

GERMAN THREAT LITTLE FEARED

British Shippers Seem to Think
Hostile Submarines Are
Already Doing About
All They Can.

LAND OPERATIONS
NOT LOST SIGHT OF

British and French Are Vig-
orously Attacking Germans
in West—Germany's
Eastern Plans.

London, Feb. 18.—Foreign Secretary Grey's reply to the American note of protest against the seizure and detention of American vessels by the British fleet and Germany's threat of submarine blockade of the British Isles, effective today, as well as England's intended retaliatory measures absorbed the public attention today. The reply concerning the American complaint as to cargoes seized and delayed was much discussed, but the German proclamation of a war zone in the waters around the British Isles was uppermost in the minds of ship owners and traders. As the Germans, however, have for some time been attempting to sink British ships with submarines the new ultimatum has created but little alarm. All the important shipping companies have announced there will be no change in their sailings; and the British, French and Belgian cross channel steamers will maintain their schedules. The Dutch Mail line between Flushing and Folkestone has suspended sailings, however, and there is some talk that the mails may be carried on Dutch destroyers.

There has been an increase in insurance rates of shipping; and in fact, the government has actually reduced the rate on some fighting vessels, and at the same time has arranged to compensate the families of sailors who are killed or injured as a result of the submarine war. There has been an increase in the coal price and coal freight rates, but this is said to be due mostly to the increased demand particularly from Italy and to the shortage of ships.

Notwithstanding the interest in the important question of shipping insurance, England has not lost sight of the importance of the military operations on the eastern and western fronts. The fighting in east Prussia and Bukovina, where the extreme wings of the Russian forces have been engaged is still considered the most important. Petrograd insists that the Russians carried out their retreats in perfect order.

An important battle is raging in the vicinity of Augustow, where last fall the Russians stopped a German attempt to invade Russia. The German plans of operation are still not certain, but it is believed that they still have their eyes on Warsaw in the hope that by taking the Polish capital they will be able to break the Russian power of offensive, leaving the Germans free to give the greater part of their attention to the allies in the west.

Anticipating this possibility the allies, during the last two days, have been making vigorous attacks in France and Flanders. The outcome of these attacks is not certain as the French and German reports are conflicting.

THIEVES AT MT. OLIVE STEAL 3 BALES COTTON

Special to the Gazette-News.
Mt. Olive, Feb. 18.—A cotton storage warehouse here, owned by E. J. Martin and Son company, one of the leading mercantile firms here, was entered by thieves three or four nights ago, who succeeded in getting away with three bales of cotton. It is believed that the theft was committed either Saturday night or Sunday morning, the cotton having been missed Monday for the first time. No identifying trace of the thieves remains.

GIRL CHARGED WITH HORRIBLE MURDER

Jessie May Carver, of Fairview, Arrested for Murder of Infant.

Charged with one of the most revolting murders imaginable, the death of her new born baby, Jessie May Carver, aged 18, was brought to the county jail this morning by Deputy Sheriff Ed. Williams, from her home in the Cane Creek section of Fairview township.

According to the information gathered by the county officers a child was born to the Carver girl on the night of January 8, at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Carver in Fairview township. In attempting to hide her shame from her parents the girl left the house during the night, which was one of the coldest of the winter and the child was born several yards from the house, in the yard. The officers say that the young mother took the new born infant to a laurel thicket about 40 yards from the house and there it died. Soon after she returned to the house other members of the family heard a baby crying and the mother and sister of the Carver girl secured pine torches and after a search found the infant in the thicket where it had been thrown by the young mother.

The infant was brought to the house and investigation showed that when it was thrown into the thicket terrible wounds were cut in the head and face and, despite careful nursing and treatment, it died during the morning of the day following its birth and was buried by the Carvers.

