

SUSPENSION OF HOSTILITIES URGED; ENGLAND ASKS THE POWERS TO MEDIATE

London.—Lack of confirmation of the early report of a hostile encounter on the Danube between Serbian and Austrian troops, and Sir Edward Grey's efforts to obtain the consent of the powers to mediation, led to belief in a possibility of avoiding armed conflict between the European nations.

Germany and Italy were said to have agreed to the principle of the British foreign secretary's proposal of a conference between the ambassadors in London of the leading powers.

Preparations were continued by all the powers to deal with eventualities.

Sir Edward Grey, in announcing in the House of Commons the steps to be taken to bring about mediation in the Austro-Serbian controversy, said:

"I understand that the German government is favorable to mediation in principle as between Russia and Austria, but to our particular proposal to apply that principle by means of a conference the German government has not yielded."

Sir Edward, who evidently was deeply impressed with the gravity of the situation, concluded by expressing the opinion that the failure of these efforts to bring about a settlement would lead to "the greatest catastrophe which could befall the continent of Europe, and its consequences would be incalculable."

Rome.—The Italian government has informed Sir Edward Grey that it accepted the invitation to join in a mediation conference.

Brussels.—Partial mobilization of the Belgian army was ordered, raising the total of the active force to 150,000 men.

The international socialist bureau has telegraphed to its members to meet on Wednesday when a general strike to prevent a European war probably will be discussed. The bureau was ordered closed by the governing committee pending international developments.

Constantinople.—The Greek minister here declared that in the event of war between Austria-Hungary and Serbia, Greece would be compelled to dispatch 500,000 troops to the assistance of Serbia.

Eydtkuusen, Germany.—A local newspaper says that all the Russian freight cars were withdrawn last night from Wirbelien, Russian Poland, and that in the interior of Russia freight traffic is entirely stagnated.

The Hague.—The chief of the general staff of the Dutch army, the minister of marine, decided to cut short their holiday and return to the capital, where active steps are being taken by the authorities for the maintenance of Holland's neutrality in the event of war.

Vienna.—M. Jovanovitch, Serbian minister to Austria-Hungary, left for Belgrade yesterday.

Reports from Hungary state that Serbian troops on board a steamer on the Danube near Temes-Kabla have fired on some Austrian troops. The Austrians returned the fire and an engagement of some importance ensued.

It is considered probable that this is another version of yesterday's encounter.

According to yesterday's version the encounter occurred near Semendria, twenty-four miles southeast of Belgrade, where some vessels conveying Austrian infantry were said to have been fired on from the Serbian side of the Danube.

LEFT YESTERDAY

Miss Ava Bell left yesterday for Wharfedale, where she expects to spend several days and from there will go to the Eastern shore of Maryland to spend several weeks.

IN THE CITY

Mr. G. O. Flynn, of Chocowinity, was in the city today. He expects to leave for Bethel, N. C., tomorrow where he will engage in the logging business.

VISITOR HERE

Captain John McWilliams, of Ocooke, N. C., is here today. He is a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Credle at their home, corner of Bunker and Fourth streets. His many friends are glad to see him.

VISITING HERE

Miss Lila Taylor, of New Burn, N. C., is visiting Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Outler, at their residence on East Water street.

GOES WITH S. AND T. CO. AS BOOKKEEPER

It gives this paper pleasure to note that Mr. Russell Willis has accepted a position with The Savings & Trust Company as bookkeeper. Mr. Willis is a young man of fine parts, pleasant address, affable manners, and we have no doubt he will make good. He graduated with distinction at the last term of the Washington High School, standing well with his teachers, as a boy of dependable character, and careful and correct habits. He has since been employed as bookkeeper for the successful and enterprising firm of A. J. Cox & Co., and he takes up his new work, with the hearty good will and commendation of both teachers and former employer. We congratulate The Savings & Trust Company upon securing the services of so promising a young man.

And we congratulate Mr. Willis upon securing a position where energy and capability, coupled with ability, are bound to win advancement.

FOR SALE AT A BARGAIN—Horse, pheasant and harness. Also young colt. N. L. Simmons. 7-28-14c

To Save Time.
When tacking up paper to shield the wall in any place where needed, as behind a sink or washstand, fold at least six thicknesses together before cutting, then after tacking up when the outside piece gets soiled simply tear off and there is a clean piece underneath.

Lumber Industry Investigations To Be Made Along New Lines

Washington, D. C., July 27.—The plans now being perfected for the forest service part of the inquiry to be made jointly by the Departments of Commerce and Agriculture into timber and lumber trade conditions in the United States provide for covering entirely new ground.

