

## GRAND DUKE NICHOLAS DEMOTED TO COMMAND ON CAUCASIAN FRONT

Given Relatively Unimportant  
Position After Tsar Takes  
Command of All the Rus-  
sian Armies.

NEW ARMIES CONSIST  
OF BUT FEW FORCES

Transfer of Former Comman-  
der-in-Chief Comparable  
Only to Retirement of  
Count von Moltke.

Petrograd, Sept. 8.—Grand Duke Nicholas of Russia has been transferred to the Caucasus front by Emperor Nicholas. The emperor's action was taken on his assuming the command of the military and naval forces of Russia. In transferring the grand duke the emperor appointed him viceroy of Caucasasia and commander-in-chief of the Russian armies on the southern front.

The action of the emperor in transferring his cousin, the grand duke, to the Caucasian front is perhaps the most important change of this nature that has taken place in any of the belligerent nations and can be compared only with the retirement by Emperor William of Germany last October of Lieutenant General Count Helmuth von Moltke as chief of the German staff.

The post to which the grand duke is transferred is relatively unimportant compared with the prestige and vast powers of his former office as commander-in-chief of all Russia's great fighting forces. The Caucasian campaign presents only minor aspects of the war. The Russian and Turkish forces involved in the struggle in the Black sea region are not large. Although there was heavy fighting in the Caucasus early in the war, hostilities have only been conducted in a perfunctory manner for several months.

London, Sept. 8.—Emperor Nicholas is now in supreme command of the Russian military and naval forces in the eastern fighting zone and Grand Duke Nicholas has been sent to the Caucasus. London military writers are speculating on where on the long eastern line the emperor will have his headquarters.

General Ruzsky is in command in the Courland section, which is apparently the most critical section of the line. The center has been held by the grand duke and the effort of the Germans to drive a wedge through the swamps is proceeding slowly. The Russian wing under General Ivanoff is making a stubborn stand against the Austrians and Germans who are engaged in a tremendous effort to drive the last Russians from Austrian soil. In the Courland section Field Marshal von Hindenburg is apparently not making any great progress against General Ruzsky.

On the other fronts events point to a concerted movement by the allies. The French commander-in-chief, General Joffre has returned from a visit to his Italian colleagues, General Cadorna. British warships and the guns on the Belgian coast have joined the chorus of artillery firing on the western front. All this gives support to the growing belief in London that an offensive movement will soon mark the operations of the allies in the west.

Paris, Sept. 8.—In a message to President Poincaré, Emperor Nicholas announces that he has placed himself in command of all the Russian armies.

Berlin, Sept. 8.—The Overseas News agency says that panic was caused in Petrograd by rumors that the Baltic Port of Riga had been captured. The Lokal Anzeiger publishes private telegrams from Stockholm, says the agency, which state that the Russian capital was thrown into confusion by reports that the Russian army had been driven into confusion by reports that the Russian positions along the Drina river had been captured that the

## Shoots Two Women On Car and Kills Himself

George Smith of Nashville, Fatally Shoots Wife and Sister  
and Commits Suicide, Creating Panic Among Street Car  
Passengers—Estranged From Wife.

Nashville, Sept. 8.—Passengers on an inbound Fairfield line street car were panic stricken early this morning when a fellow passenger opened fire with a pistol on two women. The man who did the shooting was George Smith, a mechanic in the Tennessee Central railroad shops. The women attacked were his wife, Elizabeth Sloan Smith, and her sister, Mrs. Maude Sloan Hunter.

After shooting the women Smith left the car and went in the direction of his home on Fillmore street. Mrs. Hunter died while she was being taken from the car. Mrs. Smith died about 20 minutes after she had been rushed to a hospital.

Police hurried to the scene of the shooting and one of them followed Smith to his home. When the officer reached the gate he heard a shot. He found that Smith had shot himself in the head. He died soon afterward.

J. J. Sloan, father of the women killed, armed with a shotgun and on his way to the Smith home, was stopped by a second policeman.

The Smiths had recently separated and Mrs. Smith was suing her husband for divorce.

## More Evidence Found of Mexican Conspiracy

Brownsville, Tex., Sept. 8.—The United States army took today the most important step that has yet been taken in the border complications in the lower Rio Grande valley, when orders were issued giving army officers control over the action of all civilians in the river banks in case the shooting across the international boundary should be resumed by the Mexicans.

Brownsville, Texas, Sept. 8.—More evidence of a widespread conspiracy among Mexicans on both sides of the Rio Grande to overthrow American authority along the border has been discovered by state and federal authorities investigating the recent border outbreak.

