THE WEATHER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—Forecast for North Carolina: Fair Tuesday: Wednesday cloudy, probably local rains in interior; mild temperature.

THE ASHEVILLE CITIZEN

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

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CENSUS BUREAU WILL DETERMINE NATION'S WEALTH

Work to Require Virtually Six Months to Complete, Say Officials.

DATA COLLECTION TO BE HARD TASK

Much Interest Attaches to Census of Public Debts in America.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—The decennial determination by the census bureau of the wealth of the people of the United States, what taxes they pay and the amount of their public debts—state, county and city, and other sub-divisions permitted to issue securities—will be started January 1.

Officials stated today their plans were virtually complete for the work which it is expected will be accomplished in about six weeks.

Much interest attaches to the census of the public debts because of the move for a constitutional amendment prohibiting the further issue of tax exempt bonds now because it is not now known the length of which the sale of tax exempt securities have gone. Treasury officials have said repeatedly that the continued issue of tax exempt securities has forced a much higher Federal tax rate because of the tendency of large tax payers to invest in that form of securities.

Efforts will be made, once the amount of tax exempt securities is officially computed, to establish the cost to the American people as a whole of the continued issue of tax free bonds. The census of ten years ago gives no criterion for estimating the present outstanding amount of such bonds, it was said, by officials who pointed out that the war time and post war issues of securities of political sub-divisions had tremendously increased the total.

The new issues, it was asserted, had come at a time when the Federal government was increasing its own debt and taxes at a rate unequalled in the nation's history. The Federal government, consequently, it was said, had been forced to pay higher interest rates and raise its taxes to unprecedented figures because of the flow of money into the bonds which no taxes either on principal or interest.

Collection of the data by the census bureau is regarded by its officials as one of its hardest tasks, second only to the census of the population.

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION IN COUNTRY PLEASING

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—The employment situation is encouraging and prospects are bright for the remainder of the winter, according to a survey just completed by the employment service of the Department of Labor. Nearly all states reported a condition much better than at this time last year, and the situation was described as fair to good in most sections.

States affected by seasonal suspension of logging operations or farm work and those where transportation is hampered by strikes and car shortages, were the only ones reporting unfavorably, and in all of them improvement was expected soon after the first of the year.

Building operations throughout the country were reported holding a pace almost unprecedented, only a few states in the North showing a slowing up because of the weather.

The manufacturing states, almost without exception, reported shortages of skilled mechanics. Textile mills were running full but needed labor. The automobile industry also was running 100 per cent but the labor supply about equalled the demand. The steel industry showed a general expansion, with a demand for all kinds of labor and the call for metal workers generally exceeding the supply.

Employment conditions in the Southeast were shown to be generally favorable and were expected to remain so for the remainder of the season. Only two states, Tennessee and Virginia, reported declines. The situation was only fair in Tennessee, where a general slackening of industry was revealed but prospects were said to be good for the beginning of the new year. Car shortage caused considerable unemployment in the coal mines of Virginia, where the building trades also slumped, and while factory employment was normal, it was not sufficient to absorb the surplus from other industries, and immediate improvement was not indicated.

North Carolina reported a shortage of common labor and farm help and a healthy demand for skilled labor of all kinds, while the textile mills were running full blast.

KAHN OUTLINES PLAN FOR RELIEVING SITUATION

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Otto H. Kahn, banker, in a letter to Senator Reed Smoot, of Utah, member of the debt refunding commission, made public today by the committee of American business men, has outlined a plan whereby he believes America can consistently aid toward relieving the European situation and at the same time meet the sentiment of the country, which seems opposed to the cancellation of the allied indebtedness to the United States.

Mr. Kahn expressed himself as being strongly in favor of the policy of cancelling at least a portion of the indebtedness of the allied nations.

"I am convinced that it would be to our ultimate advantage to do so," he write. "I feel sure that such action would turn out a good investment."

TRUSTEES OF WILSON FOUNDATION TO MEET

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Trustees of the Woodrow Wilson Foundation will meet at a luncheon here next Wednesday to celebrate the success of the foundation's efforts to obtain an endowment which, it is expected, will reach $1,000,000 on Mr. Wilson's birthday next Thursday.

A delegation will go to Washington Thursday to extend greetings to the former President and advise him of the completion of the Foundation's endowment.

