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IMPORTANT NEWS THE WORLD OVER

IMPORTANT HAPPENINGS OF THIS
AND OTHER NATIONS FOR
SEVEN DAYS GIVEN

THE NEWS OF THE SOUTH

What is Taking Place in the South-
land Will Be Found in
Brief Paragraphs

Domestic.
James Stillman, born in Brownsville, Texas, in 1850, chairman of the board of the National City bank of New York City, and one of the most famous bankers in the United States, died of heart disease at his home in New York City.

The sentences of the eight German seamen convicted in the United States court of sinking a German craft in the Charleston harbor more than a year ago, has expired. The men were given one year in the federal prison at Atlanta, Ga.

A general increase of about fifteen per cent in commodity rates has been granted by the interstate commerce commission to railroads east of the Mississippi and north of the Ohio and Potomac rivers, supplementing similar increase allowed last June in class rates.

News from Washington is to the effect that war department officials are not convinced that the Germans are ready to undertake a big offensive on the western front despite notices sent out from Germany.

Another new government shipyard may be established on the south Atlantic coast and a representative of the shipping board will visit Wilmington, N. C., to inspect available sites. It already has been definitely decided to establish a shipyard at Charleston, S. C.

An outbreak of Bolshevism struck Norfolk harbor when the crew of the Russian steamer Omsk decided to put the Lenin-Trotsky theories into effect on the vessel, and all day long and far into the night the customs collector, immigration bureau, department of justice and district attorney's office were kept in a stew.

Mrs. Lucretia Rudolph Garfield, nearly 86 years old, widow of James A. Garfield, twentieth president of the United States, died at her winter home in South Pasadena, California.

Archibald R. Roosevelt, son of Theodore Roosevelt, was being wounded in action with the American forces in France.

Fire, at Greenwood, Miss., believed to have been incendiary origin, totally destroyed one of the cotton sheds of the Tallahatchie Compress and Storage company and 4,000 bales of cotton stored there.

Lieuts. Marmaduke Earl of Lewisburg, Pa., and Nile Gelwick of Findlay, Ohio, were killed at Ellington field and civilian instructor Kaiser was seriously injured internally from falls in airplanes resulting from tail spins, at Houston, Texas.

At San Antonio, Texas, Howard Holladay, of Denver, Colo., a flying cadet at Kelly field, was killed when his airplane fell four thousand feet.

Washington.
The daylight saving bill, which was passed by the senate last June, under which the nation's clocks would be turned forward an hour every spring and back again every fall, has been passed by the house of representatives.

The bill goes back to the senate because the house added two months to the period involved.

Four American soldiers, condemned to death by court martial in France, two for sleeping on post and two for disobedience of orders, will not be shot. Instead the reviewing authority has returned the evidence in the cases to General Pershing with a notation showing that the findings were irregular.

American troops in the Luneville sector have occupied and are holding German trenches northeast of Badonvillers, which they forced the Germans to abandon through recent raids and concentrated artillery fire. The trenches have been consolidated with those of the French.

Details of how the second draft will be applied will be made public after congress has acted upon the proposed legislation, providing for the registration of youths attaining the age 21 years, and for basing state and district quotas on the number of registrants in class one.

Newly organized regular divisions are particularly short of men and heavy drafts on national army divisions to make these good have been necessary, seriously interfering with the training work of the national army divisions drawn upon. The call for new men makes it probable that no further transfers will be necessary.

The attempt of the railroads to recover from the government forty million dollars under the old system of space compensation for transporting mails has been defeated in the court of claims. The court has affirmed a former decision in favor of the government.

A London dispatch says Leon Trotsky was dismissed as Bolsheviki foreign minister by Premier Lenin, owing to a quarrel over the German peace terms. Trotsky held that peace had been exerted by force and that no law recognized promises made under duress as obligatory.

A million tons of Dutch ships now held in ports the world over, through Holland's fear of Germany's threat to sink them if they venture out, will be brought into the service of the United States and Great Britain. Formal notice has been presented to The Hague by the American and British diplomatic representatives of the intentions of the allied governments. As a result the Netherlands minister, August Phillips, acting under instructions of his government, made a final and personal appeal to President Wilson to at least modify the decision, but the president saw no reason for altering the decision and unless the ships are turned over to American ports about slightly, and many in British and allied ports will be taken over by the respective allied powers.