One circular dated October 1, 1914, which was said to have been widely distributed in Texas and Mexico to Mexicans calls on them to "rise in favor of Carranza and independence because at the rate we are going, we soon will be slaves of the Americans."

Letters from points in Lower California, indicating that plans for uprising along the border were in process of formation for more than a year, also were found. Buttons enclosed in the letters were inscribed "land and liberty."

The situation along the border yesterday was quiet. All important towns and railroad bridges now are under guard of United States troops.

It was announced last night that General Funston soon would issue orders placing the Rio Grande country in the Brownsville section in the hands of the United States alone. It is understood the army will devote its forces primarily to guarding the border, leaving policing work in the interior, except when special troops are needed, to state and county officers.

Washington, Sept. 8.—General Villa's denial that any of his forces have participated in the raids on American territory was communicated to the state department today by American Consul at Carothers, whose message says:

"General Villa says that none of the convention forces have crossed the border into the United States nor committed depredations on American soil. General Villa thinks the raids were committed by bandits or outlaws."

Advices in regard to the revolt against the Carranza party of the state of Tabasco say that the leaders of the mutineers have abandoned San Juan Bautista after exacting large tribute from business houses and sacking the city. All Americans are reported to be safe.

The advices say the governor has departed from Frontera with 300 men to assume charge at the capital.

More Artillery.

Jackson, Tenn., Sept. 7.—A special train of twenty-seven cars carrying batteries B of the Third Field Artillery from Camp Robinson passed through here today en route for San Antonio, Tex., to strengthen the forces engaged in protecting the border against the raids of Mexican bandits.

Surrender Arms.

San Benito, Sept. 8.—Between eighty and one hundred Mexicans residing near here have voluntarily surrendered their rifles and ammunition to Samuel Robertson, president of the San Benito and Rio Grande Valley railroad.

At a mass meeting last night, attended by more than 200 Mexican residents, Robertson was applauded when he urged the Mexicans to cooperate with the American authorities in putting down outlaws.

A meeting of all the mayors in this part of Texas will be held at Mercedes today to discuss the border situation.

## Foreign Exchange Weaker Despite Gold Shipments

New York, Sept. 8.—In the face of many apparent reasons for assuming a stronger tone, foreign exchange weakened yesterday, sterling declining four cents from Saturday's close to 44.2. Large offerings were held responsible.

The market apparently had discounted the latest gold importation from England. Even news that the shipment was almost twice as large as expected failed to check the slump. Another reason for strength, which was responded to only by weakness, was the belief that a remedy was near at hand. Only a few days at most will elapse before arrival here of the Anglo-French commission.

Although no one in authority was willing to father the statement, it was known that local bankers would look with disapproval upon steady shipments here from England of gold in large quantities. Bankers would much prefer to lend their foreign customers money to pay for their purchases, securing the loan by prime American collateral.

Largely because of the British censorship, it was said tonight, the Anglo-French commission will reach New York almost in ignorance of the situation here. Local bankers have found it next to impossible to advise financiers abroad of the plight of foreign money in this market.

One thing London bankers apparently have not learned is that the United States does not want their gold, and this will be one of the first things, it was said, with which the commission will be made acquainted when it reaches New York.

Russian armies had been destroyed, that Riga had been captured and that the German advance on the capital could no longer be hampered.

"Immense crowds gathered in front of the newspaper offices," says the statement, "and there was great excitement and many arrests. Toward evening the newspapers issued extra editions which contained statements officially denying the rumors and saying that the Russian defensive positions were intact."

"However, the spread of the panic and the report that Emperor Nicholas had gone to the front were only a pretense to veil the movements of the emperor who had departed for the interior."

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## SEABOARD RY TAX HEARING DEFERRED

After Involving Injunction  
Against State Commission  
Postponed to Sept. 16.

Raleigh, Sept. 7.—The hearing in federal court on the application of the Seaboard Air Line railroad for an injunction against the North Carolina corporation commission in the matter of tax assessment, which was set for today, has been postponed until September 16.

Commissioner M. L. Shipman of the department of labor and printing has received his Spanish translation of the letter which the department is sending out to the Latin-American republics of South America.

The work was done by Dr. J. M. Justice and in typewritten form looks attractive as a personal message. The same document is to be translated into Portuguese for circulation in South America.

Relative Values.

The Seaboard's complaint against the corporation commission, from which copious extracts were made in this letter today, may leave the impression through your correspondent's lack of perspicacity, to quote the English suffragettes' estimate of the bishop of London, that the Seaboard owns 28,000,000 acres of land, 5,680 manufacturing acres; 316,814 acres of mineral and quarry land; and 202,501 town lots.

