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WEATHER FORECAST: CLOUDY AND COOLER.

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ASHEVILLE, N. C., WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 24, 1915.

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SILENT AS TO NEW PROPOSALS

U. S. Negotiations With England and Germany Concerning Food Distribution, Submarines Delicate.

OFFICIALS ANXIOUS OVER SINKING OF STEAMER

German Papers Show Great Interest in American Counter Proposals to England and Germany.

Washington, Feb. 24.—Administration officials today continued silent regarding the informal proposals to Germany and Great Britain regarding the question of foodstuffs for the civilian populations of belligerent nations and submarine war against merchant vessels. The nature of the negotiations was not disclosed on account of their delicacy. Diplomats, however, generally believe that the suggestion was made that American consular representatives and American organizations supervise the distribution of foodstuffs to the German civilians.

The destruction of the American cotton steamer Carib off the German coast has increased official anxiety for the safety of ships, following as it does so closely on the sinking of the Evelyn, causing the fear that complications might arise over the loss of American lives as a result of submarine attacks.

German Papers Interested. Berlin, Feb. 24.—Berlin newspapers are displaying great interest in the American note of February 22, embodying formal proposals for the regulation of food products for German civilians and concerning the question of submarines. The proposals are being considered. The Tageblatt says:

"We hear that this American note is couched in a form which apparently shows that on the American side also there is no desire to have the matter become more acute.

"The fact that the American government makes a counter proposal shows that it is not able fully to disregard the weight of Germany's reasons."

Grain Confiscated.

Vienna, (By wireless to Berlin and London), Feb. 24.—The government has taken over all stocks of rice, barley, maize and flour products. Distribution of bread is to be undertaken in various districts.

CARTER HARRISON IS DEFEATED IN CHICAGO

Five Times Mayor of Chicago. Loses to Robert M. Sweitzer.

Chicago, Feb. 24.—Carter H. Harrison, now completing his fifth term as mayor of Chicago, has been defeated for the democratic nomination by Robert M. Sweitzer, clerk of Cook county. Sweitzer's plurality was estimated late tonight at more than 75,000.

The fight for the republican nomination was close. Harry E. Olson, chief justice of the municipal court, and William Hale Thompson were within 300 of each other, Olson having the lead.

Police patrols were on the move all day answering riot calls. Agnes Scanlon, eight years old, was shot in the foot when a policeman fired into a crowd that attacked him.

The women's votes were on a different kind of ballot from the men's and showed a sturdy plurality for Sweitzer, although Harrison is a suffragist. Judge Olson held his lead last night by grace of the woman vote, the republican men giving Thompson plurality.

COMMITTEES UNFAVORABLE TO EIGHT PER CENT BILL

Raleigh, Feb. 24.—The joint committees on banking and on finance met yesterday afternoon and gave a hearing to a number of bankers who urged that the bill authorizing eight per cent interest charges under special written contracts and thereafter voted for an unfavorable report for the bill. There were two votes for favorable report of the bill in the joint committee and effort will be made to have minority favorable report to get the bill on the floor of the house.

MILITARY SUPPLY MEASURE PASSED

Senate Easily Puts Through Army and Fortification Appropriation Bill.

Washington, Feb. 24.—Without a dissenting vote the senate has passed the army appropriation bill carrying approximately \$103,000,000, while the house passed the \$8,000,000 fortifications bill.

The only debate on the army bill related to action of the senate committee in striking out of the house bill a provision which would prohibit the use of stop watches and other so-called scientific shop management methods in government plants and deny appropriations for payment of bonuses to employees. Senator Hughes, Martine and others urged restoration of the provision, while Senator Root made an appeal for the rewarding of ambition. The committee was sustained.

An all day discussion of the national defense preceded the passage of the fortifications bill in the house. Representative Sherley, of Kentucky, in charge of the measure, declared there was no danger of American fortifications being destroyed by a hostile fleet; that the fleet of an enemy would not seek to reduce fortresses if it had control of the sea and would not waste ammunition shooting from a range of 21,000 yards. Mr. Sherley admitted that there might be danger of bombardment of some cities but insisted that the cost of fortifying all coast cities would be too tremendous to consider. Representative Mann asked why Great Britain and the allies, having control of the sea, did not bombard German fortifications.

"It is a good deal better for them to undertake to bottle up Germany's fleet," replied Mr. Sherley, "and control avenues of trade than to risk going up against the German fleet and fortifications and with almost certain that they would be unable to subdue them from the sea. In the Dardanelles it is difficult. They are undertaking to attack those forts to get to a given place, but their success remains to be seen."

