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# The Asheville Gazette News.

WEATHER FORECAST: PARTLY CLOUDY; WARMER.

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ASHEVILLE, N. C., FRIDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 19, 1915.

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## CAN'T SHIFT MEN FROM ONE FRONT TO ANOTHER

### Germans Forced to Keep Present Armies Intact on Both Fronts, the British Observers Believe.

### MUST FIND FRESH MEN TO MEET NEW ENEMY

### Plans of Germans to Deliver Crushing Blows and Shift Troops to Other Front Failed Repeatedly.

London, March 19.—The apparent failure of Field Marshal Von Hindenburg in his various attempts to reach Warsaw, the reappearance of the Russians over the East Prussian frontier near Tilsit, the allied offensive in the west, have according to British observers put the Germans in positions where they dare not shift any substantial forces either from the east or from the west.

Although there are rumors of reinforcements being hurried from Poland to France or Belgian to meet the French and British thrusts, military writers here hold to the opinion that the Germans must maintain their present strength on both the eastern and western fronts intact, and that there is necessity for the Germans to find new forces for both the east and the west if they would effectually meet the increased strength of their enemies.

It is pointed out that the plan to deliver a crushing blow on one theater and then rush troops to the other has miscarried on both fronts. This was seen first in the dash toward Paris; second, in the rush to Callais; third, in the battle of Ypres and in the repeated efforts on the eastern front as in Von Hindenburg's struggles to break through the Russian lines to the Polish capital.

Considerable mystery surrounds the next move of the Germans, although the prevailing belief is that it will be a big offensive in the west, probably against the British troops.

Great Britain has made no official reply to the German allegations that a British squadron fired on the German cruiser Dresden while that vessel was within the three-mile limit in Chilean waters and no denial is forthcoming of the German statement that the Dresden was blown up by her own men.

The British government is proceeding with the plan to mobilize women to replace men needed in the war. Upwards of 700 women who are willing to act as substitutes have been registered during the past 24 hours.

## THE TURKS SINK A FRENCH SHIP

### Also Claim to Have Bombarded Russian City on the Black Sea.

Constantinople, March 19.—An official statement issued by the Turkish army headquarters says that fleet bombarded the shipyards and maneuvering places for torpedo boat destroyers, west of Theodosia, on the Black sea in Crimea, early today and set fire to buildings.

The allied fleet shelled the forts of the Dardanelles which replied effectively, sinking the French Battleship Bouvet.

The Bouvet was of 12,000 tons; was laid down in 1903. She carried a complement of 621 men, and her armament consisted of two 12-inch guns, two 10.8-inch guns, eight 5.5-inch guns, eight 5.5-inch guns, eight 3.5-inch guns, ten three-pounders and ten one-pounders, with two torpedo tubes.

## GOVERNOR CRAIG IS IN ASHEVILLE

### Arrived Yesterday Afternoon From Marshall—Leaves for Raleigh Sunday.

Governor Locke Craig arrived in Asheville yesterday afternoon from Marshall where he delivered the literary address at the commencement exercises of the Madison County Seminary, and is a guest at the Battery Park hotel. He will return to Raleigh Sunday. Yesterday afternoon the chief executive heard an application for the pardon of Alex Brooks who is now serving a term on the Buncombe county roads for the killing of Frank Huggill in West Asheville last year. The governor heard the arguments of the attorneys for Brooks, Charles A. Webb and Thomas Rollins and of Judge Thomas A. Jones, opposing the efforts to have the prisoner pardoned, but rendered no decision; stating this morning that it would require several days for him to go over the record in this case. The governor states that he will not honor the request of Governor Henry C. Stewart of Virginia for the return of Arthur Hewitt to that state to answer a charge of seduction. Hewitt is under arrest at Greensboro and the governor will order his release at once.

There will be a conference here tomorrow between Governor Craig and the commission for the installation of the statue of Zebulon Vance in Statuary Hall at Washington. Gutson Borglum, the artist who is designing the statue, will meet with the commission and will exhibit to them his model for the statue. Judge W. A. Hoke, of the Supreme court, chairman of the commission, is expected to arrive in the city tonight to attend tomorrow's conference. Mon. Clement Manly, of Winston-Salem, is also expected to be present. The Asheville members of the commission are: Miss Laura Carter, Mrs. Harry Martin and Mrs. Van Moore. The conference is scheduled to meet at the Battery Park hotel at 12 o'clock tomorrow.

Governor Craig announces that he will in the near future name the members of the Mount Mitchell commission, so that the conservation work authorized for this peak by the last legislature can begin. The Governor will name three or four members of the commission from Fancyp county and one from Buncombe.

