

THE WEATHER
North Carolina—Friday and Saturday, not much change in the temperature.

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SIXTEEN PAGES TODAY.

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DAVE BLAIR STILL ROAMING AROUND ON CAPITOL HILL

Winston-Salem Candidate Views Outlook For Landing Job Quite Philosophically

TENNESSEE POLITICIAN GETS INTO THE RUNNING

Illinois Banker Has Ear Of Secretary Mellon and May Be Named Commissioner Of Internal Revenue; Judge Bynum Leads Carolinians In Race For Circuit Judge

The News and Observer Bureau, 603 District National Bank Bldg. By EDWARD E. BRITTON. (By Special Leased Wire.)

Washington, April 14.—Dave Blair, of Winston-Salem, was still on the job today of slipping things up to be appointed Commissioner of Internal Revenue. On yesterday he saw George E. Christian, secretary to the President, and today he saw President Harding and talked with him about appointment.

"As I understand the matter," said Mr. Blair, "the matter is still an open one, no decision having been reached, and I feel that I have a chance." Mr. Blair did not hesitate to discuss the points of availability of the other men who are seeking the place, and spoke of Robert W. Blair, of Wytchville, Va., and Detroit, Michigan, with a record of 16 years in the revenue service, enlistment in the World War as a private and emerging as a major; of Col. Edward Clifford, of Illinois, and his reputation as a banker and business man as well as the desire of the administration to do something for Illinois; of ex-Governor Ben W. Hooper, of Tennessee, and the feeling that the record of Tennessee in the last election, and its position as a Southern State going Republican, was one to help his cause. Mr. Blair's plans were to leave tonight for his home at Winston-Salem unless something turns up to hold him over.

Hooper Making Good Showing

Friends of Colonel Clifford denied today that he was out of the running as had been reported yesterday, and held that his chances have improved, while it is getting more and more evident that ex-Governor Hooper, of Tennessee, is being considered carefully. Secretary Mellon is said to be very favorably disposed toward Colonel Clifford because of his banking and business activities. But no one is forgetting Joseph H. McDermott, of West Virginia, who with Colonel Clifford has shared the honor of being regarded as in the lead. Notwithstanding the multiplicity of candidates there is no doubt that Mr. Blair of North Carolina holds on to hopes that he will be chosen, and that the committee that came here in his behalf a few days ago holds that he has a big chance to land. But the field has narrowed and a decision is early expected.

Talk here favors the idea that Judge W. P. Bynum, of Greensboro, has the best of it if a North Carolinian is chosen as successor to the late Judge Pritchard. His friends are active in his behalf and it is reported that there will be many petitions from lawyers throughout the State sent to Washington endorsing him for the vacant Federal judgeship. There is talk also that Frank Linnay, Republican State chairman, has his eye on the place and that he is going to make a fight of it. It is true that there will be another live time in the State as to what Republican will be put forward as the machine candidate for district attorney. David H. Blair holds that Judge Bynum is the man for the judgeship. Speaking of the matter this afternoon, he said:

"The only possible chance for North Carolina to get the appointment is for the Republicans to put forward a man of overwhelming ability and prominent State status. Judge William P. Bynum is just that sort of a man. It would be wise for the Republicans of North Carolina to unite upon him."

McLeod Heads New Bank

With about \$200,000 already subscribed such progress is reported in starting the million dollar trust company with North Carolina active work is adding to the subscription list. The company is to have for its president, George B. McLeod, of Lumberton, former State Senator from Robeson county, who has in the last few years been connected with oil interests in Oklahoma, and who is said to have landed quite a bag of cash. Percy Foster, of Washington, a well known citizen, is to be a vice president and treasurer of the organization, while Robert W. Laastler, formerly of Oxford, is to be another vice president, with Attorney Robert H. McNeill, formerly of Wilkesboro, another vice president and counsel. The organization announces that it is to have a modern bank building. Stock in the proposed bank is being sold by the Premier Finance Company, which has organized other banks on "Pewee plan." The par value of the stock is set at \$20 a share while the price asked is \$25 a share. The subscription blank says with regard to the extra \$5 asked that "it is understood and agreed that not more than \$5 per share of this subscription shall be used by the Premier Finance Company in defraying all expenses of every description, incident to the organization of the proposed banking trust and mortgage company including attorney's fees, charter, printing, advertising, franchise tax, clerical hire, and complete equipment of the banking trust and mortgage company." All this work is to be done immediately upon the completion of the sale of the stock.

