

North Carolina: Showers Wednesday; Thursday fair; not much change in temperature.

ESTABLISHED 1868.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 3, 1922.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

Expense Of Scrapping Warships Under Pact Put At \$75,000,000

SHIPS NOW BEING BUILT WOULD BE OF WAR GRADES SOLD ON STOCKS BEING PREPARED

Those Completed and to Be Scrapped Under Treaty May Be Sold

QUICK ACTION MAY SAVE IMMENSE SUM

With Money Available Quick Settlement With Contracts Possible.

WASHINGTON, May 2.—Recommendations that capital ships be scrapped under the naval limitation treaty be disposed of by sale on the stocks in the case of those under construction, and by sale for junk or sinking by gunfire in the case of completed ships, are contained in the report of the board of naval officers appointed to consider ways and means of carrying out treaty provisions. A preliminary estimate of \$70,000,000 as to the cost of the operation is included in the report.

The board recommends that the battle cruisers Lexington, under construction at Fore River, Mass., and Saratoga, building by the New York Shipbuilding at Camden, N. J., be converted to auxiliary cruisers under the treaty terms, the other four battle cruisers to be sold in the stocks to the nearest bidders.

The board in its request made public today, urged that the \$70,000,000 be made immediately available, stating that a considerable saving on ships building under contract and to be scrapped could be made if the terms of settlement were worked out promptly with the contractors. It was pointed out that the \$70,000,000, however, that the figure of \$70,000,000 was purely tentative. Existing battleships which the board recommends for sale or for destruction by gunfire are the Virginia, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Georgia, Nebraska, Connecticut, Louisiana, Vermont, Minnesota, Kansas, New Hampshire, Michigan, South Carolina, and the Delaware of North Dakota. One of the last two ships, to be designated under the treaty.

Ships under construction and recommended for sale as junk on the stocks or to be cut up under contract with the builders included the Constellation and Hanger at Newport News and Constitution and United States, both at the Philadelphia navy yard.

The Lexington recommended for conversion as an airplane carrier is 33.8 per cent complete and the Saratoga, selected for similar conversion 35.4 per cent complete, while the remaining battle cruisers range from 4 per cent to 22.7 per cent complete.

Battleships under construction include the Washington, 75.9 per cent complete at Camden, N. J., South Dakota 38.5 per cent, New York Navy Yard; Indiana 34.7, New York Navy Yard; Maryland 36.7, Mare Island yard; North Carolina 36.7, Norfolk yard, 31.8, Newport News.

As to the battle cruisers the board says none of the four to be scrapped is near enough finished to be completed and launched and that all four must be "disassembled or cut up." The board considers it possible, however, that the Constellation can be sold on the stocks.

The ship building at navy yards are recommended for sale as they stand to private firms for disposition as required by the treaty but the board urges that "usable material" from all ships such as guns, machinery, auxiliary equipment, be reserved for use in the proper accounts.

SNELL MADE CHAIRMAN TRAINING CAMP BODY

CHAPLAIN HILL, May 2.—(By The Associated Press.)—The University extension division, has been appointed as chairman of the North Carolina, of the United States military training camps association.

The war department, with which the association co-operates in preparing to hold a series of citizens military encampments this summer. Enrollment is in progress now. The camp for the fourth corps area, within which North Carolina lies, is at Fort McClellan, Alabama.

Three courses of military training are offered by the war department: the red, elementary, the white, advanced, and the blue, still more advanced. The educational requirement for admission to the white course is graduation from grammar school and for admission to the blue, graduation from high school.

RUSSIAN PLANS ARE NOW IN RUSSIAN'S HANDS

French Withhold Formal Approval of a Single Clause at Present.

NATIONALIZATION IS STORM CENTER

Belgium and France Stubbornly Held Out for More Restoration.

GENOVA, May 2.—(By The Associated Press.)—The draft of the allied proposals to Russia for the reconstruction of that country was tonight with an amendment offered by the French to the clause relating to restitution of or compensation for private property nationalized by Russia, and with a French reservation declaring that the French delegation will not place its final approval until further instructions are received from Paris.