## PAUL THOMPSON DRAWS SENTENCE OF ONE YEAR

Paul Thompson, the young Madison county man, who was arrested several weeks ago by the police, who caught him in the store of J. S. Foster, on Depot street, was tried in Superior court yesterday afternoon and drew a sentence of one year on the county roads on charges of store-breaking.

## HIGH SCHOOLS TO DEBATE NEXT WEEK

### Asheville and Hendersonville Will Meet Friday Night in Elimination Contest.

The tri-annual debate which was arranged between the High schools of Asheville, Hendersonville and Marion to select debaters to appear in the state-wide contest at Chapel Hill on April 9 has had a rearrangement and the teams of Hendersonville and Asheville will have to decide the question between them for the Marion representatives have withdrawn from the race. The preliminaries will be held for this section next Friday night when the affirmative team of the Asheville high school will meet the negative team of Hendersonville here and the Asheville negative will appear against the Hendersonville affirmative on the same night at Hendersonville. The members of the Asheville affirmative team are, Kester Walton and Wesley Bouteras with Miss Mariaret Fields as alternate and the negative side is represented by Owen Roberts and C. J. Hardee with Randall Harris as alternate.

The question to be debated by the two schools is the same one that will be used in the final contest at Chapel Hill and the subject is: "Resolved, That the United States Should Adopt the Policy of Subsidizing Its Merchant Marine in Foreign Trade." For either Hendersonville or Asheville to send teams to the state contest, it will be necessary for one of the schools to secure the decision in both contests next Friday night. Should either school fail to carry off the decision in both contests, it will mean that this section will not be represented in the contest at Chapel Hill.

The Asheville debaters have been engaging in constant practice under H. Franks, of the High school faculty, and are confident of being selected as the winners in both appearances next Friday night. The four members of the two Asheville teams together with the alternates were chosen at the preliminaries which were held about two weeks ago. About 15 members of the High school took part in the preliminaries and the competition was very close for the places on the teams. It is estimated that over 1,000 High school students of the state took part in these preliminary contests as there was a total of 250 high schools entered from 91 counties. All the counties of the state, with the exception of nine, are enrolled in the High school debating union. The preliminaries were held in the various cities under the auspices of the High School Debating Union of the University of North Carolina. E. R. Rankin, assistant director of the university of extension work is the secretary of the union. The secretary, in a communication received here, is very enthusiastic over the interest among the high schools in the state in the coming debates.

The debates with Hendersonville will be the first preliminary in the elimination process for the honor of winning the Aycock Memorial cup to be given to the best High school debater in North Carolina. The final contest comes on April 9 at Chapel Hill.

## MAN IS WONDERER ON FACE OF OCEAN

### Native of Brazil, Excluded by U. S. and Rejected by Own Country.

New York, March 19.—Excluded from America, rejected by Brazil and due apparently to travel as the guest of the Lamport and Holt line until the United States immigration authorities conceded that he has recovered his mental equilibrium, Nathan Cohen arrived at New York today after completing two round trips from New York to Buenos Ayres. Since May, Cohen has been a wanderer on the face of the ocean. He asserts that he is a native of Brazil. Cohen arrived in New York in May, 1912, and went to Virginia to set up a small store with a relative. His sanity was questioned and the immigration officials ordered that he be deported to Rio Janeiro whence he came. On his first trip south he was rejected by Brazil and he was carried to Buenos Ayres and back to New York. His efforts to land were futile and he again went to Buenos Ayres. He returned to New York yesterday on the steamer Vansant. In all he has travelled 33,740 miles on one \$45 ticket.

## FRUITS-TRUCK RATES REDUCED

### Southern Express Traffic Men Agree to Substantial Reduction in Rates on N. C. Shipments.

### GIVES IMPETUS TO TRUCKING INDUSTRY

### Drop From 75 Per Cent of the First Class to 60 Per Cent; Property Owners Complain at Assessment.

(By W. T. Best.)  
Raleigh, March 19.—After a conference with the traffic men of the Southern Express company's men in Washington, A. J. Maxwell, clerk to the corporation commission brings back substantial reductions in all fruits and vegetables and gives North Carolina shippers cause for greater enthusiasm in their trucking.

Mr. Maxwell returned and announced the result of the conference yesterday. The reductions are a further drop from the 75 per cent of the first class to 60 per cent. These affect especially the green roasting corn of which so much is shipped to the north. Other commodities are pretty well covered but the complaint had been often made that roasting ears north at a high rate and almost prohibit those shipments for that reason.

The commission had brought about the same reductions on intra-state business, but these shipments going north and being interstate, the local commission's order did not bring the relief desired. It is believed that a real impetus to trucking in North Carolina will follow this action of the express men.

