

# The Asheville Gazette News.

WEATHER FORECAST:  
CLOUDY

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ASHEVILLE, N. C., MONDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 22, 1915.

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## AMERICAN SHIP IS BLOWN UP

Steamer Evelyn Laden With Cotton, Destroyed in North Sea Either by Mine or Submarine.

### IN AREA CONSIDERED FAR FROM DANGER ZONE

Crew of Vessel Saved—Ambassadors Gerard and Page Are Asked to Make Investigations.

Washington, Feb. 22.—Secretary of the Navy Daniels today ordered Commander Walter R. Gherardi, American naval attaché at Berlin, to investigate and make a full report on the destruction of the American vessel Evelyn of the German coast. So far official advice merely report the sinking of the Evelyn and her cargo and give no details as to how it occurred.

Secretary Daniels explained that his purpose in directing such an investigation, after the state department had called on the ambassadors at London and Berlin for reports, was to secure technical information as to what actually destroyed the vessel. Unless Captain Smith or some of the members of the crew of the Evelyn saw the coming tower or the periscope of a submarine, officials here say that it will not be possible to deny that the Evelyn was sunk by a mine.

Washington, Feb. 22.—The United States government was advised officially last night of the destruction of the first American vessel on the high seas since the outbreak of the European war. American Consul Fee, at Bremen, cabled that the steamer Evelyn and her cargo of cotton, bound for Bremen, had been blown up at Borkum. Just off the German coast, and that the crew had been saved. The cause—submarine or mine—was not given in the dispatch.

After a conference with President Wilson, Secretary Bryan cabled Ambassador Page at London and Ambassador Gerard, at Berlin, to make an exhaustive inquiry as to the facts and, if the crew was landed in either of their respective jurisdictions, to furnish every care and convenience to Captain Smith and his men.

Although the extent of sea zones of war proclaimed by Germany was never defined exactly, the Borkum Islands are considered far distant from the danger areas of submarines. The waters of the vicinity are mined for defensive purposes and Germany always has piloted incoming ships through.

At the German embassy last night, it was pointed out that the accident must have been caused by a mine, as Germany, sorely in need of cotton, would not torpedo a vessel laden with such a cargo for German consumption.

Early press dispatches from Berlin announcing the loss of the vessel by a mine caused a sensation in Washington, where the tension has been more or less pronounced over the situation in the war zones since the dispatch of warning notes to both Great Britain and Germany. It was virtually conceded that if the cause of the accident was proved to be a mine, there probably would be no ground for diplomatic action by the United States as the laying of mines is not prohibited by any international conventions now in force.

Consul Fee's cablegram gave the state department meager information. It said:

"Steamer Evelyn, Captain Smith, agents Bull & Company, New York, blown up early Friday at Borkum. Crew saved. Ship and cargo lost." It was generally taken for granted before the message arrived that the vessel was destroyed by a mine, but the omission of any mention of cause introduced an element of speculation. The United States government earlier in the day virtually had decided to make no reply to either the British or the German note concerning the use of neutral ensigns or possible attacks by submarines on neutral ensigns or possible attacks by submarines on neutral vessels in the new sea zones of war.

When the North sea first was mined some neutral countries protested to both Germany and Great Britain, but the United States took the position that it was impossible to determine which country had been the aggressor and therefore made no protest, though it does not consider its rights compromised by this action.

Diplomatically neutrals are helpless in obtaining redress for the loss of ships by contact mines unless absolute proof can be adduced to show the nationality of the mines, that no pilot was available or that the mines, drifting from their anchorage, were far distant from belligerent areas.

### WEATHER REPORT:

Cloudy tonight and Tuesday. Probably showers Tuesday.

## EXCELLENT MATERIAL FOR BRET HARTE YARN

Requests for Marriage License in Rowan County Reveals a Domestic Tragedy.

Special to The Gazette-News. Salisbury, Feb. 22.—Saturday at midnight, when Register of Deeds J. C. Deaton was called upon to issue a marriage license, a "domestic tragedy" was brought to light that would have furnished excellent material for a Bret Harte story.

Some 20 years ago A. C. Gibbons and Lucy Litzker, after a trip into South Carolina, decided in the foolishness of their young love that they would "make believe" they were married. The story they told of the Palmetto state state wedding was believed and the young couple set up house-keeping at Woodleaf, in Rowan county. For a score of years they have lived the tranquil life of a rural couple, rearing the nine children that have come into their home and enjoying the simple life of the community.

