

The Asheville Gazette News.

THE GAZETTE-NEWS HAS THE ASSOCIATED PRESS SERVICE. IT IS IN EVERY RESPECT COMPLETE.

WEATHER FORECAST: FAIR AND FREEZING.

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ASHEVILLE, N. C., MONDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 8, 1915.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

ANOTHER GREAT BATTLE BEGINS

Engagement Developing South of Warsaw on Pilica Where the Germans Have Attacked Russians.

FRENCH PROGRESSING IN VOSGES MOUNTAINS

Political Situation Dominated by the Possibility of What Greece Will Do in Regard to War.

London, March 8.—Another big battle is developing in the eastern arena, in the region of the Pilica river, south of Warsaw, where the Germans are said to have attacked the Russians. Elsewhere the Russians appear to be still on the offensive. Petrograd claims to be pressing the Germans back in North Poland and Eastern Galicia and to be holding back the Austrians in the Carpathians.

In the western arena the French have made some progress in the Vosges mountains, where they had again attacked the Germans and are said to have secured positions in some of the heights near Munster.

The British and French battleships continue their bombardment of the Dardanelles and seem to be making gradual if rather slow progress. The British ships are now directing the principal attack against the forts on the Asiatic side of the Narrows, and the forts are returning a heavy fire. The Turkish land forces are stubbornly resisting attempts of the allies to land demolition forces.

The political situation is still dominated by the possibility of what Greece is going to do in regard to the war.

"The King of Greece is exerting his influence to maintain the country's neutrality in the European war in opposition to Eleutherios Venizelos, the retiring premier and the man to whom Greece owes her revival.

M. Venizelos Saturday announced the resignation of himself and his cabinet, as King Constantine did not approve the policy of the government. Yesterday in the chamber of deputies he clearly indicated that differences between him and the monarch were over the question of peace and war.

There is no suggestion Treatment is Not Humane.

Paris, March 8.—Information concerning conditions in Laon, occupied by the Germans, conveys no suggestion that the treatment of the French population is not humane. A large number of civilians are compelled to report each day to the German military authorities, and others twice weekly. Each inhabitant has a right daily to 250 grams of bread, "category K," which is described as scarcely edible; 30 grams of meat and 60 grams of butter. There is plenty of sugar on sale and a sufficient supply of gas, but almost no oil or coal. Reports from Mauthausen say shops abandoned by French merchants when the Germans took the city have been re-opened by Germans in competition with the local tradesmen.

Russians Capture Many Guns. London, March 8.—An Exchange Telegram dispatch from Praznytsa declares that altogether the Russians captured 12 guns and 25 maxims, 132 ammunition cases and one aeroplane. It says the Omovetz fortress is successfully withstanding the German siege artillery. In the Carpathians the

Austrian attacks everywhere are reported to be growing weaker. Quiet Generally Prevails. Vienna, via London, March 8.—The following official communication was issued Saturday: "Along the front in Russian Poland and west Galicia yesterday general quiet prevails. Fighting occurred in some sections of the Carpathians, but the general situation is unchanged."

ANOTHER EDISON BLD'G DESTROYED

Only Structure Escaping December Fire Burns Today—Records Safe.

West Orange, N. J., March 8.—The only building of the Thomas A. Edison's great plant which was undamaged after the fire in December was practically destroyed by fire early today. It housed valuable phonographic records, most of which, being in steel vaults, were saved. The inventor himself, at work in his laboratory shortly after midnight discovered the flames. Clad in his shirt sleeves he directed the fire fighters.

COUNTY BOARD ADOPTS NEW ROAD RESOLUTIONS

Board to Improve Roads in a More Economical Way—Resolutions.

Announcement was made Saturday afternoon by the board of county commissioners that resolutions had been adopted by the board looking to the improvement of the county roads in a more economical way.

The resolutions as adopted by the board follow: "It is ordered by the board of county commissioners of Buncombe county that the several supervisors of dirt road districts shall hereafter work said roads under the following order: "First. The dirt roads shall be worked twice yearly, once in the spring during the months of March and April, and once in the fall, during the months of September and November; provided, that in the event unfavorable weather during the months of March, April, September and November makes road work impossible or impracticable, the time may be extended for doing said work by order of the board.