Before the corporation commission yesterday, John A. Mills and E. T. Hicks, large property owners, appeared and made protest against the re-estimation of their property on Boylan Heights by the county auditor, H. G. Holding.

## COOK AND MADDEN TO GET SENTENCES TODAY

### Convicted of Aiding Stiegler in Securing False American Passport.

New York, March 19.—Richard Madden and Gustave Cook, of Hoboken, have been found guilty of conspiracy against the United States in aiding Richard P. Stiegler, a German naval reservist, to procure a false American passport. The jurors, selected for their neutral opinions on the European war, made "a strong recommendation for mercy."

## POSTOFFICE AT CANDLER ROBBED

### Parties are Safe Blown, With Loss of \$160 BELONGING TO THE POSTMASTER TAKEN

### Officers Believe the Safe Was Blown With Nitro-Glycerine—No Clues to the Robbery.

The postoffice at Candler was robbed last night and about \$160 in money and stamps was secured by the burglars.

A. Z. Wright, the postmaster, telephoned Sheriff E. M. Mitchell at 7:30 o'clock this morning of the robbery, and Deputy Sheriffs C. J. Lanning and Charles Pinner left for Candler on the 8:30 train. Over long distance telephone Mr. Wright gave The Gazette-News the details of the robbery. When the postmaster entered the postoffice early this morning he found the front door unlocked and the safe was open and the door to it was lying on the other side of the building. Some small coins and stamps were scattered on the floor. Investigation showed that the money order funds amounting to \$175, postal funds of about \$165, about \$200 in stamps and \$160 belonging to Mr. Wright had been taken. The postmaster had recently received a supply of stamps from Washington, and of these most of the two cent denominations were taken, about 1,000 one cent stamps being either overlooked or purposely left behind in the probable hurried departure of the midnight visitors. The money order funds, which are usually considered desirable booty by postoffice robbers, were left in the office.

The deputy sheriffs who visited the scene of the robbery are of the opinion that the safe was blown with nitroglycerine. Two steel chisels and a small steel punch were found in the postoffice building.

W. G. Candler, who lives about 300 yards from the postoffice, H. B. Duckett and J. Gudger, also living nearby, said this morning that they heard a noise like an explosion in the distance between 11 and 12 o'clock last night. Other people in the vicinity heard an automobile about midnight.

A few stamps were found scattered outside the building and, at some distance from the office on the road leading to Asheville some more stamps were found in the roadway.

## "SCRAP-IRON" COWAN IS IN HIGHER LEAGUE CLUB

### Former Carolina Umpire Will Officiate This Season in Eastern Association.

George Cowan, known over the Carolina circuit last year as "Scrap-Iron" Cowan has been signed to umpire in the Eastern association this year through the recommendation of Manager Charlie Clancy of the Winston-Salem club. In his appearances here during the past season, Cowan made a big hit with the local fans due to the way he conducted the games and he was one of the few arbiters of the league who managed to "get away" here without any trouble. In the opinion of the attendants at Oates park, he was the best umpire on President Lyon's staff last year and it was with keen regret that his release by Lyon was heard of. It can readily be seen that his ability was recognized as his new position gives him several rises in the baseball world for the rating of the Eastern association is several notches higher than this organization. All the friends of the former Carolina league umpire will extend to him their best wishes for a good season in higher company.

## WILL BLOCKADE MEDITERANEAN

## U. S. WILL INSPECT PRISONER'S CAMPS

### Agreement Reached Between Great Britain, Germany and Austria.

Washington, March 19.—An arrangement between Great Britain and Germany and Austria by which representatives of the United States will inspect and report upon alien prison camps in these countries, and distribute to prisoners supplies from their own governments or other sources, was announced last night by the state department and it was stated that, through the good offices of the American government similar arrangements were under contemplation between Russia and France and Germany and Austria.

The agreements are based upon recommendations in a report by Chandler P. Anderson, formerly councillor of the state department, who conferred with the foreign office of Great Britain, Germany and Austria last November and visited some of the detention camps in those countries.

The department's statement in part follows: "Through the good offices of the United States an arrangement has been entered into between Great Britain and Germany and Austria-Hungary, and a similar arrangement is under contemplation between Germany and Austria-Hungary and Russia and France, by which representatives of the United States in these countries will be authorized to inspect and report upon prisoners' camps and distribute to the prisoners the supplies from their own governments and from other sources.

"The basis of this arrangement is briefly as follows: "Each of the belligerent governments undertakes to furnish for the information of the others a complete statement of its policy with regard to the treatment of prisoners, with full details showing the supplies furnished and the conditions of their life during internment, supplemented by copies of orders and instructions issued to the commandants of the prisoners' camps."

