

BRITISH FORCE SURROUNDED IN KUT-EL-AMARA

Main British Army in Mesopotamia Has Retired Leaving 10,000 Men to Cover Retreat, Says Dispatch.

TURKS HAVE REACHED THEIR MAIN DEFENSES

Sinking of Transport With Troops in Allies Withdrawal From Gallipoli Peninsula, Is Also Reported.

Berlin, Jan. 10.—The British army at Kut-el-Amara in Mesopotamia has been surrounded completely by Turkish forces, according to Constantinople advices given out by the Overseas News agency. It is said that the Turks have advanced to the main defense of the British. The main British army in Mesopotamia, according to the advices, has retired, and 10,000 men were left in Kut-el-Amara to cover the movement.

Transport Sunk.
Berlin, Jan. 10.—The sinking of transport of the allies filled with troops at the time of the withdrawal of the French and British forces from the tip of the Gallipoli peninsula is reported in a Constantinople despatch given out by the Overseas News agency.

Gallipoli Abandoned.
The remaining positions held by the allies on the Gallipoli peninsula have now been abandoned with the wounding of only one man among the British and French, according to a British official statement.

This news has been expected for several days by the keener reserves of the near eastern campaign, for the retirement of the troops from Anzac and Suvla Bay three weeks ago left no strategic advantage to the retention of the tip of the peninsula.

Nevertheless, the news will be received with a pang of regret by the people of the British Isles, as well as the colonies.

Battleship Lost.
Another rank to the British public will be caused by the announcement of the loss of the battleship King Edward VII, which has been blown up by a mine. The brief official statement on this subject does not reveal the scene of the action and merely says that the disaster occurred in a heavy sea, despite which the entire crew was saved before the ship went down. The King Edward VII represented an investment of nearly 1,600,000 pounds, and was one of the finest of the last class of pre-dreadnoughts, corresponding in general to the American ships of the New Jersey and Nebraska type, and was only slightly older than the Natal, which was sunk by an internal explosion about a week ago.

DR. A. E. BROWN SPEAKS AT SCHOOL OPENING

Delivers Principal Address at Haywood Institute—School Has Many Students.

Clyde, Jan. 10.—Haywood Institute opened for the spring term last week and Dr. A. E. Brown, of Asheville, delivered an excellent address on the subject, "Preparation for Life, Not Primarily to Make a Living, but to Serve Your Fellowmen." The school auditorium was almost filled with a large body of students and citizens of the community, and everyone was delighted with the address. There are 60 young men and women boarding in the school homes, and 40 from the community. Haywood Institute is enjoying by far the best year in its history.

At the close of his address, Dr. Brown announced the death of Rev. Walter E. Wilkins, who died on December 31, of pneumonia, at the age of 43 years. He was a strong friend of the institute, and as a result of his interest and contributions, the girls home was named the "Walter E. Wilkins Home for Girls." Mr. Wilkins was greatly loved by the people of Clyde.

T. R. RESOLUTION IS DISCUSSED

Republican Executive Committee in Session Today, Declines to Adopt Resolution Opposing Mr. Roosevelt.

RESOLUTION OFFERED BY RICHMOND PEARSON

Dan Hill Elected Chairman of Committee, Succeeding T. C. McCoy and E. C. Ward is Assistant Secretary.

Declaring that they would support any man who is nominated on the republican ticket this year, but refusing to go on record as opposing Theodore Roosevelt's candidacy for the presidency, the members of the republican county executive committee last Saturday turned down a resolution offered by Richmond Pearson in which it was stated that Col. Roosevelt should not be nominated and if nominated could he could not be elected.

While all those who spoke in regard to the resolution admitted the statements in the resolution as being facts they refused to adopt it, although they did adopt two other resolutions offered by Mr. Pearson.

The meeting was held in the Superior court room for the purpose of electing a chairman to succeed T. C. McCoy, who recently resigned and Dan Hill was unanimously elected for that position. E. C. Ward was elected assistant secretary to the committee.

On motion of Col. V. S. Lusk Mr. McCoy's resignation was accepted and Clyde Reed nominated. Mr. Hill, W. J. Beachboard giving the second. The new chairman, in a short address, expressed his thanks and pledged himself to work for the interests of the party at all times. He asked for cooperation on the part of all members of the party in the county.