The young mother grew terribly ill and has since been confined to her bed, although the officers have kept close watch to see that she did not make an attempt to leave the home. Several days ago it was realized that her condition was improved and preparations for her removal to the county jail were made, but without her knowledge, for until her arrest this morning it is believed that she thought no one outside her immediate family knew of the killing. When arrested today she broke down and cried and it was thought for sometime that she would be unable to make the trip to Asheville.

MRS. H. W. DYSART NAMED AS TRAVELERS' AID AGENT

Bureau Is Opened at Southern Passenger Station for Aid to Women and Girls.

Mrs. H. W. Dysart has been named as travelers' aid agent for the local Y. W. C. A. and has established her bureau in the ladies' retiring room at the Southern Railroad passenger station. The establishing of a branch of work was made possible by a large contribution given by a lady who has requested that her name be withheld from publication.

The work to be done by Mrs. Dysart is in line with the work outlined by the travelers' aid committee of New York, the purpose being to render any aid possible to young girls and women traveling alone on trains.

The following have been named as members of an advisory committee to aid Mrs. Dysart in her new work:

Miss E. Grace Miller, general secretary of the local Young Women's Christian association, chairman and treasurer; Ed B. Brown, general secretary of the Asheville Young Men's Christian association, secretary; Miss Weaver, secretary of the Associated Charities; Rev. J. S. Williams, chaplain of the Good Samaritan mission; Rev. R. F. Campbell, D. D., president of the Good Samaritan mission; and James H. Wood, division passenger agent of the Southern Railway company.

REPUBLICANS REPORTED TO BE ORGANIZING

Special to the Gazette-News.
Greensboro, Feb. 18.—A report from Cumberland county received at the republican headquarters indicates that the republicans are organizing for a strong campaign in 1916. The same report is received from the sixth district. Gilliam Grissom expresses the belief that this news is typical of what is going on all over the state.

GORDON, OF MULLINS, IS KILLED AT HAMLET

Special to the Gazette-News.
Hamlet, Feb. 18.—C. W. Gordon, a prominent citizen of Mullins, S. C., was instantly killed by an engine on the C. A. and W. railway in Hamlet at 8:10 yesterday morning.

SHIP BILL DEAD, OPPONENTS SAY

Measure Has Failed to Gain Ground; Democrats Blocked in Trying to Send It to Conference.

NEGOTIATIONS START FOR UNDERSTANDING

Democrats Said to Be Willing to Take up Appropriations if the Bill Is Sent to Conference.

Washington, Feb. 18.—President Wilson has virtually decided not to call an extra session of congress March 5 no matter what may be the fate of the administration ship purchase bill. No official announcement to this effect has been made but congressmen have such an understanding. It was reiterated at the White House that there was hope of getting through the legislative program before March 4.

Washington, Feb. 18.—The amended government ship bill, rushed through the house, failed to gain any ground when it reached the senate and administration leaders were again uncertain as to its fate.

Yesterday it was discovered that the amended bill had failed to satisfy recalcitrant democrats or progressive republicans. Without support of either of these factions the bill could not be passed. Democratic leaders realized nothing could be done unless the measure could be changed in conference, but efforts to send it to conference failed. Another attempt will be made today, it was said.

It was reported that a pending motion to take up the bill today might prevail, but republican leaders, it was declared, would insist upon an understanding that other legislation should be considered before they would cease opposition.

Chief interest centered yesterday in the special senate committee's inquiry into charges of outside influence on the ship purchase measure. As the ship purchase bill itself, republican leaders insisting it is dead, expressed willingness to quit their filibuster if the senate will take up appropriation bills. Administration democrats were said to be willing to do this if the shipping bill first could be sent to conference. Negotiations for an understanding were under way last night and may culminate today.

Senators Norris, Kenyon and La Follette, progressive republicans who favored the senate bill, would not support the Weeks-Gore measure as it passed the house because they believed it to be too temporary in character. Insurgent democrats opposed the measure because they thought its character too permanent. Senator Hardwick sought to amend the motion to send the bill to conference with the instruction that it be made terminable two years after the war. This was defeated by republican-progressive votes.