But recently the awful white plague laid its hand upon the maternal head of this family and she has come down close to the grave. Saturday night she called a neighbor to her bedside and told the secret that she said she could not take with her into the great beyond. She was expecting the death angel before the morning, she said, and she was anxious for a ceremony that would legally bind her to the man she had loved and lived for all these years. Her story was thought to be the ravings of a weakened mind, but the husband corroborated her statements, and also expressed a great desire to have the dying woman's request granted.

So some one sent for a preacher and two men in an auto were dispatched to Salisbury for the license. They rushed back to Woodleaf as rapidly as possible so that the ceremony might be performed before the arrival of the silent boatman.

## OTIS STYLES GIVEN 16 MONTHS ON ROADS

Defendant Arrested Sunday in Raid by Officers on Carrier Building—Appeals.

Otis Styles was convicted in Police court today on charges of keeping liquor for sale and, sentenced to serve 16 months on the county roads. He appealed and bond was fixed at \$500. Styles was arrested Sunday morning at 11 o'clock when Chief of Police C. N. Lomac, Sergeant George A. Digges, Jr., and Patrolman W. W. Britt raided the Carrier building.

As a result of the raid conducted by the officers the following were arrested: Ellen Webster, Bonnie Wilson, Mollie Ramsey, Roy Donahoe, Claude Posey, Claude Jordan, Otis Styles, Ryck Kilian and Ward Mitchell. Kilian, Mitchell and Styles were charged with Keeping Liquor for sale and aiding and abetting in running a disorderly house and the others are charged with aiding and abetting in running the house. The cases against the other defendants have been set for tomorrow morning.

Dr. J. M. Parker was arrested later in the day, yesterday on charges of leasing the Carrier building for disorderly purposes and his trial is also set for tomorrow.

During the raid, which was conducted at the time that the streets were filled with many people going to the various churches of the city, the officers captured a barrel of beer and 22 points of whiskey, which were taken to police station to be used as evidence.

## WINSTON-SALEM MAY HAVE A NEW STATION

Special to The Gazette-News. Winston-Salem, Feb. 22.—The board of trade committee, having in hand the matter of securing a new passenger station for this city have received a letter from President Fairfax Harrison of the Southern, stating that he and President Johnson of the Norfolk and Western are considering the needs of Winston-Salem along that line and that sketches have been prepared for a building by some of the best architects in the country, and as soon as it is possible for Presidents Harrison and Johnson to look over the sketches they will be submitted to the local committee. From this it would seem that the hopes of citizens for a new station will be realized very soon.

## PATROL FORCES HAVE TROUBLE

Number of Disagreeable Incidents Between German and Dutch Patrols Along Boundary Line.

MEN NOW SEPARATED BY 100-YARDS STRIP

Trouble Arose of Expression of Diverse Views—Anti-War League Active in the Netherlands.

New Madrid, Mo., Feb. 22.—"Night-riders" last night again shot into the cabin occupied by negro farm hands, and today the exodus of negroes began anew. The "night-riders" are said to have planned serious activity against all negro laborers, if they have not left the community after tomorrow.

New Madrid, Feb. 22.—A resolution of warning by "night riders," that they leave the district before next Tuesday, caused nearly 300 negroes to leave New Madrid county last week. It is possible that nearly as many more are making preparations to leave before the expiration of the time limit set by the resolution. There has been no violence as yet. There are threats of severe measures if the warning is not obeyed and trouble is expected.

The sheriff of the county has asked Governor Major to send militia to assist him in keeping order in case of outbreak.

The negroes working on the government levees at Lenda and Dorena have also been notified to stop work and to leave the county.

The trouble seems to have originated in the land rental system. Last December the white renters demanded a reduction in rental charges from \$6 to \$3 per acre, while the negroes appeared to be content with \$5. Therefore, when the new contracts were made in January, there were more negroes than ever on the farms. Discontent among the whites developed and there were personal threats which were followed by the posting of notices.

The more prosperous white people are opposed to the movement against the negroes and are trying to keep them from leaving.

## EDWARD FINK, PITCHER SIGNED BY CORBETT

Manager Jack Corbette received the signed contract of Edward Fink of Ft. Wayne, Ind., this morning. The latest acquisition to the Mountaineer roster is a league player of several years experience and ranks as one of the very best pitchers of the Indiana city. Fink is a pitcher and also plays the outfield and is considered a very valuable addition to the local team.

In 1913, the new man led the Illinois-Missouri league in pitching, winning 7 games and losing 2 and he amassed a hitting average of .295 in 17 games which is a very healthy percentage for a pitcher. In 1914, Fink was with Cairo of the Kitty league which won the pennant and he won two-thirds of his games in his circuit. However, his name does not appear in the guide for this year. The Ft. Wayne boy is a left hander and is said to have excellent control for a port-stider and as an outfielder ranks right along with the regulars and from all appearances should make a very valuable man for a class D club.