EXPECT ARRESTS TO BE SEQUEL TO LAKE TRAGEDIES

New Chapter to Be Written in Morehouse Probe Is Belief.

SAY FEDERAL MEN KNOW MOB LEADERS

Townsfolk Bring Troops Good Edibles and Wish Them Greetings.

BASTHOP, La., Dec. 25.—The probability that the next chapter in the Morehouse kidnapping investigations would be written soon in Mer Rouge loomed strongly here tnoight.

Attorney-General Coco's announced in Markville, La., where he is spending Christmas, that the State expected to jail at least six or seven more on charges of murder in connection with the death of Watt Daniels and Thomas Richards, is expected to be fulfilled in the Mer Rouge community.

It is believed that many of the men the State suspects as ring leaders of the August mob will be served with warrants before January 5, the date set for the open hearing here. Developments at the hearing may bring about the arrest of others. Federal agents have declared they have the names of 20 members of the mob.

An order was issued today denying visitors permission to communicate with Burnett except in the presence of an officer of the military detail. Burnett's friends, who are many, are rallying to his support.

The troops stationed here and at Mer Rouge rested on their arms as the townsfolk brought them good things to eat and helped them to be merry.

The officials composing the legal machinery of the State scattered to spend the holiday with their families.

Governor Parker was at his desk at Baton Rouge, summarizing the developments of the past week, The Governor dispensed with the traditional Christmas dinner with his aged mother and relatives at New Orleans.

A conference of those conducting the inquiry was announced today for Thursday at New Orleans. At that time plans for the hearing will be outlined and the findings of the coroner's jury which held the inquest over the bodies of Daniels and Richards will be discussed.

The bodies, lying in cool water at the bottom of the lake four months before being shot to the surface by unidentified midnight dynamiters, were said to have been well preserved.

The pathologists disclosed that evidence indicated the men were beaten and their bones broken before they died.

Department of justice men are seeking to locate Dr. B. M. McKoin, former mayor of Mer Rouge, wanted for interrogation. The mayor quit Mer Rouge after an attempt was made to assassinate him. He went to Monroe and then to New Orleans and upon departing from here declared he was en route for Johns Hopkins University at Baltimore for a post-graduate course. Efforts to locate him there have failed and his whereabouts is unknown to officials.

Testimony of a sensational nature implicating many substantial citizens of Mississippi and Arkansas as well as Louisiana is expected to be developed by the State at the open hearing.

The hearing, as the term indicates, will be open to the public and for the purpose of developing the facts in the murder of the two men.

Affidavits will be made against all persons pointed to by the evidence as probably implicated.

Mrs. McCoin, wife of the physician, tonight informed newspapermen her husband was at Johns Hopkins.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 25.—Offi-

—[Continued on Page Two]

HOLIDAY MESSAGE TO DISABLED MEN MADE BY HARDING

Says People Stand Ready to Do Everything Possible for Them.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—President Harding in a Christmas message to disabled veterans made public tonight, declared they were "entitled to the utmost assurance that a grateful people stands willing and anxious to do, and will continue to do, everything possible for them."

The greeting of the President, which the disabled American veterans through its national offices here sent out to its members, follows:

"It is deemed especially fitting that at the Christmas season the gratitude of the nation should be extended to the sick, disabled and maimed men of the country's military service. These men are beyond all others the most sorely tried victims of the armed service in which they and their comrades upheld the national security and vindicated the national honor.

"Our obligation has prompted the nation to a very considerate dealing with them, which it is hoped has been in some measure at least, commensurate with the debt owing to them. For such misfortunes as have come to thousands of them there can be no compensation, no adequate requital; but they are entitled to the utmost assurance that a grateful people stands willing and anxious to do and will continue to do, everything possible for them.

"That the coming year may bring them in fullest measure a restored fortune, health and prosperity is the earnest wish of the entire nation."

AND THE DAY AFTER—

BY BILLY BORNE

DEATH CLAIMS A. C. REDWOOD AT BROTHER'S HOME

Aged Artist and Writer Passes Away—Funeral Services Today.

Funeral services for Allen Christian Redwood, aged artist and writer, of Port Conway, Va., who died Sunday night at the residence of his brother, Henry Redwood, will be held at 3 o'clock today at No. 90 Cumberland Avenue, the Rev. Francis M. Osborne officiating. Burial will take place at Riverside Cemetery.

