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ASHEVILLE, N. C., WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, DEC. 26, 1917

PRICE FIVE CENTS

CAPTAIN SAWYER PASSED AWAY ON CHRISTMAS EVE

One of Asheville's Best **Known Citizens Died** Monday Night

THE END CAME WITHOUT WARNING

Was Busy at His Home With Christmas Preparations

Funeral services for Captain James P. Sawyer, who died suddenly Monday evening at his Montford avenue home, shortly before midnight, will be held this afternoon at Central Methodist church. The pallbearers are as fol-

Active-Charles W. Brown, W. B Williamson, Ed. L. Ray, Arthur Rankin, Clarence Rankin, Erwin Sluder,

Honorary-Mayor J. E. Rankin, Dr. R. H. Reeves, Dr. John Hey Williams, Dr. S. Westray Battle, Judge ames H. Merrimon, Governor Locke Craig,

The end came without warning and The end came without warning and the news that Captain Sawyer had passed away caused a shock of surprise and sorrow in Asheville where for so many years he had been actively connected with the civic, social and commercial life of the community. Last Friday Captain Sawyer was slightly indisposed, but he had so far recovered that Monday evening he and Mrs. Sawyer went to the motion pictory and field experiments, has become more strongly convinced than even the table of the community. Mrs. Sawyer went to the motion pic-ture theater and later with Mrs. Saw-yer he was preparing gifts for chil-dren, grandchildren and friends. Returning to him after a moment's ab-sence. Mrs. Sawyer found him ill and by the time a physician and his sons had arrived, a weakening heart had falled to rally and he died a few min-

Besides Mrs. Sawyer, Captain Saw yer is survived by a daughter. Mrs. Francis J. Clemenger, and three sons. Clarence Sawyer, Eugene C. Sawyer and Dr. James Sawyer.

and Dr. James Sawyer.

James Pinckney Sawyer was born in Henderson county February 7, 1837. His father was Isaac B. Sawyer, first mayor of Asheville, and before the war between the states clerk and master for many years, before the adoption of the code. James W. Pat-ton, John Burgin and Isaac Sawyer were for years the three magistrates who composed the Buncombe county court. Rev. T. Edney, Captain Saw-yer's grandfather, was the first Meth-odist minister in this state who was in service west of the Blue Ridge, being one of the pioneer circuit riders. In

1861 Captain Sawyer was married to Miss Nancy Coston, who survives him. Spending a large portion of his youth at Greenville and Columbia, S. C., Captain Sawyer joined the famous 25th Regiment of North Carolina

death.

In 1898 the Asheville board of trade made public. was formed and Captain Sawyer was
the first treasurer. And this place he
occupied continuously up to the day
of his death. He was also interested
in the fire department and was for
many years fire chief, retiring 10 years
was Active also in church work he ago. Active also in church work, he was for a long time chairman of the board of stewards of Central Metho-

sentative, and in 1905 he received the unusual honor of the decoration of chivalry. These elaborate exercises took place at the Auditorium.

In these and many other ways (Captain Sawyer devoted a long life to the upbuilding of the community he loved. As a banker and business man he was known in many states; he was for several years head of the North Carolina Bankers' association and served on a committee of the national organization. In financial and trade matters his judgment was sought by matters his judgment was sought by those who wished advice on which they could rely. He was noted for fair dealing and for having convic-tions by which he stood. He was kind-

RAPID PROGRESS MADE IN BUILDING AIRPLANE FLEET

Great Need Now for Thousands of Young Americans to Man Airplanes

LIBERTY MOTOR

Physical Impossibility Put 100,000 Machines on German Front by Spring

By GEO. H. MANNING

Washington, Dec. 26.—Such highly atisfactory progress has been made during the last month in the manufacture of the fleet of American airplanes that the officials of the Aircraft Production board have no lon-ger any apprehension about having ger any apprehension about having the machines ready when the time arrives to make the whirlwind aerial attack on Germany, Howard E. Coffin, chairman of the board stated today. The greatest need now is for young Americans, sound of limb, clear of eye and of high intellectual capacity to man the fleet, Mr. Coffin said.

