

THE WEATHER:

Fair Tuesday, warmer later; Wednesday fair, warmer on the coast.

The News and Observer

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SIXTEEN PAGES TODAY.

RALEIGH, N. C., TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 23, 1920.

SIXTEEN PAGES TODAY.

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

SIMS SAYS THAT WARNING TO HIM WAS FROM BENSON

"Don't Let British Pull Wool Over Your Eyes," Admonition Given

RELUCTANT TO NAME STATEMENT'S AUTHOR

Admiral Concedes He Was Indiscreet In Showing Letter Criticizing Navy Department; Thought Admiral Benson Strongly Anti-British. But a Very Upright Man

Washington, March 22.—Rear Admiral Sims told the Senate investigating committee today that Rear Admiral Benson, chief of naval operations during the war and now chairman of the shipping board, was the officer who told him "not to let the British pull the wool over your eyes, we would as soon fight them as the Germans."

This was not a formal instruction, the Admiral said, but was told to him in the presence of other naval officers after Secretary Daniels had given him final instructions just before his departure overseas where he later became commander of American naval forces. It was repeated the following day, he declared, and again six months later when Admiral Benson visited Paris.

Admiral Sims was reluctant to reveal the name of the officer making the statement, explaining that he had kept his personality and that he wished to continue to do so. Chairman Hale insisted, however.

Criticized Navy Department. Cross examination by Senator Pittman, Democrat, Nevada, developed that Admiral Sims had shown his letter criticizing the navy department's conduct of the war to Henry P. Davison of New York about the middle of January while he was a guest at Mr. Davison's home. Admiral Sims conceded that this was "an indiscretion."

Senator Pittman said he had reason to believe that a copy of the same letter had found its way to a Washington newspaper correspondent who probably would be called later.

Says Benson Anti-British. Explaining his interpretation of what Admiral Benson said to him, the witness said he had not given the statement serious consideration, a fact which he had assumed that it resulted from what he described as an intensely anti-British feeling entertained by Admiral Benson. He added that Admiral Benson was an "upstanding and honest man," exceedingly strong in his adherence to his convictions. It was due to Benson's personal confidence in him that he was sent abroad and later reached the highest naval post overseas, the officer stated.

Commenting briefly on Secretary Daniels' statement before the committee, Admiral Sims said that "in his testimony on awards the Secretary stated that he had reminded me of the indiscretion in a speech I made at Guild Hall.

"The Secretary's recollection on that point is thoroughly mistaken," the witness added. "No reference was made by anybody in the Navy Department to that occasion."

In reply to questions by Senator Pittman calculated to bring out what he made public his letter regarding naval decorations before Secretary Daniels received it, Admiral Sims declared that neither he nor any member of his staff gave the matter any publicity.

Admiral Sims said he included Admiral Benson's remark in his letter to Secretary Daniels on January 7 regarding the navy's part in the war because "a man has a prejudice against men fighting alongside of him it has an unconscious influence on him."

Benson Upright Man. The Admiral told the committee he had always regarded the admonition as "a personal prejudice on the part of Admiral Benson." He described the former chief of operations as "an upstanding, honest man who has strong convictions," and said he believed everything Admiral Benson did "during the war was done conscientiously."

It was due largely to Admiral Benson's confidence in him that he was selected to the high post he occupied during the war, Admiral Sims said, adding that in urging his selection Admiral Benson incurred the dislike of many officers senior to Admiral Sims who desired the post.

Senator Pittman, Democrat, Nevada, asked if in view of the anti-British sentiments of Admiral Benson, that officer had not acted in a "crude-minded way in sending Admiral Sims to London.

The witness replied that Admiral Benson had always been "fair and square."

Senator Pittman and Chairman Hale clashed sharply over the form in which the Nevada Senator put some of his questions, the chairman insisting that Senator Pittman confine his questions to the text of Admiral Sims' direct testimony.

"There need be no discourtesy here," Senator Hale said, "and we will have none."

"No, I will not tolerate any," said Senator Pittman. "I have realized that you were going to try to break up this cross examination."