The following will act as pallbearers: Active—Dr. Philip R. Moale, C. Marshall Cravatt, and the four nephews of the deceased, Major John C. Fairfax, U. S. A.; William M., Henry W. and Robert L. Redwood. Honorary pallbearers—W. Vance Brown, Haywood Parker, Harmon A. Miller, J. H. Law, Dr. W. P. Herbert and Dr. M. C. Millinger. Col. J. J. Mackey and Adjustant A H. Felmet will represent the Zeb Vance Camp, U. C. V., in token of the esteem in which they held a veteran of the War Between the States whose record was one of unusual merit.

While friends of the family are ask to the house, the burial following will be private, it has been announced.

The deceased was the son of William Holman Redwood, of New Kent County, Va., and of Catherine Carter Chawning, Lancaster County Va., and was born on the plantation of his grandfather, James Chowning, in Lancaster County, June 19, 1844.

He was educated at several well known academies at Baltimore and at the Polytechnic Institute, at Brooklyn, in which city his father lived in 1860 and 1861, until the certainty of the war carried him back to his Virginia people.

At Urbanna, Va., soon after his seventheenth birthday Allen Redwood enlisted in Company C, 55th Virginia Infantry, Field's Brigade, A. P. Hill's Division, Stonewall Jackson's Corps.

He was a faithful soldier, seeing hard service in action. At Mechanicsville, June 26, 1862, he received a slight contusion from a fragment of spent shell. He was in the fights of Cedar Mountain and Fredericksburg, but his regiment was not actively engaged. Although captured at Second Manassas, he was exchanged in a fortnight. At Chancellorsvile, May 2, 1863, his regiment lost fearfully and he was stunned by the explosion of a shell within a few minutes of the time his illustrious captain, Stonewall Jackson, received his mortal wound.

At Gettysburg he was in hot fighting July 1, 1863, and on July 2, in what is commonly called "Pickett's Charge," a bad wound from a Minnie ball disabled his right arm. In January, 1864, he obtained a transfer to the 1st Maryland Cavalry, Company C., Maryland Line, General Bradley T. Johnson command, and participated in a number of fights, having his horse shot from under him at Pollard's Farm, near Richmond, the last of May, 1864.

While scouting near Suffolk, Va., April 7, 1865, he was captured and spent several months in prison at Newport News, Va., from which he was the last man to take the oath of allegiance and leave in July of that year.

As a youth he had studied art as a diversion and after the war he opened a studio in Baltimore and later at New York, Bayonne, N. J., and Port Conway, working in colors, and water colors, also in black and white, for Century, Harpers, and other magazines, illustrating his own articles and those of other authors.

Since he suffered a serious attack of heart trouble last May, he had been in poor physical health but up until December 23 with but little evident impairment of his faculties. He was unmarried.

TWO CHILDREN SUFFOCATE IN CHRISTMAS FIRE

BATTLE CREEK, Mich., Dec. 25.—Two children, Willison, 10, and Barbara, 8, suffocated in their home here early today shortly after the parents, Waynard Watts and Mrs. Watts, had finished decorating their Christmas tree. A fire broke out in the basement and spread rapidly through the first floor rooms. Firemen found the bodies of the children in the bath room.

Sarah Bernhardt's Condition Shows Wonderful Change

PARIS, Dec. 25.—It seemed today almost as though that miracle which the medical men said yesterday was necessary to save the life of the "Divine Sarah" had happened. Maurice Bernhardt, her son, said this evening that the improvement was so marked that the doctors had permitted several intimate friends to visit the patient.

Reports that Madame Bernhardt was dying spread throughout the city yesterday, following her relapse in the early morning hours, when she suffered a fainting spell similar to that with which she was first stricken last Sunday during the final rehearsal of the new Guitry play in which she was to have appeared the following evening.

What she now needs is complete rest for many weeks, her doctors say, but to the energetic star the ideas of inactivity is most repulsive.

"Rest? I can't rest. If I did I would die," she is reported to have told her advisers.

