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## NAVAL ENCOUNTER ON MONDAY NIGHT IN THE NORTH SEA

Destroyer Sunk and Three Officers And 44 of Her Crew Lost; German Craft Were Attempting to Get Away From Zeebrugge to Avoid Ice, Which Was Very Thick.

London, Jan. 23.—In an engagement between British light naval forces and German torpedo boat destroyers in the North Sea last night a German destroyer was sunk and the other torpedo craft scattered. It was officially announced today. The sinking of a British torpedo boat destroyer in another engagement with German torpedo boat destroyers in the vicinity of Schouwen Bank last night, with the loss of three officers and 44 of the crew, also was announced.

The official announcement says: "Last night, while our light forces were patrolling the North Sea not far from the Dutch coast, they met a division of enemy torpedo boat destroyers. A short engagement took place, during which one of the enemy torpedo boat destroyers was sunk and the rest scattered, having suffered considerable punishment. Darkness prevented the full results of the action from being observed.

"During last night there was also a short, sharp engagement between our own destroyers in the vicinity of Schouwen Bank. During this engagement one of our torpedo boat destroyers was struck by a torpedo, the explosion killing three officers and 44 of the crew. She subsequently was sunk by our own ships. Relatives of the victims have been informed. Our ships suffered no other casualties."

Attempted to Leave Zeebrugge. London, Jan. 23.—Reports from Ymuiden received by Reuters Telegraph Company via Amsterdam say that German torpedo boats last night attempted to leave Zeebrugge to avoid the ice, which was very thick. They were immediately attacked by a large British squadron. The action opened at short range, and early in the fight the bridge of the German destroyer, V-69, was swept away by a direct hit, the commander and two other officers being killed.

The V-69 fired one torpedo and was then hit by another British shell, which knocked the funnel flat on the deck. Still another shell put a hole in the forepart of the vessel. Her guns appear not to have been damaged.

The crew of the V-69 numbered about sixty. It would appear from the statements of the men that several other German vessels were sunk. The V-69 belonged to the home fleet.

According to a Reuter despatch from Ymuiden it was officially stated that four men were killed aboard the V-69, including the commander, Lieutenant Boehm, and the commander of the flotilla, Captain Schlutz.

German officers refuse information about the engagement, the scene of action or the strength of the flotilla.

Two Reported Sunk. London, Jan. 23.—According to a Hague report to the Exchange Telegraph Company two German ships were sunk and three others badly damaged in the North Sea fight.

## Mrs. High Entertains U. D. C.

On January the 18th, the Joseph J. Davis Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, observed the birthday of the immortal heroes, Lee and Jackson, at the beautiful home of Mrs. D. C. High. Mrs. High, a most gracious hostess, was assisted by her daughters, Miss Kate and Lillian High in receiving their guests.

Confederate colors were among beautiful palms, ferns and flowers. The open fires were emblematic of the warm welcome extended to the people women gathered together to honor the memory of the Confederate Soldiers.

Mrs. W. E. White, the President of the Chapter, presided with her usual grace and dignity. While Mrs. K. P. Hill was in the Chair, Mrs. White read a strong and inspiring New Year's letter from our State President, Mrs. Jackie Daniel Thrash. This was followed by papers of Lee and Jackson, read by Mesdames J. A. Turner, J. E. Malone, S. J. Parham and J. L. Palmer.

After the inspiring and intellectual feast, the guests were regaled with a material one, dainty and refreshing fried oysters, green peas in timbals were served with pickles and hot biscuits; a salad course and hot chocolate whipped cream and wafers.

While enjoying these delicacies, pretty little Miss Margaret Cooke brought in a basket festooned with smilax, filled with cards, tied with red and white ribbon and smilax, containing quotations from celebrated authors about the two Great Confederate Commanders. These cards were handed to the Daughters and read by them while enjoying the refreshments.

This delightful evening will be long remembered by the Joseph J. Davis Chapter and the invited guests, Mrs. Fisher Beasley, Mrs. W. N. Fuller, Misses Sue Alston, Mary Underwood, Elizabeth Allen and Annie Wilkinson.

