhere.

VOL. XCIX—NO. 102.

WHOLE NUMBER 39,816

LETTER FROM 'A. CURTIS' GIVEN AS PRINCIPAL 'EVIDENCE' THAT 'LEAK' ON PEACE NOTE EXISTED

Was Written on Plain Paper, No Address Given, and "Mr. Curtis" Not Yet Found

MR. WOOD EXPOSES RUMORS

Secretary Tumulty and President's Brother-in-Law Mentioned as Knowing of "Leak"

BOTH DENY THE REPORTS

Tumulty Demands Apology From the Indiana Congressman

Washington, Jan. 5.—Sensational rumors of a "leak" to Wall Street in advance of President Wilson's peace note were related to the House Rules committee today by Representative Wood, of Indiana, in support of his resolution for an inquiry. He prefaced his testimony with the statement that he had nothing but hearsay evidence to offer and vainly protested against an open session of the committee.

Names and rumored details of the alleged "leak" came thick and fast when Mr. Wood began his story. He mentioned Joseph P. Tumulty, secretary to President Wilson; R. W. Bolling, a brother-in-law of the President; Bernard Baruch, of New York, and various brokerage houses, crediting most of his information to a letter received from "A. Curtis," of New York. This letter, produced later, was written on plain paper, without the writer's address, and up to a late hour tonight Kenneth Romney, deputy sergeant-at-arms of the House, in New York searching for A. Curtis, had been unable to find any trace of him.

Tumulty Demands Apology.

Statements were issued after the committee meeting by Secretary Tumulty and Mr. Bolling flatly denying the reports regarding them, and Mr. Tumulty demanded that Representative Wood publicly apologize for mentioning his name. Mr. Wood followed with a statement pointing out that he desired to testify in private, but that those whose names were the subject of the report should court the fullest investigation. Tomorrow the committee probably will hear Representative Gardner, who declared on the floor of the House recently that he knew there was a "leak." Monday Thomas W. Lawson, of Boston, is to appear and if he can be reached Bernard Baruch will be subpoenaed.

It is understood that Secretary Lansing and Mr. Tumulty will be asked to testify before the committee.

After reading all of Mr. Wood's testimony, Secretary Tumulty tonight issued a second statement, saying: "All I have to say is that as a gentleman not less than a representative in Congress, Mr. Wood owes me a public apology."

Representative Wood told the committee he had been informed that "Barney Baruch had information about the note to the European belligerents two or three days before I was sent out on two or three occasions at that time he was in consultation with Mr. Tumulty at the Biltmore hotel in New York."

Representative Bennett, of New York, a member of the committee, said on the House floor Wednesday that Baruch was reported in New York to have sold 15,000 shares of steel on a rising market shortly before the note was made public.

Congressman Wood's Testimony.

Wood testified he had been informed that on Wednesday, December 20, which was prior to publication of the note, a confidential telegram had been sent by R. W. McKinnon, of Thompson & McKinnon, brokers, of Chicago, to Ralph H. Hartley, manager of their branch at Oakbrook, Wis., advising him that the President would have a message of importance soon and that he should advise friends and patrons of his office in short on stocks. S. B. Friday, of Oakbrook, was named by Wood as his informant.

Representative Wood requested that Otto Kuhn, of Kuhn, Loeb & Company, New York, be subpoenaed and interrogated regarding what advance information he had.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

Senate Votes Approval of the President's Request That the Warring Nations Discuss Peace

Jones Substitute Resolution Accepted and Passed, 48 to 17, the Progressives Voting With the Democrats—Senator Lewis Springs Sensation in Stating That a Continuation of War in Europe Will Embroil This Country.

Washington, Jan. 5.—Approval of President Wilson's request for a statement of peace terms from the European belligerents was voted tonight by the Senate at the conclusion of three days of stirring debate. Action came with dramatic suddenness when Democratic leaders decided to accept a form of resolution that would not commit the Senate to endorsement of the whole of the President's note and ten Republicans of the Progressive group joined the majority in making the vote of 48 to 17.

Senator Martine, of New Jersey, was the only Democrat to vote in the negative.

Lewis Springs Sensation. Discussion of the subject had reached a climax during the day with a sensational declaration by Senator Lewis, chief spokesman for Democrats, in reply to Republican criticism of the President's course. Without referring directly to the submarine controversy the senator said the United States could not keep out of the war if it continued and that America would not again accept misconception of orders or seal of an officer as an excuse for an inquiry to a citizen or property.

