

LUSITANIA ISSUE WILL BE AMICABLY SETTLED.

Controversy With Germany Seems Near at Hand—Best Communication is Acceptable to the United States.

Washington Dispatch, 8th.

The tentative communication from Germany designed to settle the Lusitania case is acceptable to the United States. High Administration officials tonight consider that the Government in prevailing upon Germany to make the concessions and proposals, as set forth in the document, has achieved recognition of all high principles for which it has contended in connection with submarine warfare.

The substance of the proposed communication admittedly is satisfactory minor changes to clarify wording and in connection with the form which the formal document was suggested today to Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, by Secretary Lansing.

The desires of the United States in connection with the Lusitania case were made known to the ambassador after President Wilson discussed the subject with his secretary. Count von Bernstorff immediately informed the Secretary that there is no reason why the changes should not be made but explained that as a precaution he thought it would be justified in submitting the matter to his Government for approval. He did so in a dispatch sent to Berlin tonight and without six days the resulting formal communication is expected.

President Wilson and the members of his cabinet have gone over the proposal of Germany for a settlement of the American government's demands concerning the sinking of the Lusitania. While some alternatives in the form of the agreement, which will require its reference to the President again, must be made, they are regarded as minor ones, and optimism prevails that within a short time controversy will be settled amicably.

Everything is substantially all but finished," was the statement of Ambassador Von Bernstorff after a conference with Secretary Lansing on the situation.

A high official of the Administration made this announcement: "The settlement of the Lusitania case is in sight, probably within the next few days. The United States has not altered its demands; it has not relaxed them. You can draw your conclusion as to the basis of the settlement. The wording proposed by Germany appears to cover the position of the United States. It is not to be assumed that there will have to be any further admissions or concessions from Berlin."

Asheville-Ridgecrest Road Now Assured.

Washington Dispatch, 8th.

A special train bearing over two hundred good roads delegates from the Mountain, Ridgecrest, Swann and intermediate points arrived at Asheville this morning. The delegates went before the commission and before they left secured a promise of a splendid sixteen mile road reaching from Asheville to the McDowell county line.

The road is to be started at once. A telegram from Governor Farrar was read, in which he urged the granting of the request of the delegates, pointing out that the road would form the final link in the highway connecting the eastern and western parts of the State and will also be a link of the Southern National Highway. Just what kind of road will be built has not been decided, but it will be a permanent road, the commissioners have assured the delegates.

Married Singer Now is Mrs. Lou Tellegen.

Washington Dispatch, 8th.

Madeline Farrar, opera singer, and Lou Tellegen, actor, were married at noon today at the home of the Farrars parents, Mr and Mrs. Farrar. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Leon A. Harshbarger, secretary at the Unitarian headquarters in this city.

Mrs. Tellegen plan to visit Europe and Japan at the close of their theatrical seasons.

ARRANGE DETAILS FOR CONVENTION.

Democratic Sub-Committeemen See Wilson's Renomination as Certainty.

St. Louis Dispatch, 8th.

That President Wilson would be renominated without opposition was the consensus of opinion of members of the sub-committee of the Democratic National committee who met here today to arrange details for the Democratic National Convention.

The committeemen agreed in advance of the meeting not to select a temporary chairman today, and that task probably will not be taken up until May. Senator James A. Reed, of Missouri, however, is being discussed as a possible choice, the committee thinking it would be fitting that the State in which the convention is held should furnish the temporary presiding elder.

The committee met shortly before noon in executive session and this afternoon inspected the Coliseum, considering desirable alterations.

NEW HYDRO-ELECTRIC PLANT ON CATAWBA.

Southern Power Company Plans Another Development of Water Power.

Newton Dispatch, 8th.

That the Southern Power Company is planning still another great development of hydro-electric power on the Catawba river in this county is indicated by interesting reports from the southeastern section of Catawba, relative to options being taken along the stream of Monbo and Long Island.

On good authority it was learned today that the Long Island cotton mill had given an option for \$225,000 on its plant and properties and that the Turners at Monbo had given an option for \$425,000 on their two cotton mills, while individuals are reported as having given options. It is said that the dam contemplated would be erected at the lower end of what is known as Clark island, where high hills encroach on the river, driving it into a comparatively narrow channel, and in a location where as much or even more power could be generated than at Lookout, where 30,000 hydro-electric power is now being made. Yesterday Statesville and other good towns were switched to the Lookout circuit.

Prisoners Taken.

Berlin Dispatch, 7th (via Wireless to Sayville.)

"A total of 1,429,171 enemy soldiers to date are prisoners of war in Germany," the Over-Seas News agency announced today. This is not inclusive of prisoners made by German troops and left in Austria-Hungary in order to shorten the transport.

