

NEW MACHINERY ACT ALMOST READY FOR LEGISLATURE

Only Important Change Has to do With Sheriff's Work

INSURANCE BILL PASSES THE HOUSE

MEASURE EMPOWERS STATE DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE TO FIX FIRE INSURANCE RATES—UNIFORM CERTIFICATION OF TEACHERS IS Tabled IN THE HOUSE

Raleigh, Feb. 17.—The joint finance committee probably will introduce the new machinery act bill Saturday. The most important change made today was the determination to repeal all special acts giving special times by which the sheriffs of various counties can settle for State's taxes and make a uniform time the State over on the third Monday in June, and if the State taxes are not settled within sixty days thereafter the State Treasurer shall sue for collection.

The joint committee on appropriations this afternoon decided to report favorable the Weaver bill appropriating \$20,000 for the purchase of the forest reservation on top of Mount Mitchell. The committee also reports favorably a bill for a legislative reference library.

The House passed, without further debate, today the Seawell bill giving the State Department of Insurance power to raise or lower fire insurance rates, the bill coming over from yesterday as unfinished business. It was an aye and no vote and it passed by a large majority.

The House debated at great length the Senate bill providing for the uniform examination and certification of school teachers. It was finally tabled 70 to 40 on motion of Mr. Vann of Union county.

Great numbers of new local bills were introduced and many others passed. The Senate passed the bill to make it a misdemeanor punishable by fine and imprisonment to use obscene language over the telephone, instead of the present law that allows maximum punishment of only \$20 fine.

Senator Hobgood introduced a bill to amend the corrupt practices act by prohibiting any payments for services in primaries except such as involve clerical work.

Another bill by Hobgood would incorporate the education board of the Baptist State Convention.

Among bills passed was one to authorize bond elections in aid of the construction of the Greenboro, Atlantic and Northern Railroad.

The Wadell bill to provide for compulsory references in voluntary cases was tabled after it had passed on a tie vote, 17 to 17, with the chair voting "aye" and then Senator Mize had tacked on an amendment to admit either evidence at the discretion of the judge. The motion to table was by the author of the bill.

Senator Chatham gave notice that the even is off from the House will be taken up Friday.

IN THE SENATE
The Senate was convened at 10:30 o'clock by President Dunning.

New Bills
New bills were introduced as follows:

Ward—Amend the law regulating the salaries of clerks in the office of the Governor.

Hobgood—Amend the Guilford county road law.

McMichael—Confer civil jurisdiction on the recorder's court in Reidsville.

Stephens—Relative to the packing of fruits and vegetables.

Hobgood—Amend the corrupt practice.

(Continued on Page Two)

THE PRIMARY BILL IS ABOUT READY

State-Wide Measure May be Reported in Senate Today

Raleigh, Feb. 17.—The sub-committee of the joint committee on elections has about completed a substitute for the Hobgood-Weaver and other State-wide primary bills pending in the Legislature and it is probable that it will be reported in the Senate tomorrow. The revised bill provides that there shall be effective on and after ratification a State-wide primary system that shall include the Legislative and the county tickets together with township officers, if the county board decides to include the township officers. However, if after the ratification of the act a certain percentage of the voters in any county petition for an election on the ratification of the act as to their county officers the election shall be called and the State-wide primary law shall not apply to the nominations of county officers if the people of the county vote against such application at the polls.

There were strong advocates of preferential system of primaries on the committee but it was considered that it would be impossible to get such a regulation. However the revised bill provides that second primaries shall not be held except where the second highest man makes application for it into a parliamentary position where

Russians Attend German Wounded Under Fire



Despite the tales of atrocities handed back and forth, it seems evident that the soldiers, the actual fighting troops, are still men even though they be at war. The photograph shows a Russian field surgeon dressing the injured foot of a German soldier who has been left wounded, by his comrades. The wounded man and his rescuers are under fire, in this picture.

ENGLAND'S FINAL REPLY TO THE AMERICAN PROTEST IS PUBLISHED BY AGREEMENT

British Government Lays Blame on Germany for Present Situation, But Says England Will Endeavor to Prevent Injury and Loss to Neutral Ships—Shows That Few American Ships Have Been Detained

Washington, Feb. 17.—Great Britain's second and complete reply to the American note of protest, which December 28, last, asked for early improvement in the treatment of American commerce by the British fleet, was made public tonight by mutual agreement between the State Department and the British office.