Lumbermen are now admittedly conducting their operations with a large percentage of waste, said to be largely due to market conditions which make close utilization unprofitable. There is no general agreement as to the actual causes of existing conditions and the responsibility for present undoubted evils. With rapidly diminishing supplies of timber to draw upon, wasteful lumbering has come to be recognized as a matter of serious public concern and an inquiry to discover the causes and seek for possible remedies is regarded by forest service officials as an urgent need. It is believed that the lumber industry itself recognizes the need and will welcome an inquiry conducted along constructive lines.

Private capital invested in timberlands, mills, logging railroads, and other forms of equipment reach an enormous aggregate and the lumber industry, which employs 739,000 persons and has an annual output valued at 1.4 billion dollars, is the third largest in the country. In seeking to realize conditions which will safeguard the public against wasteful methods of timber exploitation, possible timber monopoly, and treatment for the lumber trade, an other objectionable practices while insuring healthy conditions and fair understanding of the basis facts is indispensable. These facts, however, have never been ascertained in their entirety. It is the purpose of the Forest Service to obtain and interpret them impartially in co-operation with the other bureaus assigned to the study.

Lumbermen complain that the carrying charges created by interest on long-term investments, taxes, and cost of fire protection where such protection is given compel them to operate even where lumber prices will not repay them the costs involved. The necessity of operating under these conditions is advanced as the principal cause of waste since the market is most easily flinched

DELEGATES ARE NAMED FOR MEETING

At the last meeting of Phalanx Lodge, I. O. O. F. No. 19, the following delegates were appointed to attend the Second District Convention of that order which is to convene in the town of Belhaven: W. S. Pringle, M. F. McKeel and John Samson. A large number of Odd Fellows are expected to be in attendance and a great meeting is looked for. This order is doing a fine work in North Carolina. The District Convention will meet on Thursday, August 6.

STOOD HIS EXAMINATION HERE TODAY

Mr. Gary Bragg, of Ocooke, N. C., arrived in the city this morning for the purpose of undergoing his annual examination before Dr. John C. Rodman, the United States Marine physician here, so as to enable him to continue his duties in the livesaving service at the Portsmouth Live-Saving Station. Mr. Bragg is one of the most efficient employes of the government.

GUEST OF UNCLE.
Miss Edna West, of Norfolk, Va., is spending some time with her uncle, Mr. C. E. Wahab, on West Second street.

GUEST OF REV. GAY.
Mr. C. W. Parker, of Aulander, spent the week-end as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Gay on Harvey street.

DEPARTMENT TO FURNISH THE SLIDES

Washington, D. C., July 27.—A plan whereby ten or more farmers or farm women can form home classes in agriculture or domestic science and receive the text-books, lectures, lantern slides, laboratory and cooking equipment necessary to conduct them has been devised by the United States Department of Agriculture in co-operation with agricultural colleges of certain States.

The object of the plan is to make accessible at home, to men and women who have not the time or means to attend the regular courses at the colleges, practical short courses in agriculture and home management specially adapted to their districts. These courses, which will consist of 15 to 20 lectures, and will consume five or more weeks, can be arranged to suit the spare time and convenience of each group of people.

The course to be offered at first are poultry raising, fruit growing, soils, cheese manufacturing, dairying, butter-making, and farm bookkeeping; and for the women especially, courses in the preparation, cooking and use of vegetable and cereal foods. The department will supply lectures and lantern slides covering these subjects, and the States which have agreed to cooperate in the plan will lend to each group laboratory and cooking apparatus valued at \$100 and a reference library. The text-books and lectures will be made so complete that each group can safely appoint one of its members as study leader to direct the work of the course.

When a group has decided to take up the work, the State which cooperates sends an agent with the department's representative to organize a sample class and assist the leader whom they elect in laying out the work and in showing him the best methods of procedure. The classes commonly are held from 8:00 to 12:00 in the morning and from 1:00 to 4:00 in the afternoon, two or three days each week. The sessions are not held every day, so that the members will have time to attend to their farm duties in between the sessions, as well as before and after the instruction period. The classes meet commonly at the most convenient farmhouse. During the morning hours, text-book work is done. In the afternoon laboratory work is conducted, and the women who have elected to take the domestic science courses have practical lessons in cooking.

As soon as a class is established, the State organizer withdraws to start a class in some other district. The work thereafter is left in charge of the leader, who receives assistance by mail from the college or the department in carrying out the work. As there is no regularly paid instructor, classes can be carried on all over the State as rapidly as the college organizer can visit the groups, and as quickly as the laboratory sets supplied by the college become available. The local leader will provide during the reading of the lectures and references, for which full texts and lantern slides are supplied by the department. He will also be responsible for the laboratory equipment. Every one who completes the course will receive a certificate from the State College.

