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ASHEVILLE, N. C., THURSDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 8, 1914.

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NO FUNCTIONS FOR PRESIDENT

Has Carefully Followed His Program of Work and Play While at Pass Christian.

CONSISTENTLY SHUNNED SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

Although on Vacation, He Has Put in Many Hours of Uninterrupted Work.

Pass Christian, Miss., Jan. 8.—Two weeks of quiet seclusion were completed today by President Wilson in this little village. It is the longest period of time he has spent away from Washington since he took office. So carefully has Mr. Wilson followed a consistent program of work, proportioned with exercise and rest, that the people of this section hardly realize that the president of the United States has been dwelling among them.

To the people of the string of towns and hamlets along the southern coast the president has been more or less of a puzzle. He said he appreciated their desire to entertain him but has declined their invitations to inspect their schools, view places of historic interest, attend balls, theaters and those diverse social entertainments of which southern hospitality boasts at this season.

VERY LIGHT SENTENCES FOR ZABERN OFFENDERS

Prosecutor Suggests Mild Punishment For Schad and Von Reuter.

Strasburg, Germany, Jan. 8.—"Very light sentences" were proposed today by the prosecutor in the cases of the German officers now under trial for illegal assumption of authorities in connection with the friction between citizens and soldiers at Zabern.

At the conclusion of the testimony and the plea for the prosecution and defense of the judge advocate, acting as prosecutor, suggested that Colonel von Reuter, commander of the 93rd infantry, should be sent to jail for seven days on the charge of wrongful imprisonment. For Lieutenant Schad, he said, a sentence of three days in jail for assault was sufficient. The other charges were dropped.

The verdict is to be pronounced on January 10, the same day as that in the appeal of Lieutenant Baron von Forstner, who was sentenced to 42 days imprisonment on December 19 for sabering a crippled shoemaker.

SEABRIGHT MUST DEPEND ON CONGRESS APPROPRIATION
Washington, Jan. 8.—Secretary of War Garrison conferred today with Secretary Tumulty in relation to appeals from New Jersey or federal aid in the rehabilitation of Seabright which was practically destroyed by the recent Atlantic storm.

BRIBERY CHARGED IN BRITISH ARMY

Officers Summoned in Connection With Management Of Canteens.

London, Jan. 8.—Summonses against 16 British army officers and civilians were granted today by the police magistrate at the Bow Street court. The men are called to appear on January 17 to answer charges in connection with the management of the canteens in army barracks. It is hinted that a scandal of tremendous proportions will be revealed in the inquiry which will be begun on that date.

No names or particulars of the charges were given out for publication today, but it is known generally that the army officers concerned belong to the quartermaster's department and that all of them have risen from the ranks. The civilians summoned to appear are clerks employed by contractors.

Systematic bribery is alleged to have been prevalent for some time. A secret army inquiry showed such widespread corruption that the war office decided to turn its evidence to the regularly constituted legal authorities. War office officials feared that the court martial which they had proposed to call would not have jurisdiction sufficiently wide to deal properly with the scandal.

LANE EXPLAINS SCHEME FOR PRESERVING RADIUM

Writes Ammons That He Is Opposing Plan Under Misapprehension.

Washington, Jan. 8.—Secretary Lane of the interior department today sent a letter to Governor Ammons of Colorado declaring that the protests of the latter against the proposed withdrawal from public entry of radium bearing lands in that state were based on a "misapprehension of the facts and in part upon a misunderstanding of my recommendation to congress."

Secretary Lane has recommended that congress give the federal government the right to preserve for public use all radium bearing lands. Governor Ammons and the Colorado commissioner of mines have protested against such a course.

Secretary Lane, in his letter made public today, declares the location of radium is limited to a certain well-defined area and that it is not proposed to withdraw any lands outside those areas. The amount of land withdrawn from public entry, according to Secretary Lane, will not include all radium prospects.

"It would be my intention," he said in his letter to Governor Ammons, "to recommend the exercise of this power (of withdrawal) only to the extent of retaining in public ownership a sufficient acreage of lands believed to be valuable for their radium contents, to insure the American people getting the radium they need at the least possible cost and with the least possible delay. I feel that our citizens have a right to demand this preferential consideration."

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NEGRO ARRESTED ON MURDER SUSPICION

Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 8.—When the steamship Berkshire from Jacksonville and Savannah arrived here today Benjamin Pope, a negro deck hand, was arrested on suspicion in connection with the murder of Peter A. Johnson, a deputy sheriff of Jacksonville.

The arrest was made by request of Florida authorities who asked for the apprehension of Oscar Harris, alias Dugger Harris. Pope denied that his real name is Harris. Harris was reported in a Jacksonville dispatch yesterday as having been lynched at Helena, Ga. It is believed the local authorities have the wrong negro.