Some Far Reel News

Announcement is made by the War Department that Robert T. Amis, post-office at Virginia, designated by Senator Simmons for appointment to West Point, is to submit an educational certificate with a view to admission on July 1.

LABOR BOARD PUTS STOP TO NATIONAL AGREEMENTS PLAN

Orders Abrogation Of National Agreements Effective July First

CALLS CONFERENCES TO PASS UPON DISPUTES

Decision Of Board Automatically Refers All Disputes As To Working Conditions and Rules Back To Individual Conferences Between Roads and Their Employees

Chicago, April 14.—(By the Associated Press.)—National agreements defining working conditions for employes on all American railroads formerly under the Federal railroad administration, were today ordered abrogated, effective July 1, 1921, by the United States Railroad Labor Board.

The board calls upon the officers and system organizations of employes of each road to select representatives "to confer and to decide" as much of the "rule" controversy as possible. "Such conferences shall begin at the earliest possible date," the decision said.

While the decision did not specifically say so, members of the board said that all disputes as to rules and working conditions automatically were referred back to individual conferences between each individual road and its employes. This method of procedure had been sought by the railroads, whereas the labor side had favored a national conference between representatives of all roads and all unions.

Employes Affected

The decision affected all railroad employes except those in train service, who are under separate agreements between the individual railroads and the four big brotherhoods.

In connection with the conference negotiations the board laid down a set of sixteen principles to serve as a foundation for any rules which may be agreed to in the conference. The present general rules hearing before the labor board, which has been in progress since January 10, will continue until both sides have completed their testimony, following which the board "will promulgate such rules as it determines just and reasonable as soon after July 1, 1921, as is reasonably possible, and will make them effective as of July 1, 1921."

The sixteen principles outlined by the board were drawn up by Henry F. Hunt of the public group and upheld the right of the employes to organize for lawful purposes, the right to negotiate through representatives of their choosing, the right of seniority and the principle of the eight-hour day. It was specified that "eight hours work must be given for eight hours pay." Espionage should not be practiced by either side, the decision said, and employes' representatives should have the right to make an agreement applying to all employes in the craft or class of the representatives.

How America Went Into War Told by Former Secretary Daniels

Two momentous pre-war cabinet meetings—Repressed emotion marks members of cabinet as they assemble—One thought dominates all minds—"Parley is no longer possible"—President reads German note aloud—Decision to break relations is unanimous—Daniels, convinced hostilities are near, sends warning to Navy—Meeting of March 29 brings supreme decision—Ten men vote for war—Special session of Congress advanced two weeks—"I want to do right, whether it is popular or not"—May ordered to bring Atlantic fleet to Hampton roads.

By JOSEPHUS DANIELS
Former Secretary of the Navy—1918 to 1921.

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"I want to do right, whether it is popular or not." The words fell solemnly and deliberately from the lips of President Wilson as his eyes searched the souls of the grave-faced men gathered about the cabinet table.

Already the clamor and counter-clamor was rising from the country. The sympathies and prejudices of men were finding voice; passions were being stirred to utterance. The echo of the tumult could not be excluded wholly from the cabinet room. Each of us felt the vibration of popular sentiment and demand; each of us needed the steady words of our great leader.

I give them the place of prominence in this article, which is to tell the story of two momentous pre-war cabinet meetings, because I believe they express, better than anything I could say, the spirit and attitude of Woodrow Wilson from the first days of America's crisis to the hour when he resigned the cares of office.

It is my conviction, as a result of close association with him in times of supreme stress, that in every great question the principle embodied in his simple but profound utterance controlled the course he ultimately decided to take. When he made up his mind that a thing was right, that it should be done, he did it, regardless of its effect on his party or his personal fortunes.

"Man for the Job."

His critics say that he made mistakes. He may have made some; yet I doubt if any other man of our generation in his position would have made as few.

When he stepped from the White House a few weeks ago one of his bitterest newspaper critics, referring to his leadership during his war years, said of him, "He was the man for the war."

Even his bitterest enemies cannot question his motives or his purity of purpose. I can say without reservation that, during the entire eight years of his administration, I have never known of a single instance in which he did not act in accordance with his convictions. It has always been his custom not to ask, "Is this popular?" but "Is it right?"

As I intimated in my first article, the navy was ready for mobilization within 24 hours after Bernstorff had delivered his U-boat ultimatum—in effect it was that—to the State Department. The word had gone to every ship and station on Thursday, February 1.