"The belligerent governments will permit the representatives of the United States in each country to have access to the prisoners, and will allow the prisoners to furnish statements about their treatment, the conditions of life and requirements which they wish to have communicated to their own government.

"It is understood that the United States, in undertaking this work, assumes no responsibility of any kind beyond the mere transmission of the statements and the distribution of supplies furnished as above indicated, in accordance with such restrictions and regulations as are imposed by the governments concerned."

"In addition to the arrangements thus adopted, these governments have under consideration further arrangements for the exchange and release of detained enemy aliens."

## WILL ASK BOARD TO CALL SPECIAL ELECTION

### That the citizens of West Asheville who are in favor of voting bonds for the sum of \$35,000 with which to erect new school buildings in that town, will appear before the board of county commissioners next Tuesday and ask that body to call a special election, was the decision reached last night at a mass meeting held in West Asheville.

Several of the citizens made addresses at the meeting last night and all seemed to be in favor of asking the county commissioners to call the special school election.

## TROUBLES OF THE DAY IN THE POLICE COURT

The following cases were called in Police court today: Lizzie Jackson colored, was found not guilty of assault. Prayer for judgment was continued in the case of Maggie Edgerton, colored, charged with assault. Monte Murphy, colored, was fined \$2 and the costs on charges of assault. Arthur Haynes, colored, was given four months on the roads on charges of injuring personal property, by breaking down a door to the house occupied by Flora Robinson, colored. Prayer for judgment was continued upon the payment of the costs in the case of Joe J. Atkins, charged with passing a worthless check on the Allison Drug company for \$8. Mary Garry, colored, was given 30 days in jail on charges of assault, with appeal bond filed at \$100. John Garry, colored, was found not guilty of assault. Two "drunks" were up.

## British Government Considers It European Waters—U. S. Will Protest Against Order in Council.

### DOESN'T KNOW IF IT IS TO BE REAL BLOCKADE

### On Determination of Question Will Probably Depend Nature of Next Steps Taken by United States.

London, March 19.—Considerable confusion has resulted over the various interpretations of the language of the note of Sir Edward Grey, British foreign secretary, concerning the effect of the British blockade on Mediterranean waters. To clear this up the foreign office says specifically that the Mediterranean waters are regarded as European and consequently the blockade will be maintained there just as in the North sea.

Washington, March 19.—The United States considers that Great Britain and France in the British order-in-council and accompanying notes, have not answered questions propounded to them as to what warrant there is under international law for the establishment of an embargo on all commercial intercourse, directly and indirectly between Germany and neutral countries.

It was stated officially at the state department that this government still does not know whether the action of the allies is intended as a local blockade or whether ordinary rules of contraband and non-contraband are to be their legal basis for future detentions. On a determination of this question probably will depend not only the nature of any steps to be taken by the United States now, but also the basis for damage claims arising out of interruptions to American commerce.

## WEBB-KENYON LAW BEFORE THE COURT

### Litigation Involving Constitutionality of Law Before Supreme Court.

Washington, March 19.—Preparation was made today for consideration by the Supreme court shortly after the Easter recess of litigation involving the constitutionality and interpretation of the Webb-Kenyon law enacted in 1913. The "Drys" contend that the Webb-Kenyon law was withdrawn from interstate traffic shipments of liquor consigned to local option territory the protection previously afforded such shipments by the commerce clause of the federal constitution. The "Wets" declare that the law was merely aimed at "bootlegging" and that it has not withdrawn the commerce clause protection from interstate shipments of whiskey for personal use.

Express companies and railroads are much concerned over the proper construction of the law and the question of validity. Liquor dealers have gone into the courts to compel carriers to accept shipments designed for personal use in dry territory. The Kentucky courts have adopted the "Wet" construction and express companies foreseeing the alleged necessity of employing big forces of inspectors and detectives to ferret out the purpose of each shipment of whiskey have appealed to the Supreme court. The case is to be argued after Easter. Somewhat similar cases are pending from West Virginia and North Carolina.

## A ZEPPELIN RAIDER AT CALLAIS LAST NIGHT

Callais, France, March 19.—Showers of shrapnel from the French artillery greeted the Zeppelin raid on this city last night. The Zeppelin dropped bombs, killing seven people but did not hit the railroad station at which it aimed. The throwing of the engines of the aircraft gave warning of its approach between midnight and 1 o'clock this morning. After some difficulty the airship was located by means of searchlights and the gun trained upon it. After dropping several bombs it made off.

## BANK OFFICIAL COMMITTED SUICIDE AT CLEVELAND

Cleveland, March 19.—B. O. Hill used 15, receiving teller of the Cleveland federal reserve bank shot and killed himself yesterday in a room on seventh floor of the building in which the bank is located. Hill, who was married, was said to have been in ill health.