The chief objection against the original resolution offered by Senator Hitchcock was that it would endorse the President's offer to join in a movement to guarantee world peace and his declaration of the interest of the United States in small nations. Progressive Republicans joined Senator Lodge and others in this contention.

Jones Resolution Adopted. The resolution adopted was proposed by Senator Jones, Republican, of Washington, and was accepted by Senator Hitchcock as a substitute for his own. It resolves:

"That the Senate approves and strongly endorses the request by the President in the diplomatic note of December 18th to the nations now engaged in war, that those nations state the terms upon which peace might be discussed."

The compromise ended debate when it appeared certain that action would be deferred until tomorrow, and soon after Senator Borah had begun a vigorous speech against the resolution.

There had been startling assertions from both sides of the chamber during the day, though none attracted such attention as that of Senator Lewis in closing the argument for the Hitchcock resolution.

Would Involve America. "Let me say on my own authority," said Senator Lewis, "that I agree with the sentiment expressed from any quarter, the Secretary of State or any one else (referring to Secretary Lansing's first explanation of the President's note to the powers) that this war cannot

continue without America being involved in the conflict. "Do you feel that the people of this nation are in such temper that they can ever again allow any commander of ships, any captain of army, any officer of diplomacy, to visit upon this country an injury to a citizen or property and escape on an excuse of misconception of orders or seal of an officer?"

"If these conditions again be repeated, America will not again accept that form of apology and will recent and punish to the full extent of her power. No amount of logic or pacification would prevail."

"I say continuance of the war means war with the United States and in this I have never a doubt of the comprehension of the United States and faith in the sagacious foresight of the officials of the administration, in the effort to bring about peace with Europe that we might maintain peace in America."

Borah Attacks Hitchcock Resolution. Senator Borah, attacking the Hitchcock resolution, said that in his judgment the United States by approving the President's note would bind itself in the future with European nations to protect the integrity and security of smaller European nations and that if this meant anything at all it meant that the Army and Navy of this nation must be at the disposal of any world combination the war's end might see, to give this protection.

Advised through the mountains in Siberia and Bessarabia. Austro-German troops have gained additional ground and have captured several hundred prisoners.

Between Rimnik-Sarat and Fokshani Von Mackensen's men continue to progress and have occupied the towns of Slobozia and Botosani. Bulgarians and Rumanians, Petrograd announces, repulsed attacks at some points on the Moldavian front and near Toposchik and Norucha the Austro-Germans gained ground.

Austro-German troops have taken an island in the Dvina river north of Dvinsk, for the Russians. Attacks by the Russians, Berlin states, in attempts to regain the island, were repulsed with heavy losses. Elsewhere on the eastern front there have been patrol engagements.

On Western Front. Small raids and isolated attacks have taken place at various points on the western front. Near Loos, Berlin announces, the Germans carried out a raid successfully. London states the raiders were driven out after heavy fighting. A German attack against the Meuse in the Verdun region was repulsed. Elsewhere there have been artillery activity and trench bombardments. Both Paris and London report considerable aerial activity on the front in France.

Conference at Rome. Premiers Lloyd-George of Great Britain and Briand of France have arrived in Rome for a conference with the Italian ministry on the general situation. They were accompanied by other members of the British and French war councils. A representative of the Russian general staff also is expected to take part in the consultations.

The vote follows: Ayes—Democrats: Bankhead, Bryan, Chamberlain, Chilton, Fletcher, Hardwick, Hitchcock, Hollis, Hughes, Johnson (South Dakota), Kern Kirby, Lang, Lee, Lewis, Martin, Newland, Overman, Pittman, Pomorene, Ransdell, Reed, Robinson, Saulsbury, Shafroth, Sheppard, Shield, Simmons, Smith (Arizona), Smith (Georgia), Smith (South Carolina), Stone, Swanson, Thomas, Tillman, Underwood, Vardaman, Walsh, —38.

Republicans: Borah, Clapp, Cummins, Curtis, Jones, Kenyon, Lippitt, Norris, Sterling, Townsend.—10. Total ayes, 48.

Nays—Republicans: Brady, Brandegee, Clark, Gallinger, Harding, Lodge, McCumber, Nelson, Page, Poindexter, Sherman, Smoot, Wadsworth, Watson, Weeks, Works.—16. Democrat: Martine.—1. Total nays, 17.

VILLA DEFEATED WITH A LOSS OF 1,500-MEN

Jimenez Is Reported Captured by the Defacto Forces.

Bandit Chief Said to Have Personally Led the Attack Against the Forces Under General Francisco Murguia.

