

## CONTEST IN CONGRESS IS AT DECISIVE STAGE

Prospect of Vote Late Today  
on Motion to Kill McLemore  
Resolution of Warning  
By Tabling It.

### TWO THINGS WORRYING THE ADMINISTRATION

One Possible Failure of Ex-  
pected Republican Support;  
Other Effect of Mr. Bry-  
an's Influence.

Washington, March 7.—Promptly at 11 o'clock the house of representatives assembled for the all-day fight of the administration forces to kill the McLemore resolution warning Americans to keep off armed ships owned in belligerent countries.

Speaker Clark was in the chair. After the reading of the Journal, Acting Chairman Poon of the rules committee submitted the special rule under which the debate will proceed. Mr. Poon asked unanimous consent for 90 minutes debate on the rule. There was no objection and the debate began. Mr. Poon took the floor to open the fight.

An outburst of applause approved Mr. Poon when he said: "All the imps of hell never devised a more infamous statement than the declaration that has been made that the president wants war."

Washington, March 7.—The administration's fight to kill congressional agitation for the warning of Americans against travelling on armed ships of the belligerent nations reached the decisive stage today in the house. With the prospect that a vote would be reached late today on the motion to table and thus defeat the McLemore resolution of warning, the house was ready for a day of lively debate. Just what the discussion of the resolution might bring forth none of the leaders was prepared to say; although those in charge of the resolution and place the house on record as backing the executive in his negotiations with Germany were confident that when the final count was made they would have a decisive majority.

Two things which were admittedly causing the president's supporters some concern were: the possibility of the failure of the republicans to line up as had been expected for the tabling of the motion, and the possibility of organized opposition among a group of democrats who met former Secretary of State Bryan yesterday at a luncheon and discussed with him the proposal to warn Americans, which he is known to favor.

Though realizing the task ahead of them, the president's supporters this morning felt confident that a large majority of the democrats would stand together to put through the rule under which it is proposed to table the McLemore resolution, after 90 minutes debate on the rule and four hours discussion of the resolution itself.

The administration whips had sent out calls to all absent democrats in reach to hurry to Washington in time to vote on the issues.

## Indiana Today Holding First State-Wide Primary

President Wilson Has No Opposition on Democratic Ticket  
For Presidential Nomination; Nor Has Vice-President  
Marshall—National, State and County Offices Involved.

Indianapolis, March 7.—Indiana today is holding its first state-wide preferential primary, after one of the most spirited campaigns ever held in the state. Voters were to show their preference for candidates for president, vice president, United States senators, governor, members of congress, state legislators and county officers, and were to elect precinct committeemen and delegates to the state conventions.

President Wilson had no opposition in Indiana for renomination on the democratic ticket, and Vice President Thomas R. Marshall also had no opponents.

house, and Representative Lenroot of Wisconsin, member of the rules committee, have given notice that they will oppose the rule. Mr. Mann had declared that in his opinion the question should never have been thrown into the house and that Americans should not take passage on armed ships.

On the other hand Chairman Flood of the house foreign relations committee had stated that while he personally favored the warning resolution, he believed all patriotic congressmen should stand by the president.

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In addition to the influence of Mr. Bryan, formidable opposition from some of the republicans was anticipated. Representative Mann of Illinois, the republican leader in the

## PLAN TO ORGANIZE JEWISH CONGRESS

Y. M. H. A. May Ask All Jewish Societies to Come Under Association's Supervision.

### MEETING TONIGHT.

At a meeting planned for tonight in the Y. M. H. A. hall in the Soudley building, a proposition to unite all the Jewish societies of Asheville to a congress to be under the direct supervision of the association, will be taken up and it is expected that some definite action will be taken in regard to the matter.

One of the first matters to be brought before the association at tonight's meeting will be the forming of a ladies' auxiliary to the association. It has not been decided yet whether this auxiliary will be a part of the association work, as a supplement to the work done, or will be a separate body. It is understood that many of the Jewish ladies of the city have desired this organization for some time.

Other movements on foot by the association will be announced tonight, chief among which will be the question of establishing the Jewish congress of local organizations. In this way, it is pointed out, the work of the association and the other bodies as well, can be broadened, the activities meaning more to the local Jewish colony as a whole.