WASHINGTON RATIFIES SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT

Olympia, Wash., March 22.—Ratification of the proposed suffrage amendment to the Federal constitution was completed by the Washington legislature late today, when the Senate unanimously passed a resolution ratifying the amendment. The resolution had previously been passed by the House. Washington was the thirty-fifth State to ratify the amendment.

SPRING FEVER ATTACKS OLD AURORA BOREALIS

Kicks Up Heels, Dances all Over Sky and Plays Franks With Telegraph

New York, March 22.—Aurora Borealis was attacked tonight with spring fever. He kicked up his heels, danced all over the sky and put telegraph wires out of commission from the Atlantic seaboard to the far West. The wire chief at Western Union headquarters tried to take the patient's "pulse," but reported the company had no instruments strong enough to measure the voltage in the electrical currents which swept across the heavens. Nature's skylarking in the northland made telegraphy an impossibility for fifteen minutes—a record in this vicinity—and caused a flurry in newspaper offices all over the country, when news westward bound was held up.

There were interruptions in telegraph service early in the evening but the complete tie-up came at 9:45. By 10 o'clock the Western Union reported it was beginning to record some of its circuits but a realignment or balancing was necessary.

The American Telephone and Telegraph Company, which also reported its telegraph service was completely demoralized, said the southern lights had not interrupted its local or long distance telephone service. Cable terminals were hard hit, while wireless apparatus waged an unequal fight against nature for command of the air.

There will be many a stiff neck in New York tomorrow. Men, women and children lifted their faces forty-five degrees to miss not a flash of the free electrical display. The encyclopedia lists various types of the phenomenon—ares, bands, curtains and coronas—and there were star gazers to be found who solemnly swore they had detected each type.

The Aurora Borealis was plainly visible in Raleigh and vicinity, and was reported to be playing his pranks over the northern skies as far south as Florida. The spectacular display attracted attention all over the country.

Washington, March 22.—The Aurora Borealis was visible in the far South tonight, in some sections the electrical display having been seen for the first time in years. In Columbia and Charleston, S. C., the northern lights were seen distinctly and Montgomery, Ala., and cities in Tennessee reported a remarkable exhibition.

Throughout North Carolina and Virginia great bands of light flashed across the skies, and in Washington the display had the appearance of beams from giant searchlights.

The electrical discharge played havoc with wire communication throughout the North from early in the evening until shortly before midnight, the only lines escaping with minor interruption being those running south along the Atlantic coast.

WASHINGTON WOMAN ON CIVIL SERVICE BODY

Mrs. Helen Hamilton Gardner Succeeds Commissioner Charles M. Galloway

Washington, March 22.—Helen Hamilton Gardner of this city, widow of Colonel S. A. Day, and author and lecturer, was nominated by President Wilson to be a member of the civil service commission. She will succeed Commissioner Charles M. Galloway, of Columbia, S. C., who was "ousted" from the commission last year after the President had determined to reorganize it.

Mrs. Gardner, who is the first woman to be appointed to the commission, was born in Winchester, Va., 62 years ago, and has been prominent in suffrage work for a number of years. She also is the author of many short stories and essays.

With her appointment the reorganization of the commission is complete, the other members being Martin A. Morrison, of Indiana, and George P. Walsh, of Vermont.

Reorganization of the commission was determined upon by the President last March, but Dr. Galloway did not comply until last September with the President's request that he resign. Upon his retirement he issued a statement saying that he and Herman W. Craven, Republican member, had been asked to retire because they "were asking the commission should be a mere adjunct to the postoffice department and subservient to it, especially with reference to examinations for presidential postmasters."

Washington, March 22.—"All our lives we have heard of the office seeking the man," Mrs. Gardner wrote the President, thanking him for the nomination. "But it is something quite new in the history of the world for the office to seek the woman."

Mrs. Gardner said her first impulse was to decline, but upon reflection "realized that since women are for the first time to enter fully into the benefits of American citizenship, they must not refuse to take up such duties as are laid upon them."

Center Gets Decision. New Orleans, La., March 22.—Kid Coater, of New Orleans, was given the decision over Jimmy Kage, of New York, in the fifteenth round of their fight here tonight. The men are featherweights.