Chihuahua City, Jan. 5.—Villa was defeated at Jimenez yesterday by Gen. Francisco Murguia with a loss of 1,500 rebel dead, wounded and captured. Martin Lopez, a rebel leader, and another Villa general were among the slain, according to an official report tonight from the Carranza commander. Villa was said to be fleeing toward El Valle.

General Murguia stated that his command pushed back Villa's troops five miles after coming into contact. Machine guns are credited with playing an important part in the offensive, in which both cavalry and infantry were heavily engaged. Villa, according to the report, personally led repeated cavalry attacks against Murguia's infantry which were checked with heavy losses.

Besides Villa's heavy losses in men, horses, ammunition, arms and other war material, General Murguia claims the recovery of many carloads of loot brought by the Villa troops from Torreón. Government cavalry is said to have killed about 50 members of Villa's body guard, which is protecting him in his escape by automobile. General Murguia advised his subordinates here that he intends to keep up a hot pursuit as Villa's forces are badly disorganized.

Democratic Leaders Believe it Will Be Passed Without Serious Opposition.—Wood Extends Committee—Until December.

RAILWAY EXECUTIVES URGE CONTINUATION OF COMMITTEE

New York, Jan. 5.—The railway executives advisory committee, in a statement issued here tonight, urged continuation of the committee.

NEWLANDS COMMITTEE IS TO BE CONTINUED

Resolution Favorably Reported to Both Senate and House

Democratic Leaders Believe it Will Be Passed Without Serious Opposition.—Wood Extends Committee—Until December.

Washington, Jan. 5.—Extension of the life of the Newlands joint railroad committee until the convening of the Sixty-fifth Congress next December without an additional appropriation, was agreed to today by Administration leaders in Congress and the necessary provision was embodied in a joint resolution favorably reported by both the Senate and House commerce committee.

The joint committee, created at the last session to investigate the whole subject of railway control, would expire under the present law next Monday. A proposal to extend it for one year and to appropriate for retention as a salaried member of Representative Cullip, of Indiana, who retired from Congress March 4, was blocked in the House yesterday by Republican objection.

Democratic leaders believe the resolution reported today as a substitute will be passed without serious opposition.

It is a hard worker and has attended to his duties well. His friends here hope that he will be returned to Congress for many years to come. P. R. A.

BRILA CAPTURED BY THE FORGES OF TEUTONIC ALLIES

Rumanian Province of Dobrudja Now is Wholly in the Hands of Central Powers

HAVE CONTROL OF DANUBE

British and French Premiers Arrive at Rome to Confer With the Italian Ministry

The Rumanian province of the Dobrudja now is in the hands of the Central powers, whose armies continue to advance through Great Wallachia into Moldavia.

Braila, an important commercial city in Great Wallachia and on the west bank of the Danube below Galatz, has been captured by German and Bulgarian troops. Several villages on the outskirts of Braila also have been occupied and Field Marshal von Mackensen's troops have taken 1,400 prisoners in their latest success.

Teutons Control the Danube. Virtually all of the river Danube from its sources to its mouth now is in the hands of the Teutonic forces who control all of eastern bank and all but a few miles of the western bank. Galatz, 12 miles north of Braila, is the only important Rumanian town on the Danube yet in Rumanian hands.

The clearing of the Dobrudja by the combined German, Turkish and Bulgarian forces, is reported semi-officially from Berlin, leaves a larger part of those forces ready for other employment and close to Russia the Dobrudja pathway to Constantinople.

Advancing through the mountains in Siberia and Bessarabia. Austro-German troops have gained additional ground and have captured several hundred prisoners.

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German Critic Says Larger Part of Force in Dobrudja Has Completed Its Task

RUSSIANS ARE ENTRAPPED

Fragments of Defeated Army Driven Into Neck of Land Three Kilometers Wide and Eight Kilometers Long.

Berlin Jan. 5. (Via Sayville).—The larger part of the forces of the Central Powers which have been fighting in the Dobrudja now are free for other employment, and any Russian plan to reach Constantinople by going through the Dobrudja can be considered to have failed, writes the military critic of the Overseas News Agency, in reviewing the military situation. The critic says:

"Jijila and Matchin, where the Russians offered desperate resistance, have been stormed by German and Bulgarian troops and the fragments of the defeated Russian units have been driven into a neck of land three kilometers wide and eight kilometers long while there is only one road which leads to the Danube. Because of the lakes and swampy ground in this district, all further resistance must be considered hopeless."

"By this last victory all of the Dobrudja aggregating 11,000 square kilometers, has fallen into the hands of the central powers. The troops under General Sakharoff, and the rapidly moving divisions of the Russian army, have been driven northward a distance of seventy kilometers and beyond the Danube by the irresistible Bulgarian, Turkish and German troops."