The Y. M. H. A. was organized here about one year ago and at once met a long felt want among the local Jews. It is the first organization of its kind to be formulated here and since the work was started the scope of the association has been greatly enlarged. Lectures are given, debates are held and other intellectual activities are indulged in, besides the excellent social features of which the association has been sponsor. Weekly dances are held, bringing together the young Jewish people of the city and other social plans are carried out.

Tonight's meeting starts at 8:30 o'clock and all Jewish people of the city are urged to be present.

## ROBESON COUNTY OFFICER IS BEATEN BY NEGROES

Four Are Arrested After Battle With Posse Composed of Citizens.

Lumberton, March 6.—Sheriff Lewis and Deputies Prevatt and Phillips came in from the upper end of the county last night about 8 o'clock bringing four negro prisoners, three of whom had to be shot before they were arrested.

About 11 o'clock yesterday morning Officers Townsend and Tew, of St. Pauls, were called to a farm three miles away to quell a negro disturbance. Officer Townsend entered the house to arrest the negroes when they seized him, took his pistol and beat him up badly about the head and face. While this was going on the other officer was held up outside. The negroes made their escape but were soon pursued by a large party of citizens who overtook three of them at Lumber Bridge. When ordered to surrender they opened fire on the pursuers but their shots went wild. Two of them were shot at that place while another was located and shot at another place. None of the wounds are necessarily fatal.

## COMMUNITIES ARE ORGANIZED

Nearly a Dozen Corporations  
Formed in Eastern Counties  
to Advocate the Welfare  
Movement.

### ASHEVILLE COMPANIES ARE GIVEN CHARTERS

Kersbrook Development Co.,  
\$50,000 Authorized Capital  
and Chatata Zinc Concern  
Permitted to Do Business.

Raleigh, March 7.—The registration and organization of four communities in Sampson, Bladen and Pender counties the past week brings the number of such corporations near the first dozen and gives the welfare movement in its early stages importance enough to promise legislative notice of it next year.

W. C. Crosby, educational secretary of the Farmers' union, is doing the organizing and last week in addition to the several Sampson communities which he had earlier organized and registered, he registered Clement in the county of progressiveness. Then he went to South River, Bladen county and in Hickory Grove school of that vicinity, put the scheme before the people who took immediately to it.

Professor Crosby lingered here, Hickory Grove school is the first one in which that master of many years, Alexander Graham, taught the adolescent idea how to shoot—various things. Near that place Professor Graham married and the people have long been ready to organize for community welfare. This league is perhaps the most enthusiastic of the new ones. And finally Point Caswell in Pender county and Kelly's in Bladen were made the members of the corporate family of communities.

It is the purpose of the promoters of these communities to get such legislation in the next general assembly as will make them effective for the enforcement of their progressive ideas. In every community will be found a recalcitrant, perhaps many. The man who will not support the health work, fight flies, stand by the schools and join in the community effort, will be made to do so by other means than moral suasion. This program of rural betterment advocates is to be submitted to the legislature in the hope of such action as will give communities the machinery with which to conduct their affairs and make effective their ideals.

Professor Crosby declares that the spirit of co-operation is quite fine and that every settlement is showing the greatest interest in organizing for schools health, social betterment and religious advancement. The state organizer has many calls ahead.

### Gardner Clubs Springing Up.

Raleigh manifested special interest in the organization last night of a Woodrow Wilson-Max Gardner club at the A. & M. college.

The club isn't the first to pull for Mr. Gardner but it will be one of the biggest. The Shelby man who is a candidate for lieutenant governor graduated at the A. & M. played great football for that eleven and then went to the University where his presence on the team gave it the last chance to beat Virginia that it has had.

The Kersbrook Development company of Asheville, was chartered yesterday for \$50,000, of which \$8,000 was paid in by John W. Rutherford, John S. Rusey, F. C. Henry and James G. Sticklebarger of Asheville. The Chatata Zinc Mining and Melting company of Asheville, chartered to \$250,000 with \$100,000 to be paid in, is incorporated by A. P. McGraw, E. L. Frost and J. Hill of Asheville.

