

The Asheville Gazette News.

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VOLUME XIX. NO. 7

ASHEVILLE, N. C., THURSDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 19, 1914

PRICE FIVE CENTS

HAMMER LANDS, SAY SENATORS

Hammer and Simmons Leave White House With Assurance That Ashboro Man Gets Job.

POINTMENT OVER M'REYNOLDS PROTEST

After Bitter Fight—Wilson Thought Auman Affidavit "Indiscreet," He Told Senators.

Gazette-News Bureau, Wyatt Building, Washington, Feb. 19.

President Wilson assured Senators Commons and Overman today that he decided to appoint W. C. Hammer, a native of North Carolina, to the position of chief of the United States marshal for that state. The president told the North Carolina senators that he was convinced that Hammer had been indiscreet in making the Auman affidavit, but that in view of Hammer's record as a democrat he had decided to name him. The president in making this appointment is doing so over the protest of Attorney General McReynolds.

The appointment of Mr. Hammer comes after a long and bitter contest. The recommendation by President Wilson will be made over the protest of Attorney General McReynolds, who has repeatedly expressed his opposition to Mr. Hammer's appointment. Mr. Hammer continued to seek appointment in the face of these protests. Mr. McReynolds was in the White House recently but his mission was not known. Other candidates were in the field for the appointment originally among them Charles A. Webb of this city. Mr. Webb was removed from the race by his subsequent appointment as United States marshal for this district. Last fall the statement was attributed to Senator Overman that he would recommend Mr. Hammer for personal reasons and his support of the successful candidate has been unflinching since that time. He had repeated conferences with the attorney general and finally took the matter to President Wilson. In the last days of the fight he was supported by Senator Simmons, who expressed his willingness to support Senator Overman in this matter. The fight against Mr. Hammer has been made largely on his personality. Considerable feeling was aroused over the Auman affidavit presented by him.

RATES DECISION IS TO BE EXPEDITED

Commissioner Harlan Says the Hearings May Conclude in Three Months.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Decision by the interstate commerce commission on the proposed freight rate increase is expected to be reached probably within three months and certainly before the commission adjourns for its summer recess on July 1. This announcement substantially was made by Commissioner Harlan today. Commissioner Harlan said: "Recognizing the public importance of an early disposition of the problem before us here, the carriers, shippers and the commission are using every effort to bring the record on the main issues in the case may be closed and the arguments had in time to enable the commission to dispose of the questions before the summer recess."

Commissioner Harlan explained that the commission had before it two broad inquiries in respect to the proposed advance: "Are the present revenues of the carriers adequate?" "If not, how may they be supplemented?" "With respect to the first of these issues the carriers have already offered much testimony, but their witnesses have not been cross examined; nor have the investigations by the commission on that question been completed. We are also advised that certain shipping interests will submit important testimony touching the adequacy of the present revenues of carriers. In aid of an understanding of the first question and of a proper solution of the second the commission, as explained at a recent hearing, has also addressed certain inquiries to carriers which they have not yet been able fully to answer."

STUDYING MATTER OF LOCATION OF RESERVES

No Decision Will Be Made Until Data Are Thoroughly Considered.

Washington, Feb. 19.—With the return here of the federal reserve organization committee after an extended tour, interest was revived today in the question of the location of the regional reserve banks. On this point Secretaries McAdoo and Houston were emphatic that there would be no decision until after they had thoroughly studied their data. They were at their desks early today beaming with optimism regarding the financial situation of the country. They declared they found on their tour a practical unanimous sentiment among bankers and business men that the new currency law would benefit business conditions, and furthermore, that the measure was a great step in advance. Secretary McAdoo expressed the hope today that the new system would be in operation before next autumn but said that if it should not be the resources of the treasury would again be placed at the disposal of the business interests of the country.

JOHN DENNIS LEWIS "SON OF REVOLUTION"

Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 19.—John Dennis Lewis, who claims to be the only real "son of the revolution" in the United States celebrated his 73rd birthday at his home here yesterday. Lewis was born in 1841, at which time he says his father was 82 years old. The latter was born in 1759 and was 19 years old when enlisted in the continental army in 1778, according to Lewis. Lewis was born in Accomac county, Virginia, and is a veteran of the war of the states.