The note, which was addressed to Ambassador Page by Sir Edward Grey under date of February 10, denies that the depression of American industries is due to the activity of the British fleet. It suggests among other causes, the shortage of shipping facilities and the consequent diminution of the cotton trade and the destruction by submarine mines "laid by the enemy indiscriminately" of many neutral vessels.

The communication contains in its concluding paragraph the announcement that Great Britain intends to take retaliatory measures against the German submarine campaign against enemy ships, but does not reveal the texture of the measure.

Conceding that foodstuffs intended for the civilian population of a country are not contraband, the British government points out that, "in any country in which exists such tremendous organization for war as now obtains in Germany, there is no clear division between those whom the government is responsible for feeding and those whom it is not."

"It will be our endeavor," says the note, "to avoid injury and loss to neutrals, but the announcement of the German government of their intention to sink merchant vessels and their cargoes without verification of their nationality or character and without making any provisions for the safety of non-combatant crews or giving them a chance of saving their lives, has made it necessary for his majesty's government to consider what measures it should adopt to protect their interests. It is impossible for one belligerent to depart from the rules and precedents and for the other to remain bound by them."

The note, which contains about ten

thousand words, includes not only statistical argument, but further discussion of the legal principles involved. Sir Edward points out that only eight out of 773 ships sailing from the United States for neutral European countries have been placed in prize courts and that only 45 have been "temporarily detained to enable particular consignments of the cargo to be discharged for the purpose of prize court proceedings."

Statistics of exports from the United States are analyzed with the observation, "that, if cotton be excluded, the effect of the war has been, not to decrease, but practically to arrest the decline of American exports, which was in progress earlier in the year." The note adds that Great Britain never declared cotton contraband or interfered with its shipment.

Realizing that in no war have neutral individuals "not occasionally suffered from unjustifiable belligerent action," Great Britain suggests that opportunities for adequate compensation are offered in the British prize courts.

RECALCITRANT DEMOCRATS CANNOT BE SATISFIED WITH A SHIP PURCHASE MEASURE

Washington, Feb. 17.—The amended government ship purchase bill passed by the House early today failed to make any progress when it reached the Senate and the administration leaders tonight are uncertain as to its fate. The measure failed to satisfy either the recalcitrant Democrats or the progressive Republicans. The insurgent Democrats held that the measure was too permanent in its character, while the Republicans, who have favored the bill, believe it is too temporary. The Democratic leaders realized that the bill would not be passed unless it could be changed in conference. Efforts to send it to conference failed. Another attempt will be made tomorrow.

Despite the uncertainty of the situation the Senate and House leaders are confident there will be no extra session of Congress and that the shipping bill, if not sent to conference, will be placed in the Senate by the appointment bills.

At the special Senate committee's inquiry into the charges of outside influence on the ship bill, Bernard N. Baker, a steamship manager, told of a conference with Secretary McAdoo, in which he declared that eighty per cent of the foreign ships tied up in United States ports because of the war are not available to purchase, because they are unsuitable for commercial purposes.

The plan to move to confer with the House amendments was wrecked by the discovery that the leaders could not muster enough votes. Administration leaders made no attempt to conceal their embarrassment, and planned to send the bill to conference with the hope of putting on some amendments to command support.

The bolting Democrats were said to be favorable to an amendment to make the enterprise a temporary one to end with the European war. After a series of motions to send the bill to a conference, motions to table, amend and other maneuvers, in which the seven Democratic insurgents voted with the Republicans, the bill got to a parliamentary position where

MEXICO CITY IS LOST BY CARRANZA

Zapatista Troops Capture Mexican Capital—Silliman Leaves

El Paso, Texas, Feb. 17.—General Obregon, the Carranza commander, has evacuated Mexico City, according to advices received at Juarez tonight, from the south. It was said that the troops of General Zapata had occupied the capital.

Silliman to Vera Cruz
Washington, Feb. 17.—Secretary Bryan announced tonight that John R. Silliman, who is representing the State Department in Mexico City, would go to Vera Cruz, where General Carranza has established the seat of his government. Carranza recently announced that all diplomatic business of his administration must be transacted through him personally. It was pointed out that Silliman's transfer involved no question of recognition of the contending Mexican factions.

NEW JERSEY WILL VOTE ON SUFFRAGE

Trenton, N. J., Feb. 17.—The Senate today passed the woman suffrage amendment to the State constitution, 17 to 4. The House passed the resolution two weeks ago, and the question now will be submitted to the voters next September.