Administration leaders held a long conference late in the day and considered several proposals to the republicans for ending the filibuster by sending the bill to conference. No agreement was reached, however, and the democratic leaders sought to hold the senate in session for the night, thinking this might bring about some compromise. They were unable to get progressive republicans to stand with them and a motion to adjourn carried.

FUNERAL TODAY OVER MRS. M. L. BRITTAIN

Mrs. M. L. Brittain, aged 91, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. R. Cheek of Weaverville late yesterday afternoon. The deceased had been ill for some time and while her death was not entirely unexpected, her passing will be learned of with keen regret by her many friends in this community where she has practically passed all her days.

Mrs. Brittain was the widow of the late Hanson A. Brittain and is survived by five children: four daughters and one son who reside as follows: Mrs. J. R. Cheek and Mrs. D. R. Parker of Weaverville; Mrs. J. H. Moton of Foston, N. C.; Mrs. P. R. McIntire of Asheville and E. P. Brittain of Weaverville. The deceased was a life long member of the Methodist church and for many years took an active part in all the church affairs. The funeral services will be held this afternoon at Clarke's chapel at Weaverville and interment will take place in the adjoining cemetery.

INVESTIGATION OF CONDUCT OF JUDGE CARTER IS ASKED

Raleigh, Feb. 18.—Solicitor Charles L. Abernathy this morning presented through Representative Davis of Carteret a petition to the house to appoint a commission to investigate the official conduct of Judge Frank Carter; and Representative Clark of Bladen offered another providing machinery for a public hearing.

Mr. Clark's resolution declared that criticisms of Judge Carter are that he is "harsh, unjust and dictatorial to attorneys and litigants;" and that much evidence has been presented to show injustice to Solicitor Abernathy. He thought an investigation necessary to clear the charges against Judge Carter.

The Clark resolution also says there are serious intimations against Judge Carter.

Countering this memorial came a highly laudatory resolution from the Craven county bar, thanking Judge Carter for his unselfishness in trying the Craven docket when Judge Carter was ill. The resolutions went to the committees.

Solicitor Abernathy and many friends are here now. Representative Roberts lost his bill in committee today. The measure was designed to take expert witnesses from control of litigants and put them in the hands of the courts.

MRS. SUSAN A. REYNOLDS HAS PASSED AWAY

Died at Her Home Here Following Long Illness—The Funeral Tomorrow.

Mrs. Susan A. Reynolds, one of the oldest ladies, and a member of one of the pioneer families of Asheville, died at the residence of her daughter, Miss Annie L. Reynolds, 339 Merrimon avenue, yesterday morning, at 7:45 o'clock, after a brief illness.

Mrs. Reynolds was the widow of Colonel Dan Reynolds, who died at Weaverville 36 years ago. Their country home was half way between Weaverville and Asheville now known as Reynolds Heights. Mrs. Reynolds before her marriage to Colonel Reynolds was Susan Adelia Baird, eldest child of the large family of Israel Baird and Mary (Tate) Baird. She was born April 9, 1826, and all her life has been spent in this county. Her brothers were Capt. William B. Baird, who died in this county some five years ago; Dr. J. S. T. Baird, who died two years ago, and Israel Charles Baird, who is still living. Her sisters were Margaret Baird, who was the wife of Judge A. S. Merrimon; Sophronia, who married J. M. Craighead; Harriet, who was the wife of Capt. Natl. Atkinson; Emma, who married Mr. McAbbe; and Catherine, who was the wife of F. H. S. Reynolds, who lives in West Asheville. Only two of this large family are now living, Mrs. Atkinson and Israel Charles Baird.

