

THE GAZETTE-NEWS HAS THE MOST EXPENSIVE ASSOCIATED PRESS SERVICE IN THE CAROLINAS.

The Asheville Gazette News.

Weather Forecast
PROBABLY SHOWERS.

VOLUME XIX. NO. 40

ASHEVILLE, N. C., SATURDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 28, 1914

PRICE FIVE CENTS

REPEAL FORCES ARE JUBILANT

Flushed With Victory in Opening Contest Predict They Will Pass Sims Bill With Good Majority.

OPPONENTS OF REPEAL MAKING BITTER FIGHT

Underwood, Mann and Fitzgerald Especially Active—Alignment Practically Unchanged.

Washington, March 28.—Fighting over repeal of the Panama tolls exemption was renewed in the house today where administration supporters, flushed by their victory in the opening contest yesterday, predicted they would win when a vote is taken on the repeal bill early next week. The contest in the house today was largely of an oratorical character, although administration and anti-administration supporters continued efforts to strengthen their forces for the final struggle.

The alignment of the contending forces for the final struggle. The alignment of the contending forces in the house remained practically unchanged today. Representative Adamson, leading the fight for the repeal, declared the Sims bill would pass by a large majority. He predicted that yesterday's vote on the adoption of the special rule for the consideration of the bill to repeal the Panama tolls exemption—207 to 176—would be materially increased in favor of the repeal forces when the bill was finally voted upon.

Representative Underwood, the majority leader, Representative Fitzgerald, Minority Leader Mann and other prominent members leading the fight against the administration forces, continued today to bring every effort to bear against the Sims bill.

Representative Harrison, democrat of Mississippi, was one of the speakers when the debate was resumed. Although admitting his anxiety to "follow the president and comply with his wishes," Mr. Harrison said he could not reconcile his conscience to the president's view and surrender to Great Britain a principle of national honor and integrity.

"Free tolls will aid the farmers and manufacturers of the Mississippi valley to ship their products down the Mississippi, through the canal and to the Pacific coast at cheaper rates than are now charged by the railroads," he said. "It would probably open up another market on the Pacific coast where there are natural manufacturing advantages for the cotton of the farmers of Mississippi and other southern states."

In the Senate.

Administration supporters in the senate have increased their activity in the tolls repeal fight. They proceeded on the assumption that the Sims repeal bill will pass the house by Tuesday night or early Wednesday and have abandoned the effort to induce the inter-oceanic canal committee to begin consideration of the issue before the Sims measure reaches the senate. Yesterday's administration victory in the house has given rise to expectations by repeal champions in the senate that the canal committee will favorably report the bill notwithstanding the influence of its chairman, Senator O'Gorman, leading democrat opponent of the president's policy in the senate. Senator O'Gorman will not call the committee together until the repeal is disposed of in the house. The fact that Senator O'Gorman is waiting the return of Senator Crawford of South Dakota, gives rise to the belief that Mr. O'Gorman expects Senator Crawford to vote against the repeal bill. Senator Simmons, of North Carolina, who announced he would support the repeal, is out of town owing to ill health and unless he should return before the committee acts it might be impossible for the administration to get a favorable report. However, should Senator Walsh, of Montana support the president a favorable committee report would practically be assured. There is considerable speculation concerning the Montana senator's attitude although he voted for toll exemption originally and has said it would take a great deal to convince him he was wrong.

Lewis Recalls Restoration.

Before opening his argument on the tolls issue Senator James Hamilton Lewis introduced a bill to vitiate the resolution he introduced several days ago promulgating the American policy of treating all nations alike with respect to the Panama canal.

Senator Lewis' bill would authorize the president to suspend application of the tolls on any tolls upon any ship passing through the Panama canal "whenever in his opinion public safety shall so require; or whenever he shall deem it expedient and consistent with the interests of the United States or with the best welfare of the citizens of the republic."

PROGRESSIVES TO CALL CONVENTION

Plans Made to Form County Organization at Meeting Held Today.

