

The News and Observer

THE WEATHER

North Carolina — Fair Friday and probably Saturday, continued cold; fresh to strong northwest winds.

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THE ONLY DAILY PAPER IN THE WORLD HAVING MORE SUBSCRIBERS THAN POPULATION OF CITY IN WHICH PUBLISHED

VOL. CXVII. NO. 47. SIXTEEN PAGES TODAY. RALEIGH, N. C., FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 16, 1923. SIXTEEN PAGES TODAY. PRICE: FIVE CENTS

FORBES HANDS IN HIS RESIGNATION AS BUREAU CHIEF

Early Appointment of Successor by President Harding Is Expected

NEED STRONG MAN TO HANDLE VETS' AFFAIRS

Col. George Ijams Appears To Be Most Likely Choice As Veterans' Bureau Director; Amendment to Advance Meeting of New Congress Held Up

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

Washington, Feb. 15.—With charges flying thick and fast of waste, extravagance and irregularities in the Veterans' Bureau, the resignation of Col. Charles R. Forbes, the director of the Bureau, cabled from Paris, will in all probability hurry up President Harding in the selection of a new chief. The understanding is that in a few days, possibly the first of next week, the selection of the President for the position will be made known. There are indications that Col. George I. Ijams, whose name, by the way, is pronounced as if it were written "im"—now the acting director, has the first call for the appointment, but then you never can tell.

Possible Selection.
There is talk that neither Col. Thomas W. Miller, the Alien Property Custodian, nor Dr. Hugh Scott, of the medical section of the bureau, will be selected, though both have been prominent in the various rumors as to Col. Forbes' successor. Hiram MacNider, former National Commander of the American Legion, continues to be discussed for the place and is considered as being in the running. That the President is of the opinion that there is need of change in the management of the affairs of the bureau, that things there are in a badly shakled condition, is indicated in a rumor made by a high official of the administration last night, that "the President will appoint a strong man and give wide authority to clean up the bureau from top to bottom."

Want Investigation.
Meanwhile, the House has joined the Senate in the uproar that is being raised as to the chaotic condition of the bureau. A resolution calling for a sweeping investigation of the bureau and all its activities has been introduced by Representative Larsen, of Oregon, it being felt out that such investigation is needed because of the various charges of graft, waste, extravagance and mismanagement that have been made in the press, in Congress and elsewhere. A joint investigation by the Senate and House is provided for in the resolution.

The Senate committee named at the instance of Senator David I. Walsh, Democrat, of Massachusetts, to probe into the affairs of the bureau and to report within seven days as to whether there should be a Senate investigation, is pushing forward with its work. A request for information as to the details of the work of the bureau has been made of its officials, and complete data is being prepared. There will be no open hearings by the committee, so it is stated by Senator Sutherland, Republican, the chairman of the committee, but data is being secured from private sources and a number of witnesses appeared before the committee today. The committee will have its report ready within the seven days, so it is stated today, and it will be upon the report made whether or not the Senate will order an investigation held during the recess of Congress.

Has Slim Chance.
The outlook for an action at this session of the Constitutional amendment bill passed by the Senate setting the date for convening of each new Congress for the third Monday in January in place of the fourth day of March is not at all bright. It does not appear that the committee of the House to which it was referred on arrival from the Senate, this the committee on the election of President, Vice-President and Representatives in Congress, will report it out before the fourth of March. There are six "lame ducks" on the committee, which consists of thirteen members and five of that six are Republicans and the "lame ducks" are reported as against the proposition. Even if reported out and placed on the calendar, it does not seem that it could be reached before Congress adjourns.

Wilcox Hearing.
The fight against the confirmation of William Wilcox as postmaster for Halifax will come to a head on Friday, April 23, the hearing on the matter to take place in the committee room of the Senate committee on postoffice, beginning at 10 o'clock that morning. Senator Townsend, chairman of the committee, has notified Frank A. Hampton, secretary to Senator Simmons, that he has appointed as a sub-committee to continue the hearing in the Halifax postoffice matter, Senators Moses and Oddie, Republicans and Senator Broussard, Democrat. In the absence of Senator Simmons, Mr. Hampton says that Senator Overman has agreed to handle the matter for Senator Simmons and Congressman Kitchin, who have many months' been opposing the confirmation of Wilcox. Congressman Kitchin will be (Continued on Page Two.)

