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LOCAL WEATHER FORECAST:— RAIN TONIGHT, PROBABLY COLDER THURSDAY.

Salisbury Evening Post

SPEAK OUT! LET POST WANT ADS ACT AS YOUR SPOKESMAN WHEN YOU WANT HELP. WANT TO SELL, OR WANT TO BUY. THEY GO HOME.

VOL. 12. NO. 302.

SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27, 1916.

PRICE TWO CENTS

GERMAN AGENTS AT THE HAGUE

Dispatches Say That German Agents Now in The Hague and Making Arrangements.

OFFICIAL TEXT NOT YET RECEIVED AT WASHINGTON

While the German Reply is Somewhat Disappointing it is Taken as a Step Forward.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Official information has been received here that Sweden has addressed a peace note to the belligerents and sent copies to neutrals urging consideration of terms for peace.

(By Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 27.—A dispatch from The Hague to the Exchange Telegraph Company says that Germany's agents have arrived at the Hague to arrange for the arrival of Germany's delegates to the peace conference suggested in the note which the German government sent to President Wilson in reply to the note suggesting a peace conference.

German Official Note Not Received.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The German reply to President Wilson's peace proposal has not been officially received early today, and officials are withholding comment pending the reception of the official text of the reply.

Despite the disappointment felt because Germany did not accede to the President's suggestion and laid down no general terms for consideration the reply is considered as a step in the way of peace.

The United States undoubtedly expects Germany to transmit the sense of the note to the allied nation and the immediate outcome depends on whether or not the entente belligerents will modify their determination not to enter into any negotiations until the terms have been laid down.

In diplomatic negotiations of such magnitude and scope officials do not look for results to become immediately, on the other hand the way will be slowly paved.

The next move will not be determined until after the official text of the German reply has been received and carefully studied at the White House and likely brought before the cabinet meeting on Friday next.

Must Await Allies' Reply.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Some officials point out that the United States could do nothing further and could not decide upon its course until the allies reply to the note.

Their answer has been forecasted by entente diplomats here as a courteous recognition of the President's purposes and ideals but will probably be a firm refusal to enter into a conference without having the terms advanced first.

Officials acknowledge disappointment over Germany's failure to reply directly to President Wilson's suggestion that the terms be laid down but are inclined to hold to the belief that the door to negotiations will necessarily remain open until the allies themselves close it.

Officials decline to make any statement that might be considered as official but are evidently inclined to view the situation as hopeful as possible.

German Terms Under Seal.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The view persisted in Teutonic circles today that Germany's reply will be followed by a highly confidential oral or written communication containing the terms upon which the Central Powers will make peace.

The German embassy which repeatedly made it appear that the Central Powers were not likely to make public the terms had received no official advices from Berlin today, but definite information regarding the intention of the Teutonic allies is expected.

It was reported in press dispatches from Rome that Germany had presented to the neutral nations whose services were asked in forwarding the peace suggestion that sealed packets containing the terms and this was the subject of much comment in diplomatic circles.

The Rome report had it that the packets were not to be opened and forwarded to Germany's enemies unless they in their reply to the note of the Central Powers of December 12th specifically requested the terms.

Second Presbyterian Exercises.

The Christmas exercises by the children of the Sunday school of the Second Presbyterian church will be held this evening in the church. The public is invited to attend. An appropriate and interesting program be rendered.

Mr. John Morgan, of Atlanta, a former Salisbury boy, is visiting relatives here.

SCIENTISTS RETURN FROM SOUTHERN STUDIES.



DR. WM. R. WRIGHTSON, DR. C. C. LYSER, DR. E. R. WHITMORE, DR. H. R. CARTER, MAJ. GEN. W. C. GORGAS, DR. J. GUITERAS

The notable commission of scientists headed by Major General Gorgas, which was sent to South and Central America by the Rockefeller Foundation some time ago to study tropical diseases, has just returned. The results will not be given for publication except in the form of a report to the foundation. Besides Dr. Gorgas there were Dr. William R. Wrightson, Dr. C. C. Lyster, Dr. E. R. Whitmore, Dr. H. R. Carter and Dr. J. Guiteras.