A cabinet meeting was called for the afternoon of Friday, February 5.

As we assembled not one of us failed to realize the significance of the occasion. The hour had come for a tremendous decision. The time for negotiation and parley was at an end. This conviction, I believe, was in the soul of every man who rose to greet the President when he entered the room.

The solemnity of the moment had intensified the austerity which those who do not know him well mistakenly suppose to be his prevailing humor. As I shall show later, Woodrow Wilson is a man of geniality and humor.

But this was a day when only serious thoughts could hold place in any mind. The destiny of 100,000,000 people lay in the hands of the President of the United States—perhaps the destiny of the world.

No man there had failed to read the text of the German note which was the occasion of our meeting, but the President, in measured tones, giving weight to every significant syllable, read it to us again.

Cabinet in Unanimous

I have no doubt his mind was already made up as to the right course to take, but before expressing an opinion, he called upon his colleagues to declare their views. Each man spoke freely and frankly what he thought. Expressions varied in tone and in approach to the main problem, but all agreed upon one thing—the time had come when diplomatic relations with Germany must be severed.

This was the President's belief. Nor do I think it was any surprise to him that his colleagues were unanimous in support of it. The cabinet stood as a unit for the dismissal of Ambassador Bernstorff and the ending of all further traffic with the empire of the Hohenzollerns.

Although the session lasted for several hours, this decision was reached comparatively early. It had required no debate. The unanswerable argument was before us in the German note—defiant, peremptory, barbaric.

The remaining time was devoted to discussing what should be the next step in the various departments of the government, more particularly in those of state, war and navy. The severance of relations, it was realized would create

VETERAN LEADER IN POLITICS DIES IN NORTHAMPTON

Captain Thomas Williams Mason Long One Of North Carolina's Prominent Men

CAPTAIN ON STAFF OF GENERAL RANSOM

Native Of Virginia But Educated At University Of North Carolina and Lived For Nearly Sixty Years In North Carolina; One Of The State's Foremost Orators

Garysburg, April 14.—Captain Thomas Williams Mason, one of the most noted citizens of Eastern North Carolina, died at his home, "Longview," near here this morning at the age of 84. Funeral services will take place at Garysburg tomorrow afternoon at 4:30 o'clock.

Chosen five times to represent his county in the General Assembly, Captain Mason was universally considered the most beloved man in Northampton county and the whole of his life was spent in the service of his State. A successful lawyer, he was also one of the largest land owners of this section.

Joining the army in the Civil War when but a boy he served throughout that bitter struggle, being attached to the staff of General Robert Ransom as captain.

Captain Mason graduated from the University of North Carolina and studied law at the University of Virginia. In 1885 he was elected to his first term in the State Senate and was a member from 1891 to 1905 of the North Carolina Railroad Commission, upon the formation of that body.

In 1895 Captain Mason was the nominee of the Democratic party for the United States Senate, being defeated in the election by former Senator Marion Butler. In 1896 he was also the candidate of his party for Lieutenant Governor on the ticket with Cyrus Watson, of Winston-Salem.

Eren in his latter years Captain Mason was actively interested in public affairs and in 1915 he represented his county for the fifth and last time in the General Assembly, sitting in the House beside his grandson, Senator William Lunsford Long, of Halifax, president pro tempore of 1921 Senate. Although then in feeble health, Captain Mason was deeply stirred by the cause of his country in the war with Germany and was a leader in his county in all patriotic movements.

Captain Mason was born in Brunswick county, Virginia, but removed to this county shortly after his marriage, when a young man to Miss Betty Gray, daughter of Major William Gray, of Northampton county. He is survived by two daughters, Mrs. L. M. Long and Miss Ruth Mason, and the following grandchildren: Senator W. L. Long and Dr. T. W. M. Long, and Mrs. F. G. Jarman, all of Bonoke Rapids, and W. J. Long and L. M. Long, of Garysburg.

Captain Mason had become prominently identified with Raleigh, by virtue of his services in the Legislature and on the railroad commission and news of his death was received here.

(Continued on Page Twelve.)

POWER COMPANY SHAKES BIG STICK; BREATHES THREAT

MORE THREATS IN SUPREME COURT

Southern Power Wants Mandamus Of Lower Court Set Aside

Threats of the Southern Power Company to discontinue furnishing electric current to the North Carolina Public Service Co., operating the street railways in Salisbury, High Point, and Greensboro, came a second time to the Supreme court yesterday morning when argument was heard on the petition of the Power Company to reverse the mandamus order of the lower court, and the order refusing the transfer of the case to the Federal Court.