Farmers' Institutes. Farmers' Institutes will be held under the auspices of the State Department of Agriculture, The A. & M. College, and the Extension Service in co-operation with the Farmers' Institute Committee of Franklin county, at Franklinton, Friday, Feb. 9; Royal Cross Roads, Monday, Feb. 12; Justice, Tuesday, Feb. 13. The Institutes will open at 10:30 o'clock.

There will be discussions on Farm Operations, Marketing, Crops, Live Stock, Insect Pests, etc., by representatives of the State Department of Agriculture, the Experiment Station and Extension Service, The County Demonstrator and others. Special Emphasis will be given to Soil Improvement, Diversification of Crops, Insect Pests, etc.

There will be held at the same time and place a Woman's Institute, conducted under the supervision of Mrs. Jane S. McKimmon, in charge of Home Demonstration Agents, and representatives of the State Insurance Department, to which women are invited to come and join in the discussion of subjects pertaining to household economics, home conveniences, health in the home, the education of our children, fire prevention, and other topics of interest to mothers and home-makers.

Everyone invited to bring lunch and come prepared to spend the day, and help to make this the Best Farmers' Institute ever held in the County. Bring a notebook and pencil so as to write down any particular information in regard to questions in which you are particularly interested. A question box will be opened and the questions answered in a round table discussion in the afternoon.

## Organize Farm Loan Association.

Quite a good crowd of Franklin County farmers met in the court house on Tuesday and organized a farm loan association. The meeting was called to order by Mr. T. J. Harris, President of the Franklin County Farmers Union and a general discussion was had of the system and its working.

Mr. E. H. Malone read much information on the subject and discussed the system clearly. Among the others discussing the subject were President T. J. Harris and Secretary J. C. Jones, of the Farmers Union, who had gained much information in connection therewith. A motion to organize was made and names and amounts subscribed to the amount of \$35,000.00. An interesting feature being that the loans averaged anywhere from \$250 to \$5,000.00, \$1,000.00 being the prevailing amount. This being completed an organization was perfected by the election of the following directors: Messrs. E. H. Malone, T. J. Harris, J. C. Jones, J. M. Sykes, E. B. Moore, A. E. Johnson, W. H. Bledsoe, E. L. Harris, G. B. Egerton. The directors met at once and elected officers as follows: T. J. Harris, President; A. F. Johnson, Vice-President; J. C. Jones, Secretary and Treasurer; E. H. Malone, J. M. Sykes, E. L. Harris, appraisers or Loan Board.

The Secretary-Treasurer was instructed to prepare the papers at once and send application for charter. As soon as the charter can be secured the officers will arrange to hold special meetings for the purpose of completing all necessary arrangements for transacting the business and be of the most service to the entire public.

The name adopted for this Association was the Franklin Farm Land Association and its territory is Franklin County.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben T. Holden and little son returned from Richmond Wednesday. Their many friends will be glad to learn that their little boy who underwent an operation, is getting along nicely.

## PROSPEROUS YEAR

Stockholders of Farmers & Merchants Bank Have Interesting Meeting.

The twenty-second annual stockholders meeting of the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Louisburg, was held in its Banking house here on Thursday of last week. The reports from the several officers were read and showed an especially prosperous year's business, and the bank in excellent shape. They declared a cash dividend of 8 per cent after placing \$1,000.00 to the credit of undivided profits and paying all taxes. The stockholders elected the following gentlemen directors for the coming year: Gov. T. W. Bickett, Messrs. Ivy Allen, J. M. Allen, C. P. Harris, F. N. Egerton, J. W. King, L. L. Joyner, O. S. Macon, J. B. Thomas, J. O. Wilson, and F. W. Wheelers. After the stockholders meeting adjourned the Board of Directors met and elected the following officers for the ensuing year: F. N. Egerton, President; C. P. Harris, Vice-President; M. S. Clifton, Cashier; James B. King, Assistant Cashier. Mr. W. E. Uzzell, who has rendered this bank valuable service for the past several years as Assistant Cashier, offered his resignation to take effect at once on account of his failing health. This was accepted with regret, and Mr. King was elected to fill the vacancy. Messrs. White & Malone were elected Attorneys for the ensuing year.