HOLIDAY BUSINESS

LIVELY AT ALBEMARLE

City Enjoys Its Best Business Period During the Holidays Just Closed—One Man Cut Attempting to Stop Fight

Albemarle, Dec. 26.—Old Santa certainly did remember this little city gloriously this season with the heaviest Christmas business by far, in the history of the town. Of course, business has been unusually good here for several months and especially during the fall days preceding December, but since about the 18th of this month business commenced to rise far above the high water mark and since about the 20th it literally "blowed itself" to a joint beyond the wildest dreams of the most optimistic man in the city. In fact many of the merchants almost cleaned up house and this morning the show windows, or at least many of them, presented an appearance the same as though they had been struck by a hand of burglars, or swept by a good sized cyclone. One dry goods and notion man sold out his stock so completely that he had the blues yesterday because the trade continued to the point where the demand was far greater than the supply. The writer has made it a point this afternoon to visit many of the leading merchants of the city and to ask about the Christmas trade, to be answered in every case. "A record breaker." And still it keeps up, today being an exceedingly busy day, with the streets thronging with humanity all day, almost equal with that of Saturday.

The peace and good order which has always characterized Albemarle in the past has prevailed throughout the holidays, despite the fact that the city has been filled with out-of-town shoppers from Ba'in and other nearby places. Very few cases of drunks or arrests for disorderly conduct have occurred, possibly the only case to create any excitement of notice being a little fight which occurred in front of Snuges Drug Co., last night when T. P. Baumbardner, who was said to have been attempting to quiet the row was slashed with a knife by some person who made his escape in the large crowd with out being caught by the police force. Mr. Baumbardner's wound was at first thought to be serious, but an examination was found to be slight.

Noted Southern Woman Short Story Writer Dies in Texas. Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 26.—Mrs. Lillian Zimmerman, widow of David Zimmerman, aged 37 years, died at Boerne, Texas, Christmas night, according to relatives here. Mrs. Zimmerman, as Lil Ryan, was one of the best known Southern newspaper women, her best work having been done on the Birmingham News. She acquired a wide reputation as a short story writer.

Chesapeake & Ohio Road to Give Additional Raise to Office Men and Dining and Parlor Car Employees. (By Associated Press.) Richmond, Va., Dec. 27.—President Stephens of the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad today issued a circular stating that in view of the success and prosperity of the road the company had decided that "effective January 1, 1917, a 5 per cent increase in salary would be given each employe in the service of the company in offices at stations and in dining and parlor cars whose compensation is not covered by an agreement and who has been in the service at least a year and whose salary has not been advanced since January 1, 1916."

INCREASE FOR R. R. MEN.

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22 HORSES, 6 AUTOS

BURNED STANFIELD FIRE

Buggies, Roughness and Other Property Consumed Monday Night in a Disastrous Blaze of Unknown Origin.

Concord, Dec. 27.—The big livery stable at Stanfield was totally destroyed by fire last night about 8:30 o'clock with all contents. There was no one in the stable at the time it took fire, all being present at the Christmas exercise at Locust, about two miles distant. When Mr. Elias Smith, one of the owners, saw the fire from Locust he went home as fast as possible, but too late to save his property.

Two horse drovers had their horses in the stable, an in all 22 head of horses and mules were burned to death. Six automobiles also were destroyed by the flames, as well as all the buggies, roughness, etc., contained in the stable. Nothing whatever was saved, and the loss is \$10,000 with no insurance on anything.

When Mr. Smith reached the stable and opened the front door the whole inside was in flames, the fire having caught in the rear. One horse ran out, but his ears were burned off and his eyes burned out, and he had to be shot. Thirteen of the horses belonged to Mr. Pugh, a drover of Virginia and five to his partner. All of Smith Bros. horses were out of the stable except two, as was also their automobile, in use by those who attended the Christmas exercise.