HESITATES TO ACCEPT CROWN

Believed That Prince of Weid Will Refuse Throne of Albania—Three Other Claimants.

Vienna, Jan. 8.—The Allgemeine Zeitung today says the prince of Weid hesitates to accept the throne of Albania, and it is believed in well-informed circles that he will finally refuse it.

Prince William of Weid who was selected by the powers for the throne of Albania is a brother of the reigning prince of Weid and is 38 years old. He is married to Princess Sophia of Schoenburg-Waldenburg.

There are three rival claimants to the throne in the field—Essad Pasha, Ismael Kemal Bey and Izzet Pasha. A state bordering on open hostilities exists.

Brindisi, Italy, Jan. 8.—Unconfirmed reports are in circulation that Izzet Pasha, former Turkish minister of war, has arrived here on his way to head an expedition into Albania. The police are keeping close watch on a number of Albanians who have held several meetings at various hotels where they are registered as officers.

It is declared by Albanians that the Muslims in northern Albania, under the leadership of Essad Pasha, favor the claims of Izzet Pasha to the throne, while the southern Albanians support Ismael Kemal Bey.

The original plan of Izzet Pasha was said to be to make Brindisi his base of operations for a raid into Albania.

He himself was to land secretly at Avlona, the Albanian seaport on the Adriatic and get into communication with his supporters in the interior who were to rise and proclaim him prince of Albania under the protectorate of the Sultan of Turkey.

The Italian authorities obtained information of these plans and interfered, thus causing a change of scheme and bringing about a diminution of the number of raiders who were compelled to proceed directly from Constantinople to Avlona instead of from the Italian coast. When they arrived at Avlona yesterday they were arrested and disarmed.

\$50,000 SUIT FILED IN SUPERIOR COURT

Nannie E. Huddle Asks Damages From Southern Railway For Death of A. L. Huddle.

One of the largest suits filed in the office of the clerk of Superior court for some time was filed this morning by Nannie E. Huddle, administratrix of the estate of Albert L. Huddle, against the Southern Railway company, in which she seeks to recover the sum of \$50,000 for alleged injuries which caused the death of the deceased, received while working as fireman on one of the trains of the defendant company last March.

It is set forth in the complaint that the deceased was employed as a fireman on the train operated and owned by the defendant company and that on a run between Conover and Orama, this state, the train was wrecked and he was killed. It is further set forth that the wreck was due to the negligence of the company and that the fireman was killed through the negligence and carelessness of the company.

The suit is brought under the Federal employer's liability act, passed by the United States congress on April 22, 1908. This is about the third suit that has been brought in Buncombe county under this act.

The complaint is very long and covers about 30 typewritten pages, in which is given the different changes that have taken place in the road on which the deceased was traveling when killed. It seems that the part of the road the train was on at one time was known as the Western Carolina railroad and was later bought by the Southern railway company. A copy of the transfer signed by ex-Governor Thomas Jarvis and other state officials is given in the complaint.

REALTY BUSINESS IS ENCOURAGING

Estimation For the Business in Asheville Last Year Over Four Million Dollars.

BUSINESS OF FIVE FIRMS WAS \$850,000
Board of Trade Has Asked Reports From all of 25 Firms in The City.

As some indication of the volume of business transacted in Asheville during the year 1913, five real estate men of the city have reported that their sales of real estate during the year just passed amounted to \$850,000. This report was compiled by each of the firms individually upon the request of Secretary N. Buckner of the board of trade. Mr. Buckner did not divulge the names of the firms that have reported these sales but says that he believes an average of their business will be an approximate average for all real estate men in the city.

Mr. Buckner sent requests to every real estate dealer in the city to compile the volume of their business for the past year, these requests going to 26 individuals and firms. If the average for the five who have reported will apply to each individual and firm carrying on a real estate business here, the total sales of real estate consummated in Asheville last year will aggregate over four million dollars.

It is expected that all of the 26 to whom the requests have been sent will send in their reports at an early date and then the actual figures will show without question the magnitude of the realty business in Asheville. The estimation already arrived at, however, seems altogether within the bounds of reason and the figures thus arrived at are very encouraging to the citizens and business men who are actively interested in the growth of the city.

These figures indicate a growth that has far outstripped that of any preceding years.

MUCH ARGENTINE CORN IS EXPORTED TO U. S.

Forced Decline in the Price—300,000 Bushels Unloaded In New York.

New York, Jan. 8.—Nearly 300,000 bushels of Argentine corn were being unloaded in this port today and millions more from the south American republic are under contract. The importations are the direct result of the removal of the duty on the staples by the recent tariff act.

