

## GOVERNOR TALKS BRITISH REPLY TO LEGISLATURE

Submits Recommendations for the Legislative Program—Many Important Matters Considered.

## EXPLANATION AND PRIMARY ARE GIVEN ATTENTION

Light Rates, Highways, Forests, Diversified Crops and Western Training School Among the Subjects.

Raleigh, Jan. 7.—In his recommendations to the 1915 general assembly Governor Craig gave attention to the cotton situation, as affected by new railroads and freight rate improvements. He also gave special attention to the primary and income and taxation. Other subjects discussed were: The farm, highways, state's prison, public health, tuberculosis insurance, state's institutions, child labor, western training school.

The message follows in part: The Honorable the General Assembly of North Carolina:

The last two years have been an era of substantial progress. The energy of the state has been manifested in her industrial and social development. Agriculture has improved. Trade and manufacturing have increased. The European war has depressed values, and depressed business, but already conditions are improving and the determination and intelligence of the people are prevailing over unexpected disaster. The sudden fall in the price of cotton resulting from the closing of the markets by the war and unprecedented crops, have caused a shock that demoralized business, and discouraged enterprise. The present crop falls short of the expected yield by millions of dollars. This calamity has fallen heavy. It has brought disaster to many that are industrious and worthy.

If the present unfortunate situation demonstrate to our farmers the necessity of diversifying crops; of producing meat and bread at home, the present misfortune will result to our permanent good.

Within the last two years the principal differences between the people and the railroads as to transportation of merchandise have been adjusted. For years our people suffered from adverse discrimination and excessive rates. While we did not secure on interstate rates the reductions to which we were entitled, the necessary adjustment was made, by this a saving of \$2,000,000 a year in interstate commerce was secured. But of far greater consideration is the placing of our enterprises on a fairly competitive basis with the enterprises of the state of Virginia. Industries heretofore attracted to Virginia will remain with us. Our towns and cities feel the impulse and the people will ultimately be benefited.

A strong and determined public sentiment brought about these adjustments. The sovereignty of the people was asserted. I transmit to the general assembly, for careful consideration the reports of the different departments of government and institutions of the state. You will see from these reports that our state institutions, educational and eleemosynary, are performing with efficiency their respective functions, that the various departments of the state government have been administered with ability, economy and honesty. As provided by law these departments and institutions have been thoroughly audited and investigated by competent experts and in the honesty of their conduct they are above reproach.

There are problems of grave importance that confront this general assembly, and as commanded by the constitution I submit to you my views and recommendations on some of the questions that you will consider:

**The Farm.**  
Our department of agriculture is doing effective work. The encouragement to better farming, the improvement of rural conditions by the improvement of schools, of roads, of sanitary conditions, by circulating libraries, by farm demonstrations, by scientific teaching and by every feasible means should be the fixed purpose of this general assembly. Eighty per cent of our people live upon the farms. Their destiny and the destiny of the state and of all the people of the state is largely determined by conditions that prevail in rural communities. Thence cometh our strength and thence the crop of men.

**Revenue and Taxation.**  
The revenue for the last two years has met all the obligations of the state. There is a small balance in the treasury above all demands. This fact must be gratifying to this general assembly, and to all the people, for it is the first time in many years that this condition has existed. Our revenue system, however, is far from satisfactory. The problem of taxation is always difficult and vital. The gov-

## BRITISH REPLY CONCILIATORY

England Is Willing to Do Everything in Reason to Avert Delay in Transportation of American Cargoes.

## PURCHASE OF GERMAN SHIPS NOT PROTESTED

No Question on This Point If Vessels Bought by U. S. or Her Citizens Used in S. American Trade.