The Belgians did not attend the meeting of the sub-committee on Russian affairs this afternoon, and the French delegates came late. The memorandum was dispatched without the signature of the Belgians.

It was rumored that the French did not understand the meeting was fixed for 4 o'clock, but when they arrived at 4:30 it was clear they had remained away for further consideration as to whether they would stand by the Belgians. M. Barre, another member of the sub-committee, announced that the French delegation could not approve the memorandum without further discussions at Paris.

Simultaneously Attorney-General Daugherty announced the appointment of former Representative C. McCullough of Ohio, as a special assistant attorney-general in charge of the government's investigation and possible criminal prosecution of cases involving war camp contracts and expenditures.

The house rules committee also prepared to take up tomorrow the question of giving privileged status to the Johnson-Woodruff resolution calling for appointment of a special committee to investigate all contracts and expenditures by the war and navy departments and the military property custodian during and since the war and the settlement of government claims arising out of such contracts.

The attorney-general in announcing the appointment of Mr. McCullough said he had written the committee that the department of justice had no objection to its investigation and "to go along with the purpose of the committee."

SENATE HAS FIRST VOTE ON NEW TARIFF

WASHINGTON, May 1.—The senate had its first vote today on the administration tariff bill, proving the committee rate of duty on a pound of acetone anhydride after rejecting 21 to 37, an amendment by Senator King, Democrat, Utah, to cut the duty to the rate in the Underwood bill.

Two Democrats, Broussard, Louisiana, and Kendrick, Wyoming, voted against the King amendment, while one Republican, LaFollette, Wisconsin, of the committee voted 43 to 2, King and Williams, Democrat, Mississippi, casting the negative votes.

More Flood Waters From Ferriday Crevasse Now Endangering Thousands

6,000 Are Homeless in Lands Which May Be Involved in New Levee Break Where Banks Are Now Just Holding Under Strain.

NEW ORLEANS, May 2.—Disquieting reports from flooded areas of the Atchafalaya river basin, especially from St. Martin parish, in southern Louisiana, were received by Red Cross officials here today. A committee was dispatched at once to investigate conditions there.

The Atchafalaya river flood, which already covers large areas of rich farming land, threatening to break through the levees at a number of places, especially at Melville, is being augmented by flood waters coming from the Ferriday, La., crevasse. What will develop when this added volume of water reaches the lower river basin where unconfirmed reports today placed the number of homeless at six thousand, is only a matter of conjecture.

The flood situation at the Louisiana refugee camps, which had become critical through the practical depletion of all food supplies, was relieved today with the arrival at Rhinehart, La., of provisions sufficient to provide for 6,000 persons, for 10 days.

In addition, two carloads of food were today dispatched from Alexandria, La., to the LaSalle parish, where another hundred refugees were reported in need.

Torrential rains which have been falling intermittently in the lower reaches of the river for the past 24 hours have handicapped the more than 20,000 workers on the levees. The rains have weakened a number of places, reports state, necessitating closer inspection to prevent dangerous developments.

The Red Cross, state flood relief commissions, national guard, the American Legion and civilian relief organizations were today continuing their efforts to rescue families marooned in their flooded homes. In both Mississippi and Louisiana, in many cases those marooned preferred to remain in their homes and did not desire the aid of their would-be rescuers.

FLOOD CONDITIONS ARE NOW BEING INTENSIFIED

NATCHEZ, Miss., May 2.—Flood conditions in the Black river section of Concordia and Catahoula parishes, La., are being intensified by the water from the Weveannu crevasse in the Mississippi levee above Ferriday. Since the break in the levee line the overflow water from the Black river and its tributaries, the Little, Ouachita and Tenar rivers, has risen steadily at the rate of four inches a day.

Jonesville, La., reported today that the levee protecting the town has almost been topped by water.

HARD FIGHTING IN CHINA CONTINUES; MANY CASUALTIES

Number of Dead and Wounded Following Battle Put at 2,000.

NORTH AND SOUTH FORCES CENTRALIZE

Many Foreigners Go Out to Witness Trench Warfare Near Peking.