Paris, Feb. 17.—A Sofia dispatch to the Balkan agency says an epidemic of typhus fever is ravaging the regions about Sofia, Plevna and Philippopolis. Centers also is prevalent. Typhus first broke out among Ser-

AMAZING ARE THE JAPAN'S DEMANDS

Mikado Would Make Chinese Surrender Many Rights

Peking, Feb. 17.—If information from presumably well informed sources, both foreign and Chinese, is correct the memorandum recently given by the Japanese legation to American, British, French and Russian diplomatic representatives respecting Japan's demands on China omits certain of the requirements originally presented to Peking. These negotiations, which began late in January, had for their object determination of the future status of Japan's relations with China and a decision respecting certain questions regarding the future development of the Chinese republic. Their course has been guarded with great secrecy.

The Peking government did not conceal its concern over the situation, and on February 9 San Pao-Chi, Chinese foreign secretary at a conference with the Japanese ministry at Peking, rejected Japan's proposal on the ground that they were incompatible with China's sovereignty and conflict with existing treaties between China and other foreign powers.

The Japanese minister then asked for an acceptance in principle, stating that the detailed negotiations could be conducted later. China returned the same answer as to the principles involved.

The original demands, according to information from Peking sources, were twenty-one in number and were far-reaching both in their political and commercial aspects.

It is not known, however, whether the original demands were made orally or in a formal written communication. The memorandum as handed to the legations of the United States, Great Britain, France and Russia is understood to contain but eleven demands, substantially as follows: In relation to Shantung, China is to transfer to Japan all rights and concessions previously enjoyed by Germany, and must consult Japan on all matters previously agreed upon by

GERMANY BEGINS CAMPAIGN AROUND BRITISH ISLES BY SINKING A FRENCH STEAMER

THE KAISER WILL PERSONALLY APOLOGIZE TO AMBASSADOR

Ambassador Gerard was Victim of Hostile Demonstration in a Berlin Theater—Spectator Protested Because He Spoke English

Basel, Switzerland, Feb. 17.—Emperor William will apologize personally to American Ambassador Gerard for the hostile demonstration which occurred in a Berlin theater on the night of February 9, according to a Berlin telegram received here today.

Gerard is said to have accepted the Emperor's invitation to visit him at the East Prussia fortress of Konigsberg.

While the ambassador and party from the American embassy were attending the theater, a man in the audience protested because they were speaking English. When informed that his remarks were directed at the American ambassador he began a tirade against the United States for permitting the exportation of arms. The attendants finally suppressed him.

A LOCAL CONCERN WAS GRANTED CHARTER YESTERDAY

Raleigh, Feb. 17.—There was a charter issued today for the North State Beach Development Co., of Wrightsville Beach, Wilmington, the office to be at "The Breakers," Station No. 1, Wrightsville Beach. The capital is \$100,000 by J. E. Clayton, William C. Miller and W. C. Curtis. Other charters are for The Surry and Carroll Co. Telephone Co., of Mount Airy, capital \$25,000, by J. A. Tesh and others for maintaining telephone lines in Surry county, N. C. and Carroll county, Va. The Humphreys-Faw (Inc.) of Winston-Salem, capital \$25,000 by C. G. Humphreys, C. R. Faw and P. E. Faw, for a general contracting and engineering business.

EIGHT MINERS ARE KILLED AND SIX INJURED BY EXPLOSION

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Feb. 17.—Eight miners were killed, and six were seriously injured by a gas explosion at Prospect colliery of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company here today. Two of the injured will probably die.

LAND SLIDE IN ITALY

Rome, Feb. 17.—A land slide at Varcosina caused by the heavy rains has buried a house occupied by eight persons. None of them has been rescued.

ANTI-JUG BILL RECEIVES FAVORABLE REPORT FROM LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

BANK PRESIDENT KILLED ON STREET

Three Men Seen Running from Scene After Fatal Shots Are Fired

Leedsburg, Ga., Feb. 17.—A. D. Oliver, president of the Farmers' Bank and Loan Company here, was shot and killed tonight in front of his bank. Three men were reported to have been seen running from the scene immediately after the reports of three shots were heard. The motive for the killing is unknown.

Oliver was released several months ago from the Mississippi State penitentiary, after having served four years on the charge of bigamy. Evidence was presented to the State officials that he was not the man for whom the warrant had been issued. The banker was unmarried and aged forty-five.