The Piedmont Realty and Auction company of Hickory is a \$125,000 corporation, \$3,000 being subscribed by C. T. Morris and D. P. Cline of Hickory and C. A. Moser of Conover. Boswell C. Beckwith, depositor county attorney, went before the county commissioners yesterday, made formal protest against the incontinent way in which he had been mortified and asked for further consideration of his case, the while he declared that he had no purpose of seeking re-instatement.

The commissioners declared the office vacant while Mr. Beckwith was absent attending court in another county. The first that he heard of it was a telephone message from Raleigh that apprised him of his moribund condition, and he was officially dead when he returned. Mr. Beckwith is now seeking the displacement of J. Wilbur Hunn, incumbent, whom Mr. Beckwith defeated more than a year ago.

No Charges Against Him.

## PAGE FURTHER EXPLAINS WHY HE WILL RETIRE

N. C. Representative Supplements  
Statement in Letter to  
Constituents That He  
Will Not Run Again.

### ANNOUNCEMENT CAUSES SENSATION IN THE HOUSE

Decides Not to Ask Renomination  
Because He Cannot  
Support President in the  
Submarine Argument.

Washington, March 7.—Representative Robert N. Page of Biscoe, N. C., a brother of Ambassador Page at London has announced in a letter to his constituents that he will not be a candidate for re-election because he disagrees with President Wilson on the submarine controversy. Mr. Page's announcement caused a sensation in the house among both democrats and republicans. Today he supplemented it with the declaration that he disagreed with the president on no other point at present.

"I could not bring myself to agree with the president in the present controversy, so rather than embarrass my party by running again and by not fully supporting the president of being untrue to my own conscience by supporting him unqualifiedly, I chose to announce that I would not run again," Mr. Page said.

"The president and I have no other differences at present. Here is my position on the warning resolution: I feel that the president shifted his responsibility when he asked congress to pass on the issue. If he had chosen to pass on it himself, I should not have criticized his position, though I disagreed with him. Then he would have exercised an executive function that was his own affair."

"But when he asked congress to pass on the issue, then I had my own conscience to consider. I am for a warning resolution. If one comes up on the floor today I will vote for it. If nothing more than the McLemore resolution comes up I will vote to table it. I do not agree with it."

Mr. Page calls attention to the fact that he presented to the committee a resolution expressing confidence in the president, and that the president is not satisfied with an unreserved expression of confidence. "This shifts to the consciences and convictions of members of congress a responsibility that the constitution imposed upon the executive. Having the responsibility thrust upon me, I claim the right to exercise my own judgment and convictions and not have them dictated by someone else," said Mr. Page.

His letter, which is addressed to the democratic voters of his district, is filled with striking expressions, and is frank to a startling degree. He continues:

"I do not believe that an American citizen should insist upon the exercise of any abstract right that will jeopardize the peace of his country. To vote against a resolution warning places upon me the responsibility for the death of all Americans, who in the absence of such warning, may lose their lives by the destruction of an armed vessel of some one of the warring powers and perhaps, thereby plunge this country into war."

"I cannot gain the consent of my conscience, much as I would like to gratify the president, and meet what seems to be the demands of my constituents, regardless of my conscientious convictions, to in every matter vote as the president requests, thereby assuming responsibility for the loss of a single American life, or even indirectly stain my hand with his blood. In this instance I am sure that I am in possession of facts of which a partial press has kept the people ignorant."

"Jesus Christ never uttered a more profound truth than when He declared 'where your treasure is there will your heart be also.' The loan of five hundred million dollars to England by American capitalists, to say nothing of the profits of munition manufacturers, has destroyed the semblance even of neutrality in the United States, and will probably lead us into war. I have no pro-German or pro-anything sentiment, other than pro-American. I realize very forcibly my obligation and responsibility to my immediate constituency and to the American people. I will not stultify my conscience or stain my hands with the blood of my countrymen; neither will I do violence to my conscientious convictions of duty, thereby forfeiting my self-respect."

"And now, while so far as I am informed I would have no opposition for renomination in the approaching primary, I desire to announce that I will not be a candidate for the nomination."

## WILL WORK OUT DELEGATE PLAN

Democratic Executive Committee  
Will Formulate Plan For  
Choosing Delegates to  
State Convention.