GOVERNOR-ELECT SETS PRECEDENT FOR CELEBRATION

New Yorkers in All Quarters Join in Observance of Christmas.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25—Tradition has it that there is only one Santa Claus, but tradition was given the lie direct in New York today when nearly everyone—from Governor-Elect Smith down to the humblest citizen—donned red coat and whiskers in public or in private. It was a city of Santas.

The new Governor was the first to set the fashion. Returning from midnight mass to his apartment in the Hotel Baltimore, he mounted a step ladder and began stringing glistening ornaments on a sturdy Christmas tree. When—plain "Father Al Smith"—he seated himself on a low stool beneath the tree and began distributing the family's gift.

Meanwhile other Santas were harnessing their theoretical reindeer for a knowless journey around town.

Not even prison bars could shut out the Christmas cheer. In the Tombs—Santa strode the stone flagged corridors. A real Christmas dinner, with mince pie and fixin's was spread before 350 men and 26 women.

On Ellis Island, that famous gateway of the immigrant, 1,500 future Americans ate their first Christmas dinner in America under the very shadow of Lady Liberty.

In the hospitals where grown folk and youngster lay on their beds in pain, marched the red-clad figure with his toys and sweets. At his entry eyes that a moment before had been dull and empty lighted up.

Among the most generous of the Santas were the stage folk from Broadway. Into hospitals, into slums, into the homes of the hopeless they penetrated. Side by side with Salvation Army lassies, they labored, spreading joy among those who could not buy their amusement at the box office.

Tongues were not long enough to carry the cry of "Merry Christmas." During the day the radio took up the greeting until the very heavens were full of good cheer.

But the note of tragedy—inevitable as fate—was introduced into at least one home.

Mrs. Rita Diaz, a young Porte Rican, had joined with her husband in a Christmas Eve "party." A tree, music dancing—and the guests had petted the Diaz's seven-mopth-old baby. A tiny white sock was hung for baby's presents.

Then husband and wife quarreled.

In the night the wife arose, passed the stocking Santa had

—[Continued on Page Two]

BOND ISSUE FOR GRACE DISTRICT GAINING FAVOR

Special Committee Makes Report and Recommends Large Structure.

Committee appointed a few days ago to investigate certain legal aspects of the proposed bond issue for the erection of a large and modern high school building at Grace, recommends that a structure providing a gymnasium, an auditorium, 19 additional class rooms, principal's office, library and teachers' rest room be constructed.

The committee, with W. W. Hannaman acting as chairman in the absence of J. E. Swain, also recommended that the bond issue should be to the amount of $75,000 to cover the costs of construction and equipment in addition to the present building and equipment, the amount being based on architects' plans.

The committee further reported that the law is such that a portion of the district could not be required to pay a double-tax, should it be annexed to the city; nor could another portion be left with a plant larger than it would be capable of maintaining after the withdrawal of the income from the property taken into the city. Furthermore, the committee pointed out the fact that, according to the law, should the city limits be extended so as to take in the school plant, the pupils of the district left outside of the city would go to the school, after it becomes a city school, with free tuition, the district paying its school tax to the city as the same it paid before the annexation.

The committee's report was adopted without a dissenting vote, and the presiding officer, C. L. Felmet, appointed W. W. Hannaman to communicate the decisions of the meeting to the superintendent of the County schools, the board of education and to the Buncombe County Commissioners, to the end that all legal steps be taken for the calling of an election as soon as possible.

In the course of the meeting there was a full and free discussion of all phases of the question, and all were in favor of going forward with the plans that will give a high class building, modern in every respect and above criticism even from the most exacting. All were agreed that it should be emphasized that the building must be planned in such a way that when it is completed there shall be "a new building and not an old building added to." This does not mean that the present building should be discarded, but that the sentiment is that architects, expert on school buildings, are to be consulted and every precaution taken to the end that the present building shall in no way be detrimental to the new.

It was the feeling of the chairman, C. L. Felmet, and seemingly of all present, that it would be well to have a certain number to act as an advisory committee in matters of plans and building.

In answer to reports that large sums had been expended on the present bulding with unsatisfactory results, it was stated that the books show that only $13,750 has been paid out up to the time that the present contract was let.

