

The Asheville Gazette News.

WEATHER FORECAST:
FAIR; WARMER.

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ASHEVILLE, N. C., TUESDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 5, 1915.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

TIMBER COM'Y IS ORGANIZED

European and Michigan Capital and Genius Working Together to Boom W. N. C. Timber Industry.

HOLDINGS SECURED BY PURCHASE AND OPTION

Plans in Making to Establish Greatest Lumbering Plant in Western Counties to Be Found in State.

The recent sales of timber lands and options secured on additional boundaries of high class timber lands in western North Carolina by European capital, augmented by Michigan money and genius, involving several millions of dollars, is promising to give the lumbering industry in this section a boom.

Information has just been given out of a great number of improvements, together with new developments, in the timber sections in such western counties as Graham, Clay, Cherokee and Macon which have been under way for several months. The acreage of timbered lands involved in this company's proposed acquisition amounts to something near 160,000 acres. This, together with the taking over of several other industries already developed to the extent of several millions of dollars, go to make this the largest and most important sale of timber lands ever proposed or consummated in North Carolina.

The holdings of the Whiting Lumber company in Graham county, which comprised about 90,000 acres of lands, sold a few years back by M. E. Cozad of this city to that company, have been transferred to the new company, which is represented by Mr. Buell, and the operation of the plant conducted by the Whiting company at Andrews has been resumed. The M. E. Cozad lands in Clay county, comprising about 8,000 acres, have been sold to this company. It is reported that options have been taken on the lands of the Nimrod Development company, Hiwassee Lumber company, and the Cover lands, which total about 23,000 acres. In Macon and Cherokee counties, options have been taken on something like 40,000 additional acres. The options taken in Macon include the developments undertaken some years ago by the Andrews Lumber company, with base of operations at Andrews, with a standard gauge railroad leading into Macon county a distance of some nine miles. This acquisition includes a band mill at Andrews with a capacity of about 75,000 feet of lumber per day, and extensive and expensive improvements.

Together with all these proposed improvements, this company has been negotiating with the State of North Carolina for a lease on its road after the completion of the roadbed and laying of ties. It is proposed to complete the road, which has as terminus Andrews on the Murphy branch of the Southern railroad and Haystack, a distance of 24 miles, with a proposed extension from Haystack into Town's county, Georgia, a distance of some fifteen or twenty miles. The Hiwassee Valley railroad was incorporated by the state of North Carolina during the year of 1913. On Saturday of last week, a meeting of the board of directors was held in Andrews, when O. L. Anderson of Haystack was elected president. The completion of this road, which is thought to be possible sometime during the coming month of August, will open up to developments some very productive and valuable lands.

Bonds voted by the county of Clay and the township of Andrews amounting to \$150,000 have been sold and the money is now available. A stretch of ten miles on the Clay division has been let on contract and the remaining distance of fourteen miles on the Andrews division is open for bids.

The town of Andrews enjoy the distinction of being the most suitable adapted section of western North Carolina for promotion of industries requiring unlifted level land, for plants.

A proposed railroad is being surveyed by the company which Mr. Duil represents, having Andrews as its terminus and Robbinsville and other sections of Graham county as its objective extension. It is said that should a route from Andrews to Robbinsville by way of Topton, be found feasible, the present plant located at Judson will be moved to Andrews and thereby make that town a base of operations for all their holdings which they have and are proposing to acquire. Such an action will place this town a lumbering plant of a capacity greater than any now being operated in the West.

MORGANTON SCENE OF FATAL ACCIDENT

Asheville Man Badly Injured When Derrick and Oil Car Tumble Over.

Special to The Gazette-News. Morganton, Jan. 5.—The local yards of the Southern were the scene early yesterday morning of a fatal accident when a derrick, sent here late Sunday night to clear away a minor wreck in the east yards, toppled over burying the crew beneath it. The body of Brakeman Ernest Lewis was recovered about noon yesterday, while Conductor Thomas McNeely of Asheville of the wrecking car was taken out with both legs broken and badly bruised from the waist down. Signalman Bailey and an unknown negro are reported to still be under the wreck.