More than 1,000,000 bushels have been received in the United States since the tariff went into effect, the first from the Argentine ever brought here, and already the competition with American corn has forced a decline in cash values. Thirteen ships are either en route here or loading with corn from the Argentine, and one American manufacturing concern in the city is engaged in the manufacture of syrups and kindred products has 5,000,000 bushels from that country under contract for delivery.

When the new Argentine corn crop is harvested the importations will increase, according to trade authorities. The corn already here found the railroads unprepared to handle it and the port without adequate docking facilities.

Arrangements to remedy the deficiencies are being made by the transportation bureau of the produce exchange. The fact that hitherto practically no corn has ever moved west has also confronted the railroads with a new rate problem as there is a movement on foot among the importers to have the present nominal rate for western shipment reduced.

VISCOUNT CROSS IS DEAD AT AGE OF 91

London, Jan. 8.—Viscount Cross, 91 years old, who was one of the most prominent conservative statesmen in England about 30 years ago, died here today. He held offices in several cabinets, occupying at various times the secretaryship of state for the home department, the secretaryship of state for India, and the post of lord privy seal. He was a member of the house of commons for 24 years and sat in the house of lords for 23 years, having been made a peer in 1855.

THE UPRISING IN HAITI WILL SOON BE SUPPRESSED
Washington, Jan. 8.—Uprisings in the island of Haiti are confined to two small inland places and soon will be suppressed, according to Ulrich Duvivier, minister from Haiti who called at the state department today. Minister Duvivier also told acting Secretary Moore that quiet prevailed in Port Au Prince and that President Oreste had the confidence of the entire country.

RATE OF DEATH HAS DECLINED

Its Significance Considered at Race Betterment Conference With Other Vital Statistics.

LIFE INCREASE 9.3 FOR EACH THOUSAND
No Question of Doubt Concerning General Improvement of Health Conditions of the World.

Battle Creek, Mich., Jan. 8.—Significance of a declining death rate, apparently increase in degenerative diseases and the causes of declining birth rate were among the subjects on the program for discussion at the opening session today of the national conference on race betterment. Those on the program included Dr. Stephen Smith, president of the conference; R. E. Rittenhouse and Dr. J. McKee Cattel, all of New York; Frederick L. Hoffman of Newark, N. J., and Prof. Walter F. Willcox of Cornell university.

On the basis of available statistics from civilized countries Mr. Hoffman estimated the world's birth rate at 24.3 a thousand, and the world's death rate at 25.0, leaving an annual natural rate increase of 9.3 for each thousand of population.

"The present rate of natural increase," he said, "is certain to grow if the downward tendency of the death rate is further augmented by sanitary improvement, particularly in the case of uncivilized countries and primitive races."

Mr. Hoffman declared that during the last 30 years the death rate for England and Wales has decreased from 18.4 to 14.7; that of the German empire from 25.3 to 17.9; that of American cities from 23.1 to 16.2.

There is no question of doubt concerning the general improvement in health conditions throughout the world, Mr. Hoffman declared. For further improvement in race conditions he made the following suggestions as points to bear in mind:

The importance of the conservation of the food producing natural resources of the world; the necessity for improved methods of agriculture; the required reduction of economic waste; pressing need of rational town planning and improved methods of housing; education in practical domestic economy; rational control of marriage and divorce; improved methods of general education; problems of modern life, conceived as social service; the economic utility of longevity and higher educational ideas.

"If the prolongation of life is to be really worth while," concluded Mr. Hoffman, "the present disharmonies of human existence must be as far as possible eliminated. Whatever changes for good may result from improved methods of production, from increased earnings and shorter hours of labor they will all be of small consequence unless balanced by an even greater advance in the normal intellectual and spiritual type of the generation which is yet to be."

F. DEMONDA PLEADED GUILTY IN TWO CASES

In superior court this morning F. Demonda, the Frenchman who was arrested last summer for running the roadhouse "Ravin Inn", after the sheriff's forces had raided the place and captured a large quantity of liquor, was arraigned and pleaded guilty to keeping liquor for sale and running a disorderly house. Judgment was held open in the cases until Judge G. Spears Reynolds, counsel for the defendant, can circulate a petition among the neighbors in the community where the house was run and see if they will not ask for leniency for the defendant.

It will be remembered that Demonda was tried before a magistrate last summer and probable cause being found, was bound over to Superior court under a bond of \$2000, which was made by local parties. He skipped the bond and was caught last week in St. Augustine, Fla., returning here without requisition papers.

The cases have attracted a great deal of attention here and a large number of witnesses have appeared in court during the last few days waiting for the cases to be called.