The chairman of the Aircraft Production board in an interview with

H. Merrimon, Governor Locke Craig,
Dr. W. D. Hilliard, Capt. J. E. Ray,
Richmond Pearson, C. A. Raysor,
Tench Coxe, Chas. G. Lee, D. C. Waddell, Gen. Theodore F. Davidson, Haywood Parker.

Interment will be at Riverside cemstery.

The chairman of the Aircraft Production board, in an interview with
The TIMES' correspondent today, the
first he has given the newspapers in
a month, outlined the rapid progress
being made by the United States to
prepare a fleet of airplanes which
would be the superior of any planes
now in existence, manned by a corps
of sit nilots who will equal the deeds of air pilots who will equal the deeds of any of the men who have become famous in the war.

board after innumerable abbrauch and field experiments, has become more strongly convinced than everthat the liberty motor is the best all plane motor ever built and that the American battle planes and scout planes equipped with the liberty motor will prove the superior of any airfor will prove the superior of any air-craft being used by Germany or any of the allies

Second: The aircraft experts of the allies, after thoroughly investigating (Continued on Page 2.)

GEN. O'RYAN TESTIFIES AT THE INVESTIGATION

Behind Closed Doors, Camp Wadsworth Commander **Tells of Conditions**

BALANCE \$3,000,000,000

matters his judgment was sought by those who wished advice on which they could rely. He was noted for fair dealing and for having convictions by which he stood. He was kindly, courteous, sincre.

San Francisco, Dec. 28.—A threatened Strike Averted.

Hoover Issues Statement.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Herbert C. thoo win frances and Mrs. Nicholas Beadles, grandchildren.

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Washington, Dec. 26.—Herbert C. thoo win hydrogen and adding as there now as a good man; a man of fine yer was a good man; a man of fine yer

CELEBRATED DAY

Sammies in France Carried Out Their Program on Christmas-Played Santa Killed Three Persons, Claus to French Children

With the American Army in France Dec. 26.—The American expeditionary force in France celebrated Christmas in a howling snowstorm which contin-PLEASES ALLIES ued all day. Despite the difficulties due to the storm few features of any program were cancelled. Even the celebration at the quarters of the American air squadron was carried out although a blinding snow swirled into the hangar where a tree had been erected for the children of a nearby village. There, Santa swooped down from the clouds dripping white and with a pack on his back stepped from an airplane much to the delight of about 100 small children who huddled within the shelter. It is doubtful that children anywhere had ever seen such

a sight.
When the youngsters had gathered off and 15 minutes later there was a whirr of engines over the children's heads and an airplane dropped to the snow-covered field before them. The children had been told that Santa had abandoned his old sleigh for an airplane, but they did not believe it un-til they saw him come down from the skies. In all the units entertaining children, each small guest received the present he most desired. There were at least a score of large community trees and many smaller ones in the zone where the presents were distrib-

program of football games, but some of these had to be cancelled when the snow became too heavy. While Christinas dinner did not approach that of the Thanksgiving because of lack of turkey and trimmings, the army managed to enjoy itself cheerfully.

The shooting compelled the bandits to abandon the horses on which they carried away the loot. Colonel Geo.

T. Langhorne in command of the American forces in the Big Bend expected the pursuit to be resumed at day break.

MRS. ASTON DIED HERE LAST NIGH

Widow of Judge Aston and One of Asheville's Leading Women-Funeral at Residence Tomorrow

delia G. Aston, aged 76, mother of Mrs. Fergus Stikeleather, died shortly eral service will take place from the eral service will take pince from the residence Thursday morning at 11:30 o'clock and the family requests that friends refrain from sending flowers.

Mrs. Aston was the daughter of Liewilyn Gilliland and Ann Patton Gilliland. Her mother sprang from one of the oldest and most influential families. In western North Carolina

Miss Nancy Coston, who survives him. Spending a large portion of his youth at Greenville and Columbia, S. C., Captain Sawyer joined the famous 25th Regiment of North Carolina when the war began and continued in service until the surrender.