Not all of the States have yet agreed to co-operate in this plan. Last winter experiments along these lines were carried out successfully in Pennsylvania, and this has stimulated an interest in the method in other States. In one of the Pennsylvania classes more men applied than could be accommodated, and all of the 20 men and 15 women who began the course completed it. Pennsylvania is now arranging for more classes, while Massachusetts, Michigan, Vermont and Florida expect to take up the work. Other States, such as Maine, New York, New Jersey, and Delaware have signified their willingness to co-operate.

Ordinarily a college in a State usually applies to the department seeking to co-operate, when sufficient interest has been shown in the plan in several communities where ten or more people have sought the instruction. For financial reasons, certain colleges are not so able to engage in the work as others.

The advantage claimed for the new home courses with local leaders and laboratory equipment over the ordinary correspondence courses is

THE ORPHANS LAST NIGHT PLEASING

Those who attended the entertainment in the school auditorium last evening given by the class of orphans from the Odd Fellows' Home, Goldsboro, N. C., were delighted. The report is that it was the best entertainment of the kind given in Washington in some time. While the audience was not as large as was desired it was appreciative and a nice sum was realized for this most worthy cause.

CONVENTION MEETS HERE TOMORROW

The convention of the Second Senatorial District for the purpose of nominating two candidates to represent this district in the Senate of the next General Assembly will meet in the courthouse, this city, tomorrow morning at 11:30 o'clock. The convention will be called to order by Colonel Wiley C. Rodman, chairman of the Senatorial Executive Committee. The district is composed of seven counties. There will be several candidates before the convention.

AUTO PARTY.
Messrs. Frank H. Rollins, A. L. Bowers, R. D. Kear, S. B. Etheridge, J. D. Calais and R. D. Cordray left yesterday afternoon via automobile for Panacea Springs and other points.

Tug Barney Sank Sunday Night At Fowle Mill Plant

The steam tug Barney, belonging to S. R. Fowle and Son, Sunday night while moored at their dock at their mill plant on the south side of the river, during the night caught on a piling and when the tide went out the boat listed with the result that she filled with water and sank. There was no one on the boat at the time. The watchman at the plant discovered the condition of the boat, but being all alone could not render assistance. The Barney is about 55 feet long and is used by the firm for towing logs to their plant. She is commanded by Captain McLean. She will be raised in all probability some time during the day.

SENATORIAL CONVENTION.

The Senatorial Convention will meet in Washington Wednesday, July 29th, for the nomination of two Senators.

W. C. RODMAN,
Chairman.

HAVE RETURNED.

Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Bridgman, Mr. Frank Bowers, Miss Kathleen Small and Mr. Willie Knight have returned from their automobile trip to Beaufort, N. C. They enjoyed their trip immensely.

HAVE RETURNED.

Misses Linnie and Frances Mann, Clara Harmon and Marguerite Kirkman, who have been the guests of Miss Lillie Belle Willis, returned to their home in High Point, N. C., this morning.

That only a small percentage of those who take the individual correspondence course finish it. Studying in a group, with laboratory work and a leader, seems to stimulate the interest and add a social feature which lead the members of the group to follow the work conscientiously and complete it. Experiments with free correspondence courses show that while many individuals gain advantages from them, many others, because the material is furnished free, do not feel the same obligation to complete them as they do when they pay a substantial sum of money for the instruction.

Recommended To The Farmers Of Long-leaf Pine Region

MISS COWELL AT HOME ON LAST FRIDAY

On Friday morning last at 10:30 o'clock, Miss Mary Cowell, one of Washington's most charming and popular young ladies, gave a delightful auction party at her home on West Main street in honor of Mrs. E. T. Farris and her house guests, Misses Linnie Mann and Clara Harmon, of High Point. During the reception Miss Frances Mann favored the party with some popular songs. Miss Cowell, assisted by her dainty little sister, Miss Sallie Cowell, served a delicious salad course, consisting of chicken salad, a tomatoe sandwich, olives and iced tea. This was followed by block cream and cake.

PROHIBITION AMENDMENT DEFEATED IN TEXAS.

Dallas, Tex., July 27.—While returns from Saturday's Democratic primary still are incomplete, it was conceded that submission of a State-wide prohibition amendment was defeated by a majority of from 15,000 to 20,000.

James E. Ferguson, of Temple, anti-prohibitionist, was nominated for Governor by 20,000 to 40,000. These Congressmen were nominated: Dies, Young, Rayburn, Hardy, Gregg, Eagle, Burgess, Buchanan, Henry, Stevens, Slayden, Garner, Smith and Summers. Other Congressional races are in doubt.

HOLDING MEETING.