President Wilson has called on all American boys of sixteen years and over, not permanently employed, to enroll in the United States boys' working reserve. A national enrollment week, beginning March 18, has been set aside by the department of labor.

A shell explosion on the United States ship Von Steuben, which killed three men, has been announced by the navy department. The shell exploded while being fired. The date of the explosion is not given.

European.
Twenty-five persons are missing in consequence of a collision between a naval vessel and the British steamer ship Rathmore. Survivors have been landed at Kingstown, Ireland, by destroyers.

The all-Russian congress of soviets, meeting at Moscow, by a vote of 453 to 30, decided to ratify the peace treaty with the central powers. M. Ryzanov, a prominent Bolsheviki theorist and representative of all the professional unions, resigned from the Bolsheviki party after the vote.

Repeating an inquiry as to whether there was any truth in the rumor that proposal had been received from Germany for a peace at the expense of Russia, Lord Robert Cecil said: "As far as I know no such proposals are being considered or will be considered."

The peace treaties that have been signed by Russia and Roumania have not caused any change in Serbia's diplomatic representative in Switzerland. All rumors in regard to a separate peace on the part of Serbia are unfounded. It is stated, however, that Serbia has lost over a million men in the war.

According to news received from Field Marshal von Hindenburg it is stated that the entente had shown an unresponsive attitude toward Germany's peace intentions, and that the great German offensive, therefore, must and will go on.

The Verdun offensive of the Germans, in which they failed to break the French line, has been estimated in conservative quarters as having cost them something like five hundred thousand men.

General von Ludendorff says: "If the enemy wishes to attack now let him do so. He will find us ready. If the enemy does not want peace, he will have to fight, and this fight will, of course, be the most tremendous of the whole war. With God's aid, we will obtain a German peace, not a doubtful peace."

British Foreign Secretary Balfour says nothing could be more unfortunate than the coincidence between the Russian revolution and the war that was being conducted by Russia and her allies, but he is an optimist about Russia, though not about Russia's immediate future.

A Constantinople message says that Erzerum has been captured by Turkish forces, after Armenian resistance was overwhelmed. Erzerum is the principal city of Armenia, and is located 100 miles northwest of Trebizond, the Black sea port, which was seized recently by the Turks from the Russians.

The notice served on Holland by Great Britain and the United States regarding the taking over of Dutch ships in allied ports has thrown the German press into a towering rage.

The capture of Odessa and Erzerum gives the central powers an open sea route into the Black sea and opens the gateway for a drive into Transcaucasia and Persia.

Premier Lloyd-George, speaking in London, said there had been criticism because the cabinet ministers had not given much prominence to the idea of a league of nations in their state speeches. The Bolsheviki had, he said, taught them a lesson—that was that a real league of nations did not come by talking about it.

The British admiralty reports the loss by mine or submarine of 18 British merchantmen in the past week and one fishing vessel. Of these 15 were 1,600 tons or over, and three under that tonnage.

Nobody has been so eloquent on the subject of the league of nations as the German emperor. His reply to the pope, says Lloyd-George, breathed the spirit of brotherly love, but in it there was no word about Belgium.

Speaking in the British house of commons, on the situation in the east, Foreign Secretary Balfour expressed perfect confidence in Japan's absolute loyalty in carrying out any decision that might be reached and declared that in this question he had drawn no distinction between Japan and other allies.

The situation in Siberia apparently is daily growing more serious. As yet the Japanese government has reached no decision concerning the matter of Japanese troops being sent to Siberia.

STRONG RAID MADE UPON AMERICANS

PERMISSION NOT GIVEN TO PUBLISH THE NUMBER OF CASUALTIES.

APPARENTLY AFTER PRISONERS

Purpose of Raid Was Quickly Accomplished: Was After Information from Captured Americans.

After a terrific artillery preparation large numbers of the enemy crossed No-man's-Land on the extreme right of the American sector, northwest of Toul. Apparently the purpose of the raid was quickly accomplished and only a comparatively small number entered our lines. Permission has not been given to mention the number of casualties.

This raid, like most of the others carried out all the way, from the sea to Switzerland, was designed to gather information by means of taking prisoners.