NOTIFICATION TO ALLIES OF STATUS OF TREATY LIKELY

Diplomats Think Notice of Senate's Refusal to Ratify Will Be Sent

SOME THINK WILSON WILL ANNOUNCE PLANS

Many Varieties of Opinion In Senate and House; Mild Reservation Republicans Adverse To Saying Treaty or League of Nations Dead; Talk of Separate Peace

Washington, March 22.—In the absence of any authoritative prediction of what President Wilson would do with the unratified treaty with Germany, the impression gained weight in diplomatic circles today that the first step probably would be a notification to the other powers that ratification had been refused by the Senate.

Diplomats holding that view pointed out that such a notification could be given to clarify the status of relations between the United States and the other powers, regardless of what decision the President might make later on the question of the treaty's reversion to the Senate or negotiations of a separate peace.

In some quarters it was predicted that Mr. Wilson might, however, combine a notification of the treaty's failure with an announcement of his future purpose in the matter, in order that the nations that have ratified may be advised of what course they can expect developments here to take.

Senate leaders are understood to have been influenced in part by such a possibility in their decision to delay action on a declaration of peace, preferring to know what the President will do before they take any further steps. Today there was some discussion of the peace declaration proposal in informal conferences among Senators, but it was predicted that it would not come up on the floor for two weeks or more.

Much Discussion In Congress. There are many varieties of opinion in Senate and House, both of which would have to act on a peace resolution as to the exact form the declaration should take. Mild reservation Republicans have told their party leaders they would be adverse to including any statement of policy which would regard the treaty and the League of Nations as dead, while Republican irreconcilables want questions of policy left out of the resolution entirely.

In predicting that a notification might be sent to the other powers of the Senate's return of the treaty to the President, diplomats pointed out that in the case had taken a different aspect since the adverse ratification votes in November. On that occasion the treaty was not sent back to the President and it was possible for him to preserve silence as it was well enough understood that the pact having been left with the Senate, the initiative in further action was left wholly with that body.

No Great Difficulties. The question of establishing a modus vivendi with the allies over clauses of the Versailles treaty in which the United States is inextricably bound by her interests, in case a separate peace with Germany is decided upon, is not believed to offer great difficulties. Officials of the allies, it is thought, would be quick to endeavor to reach an understanding which might preserve ties established by the war.

In some diplomatic quarters it was thought probable that a separate peace might be established with Germany, a modus vivendi negotiated with the allies and the question of the covenant of the League of Nations alone left to the "solemn referendum" of the nation.

The fate of the French defensive treaty appears to diplomatic officials to have been completely forgotten.

ADMIRAL M'GOWAN COMES OUT AGAINST A BONUS

American Legion Decides To Put Proposition Squarely Up To Congress

Washington, March 22.—The executive committee of the American Legion tonight put up to Congress the proposal to pay adjusted compensation to former service men and women at the rate of \$1.50 for every day of service.

This action reversed the previous vote taken by the committee which recorded 37 state representatives in favor of the legislative committee's plan for cash relief at one dollar a day, which was adopted as a substitute for the original proposal of \$50 a month. The committee's determination to boost relief followed a general review of a composite bill which the Legion will present to the House and means committee Wednesday, including privileged land settlement, home building, aid and extension of vocational training.

All provisions of the bill, except the award of cash based on the period of service, were adopted unanimously. Strong opposition developed tonight, however, to the \$50 a month plan, and by a vote of 35 to 14, was fixed at \$1.50 a day.

TWO APPOINTMENTS ARE CONFIRMED BY SENATE

Washington, March 22.—The Senate today confirmed the nomination of Charles E. Crane, of Chicago, to be minister to China, and Wm. H. Joyce, of Berkeley California, to be a member of the Farm Loan Board.

Chicago Beats Pennsylvania. Chicago, March 22.—The University of Chicago defeated the University of Pennsylvania, twenty-eight to twenty-four tonight in the first of three games for the national intercollegiate basketball championship.

JOINT RAILROAD WAGE BOARD NOW FULLY ORGANIZED

Committee Representing Roads and Unions Complete Big Task

READY TO GO INTO WORKERS' DEMANDS

Task of Re-Examining Records Already Begun; Minor Points of Difference Be Taken Up First; Unions Claim Victory On One Point; Heavy Increase In Running Roads

Washington, March 22.—Formation of the joint railroad wage board was completed here tonight by the conference committee, representing the railroad corporations and the sixteen railroad unions, which elected E. P. White, of the Pennsylvania railroad, chairman. The bi-partisan body now is ready to begin consideration of the wage demands of the two million workers made last August and which since have been twice before the President without a settlement being reached.