More than two years have elapsed since the case first appeared on the docket of the State courts after the Power Company had threatened to cut off power in Salisbury and later in Greensboro on the grounds that the Service Company was buying the power to retail to private consumers. Mandamus was issued against the power company last December by Judge J. B. Bue, sitting in chambers at Greensboro.

Two issues were involved before the Supreme court yesterday, argued for the Service Company by Aubrey L. Brooks, who has fought the case from the beginning and Judge W. P. Bynum, and W. S. O. Robinson, Jr., for the Power Company. The Power company contended that the case should be tried by a jury and not determined by a mandamus, and that the case ought properly to be determined in Federal Court. The argument was brief, lasting less than an hour.

Mr. Robinson opened the argument for the Southern Power Company, addressing himself chiefly to the contention that Judge Bue should have heard the motion for mandamus in Federal Court and the motion for a permanent injunction as separate issues, and should have heard separately and determined, each upon its individual merits. He asked the court to return both to the lower court for individual adjudication.

Broader ground was taken by Mr. Brooks when he took up the argument against interference with the mandamus of the lower court. The whole field of obligation of public service corporations in their relation to the people of the commonwealth. No corporation enjoying eminent domain has any right to pick and choose whom it may serve, he contended.

"I am placed in a rather humiliating position when I approach this case," he said. "I come into this court and find the power company contending that its affairs ought to be passed on by a Federal Court, and I go before the Corporation Commission with that idea in mind, and the power company insists that it should not be regulated by the Federal commission but by the State commission."

Judge Bynum, concluding the argument for the power company contended that the issue of the mandamus had been heard, that the lower court had given him time to prepare suitable answer, and that the two issues should have been heard separately. He declared that the Greensboro company was a mere peddler of the power of the Southern Power Company, and that the power company had the right to choose whether it would sell to peddlers or not.

RECEIVES AWARD AFTER WAITING FOR 17 YEARS

Chief Gunner In Navy Given Congressional Medal Of Honor By President

Washington, April 14.—Robert Edward Cox, of Belmont, Pa., a chief gunner in the navy, enjoyed today the unique distinction of having the President of the United States personally pin on his breast the highest award for valor—the Congressional medal of honor.

The ceremony took place in the east room of the White House on the seventeenth anniversary of the day on which Gunner Cox saved the battleship Missouri from destruction by flooding her after-magazines after an explosion in the turret had set fire to powder in the adjoining handling room. Two other men, M. Mosen and S. C. Schepke, then gunner's mates, but now commissioned officers, previously had received medals of honor for their heroic work in assisting Cox in removing injured men from the burning handling room. Thirty men were killed in the accident.

Cox at that time held the rank of warrant officer and was debarred from receiving the medal of honor by the law providing for its award only to enlisted men, though the recommendation of the captain of the Missouri was approved by the commander of the North Atlantic fleet and President Roosevelt. Not until last February a year after the history of the event was told before Congress, was special legislation enacted permitting exception to be made in Cox's case.

Will Not Make Developments in North Carolina As Contemplated Unless Commission Grants Rate Increase

TAYLOR MAKES ATTACK ON NEWS AND OBSERVER

A. C. Jones Of Gaston Reveals Fear In Hearts Of Gaston Mills Supporting Contentions Of Power Company; Some Mill Executives Take Action Over Protest Of Directors And Stock Holders Increase Will Bankrupt Industries

The Southern Power Company waved the big stick in the face of North Carolina industries and municipalities that have dared to protest against a forty million dollar extortion, cracked a whip over the heads of the corporation commissioners, and closed the argument for a forty percent increase in power rates in the State late yesterday afternoon with a glorification of Duke Duke and a vicious attack on Josephus Daniels, editor of the News and Observer.

Threats of discontinued Duke "benevolence" decorated the two and a half hour fulmination with which Z. V. Taylor closed the case for the company. It bore out the revelation of A. C. Jones, of Gaston county, earlier in the day that the Gaston County Cotton Mills asking the commission that they be allowed to pay the Southern Power Company an increased rate for power, were moved by fear of the consequences of opposition.

Threat Number 1.—North Carolina already paying on South Carolina, is not entitled to the rates in force and if any fees is made about them South Carolina will kick and there'll be trouble.

Threat Number 2.—Unless the increase asked for is granted contemplated developments that will make past achievements look puny, will not be made in North Carolina.

