

open Statesville road, a distance of 22 miles and a project over which there has hat had been almost slammed shut been an interminable haggling over uring the past week, added that the the matter of which of the commisfirmative reply of the Sinn Fem hieftain to the British Prime Minissions should assume obligation for rights-of-way, will be hard-surfaced just r's communication of Thursday has ready been dispatched to Lloy:1as soon as waivers are signed by proporge, who is still at the Scottish reerty owners holding both commissions mmune from liability for damages.

The news was the signal for the out ouring of conflicting and confusing Wilkinson ports and comments, the keynote of nost of them being that Sinn Fein's cceptance of the British offer means which a sufficient sum of the State's hat the Irish Republicans have resignto the inescapable and abandoned heir insistence upon Ireland's separaon from the British Empire.

SETTLEMENT NEARER.

Careful examination of the facts owever, showed to the more conservaive observers that the Irish answer neans the thing hoped for by every body: namely, that the negotiations re to be resumed. Moreover, even in these conservative quarters, the view prevailed that a final settlement of the ge-old Irishproblem has been brought in important step nearer.

The shrewdly-phrased condition with shich Premier Lloyd-George wound up of his communication, read:

'His Majesty's Government must ask are prepared to enter a conference to ascertain how the association of Irend with the community of nations nown as the British Empire can best reconciled with Irish national aspirations."

In a previous paragraph, the British soon as possible, probably within the remier had declared that, "to decline discuss a settlement which would estow upon the Irish people the fullst freedom for national development within the Empire, can only mean that on repudicate all allegiance to the rown and all membership in the Britsh Commonwealth."

READY FOR DISCUSSION.

The Irish acceptance tonight. natter what its diplomatic phrase egy-indeed, the naked fact that inn Fein accepts, as it is reported at it does-means nothing more and othing less than that Sinn Fein is preared to "discuss" the peace problem the basis laid down by the British

opinion in London and Public roughout the United Kingdom great-Irish acceptance with deep satfaction, and though, as has been ated out, there was tonight a strong mey toward a mistaken, super nistic interpretation, it was admiteven by the skeptics that a new boch-making stage has been reach-

This correspondence has lasted long sough," said Lloyd-George in his last epitomizing the feeling on both With today's Irish acceptance, as letter writing-"love note exone London paper called itas ended, and the stage is set for a conference ten days from now, a which the issues will be clearly markout from the outset, and "brass mains' will be the keynote.

SIGN TRUCE IN BELFAST.

Belfast, Sept. 10 .- A truce was delared tonight between the contending actions in Ulster's capital-the Protstant Orangemen and the Catholic sinn Feiners. This means that fightsniping and bombing, which has sporadic, resulting in great loss emier Lloyd-George and Sir James

tion other than that he has the matter under serious consideration and doesn't know just when he will make up his mind about it, the impression that he wants to preserve the territorial division on the Supreme Court is gained from sources close to the administration.

Should the Governor adopt this line In addition to the progress, thus of reasoning and course, it would made on this project, Commissioner liminate Heriot Clarkson, succeeded in making an lotte, the home of Associate Justice agreement with Chairman Page by Platt D. Walker and Judge Ben Long, of Statesville, who is in the same genhighway funds should be allocated to eral section of the State, which, also Mecklenburg county to place a bituhas Associate Justice Hoke, Lincoln lithic surface on the Charlotte-Mount county. The Governor would like to see Holly road and the Pineville road the either Mr. Clarkson or T. C. Guthrie, entire distance from Charlotte to the of the Charlotte bar on the bench, but South Carolina line. endorsement by the Charlotte bar of

THE MILEAGE INVOLVED.