"Second. That no work will be permitted on the dirt roads in said county during the months of January, February, May, June, July, August, October and December unless rains, washouts or other unusual causes shall render said roads or bridges unsafe or unfit for travel. Then, in such case or cases, the overseer of the district in which the same may occur, shall notify the chairman of the board of such unusual conditions and after investigation, the chairman or any commissioner appointed by him for the purpose may direct the necessary work to be done.

"Third. Bills incurred by road overseers under conditions other than those specified herein, will not be either approved or paid by the board."

ARRESTED FOR MURDER DONE SIX YEARS AGO

Wilmington, N. C., March 8.—Jesse C. Walker, who, it is said, six years ago successfully led the sheriffs of two counties and a posse of 100 men a sensational chase, was arrested here yesterday on charges of having killed Sheriff Jackson Standland, of Brunswick county, November 1908, and the jailer at Southport, N. C.

Walker, the police say, formerly was in the revenue cutter service and Sheriff Standland attempted to arrest him on the charge of being a deserter. The sheriff was killed and later Walker was arrested and placed in jail at Southport. It is alleged that he killed the jailer or escaped. A reward of \$500 for his arrest was offered. The authorities assert that Walker told them he since had traveled in many states and that he recently returned to an adjoining county through a desire to see his wife, who has been living with her parents.

ROBERTS TO BE NEXT SPEAKER?

Buncombe Representative Will Certainly Be Candidate, and Will Receive Strong Support for Place.

ROBERT "PRE-EMINENT" PROGRESSIVE IN HOUSE

Slate Makers Have Worked Out 1917 Administration of State—Propose to Let Out Long Termers.

(By W. T. Bost.) Raleigh, March 8.—When Colonel Wilson G. Lamb of Martin came to town last night it was said that the 1917 administration was intact. The colonel is to be named state treasurer, according to the story of one of the best known North Carolinians and that's what the colonel is coming here for. Jim Hartness, David P. Dellinger and J. Bryan Grimes are already here so that no hazard is taken in saying the secretary of state is in Raleigh. Max Gardner, who is to be lieutenant governor, is also here, so are Lieutenant Governor Daughtridge and Attorney General Bickett, one of whom will be to be disturbed as auditor and Gallatin Roberts of Buncombe is in many mouths for the 1917 speakership.

The proposed candidacy of Colonel Lamb did not get out until yesterday. The prophecy that he runs is not to be credited to him even by indirection. It will probably make him mad when he sees it in the paper because a few things were to have been done before any announcement was made. Around the colonel's decision will probably evolve the determination of many others. Unless a strong man is matched against every officeholder in the state departments every likelihood is that avowed candidates now will weary in the fight alone.

The proposal is to turn out the long termers. As Attorney General Bickett will be out anyway, it is altogether probable that his assistant, T. H. Calvert, who has shown himself to be a great legal find, will be a candidate to succeed his chief. But Calvert is not running. If he enters he will be entered. He will not embarrass the attorney general in the office now or in the greater race here afterward. The slate-makers would put out Grimes, Lacy, Joyner, Shipman and Commissioner Young, albeit it the opposition to Joyner, Shipman and Young has no incarnation.

Roberts of Buncombe will certainly be a candidate for speaker. He can not well dodge the race even if he doubts his chances for election. He championed Wooten against Bowie, his western colleague, and is the pre-eminent progressive in the house. That forward-lookingness may be an asset and then a liability, but it makes him a formidable factional candidate and gives him the early boost that such a candidate must have.

Then Roberts has the elements nicely mixed. He is a fine parliamentarian, has the best voice in the house and is perhaps its most generally pleasing speaker. His advanced views have not affronted the statu quo and the circumstances that made Wooten speaker would work mightily to the success of Roberts. When the session ends this week the boys will go home thinking of Roberts as the next speaker.

HORN TO BE ARRAIGNED AS FEDERAL PRISONER

Machias, Me., March 8.—Werner Horn, the German reservist, who attempted to blow up an international bridge at Vanceboro early last month and asserted that he did so as "an act of war" against Great Britain, became a federal prisoner last night. He will be taken to Bangor today for arraignment on indictments charging illegal transportation of explosives. Horn last night finished a sentence of 30 days in jail here on account of property damage caused in Vanceboro by the explosion. Proceedings for the extradition of Horn to Canada on the charge of attempting to blow up the bridge, which were instituted at Portland in behalf of the Canadian government, will be delayed until the federal indictment has been disposed of.