"A defense of the Dobrudja against a new Russian irruption is easy since the north it is covered by the broad swampy district of the lower Danube and on the east by the Danube delta and the Black sea."

"Any Russian plan to obtain Constantinople on the road through the Dobrudja can be considered to have failed forever. The larger part of the forces of the Central Powers in Dobrudja, now are free for other employment."

"Since the middle of December the Dobrudja has been on the defensive everywhere. Anglo-French activity on the western front has been limited mostly to artillery fire. The offensive on the Macedonian front has been deadlocked since the occupation of Monastir."

BRILA WAS RUMANIA'S CHIEF COMMERCIAL CITY. Berlin, Jan. 5. (Via Sayville).—Braila, Rumania's chief commercial city, has been captured by the Germans and Bulgarians, according to the official announcement made this evening.

CUBAN GOVERNMENT'S SUIT AGAINST NORTH CAROLINA IS DROPPED

Reputed Bond Case to Have Been Argued Before U. S. Supreme Court Next Week Will be Stricken From Records, Following Cable to Cuban Minister From Havana—Tar Heels Elated Over Senator Overman's Diplomatic Triumph

(Special Star Telegram). Washington, D. C., Jan. 5.—Dr. Chas. Manuel Cespedes, Cuban minister to Washington, formally notified Senator Lee Slater Overman today that the Republic of Cuba had revoked the decree allowing certain people in Cuba to sue the State of North Carolina on the repudiated carpet-bag bonds, and the case which was to have been heard in the United States Supreme Court Monday will be stricken from the records—dropped for once and all time.

"Too much credit can not be given Senator Overman, of North Carolina, for settling this great suit. But for the senator's resolution calling for an investigation and his forceful speech delivered in the Senate this week, the suit would have been pressed and had the court decided against the State, other suits would have followed which would have aggregated something like \$43,000,000 and interest."

When Minister Cespedes read what Senator Overman said about the suit he sent for the North Carolina senator to call at his residence. He said the Republic of Cuba had been grossly imposed upon and urged him to delay action on his resolution until he could cable his government. Senator Overman was willing to do this and today Minister Cespedes received a cable from Cuba advising him that the decree had

been revoked and that the suit would be dropped. The cablegram from the Cuban government, which by the way is a long one, is now being translated by clerks in the Cuban legation, and a full and complete copy will be delivered to Senator Overman tomorrow or Monday. At the same time it is expected that Dr. Cespedes will give Senator Overman information, indeed, if not the name or names of the gentlemen who have been peddling the bonds.

At today's conference between Dr. Cespedes and Senator Overman, however, the only information as to who had peddled the bonds over to the Cubans was that they came through the New York Reputed bond committee. Just who is responsible for this committee having the bonds will make interesting reading also.

There was great joy around the Capitol today when it was learned that North Carolina had again won against the bond peddlers. Much apprehension had been felt here that the Supreme Court would decide against the State, though the brief filed by Attorney General Bickett is considered a master stroke. Anyhow, a sigh of relief went up among the delegation when they learned that through the diplomacy of Senator Overman, the whole question had been settled and at the same time other countries have been given notice that no reputable country desires to

(Continued on Page Two.)

TEUTONS FREE TO GO TO NEW FRONTS

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REPORT OF NEWS NOTE ARE DENIED

President Wilson Authorizes the Statement That None Is Under Contemplation

NO FOUNDATION TO RUMORS

Central Powers Reported Preparing Note to Entente Enumerating the Precise Conditions for Declaring Peace

Washington, Jan. 5.—The State Department today authorized the statement that President Wilson was not contemplating sending another peace note. Counselor Polk gave out the following statement:

"The report that the President is preparing to send a new note to the belligerent powers is false and without any foundation. The President has no second note in contemplation."

Following the cabinet meeting Secretary Lansing announced that President Wilson had authorized him to say that the American government had no other note in contemplation and that such information was being sent to all American diplomatic representatives abroad.

Secretary Lansing would not discuss the question further, but it was understood that the reason for the announcement was apprehension on the part of the administration that reports that another note would be sent would affect the Entente reply to the President's first note, expected here in the near future.

TEUTONS TO ENUMERATE PEACE TERMS TO ALLIES!

Paris Jan. 5.—The Central Powers are reported by the Lausanne Gazette to be preparing a second note to the Entente enumerating the precise conditions of peace, says a Geneva dispatch to the Temps.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY TO ISSUE IMPROVEMENT BONDS

Plan Recommended by Directors is Approved by Stockholders.