Of the six automobiles burned two belonged to Mr. W. H. Taft, of Mt. Gilead, and one each to Messrs. Joe Honeycutt, J. H. Mullis, James Taylor, and Luther Thomas.

The store of the latter nearby caught fire from the heat of the stable fire, but it was soon extinguished.

It is not known how the fire originated.

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RAILROADS ISSUE A DECLARATION

Notify Workers That They Will Ignore the Adamson 8-Hour Law Until Court Passes on It.

MANAGERS DECLARE THEY WILL AWAIT COURT ACTION

Will Do Nothing to Anticipate or Nullify the Workings of Court Relative to Law.

(By Associated Press.)

New York, Dec. 27.—Pending the decision of the Supreme court of the United States on the question of the constitutionality of the Adamson 8-hour law, railway managers declare that they will not be a party to any action that might tend to nullify or anticipate in any way the court's proceedings.

Railway workers have been notified that the Adamson law will be ignored after January 1st and "until such time as the issue has been finally determined by the court."

This notice constitutes the first formal declaration pending the decision and states that there will be no compromise on wages and other matters at issue between the two parties.

SAN LUIS POTOSI CAPTURED BY VILLA FORCES, REPORT

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 26.—A report was received late today by sources known to be close to Francisco Villa and by government agents saying that Villa's forces captured San Luis Potosi yesterday. Many foreigners who left Torreon before Villa attacked that town recently went to San Luis Potosi. No details were available.

San Luis Potosi is southeast of Torreon on the National railroad line between Aguas Calientes and Tampico. Tampico is believed to be Villa's objective in order to obtain a port through which he can import supplies. Villa was reported to be between Torreon and Chihuahua preparing to attack Chihuahua soon.

In anticipation of this attack, General Francisco Murguía was reported to have ordered General Francisco Gonzales, former commander in Juarez, to proceed south at once to reinforce the Chihuahua garrison.

MILITIA INVITED TO RALEIGH.

Local Company, Coast Artillery Corps, Requested to Participate in Inauguration of Governor Bickett. Lieut. D. B. Murph, in charge of the local military company, 4th Co., C. A. C., has received a notice from Lieut. J. L. Page of Raleigh, requesting that the Salisbury company attend the inauguration of Governor Bickett and participate in the military features in connection with the induction of the new Governor into office. It states that transportation will be furnished but that members will be expected to defray their own expenses while in the capital city. Inquiry is made as to the number of men the company can carry in the event it is decided to accept the invitation.

There will be a regular drill meeting of the company in the armory tomorrow night at which time the matter of attending the inauguration will be taken up and a decision reached. It is not known just yet what day the inauguration will take place, as it is to be set by the legislature, but it is expected to be either the 10th, 11th or 12th of January. There will be many State military companies to be present and many of the Salisbury boys have already expressed a desire to be among the number.

CHRISTMAS AT TABERNACLE.

Rev. W. A. Lambeth Recites "Christmas Day in the Morning," Substituting This for a Regular Sermon—Monday Evening Exercises.

Monday evening instead of preaching from a Biblical text Rev. W. A. Lambeth, pastor of First Methodist church, recited Grace Richmond's beautiful story, "Christmas Day in the Morning." This was so sympathetically done that the congregation was visibly affected and before the preacher had finished there was scarcely a dry eye in the Tabernacle.

At the evening service Mr. Lambeth spoke of "The Five Christmas Chimes of Bethlehem."

Monday evening the Sunday school Christmas exercises were held and the audience packed the large building. The exercises throughout showed splendid talent and training and each member was received with much applause.

At the close of the evening all the children in the audience were invited forward and received gifts of confectons, this not being confined to members of the Sunday school.

SNAPSHOTS OF MEMBERS OF PRESIDENT'S CABINET



NEWTON D. BAKER SECRETARY OF WAR

METHODIST UNION PLANS CONFERENCE

Many Delegates Are in Baltimore Planning for the Conference for a Union of the Two Branches of the Church.

(By Associated Press.)