Propose State Regulation Of Motor Transportation

House Also Has Freak Bill To Tax Unmarried Males To Support Spinsters

Senate Steam Roller Flattens Out Bill Limiting Appearances

Motor vehicles carrying passengers and freight on the public highways of the State are placed on the basis of common carriers to be operated under the supervision of the Corporation Commission as are other common carriers in a measure presented in the House yesterday morning by Representative Wright, of Guilford, embodying the suggestions of the commission in its annual report to the governor.

Included in the measure conferred upon the commission by the act is the authority to prescribe rates for both passengers and freight, rules governing the operation of such carriers, which are to file with their application a bond of \$5,000 and to pay (Continued on Page Two.)

SENATE MEMBERS AGREE TO ACT ON DEBT BILL TODAY

Passage of British Debt Funding Measure Appears To Be Assured

JIM REED PAVES WAY FOR ACTION ON BILL

Withdraws Objection To Unanimous Consent Agreement and Makes Vote Before Adjournment Today Possible; Democrats Divided On Matter

Washington, Feb. 15.—An agreement prevailing for a vote on the British debt funding bill before the Senate adjourns tomorrow was formally entered into late today after a similar proposal had been blocked earlier.

Under the agreement entered into, it was provided that after two o'clock the time of each Senator for debate on the bill should be ten minutes and that the Senate should remain in continuous session until the bill is disposed of.

Passage Certain.
Passage of the bill was regarded as a foregone conclusion and conceded by opponents in today's debate, which was confined almost exclusively to Democrats divided on the legislation.

The formal agreement for a vote before adjournment tomorrow came unexpectedly after what appeared to be fruitless negotiations. Senator Reed (Republican, Missouri), who today made two extended speeches vigorously attacking the bill, objected earlier to any unanimous consent agreement, but finally yielded.

Reach Agreement.
The agreement was made by Senator Robinson, Democrat, Arkansas, with Senator Smith, Republican, Utah, in charge of the bill, insisting upon a vote before adjournment tomorrow. A continuous session was not expected, however, as Senator Robinson and others said the discussion appeared to be nearly exhausted and would end soon after the two o'clock time limit went into effect. A new feature of the voting agreement, insisted upon by Senator La Follette, Republican, Wisconsin, provided that the chairman should keep a list of Senators to recognize for addresses. Senator La Follette said this was a practice to which he had often objected in the past.

Among Democrats Divided.
In today's debate, Senators Robinson, Glass, of Virginia, former Secretary of the Treasury, Pomerehne, of Ohio, a member of the foreign relations committee, and three of its members, a former banking committee chairman, spoke in behalf of the bill. The opposition speeches included those of Senator Reed and Senators McKellar, of Tennessee, and Walsh of Montana.