Mrs. Reynolds was the mother of a large family of sons and daughters, all of whom resided in this county and are well known to the citizens. The sons being Henry, William T. Daniel L.; John C.; and N. A. Reynolds. Daniel L. and N. A. still survive her. Her daughters are James V. Sevier, Mrs. C. P. Weaver, Mrs. B. W. Morris, and Miss Annie L. Reynolds, all of whom are living.

Mrs. Reynolds has for the past ten years been an invalid, having had a fall in which her hips were injured. She was possessed of a remarkable constitution and strong mind. She was of a kind, affectionate nature and counted her friends by the score.

The funeral will be conducted from the residence No. 339 Merrimon avenue Friday at 11 o'clock. The interment will be made at Riverside cemetery. The pallbearers will be selected from among her grandsons.

GERMANY REPLIES TO SCANDANAVIAN NOTE

Copenhagen, Feb. 18.—Germany's reply to the joint note of the Scandinavian powers concerning the recent war zone proclamation, has been received, but no announcement has been made concerning its contents.

Against Capital Punishment.

Olympia, Wash., Feb. 18.—A bill to repeal the 1912 anti-capital punishment act has been favorably reported in the state senate.

TURKEY YIELDS.

London, Feb. 18.—Turkey has yielded to the Greek demand for satisfaction for the insult offered an attaché at the Greek legation at Constantinople.

TEACHERS BILL PASSES IN HOUSE

Measure Urged by Dr. Joyner for Uniform Examination and Certification of Teachers Tabled.

SEAWELL INSURANCE MEASURE PASSED

Insurance Companies Have Not Given up, However, and Will Continue Fight in the Senate.

(By W. T. Bost.)

Raleigh, Feb. 18.—State Superintendent J. Y. Joyner sat in the house gallery and from the lofty tier of that amphitheater watched the uniform examination and certification bill die yesterday. There were few inverted thumbs.

The superintendent and his clerical force were present in the flesh throughout. It was manifest from the lack of floor enthusiasm that his measure was lost. All the enthusiasm came from his opponents of the act. Mintz, alone, of the Joyner protagonists, was loaded at all for shots and Mr. Mintz was hard pressed at every stand. The republicans solidly lined up for the status quo, but 50 democrats lined with them.

The death of the bill would indicate a state-wide fear that the state board of education is a large-sized institution. The acrimony that broke out in the senate, however, did not appear. No assaults upon Dr. Joyner or his policy appeared to be in the mind of any man. And what was done must be set down in the end as a house state of mind observable throughout the spring—it is slow to change.

And yet, the house is every day changing the county school boards by popular vote. The tendency is indubitably toward public control of the policy of the schools. Republican counties everywhere are demanding their right to name their school heads. They will get it as this session. And more democratic counties than republican are are willing to make the break.

House For Peace.

The house recorded itself for peace. Tuesday it endorsed the administration's plan to float a few ships on the high seas. It sent to Washington a memorial, both houses did, declaring itself with the majority of the majority party in the ship purchase act.

Yesterday the house voted to send President Wilson a cheering message on the preservation of peace while the world shakes. It went through without protest. Leader Williams smiling when he softly voted "no."

The house voted with gusto for Representative Stacy's motion to table Senator Cooper's bill appointing Cuthbert Martin a member of the school board of New Hanover. Instead of James Osborne Carr, Mr. Stacy's nominee.

The New Hanoverians, on no sort of legislative terms, now have each other's bills in the morgue. They have not been able to agree on policy or persons. They cannot get together on matters of fact. But when Stacy smiled broadly moving to table the Cooper bill, everybody knew what was up and the house squelched the Cooper bill by unanimous vote.

Ayes and Noes.

The house did not take its vote on the examination and certification bill without every man's going on record. The motion was not the adoption of the bill but laying it everlastingly away. Not even the amendment had a chance to gain favor. Opponents of the bill stood up and made the sustentation of the call for aye and no certain.