Representative Butler, of Pennsylvania, insisted that American trading ships should stay away from the "death zone" and that even the destruction of such vessels should not be permitted to involve the nation in war. The house appropriations committee completed the general deficiency bill, the last of all these annual supply measures of congress. The estimates covered in the bill aggregated \$30,000,000 from which a considerable cut was made. The bill probably will be reported today. After disposing of the army bill, the senate began consideration of the postoffice appropriation measure carrying \$317,946,869.

SPECIFIC CHARGES AGAINST CARTER

Supplemental Resolution Has Allegations of Immoral Conduct at Various Places.

Capitol Building, Raleigh, Feb. 24.—Representative Clark of Bladen, today offered a supplemental resolution to charges against Judge Frank Carter in the house today, making specific allegations of immoral conduct with women in Raleigh, Winston, Panacea, Springs, Wilmington and elsewhere.

Clark said he had been accused by Attorneys Manning and Kitchin, representing Judge Carter of running "a submarine attack. I won't say this is a dreadnought but it is above board," said Clark.

Representative Nettie of Buncombe offered a resolution for the Asheville Bar expressing absolute confidence in Judge Carter.

HOFFMAN HOUSE HAS BEEN SOLD AND WILL BE RAZED

New York, Feb. 24.—The Hoffman house, one of the oldest of New York's down town hotels and for years headquarters for the democratic politicians, has been sold to a construction company and will be razed.

Bernhardt Doing Well.

Bordeaux, Feb. 24.—A bulletin issued today says that Madame Sarah Bernhardt, whose leg was amputated Monday, is in a satisfactory condition.

FEARS TO OUST GERMAN PEOPLE

Russia Would Like to Expel German Population But They Are Necessary to Industrial Scheme.

WOULD HAVE TROUBLE IN REPLACING THEM

Germans Do Not Exceed Three Percent But Occupy Conspicuous Place in Administrative Activity.

Petrograd, Feb. 24.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press)—The proposal to oust the German population from Russia still hangs fire. Recommendations made before the imperial council and several commissions and sub-commissions appointed by the government have included the government purchases of all landed property owned by Russian citizens of German nationality and the expulsion of these subjects from Russia. But owing to the difficulty of replacing the Germans, who occupy an important position in Russia's industrial scheme, the German problem still lies before the commissions with little probability of immediate solution.

The liberally-inclined members believe that while the Germans should not continue to enjoy the special privileges which have favored German industry in Russia in the past, they should not, on the other hand, be thus summarily deprived of their rights in Russia, so long as they are Russian citizens. The Pan-Slavists and the extreme members of the nationalist party favor the immediate expulsion of Germans at all costs.

As a practical measure, the whole question hinges upon the availability of other candidates to fill the positions now occupied by Germans. This German population does not exceed three per cent of the entire population, but it occupies a conspicuous place in the administrative activity of Russia, both of a private and a governmental nature. The majority of bank and insurance company directors, property owners and managers, are Germans; the same is true of university professors, lawyers, doctors, chief foresters, exporters, importers, civil engineers, printers and foremen in factories. Before the beginning of the war, Russia viewed this condition of things with complacency, realizing that German motive power was indispensable in a country not yet trained to develop its own resources to their highest efficiency. The problem therefore, which Russia has faced since the beginning of the war is a complicated one, for which no practical solution has yet been suggested. Works that prepared ammunition for war, railroads and steamship lines for the transportation of troops and munitions, were directed by Germans. And most of the land fringing the Russian boundaries in Europe was owned by the Germans.

Even if the Russians could immediately train themselves for the work hitherto left to the Germans, a further obstacle arises in settling with the German-Russian subjects. The Russian treasury has no cash ready to pay Germans for their property or for their stocks. Even if the money were forthcoming, it is not clear to any one, just what would be done with the property when bought. Russians themselves would consider that the depression in land value and the decreased productivity during the period of transfer would be a calamity.

The various tangles into which the question unravels seems effectively to obstruct any positive action. Meanwhile some Germans are being sent out of Russia, and are temporarily replaced by competent persons of other nationality. Some, in view of the indispensability of their services, have received special permission to remain at their posts. Those who have been expelled are concentrated in camps in Siberia and in the Ural districts, awaiting the outcome of the war and the fate which shall decide whether they are to be allowed to go to their homes in Russia, or the homes of their forefathers in Germany.

