

North Carolina weather: Fair Wednesday; Thursday increasing cloudiness; not much change tem.

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TODAY'S NEWS TODAY

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THOMAS W. BICKETT SUFFERS STROKE OF PARALYSIS; NOT MUCH HOPE FELT RECOVERY

Former Governor Bickett Stricken at His Home in Raleigh Last Night.

IS UNCONSCIOUS

Served One Term as Governor and Two Terms as Attorney General of North Carolina

Raleigh, Dec. 27.—(By Associated Press.)—Former Governor Thomas W. Bickett suffered a stroke of paralysis at his home here shortly after 8 o'clock this evening, and was reported in a critical condition, according to a message received by the Raleigh News and Observer tonight.

Raleigh, Dec. 27.—(By Associated Press.)—Former Governor Thomas W. Bickett, 82 years old, suffered a stroke of paralysis at his home here this evening, and his physician reported that his condition is so serious that only slight hope for his recovery is entertained.

The former governor has been unconscious since stricken but an attendant said he showed a slight rally after strong restoratives had been administered. Mr. Bickett served one term as governor and two terms as attorney general at North Carolina.

AMERICA REGARDED JUGOSLAVIA FRIEND

Like Slav State Now Dislike England and France Said.

Zagreb, Jugoslavia, Dec. 27. (By Associated Press.)—America is regarded by Jugoslavia as her best friend among the big nations. England and France, long ardent supporters of the Slav state, are now strongly disliked for their alleged favoritism toward Italy, Hungary and Albania. The Serbians feel that the Allies have dealt very harshly with Jugoslavia in all disputes arising with the three countries just mentioned.

"Why" they ask, "does the Entente impose such severe conditions upon us in all these matters when we have so loyally carried out the terms of the Peace treaty and have fulfilled every request they have made of us, even when it involves sacrifices? Our great friends seem to have abandoned us, at least they appear to be indifferent to our welfare, and we are now content to work out our own destinies."

The Jugoslavs feel the Allies were especially severe with them in the recent Albanian boundary dispute. They assert that England ordered certain territory, especially in the Lake Ochrida region, given to Albania because British business interests had secured from the Albanians important concessions in that area, and it was vital the territory should remain in Albanian hands.

They affirm also that England and France have been favoring Italy in that country's territorial and strategic interests in Albania, to the great detriment of Jugoslavia. The Jugoslavs feel they got the "thin end of the horn" in the Fiume bargain, and that they also got the worst of it in the various territorial, economic and political disputes in which Italy, Hungary, Roumania and Albania were involved.

"The Allies," said a patriotic Serbian business man, "have alienated, if they have not forfeited, our friendship. In our disputes with Hungary, Albania, Bulgaria and other of our late enemies, the Allies have ruled against us. They have shown greater regard for the interests of those who opposed us during the war than they have for us. We are getting rather tired of it all. You will not be surprised then, if I tell you that somehow we Slavs feel that our great interests, our real future destiny, lies in joining hands with Russia. We believe Russia will one day rise out of its ashes and regain all its old strength, power and influence."

WEEVIL FORCES COMMUNITY SALE

So Little Cotton in One Georgia County Farmers Pool Product.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 27.—No community in the United States, in the past has ever been visited by a more destructive parasite to its plant life than the boll weevil infestation provided to be in Putnam county in the year 1921. The cotton crop was all but a total loss.

The normal production of cotton in Putnam approximates 17,000 bales annually, but there have been occasions when the yield ran as high as 22,000 bales. This year the county produced only 200 bales of lint cotton.

The magnitude of the calamity will be better appreciated when it is understood that few, if any farmers in the county individually produced a bale of cotton. The two hundred bales that were gathered represented the production of ever so many farmers—community bales, they were. Half a dozen or more farmers pooled their cotton in order to make a single bale.