The following voted to table and therefore against the bill:

Allen, Bailey, Barco, Bell, Bost, Bowie, Bryan, Camp, Carawan, Carroll, Clayton, Collins, Coughenour, Dean, Deaver, Denton, Deyton, Dough-ton, Douglas, Dula, Dunning, Faircloth, Foster, Freeman of Richmond, Grider, Hall, Hampton, Hendrix, Hewett, Hoover, Hutchinson, Johnson, Kent, Killian of Clay, Leonard, Long of Union, Mauney, Mayo, Meekins, Mewborne, Mickie, McReynolds, McCoy, Noland, Norman, Page, Phillips, Puetz, Renfrow, Roberts of Rockingham, Scott, Sellers, Shepherd, the four Smiths of Cleveland, Grady, Wake and Watson, Somers, Valentine, Vann, Walden, Wall, Whitford, Williams of Cabarrus, Williams of Yadkin, Winborne, Winslow, Witherspoon, Noes, Speaker Wooten, Alfred, Bennett, Brockett, Brown, Brummitt, Cameron, Capehart, Carr, Cherry, Clark, Conley, Currie, Darden, Davis, Etheridge, Eure, Freeman of Mecklenburg, Galloway, Grant, Inasco, Jones, King, Kittrell, Laughinghouse, Long of Halifax, Mason, Mize, Nettles, Pegram, Roberts of Buncombe, Seawell, Smal, Stacy, Swain, Thomas, Tucker, Vernon, Wilson.

Insurance Bill Passes.

What the house did to the Oles-Mintz examination and certification bill.

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BRITAIN DENIES RESPONSIBILITY

FAVORABLE REPORT ON ANTI-JUG BILL

Shipments Except for Sacramento.

Raleigh, Feb. 18.—There was a joint committee executive hearing and ultimate favorable report last night on the Thomas anti-jug bill of the state anti-saloon league "to prohibit the shipment of intoxicating liquors from any point without the state of North Carolina to any point within said state, and to prevent the delivery and receipt of any intoxicating liquors so shipped within said state."

An especially remarkable amendment was that of striking out sections 3 and 4 that provided for the act not to apply to shipments of wines for sacramental purposes "when received by any minister or other duly authorized person of such church." Another amendment struck out "or otherwise" in section one so as to make the section read "that it shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation, or any agent, officer or employee thereof, to ship, transport, carry or deliver in any manner or by any means whatsoever, for hire "or otherwise" stricken out here, any spirituous, vinous, fermented or malt liquors, or intoxicating bitters, from a point without this state to any person, firm or corporation, or any agent, officer or employee thereof, in this state."

There was three hours discussion of the bill by the joint committee behind closed doors and in the end the senate committee withdrew, not having the bill before it, and the house committee voted for the favorable report as amended with two dissenting votes.

PLAINTIFF GIVEN \$5000 IN COMPROMISE CASE

Case of F. S. Sluder, Administrator, Against Southern Was Settled Today.

A compromise judgment was signed today by Judge James L. Webb in Superior court in the case of F. S. Sluder, administrator, of the estate of the late C. D. Miller against the Southern Railroad company, by the terms of which the plaintiff was awarded the sum of \$5,000.

The suit was brought several months ago and was on the calendar of the present term of Superior court for civil cases. The plaintiff sued for \$25,000 as a death claim. C. D. Miller having been killed on March 20 last, while employed by the defendant company as a switchman in the local yards. It is alleged that he was riding on the pilot of an engine when he was struck by some cross ties that slipped down on the track.

The suit was brought under the Federal Employers' Liability act and Zeb F. Curtis and Harkins and Van Winkle were attorneys for the plaintiff, while Martin, Rollins and Wright represented the defendant company.

14 MEMBERS OF ZEPPELIN CREW ARE INTERNED

London, Feb. 18.—Fourteen members of the crew of the Zeppelin dirigible which was destroyed by an explosion on Fance Island have been rescued and will be interned by the Danish authorities, according to a Reuter's dispatch from Copenhagen. The Zeppelin, while cruising over the island with another dirigible, caught on fire. The crew succeeded in landing before the explosion.