"In addition 19,700 cannon, 7,700 military carriages and 3,000 machine guns have been conveyed to Germany, these not including numerous cannon and machine guns destroyed by the enemy before capture and those used at once by German troops.

"The number of rifles taken which are still fit for use is 1,300,000."

Carload of Shrapnel Shipped From Gastonia.

Gastonia Special, 8th to Charlotte Observer.

Gastonia-made shrapnel is the latest thing on the market. Since the town was established carloads of cotton yarns and fabrics have been going out from here daily to all parts of the world, but until now no manufactured product in the nature of a steel article for use in war has ever gone out. The Cocker Machine & Foundry Co. yesterday made its first shipment of steel shrapnel to Washington. These shells were all inspected at the Cocker plant by the official inspector of the buyers, Mr. Cauldron, and are ready for use.

Indigo Dye Bought in China for Durham Mill.

Wilmington Dispatch, 4th.

Three tons of indigo dye are on their way to Durham for the Erwin Cotton Mills, from China, this unusual shipment having been recorded in the local customs house. The dye came through Seattle, and is being re-shipped by rail.

State Democratic Chairman A. W. McLean, of Lumberton, has been critically ill of pneumonia during the past week.

MAY NOT MAKE SOUTHERN TOUR.

President's Callers Gain Impression That He May Decide Against Another Speaking Trip.

Washington Dispatch, 8th.

Southern senators and representatives who have called on the president to urge him to visit their districts should he make another tour in the interests of preparedness gained the impression that the president may decide against another tour; that he had not yet made up his mind and might defer decision until the end of the week, when he had thoroughly canvassed the congressional situation.

The president's callers said the president believed that the people of the country had already shown that they approved of adequate national preparedness and that he might well remain in Washington to confer with leaders.

The president has an engagement to address the Chamber of Commerce of the United States on February 10 and would not be able to leave Washington before that date.

MORE ABOUT THE BROWN MOUNTAIN LIGHT.

This Time Seen From a Point in Silver Creek, 12 Miles Away.

To the Editor of The News-Herald:

On the night of January 19th, 1916, I was standing on the porch that runs around north end of my house when I saw a light flash up about the northeast end of Brown Mountain. It looked to be about six or eight feet high and leaning toward the southwest. Then it rose about two hundred and fifty or three hundred feet high and assumed a round shape, and looked to be about six inches in diameter. It remained still for a few minutes, and then started north-east at a speed of about 30 miles per hour, and stopped apparently about the foot of the rock that caps the top of Table Rock mountain, stood perfectly still for some time, and then started south-west at its former speed and stopped apparently close to its first base; stood still several minutes, and sailed away again toward Table Rock. When about two-thirds the distance from said first base to the Rock there was a flare behind it, making a comet tail appearance, apparently about eight feet long, square at the rear end and curved shaped in front, something like the shape of the shoe to a corn drill. This tail-like appendage appeared like a fog of ashes mingled with fine red hot cinders, something like a cherry red. The tail looked to be about seven feet. Immediately after this beautiful appearance it dipped downward a little irregular at an angle of about fifty or sixty degrees and then began rising on an angle of about 15 or 20 degrees and stopped again, apparently at the Table Rock base. One time it turned a perfectly dark side toward me, but only for a few seconds. It appeared to stop and stand perfectly still while the dark or black side was visible. The reason I have for saying it turned a dark side it looked like a light behind some small black object, when it flew the last time it appeared to stop about half way between the points I have named close to northeast end of Brown Mountain and spread out until it looked like a red hot piece of mettle about four feet long and three and a half feet wide, pointed at the lower end in a right angle.

I went into my room and saw no more of my interesting entertainer. The entertainment was witnessed by my wife, son and baby daughter. Now, I will tell you how I felt when it was all finished—B-l-a-n-k—perfectly so. I based my guess of height, distance and stopping points by the light from the window of Mr. J. M. Harbison's house. I saw a light flash up one dark, rainy night about the same place of the one just described but thought nothing of it, believing it to be caused by a fast moving train on the C. C. & O. crossing the mountains.

Respectfully submitted,
M. A. BIRD,
Route 1, Morganton, N. C.

Chief Justice Walter Clark, of the North Carolina Supreme Court bench, has sent to the judiciary committee of the Senate a communication urging the confirmation of Louis D. Brandeis, and Associate Justice George H. Brown is opposing the confirmation.

FLOODS IN ARKANSAS.

Water Highest Known—Two-Thirds of Three Counties Under Water.

Little Rock, Ark., Dispatch, 5th.

Residents of the territory in the southeastern corner of Arkansas tonight faced a perilous situation. Two-thirds of Lincoln, Desha and Chicot counties are covered with water which is flowing southward through a half dozen breaks in Arkansas river levees. Arkansas City, McGhee and Lake Village and dozens of smaller towns are flooded and the high stage of the Mississippi river added a new danger. At Arkansas City the level of the Mississippi river is 15 feet above the town.