As has been remarked heretofore, the counties in middle Georgia, between Macon and Augusta, suffered more from the boll weevil than any other section of the State. The cotton yield in Baldwin, Jones, Greene, Monroe, Jasper, Hancock, and Warren counties was materially reduced, at none suffered so much as Putnam county. This community seemed to be the hub of the weevil infestation.

Not since the pesky little parasite first appeared in the United States, crossing the Rio Grande from Mexico, has any community in the United States suffered from its depredations to an extent comparable with Putnam county. The authorities and experts of the United States department of agriculture are puzzled to understand the reason for the magnanimity of the weevil in Putnam county.

Federal Station. Indeed, the federal government has been so much impressed with the destructiveness of the weevil in Putnam county that it has been determined to establish there a station or the further study and investigation of the parasite. The government is going to expend a vast sum of money trying to "overcome" the weevil in Putnam and to demonstrate "possible" that the lands that once at themselves so admirably to the reduction of cotton may yet again reduce the staple.

The destructiveness of the weevil in Putnam was accomplished in the face of the hardest kind of a fight by the farmers. The men of Putnam did not surrender to the roachment with every device and means known either to them or to the scientists of the government; they used all sorts of poisons—sprays, powders and what not—and they worked early and late in their fields, but the weevil ate up their cotton just the same. He was too much for them.

Turn To Dairying. Putnam county farmers are turning to food and feed crops and dairying. They commenced changing their tactics as soon as they saw that the boll weevil was going to do for them. The harvest of cereals was larger this year than heretofore and in addition quantities of sweet potatoes, field peas and peanuts were raised. But the real thing, following the demise of cotton through the activities of the boll weevil, is the dairy products now being shipped from Putnam county. The management of F. E. Newlander, a considerable portion of these products is hauled by the creamery of the Ezell-Griffin Company under the management of F. E. Newlander.

"We are handling at the creamery now about 100 gallons of 40 percent sweet cream daily," explained Mr. Newlander. "We have a satisfactory market for sweet cream at present, but as the production of cream in the county increases, as it is bound to increase, we will devote at-

Mrs. Harding Protects Cops



As Mrs. Harding entered the White House she noticed that the policemen at the door were shivering. She ordered two electrically heated shelters for them to use during the winter months. One of the thankful cops is watching the unloading of his shelter.

LaFOLLETT CHARGES CONSPIRACY BY RAIL ROADS AND OTHERS

State armer Leaders and Transportation Officials Held "Secret Meeting"

New York, N. Y., Dec. 27. (By Associated Press.)—John F. Carroll, for 13 years a police patrolman and a medal of honor man, today was sentenced to from 3 to 10 years in Sing Sing for accepting a \$10 bribe. He was convicted of taking money to "fix" the case of a motorist who had arrested for speeding.

PASSION PLAY WILL BE STAGED IN 1922

Committee Refuse Request to Permit Moving Pictures at Oberammergau.

Oberammergau, Dec. 27.—(By Associated Press.)—The long list of characters for the Passion play, which will be produced here a number of times in 1922, have been selected, and rehearsals have begun. The chief roles will be played again by veterans, some of whom have participated in the presentations for 40 years.

Anton Lang will portray the character of Christ for the third time. Anton Lechner will be protagonist for the second time. Oehler characters will be: Peter, Andreas Lang; John, Melchior Breitsamter; Judas, Guido Mayr; Caiaphas, Hugo Rutz; King Herod, Greger Breitsamter; Annas, Sebastian Lang; Pilate, Hans Mayr; Mary, Martha Seitz; Magdalene, Paula Rendl.

One of the last selections was Guido Diemer for choir leader. There has not been a performance of the play for 80 years that a Diemer was not leader of the choir or one of the important singers in it. Guido Diemer took part in the war, first as an artist and later as an aviator. In 1919 he dedicated his life to the study of singing, and shortly afterward appeared in church concerts.

The Passion play committee decided not to violate Oberammergau tradition by permitting pictures to be taken of the play. American moving picture representatives approached the committee with offers of millions of marks, but their proposals were promptly rejected.