Among the committees answering to their names were: W. C. Eritt, V. S. Lusk, J. C. Ford, Clyde S. Reed, Lafayette Shook, J. W. McElroy, W. E. McCall, O. L. Clark, H. G. Young, Dr. Z. V. Robinson, W. J. Beachboard, S. R. Whitaker, J. N. Morgan, C. B. Moore, T. C. McCoy and C. E. Dickey.

The Resolution.
The resolution offered by Mr. Pearson, which was afterwards withdrawn was to the effect that owing to Col. Roosevelt's pronounced pro-ally sentiments the million and more German-American citizens in this country were more violently opposed to him than they were even to President Wilson.

That owing to the hard fight made four years ago between the republicans and progressives that a great many strong Taft men would not support Roosevelt; further that if he is elected he might involve us in the European war and that if he is nominated he cannot be elected.

Mr. Pearson, in submitting the resolution explained that he did so as a strong Roosevelt man and a friend of the colonel, but that he did not believe Roosevelt was the man for the nomination at this time.

Those Accepted.
The resolutions which were adopted are as follows:
"We believe that the strongest candidate in the state and in the nation is the man who can come nearest to polling the full strength of the factions which unhappily divided the party in 1912."

"The combined vote of Roosevelt and Taft shows a majority of 1,400,000 over Wilson."
"Of the 4,100,000 voters who cast their ballots for Roosevelt it is safe to say that 3,500,000 believe in the basic principles of the republican party and will support and elect any one of a hundred republicans who would heal rather than excite former antagonisms."

"With a view to united and harmonious action in the coming campaign, it is the sense of this meeting of the republicans of Buncombe county that the basis of representation in the approaching conventions should be the vote cast for the republican candidate for governor at the election of 1908, and that all who believe in and support the fundamental principles of the national republican party should receive equal treatment in the organization and in the councils of the party without any discrimination on account of past differences."

NORWOOD MOVE AGAINST "DOPE"

His Signing as Hartness Manager, Not in Accord With Predictions as to Organization's Intentions.

NORWOOD HAS BEEN KITCHIN SUPPORTER

Gov. Craig Comes to Asheville Today to Go Over the Roads Being Built by State Prisoners.

(W. T. Bost).
Raleigh, Jan. 10.—The "signing" of J. Dave Norwood of Salisbury, as the campaign manager of James A. Hartness, candidate for secretary of state to succeed J. Bryan Grimes, kills the "dope" on the organization fight against incumbents and in favor of the rotationists.

Mr. Norwood was a Kitchin man in the 1912 campaign. Will Kitchin, Claude Kitchin, Paul Kitchin and all the Kitchins, as the Simmons men called them in 1908 at Charlotte, had records for Kitchin enthusiasm in the senatorial campaign, but none did more than Dave Norwood. Jim Hartness believes Mr. Norwood was the most effective Kitchin supporter in North Carolina, though Hartness isn't given to radical utterances during the early months of the secretaryship fight.

To begin with Norwood is about the smartest fellow in the United States, barring two or three, of course. He is a banker who reminds one of the little South Carolinian W. B. Drake, in achievement; but Norwood knows as much about politics as he does banking, which is to say nearly all of it and them. Then he has a world full of kinspeople and allies who will take his judgment political and financial every pop and blame it on destiny if the judgment falls. Norwood is the son-in-law of Napoleon Bonaparte McCanness, called "Polie" for pure cussedness, and both can be counted on the same side almost any day.

Mr. McCanness, who began the life that resulted in such a remarkable career by planting a small crop and arguing points of ethics with an indifferent mole, has in Ireland a farm of slightly less than a million acres. That's the one mortification. For geographical reasons it is stocked with Hartness men and it cannot be transported to Rowan, the native home of "Polie." But the Salisbury owns half a city in Rowan and what the Norwood-McCanness family can do for Hartness will be a great deal.

Every day or two Simmons men who ought to know what they are talking about give much color to Parker Anderson's recent story that the organization will soon show its hand in the big fight and that incumbents and aspirants who went back upon the senator in 1912 must do penance for a time. But here comes Norwood for Hartness, Henry Gilliam for Daughtridge, Collier for Bickett, besides all at Odds in the 1912 campaign. Geographical considerations play their part in these managements and alliances, but Simmons men would not be expected to lead lights for Kitchin candidates if the organization had planned a raid upon all hold-overs and candidates not to the Simmons liking. Judge Carter, a Kitchinite, takes a strong Simmons man. Bickett has not announced his manager but Collier is his great friend and fellow townsman to whom much is due. Collier was everlastingly a Simmons man. Grimes and Lacy have not chosen their manager nor has Jule Mann, but enough has been seen to make an organization fight remotely probable.

