

KEEN INTEREST SHOWN IN CLUB ORGANIZATION

Many Planned to Hear Mrs. Lingle Discuss Purposes of Woman's Club--Room in Body for Every Woman in Hickory--To Elect Officers.

Mrs. T. W. Lingle of Davidson, president of the State Federation of Woman's Clubs, addressed the citizens of Hickory at the Hub theatre this afternoon on the purposes and objects of local and state organizations, and told them why the movement for the Woman's Club of Hickory should be fostered by every person who had the interest of the community at heart. After the address it was planned to organize along the lines outlined by the distinguished visitor.

Hickory people may take some pleasure in knowing that Mrs. Lingle, who had just returned from Raleigh, found five invitations awaiting her at Davidson, but accepted that from this city. She appeared before house and senate committees in the interest of the enlargement of the powers of the state board of charities and corrections and, aside from the satisfaction in knowing that humanitarian interests were being given consideration, Mrs. Lingle enjoyed her experience as a "lobbyist."

Mrs. Lingle was familiar with local conditions and aspirations, her time since coming here Thursday being spent largely in discussing the needs of Hickory with persons who have its welfare at heart. She was the recipient of several social attentions, the last being the luncheon this afternoon at 1 o'clock at the home of Mrs. K. G. Menzies. Mrs. E. B. Cline was chairman of the meeting this afternoon and Mrs. Lingle explained in a pleasing and convincing manner the need and object of the Woman's Club.

First, it is an organization of women for the civic betterment of the city, its membership not being limited to any class of women, good character being the main qualification. It differs from the usual study club in these particulars:

Its membership is unlimited. The meetings are held at a public place,

such as the Chamber of Commerce, or a club house, instead of at the residences of members. It has active, honorary and sustaining members. These last are men who donate regularly or make contributions to special objects in which they are interested. The men don't vote.

The membership is divided into departments, usually consisting of civic, education, health and library. The civic department cooperates with the mayor and council and city manager, in the enforcement of ordinances, the awakening of public sentiment and the education of the community in betterment of conditions, such as parks, streets, and so on.

The education department will cooperate with the school authorities and will interest itself in the whole development and operation of the schools. Teachers will fall in this department, which will suggest programs for graduating exercises, award prizes for the neatest white dresses made by the girls, lead in arbor day celebrations, and entertain chautauqua and other educational features.

The health department, considered fundamental, will make a general study of sanitary conditions, report on the conditions of streets, try to inculcate in the young the desire to remove all paper and rubbish from the streets, plan clean-up campaigns, and help in giving at least two days a year to cleaning up the town.

The library department will aid in library extension, and in this case, as Mrs. Lingle explained, devote all its energies for the year to getting that new library for Hickory. The finances of the whole club, the speaker said, should be focused on this one thing and insure its success.

There will be committees of entertainment, finance and membership and the officers will consist of president, two vice-presidents, secretary, recording secretary, treasurer and auditor. These officers with the chairman of the departments, compose the executive board. The organization will be lined up with the state federation and join the 8,000 women who are interested in civic betterment.

Most Elementary Neutral Rights Are Swept Away

The Springfield Republican contains the following editorial on "Germany's Plunge" and it is well worth the reading:

Appealing solely to the unwritten law of self-preservation, and disdaining further compromises of expediencies, Germany puts in force this day a drastically sweeping order for unrestricted submarine warfare against the commerce of her enemies, within zones 20 nautical miles wide on the coasts of Great Britain, France and Italy in the Atlantic, the North sea and the Mediterranean. The avowed effect is to annul all the submarine pledges given to the United States following the sinking of the Lusitania, the Arabic, the Sussex and the Ansona; to expose even the regular passenger liners sailing under the American flag like the St. Paul, to torpedo attack without warning--unless they follow minutely German orders and touch only at the one English port of Falmouth, carrying no contraband not offered than once a week and carry special markings day and night, which the German admiralty defines for their protection.

This means impossible conditions for the United States, and no American in his senses would consider for a moment acquiescence in Germany's action. It is a grave question whether President Wilson should not head the German ambassador his pass immediately. Not before in this war has Germany gone to such extremes in the treatment of neutral shipping. The Lusitania was not an American ship, it was a British ship. At no time hitherto has Germany asserted the right to attack without notice an American passenger liner sailing to a so-called war zone. No legal blockade of the British isles is proclaimed; no pretense of legality is put forth in support of this final manifestation of maritime ruthlessness. Our neutral rights even in their most elementary form are swept away at a stroke, on the simple plea that the war has now become a struggle for simple existence.

