

IMPORTANT NEWS THE WORLD OVER

Happenings of This and Other Nations For Seven Days Are Given.

THE NEWS OF THE SOUTH

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

European War

Desperate counter attacks by the Germans in the region of the Stokhod river, east of Kovel, have resulted in the retirement of the Russian forces.

The Russians continue to advance south of Brody and toward Lemberg. Petrograd reports the capture of 1,300 Austro-Germans in an attack on the line of the Sereth and Graberki rivers.

The city of Brussels has refused to pay the fine of five million marks imposed by the Germans, because the Belgians say the fine was assessed because of the patriotic sentiment of Brussels and therefore is illegal and inadmissible.

Verdun has again become the storm center on the western battle front. The French forces have taken the offensive on the right bank of the Meuse and hold the Thiaumont work and the greater part of the village of Fleury.

The Thiaumont work, already the scene of many desperate combats, was twice in French hands during twelve hours. The Germans drove the French from the work once, but finally lost it.

Fleury is again in the hands of the French. Fierce fighting is reported in and around that village, and its possession is yet to be definitely decided.

London reports that the Germans bombarded the section southwest of Pomezey and also the southern portion of the Mametz wood.

A squadron of British naval aeroplanes has attacked with bombs German military establishments in the vicinity of Ghent, Belgium. Considerable damage is reported.

What is probably the last link in the Irish Sinn Fein rebellion culminated in the execution in the Pentonville prison, England, of Sir Roger Casement, the charge being high treason. The opinion had become widespread that Casement would be sent to prison for life, and there was much surprise when the announcement was made of his execution. He had been knighted and had served the English government in many capacities, and was highly thought of until he entered into what the English term a conspiracy with Germany to ferment an uprising in Ireland, which, but for English naval supremacy, might have reached enormous proportions.

A London dispatch says that General Count von Rothemann's army is reported to be almost enveloped by the Russians in Galicia. Cossack divisions after the occupation of Hordy by the Russians are said to have destroyed the railways behind the Austrian army.

The Germans are withdrawing from Kovel, taking their heavy artillery, food and munition depots. The city of Vladimir-Volynski, in Volhynia, is said to have been completely evacuated by the Germans.

With General Kaledine's army in full control of the Stokhod river, the Russian war department at Petrograd announces that the Russians are now well advanced in the campaign against the two important centers of Kovel and Lemberg.

The Russian offensive has been so vigorous and unopposed that the Austro-Germans apparently have been in a serious predicament, not knowing from which point to spare troops to reinforce the defense of some other part of the front.

Kovel is threatened from the west, where the Russians have successfully passed the Stokhod river, and from the south, where the Russians recently reached an advanced point on the Vladimir-Volynski road, south of Kiselev.

According to a very cautious valuation by the German war office the total Anglo-French losses in the Somme offensive will reach three hundred and fifty thousand men.

A month has now elapsed since the beginning of the great Anglo-French "great sweep."

Washington

Possession of the British liner Appam, brought into Hampton Roads last February by a German prize crew, was awarded her English owners, the African Steam Navigation company, by Judge Waddell of the federal district court at Norfolk, Va.

While discharge of National Guardsmen with persons dependent upon them are now proceeding at the rate of only ten a day, it is expected that in another week or so the average will be one hundred a day.

A Norfolk, Va., dispatch announces that the German merchant submarine passed out the Virginia capes at 8:30 p. m., August 2, apparently unobserved by the allied watchposts waiting for her, and so far as known here, is now safely on her homeward voyage. No untoward incident marked the departure of the giant submarine. She was accompanied only by her tug and a newspaper dispatch boat.

The German submarine merchantman Deutschland has sailed from Baltimore on a return voyage to Germany.

President Wilson will appoint three commissioners to meet a similar delegation already selected by General Carranza to undertake settlement of the disturbed conditions along the Mexican border. Only the withdrawal of United States troops and border problems will be discussed if Carranza's plans are agreed to.

Purchase by the United States of certain islands in the Danish West Indies is provided for in a treaty signed for the United States and Denmark. It will be submitted at once to the United States senate, whose ratification is necessary. It is apprehended that there will be no serious opposition.

S. S. McClure, the American publisher, who was ordered to return to the United States when he arrived at Liverpool on the American line steamship Philadelphia, is spending the interval in London. It is stated that his difficulties arose over his passport being made out for Switzerland as well as for France and England, and it was suggested that he might go to Germany also. When this was pointed out to him by the English authorities he volunteered to come home.

The senate has confirmed the nomination of the new farm loan, there being no opposition to any of those named by President Wilson.

