

British Steamer Was Torpedoed and Sunk

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 10.—The British steamer Alexander, owned and operated by the Leyland line, was torpedoed and sunk, presumably by the German coast, according to a telegram received by local officials from the company today from the captain's New York office.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.—Harry K. Thaw was today indicted by the grand jury on three charges of criminality in the murder of Fred Grump, Jr., a high school boy of Kansas City, Mo. A bench warrant was issued for Thaw's arrest.

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INVESTIGATION ON ALLEGED GRAFT

Wealthy Hotel and Cafe Owners Was Arrested Early Today.

CHICAGO, Jan. 10.—Investigation of the alleged police graft ring led to the taking into custody early today of Thomas Newbold, wealthy hotel and cafe owner. McClay Hoyne, state's attorney, said several of the hotels controlled by Newbold have been the scene of police raids. Mr. Hoyne announced that Thomas Costello and Lieut. Augustus M. White, both under arrest, had confessed, directly connecting Charles C. Healey, chief of police, with the graft ring, which he charged levied tribute amounting to thousands of dollars annually on the underworld. Chief Healey was arrested Monday night charged with extortion, bribery and conspiracy. Mr. Hoyne promised to make public details of the two confessions. He asserted that Lieutenant White, who recently has commanded the Lake street police precinct, implicated Costello, alleged to be the connecting link between the police and hundreds of vicious resorts in the city, and that Costello in turn involved Healey. The state's attorney charged that he had learned that for at least six months Costello had visited Chief Healey's home on an average of three times weekly, and that on one occasion he was accompanied by Michael Healey, a police character known as "Mike de Pike," now under arrest. He charged also that Costello held daily telephone conversations with the police head and that Chief Healey had visited the alleged graft, "pay off" office said to have been maintained by Costello. Mr. Hoyne announced that he had learned from persons he had questioned that the manipulations of the alleged graft ring were wider than was at first indicated. In addition to numbers of policemen, ranging in rank from patrolmen to captains, he charged several persons outside police circles are involved. "I haven't even scratched the surface of the graft ring," Mr. Hoyne said today. The inquiry is still in its infancy. He will take several weeks to get to the bottom of the ring's operations. Tomorrow will be Chief Healey's last day as chief of police. Mayor Wm. H. Thompson having announced he would send his successor's name to the city council.

The Convict's Family.

The state penitentiary board, at the suggestion of Gov. Craig, gave as a Christmas present \$10 to each needy family of convicts. That is an innovation to be sure, but one that will doubtless meet the approval of a majority of the people of North Carolina. The family of the convict gets more punishment, as a rule, than does the convict. Throughout the State there is many a sad faced woman, surrounded by her children who are more than fatherless, and who is making a hard fight for bread while the criminal father is serving time in prison. No one will begrudge the donations made to such a family by the prison board. Not only should the needy family of a convict get a little donation from the state, but should get all the net earnings of the husband and father while he is in prison.

Presiding Elders Meet in This City

Bishop John C. Kilgo has called a meeting of the presiding elders of the two North Carolina conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to be held in the West Market Street Church, this city, Sunday 1-13. The meeting has a public significance, not only by reason of the fact that it brings to Greensboro some twenty-odd of the leading ministers and citizens of the state, but by the further fact that the bishop has consented to preach each evening. The first public service will be held Tuesday evening, and Bishop Kilgo will preach at that time.

The Real Hardship.

Some men were excavating for a cellar in Columbus and the ground was hard where they were working. They had a team of mules hitched to a plow and one man handled the reins while another swung on the plow handles and tried to guide. The afternoon was hot, the mules were laxy, the ground seemed to get harder and harder, and the men toiled away, inwardly boiling. "That ground's pretty hard," suggested a passer. The man at the plow handles glanced at the driver. The latter seemed about to explode because of too much pent-up emotion. He nodded in the driver's direction. "That ain't the worst part of it," he explained. "You see, there are so many women sitting on these porches around here that he can't cuss his mules."

