

# THE ALAMANCE GLEANER.

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GRAHAM, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1920

NO. 16

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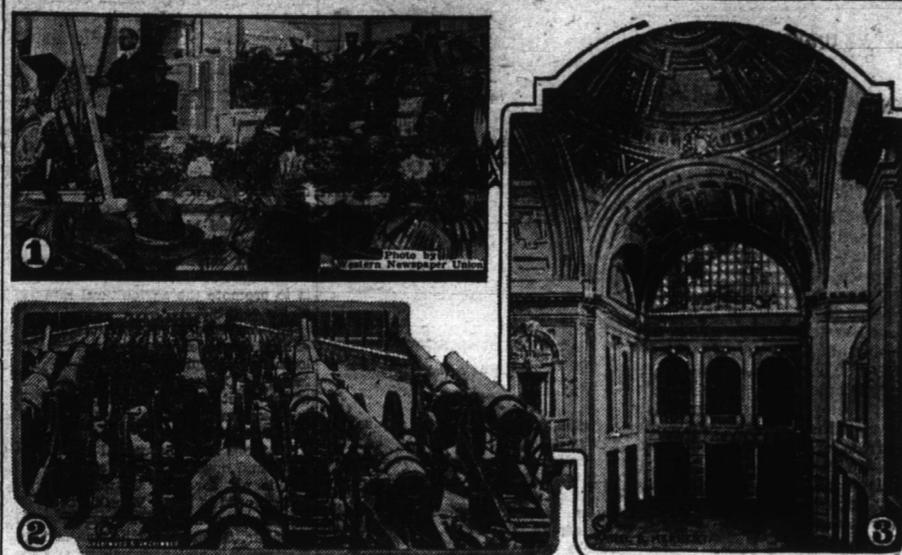
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1—Secretary of War Baker speaking at the dedication of the Arlington memorial to the dead of all our wars. 2—Captured German guns at Newark for distribution among the states. 3—Leipzig supreme court, where German war criminals will be tried.

## NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

**General Brusiloff Reported to Have Assumed Control Over Soviet Russia.**

**PERSIANS TURNING BOLSHEVIK**

**Banks Curtailing Credits, Forcing Lower Prices for Merchandise—Sliding Wage Scale Suggested for Railway Labor—Political Developments in Both Parties.**

**By EDWARD W. PICKARD.**

Something of importance has been happening in Russia. The dispatches of the week made this fairly certain, but they did not reveal the exact nature of the event. A good guess is that General Brusiloff, former commander in chief of the czar's armies, has effected a military coup and has assumed the full control of the soviet republic formerly exercised by the civilian commissioners. Rumors of this have been current for a week. A change of policy if not of authority, is indicated by the fact that a Moscow correspondent has been permitted, for the first time, to send a story of the hopeless collapse of transportation in soviet Russia and a prediction of the downfall of bolshevism next winter if not before.

On the other hand, authentic dispatches show the Russian Reds are by no means whipped yet, and that the spread of their doctrine in other lands has not been checked. East of Kiev the Poles and Ukrainians have been held, and between Borkoff and the Dvina river they were driven back by a strong counter offensive launched by Brusiloff. In the Crimea, General Wrangel has formed a new government with which the bolsheviks were expected to open peace negotiations at once, the remnants of Denikine's army being assured of safety.

Unconvinced by the impending fate of soviet Russia, or ignorant of it, the Persians seem to be turning more and more to bolshevism, with the active co-operation of the Russians. The French foreign office on Wednesday received word that the Persian gendarmerie, which was organized by Morgan Shuster some years ago, had turned bolshevik and that the young shah had fled southward from his capital. At Enzeli, a Persian port on the Caspian sea, the Reds landed from thirty ships and the British were forced to evacuate the city. Though the Japanese in Siberia are now having things all their own way, the mikado's government is worried, for bolshevism is spreading among the Japanese troops in that country and is infecting the people at home also.

In the Caucasian region conditions are confused and disheartening. The Georgians and Azerbaijanis are fighting fiercely; just why is uncertain. The Turkish nationalists, who are said to be plotting with the leaders of bolshevism through secret meetings in Berlin and Rome, are still going strong and are supposed to be promoting another uprising of nationalists in Egypt.

The determination of the French government to break up the General Federation of Labor is explained fully by disclosure of evidence found by the police. This shows that if the May 1 revolutionary strike had succeeded, all was prepared for the institution of soviet rule in France. Soviets had been established in seven principal cities and the leaders are well supplied with funds. The federation has now refused to be identified with the extremists and has called off all the strikes.