Richmond, Va., Jan. 5.—Stockholders of the Southern Railway company, in meeting here today, approved a plan recommended by the board of directors for the creation by the company of a new refunding and improvement mortgage, including proposed exchange of 4 1/2 per cent bonds for outstanding development and general mortgage 4 per cent bonds surrendered by the holders for that purpose in accordance with the plan, which provides for the deposit of such development and general mortgage 4 per cent bonds with the Bankers Trust Company, depositor, New York City. Objection was made by C. H. Verner, of New York, a stockholder, who, at the beginning of the meeting, made a motion to adjourn, which was defeated 1/2 a vote of 1,226,100 shares to 700 shares.

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BOARD OF CONTROL FOR INSTITUTIONS OF STATE PROPOSED

Senate Would Name Committee to Consider Advisability of "Board of Appropriations"

PENDER FREE RANGE KILLED

Legislature Handling Flood of Local Bills With Dispatch, Keeping Calendar Clear

(By W. J. MARTIN).

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 5.—Senator Brenizer, of Mecklenburg, contributed to the legislative hopper today one of the most significant and important resolutions yet offered at this session, involving the State's financial policy as to the management of its State institutions. It would be supplemental to the Oates resolution passed yesterday for a special committee to investigate as to the advisability of creating a central State purchasing agent or board.

Mr. Brenizer would have this committee to also investigate and report as to the advisability of "the creation and establishment of a special board of appropriations to which all applications for appropriations by the institutions and departments of State shall be made and which shall make such recommendations in regard to such applications as it may deem proper; and also upon the advisability of the creation and establishment of a State board of control with power to supervise all State institutions. If this committee declines to report favorably upon the advisability of such agency or board, then it shall draw bills for such purpose and report them to this session."

The Brenizer resolution passed all its readings in the Senate without opposition and was sent to the House.

Pender Free Range Fight. One little local bill to put Pender county immediately back into free range condition this afternoon stirred a tremendous hearing before the legislative committee and came in finally for unfavorable report which assures its defeat. It had already passed the House before a hundred or more citizens of Pender raided the legislators' "save Pender" badges.

The hearing consumed all afternoon in a crowded Senate chamber. Senator Burnett, who earnestly favored the bill, pleaded in vain that his people by nearly two to one wanted to rid of the stock law. The delegation for stock law was headed by C. E. McCullen.

McCullen insisted that the owners of 75 per cent of the property in the county wanted to retain the stock law and that all were wholly unprepared to revert to free range. The chairman of the committee, Long, of Alamance, chairman, and the unfavorable report.

Representative Scott was certain "these stock laws" had done a great injustice to the people. For Senator Hall next spoke against the Scott repealing act while the delegation stormed and applauded. In the campaign recently closed the free range people argued that they would not have to fence in their property.

"No," laughed Mr. McCullen, "I never had the pleasure of hearing you make an argument at all." The Pender delegates shouted.

Mr. McCullen challenged Mr. Scott to submit the issues to a vote. "We'll clean you up, and you know it," Mr. McCullen told him. There were numerous speakers. It would seem that Pender is assured of retaining her stock law.

Many Local Bills Passed. This was a day devoted principally to the passage of little local bills to get ahead of the constitutional amendments. Many were introduced and many more were passed. The calendars are being kept well up and few are being held up for any cause.

Altogether about 400 bills have been introduced in the two houses and are in process of enactment. Three-fourths of them originated in the House.

Lieutenant Governor-elect Gardner, who is electing the Senate committee, named James A. Gray, Jr., of Winston-Salem as chairman of the finance committee, and he is organizing for a careful administration of the committee work, the most important of the Assembly. Others of this committee are: Soales, Holderness, Matheson, Warren, Blue, Everett, McNider, Gough, Johnson, Person, Tucker, Pollock and Dewese.

East Carolina Bills Introduced today were: Davenport—Amend Roper charter; Establish county seat for Washington county.

Gough—Regulate annual amendments by Lumberton authorities. Bills passed final reading included: Amend Hope Mills school laws; Authorize Currituck bonds; Road bonds for Sampson; Roads and bridges in Robeson, with special tax; Justices of the peace for Pender; Amend Lumberton's charter; Economical disbursements in Robeson; Amend Sampson's road law; Justices for Brunswick; Amend Perimeter's road law.

Grant—Amend Harriet recorder's court act. Oliver—Change the name of Whitehouse township. Amend compost act for Craven county.

Joyner—Relating to dog tax in Northampton. Ward—Amend charter of Clinton. (Continued on Page Two.)