Baltimore, Dec. 27.—The Southern Methodist church representatives in the joint conference on union with the Methodist Episcopal church met here today for reorganization. Bishop Warren Chandler was selected to succeed the late Bishop A. W. Wilson, of Baltimore, as chairman.

The joint commission will meet tomorrow and begin its deliberation in an effort to agree on a general basis of co-operation for the union of the two bodies. The commission represents more than 6,300,000 members. It is made up of ten Bishops, and 20 ministerial and 20 lay delegates from all sections of the United States.

This conference is regarded as ranking in importance with the Baltimore conference of 1783 when the Methodist conference of America was born. If the commission agrees on a plan these plans will be submitted to the various conferences and then to the individual denominations.

DEATH FROM CANCER INCREASING.

Cancer is now considered to be one of the most frequent causes of death, 54,684 people in the United States having died from this disease last year. It is of greater frequency at ages over forty than tuberculosis or typhoid fever. One woman in eight and one man in fourteen over forty years of age died of this disease, and yet to a great extent it is preventable. As to who are likely to have cancer and what are the signs of its approach, a bulletin from the American Society for the Control of Cancer, says:

"Cancer patients are often persons who have generally enjoyed good health, have never been seriously ill and who at the time of the onset of the disease were apparently in robust health. This disease is so insidious in its approach and so often without pain in the first stages that the patient often fails to pay serious attention to the sign of danger. Statistics independently gathered by many surgeons prove that the average cancer patient waits a year or more after observing some suspicious condition before seeking the treatment which is then often too late. This disastrous delay is the main if not the sole obstacle to the successful treatment of cancer at the present time.

"The only cure for cancer is to remove every trace of the disease. The only sure way to do this is by a surgical operation. If taken at the beginning the majority of cases of cancer are curable. All cases will end in health if left alone. Records of our best hospitals prove that the chances of cure are very high with early operation, and that these chances decrease with every day of delay. Early diagnosis is therefore all important."

Cotton Advanced.

The cotton market opened at an advance of 7 to 16 points and after some irregularities active months sold for 10 to 16 points above last night's close, with January selling at 16.92 and May at 17.51.

FARM LOAN BANKS

Cities for the Establishment of These Institutions Are Chosen.

Washington, Dec. 27.—

Springfield, Mass.; Baltimore, Md.; Columbia, S. C.; Louisville, Ky.; New Orleans, La.; St. Louis, Mo.; St. Paul, Minn.; Omaha, Neb.; Wichita, Kansas; Houston, Texas; Berkeley, Cal.; Spokane, Washington, have been chosen by Farm Loan Banking Board as sites for the new Farm Loan Banks.

The twelve districts into which the country is divided as announced by the farm loan board today included District No. 2, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia; District No. 3, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

Board Swamped for Loans.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The banks will be established as soon as practicable. Each will have a capital of \$750,000. Application for loans have been pouring into the board in great volume recently and it is estimated that a sum more than 20 times in excess of the combined capital stock of the banks could be used in making loans.

Almost the first work of the banks after approving and issuing loans will be the issuance of farm loan bonds, a new form of security in this country. The bonds will be issued in denominations as small as \$25 and will bear interest at a rate one per cent less than the interest charged farmers on land. What this rate will be has not been definitely determined. It is limited by law to a maximum of 6 per cent. It is expected that it will not exceed 5 1-2 per cent and subsequently may be lower.

Loans on farming land will be limited by law to 50 per cent of the value of the land and may be payable in from 5 to 40 years.

As fast as loans are made bonds will be issued to cover them so that at no time under the present plan will the banks' capital be tied up in loans to the detriment of other applicants.

CHARLOTTE MAN ARRESTED.

(By Associated Press.)

Charlotte, Dec. 27.—C. P. Leith, charged with misappropriation of funds of a local stone company and who disappeared several weeks ago and was located in Toronto, Canada, and who was arrested and delivered to United States officials was brought here last night and lodged in jail. When arrested he had enlisted in a company of militia and was training for service in Europe.

No News From Maryland.

