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WAITING POLICY CONTINUED

Action on U-Boat Crisis Expected Not Later Than Next Week—Present Conditions Cannot be Permitted to Continue—Small Number of Boats Sunk by Submarines Attracting Attention—Every Means at Disposal of the Government is Being Used to Prepare for Any Eventuality

Washington Dispatch, Feb. 18.

The American government continued its waiting policy toward Germany's ruthless submarine warfare today and although it is taken for granted in all quarters that President Wilson will go before Congress on the situation before adjournment March 1, the statement was authorized that so far he had made no definite plans to that end.

The visit of the President to the Capitol yesterday to discuss with Senators the advisability of appearing before a joint session to ask authority for protecting American sailors and ships from submarines has given rise to much speculation as to when the step will be taken. The belief everywhere that there will be action not later than next week, if nothing happens to precipitate it before, is based upon the knowledge that the President wishes to avoid calling an extra session of Congress if possible and the reiterated declarations of members of the administration that the present conditions, under which most of the American ships in overseas trade have been frightened into cancelling sailing dates, cannot be permitted to continue.

The small number of vessels sunk by submarines within the past few days is attracting no little attention. Officials always point out, however, that this does not alter the fact that through fear of the consequences, American ships and many of those of other nationalities are remaining in port. The opening of Halifax as a port of examination, allowing some vessels to avoid the danger area by not going to Kirkwall, is expected to somewhat lessen the effects of the virtual blockade of eastern American ports.

Every means at the disposal of the government continued to be used to prepare for any eventuality, and the administration believes no time has been wasted. If a decision to arm American merchantmen should be reached it is understood that it could be done very quickly.

There has been no further developments in the situation between the United States and Austria-Hungary and Turkey. While press dispatches from Berlin told of the dispatch of official word of the release of the American prisoners on the prize vessel Yarrowdale, the receipt of the notice has not reached the State department.

Good Crop Year, According to Old Rule—Good Sign for Fruit

Owing to so much cold and rainy weather the farmers are getting badly behind with their farm work. In many places the stalks have not yet been cut and many acres have not been broken. Close observers say, however, that as a rule a good crop year follows a cold, rough January and February. Here's hoping this year will not break that good rule.

It has been so cold during the last few weeks that the fruit trees have not begun to "put out", which is a good sign for a bumper fruit crop this year. For the last few years they have bloomed early and much of the fruit was killed later in the spring.

American Commission May Review Returns From Cuba's Election

A suggestion that an American commission review the returns from Cuba's presidential election, over which an armed revolution has developed, is under consideration at the State department as one possible solution of the situation. Although reports received here do not indicate that the revolting liberals have made much headway, the United States government is deeply concerned lest the movement assume a more definite form with the voting February 20 in Oriente province where the deciding votes in the presidential contest may be cast.

Congress is Looking to Revenue and National Defense Legislation

With the end of the sixty-fourth Congress but two weeks off, administration leaders are concentrating their energies to the enactment of revenue and national defense legislation. Much long pending general legislation, every one recognizes, must give way to appropriations and measures that relate to the preparation of the nation for eventualities which may grow out of the diplomatic breach with Germany.

J. P.'s Must Qualify Before March 9

Clerk of the Court C. B. Skipper asks The Robesonian to state that all who were appointed justices of the peace by the Legislature must qualify before March 9. If you were appointed and fail to qualify before that time you cannot serve. A list of those appointed has been published in The Robesonian.

Play Will be Given at Regan School House Friday Evening

A play, "Miss Topsy Turvy or the Courtship of the Deacon", will be given at Regan school house, Howellsville township, Friday evening of this week, beginning at 8. No admission fee will be charged. Prof. W. C. Clark is principal of the school.

IT IS UP TO THE FOLKS

Senator Gough Says the Road Bond Issue Law is Absolutely Fair to Every Section and the Folks of Robeson Can Have Good Roads for Less Money if They Want Good Roads—He Thinks There Will be an Extra Session of the Legislature

Senator Frank Gough came home Saturday and returned to Raleigh last night. He thinks that an extra session of the Legislature will be necessary. Only two more weeks of the present session remain before the expiration of the constitutional limit of 60 days during which members may receive pay, and nothing has been done in regard to the constitutional amendments.

Speaking of the bill that has been passed providing for a vote of the citizens of Robeson on a bond issue for roads, Mr. Gough says the cry for years in Robeson has been for good roads and that under the law that has been passed the people can get good roads for less taxes than they have been paying. This law makes it possible for Robeson county to have good roads if the people want good roads. Any one who wants to see a certified copy of the bill may do so by applying at the office of the county auditor. The law will be printed later so that all may read it. Under this law, Mr. Gough says, no district or township can take what belongs to any other district or township; it is absolutely fair.