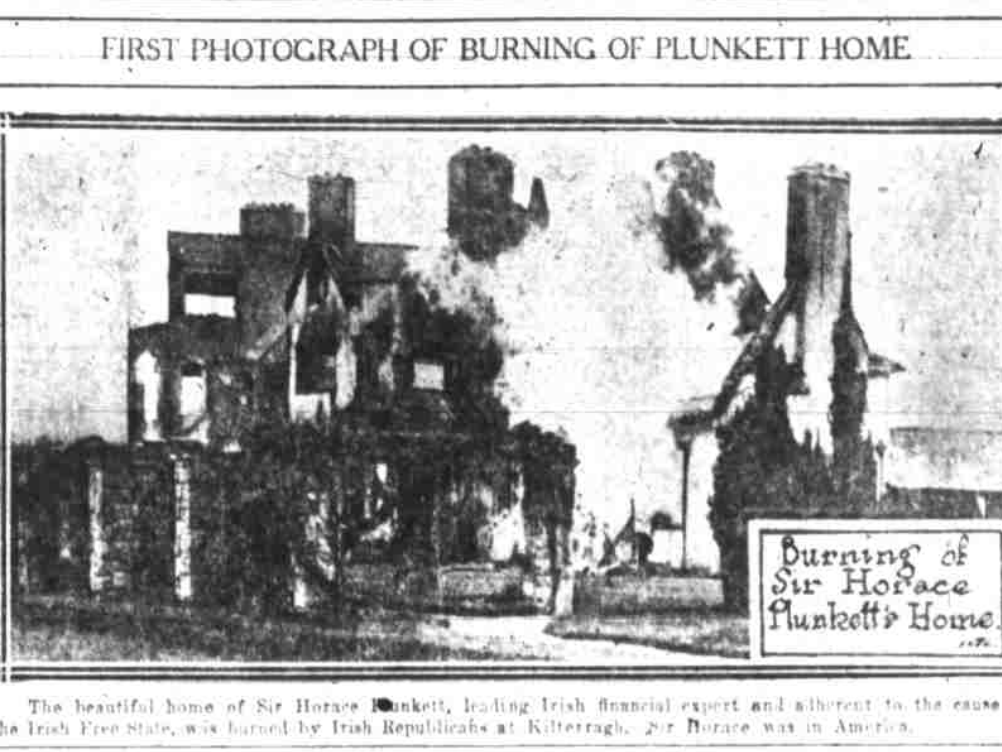
Hitchcock Objects.
Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, ranking Democrat on the foreign relations committee, criticized sharply the interest rates given to Great Britain and other features of the funding agreement, but said he might be "tempted" to vote for the bill finally. He offered an amendment providing that the British interest payments should be governed by the rates by United States securities and paid semi-annually.

Senator Robinson, the prospective Democratic leader, supported the bill as a factor for world stabilization. S. Senator Glass said the funding arrangement was better than the existing obligations, and Senator Pomerehne, emphasizing the probable effects upon world business conditions expected from the bill, said he would vote for it, "wholeheartedly."

Jim Reed's Attack.
Vigorous onslaughts against the measure were made again by Senator Reed, who attacked British policies, past and present, foreign and domestic. He declared that the debtor nation was able to pay the original debt, which he said was a "moral obligation."

He declared that a debtor which would not meet such an obligation would lose its credit before the world, and also, could be compelled to pay. Senator Reed said he could force payment from a recalcitrant debtor nation and said that one method would be to seize possessions lying near the United States shores.

(Continued on Page Two.)



FRENCH SAY THEY ARE MAKING GOOD HEADWAY IN RUHR

Declare Much Coal and Coke Now Being Sent To France and Belgium

FRENCH WILL DISARM ALL GERMAN POLICE

Germans Boast of Getting Many Coal Trains Into Unoccupied Germany After French Discover Leakage; British Co-Operation Is Discussed

Dusseldorf, Feb. 15.—By the Associated Press.—Rapid strides toward realization of France's aims in the Ruhr are being made daily, according to announcements from the occupational headquarters, which point out that from eight to nine trains of coal and coke, or approximately seven thousand tons, are leaving the occupied area every twenty-four hours for Belgium and France. These trains are entirely manned by French civilian railway workers imported for the purpose. In addition there are some 12,000 rail men now familiarizing themselves with the operation of the German lines.

Traffic Improves.
The French maintain that the more extensive work is being done, not only in the Ruhr, but also in the unoccupied areas, as it would be in a short time. In addition the French are maintaining five daily passenger trains from Düsseldorf to Düsseldorf some of which carry Germans having special permits granted by the French.

Even within the newly occupied territory freight trains are running. These are mostly composed of coal and coke cars, but when the occasion arises the French also transport ammunitions, and military supplies for the Germans and shift care of food wherever they are needed by the population.

POLICE TO BE DISARMED; GERMAN MAKE MOASTS
Dusseldorf, Feb. 15.—(By the Associated Press.) Ten thousand German security police throughout the occupied region are to be disarmed by order of General De Gouttes.

It was explained at French headquarters today that this action was deemed advisable because of the general attitude of the police toward the forces of the occupation. Hereafter, the Sicherheitspolizei are to be considered by the French as the "police" of the Ruhr, without any connection with Berlin.

In addition to the recent incident at Gelsenkirchen, the French consider that the police are inclined to use their arms to free, especially when they get into disputes with French soldiers. Headquarters here has on record twelve incidents where the police used firearms against the military. It also is charged that in another instance a member of the force was discovered in the act of setting on fire a house where soldiers are billeted.