PEKING, May 2.—(By The Associated Press.)—Heavy fighting was in progress today at various points along the front extending from Maehang, south of Tien-Tsin, across the country to the vicinity of Peking. Several fighting occurred at a point along the Hun Ho river, 30 miles south of this city, where 40,000 troops of General Wu Pei Fu, the central Chinese leader, endeavored to force a crossing in order to gain control of the Peking-Tsin railroad.

General Chang Tso-Lin, governor of Manchuria, and head of the opposing forces, from his headquarters near Tien-Tsin, ordered troops to collect the main body of 100,000 soldiers to the front south of the great wall. Two Manchurian airplanes flew over Tien-Tsin and proceeded westward.

Later airplanes dropped bombs near the station at Hwangtun only a short distance from here. Advances received by military attaches here said Wu Pei Fu was sending troops northward at the greatest possible speed.

Fifty thousand of his troops, concentrated at Pootung, are being reinforced from the Yangtze provinces. Twenty thousand others, recruited from Shantung, are marching against Chang Tso-Lin's southwestern stronghold at Maehang.

Two thousand dead and wounded were found on the field after the battle of Changtintien, outside of Peking. The booming of cannon was heard in Peking all last night, and the station at Hwangtun this morning. Despite the continuation of trench warfare many foreigners, including legation guards, went outside the city to view the hostilities.

Corporal Mason, an American marine from Colorado, was shot in the arm but was not seriously wounded.

French employees at the locomotive works at Changtintien narrowly escaped when a bomb, dropped from an airplane, destroyed the works.

Gen. Wu Pei Fu is continuing to send troops west of Peking in an endeavor to envelop Gen. Chang's northeastern wing. This country, still fighting which lasted all night at Fengtai, ten miles from Peking.

Overman Wins Fight For Adequate Funds For Forestry Work

DYING VETERANS MONEY WILL BE USED TO FLEECE THEM

Victims of Plot to Fleece Them

Government After Those Who Prey on Disabled Veterans of War.

WASHINGTON, May 2.—(By The Associated Press.)—Senator Overman won his fight for the Appalachian forest reservation fund. The final amount allowed by the conference committee was \$450,000, while his amendment to the senate bill called for \$575,000. The house bill provided the paltry sum of \$75,000. The sum agreed upon is small enough, but Mr. Overman's influence and energy saved the project. The senate and house will accept the change made by the conference.

Designing Women Attempt to Rob Relatives of Insurance Money.

INVESTIGATION OF REPORTS MADE HERE

Local Forestry Men Are Gratified With Result of Conference.

FOREST OFFICIALS ARE GRATIFIED OVER FUND

When informed last night by a representative of The Citizen that the conference committee had allowed \$450,000 for the Appalachian forest reservation fund, forest officials were pleased and stated that the fund would be spent in acquiring new lands in the Southern Appalachians. It was stated that Senator Overman has been untiring in his efforts in behalf of the southern forests, especially in the vicinity of Asheville and those interested were confident he would "put over" the larger part of his proposed program.

It was declared that lands are now under option which will take up practically the entire amount available for the purchase of the present 2,000,000 acres of lands in the Southern Appalachians.

On a recent visit to Asheville, Senator Overman expressed himself as being deeply interested in the Appalachian forests and declared he will do all in his power to up-build them as a playground and also for their timber supply values.

DAUGHERTY NAMES SPECIAL ASSISTANT

Executive and Legislative Branches of Government Both Act.

WASHINGTON, May 2.—Steps were taken by the executive and legislative branches of the government today for investigation and prosecution with vigor of war-time fraud cases.

President Harding sent to the house a request for a special appropriation of \$500,000, to be used by the department of justice to investigate and prosecute all cases, civil or criminal, growing out of the war.

Simultaneously Attorney-General Daugherty announced the appointment of former Representative C. McCullough of Ohio, as a special assistant attorney-general in charge of the government's investigation and possible criminal prosecution of cases involving war camp contracts and expenditures.