East of Luneville our patrols have explored part of the German trench which our artillery forced the enemy to abandon. Patrols proceeded laterally until they established contact with the Germans. Our reconnaissance and wire patrols found snipers' posts, listening and nests from which machine guns had been firing on our lines. The artillery attended to all these posts. The German positions have been so uncomfortable at several places that they now are trying to regain a foothold by connection shell holes. Our troops have been subject to an extraordinary heavy artillery fire. More than 240 shells, which make craters 20 feet deep and 30 feet in diameter, fell in one section of the line. In another section batteries have been shelled heavily. More gas shells have fallen in both the Toul and Luneville sectors, but the larger number in the former.

500 ARMY HORSES OUT OF 726 WERE POISONED

Ten Thousand People Join in Remarkable Demonstration.

Covington, Ky.—A crowd estimated at 10,000, which included men, women and children here, participated in a remarkable demonstration of patriotic protest against what is believed to be pro-German propaganda in Covington, as exemplified by the poisoning of 500 of 726 government artillery horses shipped from Camp Grant, Illinois for an Atlantic seaport.

Ten thousand others were unable to get near the field outside of the "ockade of the Covington stockyards" here lay the carcasses of hundreds of animals and the steadily diminishing number of survivors of the poison plot.

Emotions of the throng had been aroused to a high pitch of patriotic fervor when an interruption from a man giving the name of Richard Schmidt, 23 years old, nearly brought about his lynching. As it was, he was severely beaten before police lock-out was held under the auspices of the Citizens' Patriotic League of Covington. The meeting decided to send a memorial to congress calling upon the congressional lawmakers to enact a law interfering every enemy alien within the borders of the United States and making more stringent the laws governing all seditious and traitorous acts.

An investigation of the poisoning of the horses is being conducted by federal agents.

Acquire Egyptian Cotton.

London.—The British and Egyptian governments have decided jointly to acquire the entire Egyptian cotton crop beginning next August. A commission has been appointed to take control of the regulations.

MESSAGE CABLED FROM THE HAGUE TO LONDON.

The Hague.—After a cabinet council lasting into the night, the government cabled to London a message which, according to reliable information, probably will lead to a satisfactory conclusion of the shipping difficulty. An Amsterdam dispatch said it had been learned on excellent authority that the Dutch government had accepted the demand of the entente allies relating to the use of Dutch ships in the danger zone.

COL. J. C. L. HARRIS, OF RALEIGH, PASSES AWAY

Raleigh.—Col. J. C. L. Harris, one of the organizers of the republican party in North Carolina, former chairman of the state board of agriculture, former president of the board of trustees of the State College of Agriculture and Engineering, and former adjutant general of North Carolina, died here this morning at the age of 70 years. He is survived by a widow and 12 children. Two of his sons are in the military service.

HAVE PEACE TERMS COME TO BRITAIN?

LORD CECIL SAYS THAT NO SUCH PROPOSALS ARE BEING "CONSIDERED."

PEACE IS OFFERED SERBIA

Holland in "Perilous" Situation, on Account of Allied Nations Taking Over Her Ships.

That peace terms have been offered Great Britain by Germany may possibly be inferred from several significant statements given out. Lord Robert Cecil, British minister of blockade, when asked if proposals "had been received for a peace at the expense of Russia" answered that "no such proposals are being considered or will be considered."

A little earlier an Amsterdam dispatch quoted Field Marshal von Hindenburg as saying that "the entente has shown an unresponsive attitude toward Germany's peace intentions and the great German offensive must therefore go on."

Later General von Ludendorff, the German quartermaster general, was reported as saying: "Since the enemy is not inclined to make peace, we will have to fight, and this fight will, of course, be the most tremendous of the whole war."

Ludendorff Boasts Strength.
General von Ludendorff continued: "We are stronger than the enemy as regards men, material, aerial forces, tanks. Everything, in fact, of which he boasted is standing in readiness on our side in the greatest abundance."

The treaty of peace submitted by Germany to Russia at Brest-Litovsk, which makes Russia an outpost of the central empire, has either been ratified by the all-Russian congress of soviets or its ratification apparently is imminent.

Reports from Moscow are not clear on the situation, but it seems certain that the bolshevik element has voted by a large majority to affirm the treaty. As this element dominates the congress, the hard terms will doubtless be accepted, notwithstanding reports that Leon Trotsky, the mouthpiece of the bolshevik, is opposed to their provisions and is willing to try to reorganize the Russian army to fight the German invaders.