Senator Gough says that the bill providing for a constitutional convention to redraft and rewrite the State constitution will pass.

Elsewhere in this issue is reproduced from the Raleigh News and Observer an item that explains Mr. Gough's position on the proposed lien legislation. Indidentally, with this article the Raleigh paper printed a pretty good counterfeit presentation of Mr. Gough, drawn by a News and Observer artist.

Senate Writes Drastic Prohibition Provisions in Postoffice Bill

Washington Dispatch, Feb. 16. With its added drastic prohibition legislative provisions, the annual postoffice appropriation bill carrying \$323,000 was passed by the Senate today after a week of vigorous debate. It was sent back to the House which will ask for a conference on the amendments.

The Senate wrote into the bill a provision making it a criminal offense to ship liquor into States which prohibit its manufacture and sale, thus nullifying the statutes of certain prohibition States permitting the importation of limited quantities of liquor for personal consumption.

Another provision would bar from the mails letters, postal cards, circulars, newspapers and other publications containing liquor advertising in States having laws against such advertising; violation to be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000 or imprisonment not to exceed six months for the first offense or more than one year for the second offense.

OLD SOLDIERS' REUNION

Arrangements Made for Accommodation of Confederate Veterans at Reunion in Washington—Bill Passed for Robeson County Commissioners to Pay Expenses of Veterans

Mr. A. W. McLean, who recently returned from Washington, states that Captain Fred Beall, commander of the Confederate Veterans association of the District of Columbia, stated to him that arrangements were being made for comfortable tents, cots and meals on the camp grounds lying just south of the White House and that these quarters would be furnished to all Confederate veterans who desire to take advantage of same, during the reunion, June fourth, 1917.

Captain Beall further says that it is expected of all Confederate veterans to attend the reunion in uniform, and that arrangements have been made whereby complete uniform, including hat, can be purchased for \$11 from a house in Louisville, Ky.

Mr. McLean further states that the bill authorizing the board of commissioners of Robeson county to pay the expenses of those Confederate veterans of Robeson county who for any reason are unable to pay their own expenses, has passed both houses of the Legislature and is now a law.

No Jarvis County to be Created This Year

Raleigh Special, 16th, to Wilmington Star. Contending delegations of a hundred or more citizens each were here this afternoon before the joint committee on counties, cities and towns fighting for and against the bill to create Jarvis county out of portions of Johnson, Sampson and Harnett. The hearing was a long and stormy one, the result being unfavorably reported to the Legislature.

WORK OF THE LEGISLATURE

To Prohibit Publication of Names of Assault Victims—For State Accounting System—Bill to Create Office of Commissioner of Prohibition and a Formal "Ouster" Law—Other Work of the Legislators

Important fish bills were offered in both the House and the Senate Saturday and a sharp fight is expected during the closing days over the fisheries question.

The Senate Saturday passed the House bill to prohibit the publication of the names of women who become victims of criminal assault.

The Senate passed Thursday night the Brenizer bill to create a commission consisting of the Governor and two others named by him to engage accountants and devise a system of bookkeeping for the State departments and institutions.

Long of Alamance introduced a bill to pension Superior court judges with half pay on retirement after 10 years of service. Amendments to change to 14 and 16 years' service failed, and the original bill was voted down. The bill was drawn so as to apply to Judge Cooke, who already has retired. Senator Turner observed that the State is not yet ready to pension its judges.

Mr. Page has offered in the House a bill to create the office of commissioner of prohibition. It provides that the office of commissioner of prohibition shall be self-sustaining through a special stamp tax imposed on liquors shipped into the State under the "quart law", the stamp to be 10 cents per quart. The salary of the commissioner of prohibition is to be \$3,500 and must come from the revenue derived from the stamp tax on liquors delivered in the State. Only this revenue can be applied. Promoters of the bill estimate that about \$10,000 will be raised through this tax.

A formal "ouster" law being sought by the Anti-Saloon league forces since the death of their "bone dry" bill recently was introduced in the House Thursday night by Grier.

The Ellis Gardner bill empowering any township in the State to vote bonds or stock for railroads was passed by the House Friday.

The Senate bill by Brenizer to regulate sanitation and bedrooms and other equipment of hotels has been referred to committee, some Representatives wanting to exempt their counties.