PARLIAMENT REFUSES TO FIX PRICE OF FOOD

London, Feb. 18.—The house of commons, after a long debate refused to take a division on the motion of the labor party that the government take over means of transportation and fix the prices of food and coal. The subject is thus closed so far as parliament is concerned.

EMPEROR SENDS WIRE OF GERMAN VICTORY

Berlin, Feb. 18.—The president of the province of east Prussia at Königsberg has received this telegram from Emperor William, who is at the eastern front:

"The Russians are completely beaten and our beloved east Prussia is freed of the enemy."

Complete Reply to American Protest Says British Fleet Has Not Caused U. S. Trade Depression.

PLACES SOME BLAME ON GERMAN SUBMARINE

Suggest Shortage of Shipping Facilities and Diminution of Cotton Routes as Other Causes.

Washington, Feb. 18.—The German reply to the American note concerning the German war zone decree has not been received by the state department. Dispatches on other subjects were received from Ambassador Gerard in Berlin yesterday, in which he stated that the American note had been delivered, but that the German reply had not been delivered to him.

Washington, Feb. 18.—Great Britain's second and complete reply to the American note of protest, which, on December 28, last, asked for an early improvement in the treatment of American commerce by the British fleet, was made public last night by mutual agreement between the state department and the British foreign office.

The note, addressed to Ambassador Page by Sir Edward Grey, under date of February 10, denies that the depression in American industries is due to the activity of the British fleet, and suggests among other causes the shortage of shipping facilities, the consequent diminution of cotton trade and the destruction of many neutral ships by submarine mines, "laid by the enemy indiscriminately."

The communication contains the announcement that Great Britain intends to take retaliatory measures against the German submarine campaign on enemy ships, but does not reveal their nature.

Conceding that foodstuffs intended for the civil population of a country are not contraband, the British government points out that in any "country where there exists tremendous organizations for war as now obtains in Germany, there is no clear division between those whom the government is responsible for feeding and those whom it is not."

"It will still be our endeavor," says the note, "to avoid injury and loss to neutrals, but the announcement by the German government of its intention to sink merchant vessels and their cargoes without verification of their nationality or character and without making any provisions for the safety of non-combatant crews or giving them a chance of saving their lives, has made it necessary for his majesty's government to consider what measures they should adopt to protect their interests. It is impossible for one belligerent to depart from rules and precedents and for the other to remain bound to them."

"Towards the close of your note of the twenty-eighth of December, your excellency described the situation produced by the action of Great Britain as a pitiful one to the commercial interests of the United States and said that many of the great industries of the country were suffering because their products were denied long established markets in neutral European countries contiguous to the nations at war."

"It is unfortunately true that in these days, when trade and finance are cosmopolitan, any war, particularly a war of any magnitude, must result in a grievous dislocation of commerce, including that of the nations which take no part in the war. Your excellency would realize that in this tremendous struggle, it is impossible for the trade of any country to escape all injury and loss, but for such losses his majesty's government is not to blame."

Sir Edward asserts that only eight of the 773 ships sailing from the United States for the neutral countries have been placed in prize courts, and that only forty-five have been "temporarily detained to enable particular consignments of cargo to be discharged for the purpose of prize court proceedings."

The note does not go into detail as to American ships detained on the high seas or taken to prize courts for search. The statistics of exports from the United States are analyzed and the observation made that "if cotton has been not to decrease, but practically to arrest the decline of American exports which was in progress earlier in the year—in fact, any decrease in American exports which is attributed to the war is essentially cotton."

The communication contends that even though trade between the United States and the allies has diminished, the volume of commerce with neutral countries has been maintained, and the inference "may fairly be drawn" that a "substantial part of this trade was in fact intended for the enemy."

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