Holland stands in a perilous situation, according to the German newspapers, which are printing editorials, evidently inspired, on the taking over of Dutch ships by the United States and Great Britain. "Drastic measures" are advocated if Holland "gives way" to the allies.

FIFTY HORSES ARE DEAD; RESULT OF GERMAN HAND

Covington, Ky.—Fifty horses are dead of poisoning in Covington and many more are expected to die out of a government shipment of 726 horses from Camp Grant, Rockford, Ill., consigned to Newport News, Va. Dr. L. E. Crisler, veterinary surgeon, Covington, pronounced the death of the animals to be due to belladonna and croton oil poisoning.

The consignment of horses reached Covington in charge of Lieut. Frank Lilley and 16 soldiers. Doctor Crisler said he believed the poison had been placed in water given to the horses in Covington. Government authorities were notified. An agent of the department of justice began an investigation. Deaths of the horses generally are said to be ramifications of German plots.

Bow to Germany's Will.

Washington.—The decision of the all-Russian congress of soviets at Moscow to ratify the German peace terms announced in press cables was reached after receipt of President Wilson's message to the Russian people assuring them that America would take the first opportunity to help them regain their complete sovereignty and independence.

TROOPS ENJOY SUNSHINE AFTER WEEKS OF RAIN

After weeks of rain, snow, wind and murky weather there came to the American front its first bath of genial spring sunshine. The skies were cloudless, and in the moderate temperature that prevailed swaters were discarded by the men for the first time since last summer, while in the villages where they are billeted and in the cantonments in the training area, the camps were decorated with rolls of bedding being given an airing.

REINFORCED CONCRETE SHIPS TO TAKE LARGE PLACE

Washington.—Reinforced concrete ships apparently are about to take a large place in the solution of the shipbuilding difficulty which lies across the path to victory over Germany. Chairman Hurley, of the shipping board, to ratify the builders of the 3,000-ton concrete vessel which was launched successfully on the Pacific coast to report immediately what were the prospects for laying down additional hulls.

ONE MILLION TONS DUTCH SHIPS ADDED

VESSELS TO BE TAKEN OVER MONDAY, MARCH 18, UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW.

HOLLAND MAY ACQUIESCE

But Her Plea of Germany's Menace No Longer Will Prevail—Decision is Final.

One million tons of Dutch shipping which will be used in sending supplies to the armies of the allies or in transporting troops to the war zones, will be taken over by the United States and Great Britain Monday, March 18, thus relieving in great measure a dire need of the countries at war with the Teutonic allies.

Holland's hesitancy to come into an agreement with the United States and Great Britain which would permit of the use of ships flying her flag, many of which are now lying in American and allied ports, no longer is to be tolerated, and next Monday, whether she be willing or not, the vessels will be taken over under the provisions of international law and put into uses which are highly essential to the success of the allied cause.

Holland yet has time to acquiesce in the demands of the United States and Great Britain and sanction the use of her shipping, but her plea of Germany's menace no longer will avail, and there is to be no modification in the decision of the United States and the allies to seize all Dutch vessels in their respective ports throughout the world and use them. Liberal compensation is to be awarded owners of the vessels and all their rights will be safeguarded. In addition the export of foodstuffs to Holland will be permitted and coal by which Holland may resume her interrupted trade with her colonies will be guaranteed.

Washington, March 14.—A million tons of Dutch ships, now held in ports the world over, through Holland's fear of Germany's threat to sink them if they venture out, will be brought into the service of the United States and Great Britain on March 18.

Unless the Netherlands government braves the menace of Germany's pressure and voluntarily accepts an agreement under which the ships would be put in trade, the United States and Great Britain will take them over under international law, availing themselves of a sovereign right which Germany herself has hitherto exercised under the same authority.

GAS PROJECTILES ARE BLOWN TO PIECES

American Artillery Upsets Germany's Plans for Attack.

Four groups of German gas projectiles in addition to the group of 200 projectiles already discovered and likewise blown to pieces by the American artillery, probably German plans for gas attack on a comparatively large scale against the American positions north of Toul have thus been upset.