28 POLITICIANS NOW ON TRIAL

Donn M. Roberts, Mayor of Terre Haute, and 27 Others Charged With Conspiracy to Corrupt.

DIFFICULTY EXPECTED IN OBTAINING JURY

Cases Result of Federal Grand Jury Investigation, When Indictments Against 126 Were Found.

Indianapolis, Ind., March 8.—Donn M. Roberts, mayor of Terre Haute, and an avowed candidate for the democratic nomination for governor in 1916 and 27 other democratic and progressive politicians were placed on trial today before Federal Judge Anderson, charged with conspiracy to corrupt the elections in Terre Haute in November. Besides Roberts the defendants include:

Ell H. Redman, judge of the Vigo county superior court; Dennis Shea, sheriff of Vigo county; E. E. Talbott, city controller of Terre Haute; Maurice Walsh, county sealer of weights and measures and treasurer of the democratic campaign committee; Edward R. Driscoll, secretary of the democratic county committee.

Some difficulty is expected in obtaining a jury and it is said that evidence will probably not begin until Tuesday or Wednesday. The cases against the politicians were the result of a federal grand jury investigation which began November 18, while the indictments were returned December 26. There were 126 men named in the indictment. Of these 116 were arrested; 88 pleaded guilty and 28 pleaded not guilty.

CLUB WOMEN WILL MEET IN HAYWOOD

The Waynesville Woman's club will be the hostess on April 1 to the Federation of Women's clubs of this district. The meeting at Waynesville will probably be held in the rooms of the Waynesville club, which have been offered for the purpose, and the meeting will bring to Waynesville about 100 of the most prominent women of western North Carolina. A very interesting program has been arranged for the meeting, and a feature will be a luncheon to be given the visitors by the local club members.

The following is the program: Reciprocity Day. No. 1 District North Carolina Federation of Women's clubs. Call to order 10:30. Address of welcome, Caroline G. Keller, M. D., president. Response. Vocal solo, Miss Emily Harrold. Five minutes reports from the presidents of the clubs. Asheville, Current Literary club, Mrs. E. P. Childs, president. Asheville Friday club, Mrs. Grace M. Jones, president. Asheville History club, Mrs. J. W. Huston, president. Asheville Travelers club, Mrs. J. C. Patton, president. Asheville Woman's club, Mrs. W. J. Cooke, president. Tryon Lanier's club, Mrs. Ralph Erikelne, president. Marion Twentieth Century club, Mrs. R. Burton, president. Highlands, Highland Improvement club, Mrs. M. A. Ravenel, president. Murphy Woman's club, Mrs. L. Phillips Kinsey, president. Bryson City Friendly Dozen, Mrs. Lillian E. Frye, president. Black Mountain Woman's Betterment club, Mrs. John Broadfoot, president. Waynesville Woman's club, Mrs. R. L. Allen, first vice president. Luncheon, 1 o'clock p. m. Call to order 2:30 o'clock p. m. Organization, election of officers. "A Visit to Japan," Mrs. James Atkins. "Duet" Miss Nan Killian and Mrs. James Killian.

COMPTROLLER ASKS REPORT FROM NATIONAL BANKS

Washington, March 8.—The comptroller of currency today issued a call for statements of the condition of national banks at the close of business Thursday, March 4.

PRIMARY BILL BEFORE SENATE

Measure Passed by House Saturday Night Expected to Go Through Senate Without Trouble.

SEVERAL AMENDMENTS TACKLED ON IN HOUSE

Many Counties Exempt From Act as It Applies to the Legislative and County Tickets.

Raleigh, March 8.—The primary bill which passed at midnight of Saturday, goes to the senate today and is expected to pass without trouble. No trouble is apprehended.

The fight for the primary lasted seven hours. The contested points were the date of holding, which will be the first Saturday in June; the required time for entering the primary, which will be two weeks; the application to certain candidates, all of whom will be included except the legislative and county tickets in such counties as do not wish it to apply; the secrecy of voting, which will not be interfered with the persuasion of workers, which is not to be disturbed; the allegiance to the party in which an elector cast his primary ballot, which is left to his conscience; the limitation of the oath, which point was conceded by the advocates of the plenary primary; and the depositor for party ballots which will be in the several boxes represented by the several political parties.