During the discussion of the needs of the school, it was said that the total enrollment is about 375 with 12 teachers. There are in the building only 12 rooms. Included in these is one small room used as a library and recitation room combined. The school should have for its present use 14 class rooms. With the growth that must be accounted for with any amount of conservatism, it is evident that the building recommended will be completely filled quite soon. It was also declared that in the State Rules and Regulations for school buildings" is found the following statement: "A complete plant for a consolidated school, besides the regular classrooms, should contain an auditorium, a gymnasium (the two may be combined), a room for science, a room for domestic science, a shop work room, a library room, a teachers' rest room and a principal's office." It was also strongly emphasized that the district does not have to pay

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SOLUTION FOR REPARATIONS IS URGED BY BORAH

Says Arms Conference to Prove Failure Unless Problem Solved.

IDAHO SENATOR IN FORMAL STATEMENT

Expresses His Opinion of Various War Debts of Europe.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—Expressing confidence that "more mature reflection" would serve to diminish opposition to his proposal that the President call a conference of world powers to discussion of economic questions and further reduction of land and sea armaments, Senator Borah, Republican, Idaho, in a formal statement tonight declared that "we have reached a point where we are to lose all advantage gained" at the Washington arms conference, "unless a solution of the reparations problem is found."

The Idaho senator made no direct reference to the statement, issued by Senator Johnson, Republican, California, another "irreconcilable" in which the Borah amendment to the pending naval appropriations bill was assailed as a proposal which would "dump into America's lap the economic ills of Europe and the reparations muddle."

Senator Borah did mention however, opposition to the suggestion, which he said, was along the lines of that to the arms conference when it first was proposed Timidity and opposition, in that case shifted, he said, "to very general support," as the proposal was studied.

Discussing Europe's war debt to the United States, Senator Borah said, "some people seem to be exercised over the cancellation of this debt," adding:

"I am far more exercised over Europe's inability to pay. I haven't any fear about the open cancellation of this debt. But no child now living will see its payment if the subject of reparations is permitted to go from bad to worse until another war takes place.

"We are interested in the reparations question therefore, because we are interested in the payment of what Europe owes us. We are also interested in it because we want European markets opened to our farm products. Millions are hungering and dying in Europe for the products which are rotting on our farms. Shall we say that these matters do not concern us? Nothing concerns us more."

Asserting that the reparations tangle directly, immediately, vitally concerned the United States, Senator Borah declared:

"It involves millions to our people and it may involve another conflict. It am not over fond of conferences, but there are times when they are helpful. This seems to be one of the times."

There are many precedents for the conference he proposed, the Senator said, adding that the United States had participated officially in such conferences and with European nations more than once, and had never hesitated to confer with reference to economic financial and commercial matters.

"Such conference," the statement continued, "have never been regarded by the most zealous advocates of our traditional policies as in contravention to them."

Declaring that no public man had been a "more pronounced believer in our traditional policies" than former President Roosevelt, the Idaho Senator declared that Mr. Roosevelt "specifically endorsed this kind of a conference and regarded such conference as means of preserving the policies of Washington and Monroe.

TWO DEAD, NINE HURT IN ATLANTA CHRISTMAS

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 25.—Two dead and nine hurt was the toll of Christmas holiday shootings and accidents of various kinds on record at the Atlanta police station tonight.

The dead are: William Morton, 50, of Lithia Springs, who died at a local hospital tonight from gunshot wounds said by the authorities to have been inflicted by John Clay, a negro tenant, after a quarrel between the two in Douglas County, and George Morrison Duncan, Jr., age 5, of Atlanta, who was accidentally shot while playing with a gun while on a visit to his grandparents in Jackson.

The injured were victims of Christmas tree fires, accidental discharges of guns, automobile smash ups and bicycle crashes. None of the injuries were considered serious.

TELEPHONE OPERATOR SAVES 63 FROM FUMES OF GAS

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Ammonia fumes escaping from a large tank that exploded today in the basement of the Italian Hospital, East Eighty-third Street, endangered 63 patients, who were saved from harm by the presence of mind of Miss Marie de Snovia, the telephone switchboard operator.

The young woman remained at her post, although affected by the fumes, and succeeded in telephoning the head nurse in each ward to close all hall doors and open the windows. She then gave the alarm for fire and police and fell from her chair in a swoon.

The fire department rescue squad, equipped with gas masks, arrived quickly and succeeded in stopping the leak in the tank.

TALLY CAPTURED NEAR SOUTH BOSTON, VA.

