

Weather

Fair Today and Tomorrow

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WILMINGTON, N. C., MONDAY MORNING, MAY 28, 1923.

OLDEST DAILY IN THE STATE.

Rum Runners Along Coast Of Virginia Shift Field When Decoy Signals Fail To Work

Istar Queen of the Fleet Transfers Cargo to Other Ships

POLISHED GENTLEMEN MAKE UP HER CREW

One Deck Hand Said to Be a Former Member of Parliament

NORFOLK, Va., May 27.—Code messages from agents of the Atlantic coast rum fleet intercepted here Saturday by federal prohibition agents were decoys sent purposely to deceive the authorities as to the movements of the liquor ships, General Agent T. J. Maxey announced today.

Instead of the Istar and her sister ships of the whisky squadron fleeing to Bermuda, Maxey said, they simply moved up the coast a short distance beyond the three mile limit. The Istar, the prohibition general agent said he had ascertained positively, is running short of fuel, and it is doubtful if she could reach Bermuda or any other foreign port without having her bunkers replenished.

Transfers Cargo The Istar, it is reported, has transferred all the cargo that was unable to land to the Strand Hill and the Mary Beatrice, other members of the liquor fleet. A ship that has not yet been mentioned in connection with the rum running activities, but which it is believed to be involved in the traffic, is scheduled to join the fleet soon. It is reported, this ship, the name of which is withheld by federal officers, is said to be of greater cargo capacity than any of the rum fleet yet sighted off the coast.

Arrest Only Start Federal agents admit that with the arrest of Rex D. Sheldon, William E. Burwell, alias William E. Baker, and the latter's wife, the surface of the Atlantic coast rum running activities has been scraped. But they have gathered information, the authorities assert, that will either lead to the capture of the leaders of the gang or keep agents of the syndicate so constantly alert and fearful that the flow of imported liquor into the country will be diminished greatly.

But when the three alleged members of the organization were arrested here the details of the case known to the public were apparently to government officials and to other persons who had direct or indirect contact with the fleet that the vessels were not derelicts by any means, but members of a powerful organized combine with practically unlimited financial backing and with a well defined plan of action.

Norfolk people who have visited the fleet, some of whom have been questioned by federal authorities, have expressed astonishment at what they saw. One such visitor has declared that at least one member of the Istar held a seat in the British parliament, and that all with whom he came in contact on board bore evidence of excellent breeding and of wealth.

Sheldon, after his arrest, told federal officers that he had been directed by certain members of the syndicate to arrange for the supply of rum to be transported from Norfolk to the rum fleet. This man has been questioned by the authorities, as has another Norfolk man, who is said to have tried to raise \$70,000 with which to buy 2,000 cases of the rum fleet's liquor.

Sheldon and Baker made every effort to impress upon them, authorities said, that no liquor had been put ashore at Norfolk. Officials, however, are not inclined to believe all that the prisoners said in their connection.

BRUIN RECEIVES



Buster Bear doesn't know just what to make of his first surprise party. Seems to be enjoying it though. Buster, three months old, is the first bear the Rochester, N. Y., zoo has ever had. He's rather mischievous and keeps his keeper stepping lively.

OFFICIALS ATTEMPT A RECONCILIATION FOR NEW LIQUOR RULINGS

Government Desires to Temper Law's Rigidity in Interest of Comity

WASHINGTON, May 27.—Efforts will be inaugurated tomorrow by treasury officials to reconcile the proposed prohibition regulations with the position taken by the five foreign powers which have expressed their views to the state department in connection with the recent supreme court decisions barring liquor from American territorial waters.

J. B. POWELL, PAROLED, RETURNS TO HILLS WHERE 100 OTHERS HELD CAPTIVE AWAIT FATE AT DISPOSAL OF SUCHOW BRIGANDS

TIENSIN, May 27.—(By the Associated Press.)—J. B. Powell, American newspaper man and one of the captives of the Suchow bandits who recently was paroled to carry terms of the bandits for the release of his fellow prisoners, returned to the Paotzuku hills where the brigands are holding their captives, according to a telegram from Tsaochwang.

LONDON'S POLITICAL STORM SUP ABOUT AUSTIN CHAMBERLAIN

Prominently Mentioned in Sunday Papers as Ambassador to Washington

LONDON, May 27.—(By Associated Press.)—The political storm having subsided there are still surging around the name of Austin Chamberlain, caused by his talk with the prime minister, Baldwin, at ex-queens court yesterday. Some of the Sunday papers assert that the prime minister offered him the ambassadorship at Washington despite the fact that there is no evidence that the position is vacant and the same papers assert that Mr. Chamberlain declined the honor.