Following the war, Captain Sawyer entered the mercantile business on South Main street in Asheville, now Biltmore avenue. Later he occupied a building afterwards remodelled as Pack Memorial library, and still later had his store in a building where the Battery Park bank now stands.

In 1891 Captain Sawyer, Mayor J. E. Rankin, Col. Frank Coxe and officers organized the Battery Park bank now stands.

In 1891 Captain Sawyer became the first president. He held this position until 1912 when he resigned to become chairman of the board of directors, a position he held at the time of his death.

In 1898 the Asheville board of trade was formed and Captain Sawyer was

she was a conversationalist of splendid gifts, and her conversation was en-riched by accurate knowledge of wide range, and was brightened by a plq-uancy that made her the center of interest in any circle in which she chanced to be. She was a great lover of her home and gave herself in un-stinted service to the members of her household.

After the family was reared she took a profound interest in all socboard of stewards of Central Methodist church and was chairman of the board of trustees at the time of his death. He was choir leader for many years and for 26 years was treasurer of the Sunday school.

In spite of a busy life, he found much time to travell especially in later years, and was deeply interested in the Odd Fellows order, in which he attained high rank. He was past grand master and past grand representative, and in 1905 he received the unusual honor of the decoration of chivalry. These elaborate exercises took place at the Auditorium.

In these and many other ways Captain Sawyer devoted a long life to the upbuilding of the community he loved. As a banker and business man he was known in many states; he was silver imports during the eleven believed.

Silver imports during the eleven on its way to accomplishment, though the later that the time of his death. He was past grand captain sawyer devoted a long life to the upbuilding of the community he loved. As a banker and business man he was known in many states; he was silver imports during the eleven on its way to accomplishment, though the formal propers of the community he saws too feeble in the times and civic improvements, and often wrote for the papers on these subjects with that brilliancy which habitually characterized her which habitually characterized her with the conversation. She has travelled wide-with the conversation. She has travelled wide-with the conversation. She has travelled wide-with habitually characterized her which habitually characterized her which habitually characterized her which habitually characterized her with the close of November, according to figures issued today by in this country and was an accurate the unusual honor of the decoration of chive and development. For a number of vears Mrs. Aston has not been the commerce. It was an increase of state and interested observer of its owners and interested observer of its owners and coversation. These elaborate exercises in foreign rade.

During the eleven months ended with

to live to see national prohibition well on its way to accomplishment, though at this time, she was too feeble in body and mind to fully appreciate it. Surviving are Mrs. Stikeleather, Lieut. Gilliland Stikeleather, who is now in France, and Mrs. Nicholas Beadles, grandchildren.

DESPITE STORM CROSSED BOSSER

Wounded One and Stole \$7,000

AMERICAN TROOPS CAME TO RESCUE

the Mexicans

Marfa, Tex., Dec. 26.-American troops today were guarding all outlets to Van Horne canyon, where 100 at the hangar, Santa Claus, who was an American corporal, got into a big machine at a nearby hangar. He flew ed the postoffice and general store on Mexican bandits on Christmas mornthe Brite ranch, 27 miles southeast of here, killed Michael Welsh, a veteran stage driver, and his two Mexi- guard is largely untrained. It is recan passengers, wounded Sam Nelll, foreman of the Brite ranch and carried away booty estimated to be worth \$7,000.

After the bandits had passed over the rim rock which rises abruptly more than 1,000 feet above the Rlo Grande the soldiers, who were in close pursuit, fired many rounds at

rim rock toward the southwest.

At the point where the bandits dropped from sight of the pursuing troops there is an abrupt descent of more than 1,000 feet. When the soldlers had gone as far as possible in automobiles they continued the pursuit on foot to the edge of the rim rock, where they did some expert shooting at the fleeing bandits at a distance of more than 1,000 yards.