But even this justification can have little force so long as the German high seas fleet remains in the contest in a decisive battle for the mastery of the seas. The naval battle of Jutland last May was claimed by the kaiser as a German victory; whatever may have been the extent of the triumph from the German point of view, Germany's own pretensions to naval superiority in a fleet action forbid her casting aside the last restraints of civilization in her submarine operations.

For America, the most tremendous crisis of the war has now been reached. In the light of this development, the events of the past two months are perfectly clear. The president has foreseen the crisis and has been struggling desperately to avoid it, in the interest of the American people, many of whom have persistently misinterpreted his efforts and have tried to discredit his diplomacy. It was evident at the time of the fall of the Asquith ministry in Great

DELAY DECISION ON POOL ROOMS FEW DAYS ROTATION BILL IS PRESENTED BY MURPHY

After hearing evidence in the pool room cases from 8 o'clock until 11:15 city council reserved its decision until next Tuesday night, and in the meantime City Attorney Murphy will fortify himself and the board with all the law and supreme court decisions there are on the subject. The pool room owners, through their counsel, Messrs. Self and Bagby, produced most of the law Thursday night.

There was a large crowd present for the hearing, but there were few representative citizens present, that gambling took place, that the game of keely was played here, as it was played elsewhere, but that the supreme court has held that betting on a game of skill, under which pool falls, is not gambling.

Members of council had difficulty in differentiating between the various classes of betting or gambling, and they will ponder over the matter until the regular meeting night Tuesday.

Record's Special Legislative Report. Raleigh, Feb. 2.--Speaker Murphy's introduction of a bill amending the constitution relative to rotation in office was the most important measure that went into the lower house this morning. The bill provides that the constitution shall be so changed as to allow no officers except those in the educational and legislative departments to hold office for more than two terms.

County officials are restricted to three successive terms. Speaker Murphy conferred with Governor Bickett before the introduction of this measure. It is one of the inaugural recommendations of the governor.

The house received again today the Oates bill providing for the nomination of school board members in county primaries; also the Page bill providing for machinery for holding elections for school boards. Both had been reported unfavorably, but were lost in such a parliamentary tangle that they had to be reintroduced to come before the house.

Beasley of Union introduced a resolution appointing three representatives and two senators to investigate prison conditions. This rose out of charges made recently.

Little resulted from this morning's session of the senate. A uniform warehouse receipt bill was passed and sent to the house; likewise an act amending the Cape Fear navigation laws.

LITTLE FIGHTING REPORTED IN BULLETTINS ANOTHER ANXIOUS DAY IS SPENT IN WASHINGTON

Whole Country Awaits Action by President Wilson--Suspense May Be Relieved by Tonight--Preparations Made to Protect American Interests Everywhere.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Feb. 2.--The new submarine crisis seems to have resolved itself into another day of waiting. Tonight or tomorrow the American people may know what course their government will pursue to combat the new German submarine menace.

President Wilson and the few who know his plans continued their silence today, but it was expected something would be announced after the cabinet meeting this afternoon.

On every hand officials are convinced that nothing less than a break in diplomatic relations will result, but whether that will be delayed there is no inkling.

As another day of tension began, opinion was about even as to whether any communication actually had been dispatched to Germany. There seemed to be no doubt that some communication had gone to Ambassador Gerard warning him of the steps the United States was about to take and to give him time to alleviate the hardships of American citizens in Germany. There are about 3,000 Americans in Germany, and efforts probably will be made to get them to Holland or some other neutral country.

The German embassy continued its official silence, calmly prepared for the break Count von Bernstorff said privately he expects, but solemnly confident the German order will result in victory.

The entente embassies, fully expecting the United States to break with Germany, seemed to be confident that the new campaign of ruthlessness would be of little greater effect at this time on allied shipping, which they claim has been prosecuted re-

ardless of German pledges.