When the Weaver-Hobgood act passed, the following counties were allowed to withdraw from the act as it applied to the legislative and county ticket: Mecklenburg, Ashe, Watauga, Sampson, McDowell, Montgomery, Yadkin, Wilkes, Davie, Carteret, Craven, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Wake, Henderson, Polk, Transylvania, Duplin, Pender, Martin, Bertie, Northampton, Cherokee, Clay, Macon, Surry and Stokes.

To these were added Mitchell, Davidson, Edcombe, Hyde, Graham, Pamlico, Brunswick, Tyrrell, Beaufort, Rowan, Madison, Halifax, Currituck, Dare, Catawba, Gates, Alamance, Gaston, Caldwell, Swain, Cabarrus, Orange, Union, New Hanover, Montgomery and Yancey. The following counties were struck out from the original bill and lost their standing under the Hutchinson amendment which provides that the present law shall not affect those counties with their primary laws now in operation: Randolph, Henderson, Carteret, Pender, Onslow, Bertie, Wake, McDowell, Wake with a perfect bill as its advocates view it, comes under the imperfect state bill when her original purpose was to dodge it.

Henry Page played a funny trick on Mr. Doughton near the close last night. Mr. Doughton had made a fierce attack on one of the sections of the Weaver-Hobgood bill, declaring that the act is reeking and running over with the Australian ballot and nobody in North Carolina believed in the Australian ballot, he said.

Mr. Doughton struck out the provision that nobody should assist the voter in preparing his ballot except the officers. Robert asked him if he thought a voter ought to be allowed to vote without a boss. The Alleghany man replied with great volubility. He had never seen a boss and the boss is the last resort of the man driven to the wall in argument. "But I'll tell you, if it hadn't been for those that you call bosses, the democratic party would never have been anywhere," he said.

And then, having disposed of the oath feature, Mr. Doughton tagged on these noble words, fine, high-sounding words that attracted Page's attention: "Provided that nothing herein contained shall interfere with casting and having counted an untrammelled ballot. "I'll see now if they are in favor of that." Mr. Doughton said as he sat down from his vigorous larruping of those who say "bosses." Roberts and Brumitt smiled. The vote was taken and for once the whole house was together. There was not a man who had the nerve to come out and say that he was in favor of laying hands on the free and untrammelled.

Henry Page got up and walked to Mr. Doughton's seat. "I don't see it, but I know it's there," he said. "I am satisfied," Mr. Doughton said without the slightest attention to Page's compliment to his shrewdness. That was what Seawell had been talking about all night. He told the Alleghany man that no matter how vehement his protestations, no matter how strong his power of overstatement, the people had it in their heads that he was opposed to the primary in principle and that the elimination of the really virile features of the bill would displease the people everywhere. And when Doughton said he

EVERY DEPARTMENT OF STEEL PLANT OPERATING

Homestead Plant Has Enough Orders to Keep Running for Months.

Pittsburgh, Pa., March 8.—Every department of the Homestead plant of the Carnegie Steel company was in operation today for the first time in nearly two years. Officials of the company declared that orders received recently for structural steel, ship and armor plate were sufficient to keep the plant running for months. Four thousand employees returned to work Saturday and today.

THE POLITICAL EFFECT

The political effect was discussed a great deal and the question is asked everywhere whether the general assembly has carried out its platform pledges. It is generally agreed that this job has been thoroughly done. It required no great vehicle to convey that paper of 1914.

Mr. Bowie held with considerable force that the party never contemplated placing county and legislative tickets under the primary provision, in fact, he urged that the legislative ticket is purely county. Stacy and Vann out-talked him there by holding that functions and not modes of election determine the position in state. But the progressives joined with Bowie to put through Ashe county and the death of the vital principle moved Vann to withdraw his own amendment.

Meanwhile the republican attitude causes talk. That party has made no movement to pass a primary bill, Mr. Deaver's amendment striking out the oath feature, being the solitary contribution of the minority party to this act. The members uniformly voted against their counties going under it and Harnett's appeal through McKoy, its representative, was listened to even when Seawell and other democrats were seriously thinking of putting that county under the provision of all the acts. Finally Seawell declared that his conferees had decided to let the republican member take the consequences.

The republicans declare that their party last summer spoke for such a small number of their voters that its platform declaration in favor of the primary should bind no one. And they have not been bound.