This is the oldest banking institution in the County and its history has been one continuous, but conservative, period of increase both in volume of business and good will of the public.

## Senator Person's Red Vest.

Seizing the opportunity Friday morning when there was a full Senator Gough, of Robeson, proceeded to get off a good one on Senator Person, and no one in the Senate appeared to enjoy the joke more than the Senator from Franklin.

All was attention when the Senator from Robeson announced in a serious voice that he had an important bill that he desired to introduce. All was attention as the clerk read: "A bill to amend the attire of the Senator from Franklin."

"Section 1. That from and after the ratification of this act it shall be a misdemeanor for Senator W. M. Person, of Franklin county, to appear either in the Senate Chamber or abroad in the capital of this State unless the said Senator Person has on his red vest."

Sec. 2. That violation of this act shall be punishable by making the said Senator Person the host of the entire Senate at such time as the majority shall designate.

"Sec. 3. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed and annulled."

"Sec. 4. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification."

Senator Brenizer offered an oral amendment which provided that in case the act was violated the Senator should be designated a mollycoddle. Senator Person smilingly rose to his defense quoted a poem by Kipling and was about to put his opponents hors de combat when a messenger from the House arrived with the Dewey resolution.

## Hunt Jobs For The Guardsmen.

Washington, Jan. 23.—A nationwide hunt for jobs for jobless soldiers soon to be mustered out of border service, was begun today by the employment bureau of the department of labor. Secretary Wilson's experts sent out instructions to all subordinate officers in the country to keep a sharp watch out for available places for the returning guardsmen and to help also in finding places for relatives of guardsmen who remain on border duty.

## Youngsville Personals.

Miss Helen Harper, of Meredith College, spent the week-end with Miss Lillian Winston.

Miss Willie Massey, who is teaching at Lucama, spent Sunday at home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Massey.

Miss Lillian Winston left Tuesday for Norfolk, V., where she will spend some time visiting friends.

Misses Mae McMillan and Dodd, of Meredith College, spent the week-end with Miss Zeula Mitchell.

Dr. W. B. Morton attended a meeting of optometrists in Raleigh Tuesday.

## GETTING READY TO BRING TROOPS OUT OF MEXICO

Preliminary Movements Being Carried Out at Southern Extremity of Line.

Washington, Jan. 23.—Troop movements preliminary to withdrawal of the American expedition from Mexico are being carried out at the southern extremity of the American line under War Department orders, and as soon as they are complete the main body of the expedition probably will start North.

For the first time officials admitted today that the withdrawal of outposts from El Valle and other points about Colonel Dublan had more than a local significance and was being carried out on orders from Washington. They made no announcement as to the probable time when the general northern movement would begin, and would not even admit that withdrawal of Pershing's troops after ten months in Mexico, was at hand. Officials are interested, but apparently little concerned, over growing evidences that all of the territory evacuated by Pershing may be in progress soon between Carranza troops and revolutionists.

Today's official despatches said that Villa and Zapata, the two most conscious revolutionary leaders, had allied themselves for operations against the de facto armies, and that 3,000 men had been concentrated near Chihuahua for a Villa campaign in the north. Since Carranza declined to accept the Atlantic City protocol, officials here have indicated that such problems as the one developing about Chihuahua not only would be left to the first chief for settlement, but that he would be held responsible by the United States government for their settlement in such a way as to protect American interests.

Meantime, raising of the embargo on arms to Mexico and the despatch of Ambassador Fletcher to Mexico City remain in abeyance, possibly because of two developments construed in some quarters as a renewal of practices of the Carranza government against which the United States repeatedly has protested. Officials are surprised and perplexed over the drastic measures taken by the first chief against two banks whose metallic reserve recently was seized and by what some contend is a revival of prosecution of the Roman Catholic clergy.