The accident on the east end of the yard Sunday afternoon derailed nine cars. This delayed traffic for some time and passenger trains Nos. 12 and 21 transferred. No serious damage was done except this delay and no further attention was given the matter. However, when the wrecking crew arrived the derrick was attached to an oil car and an effort was made to get it back on the track. A large crowd was present to witness the feat but they beheld something more awful for the oil car was too much for the derrick and the whole outfit was pulled from the track and precipitated down the embankment. The wrecking car caught Conductor McNeely and he was badly crushed from the waist down, both legs being broken. He was taken to a local hospital and given surgical aid and is resting as well as could be expected, though grave doubts are entertained as to his recovery. About noon the body of Brakeman Ernest Lewis was taken out. He was badly crushed and must have been killed instantly when the car was pulled from the track by the oil car.

TWO MEN ARE KILLED IN REVOLVER BATTLES

Policeman and Burglar Dead as Result of Attempted Hold-up in Chicago.

Chicago, Jan. 5.—A policeman and a burglar were killed and an alleged highwayman was mortally wounded in revolver battles the police had with four robbers who were caught attempting a hold-up and a burglary early today. The dead are: John Hausman, policeman, George Hennessy, burglar. The wounded man is Jack Dutton, a police character. Dutton and an unidentified negro were discovered by the police attempting the hold-up and Dutton was shot when they attempted to escape. Hausman attempted to arrest one of the men who were engaged in the hold-up. He was shot four times and the men were trapped several blocks away. Hennessy was shot by Policeman Axel Jensen, who he was found trying to pry open the window of a store.

FRENCH AND BRITISH SAILORS ARE LANDED

German Steamer Takes 100 Captured Seamen to the Canary Islands.

Lab Galmias, Canary Islands, Jan. 5.—(Via Paris).—One hundred sailors from the four French and British ships captured by the German auxiliary cruiser Kron Prinz Wilhelm have been landed here by the German steamer Ostax.

The craft which fell into the hands of the Germans were the French steamer Montagu, the British steamer Belvedere, sunk December 4; the French sailing vessel Ann Marie, sunk December 19; and the French ship Union, sunk November 23.

8 HUNGARIAN TOWNS CAPTURED BY RUSSIANS

In Western Theater French Are Less Than 30 Miles From The Rhine--Austrians Surrounded In Carpathians--Little Change In Poland.

London, Jan. 5.—Information has reached Paris that the Russians are pushing their invasion of Hungary, having taken eight Hungarian towns, and that the Russian forces have also surrounded several divisions of Austrians in the Carpathians.

In the western theater the French are less than 30 miles from the Rhine river and are holding the Alsatian village of Steinbach, where desperate house to house fighting continued for several days. They also are in possession of the heights to the southeast of the village. These positions were

taken after one of the most stubborn local conflicts of the war. At no other points in the west is there evidence of noteworthy change.

In Poland there has been little shift in the relative positions of the contending forces. The Germans continue in their attempt against the Russian Bzura-Rawka line.

In the south the Russians have swept to Suscawa, near the Roumanian border.

In the Caucasus the Turks and Russians appear to be still fighting in the battle around Sari-Kamysk, both sides claiming victory.

The French progress in Alsace is probably the most significant event of the week in the west, and by some observers it is thought to indicate a future attempt of the allies to break through the German line at this place, with Belfort as their main base. For the moment the swampy ground in West Flanders seems to preclude the possibility of a general advance in that locality. Further than this, General Joffre's feeling tactics at other points have resulted in no great gains.

It was down the Vosges hills that the French Alpine chassours, backed by the famous 75 millimeter guns, swept to victory in the village of Steinbach. Positions only a little further to the southeast, observers point out, would give the allies possession of the town of Cernay, of Sennheim. They now hold heights to the west of the town, and its fall would open the way to Meulhausen.

Whether the Turks are, or are not, exaggerating their successes against the Russians, they are doing some hard fighting in the Caucasus, judging from dispatches reaching London. Even Petrograd admits that the situation there is of the first importance, but there is no sign that he Russians are moving any troops from the west to the south.

President Wilson is said to fear that a wholesale capture of forged American passports will have the effect of discrediting practically every American passport in European countries, officials here reasoning that if Germans here have obtained scores of such documents under false pretenses most American passports are not genuine. Consequently officials here are proceeding with the utmost delicacy, fearing that sensational developments might result in the apprehension and imprisonment of thousands of Americans abroad.

It was admitted that while the apprehension of the eleven men held on Saturday night is important the real ring leaders in the plot have not been caught as yet. The extent to which the German organization here has been working in the purchase of American passports has not been realized, an official said.