What the Seaboard's plan is directed at is that the state owns these properties enumerated at \$359,039,122, with an additional \$56,275,612 in bank stock, building and loan stock, and corporation excess, while the railroad of North Carolina pay taxes on \$116,301,190 worth of property. The Seaboard holds that the \$116,000,000 is out of all proportion to the \$253,000,000 and that the \$292,501 town lots assessed by the state bear a most inconsiderable portion of the burden.

A dispatch from Amsterdam on Sept. 3 said that it was reported in Berlin that Admiral Von Tirpitz would resign and would be succeeded by Admiral Von Pohl, marine chief of the admiralty staff and commander of the Baltic fleet.

It was persistently asserted that Admiral Von Tirpitz was in serious conflict with Chancellor Von Bethmann-Hollweg over the submarine campaign which Von Tirpitz had instituted in retaliation against the British blockade.

Their differences of opinion are said to have come to a climax with the sinking of the British steamer Arabic, with its resultant menace of the friendly relations between the United States and Germany. The chancellor and the minister of marine are both reported to have visited Emperor William at the battle front and the monarch is said to have sustained Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg in his demand that the submarine policy be modified for political reasons.

After the conference it was reported that Von Tirpitz proposed to take a vacation, and that the inference was at once drawn by foreign newspapers that the vacation was a subterfuge either to cover the retirement of the minister of marine by order of the emperor or to hide his chagrin at being overruled in a matter which was popular with the German people.

## GROSS ALEXANDER PASSES SUDDENLY

Prominent Methodist Minister  
of Nashville Dies at Long  
Beach California.

Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 8.—Dr. Gross Alexander, aged 62 years, editor of the Methodist Review and book editor of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, died Monday afternoon at Long Beach, Cal., of apoplexy. His death was sudden.

Dr. Alexander served as one of the secretaries of the last six Methodist general conferences. He was also a member of the committee which prepared the commemorative tercentenary edition of the authorized version of the English Bible in 1911.

The deceased was a native of Scotland, Ky. He had been called to California by the illness of a child.

The news of Dr. Alexander's death was received here this morning by the Methodist publishing house with which he was connected.

## REV. G. W. MALLONEE TO BE BURIED FRIDAY

Well Known Minister Died  
Here Last Night After  
Long Illness.

Following an extended illness, Rev. G. W. Mallonee, aged 69, died last night at the home of his daughter, Mrs. W. W. McDowell, on Victoria avenue. The deceased was a native of Tennessee, but had been residing in this section for many years. He has recently been living at Black Mountain, but had been at the home of his daughter for several weeks.

The deceased was one of the most widely known ministers of the Methodist church in this state, having been connected with the western North Carolina conference, south, for thirty-five years. Surviving are the widow and four children. The funeral will be held here tomorrow afternoon and interment will be at Waynesville Friday morning.

## OFFICERS SEIZE 'STILL IN HENDERSON COUNTY

Revenue Officers J. F. Cade and J. A. Galloway have returned to the city from Henderson county, where on Saturday night they captured a large illicit distillery. About 1500 gallons of beer and some corn whiskey were found by the representatives of Uncle Sam. This liquid was stored out. The plant had been in operation recently but the owners could not be found.

## TIRPETZ DOESN'T MEAN TO QUIT?

German Minister of Marine  
Plans Brief Vacation Only,  
According to Berlin  
Correspondence.

REPORT VON POHL  
WOULD SUCCEED HIM  
Persistently Asserted Admir-  
al's Conflict With Chancel-  
lor Over Submarine Would  
Cause Retirement.

Amsterdam, Sept. 8.—The report that Admiral Von Tirpitz, German minister of marine, intends to resign is invention, although it is true that the minister has planned to take a brief vacation, according to the Berlin correspondent of the Nieuw Rotterdam Courant, who claims that he obtained the information from an excellent authority.

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## JEWS ASKED TO PRAY FOR EUROPEAN BRETHREN

New York, Sept. 8.—The war will give special significance to the celebration of the Jewish new year, which begins at 6 o'clock this evening. The orthodox Jews are requested to pray for their brethren in the warring countries and special collections will be taken in the synagogues for the \$4.62. Large offerings were held in relief of the Jews.

## CALLS ON LANSING TO DISCUSS CASE OF DUMBA

Washington, Sept. 8.—President Wilson left the white house today and went to the state department to confer with Secretary Lansing. It is generally understood that they discussed the case of Dr. Dumba, the Austrian ambassador.

President Wilson's action was so unusual that white house and state department attaches were slow to realize what had happened. So far as could be recalled by officials the only precedent for the President's calling on his secretary of state was recorded when President McKinley called on Secretary Hay.