The main witness for the state, Margaret Ballard, was brought back here from Knoxville to testify in the case and this morning an order was made by the court to pay here for mileage and attendance, as it was brought to the court's attention that she is here and stranded.

Judgment in the cases against Demonda will doubtless be pronounced tomorrow or Saturday.

FAILURE CAUSED BY WITHDRAWALS

Of Depositors Resulted In Closing Doors of Bank Of Pensacola.

Pensacola, Fla., Jan. 8.—Failure of the First National bank of Pensacola to open its doors for business today was explained by officials of the bank as due to the withdrawal yesterday of the accounts of a number of depositors. These withdrawals, it was pointed out, probably resulted from the fact that Crow, Rudolph & Co., Liverpool lumber brokers, had issued a statement of its inability to pay drafts for approximately \$500,000 held by the bank. The statement issued this morning was as follows:

"At the close of business yesterday we discovered that an unusual number of depositors had withdrawn their accounts in full. Following this, rumors that the affairs of the bank were in bad condition began to be circulated. Realizing that these rumors probably would result in a run on the bank if it opened for business today we decided to close its doors."

Other local banks were not affected and their officials said that they were prepared to meet any emergency.

Work Finished.
Pittsburgh, Pa., Jan. 8.—Owen T. Reeves of Chicago, national examiner, sent here to examine the First-Second National bank of Pittsburgh since its plans for reorganizing were completed, has finished his work and today mailed his report to the treasury department. The reorganization committee has called for payment of subscriptions to the new stock before January 10, at which time it is expected the government will announce whether the bank, closed July 7 last will be allowed to reopen.

GENERAL STRIKE IN SOUTH AFRICA FAILS

Capetown Union of South Africa, Jan. 8.—The response this morning to the call for a general railroad strike throughout the union of South Africa was not encouraging to the leaders of the movement.

In Cape Colony, Natal and the Orange Free State all the men continued at work as usual, while in the Transvaal the train crews with few exceptions remains on duty. The men in the railroad work shops however, mostly laid down their tools.

The police took charge of all railroad stations in the Transvaal this morning, and only passengers and officials were admitted while the train crews were placed under protection.

WISH VIEWS ON NAVAL HOLIDAY

Foreign Diplomats May be Sounded to Get Expressions Concerning a Peace Project.

PLANS TO BE BEFORE WILSON AND BRYAN
Idea Is to Suspend the Naval Construction For Year to Lessen Burdens of The People.

Washington, Jan. 8.—Diplomats in Washington may be sounded soon by congressional advocates of a naval holiday with a view to getting expressions from the foreign governments in support of the project. Since the passage by the house of the naval holiday resolution of Representative Hensley of Missouri and the introduction of a similar resolution by Senator Thomas of Colorado, the advocates of suspension of naval construction for a year have been planning a campaign to bring the proposal to a definite conclusion.

Representative Hensley, although not fighting the two battleship naval program for this year, has conferred with many of the members of the house in the past few days as to the course to be followed. He will talk with Secretary Bryan at the state department upon Mr. Bryan's return from Lincoln, Neb., next week, and later on with President Wilson.

Mr. Hensley purposes to lay before Mr. Bryan his ideas as to informally getting into communication with the representatives of the naval powers in Washington to ascertain the views of their governments and will be guided largely by the secretary's advice. His idea is to write letters in his capacity as an individual member of congress to the various ambassadors asking them the sentiment of their home governments.

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The Hensley resolution, framed in sympathy with the recent declaration of Winston Churchill, first lord of the admiralty of Great Britain, requested the president "so far as he can do so to use his influence to consummate" an agreement among nations "to suspend naval construction programs for a year to lessen the people's burdens and avoid waste of investment in war material."

Doctor, lawyer, merchant, chief . . . Rich man, poor man, beggar man — Whoever you are or whatever you are, you helped to dig the Panama Canal. Save this coupon and get the book that tells the story.

COUPON
Save it for a Copy of THE PANAMA CANAL
By Frederic J. Haskin
Author of "The American Government"
Gazette-News, Thursday, Jan. 8
Colonel Goethals says: "Accurate and Dependable"

HOW TO GET THIS BOOK
On account of the education value and patriotic appeal of this book, The Gazette-News has arranged with Mr. Haskin to distribute a limited edition among its readers for the mere cost of production and handling.
It is bound in a heavy cloth. It contains 400 pages, 100 illustrations and diagrams, an index, and two maps (one of them beautiful bird's-eye view of the Canal Zone in four colors).
IT IS ACTUALLY A \$2.00 VALUE.
Cut the above coupon from six consecutive issues of the paper, present them with 50 cents at our office, and a copy of the book is yours. Fifteen cents extra if sent by mail.
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