About fifty members of the progressive party met at the county court house today at noon and after selecting W. P. Fortune as chairman and S. W. Radford as secretary, upon motion of Col. V. S. Lusk authorized Chairman Fortune to appoint a committee of five to confer with him for the purpose of calling a county convention at an early date, at which time the county organization will be perfected.

The committee appointed is composed of Col. V. S. Lusk, J. N. Morgan, J. B. Sumner of Fletcher, R. L. Luther of Upper Hominy and N. A. Penland of Swannanoa. Immediately after the meeting adjourned the committee met with the chairman to appoint chairman in each township in the county and to instruct these chairmen to hold township primaries for the purpose of appointing delegates to the convention.

DR. GILL OF WEAVERVILLE ANNOUNCES FOR CORONER

Well Known Physician of County Enters Race Before Democratic Primary

Dr. J. N. Gill of Weaverville, one of the best known physicians of the county, announces through the columns of The Gazette-News this afternoon that he is a candidate for the office of coroner of Buncombe county and submits himself to the action of the democratic primary to be held May 16. This is the first announcement made during the present campaign for this office and there is no intimation as yet that Dr. Gill will be opposed. The office is held at present by Dr. E. R. Morris.

Dr. Gill is a Buncombe county man coming from a family that has always been known for its consistent support of democracy. Neither he nor any of his family, however, have ever asked for or held any public office in the county. His ability as a physician, and therefore for holding the office which he now seeks, has never been questioned. He has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances in the county who will doubtless welcome his entry in the race for coroner.

AGAINST DISPLAY OF CLOTHES AT EASTER

Washington, March 28.—Designed to check the alleged growing tendency of the American people to make the Easter season the occasion for displaying fashionable clothes, a movement has been launched here to form the "Society for the Prevention of Eastern Decadence." Its members would pledge themselves not to wear new articles of clothing beginning with Palm Sunday until after Easter.

In proposing the new society the District of Columbia Christian Endeavor union declares that the real meaning of Easter is often lost sight of because of the popular craze for new and fashionable clothing and predicts that the movement will vastly increase the calm devotional spirit of that season.

SUPFRAGETTS WOULD MEET IN HYDE PARK

London, March 28.—Militant suffragettes today claimed the right to have demonstrations in Hyde Park, basing their claim on the official permission given to Ulster sympathizers to hold meetings there on April 4.

The Women's Social and Political Union notified the commissioner of works: "There can be no objection to the suffragettes holding a meeting in Hyde Park since the advocates of a policy of violence and bloodshed in Ulster have been granted permission to do so. This militant society has therefore announced its purpose to make a demonstration simultaneously with that of the supporters of the Ulster Orangemen."

Veteran Dies.

New York, March 28.—Fitzhugh Smith, a war veteran who was commended by Abraham Lincoln for checking the retreat of the Union army at the second battle of Bull Run, died here today. He was 75 years old.

SPRING FLOODS DEVASTATE N. Y.

In Some Sections People Are Forced to Flee For Lives, Since The Heavy Snows Began to Melt.

PROPERTY DAMAGE ALREADY IS HEAVY

Hudson River Rising Rapidly—Miles of Territory Flooded—Floods in Other Sections.

New York, March 28.—Spring floods have set in through the valleys of the state. Much property damage has been reported. Warm weather of the past few days has melted much of the heavy snow which fell earlier in the month and this, with a steady rain throughout the night has swollen all the streams, many of which are out of their banks flooding the lowlands. At Troy the Hudson river has assumed flood proportions and with the water rising rapidly merchants along the river front are removing goods to safer places. Amsterdam reported part of the bridge which spans the Mohawk river carried away by high water and ice, cutting off the southern section of the city from the main part of the town.

The Shenango and the Susquehanna rivers are overflowing into the lowlands about Binghamton. At Syracuse, Onondaga creek is flooding miles of territory. Ithaca and Schenectady also report flood conditions beyond usual spring freshet marks. At Schenectady the Mohawk river has flooded the lower streets. Ice is jammed against the bridge connecting Schenectady and Scotia and it may go out before night. There is also a heavy ice pack against the Erie canal aqueduct, four miles east of the city. The Redford bridge has already been carried away. The river is rising rapidly.