## A Religious Census for Louisburg

A committee of twenty from the Methodist and Baptist churches, ten from each, will take a religious census of the town of Louisburg and its suburbs on next Sunday afternoon between the hours of two and four o'clock.

The committee will be divided into ten groups, each group being composed of a member of the two churches taking the census, and the town will be divided into districts which will be easy for the committees to cover in the time allotted.

The purpose of this census is to ascertain as far as possible the church, Sunday school affiliations of every man, woman and child in this city and surrounding country with a view to assisting the pastors and Sunday school workers and other Christian workers in enlisting all the unenlisted in the churches and Sunday schools of this place.

The churches and Sunday schools of this community are exceedingly anxious that all the people within their reach be brought into vital relationship with their organizations, mutual sharing in their blessing and in their work.

Everybody is asked to kindly cooperate with this committee next Sunday by giving the information desired, which will be: Name, address age (if under sixteen); member of what church or Sunday school; if not, church and Sunday school preference.

It is earnestly requested that some member in each family group, who can give the desired information, will remain at home Sunday afternoon until the census takers come sometime between the hours of two and four.

## Certain Materials Should Not Be Used In Home-Mixed Fertilizers

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 24.—"Some farmers will not attempt the home-mixing of fertilizers because they do not know what materials to use to make a suitable combination. Almost any combination is practicable if it is to be applied immediately after mixing," says S. S. Walker, Assistant Chemist to the University of Florida

Experiment Station but if the application to the soil is to be delayed after mixing, some special care must be exercised.

"Such materials as nitrate of soda, muriate of potash, and other crude potash salts tend to absorb moisture and to form hard cakes or lumps. This is especially true when they are mixed with caustic lime or any material containing caustic lime, such as ashes or basic slag. The trouble can be prevented to a great extent by adding to the mixture a considerable amount of muck as a drier.

"Those mixtures which will cause a loss of deterioration of plant food through chemical action should also be avoided. When Sulphate of Ammonia or easily decomposed organic ammoniates such as animal manures, blood, tankage, fish scrap, etc., are mixed with materials containing lime there is danger of losing gaseous ammonia. The commonest lime-containing materials are ground limestone, caustic and hydrated lime, wood ashes, basic slag, and calcium cyanamid.

"Reversion of phosphoric acid is brought about also by mixing acid phosphate with lime, magnesia, iron, or aluminum compounds.

"From these statements the belief might arise that lime is a very undesirable material to use. The explanation is that lime should be applied to the land separately—NOT BEING MIXED WITH THE FERTILIZERS BEFORE APPLYING."

Those farmers of North Carolina who desire information in regard to the subject of fertilizers should write at once to Mr. C. B. Williams, Chief of the Division of Agronomy of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Experiment Station or to Mr. B. W. Kilgore, Director and State Chemist.—N. C. Extension Service.

## Adopts Resolutions.

At a meeting of the Farmers Union for Franklin County held in the court house in Louisburg, on Tuesday, January 23rd, the following resolutions were adopted:

FIRST. That we favor the immediate repeal of the crop lien law. Any inconvenience which may result from its repeal will be only temporary and not to be compared with the abuses fostered by a system of oppression on the one hand and improvidence on the other for which it is directly responsible.

SECOND. That we stand for the election of the County Board of Education and County Superintendent of Public Instruction by the direct vote of the people. The people whose children are to be educated and whose taxes maintain the schools have the right and should have the privilege of choosing those who control the schools and, the expenditure of those taxes.

THIRD. That we favor a graduated land tax. Such a tax will in our judgment do more than any other measure yet suggested towards the realization of our Governor's desire to see tenants converted into landlords.

FOURTH. That we favor a tax upon dogs. Keeping a dog, in town or country, is a privilege usually enjoyed at the expense of others, and the owner of the dog should be taxed for it as for other privileges.