So far all Mississippi river levees are reported holding and the flood waters inside the levees are certain to weaken the mud at Arkansas City, where the stage of the Mississippi late today was 55 1-2 feet, the highest ever known. Water from the Arkansas river flood is six to eight feet deep in the main streets of the town and expected to go at least three feet higher. About 1,100 residents have left the city which now is cut off from communication with the outside world except by boat. There are 500 homeless and hungry persons in the town.

A GOLD MEDAL

For the Best History of Burke County During the Years of the War Between the States, 1861-1865.

The Daughters of the Confederacy, Samuel McD. Tate Chapter, have had circulars printed offering as a premium a handsome gold medal to the pupil in the schools of Burke county, above sixteen years, who shall submit a manuscript of not less than 2000 words, descriptive of the part the county took in the War between the States.

Competitions for this prize must certify that the work is original with the authors and the manuscript must be in the hands of the Historian, Mrs. Ernest Erwin, not later than May 1st, 1916. The successful competitor will have his work read at the meeting of the Memorial Association on May 10, 1916, and the medal presented. The Daughters urge upon the teachers that they encourage their pupils to compete for this prize.

Fire Tuesday.

About noon Tuesday a house on the farm of Mr. Thomas Walton near Morganton, which was occupied by Mr. Walton's son-in-law, Mr. James Harbison, was completely destroyed by fire. The blaze was clearly visible from many points in town. The origin of the fire was from a defective flue. Before it was discovered the flames had got such headway that it was found impossible to save the house. Most of the household effects of Mr. Harbison were saved. There was no insurance and the loss is estimated at about \$500.

GLEN ALPINE NEWS.

Correspondence of The News-Herald.

Messrs. J. M. Brinkley, L. F. Brinkley and J. L. Padgett have bought out the general store at Valdese and will do business there with Mr. Padgett as manager.

Mrs. Thurman Brinkley has moved over to her father's, Mr. John Houk. Mr. Charlie Scott has moved out on Asheville street in the Brinkley cottage.

Mrs. J. H. White is very sick with a bad case of the grip.

Prof. M. T. Hinshaw, of Rutherford College, will hold services at the Methodist church next Sunday morning and at night.

Miss Vivian Simpson is visiting in Richmond, Va.

JAP.

Glen Alpine, N. C., Feb. 9, 1915.

The Tennessee Legislature passed a law abolishing the death penalty, except in cases of criminal assault. The Governor vetoed the measure but it is said his veto came too late—that the law stands. Tennessee is the tenth State in the Union to abolish the extreme penalty for murder. The other nine are Kansas, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

Miss Mary Hildebran, of Gastonia, is here on a visit to home-folks.

MONTHLY MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL.

Mr. R. H. Faulkner Elected Chief of Police—Mr. Millner's Franchise Extended.

The two important matters which the town council considered and acted upon at their regular monthly meeting Monday night were the election of a chief of police and the extension of the franchise granted Mr. H. L. Millner last year to furnish electric current to the town.

Several weeks ago, as told in this paper, Mr. Robert Wall resigned as policeman. Since that time Mr. John Wall, who held the position several years ago, has been serving temporarily. At Monday night's meeting Mr. R. H. Faulkner, formerly night policeman, was elected chief of police. Mr. Everett Mull, night policeman, has resigned, but his successor has not yet been elected. Mr. Charlie Ward is filling the place temporarily.

In regard to Mr. Millner's franchise a statement in last week's paper from Mr. Millner himself explained the delay in the materialization of the plans of the Catawba Valley Light and Power Co. to build their projected hydro-electric plant on the Catawba river just above Nebo. Their inability to acquire, up to the present time, a small tract of land, which it is necessary that they have, has delayed their beginning work many months longer than they had anticipated. Mr. Millner appeared before the board, explained the cause of the delay, asked for and was granted an extension of his franchise from February 1st to September 1st. He is hoping that the legal proceedings which are now pending in McDowell county court will soon settle the matter and that the land will be given the Catawba Valley Co. by condemnation. Acquiring this tract of about 15 acres, as was last week explained by Mr. Millner, is all that is necessary before beginning actual work on the dam, machinery, financial arrangements, and everything else for carrying but the development having been obtained. It is earnestly hoped that the matter of the land will be speedily adjusted, as one of the great and pressing needs of Morganton now is twenty-four hour electric current.

MORE BIG LAND DEALS.

Further Transfers in Linville to the Southern Power Co.

Since our last issue the following have sold their farms in Linville township to the Southern Power Co. at prices stated: C. M. Wiseman \$7,000, Mrs. E. Frizard \$21,500, W. F. Gibbs \$3,000, L. A. Jaynes \$2,500, L. A. Thomas \$500, S. S. Thomas \$5,500.