ENGLAND DECLINES REQUEST TO MAKE RELIEF SUBSIDY

London, Feb. 24.—Sir Edward Grey, British foreign secretary, has directed a letter to Herbert C. Hoover, chairman of the American Relief Administration, declining to give a direct subsidy to the commission for relief in Belgium. It is explained that this course has been taken because Germany has refused to stop cash requisitions in Belgium.

BRIEFS FILED AGAINST FRANK

Att'y. General Warren Grice Defends Georgia's Reputation for Proper Administration of Justice.

DEMONSTRATIONS ARE UNUSUAL IN GEORGIA

Declares State Is Second to no Other in According Trials Free From Hostile Atmosphere.

Washington, Feb. 24.—Defending Georgia's reputation for the proper administration of justice, Attorney General Warren Grice of that state has filed in the Supreme court a brief arguing against Leo M. Frank's petition for reversal of the Georgia federal court's ruling against Frank's release on a writ of habeas corpus. Frank is under sentence of death for the murder of Mary Phagan, the Atlanta factory girl.

The brief declares that a writ of habeas corpus cannot be used to "overturn virtually Frank's conviction in the state courts without submitting important parts of the record on which the conviction was based.

The brief points out that Frank's attorneys asked for the release of Frank solely on allegations of mob demonstration during the trial and on Frank's absence from the court room when the jury returned its verdict.

"The Supreme court of Georgia is second to no other state in according trials free of hostile demonstrations," declared the brief. The attorney general defends the position of the Georgia state courts and insists that Frank should have made the point of mob violence and his absence from the court when he entered his motion for a new trial, instead of waiting to incorporate it in a petition to set aside the verdict.

OIL LANDS GO BACK TO U. S.

Taft's Withdrawal of Land Upheld by Supreme Court—Thousands of Claims Thereby Annulled.

Washington, Feb. 24.—President Taft's withdrawal of oil lands in California and Wyoming in 1909, without empowering legislation, was held up by the Supreme court yesterday and entire claims of individual and corporate interests, valued at hundreds of millions of dollars was annulled thereby.

The Henburton rate law has been interpreted by the Supreme court as authorizing the interstate commerce commission to award damages to shippers for unlawful rates or discrimination no matter what may have been the date the claims were filed before August 28, 1907, which the court held was the date in which the law went into effect.

The court held that Henry E. Meeker, a New York coal dealer, was entitled to \$116,000 damages from the Lehigh Valley company on claims dating back to 1909. There are thousands of other claims which were filed during the first year. In the Meeker case, the railroad sought to limit the claims to those which were filed two years before the passage of the law.

The California eight-hour law for women employed in manufacturing and mercantile establishments, except in harvesting, canning, fruits, boarding houses and graduate nurses in hospitals, was upheld as constitutional by the United States Supreme court today.

CABINET AWAITS REPORT ON SUBMARINE SHIPMENTS

Washington, Feb. 24.—The charge of Germany and Austria, that submarines are being manufactured in the United States for Great Britain, was discussed at the cabinet meeting yesterday without action because Secretary Daniels had not finished his investigation. Recently the state department discouraged American manufacturers from taking contracts of a similar nature.

BIG FIGHT ON HIGHWAY BILL

Measure With \$10,000 Appropriation Would Have Lost But for the Vote of Speaker Bourie.

COLLOSAL SCHEME TO CARE FOR THE POOR

Laughinghouse Urges Plan for Big Almshouse—Evidence Being Gathered in Carter-Abernethy Case.

(By W. T. Bost.)

The state highway commission bill which hammered itself through the house yesterday after two days of the fiercest fighting against it, is ready for the senatorial O. K. on its provisions, which aren't many.

The measure began with \$20,000 appropriation but was trimmed to \$10,000. Small favors were thankfully received. But for Bowle it had been irremediable loss. For the first time during the session the speaker's vote to break a tie was invoked and Mr. Bowle saved the day for the Durham county road builder.

The amendments were so many that the house was literally lost. Vann of Union presented a measure which looked likely. He wanted no appropriation unless the federal government was ready to turn over its \$350,000. "I consider \$50,000 a good dividend on \$20,000," Mr. Vann said, but he wasn't willing to enter a less radical business bargain.

He impressed the house and when the vote was taken 59 were with him and 50 against him. Speaker Bowle immediately broke the tie and gave to the house the opportunity to speak on the original bill with the appropriation bill with the appropriation bill clipped. Doughton of Allegheny again backed on the \$10,000 amendment after it had been withdrawn.