### COMMITTEE TO HOLD ITS MEETING TOMORROW

Appointment of F. G. James  
and J. M. Parrot to Succeed  
Gov. Jarvis and S. A.  
Woodard Announced.

Special to The Times.

Raleigh, March 7.—The meeting of the state democratic executive committee tomorrow for the purpose of selecting a time and place for the state convention and for perfecting such unfinished portions of the primary act as will fit it for the 1916 election is the chief political prospect ahead.

"The state and national organizations have no fundamental differences, but the national platform which has recommended the election of delegates by popular vote and a presidential preference in the primary finds itself slightly at variance with the state organization and its machinery for conducting the primary."

The executive committee will have to work out some plans for electing delegates to the convention this year.

It may not be necessary to vote on a presidential candidate. The state primary law has made provision for the elimination from the primary of candidates who have in opposition. They are not forced to put their names on the tickets. It is under this ruling that the republicans will be able to recommend a ticket and dodge the primary altogether."

In connection with the date on the primary there is some worry. The national convention comes so soon after the state primary that it is very doubtful whether the official returns may reach the candidates in time to make the record properly. This will worry the republicans more than the democrats. The republican convention comes earlier and they will have a contest. It is fairly certain that three presidential candidates will have their ballots in the June primary election. The instruction through these delegations may be impossible. The state board of elections and the democratic executive committee will be asked to straighten this out for both parties.

Chairman Thomas D. Warren, has announced the appointment of Col. F. G. James of Greenville to succeed Gov. T. J. Jarvis and Dr. J. M. Parrott of Kinston as the successor of S. A. Woodard of Wilson on the advisory committee. While the election of a national committeeman does not come up it is accepted as a matter of course that Secretary Daniels will be re-elected.

### C. F. SPAUGH WILL MANAGE COLLEGE MEN

Wake Forest, March 7.—At a meeting of the Wake Forest College Athletic association held Saturday, C. F. Spbaugh of Linwood, was elected manager of the basketball team for the coming year. He is a man well qualified for the position. Two assistant managers were elected, W. E. Clarke of Apex, and R. V. Moss, of Wilson.

## GERMANS STILL PUSH FORWARD BEFORE VERDUN

Capture Hill No. 265 and Gair  
Ground Along Railroad  
in Neighborhood of  
Regneville.

### ADVANCE RESULT OF VIOLENT BOMBARDMENT

Paris, March 7.—The war office announced today that a division of German troops advancing to attack, had captured Hill No. 265.

Further progress has been made by the Germans in the Verdun region to the west of the Meuse river. An announcement made semi-officially today says that the Germans succeeded in gaining ground by means of violent bombardment, pushing along the railway in the neighborhood of Regneville.

The attack on Verdun has shifted to the west and the Germans are now engaged in pounding their way toward the fortress from beyond the River Meuse, advancing along the railroad which parallels the west bank.

Last night the troops of the crown prince assaulted and took the town of Forges, nine miles northwest of Verdun. Today came advices from Paris that the Germans, after violent bombardment, have forced their way through Forges and along the railway in the vicinity of Regneville, a village a mile and a half to the south.

Further advances by the Germans in the Verdun region and in Champagne are told of in the latest French official communication, which, however, also records successes in repelling a German attempt to debouch further from a captured position, the driving of the Teutons out of a trench they had taken, and the hammering with the French big guns of German organizations.

After having vigorously shelled the region between Bethincourt and the Meuse, the Germans in a strong infantry attack captured the village of Forges, about nine miles northwest of Verdun. Not satisfied with the gain, they several times essayed to debouch from the village against the Cote de l'Oie, but the French in counter-attacks forced them back into the village and held them there.

In Champagne the right and left flanks of the French were attacked by the Germans in the region between Mont Tatu and Maisons de Champagne at the former point, the French fire kept the Germans to their trenches, but near Maisons de Champagne they succeeded in occupying a small section of the French trench.

In the Argonne, the French blew up near Courtes Chaussees a German post with a mine, and captured a portion of the crater. Near Haute Chavauchoe, the Germans sprang two mines and later entered the French trenches at several points. Counter-attacks, however, drove them out and the French also occupied a portion of the mine crater.

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