The board today began the task of re-examination of the voluminous records and data, gathered by the wage adjustment boards of the railroad administration, with respect to the workers' claims. Contrary to the union forecast, the corporation representatives agreed to include these as part of the board's wage records and to employ them as far as practicable, as a basis upon which to discuss the long drawn out controversy.

According to present indications, the board will not deal with the question as a whole until countless minor points of differences have been eliminated. Members were said to have proposed that the wage demands be taken up by classes, adjustments reached and individual controversies settled and then the basis of a general percentage of increases discussed.

Specifics First. The suggestion of the President that the board should give close study to the relationship between present railroad wages and the cost of living and also to the pay of labor in other lines of industry, probably will not enter into the conference until toward the end. The disposition seemed to be to talk "specifics rather than generalities" at the outset and on this point, union leaders said they had won. They believed that when they had succeeded in avoiding "meandering discussions" they had broken away from the bunker which they said they always had met in wage meetings prior to Federal control.

The railroad representatives explained that the Association of Railroad Executives had instructed them to enter the negotiations in "a spirit of co-operation," but they reminded the union leaders that financial responsibility rested on the shoulders of the corporations, which must be considered when wage claims were under consideration. Reference was made, it was said, to the hearings now before the Interstate Commerce Commission and the statement made that wage increases hinge upon higher rates which mean more revenue.

Report Scouted. Union leaders scouted the report that their demands would aggregate an additional \$1,000,000,000 on railroad operating expenses. Spokesmen asserted that "no living man" could ascertain the exact amount which would be added to the payrolls because of the intricacy of the wage scales. That there will be a heavy increase, the leaders admitted, but its proportions, they did not believe would attain any such aggregate.

"I was walking across my farm out in Iowa last summer," he went on, "and I came across a son of a tenant sweating in the midday heat. So, I asked him how long do you work out here and he told me that he worked from six in the morning till six at night."

"And what do you get for working that long?" I asked him. "Nothing if I do and hell if I don't," he replied. And that has been the attitude of the country toward the farmer for too long. It is the history of agriculture in this

Plends For the Farmer. "I was walking across my farm out in Iowa last summer," he went on, "and I came across a son of a tenant sweating in the midday heat. So, I asked him how long do you work out here and he told me that he worked from six in the morning till six at night."

PROPOSE \$1.50 A DAY RELIEF FOR SOLDIERS

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NEW BERN'S YOUNG MEN BOOSTING FOR BIGGER PROGRAM

Four Hundred Citizens With Many Prominent Speakers Attend Banquet

CARL VROOMAN TALKS ABOUT THE NEW DAY

Congressmen John H. Small and Samuel M. Brinson Bring Messages of Encouragement To Craven County Folks; Chamber Commerce Begins Membership Campaign

By BEN DIXON MacNEILL. (Staff Correspondent.) New Bern, March 22.—New Bern's rejuvenated Chamber of Commerce, with a program of development that includes not only the Craven county capital but the agricultural, commercial and industrial expansion of all northeastern North Carolina, launched its campaign for membership here tonight in the banquet room of Centenary Methodist church. Four hundred citizens of the county and many from adjoining counties were present. There were addresses with abounding enthusiasm and tomorrow the committee of fifteen will begin the drive for new members.

Hon. Carl Vrooman, former assistant Secretary of Agriculture, was the principal speaker of the occasion, and appearing with him on the program were Congressmen S. M. Brinson and John H. Small. Charles L. Abernethy, a candidate for Congress against Mr. Brinson, and several other local citizens called on for impromptu speeches, Senator F. M. Simmons, scheduled for a speech, was detained in Washington but sent his felicitations for the occasion. Committee of Fifteen.