The mileage involved aggregates 52 sition. miles. The road from Charlotte to the JUDGE ADAMS ENDORSED. Iredell county line is 22 miles. The road from Charlotte to Mount Holly is 13 Judge W. J. Adams, of Carthage, is miles and the road from Charlotte being seriously considered for the place, via Pineville to the South Carolina but Judge Adams, while living in the road is 17 miles. The distance on these South-central part of the State, is astwo latter roads will be maintained in signed to the Western district, and the view of the face that, under the terms same objection lies there, except in

of agreement with the State Highway smaller degree, that holds against the is proposal and which formed the crux Commission the present macadam base Mecklenburgers and the Statesville will be used and a tarvia form of bindjurist. Judge Adams will perhaps get ing will be attached, making these many endorsements from all parts of or a definite reply as to whether you roads as good as a newly-finished city the State, and he is being seriously street and rendering them as practiconsidered by the Governor. cally permanent as they could be made unless the macadam were to be taken ing that the Governor would not obentirely up and a concrete base substituted. The plans of the commission is to get these projects under way as

next few weeks.

THE STATESVILLE ROAD.

The Statesville road will be built sentation. almost outright in view of the fact that the present route will not be strictly NORTHEAST SECTION. followed. The best estimates which can

be furnished of the probable cost of this road indicate that the amount of money which the State will spend on it will be between \$500,000 and \$600. 000. The work on the other two roads will not be quite so expensive per mile but the aggregate sum involved in the total of 30 miles will, perhaps, be half what the Statesville road will cost, indicating that only slightly less than \$1,000,000 worth of new, hard-surfaced highways are in sight imme diately for Mecklenburg county. The State commission agreed some months

to the Governor some time in the near ago upon the immediate building of future if a decision is not reached soon the Charlotte-Statesville road. It was Likewise the name of Atlas Finch, of the first project to receive the ap-Wilson, has been suggested and it is proval of the State commission in this understood in Raleigh that the Wilson district. The surveys have been made bar will either endorse Mr. Finch or for some weeks, but progress in let-John E. Woodward of that place. Both ting the contract was interrupted men have been active in the Democra when the State commission sent to tic party in that section of the State

of Warrenton, Judge Guion, of New

from Bertie will be formally presented

and both are recognized as very able

lawyers.

the Mecklenburg commission a contract to be signed holding the former responsible for no claims for damage that might be incurred from get- BAILEY OR MANNING. ting the rights-of-way.

BOARD REFUSES. The Mecklenburg board refused

sign that contract. It was advised by its attorney that it had no legal right to sign such a contract in view of the fact that the act providing for the

Supreme Court bench during the Kitchbuilding of highways specified that in administration, and made a very fine roads taken over by the State shall be built out of the funds of the State. whereas if the local board should sign such a contract and should causes for damages arise, it would be forced to is declared. take from its own funds whatever amount might be determined as just of life in the past year, will cease to satisfy the claimants for damages; ending further negotiations between thus the county board would in a construction costs of its own roads.

the swirling high tide.

The body of a 70-year-old man lay beside that of a four-year-old girl at the morgue. Rescue work by hundreds of police and volunteers, including divers, is still in full swing. Only two blocks south of the bridge

the Chester river flows into the Dela ware. A huge net has been spread at the junction of the two streams to catch the victims swept southward by of Charthe ebb which set in shortly after the disaster.

FIFTY-FOOT SPAN BREAKS.

A fifty-foot section of the bridge gave way as a throng, conservatively estimated at 150, watched the attemp of a man to save a drowning Italian boy, and the crowd of men, women either one of these men would put the and children disappeared as if swalexecutive in a rather embarrassing polowed by a trap door.

Within 35 minutes after the crash 25 odies had been recovered. The rescue work is still in full swing.

The town is staggered by th catastrophe. Thousands, many of then in neglige are lining the shores of the Chester river, aiding in the rescue or inquiring for relatives.

Other crowds are besieging the tw hospitals and the morgue. Third street at the foot of which the bridge spanned the river, is the town's main thoroughfare, which accounts for the great crowd on the bridge at the time

of the crash. The bridge was in-There are many reasons for believspected only last year and found "O. K." by the county commissioners and ect to appointing Judge George Roun tree, of Wilmington, who is regarded the county engineer and was subse as one of the most able and scholarly quently repainted.

Two divers volunteered their service. men who has been on the Superior Court bench, but he hails from Asas soon as they heard of the disaste sociate Justice Stacey's town, and his and they are now busy searching appointment would give New Hanover the depths of the Chester river, which county more than its share of reprewas formerly called & creek, but has gradually grown into a considerable

stream with a swift and vicious cur rent.