SMALL STATE VOLUME

David P. Dellinger, reading clerk of the house today said the public laws of the 1915 general assembly will look like "30 cents."

He spoke of the vast number of bills which will be killed for lack of time and assuming that the body will adjourn Tuesday, he does not see how many state-wide bills will be passed. It is a noteworthy fact that the state measures have suffered slaughter almost everywhere and despite the elimination of local legislation, this session seems to have done more than any other.

GEORGE WALLACE BALLARD DIED AT ACTON SUNDAY

Was Veteran of Confederate Army and Prominent Citizen of His Community.

George Wallace Ballard, aged 81 years, died at his home, near Acton, yesterday, following an illness of about four weeks. Mr. Ballard had been for more than 40 years a resident of Inanda but recently moved to Acton, where he resided until the time of his death. The deceased was a veteran of the Confederate army in the war between the states and served with distinction with the Thirty-fourth North Carolina regiment. Mr. Ballard is survived by a large number of children, grand children and great grandchildren. His children reside as follows: George Wallace Ballard, Jr., Mrs. John Davis and Mrs. J. F. Drake of Asheville, and Mrs. J. L. Plimmons and Mrs. R. L. Regon of Piedmont.

The funeral services will be held tomorrow at the Inanda Baptist church, by Rev. J. B. Grice and interment will follow at the church cemetery. The pallbearers will be composed of the grandsons of Mr. Ballard and will be: J. C. Ingle, G. W. Ingle, E. N. Ingle, C. J. Ingle, Everett Davis and Wallace Regon.

THREE MEN ARE FOUND DEAD IN AN INDIANA COAL MINE

Oakland City, Ind., March 8.—Three men entombed in a coal mine near here yesterday were found dead today when the debris was cleared away.

NO MORE SHIPS GO TO MEXICO

American Government Contemplating no Additions to the Warships in Mexican Waters, Sec'y. Says.

HOPED CARRANZA WILL IMPROVE CONDITIONS

Two Communications Have Been Sent to Carranza in Regard to Situation in Mexican Capital.

Washington, March 8.—New and urgent representations amounting practically to a warning have been sent by the United States to Carranza, demanding an improvement of conditions in Mexico City. Diplomats familiar with the contents of the note which American Consul Silliman has been instructed to present to Carranza declare that it indicates an entire change of policy of the American government toward the Mexican situation.

Washington, March 8.—Secretary Daniels announced today that except for the gunboat Petrel, which is now returning from Mobile to Mexican waters in accordance with previous plans, no additions were contemplated to the warships on the east coast of Mexico. He said that the return of the Petrel to Vera Cruz was not due to new orders resulting from the present situation.

Dispatches from the Brazilian minister in Mexico City received last night indicated that conditions in the capital are unchanged, that the populace still fears the effects of the famine and dangers of possible rioting should General Obregon's forces evacuate.

High officials of the American government described the situation as serious, but not hopeless. No word came from Vera Cruz as to General Carranza's attitude, but further representations have been made of such an urgent character that officials here confidently expect Carranza to take steps to improve conditions.

Two communications have been sent to American Consul Silliman at Vera Cruz for presentation to Carranza, both are phrased in strong terms, pointing out the serious consequences that might ensue if foreigners were injured in any rioting in the capital or if they were unable to get food and supplies. There have been indications in his last 24 hours that General Carranza might instruct General Obregon to permit the international relief committee to take charge of the situation.

An element of much danger has arisen, however, in the rumored friction between Obregon and Carranza. It is known that Obregon was irritated when Carranza revoked the tax levied by Obregon on foreigners recently and since that time, official dispatches say, anti-foreign sentiment has been fostered, if not inspired by Obregon himself.

ILLICIT DISTILLERY IS SEIZED IN COUNTY OF CHEROKEE

Revenue Officer J. F. Cade made an unannounced visit to Cherokee county last week, and on Friday night captured a still and 1500 gallons of beer in the Hiwassee river valley. The beer had about reached the proper chemical stage to be used as a beverage. The owners and operators of the plant could not be found on the premises.

CONDITION OF KANSAS CITY STAR EDITOR VERY SERIOUS

Kansas City, Mo., March 8.—The condition of William Rockhill Nelson, editor of the Kansas City Star, who has been confined to his home for several months, is considered very serious by his physicians. Except for brief intervals, he has been unconscious since last Friday.