The new Chamber of Commerce is to be the work of the younger business men of the city. A committee of fifteen of them promoted the banquet tonight, arranged its details, secured the speakers, and set facing the tables across the speakers' table were the four hundred gathered around the festive board. At the invitation of C. C. Kirkpatrick, secretary of the chamber, they arose and faced the audience. The dinner stood and cheered them. It required more for the disposal for the sumptuous repast that was spread before the 400 guests, and the tables cleared for the oratory. R. M. Kirkpatrick spoke first, following was Congressman Brinson, Mr. Vrooman, Mr. Abernethy and concluding was Mr. Small.

Mr. Vrooman is a westerner and speaks with the simple directness of people from his part of the country. He admitted that he was called a scholar and a farmer out in his country, but that the farmers called him a scholar and the scholars called him a farmer. He has been spending the winter in North Carolina since he left the Department of Agriculture and likes the things that nature has done for the State. Being a farmer he said that he could appreciate what the resources of the State were. He had looked Craven county over today and pronounced it a Garden of Eden provided it is developed along the lines the committee of fifteen has in its mind.

"I was walking across my farm out in Iowa last summer," he went on, "and I came across a son of a tenant sweating in the midday heat. So, I asked him how long do you work out here and he told me that he worked from six in the morning till six at night."

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CONGRESS CAN'T BRING PEACE BY RESOLUTION

Senator Hitchcock So Declares, Because of Constitutional Obstacles

Augusta, Ga., March 22.—Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, in charge of the Democratic fight for ratification of the peace treaty, expressed the opinion here today that the plan to have Congress declare peace by resolution would fail because of "constitutional obstacles."

Senator Hitchcock said: "There is a disposition among certain Senators to attempt to terminate the war with the adoption by the Senate and the House of a concurrent resolution declaring that a state of peace exists, his resolution to be signed by the President, but I am of the opinion that this cannot be done because in the framing of the constitution of the United States the war-making function was delegated to Congress, but the right to terminate war by the negotiation of a peace treaty was vested in the Chief Executive. My opinion is that the framers of the constitution acted wisely in that respect, for while the declaration of war requires action by one party to the conflict there must be negotiation and agreement between both parties when peace is effectuated. Under our laws, action on behalf of the United States terminating a war is vested in the President, and I am of the opinion that the plan of Senator Knox and his colleagues, to restore peace by the passage of a resolution declaring a state of peace exists, will fall on account of constitutional obstacles."

There was no objection to the nomination of Blairbridge Colby as secretary of state was confirmed late today by the Senate.

It was understood that no objection was raised to confirmation of the nomination which has been the subject of extended secret hearings by the foreign relations committee. There was no record vote on confirmation.

Senator Lodge, Republican leader, and chairman of the foreign relations committee, presented Mr. Colby's name with favorable recommendation of the committee and Senator Jones, Republican, Washington, immediately asked for a vote.

Several Republican Senators who have been regarded as critics or opponents of Mr. Colby were not present at the session. Testimony before the foreign relations committee was not made public. Senator Lodge said that publication rested with the committee, which has maintained uniform and decided reluctance regarding statements of all witnesses, including the final statement last week of Mr. Colby. Word reached the State Department late today that Mr. Colby had left New York for Washington and would take oath of office tomorrow.

The first business to receive the new secretary's attention will be the issuance of about 4,000 passports that have accumulated since Under Secretary of State Folk ceased to act as secretary. Reorganization of the department also will be one of the tasks that will confront the new secretary. There are many vacancies among the subordinate offices to be filled, and the office of assistant secretary has been vacant since William Phillips was appointed minister to the Netherlands. Under Secretary Folk will resign as soon as Mr. Colby gets the machinery of the office running smoothly.

Third Assistant Secretary Long is planning to resign soon in order to give more attention to his candidacy for the Senate from Missouri.

G. O. P. SENATOR GIVEN PRISON TERM



Senator Truman H. Newberry, found guilty of election frauds in Michigan and given a sentence of two years in Federal Prison, served as Secretary of the Navy in President Roosevelt's cabinet.