## J. J. BRITT SPEAKER AT WAYNESVILLE TODAY

Congressman-elect James J. Britt delivered an address this morning at the exercises held in Waynesville by Wayneville council No. 273, Jr. O. U. A. M. The meeting was attended by a large number of people and the exercises were held in the graded school building. The members of the council presented the school with a Bible and flag, after which an interesting program was carried out.

## FIRE ON AEROPLANE.

Berne, Switzerland, Feb. 22.—Swiss soldiers opened fire yesterday on an aeroplane, which is said to have been German, and which flew over Bern. The machine was struck by nine bullets and the pilot was forced to land at a remote spot.

## FIGHT PUTES THROUGH NIGHT

Band of 26 Whites Under Federal Marshal Battle With 52 Indians Near Bluff, Utah.

ONE WHITE MAN AND TWO INDIANS KILLED

Posse Had Gone to Arrest Leader of Putes for Murder—Both Sides Reinforced Today.

Denver, Feb. 22.—In an all-night battle near Bluff, Utah, between a band of 52 Pute Indians and a posse of 26 white men under the leadership of Federal Marshal Nebeker two Indians and one white man were killed; two Indians and one white man were wounded and two Indians were captured.

Early today both sides were re-inforced. The fighting started early Sunday morning, when the posse after several days journey from Cortez, Colo., arrived at Camp of the Nat. Nat. Gat, a Pute leader, whose arrest for murder is sought.

## WAKE FOREST STUDENT KILLED BY A TRAIN

R. B. Hays With Friends Was Returning from Raleigh When Killed

Special to The Gazette-News. Wake Forest, Feb. 22.—A most horrible accident that completely depressed the whole student body and college community occurred at 3 o'clock Sunday morning when one of the Wake Forest students, Robert B. Hays, was cut to pieces beneath the wheels of train No. 6. Mr. Hays and a company of his friends had been to Raleigh to spend the evening and were returning on the northbound train No. 6, when the accident occurred. No. 6 always pulls into Wake Forest on a side track, which runs very close to a high embankment on the left side, in order to wait for the southbound train No. 9 to pass.

From the few facts that can be obtained it appears that Mr. Hays jumped from the platform of the car near the power house. It seems that he jumped here in order to get off nearer his home, which is some seven or eight hundred yards distant from the depot at Wake Forest. In jumping the young man must have either caught his overcoat in the handle on the steps of the car and was jerked under the wheels, or it is quite probable that he did not get a good footing on the slanting bank, which is very close to the track, and fell under the wheels. The result was that he was caught by one of the trucks of the car and dragged for more than 50 yards.

Mr. Hays came to this state from LaCrosse, Va.

Short funeral services were held in the new Baptist church here, just before the train arrived, which was to take the body to Grand Rapids. Dr. W. L. Potat made a very short but impressive talk in behalf of the faculty and the student body at Wake Forest. In the closing sentence Dr. Potat said: "May our memory do for us all that the life of this young man may never have been able to accomplish."

## UNKNOWN MERCHANTMAN FIRES ON MAIL BOAT

Plymouth, England, Feb. 22.—The Western Daily News says when the Australian mail boat Maloja carrying 460 passengers was entering the English channel Saturday, it was ordered to stop by an unknown merchantman. The mail boat ignored the order, and made for Plymouth, says the paper, whereupon the merchantman fired five shells at the fleeing ship, all of which fell short. The Maloja entered Plymouth harbor in safety.

## CONFIRM REPORTS OF CARRANZA EVACUATION

El Paso, Tex., Feb. 22.—General Buena, Villa leader, who is operating in Sinaloa, has captured Rosario, according to advice received here. There are rumors from Villa sources which revive the assertion that Carranza troops have evacuated Mexico City.

## TO INAUGURATE NIGHT SESSIONS

General Ass... Will Rush at Fears... Pace for Next Two Weeks But Hopes Get Through.

IMPORTANT CAUCUS TO BE HELD TONIGHT

Primary Bill Will Be Special Order Wednesday Night—Senate to Take up the Revenue Measure.

(By W. T. Best). Raleigh, Feb. 22.—The general assembly will this week inaugurate the night session in the hope of finishing its work within the next two weeks.

It has a great job ahead of it. The delay of the whiskey fight until the postponement of a primary law consideration with delays in many other state measures which will hardly provoke debate, will rush the body to a fearsome pace, but it hopes to get through.