The new group of projectiles were discovered from aerial photographs taken by American observers in French airplanes. The effective action taken against them was due to the quick work of the observers, the intelligence officers and the artilleryists in turn.

The American artillery on this front has been more active than ever in the past 15 hours, and its shells also found lodgment in a number of ammunition dumps, which were blown up. Many extensive explosions are reported. The correspondent, standing on a hill, witnessed one dump situated in a wood go up in a brilliant flash and a great puff of whitish smoke, a tremendous report following a few seconds later. Explosions and fires also were caused by our shells in villages and a number in the woods behind the enemy front.

ANNOUNCEMENT AS TO SIBERIA EXPECTED SOON

Washington.—Japan's avowal of her intention to intervene in Siberia and the announcement of the courses to be taken by the United States and other governments aligned against the central powers are expected to follow closely upon the adjournment of the Russian congress of soviets called to meet at Moscow. Official Washington and diplomats here still retain faint hope that the warring factions of Russia may yet reject the peace terms.

GERMANS TO GET SOME OF THEIR OWN MEDICINE

London.—German prisoners of war are to be distributed over areas which the enemy's aircraft are subjecting to attack in their raids, according to The Evening News. "This," says the newspaper, "is being done because the allied governments have learned that prisoners of their nationalities in German hands already have been placed in all towns which the German government considers likely to be attacked."

SEAPLANES HAVE LIBERTY MOTORS

FIRST ONES THUS EQUIPPED ARE TRIED OUT AND ACCEPTED BY DEPARTMENT.

MOTOR DEFECTS REMOVED

Advance Guard of New Craft Being Delivered or Use in Submarine Hunting.

Washington.—America's first fighting seaplane equipped with Liberty motors has been tried out and accepted. It was learned, and a number of the craft are now being delivered for the use of the naval air service. They are the advance guard of a big fleet which will be added to the forces engaged in submarine hunting in the war zone.

A second type of fighting plane for the American army known as "the Bristol model" also has now reached the production stage and a considerable number will become available during the present month. Still another type, a two-seated machine, also is being manufactured.

Construction details of these planes have never been published. It is known, however, that the seaplanes are substantially similar to the British flying boats and are equipped with two Liberty motors, which provide approximately 700 horsepower to drive the ship. This is understood to be much in excess of the power used in similar British craft and their performance is expected to be proportionately better.

In this connection, it was learned that engineers of the aircraft board now have overcome the last minor defect of the Liberty motors, having to do with the lubricating system. A number of motors taken haphazardly from the quantity production supply have been operated continuously for many hours without any trouble developing.

Officials in close touch with progress being made on production of fighting planes in this country are still satisfied that the output will tax shipping facilities before July, when delivery in quantities in France has been scheduled. Already a problem of caring for the planes on the other side is one to which General Pershing's staff is giving serious thought.

BOLSHEVIKI CREW IS MENACE TO VESSEL

Half a Hundred Bolsheviki Cause Trouble at Norfolk.

Norfolk, Va.—Bolsheviki struck Norfolk in the shape of the crew of the Russian steamer Omsk and it raged with more or less intensity from 11 o'clock in the morning in and out of federal offices back and forth from ship to shore until finally at a late hour the whole crew of malcontents, to the number of 49, were taken into custody by a force of 35 Norfolk police acting under the personal direction of Major Ford and marched from the steamer to police headquarters where they were locked up.

The charges against the men, which were embraced in warrants sworn out at the request of Collector of the Port Norman Hamilton, by Victor E. Gartz, attorney for the Russian consul general at New York are:

"That they did unlawfully act in a mutinous manner, threatening officers and refusing to obey their orders, arm themselves with firearms and other dangerous weapons and engage in other riotous conduct on board the steamship Omsk, shouting bolsheviki control principles as against organized authority on board, the steamship Omsk and threatening to damage said ship, thereby endangering the safety of the harbor and city property."

The raid by the police was the climax of a day chock full of excitement and activity for the customs department, the immigration bureau, the department of justice and the United States district attorney's office.

BALLOON FALLS 3,200 FEET; THREE INJURED

Temple, Texas.—Capt. B. H. Fournier, of San Antonio, suffered a severe scalp wound, Cadet G. W. Adams, received a broken leg and Cadet E. M. Hawley sustained a sprained back when the balloon in which they were making a trial flight from San Antonio fell from an altitude of 3,200 feet near Killeen, this county. Something went wrong with the valve in the top of the bag, it was said.