NOMINATIONS MADE FOR PAST MASTERS

Washington, Feb. 19.—The president has nominated these postmasters: Alabama—Oscar C. Thippen, Huntsboro. Florida—W. M. Platt, Arcadia. Louisiana—Ada A. Smart, Leesville. P. Otto Broussard, Abbeville. Silvio Broussard, New Iberia. Mississippi—H. M. Sims, Monticello. Tennessee—Frank W. Latta, Diersburg. T. J. Welch, Savannah. Virginia—Martha L. Lee, Fortness. Missouri—G. H. Kinzel, Winchester. A. N. Cooke, Mississippi. George N. Reed, Nevada.

THE MACKAYS ARE DIVORCED

Manner in Which Decree Was Granted in France Is The Occasion of Surprise in New York.

MUTUALLY AGREED ON PLAN SOMETIME AGO

Mr. Mackay Gets the Children—Monetary Arrangements Had Previously Been Agreed Upon.

New York, Feb. 19.—Announcement today that Clarence H. Mackay, president of the Postal Telegraph and Cable company, and Catherine Duer Mackay, his wife, had been granted a mutual divorce in the French courts on February 11 came as a surprise, not because it was unexpected, but because of the place and manner in which the decree was granted. For many months the couple had been living apart.

Early in the year Mrs. Mackay left her home for Paris and soon thereafter her husband appeared in the French capital. There were rumors of a reconciliation, then but these were denied by Mr. Mackay. It now appears that the trips were in accordance with a plan agreed upon when the separation suit of Mrs. Joseph A. Blake against Dr. Joseph A. Blake, the famous surgeon, was decided in the wife's favor without contest and Mrs. Blake dropped her suit for \$1,000,000 against Mrs. Mackay for alienating Dr. Blake's affections. Counsel for both Mr. and Mrs. Mackay announced the mutual divorce. The statements recited that both sides charged desertion. Mrs. Mackay filing suit first. Mr. Mackay followed with a contest suit. The decree, it was stated, gave the custody of the three children to Mr. Mackay with the right to visit them according to Mrs. Mackay. Mutual divorce, it was explained, were permissible under French law. It was also explained that the French courts had jurisdiction as both parties to the suit had maintained apartments in Paris for a considerable time. In this connection a report was published here that Mrs. Mackay had renounced her American citizenship in order to bring the suit, but this was not confirmed.

Monetary Arrangements. No mention was made in the statements of any financial settlement. Monetary matters were arranged, it was understood, a year ago when Mrs. Mackay signed over title to the magnificent estate at Roslyn, L. I., to her son. This estate was given her by her father-in-law, the late John W. Mackay of Bonanza fame. Mr. Mackay, who is in town with two of his children, has nothing to add to the story told by the attorneys. Mrs. Mackay is still in Paris.

Clarence H. Mackay is 40 years of age. He inherited nearly \$30,000,000 from his father. Since he came into his patrimony 12 years ago he is said to have doubled the worth of the Mackay properties. He married Catherine Duer in 1898. She is the descendant of an old Knickerbocker family and the social prominence she gained through her beauty and charm as the mistress of the Mackays' fortune was added to by her ability as a writer, and her interests in sociological and educational problems. For years after the marriage it was looked upon in society as an ideal union and the two took a leading part in the more serious activities that their positions opened to them.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS HOLD TWO MEETINGS

New York, Feb. 19.—Knights of Pythias in 7000 communities of the continent were simultaneously celebrating their golden jubilee today, while in Washington were gathered 600 delegates for the opening of the annual convention of the supreme council of the order. Chief among the events on today's program was the address of Secretary Bryan, himself the past chancellor of the Lincoln, Neb., lodge on "Fraternity as exemplified by the order of the Knights of Pythias."

The appearance of Edward S. Kimball and Abram D. Van Derveer, the two surviving members of Washington lodge No. 1, was the signal for a demonstration in the convention. No Tidings From Kineo. Norfolk, Va., Feb. 19.—No tidings have yet been received here from the five missing schooner Kineo, of Bath, Me., from Port Arthur to Providence, R. I., which was yesterday reported in distress and rapidly taking water off the Hatteras coast. The revenue cutter Outeniqua is still at sea searching for the Kineo.