Threat Number 3.—Unless the increase is granted and richer returns are allowed to the Southern Power Company, the Duke fortunes now guided to North Carolina by his "love" for his "noble State" will be diverted to more profitable regions.

The attack on Josephus Daniels, editor of the News and Observer came at very close of his argument. Mr. Taylor had just completed a tribute to J. B. Duke, dripping with eloquence. He had pictured him crawling over the brambles and boulders of Waters, S. C., wading through the mire and the marshes mixing with snakes and lizards an attendant at either arm to protect his life even then in constant danger of accident, all for the benefit of North Carolina industrial development. He had pictured the industrial development as a monument of industry, built up as a memorial and contrived it with the case by which greater fortunes might have been piled up in Wall Street.

"Why did he do this?" he asked, and while the Commission and the spectators waited for the certain answer, it came out.

"He loves the State that gave him birth."

"And yet," he went on fiercely, "when he comes before this commission and asks for a fair return on his investments and his labor in the interest of North Carolina, the unfair fight that I have ever seen made upon any man is made upon him. I cannot forget that we are engaged in a law suit. This is a dignified legal tribunal. Yet this commission is thunders at him from the press trying to hearing his action. I do say that that is unfair. A great North Carolina daily even breathes out the threat that unless you do as it desires, it will print your names. I have always called the owner of that paper 'my friend, I call him my friend now. He is capable. His pen is vitriolic and his dislikes lodge deep in his breast and will not be uprooted. But if I did not say that this thing should not be countenanced, I could be as cowardly as the man who would be influenced by it."

Would Reply To Attack

"I'd like to have an opportunity to reply to the unfair attack on Mr. Daniels," said Judge J. Crawford Biggs, rising. But it was seven o'clock. With the concluding sentence of the Taylor speech, the commission had moved to the door, trying to hearing was ended. I do say that that is unfair. A great North Carolina daily even breathes out the threat that unless you do as it desires, it will print your names. I have always called the owner of that paper 'my friend, I call him my friend now. He is capable. His pen is vitriolic and his dislikes lodge deep in his breast and will not be uprooted. But if I did not say that this thing should not be countenanced, I could be as cowardly as the man who would be influenced by it."

The last of the three days devoted to the argument on the petition of the Southern Power Company was a repetition of the preceding days in the strenuousness of debate and in the revelation of the preceding days in the strenuousness of the claim of the Southern Power Company for its valuation above its \$33,000,000 investment.

At the beginning of the day's session before the Commission Judge Biggs completed his argument, George Wilson of Gaston appeared for the Gaston county mills who want their toll to the Southern Power Company increased; E. R. King of Greensboro spoke for the protestants; Norman A. Cooke inserted an argument for the Southern Power Company; A. C. Jones revealed the fear in the heart of the Gaston mills supporting the power company's petition; T. C. Gutfrie summed up the evidence for the protestants, and Z. V. Taylor concluded for the power company.

Infant Industry

A. C. Jones of Gaston, expressing the friendship of the Gaston mills for the Southern Power Company, recalled that when the P. and N. Railroad was being organized by the same interests the mills of Gaston signed contracts agreeing to give it half of their incoming and outgoing freight.

"But we're coming before you," he said.

(Continued on Page Two.)

FRANCE ACCEDES TO U. S. VIEW AS TO CLAIMS

Reply Of French Premier To Secretary Hughes' Notes Pleases Officials

Washington, April 14.—The French reply to Secretary Hughes' notes regarding mandates, the only one thus far received from any of the four great powers addressed, was made public simultaneously today in Washington and Paris. It is in the form of a letter from Premier Briand to Ambassador Wallace and is of a preliminary nature. Mr. Briand stating that a full response could not be made "until after an understanding has been reached between the governments of the four interested powers at the next meeting of the Supreme Council of the allies."

The reply was issued by the State Department without comment, but administration officials said it was very agreeable to the United States and while not an absolute commitment, was couched in diplomatic language that was tantamount to a recognition of the principle laid down by Mr. Hughes.

The French premier deals directly with the Japanese mandate over the Pacific Island of Yap, but does not advert specifically to the American claim of equal rights with the other principal allied and associated powers.

Former President Woodrow Wilson and His War Cabinet.

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WANTED: TEACHERS FOR North Carolina schools. Hundreds of good positions.

WELSH BEANS: NINETY-DAY speckled, best as land builder and forage.

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