The "bund's" agents have been plentifully supplied with money and urged on by promises of reward, according to the story of a detective working on the case. He said that Carl Buroeds, of No. 1621 Forty-sixth street, Brooklyn, who with eight others was taken to the Tombs on Saturday night, told him he had been promised the Iron Cross for his work in connection with the passport scandal.

If further developments should prove this statement is true and the promises were made by a legally authorized representative of the German government, it is feared in some quarters that serious complications may result.

British Raid. Nairobi, British East Africa, via London, Jan. 5.—The British battleship Goliath and light cruiser Fox have carried out successful operations against Dar-Es-Salaam, capital of German East Africa. The warships bombarded the town, inflicting considerable damage. All German vessels in the harbor were disabled. Fourteen Europeans and twenty natives were taken prisoners.

The British loss was one killed and twelve wounded. Dar-Es-Salaam, the best built town on the coast of German East Africa, is a military station with an excellent harbor, forty miles south of Zanzibar. It is the terminus of an important caravan route, the residence of a governor and has large commercial interests. The white population in 1909 was estimated at 1,000; the total population at more than 20,000.

Russians Occupy Eight Towns. Paris, Jan. 5.—Petrograd dispatches published in L'—Information reports that the Russian forces have occupied eight towns in Hungary and that several divisions of the Austrian army have been surrounded by the Russians in the Carpathian mountains.

Artillery Fire Intermittent. Paris, Jan. 5.—The official statement concerning the progress of the war, made public yesterday in Paris, shows that artillery fighting along the whole front is proceeding intermittently, at some points with particular violence. It seems that few infantry attacks are being made. The French admit having failed in efforts to occupy certain German positions in the Meuse region. Further progress has been made in the fighting for the possession of Steinbach. The text of the statements is as follows:

From the sea to the Oise, the day passed in almost entire calmness. The weather was rainy. There were artillery engagements at some points on the front. In front of Noulette, our heavy artillery reduced to silence the artillery of the enemy.

In the Aisne region and in Champagne, the cannonading was particularly violent. Our batteries showed their superiority over those of the enemy and brought under their fire the reserve forces of the enemy. We became possessed of several points of support held by the Germans in Perthes and Meaulles-Hurlus.

Between the Argonne and the Meuse, as well as on the heights of the Meuse, there has been intermittent artillery fighting. An effort yesterday on the part of our troops to occupy Bourville was not successful. Our advance in the effort to take La Perle (Continued on page 7)

N. C. R'Y DIRECTORS DECLARE DIVIDEND

Seven Per Cent Annual Dividend This Year on \$4,000,000 Capital Stock.

Special to The Gazette-News. Charlotte, Jan. 5.—The directors of the North Carolina Railroad company met at the Stonewall hotel yesterday. Attending the meeting were Benahan Cameron, Alexander Webb, W. H. Wood, J. Q. Gilkey, J. M. Allen, J. P. Yount, C. S. Tomlin, J. E. Carraway, W. T. Brown and J. P. Cook, the latter secretary and treasurer.

The directors instructed the secretary to write Colonel Pearnall, one of the directors of West Bern, a letter of felicitation on his approaching marriage.

The only business of interest was the declaring a 7 per cent dividend on the capital stock of \$4,000,000, 3 1/2 per cent payable February 1, and 3 1/2 per cent payable August 2. The largest part of the stock, about \$3,000,000, is owned by the state of North Carolina.

The majority of the other stockholders are women.

The local political world was interested yesterday in the announcement by E. L. Mason to the effect that he will not be a candidate for mayor in May. Mr. Mason assigns two reasons for withdrawing and from the race, one his business; the other his health. He has secured the promise of Capt. William Anderson to make the race on his business; the other his health. He has secured the promise of Capt. William Anderson to make the race against Col. T. L. Irpatrick, who was in the field against Mr. Mason. Some there are who think that Mayor Blaud may stand for re-election. If so the "triangular duel" will be interesting.

Charles E. Trull, white, who was convicted in June of killing Sidney Swain, white, and who was sentenced to be electrocuted August last, the execution being stayed by an appeal, has received a respite until April. The attorneys for Trull failed to file notice of appeal in time for the recent session of the Supreme court, so the attorney general agreed to allow the appeal to be argued next spring, when the other cases from Mecklenburg are heard. Trull has been in jail since his apprehension last June. On two occasions when there were attempts to break jail he refused to join in the attempt.

