

North and South Carolina: Partly cloudy and somewhat cooler Saturday; possibly light thunder showers; Sunday fair.

ESTABLISHED 1868.

"DEDICATED TO THE UP-BUILDING OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA"

ASHEVILLE, N. C., SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 15, 1922.

HARDING, HARBOUR, DEFEND MILITARY PLANS

Russians Must Give Favorable Answer By Noon Or Quit Meet

COMPROMISE NOT UNLIKELY AS TO RUSSIAN PROBLEM DOUGHERTY GETS IMPRESSION COAL MEN NEGOTIATING

French and Russians Break Lead, in Discussing the Situation. WANT RUSSIA TO REDEEM PLEDGES Statements Circulated, Many Demands on Russia Already Met.

LONDON, April 14.—(By The Associated Press)—A Reuter's dispatch from Paris tonight says a French semi-official statement issued in Paris close to a meeting of the big four of the Genoa conference, quoted Prime Minister Lloyd George as having declared that unless the Russian delegation had given a favorable reply by noon tomorrow to the proposals presented this week the Genoa conference, so far as the Russian question was concerned, would be ended.

GENOA, April 14.—(By The Associated Press)—The bolshevik delegates and the representatives of the economic conference, broke bread together today at the residence of Premier Lloyd George, and there has been an appreciable rise as a consequence in the expectations that the Genoa conference will give good results, even in the most pessimistic quarters here.

The occasion for the meeting of the soviet and French delegates at Genoa was a conference which began at 10:30 o'clock this morning and lasted throughout the day, in which French, Russian, Belgian, Dutch and British representatives participated and during which Mr. Lloyd George invited all of them to luncheon.

The meeting was called by Mr. Lloyd George for a discussion of the Russian problem, with the purpose of clearing up uncertain points in the London experts' report before the Russians present their final reply to it.

This carrying of the most vital part of the business of the conference into such an informal gathering, where personal contact was possible, was a move which possibly remove much of the mystery that has been displayed in the public sessions, has created a feeling in conference circles that a compromise may be arranged on the Russian problem which will afford a satisfactory working basis for the resumed Genoa conference.

The keynote of the allied position at the conference today was that Russia first must satisfy past pledges by obtaining any concession for the future, in other words, Russia must recognize the debts of the czarist government before soviet claims against the allies can be entertained.

INDIE CRITICISM OF STATE'S TAX LAWS ANSWERED

If People Don't Want to Pay for Improvements, Should Ban Bonds.

THINK REPUBLICANS START COMPLAINTS Morrison Calls Attention to Cheap Cost of Big Bond Issue.

RALEIGH, April 14.—To ease the minds of the fearful, Governor Morrison today called attention to the low cost of the \$5,700,000 bond issue for extending the state's educational and charitable institutions. Tax-paying time has called from the pockets revenue for the counties, and the state is receiving an undeserved amount of criticism and false allegations as to taxes over which it has no control.

The interest annually at 5 per cent on the construction bonds will be \$335,000. Not one cent of property tax money will be used to meet this additional expense, one-third of the franchise tax or one-third of the inheritance tax being ample every year to pay the interest. The bond issue is merely an investment in a better educational system and better charitable institutions and the masses of the people will pay nothing towards its cost.

The state levies no tax on property whatsoever, the governor again would remind the people. As a matter of fact, when it comes to the levies here, the average citizen pays only the income tax in so far as the state is concerned. The state raises the remainder of its revenue from special taxes, inheritance, franchise, liquor, and other special sources, indicating the way in which it gets money, two large corporations will pay to the state more money in taxes than 82 counties.

COURT BUILDINGS IN DUBLIN HELD UP BY OPPOSITION

Anti-Treaty Forces Stage Biggest Coup Effected by Them Yet.

DUBLIN, April 14.—(By The Associated Press)—Early this morning the biggest coup yet effected by the anti-treaty party was carried out. Some 300 armed men marching in two forces seized the four court buildings, formerly the seat of the national court of justice and the four courts hotel nearby.

NO POSITION WAS ENCOUNTERED. Two or three constables on duty were arrested but were liberated later.

Guests at the hotel were ejected and the two buildings were fortified, passably being pressed into service, filling sand bags and piling up stacks of books and documents.

REFERENDUM TO BE PROVIDED ON PARK BOND ISSUE

Measure to Legalize Action Passes First Reading on Friday.

ALL COMMISSIONERS BACKING MOVEMENT Double Number of Required Petitioners Ask for Election.

A referendum ordinance calling for a new registration and special election on the proposed bond issue was passed by the board of commissioners yesterday morning. The referendum ordinance will be redrafted and the registration and election ordered following this reading, quarterly, and the voters of the city will have an opportunity to voice their approval or disapproval of the bond issue through the ballot box.

LOWER ZONES OF ARKANSAS CITY ARE FLOODED Thousands Driven From Their Homes at Beardstown, Ill., Friday.

NEW ORLEANS, April 14.—With the crest of the Mississippi within a few inches of the top of the levees here, and a forecast by the weather bureau indicating an additional rise, every flood protective agency in the city was on the alert today to cope with any emergency.

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ILLINOIS RIVER STILL ON RISING TIDE FRIDAY

BEARDSTOWN, Ill., April 14.—Waters of the Illinois river continued rising today and three-fourths of the population of this city of 8,500 are being driven from their homes or were residing in their second story rooms. Half of the area of the city is now under water.

HARDING SUPPORTS CLAIM FOR NAVAL ENLISTED FORCE OF AT LEAST 86,000 MEN IN LETTER

WASHINGTON, April 14.—President Harding, in his first public utterance on the 1922 naval bill, declared in a letter presented today to the house that while the decision must be left to congress, he believed the country would be greatly disappointed if the enlisted force was not below 86,000.

The opinion was not sent gratuitously. It was given in response to a request from the president's view by Representative Longworth, Ohio, one of the leaders in the fight to defeat the proposal in the bill limiting the force to 67,000. There had been official statements to the effect that the president opposed a drastic reduction in personnel, and that he stood for the figure proposed in the McArthur amendment.

In presenting the letter toward the close of an all day debate, Mr. Longworth said he was glad to accept the challenge from friends of the measure as framed to find out what the President wanted and to let the house know. Harding says time not to be longer cut.

HARDING THINKS HOME PURCHASE TAX SHOULD TAKE PRECEDENCE FROM ALL TAXES

Quoted as Believing It Should Be Enacted Before Bonus Measure.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—President Harding was declared today at the White House to be of the opinion that tariff legislation should be given precedence in the senate over the soldiers bonus.

Although it was made clear that the President had received no request from republican leaders in the senate for advice as to first measure should be taken up, it is understood that the views of both the chief executive and the senatorial leaders coincide in this respect.

Under present plans the tariff will be taken up in the senate next Thursday, while the finance committee takes up the bonus bill with the possibility that it may make radical changes in it as it was passed by the house.

RYE AND SCOTCH FOUND ON SHIP ENTERING GOTHAM

NEW YORK, April 14.—The two masted schooner W. F. Dodge and the Bahama, from Nassau, in the Bahamas, for St. Pierre, Michigan, with a load of liquor, was seized by a police patrol as she was entering the narrows early today. The police said they found 25 barrels of rye whiskey and 403 cases of Scotch. The vessel was flying the British flag. The police said no documents were found to indicate her owners.