London, Jan. 7.—Great Britain's reply to the United States note of protest against the interference with American commerce by British fleets, it is said in well informed circles, is to be wholly in a conciliatory tone and to indicate a disposition on the part of England to do everything in reason to avert the delay to American cargoes. England, it is said, wishes to do everything in her power consistent with the proper safeguarding of the allies' interest, to facilitate the world's trading and to stimulate commerce. Consequently, there is no disposition on the part of Great Britain to protest against the purchase of German vessels by Americans, where the sales are genuine and the ships are to be used so as to avoid what might be reasonably regarded as "consequences of belligerence."

The use of the transferred German ships in the cotton trade with Germany will probably be objected to, although cotton is not contraband, as the allies may regard it as a round-about way of easing the war's effects. At any rate, the objections are not likely to be raised until the actual transfer of the vessels and their probable use is indicated. It is also probable that the allies will take the position that the money from the sale of the ships should be held until the close of the war as a guarantee that it would not be used to help belligerents. On the assumption that the German ships purchased by the United States government or its citizens would be used in South American trade, such transfer would probably be satisfactory to the allies. While it is pointed out that the sale of German ships in New York to the United States of its citizens would relieve German citizens of heavy expenses of maintenance and insurance—undoubtedly consequences of war within the meaning of international practice—still England will probably waive objection on this point if the vessels purchased enter trade in no way beneficial to Germany, Austria or Turkey.

## GERMANS OCCUPY FRENCH TRENCHES

Berlin Statement Refers to the Gains in Alsace and Argonne Regions.

Berlin, Jan. 7.—French trenches in the Argonne have been occupied by the Germans, and in upper Alsace the French have been driven from a position near Sennheim (Cernay), according to the official statement issued in Berlin yesterday by the German army headquarters. In Poland, relatively minor German successes are related, including the capture of 1400 Russian prisoners.

The text of the statement follows: "In the western theater, the French continued yesterday their systematic bombardment of the villages situated behind our forces. They seemed indifferent about the killing of their countrymen and the destruction of French homes. Nevertheless, the operations are causing us little trouble. At Soudain and in the forest of Argonne, we have captured several trenches and taken prisoners—two officers and 200 men. The French again gained a foothold early yesterday on the heights to the west of Sennheim (Cernay) in upper Alsace but were driven out by our men attacking with bayonets. Fifty Alpine Chasseurs were taken prisoners by us."

"In the east, there was no change yesterday. On our eastern frontier and in North Poland on the west bank of the Vistula, our troops penetrated as far as Sucha, after capturing several points of support. Here, 1400 prisoners and nine machine guns fell into our hands. "The situation on the east of the Pilica river remains unchanged."

The students of the Asheville school who reside in the north arrived here yesterday afternoon in special cars from Cincinnati, after having spent the Christmas holidays at their homes.

## Russians Concentrating Their Main Efforts In Carpathians

Meanwhile Muscovites Maintain Vigorous Offensive in Bukowina Which May Situation to Head—Allies Vary Flank Attacks—Turkish Defeats Complete—Germans no Nearer Warsaw.

London, Jan. 7.—Neither the Turkish nor German official communications concede the severe defeats of the Turks in the Caucasus which have been claimed in Petrograd, but as further details of the fighting are received it appears that the reported Turkish disaster has been as complete as any army has suffered since the outbreak of the war. In spite of the confirmatory reports, however, the latest Turkish official advices ignore the fighting in the Caucasus and dwell on the battle on the frontier near Urumiah. In this town it is claimed that 85 Persians defeated a detachment of Russians.

In Poland the Germans seem to be no nearer Warsaw and there is little alteration in the positions of the armies on the vast battle front extending from the Baltic to the Carpathians.

At this time the Russians seem to be concentrating their main efforts in the Carpathians, and at the same time to be maintaining a vigorous offensive in Bukowina. Having occupied Austrian territory which is largely populated by those out of sympathy with the Austro-Hungarian powers, the invasion is expected to exert a powerful influence in bringing the Balkan situation to a head.

In the west the allies have varied their flank attacks which resulted in successes in the sand dunes of Flanders and in Alsace, and now are exerting intense pressure on the German front from Rheims to Lorraine where some ground has been gained.