FIFTH. That we thoroughly agree with and endorse the recommendation of our Governor in reference to limiting the number of terms of office for both State and County officers, only that we favor one term only of four years for each, thereby doing away with so many elections.

SIXTH. That a copy of these resolutions be sent, to our Senator and Representative in the General Assembly with the request that they lend their support to legislation in harmony with the same.

## Empties Booze Into River.

Quite a large crowd of spectators were attracted to the Tar River bridge in Louisburg on Saturday afternoon at about 5 o'clock when Constable R. W. Hudson in compliance with an order from the Superior Court emptied a large quantity of whiskey into the stream. The whiskey was that taken from an automobile on the south side of the river here about four or five months ago.

Mr. T. T. Terrell left Tuesday for Richmond to purchase a lot of horses and mules.

## PRESIDENT WILSON'S ADDRESS ELECTRICIFIED ENGLAND.

But Discussion in Parliament Is Certain to Result, Is General Belief; Public Men Refer to American Executive Courteously But End in Supporting Britain's Measures.

London, Jan. 23.—President Wilson's address to the United States Senate has furnished the British government and public with a surprise as electrifying as his mediatory note to the belligerents. With the exception of the Manchester Guardian and the Daily News, which are the only papers in Great Britain that can be classified as pacificatory in policy, the press gives the President's utterances an unfriendly reception and engages in much speculation over the meaning which, it is considered, may be concealed behind certain passages.

Public men interviewed begin with courteous tributes to the President's good intentions, and end by supporting Great Britain's measures. While the government cannot make any direct reply to a commission from the President to the United States Senate, there is certain to be discussions in Parliament.

It is already foreshadowed by members of the Commons that a discussion will be insisted upon when Parliament re-assembles, and speeches from members of the present and late cabinet are expected. Possible action by the American Congress on committing the nation to membership in an international league for peace, is awaited with greatest interest. Both David Lloyd George, in his historic maiden speech as Prime Minister and Viscount Grey, while Minister of Foreign Affairs, stated strongly that membership in such a league, without obligations to force its decrees by arms, would be useless.

## ZAPATA-VILLA CONFERENCES

Reports Indicate That Two Rebel Leaders Will Join Their Forces—Pershing on Move—President Contemplates the Lifting of the Embargo on All Arms.

Washington, Jan. 23.—Radical changes in the Mexican situation became apparent today with the withdrawal of the Pershing punitive expedition from Mexican territory already under way. Authoritative reports from Mexican sources said that the anti-Carranza bands under Villa and Zapata have joined forces for the overthrow of Carranza. Agents of Villa and Zapata, it was stated, conferred at length at San Andreas, near Juarez and came to a complete agreement. A joint plan of consideration designed to effectually dispose of the Carranza military forces was agreed.

It was admitted unofficially, after today's cabinet meeting, which discussed the Mexican situation that the Pershing forces had withdrawn its outposts, and that the permanent supply bases had been dismantled. Supply trains already are moving slowly back to the border it was stated. Formal "orders" for the withdrawal of the Pershing column were withheld at the war department. All of the preliminary motions for the actual movement of the Pershing forces have been made.

Sources close to the Mexican embassy declared that the Carranza government is prepared to follow up the withdrawal of Pershing with the disposition of a sufficient military force to insure the safety of all Americans within the zone of its former protection.

The embargo on arms now operative against all factions in Mexico, including even the de facto government may shortly be raised. It is understood that the president has this action in contemplation but that he will receive satisfactory assurance that the bands of the northern ranges of mountains will not be permitted to break through them.

Arms for the Villalistas, it is asserted, are being shipped in from Havana.

Just how these shipments reach the Villa forces is not explained. Besides any possible outside source of supply Villa is known to have enormous "caches" of rifles, cartridges and even field gun ammunition and shrapnel at various points in the region frequented by his following.

Mr. C. W. High came over from Raleigh and spent Sunday with his parents.

Mr. J. T. Hunt, of Henderson, was a visitor to Louisburg Wednesday.