The Northeastern section of the One of the first persons to lend State has Judge Walter Clark on the hand to the bridge victims was Alex pench, of course, but he has lived in ander Harris, of Philadelphia, a book Raleigh so long that he is considered a keeper. Tonight he told the following Wake county man. From that section story: suggestions have come for Tasker Polk,

STORY OF EYE-WITNESS

Bern, N. J. Rouse, of Kinston, candi "I heard the crash and thought th date for the Supreme Court in the last beculiar noise was made by the beat primary and Judge F. D. Winston, ci ng of drums. At first I made no Bertie county. It is understood that effort to even look as I have heard the name of the former Lieutenant enough drum music to last me a life Governor and Superior Court judge ime, being a veteran of the war.

"Finally, I saw several persons run ning and I joined the crowd rushing toward the bridge.

"As I reached within several feet o the bridge I could hear the screams of the drowning.

"I counted the heads of at least four women and half a dozen children. Their arms were thrust into the air and grasped and held each other.

"It was simply awful to see how the struggling mass fought to free themselves from each other's dying

grasp. J. W. Bailey, collector of revenue "Above it all were the terrifying for the State, has also been suggested to the Governor. Judge J. S. Manning screams of the women and children and the curses of several of the mer Attorney General of the State, is also getting serious' consideration, accordwho were caught in the collapse.

ing to information from some quarters "Several small boats, mostly row Judge Manning was appointed to the boats and steam launches, had al ready put out from nearby docks and had rescued several of those thrown

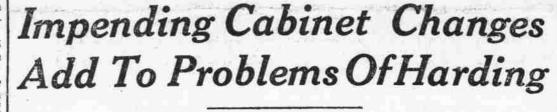
record on the bench, but was defeated into the water. by Judge Allen in 1910. His appoint-"I suggested to several other mer ment would meet the approval of a who were apparently spellbound by the large number of people in the State, it sight to go around to the river by the

vay of Edgemont avenue. Whether or not the Attorney Gen-'When we arrived we found that th eral would be interested is not known, only help we could give was to assist for he has been out of the city all the the already numerous volunteers in moun de Valera, Sinn Fein leader, measure be aiding the State in the emier Lloyd-George and Sir James construction costs of its own roads

September 22-Bankers' Day-1 p. m.-Banquet to Governor W. P. G. Harding, of the Federal Reserve Board, other distinguished guests and probably 1.000 Carolina bankers and business men at the City Auditorium, with the American Trust Company, Word H. Wood, president. as host. Dr. D. W. Daniels, of Clemson College, will deliver the principal after-dinner speech. At 3:30 o'clock-Address by Governor Harding at the exposition.

September 24-Educational Day-3:30 o'clock-Addresses by Dr. E. C. Brooks, North Carolina Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Dr. D. B. Johnson, of Rock Hill, S. C., president of Winthrop College. This day also may be known as Rock Hill Day, as hundreds of Rock Hill people are planning to attend the exposition then.

September 26 .- Community Sing Day-3:30 and 8:00. It is expected that Professor John Paul Weaver, director of the school of music of the University of North Carolina, will lead the singing. September 29-Closing Day-8:00-Jubilee night.



Secretary of Treasury Mellon is Expected to Resign from the Cabinet Very Soon While Movement to Consolidate Departments Will Cut Off Others.

By ROBERT T. SMALL. Staff Correspondent of The News. Copyright, 1921, by News Publishing Co.

his inauguration that the Cabinet mem-Washington, Sept. 10 .- With the combers involved were acepting offices on pletion of President Harding's first half the understanding that they might be ear in the White House, reports have affected by the departmental re-organcome of impending Cabinet changes, ization he had in mind. eports which have the merit of plaus-

However, if current reports be true bility if not official verification. Some of these rumors have grown the dilemma as to Secretaries Weeks ut of the movement to consolidate two and Denby is in a fair way of solving or three of the Executive Departments itself. While official denials have been presided over by Cabinet members, made, the report persists that Andrew while the best authenticated report is W. Mellon, of Pittsburg, Secretary of attributed to remarks made by a Cab- the Treasury, soon will retire from that position. These reports became so in net member himself.