Minority Leader Williams made a powerful effective speech against any such appropriation now and declared that the most rigorous economy now demands retrenchment, whereas the highway commission bill proposes not to only appropriations but bears the marks of a commission that is designed to create new offices. Whether Colonel Cameron thought a pacifier necessary or not, he entertained an amendment putting republicans on the commission.

Laughinghouse's Big Scheme.

Representative Laughinghouse presented a colossal scheme for the care of the poor in the First Congressional district, the plan being the construction of an almshouse to take in all the fourteen counties of that district. The Pitt county man did not go into his bill yesterday. But it has advantages of economy he declared and is infinitely more inviting to the inmates. He has a table showing what each county does now toward its poor and what will be possible for the collective district to do. He counts the cost of construction at \$75,000 and says that with each county maintaining its poor in the district home, it will cost greatly less and be a place which will not be spurned by the worthy poor.

Representative Carr of Duplin offered a bill to prevent working women under 18 years of age in the factories, mill or any other manufacturing establishment between the hours of 7 in the evening and 6 in the morning. The bill contains less than 100 words and leaves no doubt of its intent.

Dr. Carr also introduced a measure making railroads supply refrigerator cars on 24 hours notice. This act is designed to meet the need of truck shippers in the east, a great strawberry crop having perished in that country for want of cars. The measure will be made to reach the crop this year if it passes.

A third bill by Dr. Carr protects the babies of North Carolina by making the use of nitrate of silver necessary immediately after birth and making the report of inflammation of infants' eyes to the superintendent of health, obligatory within six hours after the discovery of such illness. This act provides fines of \$5 and \$10 respectively.

Getting Carter-Abernethy Evidence. The Carter-Abernethy controversy now before the general assembly had no public features, but the gathering of evidence goes on.

This correspondence carried the story a week ago that the first draft contained charges of immoral conduct by Judge Carter, but the words were erased. Yesterday evening in executive session the Judiciary committee No. 1 discussed these at some length. Judge Manning and Governor Kitchin protected that such grave charges, all of which they declared that Judge Carter is ready to answer, should be specific.

That's what the anti-Carter people are trying to do now, to be explicit. It is said that Thursday when the bill of particulars is called for the investigating committee will have them. The

GERMANS HAD HEAVY LOSSES

SUBMARINE SINKS ENGLISH COLLIER

Berlin Dispatch Telling of Sinking of Transport Probably Refers to Collier.

Berlin, Feb. 24.—(By Wireless to London)—An official announcement made last night says that the British transport "192" was sunk by a German submarine off Beachy Head at 4:40 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Dispatches last night from New Haven, England, said that 18 members of the crew of the Cardiff steamer Brankome Chime, a government collier, had landed there and had announced the sinking of their vessel, either by mine or submarine, 20 miles southeast of Beachy Head yesterday afternoon. There is probably the vessel to which the Berlin dispatch refers.

former governor and former Supreme court justice objected to the fine tooth methods but will welcome any alleged offense fixed by the calendar and geographically defined.

It was rumored last night that Representative Clark will have a second resolution. It is understood that it will not be offered until the judiciary memorial offered by Davis of Carteret and Clark of Bladen.

School Bills Sleep. The school bills sleep sweetly. Republicans who had brought up their measures last week giving their counties the right of vote on schoolboards, lost their cases. They would have won had Seawell been in the house.

The bills were many and not more interest was shown in the proposal of change by republicans than by democrats. The only hope, of course, was in the justice of the democracy. It is said by republicans and democrats that the minority party stands in enviable light. It came and asked for an election on the school boards. A large sentiment in the democracy was ready to grant it. The republicans trusted to the caucus and left it in the hands of the majority. They lose and the issue is clear-cut.

However, it is mighty certain that the next democratic state convention will have something to say. Changes in the system seem to be irrevocable before the state. In the senate the majority is largely against any change. The house is a stand-off.

Alexander Not Running.

Dr. H. Q. Alexander, president of the North Carolina Farmers Union yesterday declared that he is not running for state treasurer and has no notion of running.

Dr. Alexander declared this his final determination and said that while he had been importuned often to oppose Treasurer Lacy, he had never really intended to do so and had now definitely made up his mind not to offer his candidacy.