Something is happening in America, too, and we all know what it is, but we are uncertain as to just what is causing it; and how far it will go. It looks as if the reduction of the cost of living really had begun with a general cut in prices by many merchants all over the country. So far the reductions apply mainly to clothing and shoes. Enthusiastic consumers are trying to persuade themselves that the movement downward is to be general and extensive, but the cautious ones are inclined to accept the statements of certain retailers to the effect that there can be no general break yet in prices and that the cost of living must remain at its present altitude until all of us, laborer, producer, merchant and consumer, learn a lesson in practical unselfishness.

Present reductions apparently are due to efforts to liquidate stocks because of the slackening of demand and the policy of the banks in calling loans and tightening up on credits. The

bankers are advised in their course by the federal reserve board. Their action will not seriously affect those who produce, or market necessities, but is directed especially at those who supply luxuries and those who are holding goods for higher prices. The liquidation of bank loans will amount to not less than 10 per cent within four months, and it is expected it will compel profiteers to unload their hoarded stocks at greatly reduced prices.

led by Barney Baruch.

On the Republican side General Wood won another victory during the week, this time in Vermont. He was given the state's preferential vote by a large plurality over Johnson, Hoover, Lowden and Coolidge. In Pennsylvania, where the old guard is well entrenched, the primaries were held, and the delegates to the Chicago convention is expected, will be for Governor Sproul. Their second choice will probably be a matter of expediency.

The railway labor board is working hard on some plan by which the rail laborers may be granted all or a large part of their demand for increased wages that will amount to a billion dollars. Neither the railway managers nor anyone else denies that men deserve more pay, and in any case it is evident they must be given it if rail transportation in America is to be maintained. Almost any of the railway employees can get much more money in other pursuits. At present the board is considering the adoption of a sliding wage scale based on the cost of living index number.

Whether organized labor would accept a reduction of wages in the future if living costs went down is a question. So far, its policy has been to hold on to all it gets. Some time this summer the railway employees may be brought to the test. The sliding scale is being tried out on the English railways and some of the unions are not satisfied with it.

Meanwhile the interstate commerce commission has a hard job relieving the congestion of traffic and averting a threatened coal famine in the Chicago region. This was accomplished to a considerable extent by sending thousands of empty cars from the East, and by means of temporary embargoes. The car movement not only relieved the coal situation, but also helped the shipment of other commodities.

At last reports Carranza was still in flight in the state of Puebla, almost alone, probably heading for the virtually impregnable fastnesses of the Zapatista mountains. The temporary government of the republic is functioning quietly and it has been practically agreed that General Gonzales shall be named provisional president by congress. The department of state at Washington has been urged to be cautious in recognizing or supporting any action that had part in the overthrow of Carranza. The warning came from representatives of industrial groups having interests in Mexico and from former Ambassador Henry Lane Wilson and former Charge Nelson O'Shaughnessy. They want definite assurances as to the attitude of the new regime toward foreigners.

A great race is on among the nations for the control of the world's oil supplies. Great Britain is off the lead. The American senate asked President Wilson as to the chances of Americans acquiring oil producing lands abroad and his reply outlined the British policies as follows:

"1. Deferring foreign nations from owning or operating oil producing properties in the British Isles, colonies or protectorates.

"2. Direct participation in the ownership and control of petroleum producing companies.

"3. Arranging to prevent British oil companies from selling their properties to foreign owned or controlled companies.

"4. Officers in council that prohibit transfers of shares in British oil companies to other British nationals."

**Georgians Are Thoroughly Awakened to Their Danger from Bolsheviks.**

**Constantinople.—** The seizure of the British legation and men have been released from military prison and sent to their homes.

**General Maudes, commander of the** prison, addressed the prisoners, asking them to devote themselves to the patriotic work of helping to restore the country to peace and prosperity. The revolutionaries, he said, were not disposed to reprisals or revenge and had "forgotten all old rancor."

**Government Request for Rehearing of Steel Case is Refused by Court,**

**Washington.**—The supreme court refused to grant the government's request for a rehearing of the anti-trust suit against the United States Steel Corporation.

The government's motion for a rehearing was based principally on the contention that the court's decision in the steel case on March 1 conflicted with that of April 26 ordering the dissolution of the Reading Company and certain of its subsidiaries.

**Moon Eclipse Was Observed from Hydro-Airplane Three Miles in Af-**

**Laredo, Tex.—Fifteen hundred for** the death or capture of Francisco Villa, dead or alive.

**Mobile.—With less pomp and less** ceremony, the Norek and Portsmouth retail grocers have united in an agreement to refuse to handle baker's bread costing more than 3 cents per loaf, and to retain at 10 cents per loaf.