SO. CALIFORNIA IS FLOODBOUND

Downpour Starting Tuesday Yields From Six to Eight Inches of Rain in 32 Hours.

RAILROAD TRAFFIC ABOUT DEMORALIZED

Tracks Near Santa Barbara Washed Out; Bridges Torn Away; One Fatality Is Reported.

Los Angeles, Cal., Feb. 19.—Southern California was flood-bound today by a downpour that started at midnight Tuesday and yielded from six to eight inches of rain in the 32 hours ending at 8 a. m. today.

Railroad traffic was demoralized. In the cities the streets were turned into mill races. Storm drains were overtaxed and irrigation canals widened into lakes.

The storm brought a recurrence of flood conditions that attended the rainfall of a month ago. Railroad tracks on both sides of Santa Barbara were washed out. Bridges were torn away.

Throughout the citrus belt washouts blocked trains. In some sections of Los Angeles streets were under ten feet of water for a brief period. Fire engines were requisitioned to pump out the flooded basements of several large buildings. One fatality was reported.

EXEMPTION REPEAL FURTHER PRESSED

Several Senators Indicate That They Will Follow Wishes Of President.

Washington, Feb. 19.—President Wilson pressed further for repeal of the exemption clause of the Panama canal act in conference today with congressmen. He talked with Senator Kern, who said afterward that the senate first would dispose of the arbitration treaties promptly and probably take up the tolls question soon thereafter.

Although Mr. Kern voted for exemption, he said today the president had told him of various international phases of the question which were not before the senate when the Panama canal act was passed. Friends of the administration claim he will be among the administration supporters. House leaders, it was understood today, desire some announcement or message by the president before reversing themselves on the tolls question, so as to be able to make clear to their constituents that international circumstances had arisen requiring a change.

Representative Underwood, it is understood, while still believing in exemption, will not organize any opposition to the president in the house. Senators and Simmons and Overman talked with the president, and although both voted for the exemption, they said they would change their positions because they believed foreign policy required it. Senator Shively of Indiana took the same stand.

TRI-STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY CONVENTION

Wilmington, N. C., Feb. 19.—With more than a hundred physicians in attendance from the Carolina's and Virginia, the 18th annual meeting of the Tri-State Medical association convened here yesterday with welcome addresses in behalf of the city, county medical society and commercial club, the response in behalf of the visitors being by Dr. William Weston, president of the South Carolina Medical society. The opening session was featured by the annual address of President Southgate Leigh, of Norfolk, Va., and technical papers by doctors, H. A. Royter, Raleigh; Robert C. Bryan, Richmond; A. B. Knowlton, Columbia; and A. G. Brenizer, Charlotte. In the afternoon members of the association were guests of the local entertainment committee for a trip about the harbor on the steamer Wilmington and last night at the Elks club they were entertained at a reception by the New Hanover Medical society. The sessions last through today.

THOUSANDS RENDER TRIBUTE TO BACON

Imposing Procession Marches To Grave in Heavy Rain—Every School and Most of Business Houses Suspended—Brief, Impressive Ceremony.

Macon, Ga., Feb. 19.—Thousands of his home people paid their final tribute and honor to Senator Augustus O. Bacon, Georgia's senior senator, by attending his funeral services this morning and continued throughout the services at the grave.

The final tribute to the Georgia senator was brief though impressive. The services were held at Christ's Episcopal church, Rev. John S. Bunting officiating. Headed by a procession more than a mile in length in which were representatives of the nation, state and those who admired him in Macon, the body was moved to Rose Hill cemetery.

Macon lodge of Masons, of which order Senator Bacon had been a member for 40 years, said the last rites. A few minutes later, the procession resumed its sorrowful journey back to the city.

Macon's tribute to the memory of Senator Bacon was unusual. Every school, the city hall, and practically all business establishments suspended during the hour of the funeral.

Heading the funeral procession this morning was a platoon of Macon police followed by a military detail composed of members of the House, Volunteers and Floyd Rifles, Macon's three militia organizations. Mayor Bridges Smith of this city and members of the city council followed in carriages and automobiles. Twenty members of the Macon bar association were next in order. Confederate veterans who had obeyed the commands of the senator in the sectional war a half hundred in number, were next in line.

