

THE WEATHER
North Carolina: Fair Wednesday,
Thursday increasing cloudiness, not
much change in temperature.

The News and Observer

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TWELVE PAGES TODAY.

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TWELVE PAGES TODAY.

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DEMOCRATS FEEL PROSPECTS GOOD IN NEXT ELECTION

Chairman Cordell Hull Will Deliver Keynote Address Tonight

PLENTY OF FIGHT LEFT IN PARTY YET

Democratic Whip Optimistic Over Outlook and Thinks Republicans Have Nothing of Which to Be Proud Except Legislation Forced by Farmers' Bloc

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

Washington, Dec. 27.—Democratic prospects throughout the country are now considered so bright that there are members of the Democratic minority in Congress who not alone express confidence that the Republican majority will be cut down to a slim edge, but that the Republican majority will become the Republican minority after the election in 1922.

And these Democrats are taking good cheer in the selection of Representative House as chairman of the Democratic-Congressional campaign committee, and in the will to win that is being shown by Chairman Cordell Hull, of the Democratic National committee.

They held that there is plenty of ammunition furnished by the Republicans in Congress that can be used in the campaign and propose to show also that in both Houses the Democratic majority has been alert to the interests of the people and that had it not been for the activity of the minority there would have been passed even more cautious laws than some of those that have been enacted.

Representative William A. Oldfield, of Arkansas, Democratic whip of the House, is most optimistic over the prospects. "Why should we not make these gains and win?" he queried today in talking over the political situation, going on to say: "With Secretary of War Weeks demanding a return to Chamberlain by the House and Congressman Anderson, of New York, condemning and seeking to sue as felons members of the House and Senate who come from the agricultural districts and supported legislation to aid the farmers, it is reasonable to expect the body of voters to oppose and rebuke such suggestions."

Mr. Oldfield's contention is that in the past the manufacturers bloc and the railroad bloc and other special interests blocs had influenced legislation in Congress, even if these various groups did not have the control which has come to the agricultural bloc.

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More ashes will be shipped to the chemists for examination, it was stated.

Mr. Ketchum was elected Commander-in-Chief September 24, 1920. He was succeeded by Lewis Fisher, of New York, who was elected at the Grand encampment held here last September.

KENTUCKIAN TO AID IN WIND-UP DRIVE



Captain William Collins, of Young Paris, Kentucky, ex-service man, is one of the speakers from Kentucky in the wind-up drive of the Tobacco Growers Cooperative Marketing Association.

NAME SUCCESSOR TO T. D. WARREN

State Democratic Executive Committee in Session Tonight at 8

Formal acceptance of the resignation of Thomas D. Warren as chairman of the State Democratic Executive Committee, and the election of J. D. Norwood, of Salisbury as his successor will take place when the committee gathers in session in the Hall of the House of Representatives at 8 o'clock tonight.

Mr. Warren retires from the chairmanship after seven years of active service in the State. No other business had come within eight last night.

Among those who are in the city, if not to be present at the session, are both the United States Senatorial secretaries, Frank Hampton, secretary to Senator Simmons, and Alfred McLean, secretary to Senator Freeman.

Mr. Warren's retirement comes as no surprise to the people of the State. He indicated shortly after the 1920 election that it would be his last campaign as chairman.

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MISSING RADIUM IS LOCATED IN ASHES

Nowton, Kan., Dec. 27.—Nearly \$5,000 worth of radium, or about one-third of a quantity from Astor Hospital here, has been recovered from 250 pounds of ashes by Eastern chemists, it was announced today.

Former G. A. R. Commander Dies at Indianapolis
Indianapolis, Dec. 27.—William K. Ketchum, former Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, died at his home here today.

PREDICTS END OF CROP MORTGAGES WITHIN 3 YEARS

Aaron Saprio Sees Hope for Southern Farmer in Co-operation

BRINGS MESSAGE TO STATE FROM KENTUCKY

Leader in Co-operative Marketing Movement Declares Kentucky Has Gone Ahead of California; Rouses Goldsboro Audience to High Enthusiasm

Goldsboro, Dec. 27.—Prophesying that within three years the crop lien will be extinct in North Carolina through the operation of co-operative marketing, Aaron Saprio, of California, roused to applause an audience of farmers and business men that overflowed the court house here today.

Mr. Saprio came here direct from Kentucky for the first of a series of five mass meetings, which he will address this week, and brought a message from Judge R. W. Bingham, a Tar Heel, who is largely responsible for the remarkable sign-up for co-operative marketing among the burley tobacco growers.

After a brief introduction by Dr. J. E. Person, president of the Wayne County Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association, Mr. Saprio talked for an hour and forty-five minutes in an informal way that held the attention of his audience to the end.

Mr. Saprio said that he was not a farmer, but a business man, and that he had spent the last five years in California since the Kentucky growers have shown how by organizing ready for business in less than six months with over 50,000 members in the burley association.

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TO HOLD INQUEST HAMILTON DEATH 10 O'CLOCK TODAY

No Headway Made Toward Apprehension of Highway Assassins

GOVERNOR OFFERS \$400 REWARD FOR DETECTION

Sheriff Harrison Details Three Deputies to Work On Case; Deputy Stell Finds No Bullet Holes in Car; Dead Man's Pistol Given to Officers

Inquest over the remains of R. H. Hamilton, who was shot to death half mile east of the city limits on the Millbraids road shortly after 2 o'clock Monday night by two unidentified negroes, according to the story told by Miss Irene Gues, who was riding with him at the time, will begin this morning at 10 o'clock.