GREENSBORO, N. C., Dec. 25.—Carl Tally, wanted in Greensboro in connection with the murder of Policeman W. T. McCulston, of the local force, here May 4, 1921, was captured yesterday afternoon near South Boston, Va., according to information received here from the mayor of South Boston.

Talley's arrest was brought about when he was taken to a hospital in Scottsburg, Va., for medical attention following a pistol duel with his cousin. Talley was wounded in the neck, but his condition will not prevent officers from bringing him to Greensboro tomorrow. Talley has admitted his identity and will waive requisition, according to the South Boston mayor.

Plea For Armenian National Home To Be Heard At Lausanne

American Relief Ships Give Cheer In the Bosphorus

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 25.—The American cruiser Pittsburgh, 11 American destroyers and two mother ships, lying in the Bosporus, gave Christmas cheer to several thousand refuge orphans, hundreds of whom were picked up in the streets of Constantinople by American relief workers headed by Mrs. Elsie White, of Grinnell, Iowa. The warships were gaily decorated, Turkey dinners were served and there were gifts for every one from the Christmas tree. Tens of thousands gathered at the water front at nightfall to watch the illumination of the fleet.

DIRECT LINE TO COAL FIELDS IS STATESVILLE AIM

Civic Organizations Behind Movement and Will Hold Mass Meeting.

STATESVILLE, Dec. 25.—A joint meeting of the Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs and the Merchants' Association of Statesville will be held early in January for the purpose of discussing a more direct railroad connection for Statesville with the coal fields of Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky. These organizations are behind the movement to request the State at the approaching session of the General Assembly to build 15 miles of road from Wilkesboro to meet the Rocky Face extension from Hiddenite, thus giving Statesville a connection with the road projected to Butler, Tenn., from Wilkesboro.

Twenty-six miles of the latter road has already been constructed, and this is offered the State at 10,000 per mile will all equipment. It extends from Wilkesboro to Derby, Wilkes County. The intention is to go from Darby to Boone, Watauga County, a distance of 25 miles; then from Boone to Butler, Tenn., a distance of 22 miles, connecting there with a road to Johnson City, Tenn., an outlet to the East. An outlet North, connecting with the Norfolk and Western, at Abingdon, Va., could be obtained by building from the Wilkesboro-Darby road to Hopkins, Ashe County, a distance of seven miles, striking at that point the railhead of the Virginia-Carolina Railroad.

A Southern connection from Wilkesboro, to be constructed from Grandin, the rail-head of the extension of the Yadkin Valley from Winston-Salem to Lenoir, a distance of 15 miles, would give access to the Carolinas and Northwestern to Hickory and Charlotte. This route would require about 69 miles of grading and construction, opening up the so-called "Lost Provinces" of Avery, Watauga, Ashe and Alleghany Counties to the rest of North Carolina by railroad.

With the 15 miles from Rocky Face to Wilkesboro, it is estimated that the total mileage to be constructed is 84. It is figured that it could be built at $30,000 per mile, and that the total expenditure would be approximately $3,000,00.

"The chief virtue of the project," stated Pressley E. Brown, of Wilkesboro, who was here yesterday, "is that it comes nearer fulfilling the desires and meeting the interests of all sections concerned than any other plan yet advanced. We have no intention of advancing one section to the detriment of another. Besides opening up mountain counties, long without railroad facilities, it would reduce the cost of coal to consumers all over the State $25 on the car at a minimum. It would bring timber to our furniture manufacturers far more cheaply. It costs them at present as much to get timber from this section as it does a Philadelphia manufacturer."

INTERSTATE COMMISSIONERS WILL ELECT CHAIRMAN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—Interstate Commerce Commissioners will hold their annual election this week to elect a new chairman to serve during the year 1923. The choice is expected to fall on Commissioner B. H. Meyer, one of the older members of the boy in point of service, who has previously served a one-year term in the chairmanship. According to the commission's custom, Chairman Chas. C. McChord, having served one year, will retire from the post, but retains regular duties as a commissioner.

CREATE ANNUAL PRIZE FOR NAVAL ACADEMY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—In the hope of stimulating development among the midshipmen at Annapolis of qualities of leadership, members of the '97 class at the academy have contributed a trust fund from which an annual prize is tot be given to that midshipman deemed by the superintendent of the academy to have "contributed the most by his officer-like qualities and positive character development of military spirit and loyalty" in the naval school.