Ten United States senators and the Georgia delegation in the house appointed as a committee from Washington to Macon, next in line, sat silently with bowed heads. Governor Slaton of Georgia and his staff followed preceding the pall bearers chosen from associates of Senator Bacon in Macon. Several hundred Masons followed in carriages.

Walked 13 Miles Through Snow To Be With Husband

Mrs. Lee Davis of West Asheville Climbs Pisgah in Bitter Cold to Attend Her Husband, Who is Ill at Cruso.

A story of hardihood and endurance on the part of a woman that seems almost beyond the limits of possibility is that of a climb over the peaks of Mount Pisgah in 13 inches of snow that was accomplished by Mrs. Lee Davis of West Asheville last Sunday. The climb extended over 13 miles of one of the steepest highways in western North Carolina and lasted for seven hours. Mrs. Davis accomplished it to reach the bedside of her husband, Dr. Lee Davis, who had been stricken suddenly ill at Cruso, about five miles from the Vanderbilt lodge. There was no other way of reaching him immediately so she braved the elements of snow, ice and cold, over a treacherous road, and on foot in order to be with him.

It is stated that Dr. Davis became ill last Saturday while he was making a trip through the Pisgah section and a call was sent to Dr. G. D. Gardner.

CONFIDENT ALASKA BILL WILL BE SIGNED SOON

Measure Passed Both Houses Authorizing Construction Of Alaskan R'y.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Administration leaders were confident today that before the end of the week President Wilson would sign the bill authorizing him to build a thousand miles of railroad from an Alaskan seaport to tap the coal fields in the interior. The measure has passed both branches of congress and today advanced to conference on house amendments.

As passed by the house last night, 238 to 87, the bill would authorize the president to construct the railroad with \$15,000,000 to be appropriated from the treasury and in his own discretion to have the line operated by the government or leased to private contractors. The senate bill proposed a bond issue of \$40,000,000 to be redeemed out of Alaska's resources to finance the project.

Sentiment in the senate is strong for the bond issue, while in the house Representative Fitzgerald's proposal to have the money taken directly from the United States treasury was adopted by a vote of 85 to 87. Conferees said they believed that no disagreement as to methods would long delay action.

PRELIMINARIES TO POOL ARRANGEMENT

London, Feb. 19.—Conferences among the representatives of Hamburg-American, the North German Lloyd line, the Red Star and the Holland American steamship lines opened here today. It was stated that a number of details must be arranged before negotiations for reconstitution of the Atlantic pool can be begun. A meeting of all the American, British and Continental shipping companies has been called for this purpose on February 22.

REORGANIZATION OF COMMITTEES

Several Changes May Result In Senate as Result of the Death of Senator Bacon Of Georgia.

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS MAY DECIDE MATTERS

Sen. Stone Likely to Succeed To Chairmanship of Foreign Relations—Other Possible Changes.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Reorganization of several senate committees may be necessary because of the death of Senator Bacon of the foreign relations committee. A committee on committees is charged with looking after such matters, but in a case as important as this a democratic caucus probably will be called to decide.

It is assumed that Senator Stone will succeed to the vacant chairmanship not only because he is the ranking member of the committee, but because he is believed to desire the post. If Senator Stone should be appointed then the committee on Indian affairs of which he is chairman, would be left without a head. The ranking member of that committee is Senator Myers, but he is chairman of the committee on public lands and might not care to change.

If he should, not the next ranking member is Senator Ashurst. He is chairman of the committee on industrial expositions and probably would be glad to exchange. There would then have to be settled the question as to who should succeed him.

If Senator Myers preferred to give up his present chairmanship for that of the committee of the public lands committee, on Indian affairs, Senator Smith of Arizona, the ranking member of the public lands committee, probably would succeed him. He is now chairman of the committee on irrigation and reclamation of arid lands. Senator Lane is the ranking member of that committee and he now is chairman of the committee on forest reservations and protection of game. Almost any change suggested would necessitate the entire subject for caucus adjustment.

The French took snow shovels to Panama--the Americans took steam shovels. Read about them.

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