Rev. R. L. Gay left yesterday for Wake county, where he is to conduct a series of meetings this week.

UNFIT SEAMEN IN THE NAVY MUST LEAVE

Washington, July 27.—Secretary Daniels' drastic order abolishing imprisonment for desertion from the navy in times of peace was the subject of general comment in naval circles here.

The order provides for summary dismissal instead of imprisonment of blue jackets who overstay their leave, get drunk while on shore or commit similar breaches of discipline and for the honorable discharge of men who want to quit the service by merely refunding certain enlistment allowances.

The new regulations were issued after a referendum vote of the officers of the navy, a majority of whom are said to have favored the action. The Secretary stated he had become convinced that the general situation under the old regulations was untenable and not in keeping with modern business ideas.

"The navy has no time for the drunkard, be it ashore or afloat, nor for those who, in violation of their oath, are not present and ready for duty when required," said Secretary Daniels in discussing his order. "Such offenses indicate inherent unfitness for the naval service. Owing to the methods by which men are necessarily enlisted without full knowledge of their past, a certain undesirable class of 'ne'er-do-wells' enlist; such men would fail in any 'Men of this type at present find vocation in life.

their way to a naval prison where they are an expense to the government and a burden and not a help to their families. Hereafter these men will, as a general rule, simply be dismissed and the service freed of their unwholesome influence."

Let's build in Washington Park.

Washington, D. C., July 27.—The farmer who desires to blast a large number of stumps to clear his land for farming may find it profitable to bore holes in the stumps with an electric drill outfit and place his explosives in the holes. This method applies particularly to the long-leaf pine region of the South where stumps have deep taproots that require more than ordinary digging to dislodge them. The United States Department of Agriculture will shortly issue a Farmers' Bulletin (No. 600) describing an economical outfit for boring holes into obstinate tap roots where explosives may be inserted. One of these outfits costing not more than \$450 should be able to bore on an average of 500 stumps a day, covering during this period from 10 to 20 acres of land.

The cost of clearing land, with this outfit and the use of nitroglycerin powder will range from \$5 to \$18 per acre, provided the wood from the stumps and roots can be found for enough to pay for their disposal. The maximum number of borings are possible where the stumps are thick. In experimental tests, from 20 to 70 long-leaf pine stumps have been bored per acre.

In dislodging a stump securely rooted, the easiest way is to place explosives in a hole bored or dug directly under the center of resistance. Sometimes farmers endeavor to place the charge in the earth outside of the stump, but in regions where the trees have long deep-growing taproots the practice has not been satisfactory. It usually results in blowing the dirt away from one side of the tree and only loosening the stump to a slight degree. The department is now recommending an outfit that will make a hole deep in the earth within the taproot where the center of resistance lies.

The outfit recommended has been tried by several turpentine companies who used the stumps of the long-leaf pine for distillation purposes. The holes are bored in the taproot by means of electric drills, power being supplied by a dynamo run from a dynamo mounted upon a wagon. These companies seem to have found it profitable to employ this equipment, and after careful investigation, the department recommends the following as necessary for a satisfactory outfit:

Equipment.	Cost.
5-horse-power gasoline engine	\$115
3-Kilowatt dynamo	185
2 electric drills	50
6 augers, assorted lengths	25
200 feet of cable	20
SKids	10
Tools	25

Total \$460

The lower grades of nitroglycerin powders have been found most economical in blasting stumps with taproots. The higher grades tend to shatter the stump but do not throw it out of the ground as well as the lower grades. The experiments indicate that 20 per cent powder is cheaper and more satisfactory than 25 per cent powder.

The new bulletin is brief and to the point and contains a number of illustrations showing the outfit, methods of using it, and the results of its work. Farmers of the South who have difficulty with stumps of the long-leaf pine are particularly advised to send for their bulletin, which may be had free of charge.

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JUDGMENT AGAINST THE ALLEN ESTATE

Wytheville, Va., July 27.—With the consent of court and counsel on both sides a judgment for \$1,000 has been entered in each of the suits brought by the respective administrators of Judge T. L. Massey, Sheriff Lewis Webb and Commonwealth's Attorney William B. Foster against C. F. Cooke as committee of Sidna Allen, the judgments aggregating \$3,000. These suits were brought immediately after the slaughter of the court's officers in Hillsville in March, 1912, against Sidna, Floyd, Claude and Victor Allen, Wesley Edwards and Byrd Marion, but Floyd and Claude Allen and Byrd Marion having departed this life and Victor Allen acquitted, the damage suits were dismissed to all except Sidna Allen. Attachments against Sidna's estate will still be held and steps will at once be taken to subject his real estate to sale for the benefit of his creditors.

It's restful in Washington Park.