Large Number Loans From Library Last Saturday

Saturday's library loans numbered 397 volumes, an increase after the holidays, when people are accustomed to use the books more for reference than for home use. Teachers will be glad to know that ten new books on teaching and story telling were added in December. The literature of the European war gathered in the library is now a most interesting collection. The quarterly index to the New York Times is a useful key to general news of all other newspaper files. A Brooklyn woman who recently died, leaving an estate valued at \$17,000 thousand dollars, willed her husband \$1 with the request that he stay away from the funeral. He most probably did.—Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

NEW COURT HOUSE WILL BE BUILT

Bids Received and Locations Discussed Before Commissioners This Week.

Again the court house is on wheels. Again the town is interested in locating it. Again those with property adjacent to an appropriate site are making overtures, and this morning when the commissioners met there was a full house in the court house annex. Commissioners Rankin and Tucker came in a little late and it was fully half-past 10 before the music started, although the curtain was advertised to rise at 10 sharp. All the commissioners were present and Chairman Boren said they would hear from any who had a proposition to make. Mr. R. R. King for Mr. Caesar Cone was the first to submit a site and the price. Mr. King stated that the reason for moving the court house from its present site was principally because of the noise of traffic. The second reason was a purely economic one—the present site being too valuable for court house purposes. His proposition was to sell to the county a lot on Washington and Ashe streets, 150 feet on Washington and 350 on Ashe street, at exactly 50 cents on the dollar of its real worth—the price for this magnificent lot with such splendid frontage, surrounded by three streets, for the sum of \$15,000. David White of the Real Estate Company submitted a proposition to sell the corner of the Caldwell property, 150 feet on West Market and 150 on Ashe street, for the sum of \$21,500. The Irving Park Company was ready to name a price on the Judge Gilmer property, 350 feet on North Elm and 25 on Church street. J. C. Bishop offered a site on North Elm, 210 feet, at \$150 a front foot, and suggested that more room could be secured by buying the Elmore property. James T. Morehead said he would sell his property and sell direct—no buttonholing and no commissions. He named no price in his written proposition. D. L. Hagan offered a site on Summit avenue and Church street for a reasonable sum, according to how much land was taken, from \$55,000 to \$200,000. W. B. Sellers added some fun to the proceedings by offering a few acres free six miles from town on the High Point road, his object being, he said, to boost High Point. These were all the proposals at the morning session. Others were to be made later in the day. The Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company, through General Counsel A. L. Brooks, offered the commissioners \$150,000 for the present site, not including the Porter part of it. In the proposition it was stated that the company would let the county use the present court house until their new building was completed; that it would advance money as needed at 5 per cent, and would willing to how much that the Jefferson secured this corner it would at once erect a magnificent business and office building at a cost of not less than \$250,000. Chairman Boren stated that the commissioners were going to buy land and build a new court house; that everything was to be done in the open; that it was the public's affair. Several talks were made concerning the different sites. Many of those present seemed to think that the Cone offer was decidedly the best; that the price of \$15,000, which was not over 50 per cent of the real worth of the property, would doubtless appeal strongly to the commissioners. That there is great interest in the new court house question there is no doubt. It is the street topic today.

Princess Louise Put Under a Guardian

AMSTERDAM, via London, Jan. 10. According to the Rheinische Westphalische Zeitung, of Essen, Princess Louise of Belgium has been put under a guardian at the instigation of Archduke Ernst Gunther of Schleswig-Holstein, a brother-in-law of the German emperor. Archduke Ernst is assistant to the governor-general of Belgium. Princess Louise of Belgium is the eldest daughter of the late King Leopold and the divorced wife of Prince Philip of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. She has been constantly before the public for several years on account of her love affairs, her quarrels with her family and her sensational extravagances. On one occasion she was ordered to leave Berlin on account of her debts and was in constant litigation in Paris from the same cause. Shortly after the war broke out a cable dispatch from Vienna said that she had been requested to leave that city.

Prohibition Bill Is Passed by the Senate

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—The fighting for a "dry" national capital was transferred to the House from the Senate, where the Sheppard prohibition bill for the District of Columbia was passed late yesterday by a vote of 55 to 32. Advocates of the measure apparently are confident of favorable action in the House. As it goes to the House, the bill would abolish saloons in the District and prevent the manufacture or sale of liquors within its limits, but would not prohibit their import for personal use. The measure would take effect November 1 next. One of the final actions of the Senate was to reject by a tie vote of 43 to 43 an amendment providing for referendum of the prohibition question to citizens of the District.