**The Wave of Price Reduction in Clothing Only Partly Explained**

**Washington.—** The wave of price reduction in apparel which has spread to every important city is due largely to public withdrawal from the market and to the investigation conducted by the department of justice, in the opinion of Assistant Attorney General Garvan.

**Produce Truckers Dumped His Load**

**of Snap Beans Into Mobile Bay**

**Mobile.—** With less pomp and less

**ceremony, the Norek and Portsmouth** retail grocers have united in an agreement to refuse to handle baker's bread costing more than 3 cents per loaf, and to retain at 10 cents per loaf.

**Government's Gross Loss During Control of Roads \$800,478.00**

**Washington.—** The government's gross loss in operation of the railroads during federal control was \$800,478.00, according to the final report of George Sherley, railroad administration director of finance.

**Coiby Decides That Committee Can Act on Pending Irish Resolutions**

**Washington.—** Secretary Coiby wrote Chairman Porter, of the house foreign affairs committee, that these "were no facts" in connection with foreign relations which should deter the committee from action on pending resolutions dealing with Irish freedom "which is dictated by good judgment," and the committee felt "consciously impelled to take."

The committee took no action on the resolutions before it.

**Will Aid in the Reconstruction of Devastated Region of Europe**

**New York.—** The Carnegie endowment for international peace has appropriated \$500,000 to aid in reconstruction of the devastated regions of France, Belgium, Serbia and Russia.

Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler announced here in making public the annual report of the endowment's division of intercourse and education.

The bequest disclosed that \$100,000 was allotted to aid in restoration of the University of Louvain.

**Eighth Amendment Absolutely Against Local Self Government.**

**Richmond, Va.—** Vice-President Thomas R. Marshall declared in a speech before the Virginia State Bar association that "political salvation for America lies in a speedy return to the constitution and the faith of the fathers of the republic."

Speaking lightly upon prohibition Mr. Marshall declared that the eighth amendment to the Federal constitution absolutely is opposed to the principle of local self-government and State's rights but as a part of the fundamental law of the land it should be upheld by all law-abiding citizens.

**Atlantic Fleet Is Again at Home After Three Months Work in Cuba**

**New York.—** headed by the flagship Pennsylvania with the broad blue flag of the secretary of the navy flying at the main masthead nearly three score ships of the Atlantic fleet dropped anchor in the Hudson river, home from three months of drills and maneuvers in Cuban waters.

**Representatives of All Interests Were Present at Railroad Hearing**

**Washington.—** Representatives of every interest concerned in the operation of the country's railway system as well as the public were here for the hearing by the interstate commerce commission on applications for increased freight rates. The road owners have claimed that, in order to meet the six per cent return on their properties guaranteed, it will be necessary to increase the earnings of all the roads by \$1,017,000,000.

**Senator Poindexter to Withdraw Name from Presidential Primary**

**Salem, Oregon.—** United States Senator Poindexter of Washington will withdraw his name from the Oregon primary ballot as a candidate for the republican presidential nomination, according to word received here.

## SHARP DECLINES FEATURE MARKET

**PRICES OF PRACTICALLY ALL PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES BEING "MARKED DOWN"**

## PORK DECLINE SIGNIFICANT

**Cotton, Sugar and Corn Options Broke Violently, as Did Cereals on New York and Chicago Market**

**New York.—** Infused by the nationwide price cutting agitation that is steadily gaining ground, the principal commodity markets of the country continued to "mark down" quoted values. Cotton, sugar and corn options broke violently here and in Chicago and elsewhere and provisions, including pork, also suffered sharp reaction. Significance was attached to the drop in the pork prices as marking the first pronounced break in high priced foodstuffs.

The stock exchange showed improvement on a sharp recovery of Liberty bonds and Victory bonds.

A large part of liquidation in cotton and grains was attributed to the further scaling down of credits by banking institutions here and in other reserve centers, evidently in conformity with the request of the federal reserve board.

In the local cotton market May contracts broke almost 400 points.

**Sugar Prices Soaring Sky-High, It Bringing Twenty-One and a Half**

**New York.—** An increase of one cent a pound in the price of sugar, making the new basic price 21 1/2 cents per pound was announced by the American Sugar Refining Company.

**Another Old Veteran Passes and is Resting Under the Shade**

**Little Rock.—** General Jonathan Kellogg, aged 78, adjutant general of the United Confederate Veterans, died in a local hospital here.

**General Federation of Labor at Paris Decides to End Strike**

**Paris.—** The General Federation of Labor decided to call off the strike it had ordered in support of the railway men's walkout. The decision for the resumption of work was reached by a vote of 90 to 11.

**The "Hoover Herald" to Have Run During the Chicago Convention**