INDIANA HUSBANDS MUST SUPPORT THEIR WIVES

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 17.—Indiana husbands who do not support their wives and children would be liable to a maximum fine of \$500 or a sixty-day jail sentence under a bill passed unanimously by the State Senate. Wages earned by guilty husbands on public work during their imprisonment would be given to their neglected wives and children.

WEDS BRITISHER

New York, Feb. 17.—Mrs. Julia Gertrude Lytle, widow of John S. Lytle, who left her an estate valued at \$20,000,000 was married yesterday to Alexander Wemyss Samuel, an English lawyer and journalist.

She Will Christen the Dreadnaught "Penn."



German town, Pa., Feb. 16.—Miss Elizabeth Kolb of this city has been selected by Josephus Daniels, Secretary of the Navy, to christen the dreadnaught Pennsylvania, which will be launched at Newport News on March 16.

NO DANGER OF A FOOD SHORTAGE

There is an Abundance of Wheat and Other Foodstuffs in America

Washington, Feb. 17.—Assurance that the United States is in no danger of a food shortage, despite the enormous exports to Europe, was given by the Department of Justice tonight in a statement to the public. The surplus of wheat, above the domestic needs, on hand February 1, the statement said, would permit the exportation of nearly one million bushels daily until the new crop is available. One million has been about the recent average daily exports.

Moreover, there was larger supplies of corn and other grains, meat, animals, dairy products, potatoes and fruit at the beginning of 1915 than for years. Incidentally it was pointed out that the average price of meat animals was seven per cent lower in January than a year ago.

Time Limit Expired Last Night at Midnight and Waters Around England and Ireland Are Now Within War Zone

GERMAN REPLY IS NOW ON THE WAY

German Government Answers American Note Regarding the Rights of United States Ships in War Zone

London, Feb. 17.—The time limit set by Germany for neutral shipping to take measures of safety expired at midnight tonight and Germany is now expected to put into operation her declared intention of employing submarines and mines in the waters around the British Isles, which she has proclaimed a war zone, with the object of cutting off food supplies from the British people.

In the meantime Germany, in developing her submarine warfare, has added the small French steamer Ville De Lille to her list of merchantmen sunk. The vessel was sunk off Cherbourg, after the crew was given time to take small boats. Numbers of the submarine's crew boarded the steamer and placed bombs in her interior, which later were exploded.

Regarding the operations on land, the French official announcement tonight indicates that there has been heavy fighting both in Belgium and France. The French claim not only to have maintained the ground recently gained, but have captured the German trenches and repelled many counter attacks by the Germans.

The announcement from the German war office today said that in the recent defeat of the Russians in the Masurian lake region, east Prussia more than fifty thousand prisoners were taken. The Russians at the other end of the eastern front are also said to be in danger, according to correspondent of a Berlin newspaper at the front.

Germany's reply to the American note concerning the rights of the United States vessels in the war zone around the British Isles was delivered to Ambassador Gerard today, says a Berlin dispatch. He will forward it to Washington.

Another British vessel has been sunk by a German submarine. It became known today that the collier Dulwich, which went down yesterday in the English channel, was torpedoed.

An Athens dispatch says a formidable army has been assembled for a new campaign against Serbia. This army is described as amounting to 450,000 men, partly Germans. The army which Serbia now has in the field is estimated at about one-half this size.

Heavier fighting now is underway in France and Belgium. The German war office says attacks undertaken by the British and French at many places were repulsed; and that an advance was made in the Argonne. A French announcement however, says the German onslaught in the latter region was driven back.

The report that a British prize crew

SIMMONS TURNS IN RESOLUTIONS

U. S. Senate Now Knows How North Carolina Stands on Ship Bill

(By Geo. H. Manning)

Washington, Feb. 17.—Senator Simmons presented to the Senate today, the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of North Carolina urging the passage of the ship purchase bill.

Vice-President Marshall expressed to Senator Simmons and Congressman Stedman regret at his inability to accept an invitation extended by them to have him make an address at the commencement at Elon College this spring. President Wilson sent to the Senate today the nomination of Samuel S. Gay to be postmaster at Nashville, and Lucy F. Clark at Raeford. The former was recommended last week by Congressman Poo, and the latter by Godwin.

IMPORTS PROHIBITED

London, Feb. 17.—The Bundesrat's authorization to the German chancellor to prohibit importation of the products of hostile soil and industry is published today by the Reichsminister. An Amsterdam dispatch to Reuters, The channel is authorized to take any