The Germans, meanwhile, have sought to repair the damage to their wings, and as a result have recovered some ground in the region of Steinbach, but their attacks in Flanders have been repulsed.

Reports of the detention of the Belgian prelate, Cardinal Mercier, by the Germans, presumably for advising his countrymen not to give allegiance to the German administration in the territory occupied by the invaders in Belgium, continue to reach London and Amsterdam. It was also reported that

Cardinal Mercier had been removed to the Germans to Brussels, but this report has not been confirmed. Dispatches from Rome say that the Pope has requested full information from the German government concerning the arrest of the prelate; but these also lack confirmation. As a matter of fact, authentic dispatches indicate that the Vatican has not been officially advised of the Cardinal's alleged arrest.

**Turkish Successes.**  
London, Jan. 7.—An official Turkish statement which has reached London from Liverpool by way of Amsterdam is as follows: "Our troops have advanced from Samol and Balirons and occupied Ura, an important Russian point of support."

"After an indecisive battle between the Russian and Turkish fleets, the Russian warships sank an Italian merchantman, although the vessel was flying the Italian flag. "Four thousand Russians were completely vanquished at Mindobah. Two hundred Russians were killed, while the Turks, who were aided by Persians in the engagement, lost only six men killed."

"In the fighting near Urumiah and Zorbahan, a province of Persia, two detachments of Russians were taken prisoners and about 100 killed. As a result of the severe defeat at Urumiah the Russian moral has been broken."

## Pope Seeks Information As to Cardinal's Arrest

Rome, Jan. 6.—(Delayed)—The Vatican up to late tonight had received no official confirmation of the reports that the Belgian prelate, Cardinal Mercier, had been arrested by the Germans because a pastoral letter he issued shall outline the ages, and learned that the Vatican has requested information in regard to the reported arrest of Cardinal Mercier by the Germans in Belgium. He added that it was believed that the Pope would demand the prelate's release.

more of the arrest of a member of the sacred college have created a profound impression here.

## MONUMENT TO BE BUILT BY STUDENTS

Weaver College Students and Faculty Will Replace Shaft on Summit of Mitchell.

## WILL UNDERTAKE TASK WITH THEIR OWN HANDS

A Small Fund Will Be Raised by Contribution to Aid in Work—Action Taken Yesterday.

The students and faculty of Weaver college have signified their intention of going to the summit of Mount Mitchell and erecting a shaft to the memory of Prof. Elisha Mitchell with their own hands. A small fund will be raised by contributions, and Secretary N. Buckner of the local board of trade has been named to receive such contributions. The monument will be erected to take the place of the one destroyed last week by vandals; and since the student body of Weaver college has demonstrated this spirit, it is not likely that the people of the state, especially of western North Carolina, will be backward about contributing to the fund.

The action of the students and faculty was taken yesterday in the college auditorium, when the following resolutions were adopted: "Whereas, vandals have destroyed the monument erected on the summit of Mitchell's peak to the memory of that intrepid explorer and distinguished scientist, Rev. Elisha Mitchell, and whereas, he brought to the attention of the world the beauty and grandeur of the Land of the Sky and has made it the mecca of millions. "Therefore, Be it resolved, That we, the faculty and students of Weaver college, hereby pledge ourselves to

proceed in a body to the summit of Mitchell's peak and there erect from enduring stones of that great mountain a monument to his memory which shall outlast the ages, and "Be it further resolved, That we ask the Historical society of North Carolina to prepare a suitable tablet to be placed in this monument and that we invite all who wish to be associated with the movement to send contributions to N. Buckner, secretary of the Asheville board of trade, to be used in purchasing materials for the work."

The monument will not be a pretentious one, but will be erected from the boulders that adorn the summit of the peak. It will be a lasting one to the memory of the man who explored the peak in the interest of science and lost his life in the undertaking. The North Carolina Historical society will be asked to prepare a suitable tablet for the shaft.