Officers Removed For Breach of Neutrality. Rio Janeiro, Jan. 5.—The German steamer Holder, having secretly left Pernambuco presumably with supplies for German warships in South American waters, the federal government has removed officials who authorized her departure and whose duty it should have been to guard against such a breach of neutrality. They have been ordered to appear before a board of inquiry.

National Conference On Child Labor Open Today. Washington, Jan. 5.—Reports of efficient work were made this morning at the opening of the eleventh annual convention of the National Child Labor committee. Reports generally showed marked improvement in conditions under which children are employed, as compared with conditions of five years ago. Nevertheless, several speeches were made in which it was admitted that much yet remains to be done in this work.

Discussing conditions in the south, Lewis W. Hines, staff photographer of the committee, said that public opinion had done much to reduce the employment of underaged children. He stated that he had found marked improvement generally in the situation during the past five years but that very young children now being worked in the North Carolina mills.

He told of two sisters, aged six and seven years, who were found spinning, and of two boys, under 12 years of age, whose hands had been mutilated in the mill machinery.

Washington, Jan. 5.—The eleventh annual Conference on Child Labor, under auspices of the National Child Labor committee, meets here today for discussion of the problem. Dr. Felix Adler of New York will preside, and the program calls for reports from several states on the progress of Child Labor legislation.

Jane Addams, Mrs. Florence Kelley, Julia C. Lathrop, John Mitchell, and many other men and women interested in child labor problems have been invited to address the conference, which sits both Tuesday and Wednesday.

According to the committee's statistics there are half a million children, whom they hope to release from "extracting and injurious work." Arrangements have been made for observance of child labor day in the churches of the country on January 24, and in the schools on January 28. In addition to the endeavor to obtain a federal law on child labor, the committee announces that its representatives during the year will appear before 15 state legislatures in connection with child labor and compulsory school attendance bills.

BIG R'Y LINES IN CONSPIRACY

J. C. Forester, Rate Expert of Greensboro, Says Big Lines Are in Conspiracy to Repeal Justice Act.

SHORT LINES USED AS CAT'S PAW, IS CHARGE

Says Petition Is Circulated to Have Section Repealed—Endeavored to Make Act Unpopular.

Special to The Gazette-News. Greensboro, Jan. 5.—A conspiracy in which big railroad companies doing business in North Carolina are charged with using smaller railroad companies of the state as a cat's paw is alleged by Secretary J. C. Forester of the Greensboro chamber of commerce, relative to a petition that has been circulated throughout the state recently. This petition is to the legislature and asks that section 9 of the long and short haul clause in the Justice act be repealed.

Mr. Forester has prepared an argument in reply to the petition, this argument to be presented to F. P. Hubbard, senator from Guilford, for his consideration when the petition comes before the legislature. Instances are set forth in support of the reply of certain plans of shipment that are said to be followed to make the Justice act unpopular.

The petition to the legislature, which Mr. Forester said is circulated ostensibly by the smaller companies, claims the section referred to, which is to the effect that the railroads shall not charge more for a shorter than for a longer distance over the same line in the same direction, will put them out of business by killing competition. The long railroads are affected more by this than the shorter ones, and hence they are using the shorter ones as a cat's paw, says Mr. Forester.

An instance cited is of shipments for Severn, in the eastern part of this state, to Durham. Severn is on the Seaboard Air Line, and is but a short distance from Boykins, Va. The Seaboard Air Line has a road from Boykins to Durham by this route is 125 miles. Instead of shipping this way the Seaboard ships over its line to Kelford. The shipment there change to the Atlantic Coast Line and sent by Tarboro and Rocky Mount to Wilson. It is turned over to the Norfolk and Southern to be carried to Raleigh, where the Southern gets it and carries it to Durham. The distance by this circuitous route is 159 miles. To take the shipment into Boykins and thence carry it to Durham would make interstate commerce.

The course followed is claimed to be the shortest route in view of the section in the Justice act, the railroads (Continued on page 7.)

Drop Bombs On British Storehouse; Many Dead

Berlin, Jan. 5.—German airmen, it is announced, have dropped bombs on the British ammunition stores on the outskirts of Rosendael and Boudskergue, near Dunkirk, France. The explosion killed and wounded about 100

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people and set fire to a portion of the village.

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News from Durazzo, Albania, states that in the first fighting near that place a number of the followers of Ismail Pasha, provisional president of Albania, who hung back from battle, have been hanged.