Nantucket, Mass., Dec. 26.—The radio stations at Blisconset and at Newport, R. I., listened in vain throughout the day and night for further news from the steamer Maryland which sent out distress calls late last night saying she was sinking 880 miles east of San'y Hook. The coast guard cutter Albatross and Gresham were on the way to the steamer's aid but were not expected to be able to reach the position given until tomorrow.

Strengthening Effect in Wheat.

Chicago, Dec. 27.—Assertions that a large amount of export business had been done at the seaboard had a strengthening effect on the wheat market here today. The opening prices which ranged from 1-2 decline to 3-4 advance with May at 1.69 to 1.69 1-4 and July at 1.37 3-4 to 1.38 1-4 were followed by a moderate general setback and then a substantial advance all round.

OPERATIONS ON RUMANIAN FRONT

Field Marshal Von Mackensen is Reported to Be Making New Headway in This Theatre.

RUSHING TO GRAIN AND OIL STOREHOUSES ON DANUBE

Clearing of All Russians From Dobrudja is Now Made a Double Possibility by Germans.

(By Associated Press.)

While the peace discussion proceeds active military operations except as in such remote fields as those in Egypt and the Tigris are being vigorously prosecuted only on the Rumanian front.

In this war theatre the latest reports show Field Marshal Von Mackensen making new headway in the advance toward Braila, the great Rumanian grain and oil storehouse on the lower Danube, with his forces little more than thirty miles from this objective.

On the other side of the Danube meanwhile the Teutonic Dobrudja army is hammering away at the bridgehead of Matchin, almost directly opposite Braila.

The clearing of the remaining Russians from Dobrudja, thus has become a possibility not only by direct attack but through the advance and of Wallachia, which if successful in reaching Braila will be able to take the Matchin position under artillery fire in the flank and rear from across the Danube.

On the Franco-Belgian front the artillery has been active in some sectors and aviators have been busy but the infantry arm of the service on both sides is being held well to its position except for occasional trench raids and patrol enterprises.

Some possible developments of interest are indicated from the Verdun region where heavy bombardments east of the Meuse is reported by Paris.

FLEET OR ALLIED WARSHIPS ARRIVES

Number of Boats, Known Officially As Commerce Protectors, On American Side.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 26.—The presence on this side of the Atlantic of a formidable fleet of allied warships was indicated definitely today. The vessels are known officially as commerce protectors. They are heavily armed and disguised. For obvious reasons their exact disposition is not revealed but the arrival recently in American waters of this newest unit of the British and French admiralties was made known from a source that hardly can be mistaken.

For some days skippers of trans-Atlantic and coastwise steamers have been bringing to New England ports reports of strange appearing craft making their way westward. They made no reply to signals and could not be approached. They steered a vagrant course and were described variously as of the fashion of merchantmen, transports, light cruisers and even of submarines. Pierced together these reports fitted in with the suspicion now apparently confirmed of shipping men. It is said the fleet arrived safely at Halifax, N. S., a few days ago, but nothing then became known generally about it, because of the strict censorship maintained. The commerce protectors are described as large and powerful but capable of fair speed. They were designed, it is said to meet the German U-boat danger and in anticipation of an attempted raid off the Canadian coast similar to that made by the U-53 off Nantucket on October 8.

The arrival of the disguised warships was followed almost immediately with the announcement by the British premier, Lloyd George of the plan for the nationalization of British shipping. It is understood that the commerce protectors will not lie in wait for submarines at strategic points, but that they have been provided in sufficient number to act as convoys for merchant vessels throughout the zones in which undersea boats will be most likely to operate.

Greek Liner Detained.

New York, Dec. 26.—The Greek line steamship Paris with six hundred passengers aboard bound from Piraeus to New York, is detained by the British at Gibraltar, it was learned today from N. A. Galanos, local agent of the line.

"We have been officially informed by the British government that the entente allies have declared a blockade against Greek shipping," said Mr. Galanos. "The Paris, we presume, will be detained until the blockade is lifted."

The liner is several days overdue here.