The Brenizer bill for authorizing the co-operation of cities of 20,000 or more with their counties in the establishment of homes for wayward women and girls was re-referred to committee after discussion in the Senate Friday.

NEWS ITEMS FROM LOWE

Farmers Hauling Fertilizer—Personal Mention

Correspondence of The Robesonian. Lowe, Feb. 19—Misses Edna and Dovie Prevatte and brother, Mr. Lon Prevatte, of Lumberton, are visiting at the home of their sister, Mrs. W. R. Tyner.

Mr. Chas. G. Davis of Lumberton, has accepted a position with the firm of L. E. Tyner & Son and has moved from Lumberton to Lowe.

Mr. Alfred Prevatte is confined to his rooms with measles.

From the way the farmers are hauling fertilizer there seems to be no war on.

Rev. J. F. Davis of Lumberton filled his regular appointment at Oak Grove Sunday and was a visitor at the home of his son, Mr. Chas. G. Davis.

Dr. Carl V. Tyner of the Bellvue hospital, New York city, is visiting at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Tyner.

SUGGESTIONS FOR CHANGING ROAD BOND ISSUE BILL

Certain Features of the Bond Issue Bill for Robeson of Which the People Are Complaining May be Changed if the People Will Write Their Representatives—Those Who Are Interested Should Take This Matter Up at Once

To the Editor of The Robesonian: I deem it most necessary and material to the welfare of our people and the development of our county that some road law looking to a bond issue be put through the present session of the State Legislature.

Unless I am very greatly mistaken, the present law, which has already passed both houses, will not carry in an election. I am frank to say that in my opinion this road law in the main is an excellent one, but there are certain features of which the people are now complaining. I understand that no other bill of this character can now be put through on account of the constitutional amendments adopted at the last election, but that amendments which do not change the real effect of a bill may be added. I, with others, have talked with our representatives giving them our opinion of some features of the bill that do not meet with the approval of the people, and I feel that if the people of the county who feel interested in this matter would write them something may yet be done.

Suggestions were made to them (the Senator and Representatives) that first the people desired to name the commissioners at the time the bonds were voted upon, each district electing its own commissioner; that the fund should be deposited in the banks of the various districts, the commissioner in each district designating his district depository, or some other suitable method whereby the money of each district remained in such district until expended by the proper authority; that any district giving a majority for a bond issue be allowed to proceed to issue its pro rata portion of the proposed \$500,000 and build its roads, if the bonds fail to be carried in the remaining districts, which would at least assure some good roads in the county.

I feel that the above suggestions would not change the purport of the bill in a material way, but would only tend to regulate method of procedure under the bill as it now stands, and therefore would not conflict with the constitutional amendments.

As I understand the law, any other proposition could hardly stand the tests of the courts, and while I personally favor giving to any township the privilege of issuing bonds and building its own roads, where the taxable property in such township would justify such a course, I feel that the district plan is as near to this as can now be had.

If such change as above outlined is desired the people interested should at once communicate with our legislators, as the bill cannot even be amended unless the amendments are sent forward at least six days prior to adjournment of the Legislature.

T. A. MCNEILL, JR., Lumberton, N. C. Feb. 19, 1917.

Federal Reserve Board Can Forestall Currency Stringency

Washington Dispatch, Feb. 16. Anticipating that the German crisis may precipitate temporary business strains in the United States, the Federal reserve board, it was learned tonight, has laid extensive plans to fortify the country against dangerous developments. It has ordered the piling up of a supply of Federal reserve notes to be used to forestall currency stringency, lack of confidence in financial institutions and general uneasiness on the part of the people of the United States.

Already the board has received intimations that a need for hasty financing may come at any moment. In some cities banks have been subjected to runs, it being said that German sympathizers were withdrawing their funds in an effort to embarrass the banks. Failing to discriminate in the slightest between member and non-member banks of the Federal reserve system, the Federal reserve board has quietly directed that instant relief be afforded. In some instances large sums of gold and in others large quantities of notes have been shipped to points under stress with the result that financial uneasiness was localized.

Want to Create New State From West Virginia

Charles, W. Va., Dispatch, Feb. 16. A resolution was introduced in the West Virginia house of delegates today to create a new State from the counties of Ohio, Brooke, Hancock and Marshall with a view thereby providing sufficient revenue to pay the Virginia debt judgment. The four counties have an area of 589 square miles. The resolution provides that the four counties known as the pan-handle counties, pay the \$12,000,000 debt judgment by a bond issue in consideration for separate Statehood.