The action of the students and faculty in volunteering to undertake this task was inspired by Rev. W. A. Newell, president of the college, in a talk in which he deplored the action of the vandals in thus destroying the monument. It will be a great task; but the men who have pledged themselves to do it are confident that their work will be of such a nature as to furnish a fitting memorial to Prof. Mitchell.

## H. W. MESSER IS STILL IN SERIOUS CONDITION

The condition of H. W. Messer, who was brought to the Meriwether hospital yesterday from Black Mountain, where he was seriously injured, still remains in a serious condition and is suffering very much, being unconscious part of the time. Mr. Messer was hurt Tuesday evening while working on a logging train operated by the Perley-Crockett company, near Black Mountain. The train is said to have pulled apart, three of the cars becoming uncoupled and jumping the track, one of them striking Mr. Messer. He is also said to have been severely burned, a fire having started from the campfire, built where the cars jumped the track.

## HOSPITAL WING CONTRACTS LET

New Addition to Mission Hospital Will Be Constructed at an Approximate Cost of \$45,000.

## BEGINNING OF WORK DEPENDS ON WEATHER

The Structure Will Contain 33 Rooms and Will Be Strictly Fireproof—To Complete It by Nov. 1.

Contracts have been let for the construction of the new wing to the Mission hospital, the committee appointed to supervise the construction having awarded the contracts for various phases of the work as follows: General construction of the building, to Longest and Tesser company, Greensboro, for the contract price of \$32,156; plumbing, to Sluder Bros., Asheville, for the contract price of \$5,030; electric wiring, to W. A. Ward, Asheville, for the contract price of \$1,910; terrazzo flooring, to Tiffoll and Marus, Charlotte, for the contract price of \$2,395.40. The Otis Elevator company will install the elevators, the price of this work not yet having been agreed upon. Bids were submitted on all this work, and the contracts in each case were awarded to the lowest bidder. All papers have not yet been signed, but everything is practically agreed upon and there is not likely to be any change. Ground will be broken for the construction of the building and active operations in its erection will begin as soon as weather conditions will permit, and the contracts call for the completion of the structure by November 1, 1915.

This new addition to the hospital will be three stories in height, with a basement, and will be strictly fireproof throughout. The outer walls will be of brick, while the partitions will be of gypsum and the floors of concrete, with a terrazzo surfacing. It will contain 33 private rooms for patients, these to be arranged on either side of the building with a wide corridor between running the entire length of the building. The approximate dimensions of the structure will be 118 by 38 feet.

There will be 11 rooms on each floor, and eight of these will be connected with a bath. There will be other bath rooms on each floor, as well as diet kitchens, chart rooms, etc. In the basement there will be four store rooms, boiler rooms, coal bins, elevator machinery, linen room and heating plant. At the front of the building, facing on Woodfin street, there will be a solarium, an sun parlor, for each floor. This will be 14 by 25 feet and, of course, will be closed in glass. Every modern convenience known to hospital construction will be incorporated into this building, and it will be a very valuable addition to the hospital facilities of the city. Its construction will be paid for out of the fund raised by public subscription in a campaign conducted here over a year ago.

This wing of the hospital will be erected to the east of the present building, and space will be left between it and the old wing for an addition. (Continued on page 11)

## AN APPEAL IS MADE BY SALVATION ARMY

Cook Stove Wanted for Widow Woman Who Has a Family to Support.

Adjutant Bouterse of the local branch of the Salvation Army today said that he had been able to secure a house for a widow and children who recently applied to the Army for aid. The woman is the only support for herself and children and the problem of providing for the family was a serious one to the Army officials, although after repeated efforts a house was secured for them and Adjutant Bouterse states that the woman will work and will also be able to take one or two people to board at her place. The only thing that now stands in the way of making the plan a successful one is that the woman has no cooking stove nor has the Army one to supply her. An appeal is made to anyone who will supply a cooking stove, new or old, for the woman to use in her efforts to support her family. A telephone call to No. 1615 or a message sent to the Salvation Army headquarters will bring a man to take any stove that is offered by anyone.