German Boasts
The Germans are boasting that since February 1 unoccupied Germany has been receiving more Ruhr coal than France and Belgium. They point to the statement that during the last week sixty trains have been shipped out, despite the efforts of the French to place soldiers at all possible loop holes.

However, they did not begin to boast until the French discovered the leakage.

Occupation authorities say that getting through sixty trains a day which went into the interior of unoccupied territory lines leading from the mines and by other routes which the Allies had not controlled properly.

The French announce that all high ceilings in the interior now are guarded cautiously and that the customs ring which aims to shut off supplies of coal, coke and metals now is welded tightly.

FRENCH AND BRITISH DISCUSS CO-OPERATION
London, Feb. 15.—(By the Associated Press.)—British and French cabinet ministers met here today in a conference which, if it fails to produce a program for British co-operation with the French and Belgians in solving the Ruhr transportation problems is considered likely to result in the early withdrawal of the British troops from the Cologne area.

The British ministers, at the meeting in Downing Street, were Prime Minister Bonar Law, Lord Curzon, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and the Earl of Derby, the Secretary for War. The French cabinet was represented by M. Le Troquer, the Minister of Public Works.

It was understood as the conference started that the French request for additional transport facilities through the British zone was being received sympathetically. The British maintain that the French have little need for more railway lines to handle reparation coal shipments to France, but it is realized that the French have a problem under (Continued on Page Two.)

Banking Resources Increase Forty Millions In This State

WOMAN INVOLVED IN WILKES' DEATH?

W. F. Evans Takes Hand In Coroner's Inquest Over Traveling Salesman

A married woman, a braut in an automobile on the Dixie Trail, and another man, may be connected with the death of J. J. Wilkes, traveling salesman, who was found in the Bland Hotel Sunday night with a wound behind his ear and who died Wednesday morning in Rex Hospital.

The investigation of the death of Wilkes was taken in hand yesterday morning by Solicitor W. F. Evans, who stated that he had information that somebody had been hurt on the Dixie Trail Sunday night prior to the discovery of Wilkes in the Bland Hotel. He stated that he aimed to find out who it was.

Hardly Choplina was the star witness in the investigation. He testified to seeing two men and a woman in an automobile on the Dixie Trail Sunday night and stated that he could identify the woman. One of the men he stated was blonde and he heard one of the persons in the automobile say:

"That's alright. I'll get even with you. I know you stay at the Bland Hotel."

This theory is substantiated by a statement made by Virgil St. Cloud, manager of the Bland Hotel, that guests in nearby rooms had told him that they had heard no-trodder or rumper of any kind in Wilkes' room just prior to the discovery of the wounded man.

Choplina was unable to identify either of the men in the automobile as Wilkes, but stated that one of them seemed to be smaller than the dead man while the other seemed larger.

The name of the woman in the case is in the hand of the police and the county authorities and it is understood that she will be called before the coroner's jury when it meets again Monday afternoon at three o'clock.

Dr. J. R. Rogers explained to the jury the nature of Wilkes' injuries and called their attention to a small skin which had been cut and which, he professed, Dr. Rogers stated that Wilkes' death was not caused directly by the wounds, but was the result of acute nephritis, paralysis of the kidneys from overuse of alcohol. He stated that the presence of foreign substances, perhaps poison in the whiskey could have produced the same symptoms.

Hospital authorities did not think Wilkes' wounds fatal after he had been removed from the hotel, and the wounded man was able to walk unassisted to the ambulance, and later at the hospital, smoked up all the cigarettes belonging to a policeman who was detailed to watch him. It was not until Monday that his condition began to grow alarming and in a fit of delirium he attempted to escape from the hospital. Following the attempted escape he lapsed into a coma and was unconscious most of the time until his death.

Wilkes leaves a wife, Mrs. Lillie Mae Wilkes, who lives at 810 West Peachtree street, Atlanta. Mrs. J. L. Lindsey, of Lenox, Georgia is expected to arrive in Raleigh soon to make charge of the body, which will be sent to Atlanta for burial.