Late yesterday Ambassador Dumba conferred with Secretary Lansing about the correspondence taken from an American correspondent by the British secret service authorities which disclosed that the ambassador was concerned in a project to interfere in the operation of American munitions plants. The ambassador had instructed him to give the widest publicity to a decree making it a criminal offense for Austro-Hungarians to be concerned in the manufacture of munitions for the enemies of their country.

NATIONAL BANK CALL.  
Washington, Sept. 7.—The comptroller of currency today issued a call on all national banks to report to him on their condition at the close of business Thursday, September 3.

## LARGE CLASS IN SCOTTISH RITE

Three Days' Summer Reunion  
of High Degree Masons  
Ends Tomorrow.

The conferring of degrees in Scottish Rite Masonry was continued this morning by the members of this order at the Scottish Rite Cathedral, in this city. Degrees from the fourteenth to the twenty-eighth will be given during the day and evening, according to the program printed in The Gazette yesterday.

The work of the Canton team in carrying out the impressive ritual of the fourth and fifth degrees yesterday afternoon attracted much favorable comment from high degree Masons in attendance on the ceremonies. The dinners served each evening by members of Esther chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, are adding greatly to the pleasure of the meeting. A large class of candidates is enrolled for the degree work and there are many visitors from other states here for the reunion.

Thursday's Program.

The reunion will be concluded tomorrow evening. The program for Thursday is as follows:

29 SCOTCH KNIGHT OF ST. ANDREW  
Time: 11 a. m.  
VIRTUE—TRUTH—HONOR  
Scene 1: The Encampment. Scene 2: The Inquisition. Scene 3: The Refection.

DRAMATIS PERSONAE  
Venerable master, Calvin A. Walker, 32; prior, Samuel P. Burton, 32; preceptor, Thomas J. Harkins, 32; K. C. C. H.; orator, Chauncey M. Rakestraw, 32; marshal, Clyde F. Wood, 32; captain of guard, O'Connor Wilson, 32; fiscal, Seaton A. Barbee, 32; prelate, Elias Fox, 32; outside sentinel, Preston T. Kale, 32; candidate, William F. Randolph, 32; Hon. chief freemason, Emmet E. Galer, 32; second freebooter, Charles F. Sumner, 32; third freebooter, Richard I. Smathers, 32.

Music—Instrumental. Instrumental. Still, Still With Thee.  
30 KNIGHT KADOSH, OR KNIGHT OF THE WHITE AND BLACK EAGLE  
Time: 2:30 p. m.  
FIRST APARTMENT  
Temperance—Preceptor, Albert S. Guernard, 32; K. C. C. H.; expert, Calvin A. Walker, 32; hermit, James W. Grimes, 32.

Music—Dirge, De Profundis. Dangers on Every Hand Attend. Rock of Ages.  
SECOND APARTMENT  
Obedience—Hierophant, Connie H. Wilson, 32; sacrificer, Arthur W. Whitehurst, 32; sacred herald, Wooster B. McEwen, 32.

Music—Instrumental. Abide With Me.  
THIRD APARTMENT  
Equity—Supreme judge, Alphonse H. Cobb, 32; provost of justice, Emmet E. Galer, 32.

Fraternity Judges—John F. Conniffe, 32; William H. Woodbury, 32; Jesse J. Bailey, 32; Arthur W. Freeman, 32; Herbert C. Allen, 32; William N. Cooper, 32.

FOURTH APARTMENT  
Equality—Commander, Curtis Bynum, 32; marshal of ceremonies, Kelly E. Bennett, 32; captain of the guard, James C. McPherson, 32; K. C. C. H.; orator, Edwin L. Ray, 32.

Music—Instrumental.  
5:30 p. m.—Banquet in cathedral.  
31 INSPECTOR INQUISITOR  
Time: 8:00 p. m.  
Scene: Hall of Truth and Justice.  
DRAMATIS PERSONAE  
Oedipus, Clyde E. Cotton, 32; K. C. C. H.; Attum, Charles A. Clark, 32; Ma. Can't N. Brown, 32; Isis, Connie H. Wilson, 32; Nebel, Chauncey M. Rakestraw, 32; Anupis, Herbert C. Allen, 32; Tel, Walter P. Taylor, 32; Har, Clyde F. Wood, 32; Kabshuf, Wooster B. McEwen, 32; Tia-Mutef, Alfred A. Minick, 32; Amset, Albert S. Guernard, 32; K. C. C. H.; Hapi, Victor Stern, 32.