Travel in Boats.

Buffalo, N. Y., March 27.—Towns in western New York are threatened with a repetition of the disastrous flood of a year ago when homes were washed away and damage estimated at several hundred thousand dollars was done.

In the lowlands of the Tonawanda people are going to and from their homes in boats. At Batavia the municipal sewage disposal plant is eight feet under water. In Corning the Chemung river is ten feet above the normal and has flooded the highways west of the city. At Olean the Alleghany river has overflowed its banks and the southern and eastern parts of the city are under water.

Lowlands Impassable.

Albany, N. Y., March 28.—Flood conditions prevailed in the Genesee river valley today. The lowlands are already impassable although the crest of the flood will not reach Rochester for 48 hours. During the past year this city has constructed retaining walls and a repetition of last year's damage is believed to be improbable.

Albany, N. Y., March 28.—The Hudson river is rising rapidly here. Dwellers along the river front are moving to places of safety.

City Imperturbed.

Binghamton, N. Y., March 28.—A steady downpour of rain all night increased the gravity of the flood situation here. Early this morning the Chenango river broke over its banks, flooding a residential section of the city. The Susquehanna rose to a point at daylight which imperturbed the entire central section of the city. A heavy rain continued today.

Rise Checked.

Columbus, O., March 28.—With the Great Miami and Whitewater rivers raging, the Scioto climbing a foot an hour and the Muskingum and Licking rivers out of their banks along the lowlands, anxiety was felt during last night of a recurrence of the disastrous floods of March 25-28, 1913. A cessation of rainfall followed by colder weather early today has checked the rise of all the streams mentioned. Damage so far reported has been confined to the southwestern section of the state, where bridges have been washed out.

Railroad Lines in Trouble.

Pittsburgh, Pa., March 28.—Flood stages were reported from the upper Alleghany river today because of melting snows and last night's heavy rain. At Warren, Pa., it was rising rapidly and much damage had been done. Trolley and railroad lines were reported in troubles and a number of factories had shut down. The local weather bureau declared that this water would likely be taken care of in the stream farther south and only 20 feet was predicted for Pittsburgh, two feet under the flood stage.

Mrs. H. M. Rhyne of Morganton, who attended the Baptist Missionary convention in Hendersonville, this week, is now the guest of her brother Professor Jacob C. Patton, on Haywood street.

COL. SEELY MAY LEAVE CABINET

Generally Thought He Will Resign if Ewart and French Do Not Recall Their Resignations.

RUSSELL CONFIRMS UNREST IN ARMY

Says That Lord Roberts Had List of 900 Officers Ready To Send in Their Papers.

London, March 28.—No solution had been found up to a late hour today of the situation caused by resignations of Field Marshal Sir John French and Adjutant General Sir John Ewart from their positions at the head of the British army. The cabinet however, remained hopeful that its difficulties would be overcome before it again meets the house of commons on Monday.

Should the chief of the general staff and the adjutant general persist in their attitude it is generally thought that Colonel John Seely, secretary of state for war, will leave the cabinet.

In case the government should be able to placate the field marshal and the adjutant general the transfer of Colonel Seely to some other field of activity probably will satisfy the liberal and labor malcontents. Meantime the opposition of the army to employment in the coercion of Ulster is vouched for by no less an authority than Sir Edward Richard Russell, a staunch supporter of the government, who in a signed article in the Liverpool Post says today: "It is a positive fact that when he visited the war office early this week Field Marshal Lord Roberts had in his pocket a list of nearly 900 officers of the army who are ready to send in their papers."

GERMAN OFFICIAL GOES ON BLACKMAIL CHARGE

The Commissioner of Police of Frankfort-on-Main Has Been Suspended.

Frankfort-on-the-Main, Germany, March 28.—Commissioner Schmidt, head of the police department for the suppression of vice, was suspended today on charges of blackmail. Investigations of charges that the "morals police" had been secretly receiving money for the protection of disorderly resorts have been in progress in several cities for months. Schmidt was implicated in the scandal by the testimony of a woman who revealed an extensive system of blackmail by the police.