Following a long illness Mrs. Cor- NEW FISH FOODS MUST COME UP TO STANDARD

Washington, Dec. 26 .- Quality and price of new fish foods put on the market through the assistance of the department of commerce must conform to standards set up by the gov-ernment or the producers will not reap the benefit of official recommendation of such foods. Secretary Red-veld said today that an official label— "recommended by the bureau of fisheries"—was being provided for all new fish products which meet the government requirements.

Leather shortage are being mitigat-ed by the use of fish skins, samples of which have been put on exhibition in the secretary's office. A soft pliable leather suitable for shoe uppers or heavy gloves, was made from the intestines of a whale. The skin of a porpoise produced a fine grain, thick leather, shark skin was tanned into a coarse, tough leather for mechanical

WOMEN AFFLICTED NOW WITH "KNITTING" NERVES

New York, Dec. 26.—Now its "knit-ting nerves" caused by concentration of mind and hand on the needles. Thousands of women in New York are Thousands of women in New York are afflicted, according to Dr. Louis R. Welzmiller, physical director of the west side Y. M. C. A., who adds that his only patients showing symptoms of the new war time complaint have been women. Dr. Welzmiller says there is liable to be an epidemic of "knitting nerves" unless knitters learn to knit properly. He offers the following advice as a remedy:

"Don't hunch over your knitting; sit upright, and when your mind tells you you have knitted enough, quit.

you you have knitted enough, quit. here are 365 days in a year and you can't finish a sweater in a day, no matter how much you love a soldier or a sailor."

TWO KILLED AND SEVERAL INJURED

RAPIDLY WANING

eaders Realize Hopelessness of Situation-Com-Hirelings"

London, Dec. 26.-There have been occasional assertions in Petrograd dis-patches that the influence and power of the Bolsheviki were waning but never with such unanimity as in spe cial dispatches dated from the Russian capital Sunday and printed today. Nearly all make the point in one form or other that defection from the workmen's and soldiers' organization Believed to Have Killed and
Wounded Many of

Workmen's and soluters organisation.

Is growing constantly. Among causes alleged are general lack of authority, the increase in drunkenness, the repeace.

The correspindents cite instances of Bolsheviki troops refusing to march, declining to attack the Ukrainians and permitting the Cossacks to disarn them without resistance. Fighting, it is said, is the last thing they are willing or intend to do. A hostile spirit is reported to survive among the Bal-tic sailors and the red guard, but the former are not numerous enough to conquer the Ukrainians and the red ers, the Petrograd correspondent of the Morning Post says, appear to be becoming conscious of hopeless failure, while the correspondent of the Daily News writes:

"There is a tremendous and grow-ing opposition to the Bolsheviki among all classes. Men who formerly supthem and are reported to have killed ported them are turning against them the transference of troops from the and 'German hirelings' is a common term of denunciation. There is much talk of meeting the preesnt reign of

carried away the loot. Colonel Geo.
T. Langhorne in command of the American forces in the Big Bend expected the pursuit to be resumed at day break.

When the bandits attacked the ranch. Neill, with his wife and a number of ranch hands barricaded themselves in a house until United Statees soldiers had been sent to their Cavalrymen were sent to the Brite ranch in automobiles.

When the raiders sighted the approaching cavalry they abandoned the work of pillage and rode off over the irm rock toward the southwest.

At the point where the bandits Ing the Ukrainian hold on Odessa.
The Cossacks report the strengthening of their hold on Donetz basin.
None of the reports, however, is more precise than recent reports of a similar nature. In the meantime nothing more is heard of the efforts at recon-ciliation between the Bolsheviki and the Ukrainians

the Praobrashensky regiment has de clared its belief in the intention of the Bolsheviki government to open the constituent assembly and has refused to relinquish guard of the Tauride palace until the assembly meets. The Semenovsky guard regiment has re-solved not to arrest members of the constituent assembly no matter what orders it receives.

It is reported, however, that the Bolsheviki intend to control admission to the assembly by issuing tickets.

bly in any case.
In consequence of the postponement

Various explanations are offered in Petrograd dispatches of the purpose of German concentration of troops in the southwest. One suggestion is that part of these forces will be sent to Asia Minor. It is predicted a large force will be retained in the southwest to assume possession of the valuable Russian harvest. able Russian harvest.

able Russian harvest.