Attention to the manufacture of butter from sour cream. "As an evidence of the increased interest in dairying and its development in the county, there have been fourteen new silos erected within the last year, and others are in contemplation. Our farmers have been slow to appreciate the value of hog production along with dairying, but it is gratifying to remark that next year will also witness the development of this industry. "Our creamery offers a splendid outlet for the product of the small dairies—the farmers who haven't the time or the facilities for shipping themselves—but I anticipate that with further development of dairying in the county many large dairies will find direct outlets for their products. We are interested primarily in encouraging the development of dairying throughout the county."—Raleigh News and Observer.

DEBS REPRIMANDED BY A POLICEMAN FOR MAKING SPEECH

Addressed Several Hundred in Washington Station Before Leaving for His Home.

HAD NO PERMIT

Reported Soviets Have Asked Debs to Russia Says He May Go.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 27. (By Associated Press.)—Freed by President Harding from the federal penitentiary in Atlanta, where he was serving a sentence for making speeches in violation of war laws, Eugene V. Debs was reprimanded tonight by the police for making a speech without permit before leaving for his home in Terra Haute, Ind.

Before boarding his train Debs addressed several hundred in the station, including admirers who had come to say good-bye, expressing his gratitude for the reception given him in Washington, and closing with a reiteration of his opposition to war and his belief in the force of love in the redemption of the world.

No effort was made by any member of the uniformed police to interfere with the address, but upon conclusion a plainclothesman rushed up to Debs and demanded to know if he had a permit to speak in the station, and upon being informed in the negative, the plainclothesman declared "you have taken a great liberty." Debs apologized, and said he did not know he had done a wrong.

LOCAL SHRINERS TO ATTEND CEREMONIAL

Twenty Shriners and 10 Candidates Will Motor to New Bern Thursday.

Ten candidates and about 20 local Shriners will attend the winter ceremonial and annual business meeting of Sudan Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., in New Bern Thursday, tentative plans announced last night indicating that the party from Greenville will motor to Craven County's capital, leaving here early Thursday morning.

One of the features of the meeting will be the presence of two illustrious Potentates, W. R. Smith, of Sudan Temple, and C. V. York, of Oasis Temple, both of whom are members of the Raleigh-Wake Shrine club.

A program, said to be better than that observed at the last ceremonial and business meeting, is promised for the New Bern ceremonial. The invited guests include the presidents of the Rotary club, the Kiwanis club, the Civician club, and the presidents of the various Shrine clubs in North Carolina.

The annual business session, presided over by W. R. Smith, of Raleigh, Potentate of Sudan Temple, will be conducted in New Bern at 10:30 o'clock Thursday morning. The luncheon, at Dill warehouse, will follow at 1 o'clock and the ceremonial session will be staged in the Banner warehouse at 2:30 o'clock. A banquet in the Shrine home at 6 o'clock, an exhibition drill by the Arab patrol at 9 o'clock and a Shrine ball in the Banner warehouse at 9 o'clock will conclude the program.

FORTY-FOURTH INFANTRY.

Honolulu, Dec. 27.—(By Associated Press.)—The passing of the 44th United States Infantry, born during the world war into an existence solely on paper somewhere in the pigeon holes of the War Department at Washington, was marked by an impressive and picturesque ceremony at Schofield Barracks when the officers and men of the 44th were merged with the 21st Infantry.

The colors of the 44th regiment were marched into barracks while the colors of the 21st, which was organized in the War of 1812, were presented to the merged regiment by Brigadier General Joseph E. Kuhn, division commander. Major General Charles P. Summerall, commander of the Hawaiian department, addressed the men and officers of the new 21st, declaring that they were receiving an inheritance "of rich deeds of valor, the greatest that anyone can receive." The reaching and passing of the million horsepower mark has been accomplished in approximately a quarter of a century, for it was in 1895 that the wheels of the first industrial plant at Niagara Falls were turned by Hydro-electrical energy.