It is not stated whether the alleged offer was to be considered as a solace for the supposed disappointment of Mr. Chamberlain in not being included in the cabinet list. According to an open letter which Mr. Chamberlain has written to his constituents, he and his co-partners in the wilderness were prepared for any personal sacrifice for the sake of re-joining the conservative party and by inference he accuses the "die hards" of frustrating Mr. Baldwin's desire to achieve that unity.

This agrees with the current report that three prominent "die hard" ministers threatened to desert the prime minister of Mr. Chamberlain were included in the cabinet and that thereupon the plan to include Sir Robert S. Horne and Mr. Chamberlain collapsed. There is no confirmation of statements connecting Mr. Chamberlain's name with the Washington post.

WASHINGTON, May 27.—If a change is to be made in Great Britain's diplomatic representation in Washington, no intimation of it has been received at the British embassy.

Sir Auckland Geddes, the British ambassador, has been suffering from eye trouble which, his physicians believe, can be remedied by a few weeks rest and treatment. It is considered possible that on account of his health he may feel obliged to give up his post, although it is known that he has confidence that his health will permit him to do so.

Friends of Sir Auckland have been of the opinion that the resignation as premier of Bonar Law and the selection of Stanley Baldwin as his successor would not affect the ambassadorship of office. It is believed here that should a change be made it will result from Sir Auckland's decision to retire on account of his health, rather than from a desire on the part of the new London government to have someone else as ambassador to the United States.

Marthon Dancers Claim 182 Hours Record Now

YOUNGSTOWN, O., May 27.—The world's endurance dancing record was claimed tonight by Miss Frances Mercer and Harry Wagner, of this city, who ended a continuous performance started more than a week ago, early today.

FIRE IN LAUNDRY AT FAYETTEVILLE CAUSE OF \$15,000 DAMAGE

FAYETTEVILLE, May 27.—Fire of origin not yet determined practically gutted the building of the Clarendon Laundry here this morning and threatened one of the city's principal business blocks.

For a Time Threatens Entire Business District; Insurance Coverage Slight

(Special to The Star) FAYETTEVILLE, May 27.—Fire of origin not yet determined practically gutted the building of the Clarendon Laundry here this morning and threatened one of the city's principal business blocks.

ANOTHER REPARATIONS NOTE IN PREPARATION BY CHANCELLOR CUNO

BERLIN, May 27.—(By Associated Press.)—Chancellor Cuno's deliberations with the reichstag leaders and representatives of finance and industry are gradually assuming concrete form and in all probability will be sufficiently crystallized to enable the government informally to indicate the character of the forthcoming reparations proposals in the course of the next few days.

Much negotiation was had from the offer of the federation of German industrialists to give the requisite guarantees for international loans for reparations purposes.

The deliberations are expected to take up the greater part of the week. It is kept comparatively low standing at \$100 marks or slightly more than three cents a pound. Bread and milk also are on Berlin's present ration list.

SECRETARY WEEKS EDS TRIP SAN FRANCISCO, May 27.—This was the last of Secretary Weeks' Pacific coast tour. Tomorrow the secretary starts back to Washington while the party of senators and congressmen who accompanied him here will divide and one group will go to Alaska on the army transport Gambia, while the other goes to Hawaii on the transport Grant.

GENERAL BUSINESS CONDITIONS ARE FAR BETTER NOW THAN YEAR AGO, ACCORDING TO REPORTS OF FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD

WASHINGTON, May 27.—Government officials whose departments are concerned with the economic situation throughout the country, are giving more than cursory attention, it was made known today, to the trend of general business as indicated by conditions which developed late in April and have continued into May.

While trade and production continued in large volume, reports to the Federal Reserve board show that there was slackening of business activity, although in the comparison with the situation prevailing a year ago, general conditions are regarded as far better. The reserve board in a summary made public today attributed part of the slowing in business to "seasonal influences."

The Course of the Star-News Contest Is Run; Winners Are Announced

Canvassing of Votes Finished Early Sunday Morning By Judges CANDIDATES ARE HIGHLY PLEASED Was a Success From Start to Finish For All Who Ran

The sealed ballot box in the Star-News gift prize campaign was opened promptly at 10 o'clock Saturday night when the judges locked the doors and declared the election closed.

The judges were: W. A. McGill, Cyrus D. Hogue and W. H. Futchers. During the week scores of envelopes were placed in the ballot box. Eager workers continued canvassing until the last moment and just before the campaign was formally declared closed all envelopes from the post-office were placed in the ballot box.