Changes that the price of news print paper has been forced up exorbitantly by a combination of manufacturers have been made by publishers, but have been denied by representatives of the manufacturers at a hearing which concluded an exhaustive inquiry into the subject by the federal trade commission.

A Cobalt, Ontario, dispatch announces that 396 lives were lost in the recent forest fires.

Heavy damage to the growing cotton crop between June 25 and July 25 has caused a reduction of one million three hundred and fifty thousand bales in the prospective production.

Mexican News

Residents of Finlay, Texas, who left their homes and fled to the hills on reports that a force of 150 Mexican bandits had crossed the Rio Grande and was encamped in Lascas pass south of Finlay, have all returned.

Investigation discloses the fact that the report of the presence of bandits near Finlay, Texas, probably arose from the fact that three cattle men leading several horses passed near a Massachusetts outpost. Believing a large party of bandits was in the vicinity, the National Guardsmen fired a number of shots, which alarmed the residents of Finlay.

Carranza troops and United States soldiers fought side by side in the engagement with Mexican bandits to the south of Fort Hancock, Texas.

In the battle with the Mexican bandits near Fort Hancock, after the bandits had been surrounded in a ranch house on the American side of the Rio Grande river and an American customs guard had been killed, another customs guard named Bean, ran down to the river bank and called to a detachment of Carranza soldiers on the Mexican side to come over and assist the American troops.

In the latest battle with the Mexican bandits, four bandits and two United States soldiers were killed. The American force in the battle with the bandits near Fort Hancock consisted of eight men under command of Sergeant Thompson, two hospital corps men and two customs guards.

Customs Guard Woods was the first to fall in the battle near Fort Hancock. He was laid low by a bandit who slipped outside and shot him down, but a moment later his death was avenged by a hospital corps man, who shot down the bandit, just as he tried to make it back to the house.

The Carranza soldiers went in hot pursuit of the fleeing bandits engaged in the scrap near Fort Hancock, Texas, and General Funston said no Americans will join in the pursuit. The number of escaping bandits is not yet known.

Domestic

Five unmasked automobile bandits at Detroit held up an automobile in which \$50,000 payroll money was contained, seized about thirty-four thousand dollars and escaped in plain view of hundreds of employees of several automobile factories.

Over one thousand children have already been killed in New York City by infantile paralysis, and there is yet no let-up.

Since June 26 there have been in New York City 4,680 cases of infantile paralysis.

The health department of New York City reports that infantile paralysis continues to gain headway.

Charles E. Hughes has been formally notified of his nomination by the Republican party for the presidency. In his speech of acceptance he outlined the issues which he proposes to emphasize. He assailed the Democratic administration for its policy of "directing diplomatic intercourse" with other nations.

The South Carolina National Guard has been ordered to the Mexican border. They will move as soon as transport cars can be provided for them.

With the landing on Deer Island, near Biloxi, Miss., of a bottle in which was enclosed a note bearing the words, "Help! I'm on an unknown island," George Huggan and crew's preparations were made by shipping interests and relatives of Captain Dugan to search the islands of the Chandeleur group for the captain and five members of the crew of the lumber schooner Emma Harvey during the tropical hurricane of July 5.

HUGHES ATTACKS ADMINISTRATION

LACKING OF POLICY SAYS REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE.

ON FIRST SPEAKING TRIP

Assails Foreign Course and Mexican Program of President Wilson—Diplomatic Appointments Are Criticized.

Detroit, Mich.—Charles E. Hughes in the first set speech of his trans-continental trip assailed the administration vigorously for its foreign policy, its Mexican policy, for appointing men who he termed inexperienced to diplomatic posts and for what he characterized as a "raid upon the civil service of the United States."

"He kept us out of war," Mr. Hughes said, referring to the president and a Democratic slogan. "Yet we seized Vera Cruz. That was war—very ignominious war. And it was called war over the bodies of those dead soldiers; it was called a war of service."

"Talk about what is your policy. What is the president's policy—does any one know? Has the executive ever had a policy for more than six months on the Mexican question? I repeat: Who knows today what the policy of the administration will be three months hence? The trouble is that this administration has written such a record that no matter what it says you do not know whether it will stick to it."

"We have had an exhibition during the past three years which I confess fills me with a deep sense of shame. I have not a particle of militaristic spirit in my system, but if I am elected president I will see to it that American rights in Mexico are respected."

Mr. Hughes assailed the administration's course toward upholding American rights abroad during the European war.