CHURCH ADDS VAST SUM TO RELIEF FUND

Southern Presbyterian Now Has \$538,000 For Ministerial Relief.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Jan. 10.—As the result of the campaign in the interest of ministerial relief, which closed to a close today the Southern Presbyterian Church has added \$137,500 to its endowment fund for this cause and now has a total endowment fund of \$538,500. The interest from this fund added to the annual contributions of the church for this cause will place almost \$100,000 in the hands of the department of ministerial relief next year with which to provide for the support of the 75 retired ministers of the church, 146 widows of ministers and 64 orphan children of ministers, these children being under the age of 14 years. The fund was made possible by the offer of one ruling elder in the church in which last year he promised to give \$65,000 to the endowment fund for ministerial relief provided the church within one year would contribute to this fund a sum twice as large—\$130,000—and the gifts of the church have exceeded the requirements of the offer. A Salisbury special says: Frank C. Talbot has been appointed division deputy in the revenue service and will have his headquarters in Salisbury. He succeeds Walter McCasless, who resigned to become connected with the large new cotton mill being erected at Yadkin. The Rowan commissioners have voted to ask the legislature not to appoint a road commission for Rowan county. The commissioners at their meeting this week were urged by the county health officer to build a new county home as the present one is not in keeping with the times and is not what is needed for the care and comfort of those who have to be there.

Rowan Urged to Build A New County Home

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Democrats Resume Reins Of Government in Ohio

COLUMBUS, OHIO, Jan. 8.—James M. Cox, democrat and newspaper publisher, of Dayton, is to be inaugurated governor of Ohio for the second time in four years today. The ceremony is to take place on a large forum erected on the steps of the state capitol and will be followed by a parade in which thousands participate. The program for the day includes a public reception this afternoon and an inaugural ball and smoker tonight. One of the first acts of the new governor will be the reading tomorrow of his message to the legislature in which he is expected to urge a continuation of his policies where he left off two years ago when he was defeated for re-election by Frank B. Willis, republican. Ohio is completely governed by democrats today.

Many Demands Upon Charity Organizations

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—Despite the general prosperity the demands upon charity organizations in this city are virtually the same as in time of business depression, says the charity organization society in its annual report today. The report shows that during the year ended September 30 and was given to 6375 families, only 200 less than the number helped in 1912 or 1913, the years preceding the period of unemployment, which reached its climax in the first nine months of the war. "That there should be so much distress in a time of general prosperity," said the report, "is only another confirmation of the society's long established position that poverty is not merely a problem of employment or economics and industrial conditions, but that it is also a complex social problem whose roots lie deep in environment, heredity, character and health." Of the families under the care of the society there were more Italians than any other nationality. Americans were next and Irish third.

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Test If One Can Live On 24 Cents a Day

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—A test of whether a person may live happily and well on three meals a day, averaging in cost eight cents a meal, began here today with twelve husky police recruits as the "demonstrators." The diet test is to run for a period of three weeks. The men are on their honor to do all their breakfasting, lunching and dining at the "diet house" and to eat nothing between meals.

Webb-Kenyon Law Is Constitutional

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—The Federal Webb-Kenyon law, designed to prevent liquor shipments from "wet" to "dry" states, was today declared constitutional by the supreme court by a vote of 7 to 2, which also upheld West Virginia's prohibition amendment prohibiting citizens from receiving liquor for personal use shipped by common carriers in interstate commerce.

Guilford County Farm Loan Association Formed

At a meeting held in the chamber of commerce this morning a Guilford County Farm Loan Association was formed. The meeting was well attended, about 50 men from the rural districts of the county being present. The men were addressed by Mr. E. S. Milsaps, state farm demonstration agent for this district. He explained the plan and laws governing the establishment and maintenance of the association. Following the complete organization officers were elected as follows: Mr. T. A. Grooms, president; Mr. J. E. Coltrane, vice-president; Mr. J. C. Foster, secretary of the chamber of commerce, was elected secretary and treasurer of the association. The board of directors is composed of Messrs. O. M. Groome, J. R. Coltrane, O. M. Rockett, R. L. Bowman, J. W. Dixon and H. A. McNairy. The office of the association will be in the chamber of commerce.