The primary will be a special order Wednesday night and it is understood that there will be a session tonight. Certainly something is going to take place. The democrats will caucus on the clamor for election of school board by the people and tonight's session will determine what the whole body will do.

Friday was set for a large number of these bills, counties in excessive number having asked to change their system of government in school matters. But Seawell, the leader of the democrats in promoting popular control of the schools, was absent, and republicans gladly deferred action in the hope of getting what they wish.

They hardly expect to pass such legislation without Mr. Seawell, but the caucus may spoil their plans. Many democrats are averse to changing the boards. They first of all wish to control the counties of a different political mind and they think the change admits a weakness in the present system. The house appears to be ready to make concessions than the senate.

The revenue act is going to have harder walking in the senate than in the house it seems thus early in the consideration. Nobody in the house failed to value the lowering of the rate. Williams of Cabarrus, who is making a very wise republican leader, was not particularly interested in that feature. But McMichael in the senate made a big speech, much his best, Saturday in advocacy of the policy announced by the corporation commission and particularly by the Greensboro Daily News and the Asheville Gazette-News.

The debate did not get far, but McMichael means to fight for this feature. He knows that he is up against it, but he nearly always is and he does not hurt him. Should he make his self heard, the revenue act might have considerable renovating before it becomes law. Governor Doughton and Chairman Chatham, of the two finance committees, did not recommend this in the final consideration of the act by their committees.

The trouble is going to be in the time left to consider such a serious measure. McMichael might have had a chance if he had been on the floor of the house.

The primary is not going to get through without some fighting, everybody now says.

The papers are not hot after the body. It is a strange fact in legislative history that the greatest agitation for the primary in the state press is in off years and midway between two elections. Democrats who speak of this do not pretend to understand why it is. At the opening of the sessions everybody takes it as a certainty that the law will be enacted. When there is doubt the prodding ceases.

Senator Hobgood will lead the senate primary fight. Vann in the house is working finally in his caucuses this week prior to the Wednesday night session are expected to show how things are.

The Carter-Abernathy Fight. Speaker pro-tem Bowie will this week name the committee that will investigate the Carter-Abernathy trouble. If the committee report on it a meeting Monday will determine whether a favorable report will be made.

The excitement is dying. Solicitor Abernathy has gone home and the tragedy of the past week has caused people to forget the minor things. Both in the house and senate there is a sentiment that would inquire searchingly into the controversy. New Bern attorneys are still here.

## SCANDINAVIANS MUCH AROUSED

FARM DEMONSTRATORS TO MEET AT HICKORY

Will Meet March 1-14 to Report on Work in Western North Carolina.

The government farm demonstration agents for the western district of North Carolina, which includes Buncombe county and all counties west to the Tennessee line will hold a district meeting at Hickory March 1 to 14. E. S. Millsaps of Statesville has been in Hickory perfecting arrangements for the holding of the meeting. The headquarters of the agents will be at the Hotel Huffy and the business sessions will be held in the chamber of commerce rooms.

The first meeting on Monday night, March 1, will be an informal one. Several speeches, including an address of welcome, will be made, and the meeting will not be devoted so much to farming. During the progress of the sessions demonstrations of the use of the anti-hog cholera serum will be given by competent persons and prominent speakers are on the program which will be highly instructive to any farmer attending.

The county agents of farm demonstration now at work in the western district and who will probably all be present at the meeting are: E. H. Anderson, Guilford; F. S. Walker, Rockingham; Bruce Anderson, Forsyth; J. C. Dobbins, Yadkin; William P. Holt, Stokes; G. M. Gorforth, Caldwell; W. R. Bailey, McDowell; J. Steele, Davidson; E. L. Perkins, Henderson; W. E. Crumpton, Rowan; A. L. Siler, Macon; R. W. Graeber, Mecklenburg; A. G. Hendren, Wilkes; H. K. Foster, Catawba; R. M. Gilney, Cleveland; J. W. Johnson, Surry; G. E. Dull, Iredell; B. P. Folk, Gaston; R. D. Bowditch, Mitchell; Thomas L. Brown, Haywood; E. D. Weaver, Buncombe.

These men in 1914 worked a total of 6,733 days, made 19,979 visits to farmers, traveling by team 69,831 miles, by rail 23,101 miles, visited 560 schools, talked to 20,156 school children, held 495 public meetings, speaking to 34,334 farmers, and wrote 3,153 letters.