JUDICIAL REFORM BILL REPORTED TO HOUSE

Washington, March 28.—The Clayton bill designed to provide for a complete reorganization of the entire pleading, procedure and practice in the inferior federal courts, bearing the approval of President Wilson, former President Taft, Attorney General McReynolds, 25 state governors, the National Civic Federation and large commercial organizations, was today favorably reported to the house by Representative Webb of North Carolina.

MUNITIONS OF WAR FOR PRES. HUERTA

Liverpool, March 28.—John Wesley DeKay of New York, former president of the Mexican National Banking company, sailed for New York today after successfully negotiating in Europe on behalf of provisional President Huerta for 24 Croesus guns and 10,000,000 rounds of ammunition. "Both guns and powder are to be dispatched to Mexico within a week from France," said Mr. DeKay.

WOMAN JUMPS FROM STEAMER; IS DROWNED

Norfolk, Va., March 28.—Mrs. O. Tarkinson, 38 Tenth street, New York, jumped overboard from the steamer Madison at sea early today and was drowned. The woman was on her way to Norfolk with her husband, three children and her mother to visit relatives. No one witnessed the act, which occurred between 2 and 3 a. m. today, north of Cape Charles. Ill health and dependency is assigned as the cause.

U. S. ACTS FOR STANDARD OIL

Formal Protest Made Against Certain Provision of German Petroleum Monopoly Bill.

ASKS COMPENSATION FOR U. S. INVESTORS

Believed in German Financial Circles That the Bill Is Already Dead in Present Form.

Berlin, March 28.—Formal action was begun by the United States government against the petroleum monopoly bill recently introduced in the German imperial parliament. The first step taken was a written memorandum presented by James W. Gerard, United States ambassador, to Gottlieb von Jagow, the German foreign minister. That expressed the confident expectation of the United States that certain injustices toward American investors contained in the monopoly bill in its present form will disappear before enactment. The United States, it points out, has no wish to intervene against Germany's establishment of an oil monopoly nor to interfere with any price arrangement between the Standard Oil company and the German government should such be under consideration. It expects, however, that American citizens who have invested capital in German enterprises—for instance, the Standard Oil company's German subsidiary concern—will be fully and fairly compensated for all investments cancelled by the measure.

The German foreign minister did not reply today of the American memorandum and he may be relieved from doing so by the death of the bill.

The parliamentary correspondent of the "Neue Gesellschaftliche Korrespondenz" voices the opinion widely held among members of the imperial parliament and in financial circles that the monopoly bill in its present form is dead or has at least been shelved for a long time. He adds: "The socialist members made it a condition of their assent that they should receive political concessions in regard to the organization of employees. The clerical party is strongly opposed to the bill and so are the anti-monopolistic elements among the radicals and liberals."

Fresh diplomatic action concerning the petroleum question is expected in the case of the Pure Oil company of Hamburg which was refused permission to compete for government contracts. There is also the case of the discriminatory railroad rates granted in favor of German controlled oil imported from Galicia.

BRANDEIS OPPOSES FREE SERVICE BY RAILROADS

Says in Some Cases They Absorb More Than Freight Receipts.

Washington, March 28.—Louis D. Brandeis, counsel for the interstate commerce commission, in opposition to the proposed 5 per cent increase in railroad freight rates today submitted to a statement showing that free services rendered shippers by railroads in classification territory result in serious depletion of the revenues of the roads. The special free services under consideration by the commission were free storage, free warehousing, free loading and unloading of cars, free lighterage, free elevation of grain and various other free terminal services.

Mr. Brandeis asserted that the cost to the railroads of these free services was so great as to absorb from 25 to 50 per cent of the freight rates receipts and in certain instances more than the entire receipts were absorbed, resulting in a substantial cash loss to the road.

POOLING AMENDMENT MAY BE REJECTED

Washington, March 28.—Assurances that the pooling amendment in the cotton futures bill which passed the senate yesterday would be rejected in the house or in conference were given to senators today who were insisting upon re-consideration of the bill. The amendment legalizes pooling of cotton and stipulations not to sell on an exchange dealing in futures.