APPOINTMENT OF COLBY GETS OKAY

Without Record Vote Senate Confirms Nomination As Secretary of State

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PALMER UNABLE TO MAKE ADDRESS TO GASTON LAWYERS

Attorney General Finds That All of His Time Will Be Taken In Georgia

SENATOR HOKE SMITH BOOSTED AS CANDIDATE

Georgia Senator Attempts To Head Off Palmer and Hoover Movement In Favor of Senator Jim Reed; Navy Department Releases Quantity of Nitrates For Farmers

The News and Observer Bureau, 603 District National Bank Bldg. By R. E. POWELL. (By Special Licensed Wire.) Washington, March 22.—Announcement from Attorney General Palmer that he will be unable to make a stop in North Carolina on his way to and from Georgia is accepted about the Capitol as an indication that Mr. Palmer expects to spend all the time at his disposal between now and the Georgia primaries, April 24, campaigning further south than Georgia.

The Attorney General had been urged by the lawyers at Gastonia to stop over there for the annual banquet of the Bar Association. He at first indicated to Senator Simmons and Representative Hoey that he would be delighted to meet the Tar Heels if the date, originally March 24, were changed just a little. This was done Saturday. It began to look as if all Mr. Palmer's time was needed for his Georgia campaign.

This morning he called Senator Simmons on the phone and said that his present plans would prevent a stop over at Gastonia. Then there was a period to the conversation. It is not hard to see just why he wants to spend the time in Georgia.

Smith To Enter Race. Senator Hoke Smith is in Georgia and advice coming back to Washington indicate that his bid will be the ring within a ring of 48 hours. The Georgia Senator, finding that Senator Jim Reed can't mobilize many Democratic votes in his State, must either run himself or find somebody to head off the Palmer and Hoover movement and, what amounts to more, knock a spoke or two out of the wheels of an anti-Smith organization which appears from a distance to be gaining much headway.

This anti-Smith machine is headed, nominally, by Pleasant Stovall, former Savannah publisher who has recently resigned his post as ambassador in Switzerland and returned to Georgia. Mr. Stovall has been made chairman of the Palmer campaign committee and besides putting in some telling blows for Mr. Palmer, is said to be getting much encouragement from administration Democrats to oppose Senator Smith who comes up for election this time.

Stovall, Georgians say, is very popular and well fitted to succeed Senator Smith in the United States Senate. It is conceded that his counsel give to some Georgia Senators quite an interesting light whether he is tied to the coat tail of the President or not. He has been well schooled as an administration Democrat. In fact he was one of the President's earliest appointees after the Democrats came into power in 1912.

Head Off Hoover Boom. As mentioned before in this correspondence, the situation in Georgia, brought about by the calling of a Presidential preference primary, is the headline political attraction in the South. How the national campaign, Clark Howell, national commissioner and publisher of the powerful Atlanta Constitution, is leaving no stone unturned to have a delegation go to San Francisco pledged to Palmer. In the first place, the Attorney General is popular in Georgia. In the second place, then the Hoover wave flared up in Georgia with the "guess what I have in my hand" appeal, it became necessary for the administration supporters in Georgia to check it. The Atlanta Journal with its large following in the State, was booming Hoover several times a day and Georgians began to insist that they were going to vote for him.

Then Mr. Palmer shield a hat in the ring and the Hoover-Palmer battle got fairly under way. As the situation stood, Tom Watson and Tom Hardwick were "out in the cold" and neither one had anybody to boom. They tried out Senator Jim Reed and found that he wouldn't go. The Missouri Legislature had rebuffed him for his fight on the League of Nations and even the Georgians mildly opposed to the pact were afraid to use him to get the anti-league vote.

Smith Goes to Georgia. So it was Senator Smith or surrender, and surrender to well-known advocates of the League. On this score, neither Mr. Hoover nor Mr. Palmer appealed to Senator Smith, ex-Senator Hardwick, or the former candidate for vice-president on the Populist ticket. But Senator Smith was letting things move along as they would. He had heard rumblings of opposition in the State, but he didn't take said rumblings seriously. He denounced Hoover, then said he couldn't go, and finally declared he would "see him." In the meanwhile, news came coming to Washington that Stovall, making the fight for Palmer in Georgia, was building up an organization that would nominate him for the United States Senate to succeed Senator Smith. This is the first thing that alarmed Senator Smith. In order to hold his Georgia following, some means had to be devised to head off the friends of his who were lining up with Stovall for Palmer. There was only one thing to

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