The house rules committee also prepared to take up tomorrow the question of giving privileged status to the Johnson-Woodruff resolution calling for appointment of a special committee to investigate all contracts and expenditures by the war and navy departments and the military property custodian during and since the war and the settlement of government claims arising out of such contracts.

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BLACK MOUNTAIN OPENS NEW FIRE STATION TUESDAY

Dedicated for Service, Several Hundred Inspect Currier Hall.

(Special Correspondent, The Asheville Citizen)

BLACK MOUNTAIN, May 2.—Dedicated for service to the people of Black Mountain, the magnificent new fire station and Currier Hall was formally opened tonight with several hundred from Asheville participating in the event which means much to this city and which will serve as a perpetual monument to the civic enterprise and community spirit of the citizenship of Black Mountain.

R. E. Currier, for whom the spacious hall is named, acted as master of the ceremonies in which a large number took part. The event tonight had been well advertised and the progressive citizens of the township were present almost en masse, thereby doing honor to those who have taken great interest in the new building and without whom the city would still have not even a fire department.

Various undertakings established those promoting the idea for the new structure dedicated to the public tonight to raise funds with which the building was started. The demand for a central fire station, however, could not have existed, had it not been for the volunteer fire department at Black Mountain, which was organized a few years ago. Some of the sturdy and strong young men of the city banded together for the purpose of protecting the property from the dread of fire and the townsmen, realizing the young men meant business, gave their support to entertainments and events of various sorts staged through the co-operation of the good women of the city for the purpose of raising funds with which to purchase some fire fighting equipment. First came the "human drive" vehicles.

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PROSECUTOR HALTS FOR SMALL TO SIGN BONDS

WAKEGAN, Ill., May 2.—(By The Associated Press.)—Governor Len Small's trial on charges of conspiring with Lieutenant Governor Fred E. Sterling and Vernon Curtis, Grant Park banker, to embezzle state funds, halted today while the governor signed two \$1,000 bonds. The jury played baseball and went fishing, and judge and lawyers played golf.

At a short morning session the defense completed a tentative panel to fill the jury box, but the case was adjourned to the next day. The jury had seated two to replace them and was still trying to get the fourth.

MERCHANTS URGE RAILROAD LEADS TO MOVE TRACKS

Resolutions Passed Citing Part of Public in Financing Road.

Declaring that the public spirited men of Asheville and patrons of the Asheville and East Tennessee railroad, made a unanimous order that the tracks be changed in order that work on the proposed Beaver lake may be rushed to completion this summer.

The following resolution was offered at the meeting of directors and passed: "Whereas, the Merchants' association is vitally interested in the early development of a large lake for the city of Asheville and to furnish entertainment for the large number of summer visitors to this section, and

Whereas, we read with alarm the newspaper notices that the Lakeview, Inc., plan to abandon the lake development for the reason that permission could not be obtained to move the tracks of the Asheville and East Tennessee railroad, and

Whereas, the public spirited men of our city and patrons along the line, have made continued operation of the line possible by subscribing to the stock of the road.

Therefore, be it resolved that this association regret any delay in building the proposed lake and urge the Asheville and East Tennessee railroad to make all reasonable concessions possible, in order that the lake may be rushed to completion for the entertainment of visitors during the summer.

Be it further resolved that the Merchants' association offers its good offices in any way possible.

JAPANESE MAINTAIN NEUTRALITY IN CONTEST

TOKIO, May 2.—(By The Associated Press.)—Japan, according to the foreign office, is adhering to her policy of non-interference in China, and will take no action in the present disturbed conditions in this country without consultation with the powers, especially Great Britain and the United States, if action seems necessary, and will observe the agreement not to supply either faction with arms and ammunition.

Overman Wins Fight For Adequate Funds For Forestry Work

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It was declared that lands are now under option which will take up practically the entire amount available for the purchase of the present 2,000,000 acres of lands in the Southern Appalachians.

On a recent visit to Asheville, Senator Overman expressed himself as being deeply interested in the Appalachian forests and declared he will do all in his power to up-build them as a playground and also for their timber supply values.

PAGING MR. EBBS!

By BILLY BORNE



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