Bob Small to Europe.
Robert T. Small, southern superintendent of the Associated Press, was here yesterday and attended last night a meeting of the afternoon paper men who subscribe to the service which is handled through Raleigh.

Mr. Small is to go to Europe, according to the visitors here, and will handle the Associated Press war matter through the London office where he will be stationed. He is not to go to the war zone as these paper fellows understand it, but will do in the great city of England what he is doing in the much greater one in Georgia—Atlanta—disseminate the news for the big agency.

Frederick J. Haskin, veteran newspaper writer, has been several days in Raleigh arranging to syndicate a lot of his matter.

Mr. Haskin years ago was on the Washington papers and later took up syndicate stuff with considerable success. He will return to Washington today. Some of his stories will be carried by the afternoon papers.

Governor Craig to the West.
Governor Craig leaves this afternoon for the western part of the state.

(Continued on page two).

EXPLOSION AT DU PONT PLANT

Three Men Killed and Score Burned by Combustion of Two Tons of Smokeless Powder at Carney's Point.

WILD RUMORS SPREAD CONCERNING DISASTER

Company Had Recently Greatly Increased Force of Secret Service Men Around the Plant.

Philadelphia, Jan. 10.—Three workmen were killed and a score burned early today in the explosion of two tons of smokeless powder at the Carney's Point plant of the Du Pont Powder company. The force of the explosion was so great that it lifted a ferryboat which was just leaving the dock at Carney's Point partly out of the water, breaking all the windows and smashing part of the cabin.

None of the passengers, most of whom were employees of the Du Pont company returning to their homes across the river in Wilmington, were injured. The report of the explosion was heard in this city 25 miles away.

Employees who witnessed the accident said that the explosion was caused by outside influences and it was reported that two men carrying nitro glycerine and dynamite had been arrested, but the report was not confirmed.

Wire communication with Carney's Point was severed and officials of the Du Pont company at Wilmington said they were absolutely without advices except for the fact that there had been an explosion. It is known, however, that recently forces of secret service men about the plant had been largely increased. There have been several fires at Carney's Point but this is the first explosion at that plant.

Thirty people lost their lives in an explosion at the Hasley's yards of the company at Wilmington, November 20. Although the company has since conducted a searching investigation into the cause of the explosion, so far as is known it has never been determined.

Wire communication with Carney's Point was cut off and the widest rumors prevailed until the coming of daylight cleared them up. The property loss was small. Representatives of the company branded as false the report that two men had been arrested with dynamite and fuses.

REASSURANCE FOR U.S. BUSINESS MEN

Believed to Be Conveyed in Attorney General's Reply to Chamber of Commerce.

Washington, Jan. 10.—Reassurance to business men in regard to the policy of the department of justice in enforcing the Sherman anti-trust law, is believed here to be conveyed in the statement of Attorney General Gregory made public today in which he outlines this policy in a statement issued to the chamber of commerce of the United States in response to the suggestion that an opinion from the attorney general as to the government's attitude in future anti-trust proceedings might "be regarded as a reassurance to the public mind and might dispel some of the uncertainty which heretofore has existed."

Information on the subject as well as the relation that might be established between the federal trade commission and the department had been sought by business men through the chamber of commerce.

In announcing the department's policy in enforcing the law it admittedly doubtful cases, the attorney general said that where the department had assurance of good faith of the parties to the transaction it had not been and would not be to invoke the extreme penalty of the law against them.

SOLDIERS' HOME STORMY PLACE

Change of Policy Likely to Follow Report of Investigation Made on Complaint of Certain Inmates.

INMATES THEMSELVES ARE BADLY DIVIDED

Report Is Said to Speak of Unsanitary Conditions in Connection With Table and Beds of Hospital.

(By W. T. Bost).
Raleigh, Jan. 10.—Inmates of the Soldiers' home and residents of the city who know of the row everlasting that seems to go on out there, are now speculating upon the change of policy that inevitably must be made.

Col. A. H. Boyden of Salisbury, who succeeded Col. A. E. Andrews as chairman of the board of directors of the institution, is expected in Raleigh as soon as he can get here. At that time the findings of an investigating committee and the report of a domestic science expert will be the subject of the deliberations.