E. S. Millsaps the district agent, received during 1914 2,539 letters, forwarded 3,027 letters, made 86 visits to agents, traveled by rail 13,647 miles, traveled by team 11,157 miles, held 70 public meetings and spoke to 8,932 persons.

These figures represent merely the physical work of the men engaged in farm demonstration work in the western district. According to Mr. Millsaps, the results obtained are too big for a short report and that during the seven years of demonstration work in the state the results have amounted to a revolution in agriculture.

He says the yield of corn has increased more than 20,000,000 bushels; wheat over 2,000,000 bushels, and cotton more than 500,000 bushels, and cotton more than 500,000 bales. All other crops have increased in the same proportion.

He goes on further to say that when this work was started a farm house screened from flies was an exception—now the unscreened house is the exception. At the beginning of the work only a few countries were doing improved road work—now it is mighty poor county that is not doing some good road work.

The change in school work has been remarkable and along every line of rural improvement the farm demonstrators have been active promoters. Perhaps every creamery in the state has started since this work has been in.

## GERMANY MORE DISPOSED TO DISCUSS PEACE TERMS

Rome, Feb. 22.—The Giornale D'Italia today says that Pope Benedict is reported to have sent Emperor William a recent communication asking on what conditions Germany would consider a peace proposal.

It had been reported to the secretary of state of the Vatican, says that paper, that while the Germans maintained an excellent position, she was beginning to feel the consequences of the war and was disposed to modify her views materially on peace.

## MRS. KITTY CRANDALL DIED THIS MORNING

Mrs. Kitty Crandall, aged 34 years, died this morning at the residence of R. P. Lips at No. 39 Spring street. The deceased came to this city recently from her home in South Carolina. Death came very unexpectedly as the deceased seemed to be in very good health. The funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon at the Mountain View church and interment will take place at the church cemetery.

## Show Great Alarm Over Shipping Situations—Representatives of Three Nations Confer.

CONSIDER QUESTION OF CONVOYING VESSELS

Feared Such Action Would Bring Scandinavia Into War—Battle Still Waged in Carpathians.

London, Feb. 22.—German submarine activity continued to be the chief topic of interest in the United Kingdom today. Although British shipping apparently was moving with its usual freedom, the Scandinavian neutrals showed much alarm. A great sensation was caused in those countries by the torpedoing of the Norwegian steamship Belridge off Folkestone last week. Representatives of the Scandinavian governments are holding another conference, the outcome of which is awaited with much interest by neutral shipping. The question of naval convoys, it is understood is to be seriously considered at the conference, but guarded comment by newspapers shows that it is clearly understood that such action might eventually bring the Scandinavian countries into the war.

The question of the right of the crews of five Danish vessels to refuse to sail for England is now before the courts, which are considering the excuse of the sailors that the Germans are not likely to respect neutral flags. Following precedent, which seemingly has made Sunday a popular day for air raids, a lone German airplane flew over several east coast towns last night and dropped bombs which did only slight damage and caused little alarm.

Fighting in the Carpathians is still being fiercely prosecuted by the Russian and Austro-German forces but apparently without decisive result. The mountain passes are recognized by army men as forming the most difficult section of the long eastern battle front and the impression grows that among military experts of London that the other movements of both Russians and Germans are merely strategic operations to affect the result of the desperate struggle at the gateway of Hungary.

Turkish Version. Amsterdam, Feb. 22.—Dispatches from Constantinople give this official Turkish statement: "Early Saturday morning the British and French warships bombarded the outer forts of the Dardanelles, firing over 400 shots but without much success. One soldier was slightly wounded by a fragment of stone.

"Eight armored Anglo-French ships bombarded the outer forts of the Dardanelles for seven hours without silencing the Turkish forts. The enemy used guns of great calibre.

"Three hostile armored ships were damaged. One of them a flagship was severely damaged.

Another version of the Turkish report received from Constantinople says that on the Turkish side one man was killed and one slightly wounded.

## TO ERECT MONUMENT TO LATE CHIEF OF MILITIA

Major R. L. Flannigan and J. E. Deitz, Capt. W. M. Westmoreland and Lieut. C. H. Turner, all of Statesville, who were appointed by the officers' association of the State National guard to have charge of raising funds for a monument to be erected to the memory of the late Gen. Joseph F. Armfield, of Statesville, have begun their campaign for subscriptions. Contributions will be received only from people who at one time served with or under Gen. Armfield.

## ACTRESS LIMB AMPUTATED

Bordeaux, Feb. 22.—The right leg of Madame Sarah Bernhardt, the famous tragedian, was amputated today at St. Augustine hospital at Aragon.