WILL PUNISH POLICE FOR INSUBORDINATION

NEW BRITTAIN, Conn., Dec. 25.—Fourteen policemen who refused to attend regular drill last Friday night because of a rumor that Joseph Hergstrom, physical director of the Y. M. C. A., who has been in charge of the drill, had attended a Ku Klux Klan meeting, are to be punished for insubordination, according to a statement issued today by city officials. Hergstrom denied he attended the klan. Action is expected when the commissioners meet next Monday night.

TURKS PLANNING NOT TO ATTEND SESSIONS TODAY

Noradunghian Pasha to Submit Proposal to Conference.

ANY LOCALITY IS SUITABLE, HE SAYS

Desire Dominion Form of Government for Stricken People.

LAUSANNE, Dec. 25.—(By The Associated Press.)—The Armenian plea for the establishment of an Armenian national home in Turkey will be presented to the Near East conference tomorrow by President Noradunghian Pasha, of the Armenian national delegation. He was once minister of foreign affairs in the Turkish cabinet and has been invited to appear before the sub-commission on minorities to explain the desires of the Armenian people.

The Turks have announced their decision not to attend this meeting. For one thing, they say, they have made up their minds definitely not to set aside any part of Turkey for the Armenians; for another, they assert that as the Armenians are Turkish subjects they should plead their cause before the Turks, not before the conference as a whole.

Noradunghian says that his people will accept any locality in Turkey which the conference decides upon and also a dominion form of government under the Turks similar to that enjoyed by Canada and Ireland under the English. If the territorial limits of the republic of Erivan are to be extended and Erivan proclaimed the real home of the Armenians then, he thinks, Russia should be asked to guarantee the importance of Erivan, which now threatens to become a Russian bolshevik province.

The Rev. George W. Montgomery of New York, and Connecticut, director of the Armenia-America Society, who is in Lausanne, labouring for the cause of the Armenian people said tonight that the goal of all the friends of Armenia was to procure a national home under conditions which would provide some inspiration for the Armenians in the future; he had not abandoned hope that some territory would be set aside for the purpose.

The Rev. Montgomery has been in close touch with the leaders of all the delegations and personally favors allocating a section of southeastern Cilicia to the Armenians, making it an autonomous state, perhaps under the supervision of the League of Nations.

He estimated that a million Armenians reside in Erivan and 400,000 in the Trans-Caucasus; there are 102,000 in Greece and the Aegean Islands; 90,000 in Syria, and about 40,000 refugees in Constantinople. The exodus has reduced the Armenians in Asia-Minor to 70,000. He thought that about 250,000 would be immediately available for the proposed national home and concluded:

"And let us not forget there are 50,000 Armenian orphans we must take care of somehow."

CONFERENCE HAS WOUNDS TO HEAL

LAUSANNE, Dec. 25.—(By The Associated Press.)—The Near East conference will resume tomorrow, with a good many wounds to heal. The English are plainly annoyed over the Turkish answer concerning Mosul. The Turks, insisting vigorously that Mosul belongs to Turkey allege that the English without proper authority occupied that territory after the armistice at Mudros. They say that two districts of Irak have already elected to join Turkey, and Mosul, whose population is more sympathetic with the Turks than the Arabs, will undoubtedly do likewise if a plebiscite is held.

The English delegates said today they would continue to con-

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CHINESE FINANCE MINISTER TELLS OF INDEBTEDNESS

Two-Thirds of Income Spent for Police and Military Purposes.

PEKING, Dec. 25.—Correspondence of The Associated Press.)—Owing to the refusal of the military directors of various provinces to turn in their revenue, less than one-third of the $9,000,000 Mexican required monthly to pay the expenses of the Chinese government is available according to a report issued by Lo Wen-Kan, the minister of finance. Minister Lo estimated that two-thirds of the revenues of the central government is expended for police and military purposes. His estimate does not account for many millions apportioned by the Tuchuns for their personal use.

China's total debt, foreign and domestic, is given by Minister Lo as $1,720,000,000 Mexican.

Of the foreign debts of $1,030,000,000 he says $240,000,000 are unsecured. The total domestic arrears for unpaid salaries and administrative expenses are placed at $168,000,000.