Attend Secretaries' Meeting
Charlotte, Feb. 15.—D. A. Skinner, Secretary of the United States Chamber of Commerce, will arrive here Friday to attend the convention of North and South Carolina Commercial Secretaries, according to an announcement by Clarence O. Kuester, of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce.

Finds Jobs For Many
Winston-Salem, Feb. 15.—Four thousand, seven hundred and thirty-one persons were placed in positions by the United States and North Carolina employment bureau here in the period from July 5, 1921 to February 10, 1923, according to an announcement by W. T. Carter, superintendent.

Banking Resources Increase Forty Millions In This State

Total Resources State and National Banks Dec. 29, '22, \$435,308,024.26

INCREASE IN RESOURCES STATE BANKS 21 MILLION

Resources Still \$34,000,000 Short of High Mark Established In 1919

With a net increase of over \$21,000,000 in the resources of State Banks during the period between December 31, 1921 and December 29, 1922, the banking department of the State Corporation Commission estimates that the total banking resources, State and National banks in North Carolina have increased more than \$410,000,000 during the same period.

The total resources of State banks and trust companies at the close of business December 29, 1922 were \$295,902,626, representing an increase since October 31, 1921 of \$176,332,494.98, which increase is itself virtually double the total resources in 1919.

Banking resources, as reported by the Banking Department follow:

Dec. 31, 1921: State banks, \$245,046,239.47; National banks, \$131,015,000.00; Total, \$376,061,239.47.

Dec. 29, 1922: State banks, \$295,902,626; National banks (latest available), \$170,985,000.00; Total, \$466,887,626.

Increase, Dec. 31, 1921, to Dec. 29, 1922, \$190,846,386.53.

The total banking resources of State banks and trust companies reached a high mark of \$298,540,497.66 in 1919, dropped off to twenty-six million in 1920 and an additional twenty million in 1921. The 1922 increase of the State still leaves a million short of coming back to the first drop in 1920 and thirty four million of reaching the high mark established in 1919.

Banking Figures.
The report on the 544 State banks including 56 branches at the close of business, December 29, 1922 and the increase or decrease in the various items from December 31, 1921, follows:

Resources.
Loans and discounts other than demand loans, \$191,477,828.66 an increase of \$2,241,191.93.
Demand loans, \$5,530,621.52, an increase of \$1,205,520.20.
Cash items and checks for clearing, \$1,575,491.79, a decrease of \$2,537,627.69.
Cash in vault, \$7,947,222.32, an increase of \$1,925,609.74.
Trust investments, \$1,188,111.63, an increase of \$274,624.81.
Deposits subject to check, \$105,418,530.41, an increase of \$14,209,287.48.
Demand certificates, \$306,570.00, an increase of \$306,570.00.
Miscellaneous, \$26,465.92, a decrease of \$1,712,874.31.
Total, \$295,902,626.26, an increase of \$22,267,387.79, and a decrease of 1923, 112.75.

Liabilities.
Capital stock paid in, \$22,959,422.26, a decrease of \$565,939.32.
Surplus fund, \$19,179,427.29, an increase of \$4,682,258.96.
Undivided profits, \$4,861,524.82, an increase of \$762,525.54.
Unearned discounts, \$169,324.97, an increase of \$274,624.81.
Dividends unpaid, \$59,685.43, a decrease of \$264,529.14.
Notes and bills discounted, \$2,827,382.58, a decrease of \$1,060,866.68.
Bills payable, \$5,466,773.97, a decrease of \$3,732,274.31.
Certificates of deposit representing money borrowed, \$91,000.00, a decrease of \$49,716.17.
Deposits subject to check, \$105,418,530.41, an increase of \$14,209,287.48.
Demand certificates of deposit, \$14,262,215.32, a decrease of \$1,926,140.65.
Time certificates of deposit and savings deposits, \$24,195,179.24, an increase of \$9,621,634.31.
Cashiers' checks outstanding, \$1,425,750.11, a decrease of \$304,462.94.
Certified checks, \$162,346.58, an increase of \$2,023.28.
Due to banks, \$24,429,787.91, an increase of \$4,682,258.96.
Trust deposits, \$1,367,178.85, an increase of \$182,268.30.