THRIFT DAY SALE AT R. D. CALDWELL & SON NEXT FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND MONDAY

Every housekeeper, man woman and child will be deeply interested and benefitted by Thrift Day Sale. It means a new day dawning in home economics. It means the cutting down of the high cost of living. Thrift day sale means financial preparedness for the coming days in this year's calendar. Watch for Thursday's Thrift Day ad.

THE FINAL SUMMONS

Mrs. Eugene Hood Passes—Funeral Yesterday

Mrs. Eugene Hood died at her home, Seventh street, Friday at 3:45 p. m. Deceased was 29 years and 4 months old and is survived by her husband and three small children—two girls and one boy. Mrs. Hood had been sick for several days and her death had been expected at almost any time. The funeral was conducted from the First Baptist church, of which deceased was a member, by the pastor, Rev. Chas. L. Greaves, at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The pallbearers were: Messrs. M. N. Folger, L. E. Smith, L. M. McKenzie, B. C. Rogers, I. L. McGill and J. F. Flowers. Interment was made in Meadow Brook cemetery. The floral offerings were most beautiful and showed in a small way the high esteem in which deceased was held by her many friends. She was the wife of the manager of the local exchange of the Southern Bell Telephone Co.

Mrs. Mollie West

Mrs. Mollie West, aged 33 years, died at her home about 3 1-2 miles east of town, yesterday morning at 3 o'clock. Deceased is survived by her husband and two children—one only a day old. The funeral took place this morning at 10 o'clock and interment was made in the family burying ground. Mrs. West was a daughter of the late Francis Floyd of the Bloomingdale section and had many relatives in South Robeson.

Mrs. F. J. Dow

Mrs. F. J. Dow, aged 33 years, died Saturday afternoon at her home at the National cotton mill. Death resulted from measles and complications.

Make McNeill, Colored

Make McNeill, colored, died suddenly Thursday afternoon. He fell on the streets in the western part of town and was carried to his home across the river and died within a few minutes.

IN REGARD TO QUARANTINE

Present System is Considered Best That Can be Enforced Without Neglecting More Important Health Work

To the Editor of The Robesonian: Just a word in regard to the quarantine of contagious diseases in the county.

It has been and is my desire to have as rigid a quarantine law as is practicable for the whole county without discriminating against or in favor of any one section. The county medical society and the board of health, the nominating and electing bodies for health work in the county, consider our present system the best that can be enforced without neglecting some more important health work.

A strict quarantine law that is not enforced is a danger rather than a security. It places the responsibility on an individual rather than the public, and destroys co-operation. Any town has the power to pass any quarantine law it desires if it wishes to enforce the same at its own expense.

B. W. PAGE, County Health Officer.

RURAL CARRIERS MEET 22ND

Regular Meeting of Robeson Rural Letter Carriers' Association

Correspondence of The Robesonian. The regular meeting of the Robeson County Rural Letter Carriers' association will be held in the court house on Thursday, February 22nd. We earnestly request that all the carriers in the county will meet with us on this date.

J. M. O. DENMARK, Secy.

Tabernacle Wins in Debate With Ten Mile

In a debate Friday night at Tabernacle school house in Howellsville township between Tabernacle and Ten Mile, Tabernacle won. The query was, "Resolved, That children between the ages of 6 and 16 years should be required by law to attend school 6 months in every year unless physically unfit." The negative was represented by Messrs. Vester and Worth M'White of the Ten Mile school, while Messrs. C. R. Taylor and J. B. Blackwell of Tabernacle argued the affirmative. All debaters delivered good speeches.

Saved Tobacco Plants

Mr. L. H. Britt, who lives on R. 4 from Lumberton, was in town Saturday. Mr. Britt says that he had plenty of fine tobacco plants that were not killed by the recent cold. He had saved his plants last year and got out an early crop from which he realized more than \$300 to the acre. He says he never covers his plant beds with the canvass used by most people, but always buys cloth to cover them.

Box Supper at Bethesda

Correspondence of The Robesonian. There will be a box supper at Bethesda Friday night of this week. Everybody is cordially invited to attend.

Mr. Clayton Singletary of R. 2 from Lumberton was in town Saturday

Misses Pearl and Harriet Humphrey and Pearl Howard spent the weekend at St. Paul visiting relatives.

Mr. G. B. Allen and his two daughters Misses Mary and Plumie, and his sister Miss Louisa Allen, of R. 7 from Lumberton, were among the visitors in town Friday.