"When I say that I am an American citizen," the nominee said, "I ought to say the proudest thing that any man can say in this world. But you can't have that pride if American citizenry is a cheap thing, if it is not worthy of protection this wide world over. There is no man who could successfully present to an American community the platform that an American citizen's rights stop at the coast line and that beyond that American life is to be the prey of any marauder that chooses to take it."

WILSON CAMPAIGN NOT TO WAIT ON CONGRESS END

Democrats Start National Fight Soon After September 1.

Washington.—A decision to launch the Democratic National campaign soon after September 1 regardless of whether Congress is still in session then, was reached at a conference between President Wilson, Vance C. McCormick, chairman of the Democratic National Committee and Homer S. Cummings the committee's vice chairman. The two Democratic leaders took lunch with the president and remained with him four hours going over minutely the campaign plans.

While no date was set for the nomination ceremonies, Chairman McCormick said that if Congress remained in session after September 1, the nomination might take place before adjournment. Under such circumstances the president will go to Shadow Lawn, N. J., for the occasion and return immediately afterward to Washington.

Invitations sent to the president to speak in various parts of the country were considered at the conference. Mr. Wilson will make no definite engagements, however, until a date for the adjournment of Congress is agreed upon. He already has promised to go to Hodgenville, Ky., September 4 to make a non-political speech at Lincoln Memorial Exercises and has made a tentative engagement to visit St. Louis September 19, 20 or 21, to address an organization of underwriters.

FARM LOAN BOARD IS ORGANIZED: NORRIS AT HEAD

Washington.—Organization of the new farm loan board which is to administer the new rural credits system was perfected here by the induction into office of its four appointive members the designation by President Wilson of an executive head and the selection of a secretary. The board will meet again to consider how it may best obtain information on which to base its first important work division of the country into 12 districts.

President Wilson named George W. Norris as farm loan commissioner, or executive head of the board. The oath of office was administered to Mr. Norris and C. E. Lobdell, Herbert Clark and W. S. A. Smith, the other appointive members in the office of Secretary McAdoo, who is ex-officio member and chairman. Mr. McAdoo made a brief speech pointing out that the farm loan act was the first legislation to provide financial aid for farmers on long time and easy terms enacted since the foundation of the government and declaring it meant more prosperity for the farmer and everybody else.

RUSSIANS BREAK TEUTONIC LINES

CAPTURE SIX VILLAGES AND MORE THAN 3,000 PRISONERS SOUTH OF BRODY.

VERDUN FIGHTING BITTER

British Capture 2,500 Prisoners When Turks Invade Suez Canal Region. Australians Plunge Through German Ranks.

Petrograd, via London.—Russian attacks along the Sereth and Graberki Rivers, south of Brody, in northern Galicia, broke the Teutonic resistance and resulted in the capture by the Russians of six villages. More than 3,000 prisoners were taken.

South of Brody the enemy offered determined resistance and made several counterattacks. In the streets of the villages fierce fighting took place and it was necessary to drive the enemy out from house to house.

On the right bank of the Meuse, in the Verdun region, the fighting between the French and Germans continues to be bitter. Paris says the forces of the German crown prince made unsuccessful efforts to drive the French from the Thiaumont work, recently captured. The Germans also bombarded heavily the sector of Thiaumont and Fleury.

Brelin mentions bitter fighting at Thiaumont work and reports the capture of 468 prisoners during German counter attacks in the Fleury sector.

On the Russian front the most intense fighting is reported as taking place south of Brody in Galicia. The Russians crossed the Sereth river, captured positions in the region of Poniak-Tchistopady and repulsed Austrian-German counter attacks against them.

London.—Strong Turkish forces which attacked the British at Romani, 22 miles east of the Suez Canal on August 4, was defeated and put to flight by a counterattack, says an official statement.

The Turks, adds the statement, are being vigorously pursued by the British who have taken more than 2,500 prisoners including some Germans.

With the British armies in France, via London.—Under the merciless concentration of shellfire, the Australians are holding on to their gains after their advance on a front of two miles. The Germans already have delivered three powerful counter attacks to retake the lost ground and all have failed.

DEMOCRATS PLAN LOWER SCALE INCOME TAXATION.

Senate Finance Committee Recommends Tax For Single Persons of \$2,000, Married One of \$3,000.

Washington.—Reduction of the income tax exemption from \$3,000 to \$2,000 for single persons and from \$4,000 to \$3,000 for persons with families was ordered recommended to the Senate by Democratic members of the finance committee who are revising the house revenue bill.

The change is proposed in an amendment which would put the additional \$1,000 tax in a separate classification and impose on it a normal tax of one per cent instead of two per cent, assessed against incomes over \$2,000, for single persons, and \$3,000 for married persons.