(Continued on Page Two.)

HARDING TO VETO AMENDED SUBSIDY

Will Not Sign Bill With Madden Amendment; Opposition Still Grows

Washington, Feb. 15.—President Harding has definitely informed Senators favoring the Madden amendment to the administration shipping bill that he would veto the legislation if sent to the White House with any provision attached making payment of government aid to ship operators contingent on annual appropriations by Congress.

Reiterates Position.
The President said today to have defined his position once again with respect to the Madden amendment, which was introduced to the ship bill by the House and eliminated by the Senate commerce committee at a White House conference last night attended by Senators McCray, Oregon, Gooding, Idaho, Burns, New Mexico, Cameron, Arizona, and Lenroot, Wisconsin.

The conference was understood to have been devoted to consideration of amendments which would make the bill acceptable to the Senators conferring with the executive. The Senators were said to have made no commitments as to their attitude and the President was understood to have been disappointed in the result.

To Fight Subsidy.
The group of Republican Senators who are unambiguously opposed to the bill announced today that immediately after the British debt settlement measure was disposed they would seek to have brought up the Copper Act in the Senate and also that they were prepared to make an extended fight on the promised amendment of Senator Jones, Republican, Washington, in charge of the ship bill, to have it again made the unfinished business of the Senate.

FATHER KILLED; SON INJURED IN ACCIDENT
Lafayette, Feb. 15.—J. A. Crawley, from near Hollister, was instantly killed last night at 7 o'clock when the car in which he and his son, James, were riding turned over, breaking Mr. Crawley's neck. His son is in an unconscious condition and not expected to live.

The accident occurred near Hollister.

Funeral services were conducted from his home this afternoon, interment taking place in the home-burial ground.

People Reading More
Charlotte, Feb. 15.—Charlotte people read more last year, according to figures made public by Miss Anne Proctor, librarian of the Carnegie Library. A total increase of 6,980 in volumes circulated was shown, the grand total being 733,321.

To Build New Schools
Winston-Salem, Feb. 15.—Permits to build two new school buildings here have been issued by the city. The two buildings will cost approximately \$200,000.

Bulwinkle Defends France During Occupation Debate

Makes Hot Reply To Knutson's Criticism of Action of The French

KNUTSON ALSO DRAWS FIRE FROM OTHERS

Minnesota Man Declared To Have Unfurled German Standard In The House

Washington, Feb. 15.—Orator in the Ruhr was attacked and defended today in the House.

Representative Knutson, of Minnesota, the Republican ship bill, declared France was seeking to deny the German people and render it harmless both from a military and economic standpoint, and that the time had come for America to break her "long silence" with reference to the occupation.

Butler Disagree.
Representative Butler, Pennsylvania, chairman of the Naval committee, who had opposed Mr. Knutson's time in which to make his address told the House that he is in no way concerned by what the Minnesota man said.

"My sympathy is with France," he declared, "and I hope she can get her every dollar that is due her."

Representative Wilson, Democrat, Georgia, made a like announcement, declaring he had a brother whose "blood was spilled on the battle fields of France."

"I am for France and will do whatever I can for France," he added.

Knutson's Address.
Mr. Knutson, who delivered a prepared address, asked how much longer the United States was going to stand aside and permit the violation of the promises made the day of the armistice.

"I am glad," Wilson said we were not fighting the German people," he continued, "and yet the children of Germany need not understand the basis of the Allies had laid all their eggs. Almost everything produced in Germany since the armistice has been taken from them."

Mr. Knutson said the German lull rate, which was greater than that in France, was causing great concern to the French.

Replying later to Representative Knutson, Representative Bulwinkle, Democrat, North Carolina, who served in the World War, told the House that "Glover Cleveland Bopp and all the others of that ilk who lived, yellowstreaked, and would applaud and say the American Congress is in favor of us." He declared that the Germans had murdered and mangled during the war in an effort to carry out their "imperialist aims" and asserted that they had failed to deliver to the people of the occupied districts the fat, sugar and other foodstuffs sent to them from America.

Representative Blanton, Democrat, Texas, wanted to know what position Mr. Knutson occupied in the Republican House organization.