He did not commit himself further but it is believed by some of the members of the farmers union that the union thinks its measure before the general assembly may be hurt by constant suggestion that the prominent officials from Dr. Clarence Poe and Mr. Alexander down through variously scattered officers over the state may enter politics and the union is determined that politics shall not hurt the prospects of their measures. The rumors have not been able to show that Messrs. Poe and Alexander have any schemes except their remedial measures.

The House.

New bills were introduced as follows: Brummitt—Establish and provide for the county of Jarvis. Winborne—Protect owners of buildings. Winborne—Establish the identity of deceased partners. Mason—Amend the 1911 act to prevent infant blindness. Ebbs—Amend the 1913 local law relative to Madison county roads. Amend the 1913, 1905, and 1907 building laws as to Madison county. Deaver—Allow road improvement in Broadway township. Mintz—Relative to the disposal of dead animals. Valentine—Amend the Henderson county road law.

POLICE COURT.

The following cases were called in Police court this morning: The cases of the men charged with turning in a false fire alarm were continued until February 27. The cases of the men and women who were arrested in the raid on the Carrier building last Sunday, were continued until March 15. S. L. Forbes, arrested in connection with the case, on charges of leasing a building for disorderly purposes, was not proseed. Alfred Isom, colored, charged with larceny, drew a sentence of 3 months on the county roads. Three drunks were up.

War Correspondent, Who Saw Operations, Says Germans Lost 50,000 Men in Attacks of Russians.

CARPATHIAN BATTLES GROWING MORE BITTER

Serbian Forces Penetrate Austrian Territory—Roumania Promises to Enter the Field in April.

Berlin, Feb. 24.—(By Wireless to London)—The report is heard in influential circles that further obstacles will prevent the invasion of Russia.

Paris, Feb. 24.—At least 50,000 men were lost by the Germans in their attacks on the Russian positions on the Rawka and in the regions of Borjilow, and Gumbinnen, according to Ludovic Naudoux, the Journal's correspondent, who witnessed the operations. He considers the general situation as highly favorable to the Russians.

"The Germans are gradually but implacably being worked down," says the correspondent. "Whether they attack or merely defend they melt away day by day. Their feverish activity and reckless sacrifice of men shows that they are fighting against time."

Invaade Austria.

Geneva, Feb. 24.—The Serbian troops invaded Austrian territory on the night of February 20-21 at Bjelna and Mitrovitsa, and penetrated from one to four miles across the frontier, according to dispatches received here. The Serbian offensive, it is believed, is calculated to force the Austrians to send back to the west part of the troops which had been operating against the Russians.

More Bitter.

Berlin, Feb. 24.—Vienna dispatches quote the war correspondent of the Vienna Fremdenblatt as saying that the fighting in the Carpathians has become even more bitter and stubborn. The Russians are showing desperate courage. It is now more quiet in Bukka pass, where both sides have entrenched themselves. An important engagement is raging south of Stanislau, in Galicia, the dispatch states.

Promises to Fight.

Paris, Feb. 24.—The Matin's Bucharest correspondent says that Nicholas Misu, the Roumanian minister to London, will soon return to England, and has sent a note assuring the British government that the Roumanian army will take the field in April.

DEFENDANTS SENTENCED IN THE MAGISTRATE'S COURT

At an early morning session of Magistrate B. L. Lyda's court, Clarence Wallace, Mill Mays and Talmage Johnson, all colored, were each given 30 days on the county roads for trespassing on the property of the Southern railway. The negroes were recently captured by members of the detective department of the Southern when they were attempting to steal a ride on a freight train from Columbia, S. C., to this city. The negroes put up a very hard struggle to prevent their capture but finally overcome by the detectives and brought to this city and placed in jail to await their trial which took place this morning.

SEVERE STORM IS RAGING IN FIVE WESTERN STATES

Chicago, Feb. 24.—A wind, snow and sleet storm has damaged telephone and telegraph lines in Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, and South Dakota. Several towns have been cut off from wire communication. In South Dakota drifts of snow have stopped some trains and all have been delayed.

PERJURY CHARGE CASE TRIAL THIS AFTERNOON

The case of Hugh McQueen, charged with perjury, will be heard in the court of Magistrate B. L. Lyda this afternoon. The charge of perjury developed several days ago during the trial of Ben Carter in the city Police court. Carter was charged with drunkenness and an assault on McQueen, and the testimony of McQueen was of such a character as to cause his detention.

Clyde R. Hoey, assistant United States district attorney with headquarters at Shelby, N. C., is a visitor in the city. Mr. Hoey is investigating a case in regard to some Indian lands.