The judges began their work at 10 o'clock and finished only after a long period of strenuous work. They found hundreds of subscriptions and thousands of coupons, checks and ballots. Eager workers continued canvassing until the last moment and just before the campaign was formally declared closed all envelopes from the post-office were placed in the ballot box.

SETTLEMENT OF ARMY'S RHUR EXPENSE ENDS DIPLOMATIC DISCORD

Situation Was at One Time Extremely Delicate, Threatening Open Rupture

AMERICA SO WEALTHY COULD BEAR ALL COST

Democrats See That Republicans Are Not in Accord on the Matter

(Copyright 1923 by Wilmington Star Company) WASHINGTON, May 27.—Settlement of the controversy over America's claim for the expenses of the army of Occupation on the Rhine ends one of the most disagreeable chapters in American diplomacy. It threatened not only to cause a real breach between the United States and the allied powers, but it probably has done already more harm toward the cause of international cooperation than anything since the war.

Just why the United States should have had to battle for months with the diplomats of the European powers on a claim that was plainly established has not been clear and probably never will be. The impression that America was so wealthy that it could afford to ignore a relatively small sum like \$250,000,000 especially at a time when many billions of reparations were not being collected by the allies dominated the minds of the Europeans, and they confidently expected the United States to waive the matter.

There almost developed incidentally a serious diplomatic embarrassment for President Harding in the same controversy. The Republican national committee's publicity headquarters hearing of the exasperation of some of the American officials over the attitude of the allies issued some caustic comment about the allies in which references to "crooked nations abroad and their attempts to "blige" the American people were conspicuous.

The Democratic national committee has had some partisan fun out of the episode, pointing out that discord reigns in the Republican ranks and pointed to the satisfactory settlement of the right was being done and so on. Chairman John F. Adams, of the Republican national committee, is away from Washington. The publicity men who issued the ill-fated statement have had a free hand anyhow and have in recent weeks issued statements which the administration itself might have wished to modify.

The president at his regular meeting with the correspondents on Friday brushed aside the mixup at the Republican publicity headquarters and pointed to the satisfactory settlement of the main controversy over Rhine Army expenses. He would like, naturally, to forget all about the outgiving of the national committee on the subject for it was an embarrassing episode. Out of it may come the fling of more definite responsibility for the issuance of publicity statements upon the auspices of the Republican national committee.

Other Phases Apart from the domestic phases of the controversy and the certain use which opponents of co-operation with Europe are bound to make of the allied attitude over a valid claim for expenses, there is another disappointment in connection with the diplomacy manifested in this case. It is the tendency of the allies to fight tooth and nail against the payment to America of any sums which might otherwise go to their reparations fund. This means a delay in the settlement of the claims of American citizens against Germany. It may yet force the retention by congress of alien property or some plan whereby the income from these properties is made to pay American claims. Certainly the allies have shown that they consider all sums available from Germany to belong more logically to them for restoration of devastated territory and other war claims than for any American pocketbooks. The legal battles in regard to reparations will be for the allies and not Germany. And the time and trouble taken in settling the expenses of the American army for occupying the Rhine after the armistice—a work undertaken at the request of the allies and for moral effect and not military purposes—does not suffer for an easy collection of American war claims.

BULLETIN BOARD

WARSAW, May 27.—The Polish diet has adopted a vote of want of confidence in General Sikorski's ministry, 279 to 117. This means the collapse of the Sikorski cabinet.

BUENOS AIRES, Brazil, May 27.—A dispatch to La Nation from Asuncion, Paraguay, reports a renewal of fighting between Paraguay and revolutionists and government forces in different parts of Paraguay. The dispatch adds that it is understood the Paraguayan government is entering upon an energetic campaign to round up all the rebel groups operating in the interior. The government recently purchased from Chilean government a quantity of war material which is now on the way to Paraguay.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 27.—The T-2 monoplane, piloted by Lieutenants Oakley Kelly and James A. McReady, arrived here at 10:24 o'clock this morning from Lawton, Okla. They will leave tomorrow for Scott field in Illinois. Lieutenants Kelly and McReady, who piloted the machine on the first non-stop flight across the continent, are returning east in the airplane.

WARSAW, May 27.—(By Associated Press.)—President Wojciechowski today accepted the resignation of General Sikorski, and his ministers to continue in office until the cabinet which he has requested. M. Witos to form is ready to assume office.

WASHINGTON, May 27.—William Jennings Bryan will preside at the international economic conference at Gotenburgh July 12 and 13, it was announced tonight by the Southern Commercial Congress, which is organizing the meeting.