"Oh, I know that he is the Republican whip" returned Mr. Bulwinkle, "but I know that he does not speak for those on his side of the House. They are Americans just as you and I and they do not get any of his speech any more than you or I."

Representative Linberger, Republican, California, said a World War veteran, declared Mr. Knutson had "unfurled the German imperial standard on the floor of the House of Representatives."

"You may say," Mr. Linberger said, "that the war is over, but the war has never begun for gentleman such as the gentleman from Minnesota."

BODY OF GRISSON IS TO BE BROUGHT HOME
Jacksonville, Fla., Feb. 15.—L. W. Jenkins, of Greensboro, N. C., a business associate of H. A. Grisson, druggist, whose body was found floating in Thomas Creek north of here yesterday, positively identified the body today as that of Grisson. It will be shipped to his home tomorrow night.

The druggist disappeared nearly a month ago. His automobile was found submerged in Thomas Creek, at the end of a blind road, but efforts of searching parties to find the body proved unavailing. It was found yesterday by a farmer going down the stream on a raft.

A coroner's jury today found that Grisson came to his death "by accidental drowning."

(Continued on Page Two.)

House Adopts Provisions Of Volstead Act For State

After three hours of running debate during which record votes were taken on the defeat of amendments to allow the manufacture of wine for home consumption, and to allow the sale of liquor in drug stores, the Tarlington codification of the State liquor laws passed on its second and third readings in the House last night at 11:10. The bill, with amendments accepted by the proponents goes to the Senate today.

Most of the fighting centered around the amendment proposed by Representative Bonie writing into the bill the formal provision that no officer of the law shall arrest or search any person suspected with having liquor in his possession without a search warrant.

A compromise amendment was finally accepted and incorporated in the bill, after two hours of discussion.

—A third amendment provides that the owner of any vehicle or team taken while engaged in the transportation of liquor without the knowledge of the owner, may claim his property upon "proof" of his ownership and ignorance of its being put to illegal use without cost to himself. The presiding judge or a jury may determine the facts in the case.

Section 6 of the code, using the word "driver" in connection with the right of an officer to seize a vehicle drew the fire of Mr. Bowie after summing up of the intent of the proponents to clarify the present liquor laws and remove inequalities in penalties imposed by State laws and the Volstead act. No new law was written into the statutes, Mr. Turfington declared.

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Prominent Speakers Will Address Commercial Secretaries In Session

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A full program for the two days has been arranged and it is expected that much benefit will be derived from the discussions which will take place.

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Occupation authorities say that getting through sixty trains a day which went into the interior of unoccupied territory lines leading from the mines and by other routes which the Allies had not controlled properly.

The French announce that all high ceilings in the interior now are guarded cautiously and that the customs ring which aims to shut off supplies of coal, coke and metals now is welded tightly.

FRENCH AND BRITISH DISCUSS CO-OPERATION
London, Feb. 15.—(By the Associated Press.)—British and French cabinet ministers met here today in a conference which, if it fails to produce a program for British co-operation with the French and Belgians in solving the Ruhr transportation problems is considered likely to result in the early withdrawal of the British troops from the Cologne area.

The British ministers, at the meeting in Downing Street, were Prime Minister Bonar Law, Lord Curzon, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and the Earl of Derby, the Secretary for War. The French cabinet was represented by M. Le Troquer, the Minister of Public Works.

It was understood as the conference started that the French request for additional transport facilities through the British zone was being received sympathetically. The British maintain that the French have little need for more railway lines to handle reparation coal shipments to France, but it is realized that the French have a problem under (Continued on Page Two.)

Charlotte Expects Hundred Secretaries

Prominent Speakers Will Address Commercial Secretaries In Session

Charlotte, Feb. 15.—More than one hundred commercial secretaries of North and South Carolina are expected to attend the two-day convention of the North and South Carolina Commercial Secretaries which opens here tomorrow.

A full program for the two days has been arranged and it is expected that much benefit will be derived from the discussions which will take place.

Among prominent speakers who will address the convention are D. A. Skinner, secretary chamber of commerce of the United States, Spaulding Slater, of the Industrial Educational Association of Washington, D. C., and many others representing different departments of the Chamber of Commerce work in the two states.