TORREON MAY YIELD TODAY

BUSINESS IS BAD SAYS RAILROADER

N. Y. Central Official Sees No Prospect of Taking Back 25,000 Men.

New York, March 28.—Dismissal of 25,000 men by the New York Central railroad since December 1, said A. T. Hardin, vice president of that road today, is only a barometer of the company's business. "The reduction of forces was not arbitrary," he added. "It came about gradually as traffic, mainly freight, declined, and while I don't want to be a pessimist, I cannot see any immediate prospect that business will pick up and these men come back to work."

Mr. Hardin said this condition affected most of the eastern railroads. Of the 25,000 men dismissed by the New York Central about 15,000 were laid off on lines east of Buffalo and 10,000 west of there. Although the reduction affected all branches of the service the employees of the construction, the operating and the maintenance of way departments suffered most.

"Compared with 1913," said Mr. Hardin, "the business of this year on the New York Central suffered a reduction of from 8 to 10 per cent. The reduction of the working force has been on the same ratio."

CAMBRIDGE EIGHT WINS OVER OXFORD

London, March 28.—Cambridge university's crew today won easily from Oxford in the annual eight-oared race from Putney to Mortlake on the Thames.

The distance, 4 1/2 miles was covered in the fast time of 28 minutes 35 seconds. Cambridge crossed the line 4 1/2 lengths in the lead. The Cambridge crew had been the favorite throughout the training season and justified predictions that it would win by making the race a procession from start to finish.

BRYAN WILL SPEAK AT RALEIGH APRIL 8

Washington, March 28.—Secretary Bryan will be the principal speaker in Raleigh, N. C., April 8 at a democratic mass meeting in advocacy of state primaries.

Latest Reports Indicate Rebels Have Gained Important Strategic Positions in That City.

VILLA LEAVES GOMEZ PALACIO FOR FRONT

Unconfirmed Rumor Says That Rebels Have Captured One of the Strongest Federal Defenses.

Juarez, March 28.—With expectations that Torreón would yield to the rebel attack today, officers in Juarez awaited news from the battle field. The last reports yesterday were that General Monclovia Herrera had cut his way from the eastern side of Torreón through the business quarter to the bull ring on the north; that General Villa had set out with more troops from Gomez Palacio to join him and take command and that the federals were making a final stand in the defenses on the west side.

An unconfirmed rumor at midnight stated the rebels had taken the hill known as Cerro de la Cruz, an important defense, but verification was lacking today. Latest advices from both Villa and newspaper correspondents indicated the rebels had carried their assault into the heart of Torreón and that the federals were hard pressed. General Herrera's 4,000 men were reported to have entered the town from the east and the counter march of General Villa from the north was expected to throw the federals into utter rout.

No military official in Juarez today doubts that the battle which Villa waged against Torreón and the outlying towns has been the most desperate of any engagement of this or any other Mexican revolutionary movement. General Villa went to the front with 12,000 seasoned men well equipped for a vigorous, smashing assault. News dispatches indicate that the federals fought fiercely and that the loss in dead and wounded on both sides was enormous. Lack of hospital facilities, the heat of the desert and the four days of practically constant fighting were believed to have resulted in a large casualty list.

Everywhere in Juarez Villa's praises were being sung today. Confidence is expressed that he will push his triumphant way with his rebel army to the doors of the national palace in Mexico City.

A book for every American who is proud of his country

COUPON Save it for a Copy of THE PANAMA CANAL by Frederic J. Haskin Author of "The American Government" Gazette-News Sat. March 28. Colonel Goetz 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 found 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. OUR GUARANTEE: This is not a money-making scheme. The Gazette-News will not make a penny of profit from this campaign. It has undertaken the distribution of this book solely because of its educational merit and whatever benefit there is to be derived from the good will of those who profit from our offer. The Gazette-News will cheerfully refund the price of the book to any purchaser who is not satisfied with it. Present Six Coupons of Consecutive Dates FIFTEEN CENTS EXTRA IF SENT BY MAIL