ASSESSORS.  
William H. Woodbury, 32; Messenle C. Nolan, 32; Arthur W. Freeman, 32; Aurelius M. Bennett, 32; Siegfried Sternberg, 32; Frank M. Weaver, 32.

Scene: Hall of Equity.  
Venerable president, Clyde E. Cotton, 32; K. C. C. H.; first councillor, Charles A. Clark, 32; second councillor, Canle N. Brown, 32; chancellor, Walter P. Taylor, 32; provost-marshal, Clyde F. Wood, 32.

SAGES.  
Zarathustra, Arthur W. Whitehurst, 32; Manu, Alfred A. Minick, 32; Hermes, Albert S. Guernard, 32; K. C. C. H.; Confucius, Chase F. Ambler, 32; K. C. C. H.; Numa, Albert J. Terrell, 32; Minos, Wooster B. McEwen, 32; Alfred, Elias Fox, 32.

Music.  
Dirge, Instrumental, One Sweetly Solemn Thought, Dead March in Saul.  
Time: 10:30 p. m.  
32 MASTER OF THE ROYAL SE-CRET.

SINKS CRUISER; PROBABLY YOST.  
Berlin, Sept. 8.—The Admiralty announced that the German submarine U-27 sank a small British cruiser several weeks ago. The U-24 has not been heard from since August 19 and is probably lost, the admiralty says.

## BUTLER'S SHADE AGAIN WALKING

Democrats Affrightened by  
Story That Former Senator  
Proposes to Elect Repub-  
lican in Third District.

TO SHOW NEGROES HOW  
TO REGISTER AND VOTE

Said to Have Slated Major  
George Butler to Retire Hood  
—Reports Cause Much  
Excitement.

(By W. T. Host)

Raleigh, Sept. 8.—Stories imported here from Sampson county that ex-Senator Marion Butler is preparing to send a republican to congress in the third district and that Maj. George E. Butler will succeed Congressman George E. Hood of Goldsboro add little to democratic peace of mind.

Just why they come at this time unless there is something behind them cannot be explained. A few days ago Major Butler was here and said the third would go republican this time. He would not admit that he would be the candidate or that he knew anybody who would. But he had no earthly objection to anybody's saying the district would return Hood. The Major never had any difficulty believing that way and greater happiness no man knows than Major Butler displays in ante-election times.

But the story that gets to Raleigh and may have a state-wide effect how to register and vote and that the blacks will show the whites how to get a majority. In state circles today the excitement took legs and walked about. The fact that Mr. Butler was represented as gum-shoeing it down east carried no little worry. That gentleman can generate a democratic panic seven days in the week.

The narrative as given to your correspondent was simplicity cream de la creme. Mr. Butler was against the amendment in 1900 and fought for his own life in opposition to it. The colored folks elected Mr. Butler in spite of the noble band of registrars and judges who certainly did not aid or abet the blacks in this now seriously debated enterprise. The United States supreme court has knocked the Oklahoma election law galley west and crooked. It will do the same for North Carolina and if it does Major George Butler will be congressman from the third and Marion Butler will again be the Grand Panjandrum of Pothooks.

This was the working of the democratic mind today. In the simple desire to preserve a calm it was observed that two state papers recently quoted Senator Butler in a statement that North Carolina's amendment would stand and that the state is safe. It is true that Senator Butler made a powerful speech in the United States near the close of his term in which he argued so powerfully against the constitutionality of the amendment that Democrats know him to be a very new man. But the discrimination of the blacks had ceased when Mr. Butler thought courage to the democrats.

## OFFICERS FAILED TO LOCATE WILEY BLACK

Although the officers worked as quietly as possible when they reached Weaverville yesterday afternoon about 7 o'clock with a capias for Wiley Black, it was found that Wiley had gone to Alexander to catch a train, presumably for Knoxville.

It was erroneously stated in The Gazette-News yesterday that Harrison Brown, colored, who is here now, was banished from the state by Judge Carter. The records of the criminal sessions of Superior court here shows that on June 22, 1909, a bill was returned against Brown by the grand jury, and on the same day he was called out in a retailing case and a capias was issued for him. The record further shows that on Aug. 7, 1909, he was called out and judgment absolute against his bondman, James V. Miller, for \$150 was taken.

One American Killed.  
Queenstown, Sept. 8.—It has been established that an American named Wolff lost his life in the Hesperian disaster. Wolff signed as an able seaman in the crew of the Hesperian. He was born at Newark, N. J., of Dutch parentage.

CARLES GERAUD ABOUT CASE OF HESPERIAN.  
Washington, Sept. 8.—Secretary Lansing today cabled the American ambassador, Mr. Gerard, at Berlin, to forward any information available on the Hesperian case.