Married Wednesday in Fort Scott, Kas.

Mr. A. M. Ingold left last Saturday for Fort Scott, Kas., where on Wednesday afternoon of this week he was married to Miss Mae Swift. The ceremony which took place at 5 o'clock was performed at the bride's home in that city.

Mr. and Mrs. Ingold are expected to arrive in Morganton about March 1st. They are now on an extended bridal trip. Morganton people will be delighted to welcome them and offer congratulations.

Likely there is not a man in Morganton more universally esteemed by all classes than is Mr. Ingold, whose integrity and uprightness in all his dealings have won for him the highest respect of rich and poor alike. He is cashier of the First National Bank, which position he has filled most efficiently and acceptably for a number of years.

His bride is a young woman of unusually charming personality, especially gifted in music and of a disposition that wins and keeps friends. It is very gratifying to her many friends here to look forward to having her back again.

Chief Justice Walter Clark, of the State Supreme Court, has denied an application made to him for a writ of error to the United States Supreme Court in the case of Samuel P. Christy and Ida Ball Warren, under sentence to die in the electric chair March 3 for the murder of the woman's husband, G. J. Warren—The famous "Muddy Creek murder mystery." The petitioners claimed that the admission of confessions, while the prisoners were in custody of the officer, even if voluntary, was a violation of the "due process of law."

NEWS ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Brief Notes of Recent Happenings in North Carolina.

The discussion concerning abolishing the postoffice at Salem has been settled by the Postoffice Department. Salem will retain its office.

The War Department has reported to Congress adversely on a project for Federal improvement of the Neuse river, between Goldsboro and New Bern.

William Wood, the Wake county boy, 17 years of age, who several weeks ago under great provocation killed his father, has been sentenced to 10 years in the penitentiary.

J. K. Doughton, son of former Lieut. Gov. R. A. Doughton, of Alleghany county, has been appointed chief national bank examiner for the Sixth Federal Reserve District, headquarters at Atlanta, Ga.

Secretary McAdoo will be the commencement orator for the University this year. He has an invitation extended some time ago by President E. K. Graham. Mrs. McAdoo, youngest daughter of the President, will accompany him.

Former conductor W. B. Tilghman, on the S. A. L. Railway, was awarded a verdict of \$14,800 by a Wake county jury for injuries received in a wreck near Norlina in 1912. It is said that Tilghman has been a physical wreck since the accident.

Concord and Cabarrus county are to have free typhoid vaccine treatment. The county commissioners have contributed \$300 and the city \$100 for this purpose. The State Board of Health will supervise the campaign, which will start this spring.

With an attendance estimated between 1,000 and 1,500, the second convention of the North Carolina Laymen's Missionary movement opened in Greensboro last night. While the first session was largely in the nature of a preliminary meeting, much enthusiasm was manifested.

The 18-months-old child of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Crotts, who live near Lexington, was shot to death when a shot gun in the hands of its 5-year-old brother was accidentally discharged. Mr. Crotts had laid his gun down loaded and the boy picked it up with the fatal result, usually the case when a child gets hold of a loaded gun.

A jail delivery from Caldwell county jail was narrowly averted Sunday afternoon when the jailer detected grating sounds which came from the work with saws of five prisoners. The tools were furnished the prisoners by outside friends. The sawing and filing were discovered by Jailer Bush just in time to prevent the carrying out of their plans.

When the Seaboard's crack passenger train, the Florida Limited, left the track one mile north of Niagara, a station near Southern Pines Tuesday, Engineer David K. Wright was killed, his engine turning over and crushing him in his cab. Baggage-master Branton was seriously injured. No passengers were hurt. The exact cause of the wreck is not known.

H. T. Ham, who committed suicide in Greensboro a few days ago, left an estate valued at more than \$100,000. He left \$1,000 to the Church of the Covenant (Presbyterian) in Greensboro, \$500 to the Greensboro College for Women, \$1,000 to Barium Springs orphanage and \$1,000 to the Young Women's Christian Association of Greensboro.

The Iredell county commissioners have agreed to accept the Southern Power Company's proposition as to the bridge across the Catawba river at Island Ford, the company to pay at Island Ford, the company to pay \$5,000 and each of the counties \$5,000, if Catawba will agree. It is proposed to leave the question of tolls to be determined by the counties, until authority can be obtained from the General Assembly to permit the counties to operate toll bridges.

Mrs. R. E. Little, of Wadesboro, president of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, has become a member of the board of directors of the Soldiers' Home; C. W. Small, inmate, charged with being a disturbing element, was ordered by the board to leave the institution, and Col. A. H. Boyden, of Salisbury, chairman of the board of directors, is to be allowed, without interference for six months, to work out problems for the improvement of conditions at the home.