The exemption amendment, after an all-day discussion, prevailed by a majority of only one vote. Some of the Democratic Senators said that the decision was a tentative one and might be overturned with the amendment was submitted to the full membership of the committee.

FIRE CRIPPLES PRESSES OF THE NEW YORK SUN.

New York.—Five large presses on which The New York Sun is printed were so badly damaged by a fire which started in the sub-cellar of The Sun building that several editions will be run off on the presses of The Evening Mail. There were no employees in the press room when the blaze started.

CLOUDBURST STOPS ALL STREET CARS IN ASHEVILLE

Asheville.—Asheville was without power or street car service for about two hours Sunday as the result of a cloudburst in the Beavertown section which turned the Beavertown Creek, a small stream, into a raging torrent, flooded a large area in the vicinity of the creek and destroyed a number of poles of the Weaver Power Company, which supplies the city with power at present.

FINANCE COMMITTEE WAIT TO HEAR FROM COUNTRY

Washington.—Democrats of the Senate Finance Committee who voted to lower the income tax exemptions in the revenue bill are anxious waiting to hear from the country on the recommendation. Protests against it already have been heard within the party. Its proponents will use as one argument a suggestion from President Wilson in his annual message to the sixty-fourth congress for a reduction in the exemption.

SEC'Y BAKER WIRES PLANS

Movement For Relief of Destitute Carolinians.—Advices Co-operation With Government.

Raleigh.—Governor Craig received a telegram from Secretary Baker of the United States War Department advising him of a movement he has launched for the inspection and relief of the flood-swept sections of Western Carolina and suggesting that the Governor and the local relief committees in the flood sections get in touch at once for inspection work.

The telegram follows: "Instructions have been issued to the United States engineers at Charleston, Montgomery and Mobile to proceed at once with relief work in aid of destitute persons in the flooded districts. I suggest that you invite local officials and committees on relief to get in touch with the Charleston office with a view to securing the most effective results by co-operation in your state in the Catawba River district. Nashville, Tenn., engineers office is investigating the French Broad district."

Governor Craig said that he is anxious for the local committees throughout the flooded regions to follow the suggestions of the Secretary of War and get in touch immediately with the engineers looking after relief in their respective sections.

Contributions for the relief of the flood sufferers continue to come in and the money accumulated is being held, now that urgent immediate relief needs have been met, awaiting a meeting of the General Relief Committee August 11th, when it is likely that a very substantial sum will be set aside for restoration of highways with the understanding that the money is to be paid out in good wages to really needy men in the sections.

Delegates Are Named.

Raleigh.—Governor Craig has announced appointment of delegates to the Atlantic Seaboard Waterways Association, Philadelphia, September 12-15; Tenth Annual Conference of the National Tax Association, Indianapolis, August 28-31; and the Association of Governmental Labor Officials at Buffalo, N. Y., July 17. Also there were issued commissions to 30 of the most prominent negro educators to attend the Negro National Educational Conference at Washington August 22-26.

For the Governmental Labor Officials Conference Commissioner of Labor and Printing M. L. Shipman; Commissioner of Insurance James R. Young, Dr. W. S. Rankin and Commissioner of Agriculture W. A. Graham, of Raleigh, and J. Hayden Ramsey, of Asheville, are commissioned.

Delegates to the National Tax Association are Vance Brown and Robert C. Allen, of Asheville, and Stuart Daniel of Wanchese.

Farmers Buying Property.

Monroe.—An address by Maj. W. A. Graham, commissioner of agriculture, was the principal feature of the Community Service School at Indian Trail in this county. Major Graham told the 400 farmers gathered to attend the school that North Carolina is becoming a home owning state despite arguments to the contrary, according to statistics gathered from 61 counties, showing the 2,987 renters had bought homes during a period closing recently, in which period only 162 home owners became renters. Major Graham says he is going to complete the canvass of the state and get the exact data of each section and the state as a whole.

Gaston County Fair.

Gastonia.—Secretary J. M. Holland of the Gaston Fair Association is mailing premium lists for Gaston county's 1916 Fair, which promises to be one of the largest county fairs to be held in the state. New buildings are being erected and new features added to the fair ground. Several thousand dollars in premiums are to be awarded.

Votes \$50,000 For Bridges.

Newton.—Fifty thousand and more if necessary was ordered borrowed by the Catawba county commissioners in special session for the purpose of putting back four Catawba river bridges washed away and one new bridge at Lockout, together with minor bridges in the county.

NORTH CAROLINA BRIEFS.

"Not a charity, but work for those made destitute by the flood" is the substance of a message sent from Asheville to the North Carolina members of Congress regarding the Federal appropriations made for the flood stricken states of the south.