A Reuter dispatch from Petrograd reports the arrest and improsonment in the fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul of M. Vyshneegradsky and M. Putlloff, managing directors of the International Commercial bank and the Russo-Asiatic bank, in consequence of the mention of their names in an intercepted letter wherein General Alexieff, former commander-in-chief, begged Professor Paul Milkeff, the constitutional democratic leader to be advisable, however, it is entirely likely that most of them will be placed in the south to relieve conget him to relieve constitutional democratic leader to be advisable, however, it is entirely likely that most of them will be placed in the south to relieve constitutional democratic leader to be advisable, however, it is entirely likely that most of them will be placed in the south to relieve conditions in the east. The shipping board stitutional democratic leader, to interest himself in obtaining 300,000 rubles is now realized, made a mistake in to assist starving families of imprisplacing virtually all large orders for oned officers,

Referring to the arrest of Col. Kol-pashnikoff, attached to the American Red Cross mission to Rumania, the Red Cross mission to Rumana, the Petrograd correspondent of the Post says that it has been suggested that the letter alleged to have been sent to the colonel by Colonel Anderson, head of the mission, stating that the American ambassador, David R. Francis, was ready to advance 100,000 rub-les to the account of the Bed Cross

cis, was ready to advance 100,000 rubles to the account of the Red Cross,
was a forgery. Such things are not
uncommon now, he adds.

The same correspondent telegraphs
that the British ambassador, Sir
George Buchanan, published on Sunday a statement refuting the charge
of interfering in the internal affairs
of Pussia and adding as these now.

TEUTON TROOPS ARE BEING TRANSFERRED FROM EAST FRONT

monly Called "German Hindenburg Probably Awaiting Reinforcements Before Making Drive in West - Russian Factories Ordered to Stop Making Munitions—Peace Negotiations at Standstill

While their guns bombard the west-ern front, the Germans are taking troops from the eastern front for use Charles commands strong persona elsewhere despite the provision of the sympathies in Poland and there as Russo-German armistice prohibiting many advocates of the plan of having such action. The artillery activity in luctance of the population to work and the scarcity of foodstuffs. The main france has been moderate over most desire of the soldiers is said to be for of the front and more violent on the prefer an independent Polish king right bank of the Meuse, northeast of Verdun, the scene of the German attack nearly two years ago.

German Infantry Inactive.

German Infantry Inactive.

German infantry has not been active interests of the country and partic larly with a view to the establishme of a Polish army we must undertal von Hindenburg is waiting for more reinforcements before making his and afterward submit it to the a proval of the Polish parliament to created." ing of the German withdrawals in the ported, therefore, that war against the cast add that some of the troops are Ukraine probably will not materialize being taken to the Rumanian front. on any serious scale. Boishevik lead-Rumania is not taking part in the peace negotiations and the Ukraine, which lies beyond Moldavia and Bessarabia, is opposed to the Bolsheviki. Trotzky Protests, but in Vain.

Leon Trotzky, the Bolsheviki minister, protested to the Germans against eastern front, but also has ordered Russian factories to stop the manuterror with counter measures and facture of munitions. He did not indicate whether his government would take any other step against German violation of the armistice.

Little Being Done at Brest-Litovsk. Peace negotiations at Brest-Litovsk apparently are making little progress The Germans have delayed their an swer to the Bolsheviki terms and it is reported that the conference will be transferred to Stockholm shortly. In the meantime the majority party in the constituent assembly, the social revoluttonists has convoked the assembly to meet January 2, despite Bolsheviki disapproval.

the emperor named king of the co try. On the other hand there many thoughtful Poles who we with an Austrian archduke

"We cannot postpone the appoint ment of a king until a suitable bas of suffrage has been adopted. In the