The home has been stormy if the inmates have talked around the premises as they have expressed themselves are badly divided. Perhaps the largest number support the superintendent. But the vehemence of the opposition will threaten the equilibrium of the loyal.

The home has been several times investigated. Before the legislature of 1915 an inspection by a sanitarium of the highest character and intelligence gave it the hardest name of all the state institutions, but the report never reached the papers and some changes in policy must have wrought great good. Then some of the inmates were angry, and they brought ugly stories to the newspapers. Some of the papers printed them, some did not take the risk. Things went better for a while, but it is reliably rumored that the last inspection will show conditions hardly equaled in the simple narration of its author by the description of C. W. Small, jr. who can cuss more picturesquely than old Jeb Sturmer ever did.

The report of the domestic science authority will not this time be left to stand up against the host who may not agree with her findings. Before it came to that another committee investigated and it is understood by the inmates and others who know the troubles that both agree as to the need of immediately remedial measures. In this instance the chief trouble is not with the complaint of the inmates but with the actual conditions said to have been found. It wouldn't be good for anybody's appetite to read what has been written. It is clarifying to observe that the words "dirty," "filthy" and "vermin" are on intimate relations with the table, the beds and the hospital.

The old man Small is rampant. The fact that he has been threatened with investigation doesn't seem to worry him a particle. He laughs heartily at it and invites it because he says that he and Captain Lineberry, the superintendent, do not speak. Talking to your correspondent about the dinner that Manly's Battery, a patriotic organization here served the soldiers Christmas, Captain Small said:

"The old men were given something palatable and good. They were not accustomed to that. The ladies gave it to them. It was an oyster supper as you know. The next day the superintendent came in and said 'I have been hearing a good many complaints about that supper last night. I want to say that my wife and I had nothing to do with it and are not responsible for it.' If I had been on speaking terms with him I would have told him that of course he didn't have anything to do with it because it was all right. Now what in the h— do you think of that?"

The one-armed Captain Small invites the printing of all that he thinks and says. He has long been sore on things at the home and has once before brought the conduct of the home before the public. Then he caught it from all sides. It was the desire of everybody that the row be kept from the papers. It is evident now that nothing short of publicity will satisfy those who are responsible for the policy of the institution.

The meeting will be held sometime soon but the date rests with Chairman Boyden who has not found it possible to some since the opening of the year.

NO NEW FACTS IN PERSIAN AFFIDAVITS

Washington, Jan. 10.—The American consul at Malta today advised the state department that no new facts concerning the destruction of the British steamer Persia were contained in the affidavits made by the seven survivors of the Persia who had landed there.

TAFT OR DAVIS LIKELY CHOICE

Former President or West Virginian Probably Will Be Named to Succeed Justice Lamar.

SENATOR DAVIS SEEMS TO HAVE BEST CHANCE

"Anti-Militarism" Committee With Headquarters in Washington Changes Name to "Anti-Preparedness."

Gazette-News Bureau, Riggs Building, Washington, D. C.
Washington, Jan. 10.—Fifty or more letters and telegrams have been received lately by Senators Simmons and Overman from as many counties in the state, recommending Judge William R. Allen, of Goldsboro, for appointment to the Supreme court of the United States to succeed the late Justice Lamar. There is little doubt that should a North Carolinian be selected, President Wilson would give the appointment to the North Carolina jurist. But there seems little chance that the place will go to the Tar Heel state.

According to information, which is usually very reliable, the President has about made up his mind to name John W. Davis, of West Virginia, or former President William Howard Taft. The former seems to have the best chance of being named.

But for the fact that the Supreme court is now overwhelmingly republican, it is probable that Mr. Taft would be named. All things being equal, however, it looks like Mr. Davis has the inside rail.

Former Governor Robert B. Glenn said recently that he most heartily endorsed Judge Allen for the place. He said that no man of his acquaintance was better fitted for the high honor than the Goldsboro lawyer.

Governor Glenn said that he had traveled very extensively during the past few months and that he found the sentiment for and against national defense about equally divided. He said however, that the people are very much opposed to being taxed to raise the money for this preparedness program.

The following nominations have been sent to the senate:
L. Estelle Jones, Bethel; W. C. Gillespie, Burnsville; John W. McCain, Waxhaw, and A. S. Ruggles, Southern Pines.

G. D. Ellsworth, of the postoffice department, will go to Salem within a few days to investigate the question of abolishing the postoffice at that place. Mr. Ellsworth is a North Carolinian, and the people of Salem will be assured of a square deal at his hands.