Caldwell county was even harder hit than Catawba, because railroad communication has ceased altogether and it will be at least three weeks before trains move into Lenoir, it is said.

John Savage, the Washington county negro, paid the extreme penalty in the electric chair at the state's prison for the murder of an aged white man in Washington county.

Caldwell county will borrow fifty thousand dollars at once for the purpose of repairing and rebuilding the bridges and highways which were recently destroyed and damaged by the floods.

Wilmington now has a company of engineers officially designated as Company A Engineers, North Carolina National Guard.

ESTIMATE BRIDGE DAMAGE IS MILLION

ENGINEER FALLIS ALSO THINKS ROAD DAMAGE IS HALF MILLION MORE.

BACK FROM FLOOD DISTRICT

State Highway Engineer Gives Estimated Cost of Rebuilding Roads and Bridges Destroyed.

Raleigh.—One million dollars worth of bridges have been destroyed and five hundred thousand dollars worth of roads have been damaged by the torrential rains in Western North Carolina, according to the estimates of State Highway Engineer W. S. Fallis, who has just returned from an inspection tour in the counties embraced in the flood district. Mr. Fallis has prepared a report for the Governor, giving an estimated cost of rebuilding roads and bridges and pointing out the possibility of salvage.

He reports that the damage to the road from the top of Hickory Nut Gap to Asheville amounts to \$3,000. The bridge damage on the Charlotte and Asheville highway in Rutherford and Asheville will amount to about \$9,000, while the cost of regrading and repairing the road way will be between \$12,000 and \$12,000, making a total of between \$21,000 and \$22,000. The damage to the Charlotte and Asheville highway in Henderson county including bridges and roads will amount to between \$11,000 and \$12,000. It is estimated that the total cost of reconstruction of the Charlotte and Asheville highway between Rutherford and Asheville will be about \$25,000.

Speaking of the people made destitute by the flood, Mr. Fallis said that what they wanted was not charity but work. There is a strong sentiment, he believed, in favor of an appropriation which will be used to pay the people who work in rebuilding the roads. The people are anxious to get the roads in repair and are willing to work on them, if by doing so they can secure a livelihood through the coming winter. Since crops are destroyed and tourists are leaving the people must have something to do to carry them through until next spring, and such an arrangement would not only help them financially, but would insure a rapid reconstruction of roads and bridges, it is pointed out.

Wilmington as Cotton Port.

Wilmington.—Nearly \$2,000,000 worth of cotton has been exported from Wilmington in the cotton year, in excess of the amount that was reported during the previous year, the comparative figures being \$12,522,000 this year as against \$5,650,000.

In previous years the cotton year closed on August 31, but the Government has recently changed it and makes it close on July 31. Of particular interest to North Carolina is the statement of the exports this year as compared with last year.

They are as follows: Total receipts this year, 223,000 bales; last year, 279,000. Exports this year, 174,557 bales, valued at \$12,522,000; last year, 175,797 bales, valued at \$9,000,000. Stock on hand this year 55,000; last year, 35,000. Among the noteworthy things to be mentioned in the cotton shipping is that the number of bales shipped this year, as compared with last year, is 4,416 bales less, while the amounts received for them are \$2,932,000 greater.

Spencer Prepares For Labor Day.

Spencer.—The Spencer Labor Day Committee has closed deals with a number of attractions for exhibitions in Spencer, September 4th. Among these is the Stirewells, a professional troupe composed of R. P. Stirewell and his three daughters, of China Grove. A barbecue to be given by Lentz & Harrington, of Salisbury is to be a feature attraction and 3,600 pounds of porkers have been ordered for the day.

Statesville in Million Class.

Statesville.—Monthly revenue collections in this district continue to run beyond the million mark. Collector Watts' report for the month of July, shows collections to the amount of \$1,360,255.76, coming from the following sources: Tobacco \$1,338,250.11; emergency taxes \$16,955.65; income taxes \$3,709.18; narcotic taxes \$709.39; liquor licenses \$562.52; fines and penalties \$7.63, making the grand total of \$1,360,255.76. This is an increase of \$519,307.02 over July of last year, or 61.34 per cent.

Gen. Carr to Aid Sufferers.

Raleigh.—Governor Craig was advised by General J. S. Carr that he will spend the next two weeks in Western Carolina with a view to rendering whatever aid he can to the flood sufferers. He will be for some days around Statesville and Marion and assured the Governor that he will do whatever he can for the state authorities or others while in the flood section. His bank has arranged to give important aid to flood sufferers in the matter of rehabilitating plantations and manufacturing plants.