Bolshevild Missions

Petrograd, Dec. 26.—The Bolsh viki government has decided to ser special representatives to all countries belligerent as well as neutral, to further the propaganda of internations ism. Two million rubles have been appropriated for this purpo

Red Cross Leaves Russia

Petrograd, Nov. 26.—An American Red Cross train left Petrograd today for Rumania with the approval of the Bolsheviki. It carried all its original supplies, except automobile

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY TO CONVENE JANUARY 2

London, Dec. 26.—The social revo-lutionary majority in the constituent assembly has decided to convoke that body on January 2, according to a Petrograd dispatch to the Times, al though the Bolsheviki government has said that it was determined to preven the meeting of the assembly, inde

Interest in the convening of the constituent assembly is said to have reawakened remarkably and demands for its convocation are being made, it is reported, by the most ignorant classes, and also by the troops of the Petrograd garrison.

It appears that the Bolsheviki commissioners are trying, although vainly, to shift some of the discontented military units from the capital. A Reuter dispatch from Petrograd says the Praobrashensky regiment has de-

Fabricating Steel Yards Should Be Built, Says Ford

Bolsheviki intend to control admission to the assembly by issuing tickets. This is sharply opposed by the revolutionists who are credited with the determination to convene the assembly in any case.

In consequence of the postponement

Washington, Dec. 26.—After a precompletion of wooden hulls, figuring on the entire program which included hulls on which construction has not started, is nine per cent. Of 58 completion of wooden hulls, figuring on the entire program which included hulls on which construction has not started, is nine per cent. Of 58 completion of wooden hulls, figuring on the entire program which included hulls on which construction has not started, is nine per cent. Of 58 completion of wooden hulls, figuring on the entire program which included hulls on which construction has not started, is nine per cent. Of 58 completion of wooden hulls, figuring on the entire program which included hulls on which construction has not started, is nine per cent. Of 58 completion of wooden hulls, figuring on the entire program which included hulls on which construction has not started, is nine per cent. Of 58 completion of wooden hulls, figuring on the entire program which included hulls on which construction has not started, is nine per cent. Of 58 completion of wooden hulls, figuring on the entire program which included hulls on which construction has not started, is nine per cent. Of 58 completion of wooden hulls, figuring on the entire program which included hulls on which construction has not started, is nine per cent. Of 58 complete hulls on which construction has not started, is nine per cent. Of 58 complete hulls on which construction has not started, is nine per cent. Of 58 complete hulls of the control of the In consequence of the postponement of the peace negotiations at Brest-Litovsk because the Germans were not ready to reply to the Russian terms, the Russian delegates are reported to be returning to Petrograd, where apparently they are expected to await the arrival of the delegation from the enemy powers which is to participate in a conference for the participate ware river.

the arrival of the delegation from the enemy powers which is to participate in a conference for discussion of the political aspects of an eventful peace conference.

Various explanations are offered in

The shipping board has not indi-cated how far it will go in adopting Mr. Ford's suggestions. The announced policy has been to build no more new yards until those now in course of construction are completed and turning out ships. If construction of still other yards is decided to be adjusted to however. It is entirely supplies in the eastern part of the greater New York, plans are being

country.

The shipbuilding program on December 1 was 18,2 per cent on its way to completion as disclosed in an analysis of statistics.

Hallock, president of the organization in discussing the plans today, said:

The program, calling for 8,246,308 tons of shipping is divided as follows: Wood and composite vessels, 437 of Wood and composite vessels, 437 of 1,551,900 tons, 10 per cent completed; requisitioned steel ships, 431 of 3,-056,808 tons, 39 per cent completed; contract steel ships, 527 of 3,638,400 tons, four per cent completed.

The percentage of completion, as given, does not take into account the construction of new shipyards in which many of the vessels will be built or work done toward obtaining en-

TO AID DRAFTED MEN TO GET JOBS AFTER WAR

New York, Dec. 26 .- Through newly formed organization compe for of members of local draft boards in made for alding drafted soldiers whe they return from the war. John H.

geared machinery which can be bused to help the men selected in the districts to get civilian Jobs on the return. We can be centres of info