SUBMARINE ISSUE REVEALS WIDE DIFFERENCE OF VIEW



Premier Briand's peculiar expression is due to the fact that a Washington official has just told him a prohibition joke. He's an inveterate smoker of cigars.

The "Sub" Tangle is An End from Settlement Nor as Ever.

MONSTER CABBAGES GROWN NEAR HERE

Farmville Farmer Proves Soil of This Section is Profitable.

The old adage, "Two heads are better than one," was proved conclusively correct yesterday morning in the office of Register of Deeds J. C. Gaskins, when I. B. Oakley displayed two heads of monster cabbages, grown by him on his farm near Farmville.

Among those inspecting the cabbages were J. C. Gaskins, N. C. Smith, secretary of Pitt County Chamber of Commerce, W. H. Dail and others, all enthusiastic advocates for diversified farming in Pitt county.

All agreed that the land of this county and section is adapted to truck farming, and they also agreed to the statement that "diversified farming" should be practiced by Pitt county farmers.

Mr. Oakley said that he had three acres planted in cabbages, the seed having been sown during the second week in July and transplanted in the latter week in August. He said that he used about two thousand pounds of fertilizer to the acre, and said the cabbages would weigh between five and fourteen pounds.

MURDERS IN CHICAGO AVERAGE ONE A DAY

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 27. (By Associated Press.)—Murders in Chicago in the year ending December 15, were at the rate of nearly one a day, according to the annual report of the Coroner made public today. Of 3,804 deaths investigated, 57 were caused by bad whiskey.

FRANCE WANTS A POWERFUL FLEET

Paris, France, Dec. 27. (By Associated Press.)—France's determination to have a powerful fleet and objection to the limitation efforts of the War conference were vigorously fought in the senate today during a discussion of the marine section of the government's budget.

EUROPEAN TREATY

France Wants Powers to Join With Her in Treaty to Preserve Peace.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 27. (By Associated Press.)—The submarine controversy has revealed so wide a difference of opinion among the powers that the arm-delegates are discussing a plan to leave further discussion of the matter to an international arms conference.

It was said today that a concrete proposal for a future conference might be laid before the arm-delegates in a few days. President Harding is said to believe that such a conference would be a logical development of his policies of international consultation.

Tonight the submarine tangle was as far as ever from a settlement, despite conferences between the arm-delegates and the plenipotentiaries of France and Japan, the two powers who are holding out against the American compromise proposals. The naval committee, which has not met since Saturday, will resume its session tomorrow, but neither France nor Japan expect to be in a position to modify their objection to the American compromise plan.

The negotiations over Shan Tung also took on a more serious aspect today, when the Japanese, after receiving fresh instructions from Tokio, said that they were not prepared to make any further concessions in their exchanges with China over the turn of the Tsing-Tau railroad. The Chinese already had declared they could go no further towards a compromise, but in some conference circles there is still hope that the two groups may be brought together.

Meantime the new Four Power Pacific treaty, brought back into conference discussion through a suggestion from Japanese quarters that the four powers agree to apply the terms of the pact to the principal islands of the Japanese empire.

Another suggestion during the day from French circles, that France might be willing to agree to a "status quo" limitation of submarine strength if the other powers would join with her in a treaty designed to preserve peace in European waters.

COTTON MARKET

New York, N. Y., Dec. 27. (By Associated Press.)—Spot cotton closed steady; middlings, 19.20; futures closed firm, as follows: January, 3.85; March 18.82; May 18.80; July 18.88; October, 16.91.

THIRTY-ONE MARRIAGE LICENSES IN A WEEK

Thirty-one marriage licenses have been issued within the last week in white people and 16 to negroes, according to the records in the office of Register J. C. Gaskins. Considering the fact that the office was closed Christmas day and Sunday, an average of six licenses per day have been issued. License was given yesterday to John S. Chapman, of Grifton, for marriage to Miss Mamie Tucker. "Some say 'It comes at once a year—Thank God.'"