It was definitely announced yesterday that hearing before the labor committee on the Keating child labor bill, will begin Monday morning. Former Governor W. W. Kitchin, of North Carolina, will be the first to be heard. Several cotton mill men, it is understood, will also appear before the committee.

The measure has a very good chance (Continued on page two).

OFFICERS ELECTED BY THE BANK OF CANTON

Resignations of Vice-President and Cashier Accepted—In Splendid Condition.
Canton, Jan. 10.—At the meeting of the stockholders of the Bank of Canton, held recently the following officers were elected: President, Capt. Aiden Howell; vice-president, J. Bat Smathers; cashier, G. N. Henson; directors, Aiden Howell, J. Bat Smathers, M. Carlant, A. E. Brown, W. J. Smathers, W. H. Silver, Thos. A. Clark, J. N. Mease and Dr. H. A. Smathers.

SIX NEW HAVEN MEN ACQUITTED

Jury Disagrees as to Five Other Former Directors of N. Y., N. H. and H. Railroad Company.

VIOLATION OF ANTI-TRUST LAW CHARGED

William Rockefeller, Broker, Pratt, Ledyard and Robbins Face Probability of Standing New Trial.

New York, Jan. 10.—Five former directors of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad today faced the probability of another trial on the charge of conspiring to monopolize the railroad traffic of New England, concerning their guilt or innocence the jury was unable to agree.

The five men not acquitted are William Rockefeller and Lewis Cass Ledyard of New York, Charles Pratt of Brooklyn, Charles Brooker of Ansonia, Conn., and Edward D. Robbins of New Haven. The other six defendants were acquitted in a verdict returned at 4:30 o'clock yesterday. Announcing that he would move for a new trial for the five men acquitted, R. L. Batts, of counsel for the government, said that the step would be taken in due time.

Those acquitted were D. Newton Barney, Farmington, Conn.; Robert W. Taft, Providence, R. I.; James S. Hemingway, A. Heaton Robertson and Frederick F. Brewster, New Haven; and Henry K. McHarg, Stamford, Conn.

Those on whom the jury disagreed were William Rockefeller, New York; Charles P. Brooker, Ansonia, Conn.; Charles M. Pratt, Brooklyn; Lewis Cass Ledyard, New York, and Edward D. Robbins, New Haven.

The verdict was returned after 51 hours of deliberation, and the jury was discharged. The final vote on the five defendants upon whom the jurors could not agree stood eight to four for acquittal.

The jurors did not reach their verdict until after they had reported to Judge Hunt earlier in the day that they could not agree. Up to that time—noon—they had been deliberating with a view to bringing in a verdict on the guilt or innocence of the defendants collectively. The court then instructed them to make further efforts to concur, and that if they could not agree upon all, to try and reach a decision of some. The vote of the question of all at that time also stood for eight to four for acquittal, it was learned.

On returning to the jury room, the jurors renewed their discussion with the court's instructions in mind, and unanimously eliminated the six defendants who were acquitted. Two of the four jurors, who had voted against the defendants originally stood firm, however, against Messrs. Rockefeller, Ledyard, Brooker, Pratt and Robbins. Then the other two switched to their original position, leaving eight to four as the final verdict.

From the time the case was submitted to the jury at 1:30 o'clock Friday afternoon, the jurors took in all eighteen ballots. The first stood six for acquittal, four for conviction and two blanks. It was not until Saturday that they reached the eight to four alignment.

William Rockefeller, who is ill, and Henry K. McHarg, were not present when the jurors haggard and untidy, filed in the court room to announce their verdict. The nine other defendants were in their usual seats. Some of them, during the long hours of waiting, had laughed and joked with counsel and newspaper men. Others had evinced much nervousness, particularly after Judge Hunt's instructions today urging the jury to bring in a verdict as to some individually. With the entrance of the jurymen, with their hats and coats in hand, pressing a verdict, the mental state of the defendants was obviously one of tense strain.

SERIOUSNESS OF KAISER'S ILLNESS MINIMIZED

Rome, Jan. 9.—The latest report which has reached here regarding the illness of Emperor William of Germany minimizes the seriousness of his condition and contradicts the wild rumors which were in circulation not long ago. The report was received from Germany through Switzerland, and says that the emperor is affected by a malignant growth which required a small operation. Although the operation was slight, the greatest care was indispensable owing to the delicate nature of the organ affected.