A preliminary autopsy will be performed by Dr. J. M. Caviness, county physician. Pains-taking investigation by Deputy Sheriff Stell; Howard and Richardson, detailed to the case by Sheriff D. Bryant Harrison yesterday, developed nothing in the nature of a clue to the identity of the assassins.

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SUBMARINE ISSUE MAY BE LEFT FOR ANOTHER MEETING

Washington Conference Unable to Reach Settlement of Controversy

POSTPONEMENT PLAN MAY BE SUBMITTED

Shantung Negotiations Take On Serious Aspect; Four-Power Treaty Pops Up in Conference Again; French Have Suggested Similar Treaty for Europe

Washington, Dec. 27.—(By the Associated Press)—The submarine controversy has revealed so wide a difference of opinion among the powers that the arms delegates are seriously discussing a plan to leave the whole question of auxiliary warship tonnage to a later international conference.

So far consideration of the project has been entirely informal with conference leaders outwardly reflecting a hope that the present negotiations may yet bring the submarine problem to a solution.

In highest American official circles it was said today that a concrete proposal for a future conference might be laid before the arms delegates within a few days.

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FORMER GOVERNOR BICKETT SUFFERS STROKE PARALYSIS; LITTLE HOPE FOR RECOVERY

State's War Governor Who is Stricken Down

POLITICS BEHIND LATEST DEADLOCK

Agreement Between George and Briand Would Clear Up Situation

FRENCH DESIRE TO REACH SETTLEMENT

British Really in Earnest in Effort to Eliminate Submarines; No Apparent Way in Which America Can Influence France to Change Course

(By FRANK H. SIMONDS)

Washington, Dec. 27.—The good ship Conference is tonight hard aground on the bar of European politics. It can be released only by assistance coming from the other side of the Atlantic.

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State's War Governor Who is Stricken Down



Thomas Walter Bickett

LOCATE TAR HEEL GIRL IN HOSPITAL

Miss Lila Dale Russell, of Albemarle, Disappeared While in Baltimore

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 27.—Miss Lila Dale Russell, 23, of Albemarle, N. C., who disappeared from the South Branch of the Young Women's Christian Association, was found this afternoon at a local hospital, where she was admitted shortly after her disappearance on Christmas night.

Miss Lila Dale Russell, of Albemarle, Disappeared While in Baltimore

Albermarle, Dec. 27.—So far as is known in Albermarle tonight, the whereabouts of Miss Lila Russell, of this place, whose disappearance from her room in Baltimore Sunday night was announced in a Baltimore news dispatch this afternoon, remains a mystery.

Mr. Russell said this evening that her son had received a message stating that Miss Russell, Messrs. Criscoe and Martin would be in Albermarle on train Number 3 tonight.

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ITALIAN MOTHER SAW SON AS UNKNOWN HERO

Rome, Dec. 27.—A dramatic incident of the funeral of the Unknown Warrior in Rome has just become known. On the last night when the coffin was exposed in the Church of Sant' Maria degli Angeli a poor old woman came from Venice and passionately implored those in authority to allow her to see the form within the coffin because, she declared, her slain son had appeared in a vision and had assured her that his was the body.

(Continued on Page Two.)

Is Stricken Down Shortly Before Nine O'clock Tuesday Night While Ministering to His Wife Who Was Ill

HE WAS APPARENTLY IN BEST OF HEALTH FOR LAST FEW DAYS

With Complete Paralysis of Right Side He Shows Slight Reaction to Powerful Restoratives; Friends and Relatives Gather at Bedside, While Scores of Admirers Assemble Outside Bickett Residence

Former Governor T. W. Bickett offered a stroke of paralysis at his home here last night shortly before 9 o'clock, and at a late hour had not rallied perceptibly under powerful restoratives administered by attending physicians.

Seemingly in the best of health and spirits, Governor Bickett with his own hands prepared supper for Mrs. Bickett, who is confined to her room by illness, had eaten his own supper and returned to Mrs. Bickett's room. Sitting beside her bed, he developed a head ache. A few moments later he went to his own room to lie down for a few minutes.

Within five minutes Mrs. Bickett heard him scream that his head was almost killing him. He returned to her room, fell across the bed, and lapsed into unconsciousness.

Mrs. Bickett telephoned her cousin, Miss Penelope Davis, who with Dr. A. C. Campbell, Dr. James B. Rogers, and Dr. W. W. Wolfe, hurried to the Bickett home. Hasty examination revealed no signs of life, but heroic work developed a slight pulse, and he began breathing perceptibly after half an hour.

The entire right side is paralyzed. Physicians exhausting every resource at their command saw little encouragement in the slight rally induced through restoratives, and were skeptical of any real gain in strength except through the use of stimulants.

Coming out of the Governor's office in the early days of 1921 in much better physical condition than when he went into office four years before, it was the general belief of his friends that the Governor had before him a long life of peace and good health.

Thousands of the Governor's friends who have seen him about the streets during the past few days, particularly on the days before Christmas when he was happily shopping for himself and for Mrs. Bickett, who was at home ill, have remarked his wonderful good health and his spirit.

For the past few days the family has been without a servant, their maid having been under the necessity of going to the hospital. The former Governor has, with that wonderful facility for doing anything that came to hand, ministered to Mrs. Bickett, who is suffering with a painful attack of rheumatism.

Their only son, William Bickett, who lives in Winston-Salem, was at home for the holidays, and returned only yesterday morning to his home. On Monday the family was to have gone to Louisville to spend the day with relatives, but on account of Mrs. Bickett's illness, the ex-Governor's undying and devoted wife, Mrs. Bickett, was unable to go.

(Continued on Page Two.)