FATAL ACCIDENT OCCURS ON U. S. S. VON STEUBEN

Washington.—A shell explosion on the U. S. S. Von Steuben, which killed three men, was announced by the navy department. The shell exploded while being fired.

The dead are: Emmette Joseph Shields, seaman, Hannibal, Mo. Valentine Przyelski, fireman, Buffalo, N. Y.

Erdell William Martin, mess attendant, Philadelphia, Pa.

JESSE BOWDEN TO DIE IN THE CHAIR

CONVICTED OF FIRST DEGREE BURGLARY IN CRAVEN COUNTY LAST FALL.

UPHELD BY SUPREME COURT

Bowden Says He and Another Negro Started Out to "Have a Little Fun"—Will Get It.

Raleigh.—Jesse Bowden, a Craven county negro, must die in the electric chair for the crime of first degree burglary, the Supreme court handing down a decision affirming his conviction in the Superior court of Craven county.

The crime was committed last August. Lee Perkins and Jesse Bowden, both negroes, broke into the home of Mr. W. A. Wilson, near the town of Dover, Bowden entering a room occupied by two daughters of Mr. Wilson and Perkins going into a room occupied by another daughter. The latter was awakened and cried out, and at the noise the Bowden negro crawled under the bed on which the two girls were asleep and was found there by the father a little later. In his defense he maintained that he was drunk and that he did not know where he was at the time or what he was doing there, further than that he had started out with the Perkins negro to "have a little fun." Both the negroes were convicted of first degree burglary, and Bowden appealed. The Supreme court finds no error in the trial below, at which Judge Thomas H. Calvert presided.

Wandering Child Nearly Starved.

Washington.—After having been missing for two days, Sarah Griffin, the nine-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Griffin, of Thompson's Creek, was found almost starved to death and completely exhausted, seven miles from home in the woods.

Sarah wandered away from home while at play. She strayed off into the woods, looking for violets. Paying no attention to where she was going, she lost all sense of direction and soon found herself completely at a loss as to the location of her home. She ran until completely exhausted and at last fell down and slept at the foot of a tree. The next morning she continued her search for home. She went all day without a thing to eat, although she managed to secure water from the shallow places in the woods where the rain had made puddles. The second night was also spent in the woods. When the searching party of ten men found her the next morning she was in a pitiable condition. It is believed that she would have died before nightfall. She was taken home and medical attention summoned.

Prominent Man Drowns Self.

Saffsbury.—J. N. Ledford, aged 45, living in the northern part of Rowan county and manager of the Irvin Mill Company's large store at Cooleman, committed suicide by drowning in the mill race at Cooleman. He left a couple of notes, in one of which he told where his body would be found. In another note, addressed to his brother-in-law, J. B. Ivey, of Charlotte, he told where his money was and asked Mr. Ivey to act as his administrator. No motive for the deed has been disclosed.

To be sure of a successful job, Mr. Ledford tied an iron weight about his neck. A widow and six children survive.

Get 20 Per Cent Increase.

Monroe.—The teachers in the Monroe graded schools have been allowed an increase of 20 per cent in salary. This matter had been up for consideration before the aldermen not long ago. The increase was not allowed then, the aldermen claiming that the city did not have the necessary funds. At the last meeting of the aldermen the teachers' demand for higher pay was again taken up and this time an increase of 20 per cent was allowed.

A New Gun Sight.

Monroe.—I. S. Noles, a young man of Indian Trail in this county, has invented what he claims is an improved machine gun sight. He has been working on it for the last 15 months. This improved sight as planned by him will enable the man who is firing the gun to do his own sighting and will also make the gun more effective at short range. The invention has won the consideration of the national council of defense and the war department. Noles has forwarded one of his sights to them.

McCoy Must Complete Term.

Raleigh.—President Wilson denied the appeal of Representative Zebulon Weaver to interfere with the administration of the legal machinery, and Tom McCoy, the Buncombe county white man, must complete his three years' term in the Atlanta penitentiary. McCoy was convicted in Florida about a year ago charged with perpetrating revenue frauds against the government. The appeal was taken to President Wilson last night by the Tenth District Congressman, but to no avail.