Ever since the day of the inaugurasistent recently that George Christian ion last March, it has been a fixed polsecretary to the President entered a cy of the Administration to consolidate formal denial of them. the War and Navy Departments into WEEKS TO RELIEVE MELLON

a single department of National De-It is perfectly understood in Washingense. This sonsolidation would affect two of the most popular members of ton that, if Mr. Mellon should ask be the Cabinet in Washinton, Secretaries be relieved from the treasury portfolio Weks and Dnby, and naturally there

has been much speculation as to which



for behind her in the darkness of the corridor gleamed two red eyes under a white cross.

And then the Siberian Grave Robber

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entered the room! Lean, gaunt and restless he seemed to be. For four weeks the gruesome looking dog had not shown himself at The News. At the moment of his lust appearance, four deaths were immediately eported to The News, after which the animal retired into the gray mists of the early morning. His appearance at that time was but one of the many

tore from its bank and swirled through the business and poorer residential districts, causing \$15,000,000 damage.

Most of the bodies are those of women and children-helpless victims of the deluge. .

In the Mexican quarter of the city more than 1.000 homes were smashed to bits like cardboard by the wall of water.

Tonight more than 5,000 persons, made homeless by the city's greatest disaster are being sheltered in tents provided by the United States military authorities.

Some 20 square blocks of the downtown stores almost a total loss from the 12 feet of water, which so weaken ed the walls of the building left standing that they will be razed. Dirt from the hills has been left in the business district as a deep muck that will have to be dug away. Stocks stored in basements are ruined.

FAILED TO HEED WARNING

Much of the property loss was unavoidable, but around the loss of the life is the old story of people refusing to heed a warning. For last night, two hours before the flood waters swept into the city, police from Central headquarters nere went from house to house in the Mexican district along Alazen creek in west San Antonio, notifying residents that the entire district was certain to be flood would be "let out" when the impending sweqt.

changes should take place. President The warnings were disregarded Harding stated to the writer prior to San Antonio, these folk replied, had been flooded before, and the waters had never reached that district.

There is not a whole house left in that entire district.

Most of the 1,000 or more persons that were residing ther have vanished. Only a heap of splintered and twisted debris, piled high and at frequent intervals along the area encompassed by the raging waters, remains.

WITHOUT LIGHTS AND WATER

Tonight the city was without electric lights, without drinking water, without -telephones, without sewage disposal. There was a hungry and homeless horde, rescued in the dead of the night, without proper shelter. At sun-down, the military police cordon thrown about the business disfrict was widened and all spectators barred-even those who lost relatives and friends in the disaster and groed about the wreckage on the fringes of the scene of death and destruction, hoping and wondering.

All the banking institutions wrecked by the flood were under guard of soldiers tonight to prevent looting.

The flood waters rose to a height of 10 to 15 feet in the business streets. The greatest loss of life occurred in the Mexican district in the western part of the city where the waters swept through a district half a mile wide and two miles long, piling up frame houses and carrying to death many persons before they were able to leave their

It is impossible to even estimate the number of dead in this district. The onrushing waters swept through the city, the San Antonio River rising over its banks and kringing complete de vastation to the business district. In the torrent of rain, wind and flool waters, five of the bridges crossing the river in the heart of the city were torn away, taking with them trolley tracks, electric wire and sewer connections.

On Houston street, the main thorough fare, the water rose to a height of ten feet, every store for a distance of five blocks being wiped out. The water rose in the lobby of the Gunther Hotel, driving hundreds of guests to safety in

trial crisis, the Government is taking a census of the unemployed. That census covers the men actually out of, work through no fault of their own in every city of more than tweny-five thousand inhabitants-231 cities n all. It will be completed next Wedresday, passed on to the President and used in the forthcoming conference on unemployment. Many reports from many industries already are at hand.

> They show: 1. That business is coming back more rapidly than even optimists thought it would.