## WILL INTRODUCE CONTEMPT BILL

Allen of Goldsboro Has Measure for Defense of Men Charged With Contempt.

## INTENDED TO CURTAIL THE JUDICIAL POWER

General Assembly Begins First Business Session Today—Formalities Were Completed Yesterday.

Raleigh, Jan. 7.—The general assembly of North Carolina began its first business session this morning. Matt H. Allen of Goldsboro a "contempt bill" which gives victims of contempt orders a chance in the courts, as one of the first measures on the program to be introduced.

Wise legislators smiled when the word went the rounds that Mr. Allen will present such a bill. They instantly recalled an episode of a few days ago when the Klinton bar is printed as having petitioned Judge R. B. Peebles for a continuance of a term of court in which the bar would be here to work for Emmett R. Wooten for speaker. No contempt order has come from the judge.

The bill provides a defense for the men charged with contempt by submitting the issues to reference. The magisterial term is "swearing it away from him," whoever the "him" is. The measure doesn't take away the judge's right to punish cases in which the offenders do wrong in his presence. The context hasn't been read, but the bill is less than 500 words long and is designed to give the right of defense to men whose contempt is certain in the light of judicial orders given.

Mr. Allen was ready yesterday to offer the measure when the house had organized for business after nearly three hours of formalities following a caucus. The house adjourned without anything more business like than the adoption of a resolution sending five members of the general assembly to New Orleans to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans, were chosen, Wooten was made speaker.

In Senate. The senate adopted a motion by Senator Haymore serving notice on the house of representatives that the senate was organized ready for the transaction of business.

Senator Ward sent forward a motion, which was adopted, providing for the appointment of a joint-committee of two from the senate and three from the house to represent the state at the celebration in commemoration of the Battle of New Orleans at New Orleans January 8, especially because General Jackson, commanding the American forces against the British in this decisive engagement, was a North Carolinian. An inquiry by Senator Johnson brought the explanation from Senator Ward that each member of the committee who went would bear his own expenses, there being no call on the state for any part of the expense.

Rules Committee. On motion of Senator Majette it was voted that the rules of the last session shall be the rules for the present session for the present. The new rules committee was announced as follows: Senator Gardner, chairman, Senators Ward, Giles, Johnson or Duplin, Muse, Paxton, Gilliam, Chatham and Hobgood.

Raleigh, Jan. 7.—The 1915 session of the North Carolina legislature got under way yesterday with E. R. Wooten of Lenoir as speaker of the house and Senator O. Max Gardner of Cleveland county as president pro tempore of the senate. Their nominations, equivalent to elections having been made before in the democratic caucus. Representative Wooten was placed in nomination for speaker by H. G. Williams of Cabarrus county and R. L. Haymore of survey county nominated Senator Gardner for president pro tempore of the senate. Other officers elected were: T. G. Cobb of Morganton, principal clerk; D. F. Dellinger of Gaston, reading clerk; James H. Morine, sergeant at arms; Elias J. Jenkins of Pitt, assistant sergeant at arms; M. D. Kinsland of Haywood engraving clerk.

Among the defeated candidates were John D. Berry of Wake for reading clerk, I. J. Brittain of Guilford for sergeant at arms. Senator Gardner had no opposition for president pro tempore of the senate. Senator Hobgood of Guilford having withdrawn. He was placed in nomination by Senator Johnson of Duplin and chosen by acclamation.

R. G. Self of Jackson county was chosen as principal clerk of the senate; J. R. Burnett of Montgomery as speaking clerk; W. T. Aycock of Wayne was elected engraving clerk over Charles Davis of Currituck; W. D. Jasper was elected sergeant at arms. (Continued on Page 11.)