BRIEF ITEMS OF LOCAL NEWS

—Messrs. D. H. Fuller and S. K. Nash attended a dance at Maxton Thursday night.

—Mr. C. M. Fuller returned this morning from St. Louis, Mo., where he spent several days buying mules for his sales stables.

—Local lodge I. O. O. F. has changed the night of meeting from Friday to Monday night of each week. All members are urged to attend the meeting tonight. Degree work.

—Nineteen years ago today—February 19, 1898—there were 12 inches of snow on the ground in Lumberton. So a citizen whose memory is good reminded "C." Wishart this morning.

—The stock and fixtures of Messrs. Townsend Bros., which firm made an assignment three weeks ago, will be sold at public auction tomorrow at 11 o'clock a. m. Mr. J. D. Norment is trustee. The stock consists of gents furnishing goods.

—Prof. J. R. Poole, county superintendent of public instruction, and Dr. B. W. Page, county health officer, visited the schools at Fairmont, Baltimore and Center Friday. They report the schools all progressing nicely and doing good work.

—Wilmington Star, 18th: Mrs. E. W. Stone will leave today for Richmond, Va., where Mr. Stone's sister, Miss Hattie Stone, is a patient in the hospital. Mrs. Stone will accompany her sister-in-law back to McDonald's N. C., where she will visit for some time.

—Mr. J. F. Morrison of Tampa, Fla., arrived Saturday and will spend some time visiting home folks. Mr. Morrison says the recent cold did great damage in Florida. He said two farmers whose crops were completely ruined by the cold committed suicide.

—The Doering orchestral quintet, composed entirely of ladies, gave a concert that was very much enjoyed by a fair-sized audience at the graded school auditorium Friday evening. This was the last number of the Lyceum course under the auspices of the Civic association.

—St. Paul Messenger: The electric light plant has been purchased by the Ernaldson Manufacturing company, and the dynamo was moved to their plant in town Tuesday. Owing to the change there were no lights Tuesday night but we are promised good lights hereafter.

—The banks in town will be closed Thursday—George Washington's birthday. Sunday hours will be observed at the postoffice and the rural mail carriers will not make their usual trips. The town carriers will only make one trip. This trip will be made just after the 10:05 a. m. Seaboard train comes in.

—The Robesonian has secured the services of Miss Eva Thompson of Fairmont as Fairmont correspondent of the paper. Both The Robesonian and Miss Thompson will appreciate it if the people of Fairmont will inform Miss Thompson of any news they may be in possession of that would be of interest to the reading public.

—Mrs. W. S. Britt left Saturday afternoon for Kershaw, S. C., in response to a telegram stating that her father, Mr. W. U. Clyburn, was sick. Mrs. J. C. Jenkins and two children, Esther and Mary Ada, of Kershaw, who had been guests for a week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Britt, Elm street, also left for Kershaw Saturday afternoon.

—Lieutenant Edward B. Dennis, recruiting officer, visited the local station on February 11 and accepted the following applicants for enlistment: Edgar A. Jordan, Walter A. Freeman, William C. Byrd, William C. Ferguson, Albert W. McIver, Harold J. Falstreaux, Percival C. Blake, Henry P. Anderson, all for infantry. Corporal Vogt is visiting postmasters at Pembroke, Maxton, Laurinburg, Aberdeen, Rockingham and Hamlet this week.

—Miss Jean Pratt of Henderson arrived last night from Bennettsville, S. C., where she had been visiting relatives, and is a guest at the home of Miss Josephine Breece, East Fifth street. Miss Pratt was head trimmer for Miss Breece for several years prior to last season. She was at Covington, Va., last season. Miss Pratt will accompany Miss Breece tomorrow when she leaves for Baltimore and New York to purchase spring and summer millinery.

GERMAN SUBMARINES LURKING OFF COAST OF CUBA

Ready for Campaign of Frightfulness When War is Declared

Galveston Dispatch, Feb. 16.

Four German submarines are lurking off the coast of Cuba ready to begin a reign of frightfulness as soon as war is declared, according to the information brought to Galveston today by Captain Nason of the American steam schooner Fort Bragg. Captain Nason says he obtained the information at Guantanamo.

Guantanamo harbor has been closed by an anti-submarine net which stretches across the entrance, Captain Nason declared, and permission to enter or leave the harbor must be obtained from the commander of the battleship Montana.

Of the 44 United States warships in Guantanamo harbor when the diplomatic break occurred, only the Montana is left, Nason says, the others having scattered immediately.

Messrs. A. C. and Jno. A. McLeod of Buie were in Lumberton visitors Friday.