A few more ships may be sunk, they think, but they expect the British navy to take care of shipping. Whatever measures are being taken by the administration to prepare the country physically for a break with a first class power, which in history always has been followed by war, are being carried out secretly but expeditiously. It is specifically denied that any orders have been issued to the coast guards, but there are evidences that the agencies of the government are ready to take any steps necessary in the event of a severance of relations.

It was generally expected that some announcement would be made from the state department or white house tonight.

The state department has made no reply to the telegrams from the international Merchants Marine asking for instructions for the movement of American ships.

From the official refusal to affirm or deny that any message had gone forward to Ambassador Gerard, impression grew that such a message had been sent, but it was thought at most a message to outline the first preliminary statements of the American viewpoint without definitely committing the country to any course of action.

It was pointed out to the officials that the country was waiting for some statement or at least some indication of the administration's attitude. Officials declined to discuss the situation. While yesterday it was said that no announcement would be made that day, officials declined to make a similar statement today.

COLD WARNINGS IN SOUTH ARE SENT OUT

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Feb. 2.--Severe cold today had overspread practically all sections east of the Rocky mountains except central and southern Florida. Freezing temperatures will occur tonight.

Unusually cold weather will continue tomorrow east of the Mississippi except for slight moderation tomorrow afternoon. Cold warnings were issued for South Carolina, central and eastern North Carolina and southern Florida.

MERCURY FALLS 43 DEGREES 24 HOURS

A drop of 43 degrees in temperature occurred in Hickory in the last 24 hours, the worse of it falling during the night. The weather observer here, Prof. J. E. Barb, reported 17 degrees above zero at 7:30 this morning, and this was a drop of 18 degrees since 6 o'clock last evening.

About noon yesterday the temperature recorded 60 degrees above and at no time during the day was the mercury lower than 39; most of the time until late evening it was much higher.

Accompanying the wave was a wind that had bristles on it. The air stirred to disadvantage late in the evening, but from then on during the night and until the forenoon today, the keen wind cut right, left and otherwise.

The rainfall during the last 24 hours was nearly an inch--72 of an inch, in fact--but the ground was frozen as dry as a bone this morning.

In the southwest Tuesday the mercury registered 86 degrees above zero, against 72 degrees in Hickory, while near the Canadian line in the Rockies it was 20 below. That was a disparity of more than 100 degrees.

WILL INVESTIGATE COTTON EXCHANGE

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Feb. 2.--The senate today passed the resolution of Senator Smith of South Carolina directing the attorney general to investigate buying and selling on the New York cotton exchange to determine whether these were in violation of the interstate commerce act.

Unusually cold weather will continue tomorrow east of the Mississippi except for slight moderation tomorrow afternoon. Cold warnings were issued for South Carolina, central and eastern North Carolina and southern Florida.

FIRST LYCEUM COURSE IN HICKORY TONIGHT

With a large number of season tickets sold for the event, the appearance of Miss Jeannette Kling, well known reader, at the Hub tonight at 8:30 promises to be both enjoyable and profitable. The high school seniors have worked hard to place three lyceum attractions here and Miss Kling is the first number on the program. The two others will come in the next two months. The theatre will be comfortable, as fire will be kept in the stove all afternoon.

MARKETS

COTTON FUTURES		
(By Associated Press.)		
New York, Feb. 2.	While still very nervous and unsettled, the cotton market was much less active than yesterday and excitement was subsiding. The opening was steady at an advance of 15 points on March and active months sold 54 points below last night's closing figures. There was good buying, however, and May rallied before the end of the first hour.	
March	Open	Close
May	15.17 to 15.06	13.95
July	15.26 to 15.07	14.12
October	15.10 to 15.07	14.13
December	14.52 to 14.56	13.80
	14.65	13.98
HICKORY MARKETS		
Cotton no quotations.		
Wheat	\$1.75	
CHICAGO WHEAT		
(By Associated Press.)		
Chicago, Feb. 2.	After a cautious start the wheat market today, influenced by limited purchasing, scored a moderate advance. After opening 1-1/4 decline to two cents advance with May at 1.69 and July at 1.42 to 1.42 1-2 were followed by a decline and then a moderate hardening.	

ANTI-JAPANESE BILL RECALLED IN OREGON

(By Associated Press.)

Salem, Or., Feb. 2.--Oregon anti-alien land bill was withdrawn from the legislature today by Senator Wilburn, Democrat, who withdrew it, he said, to prevent embarrassment to the president on account of the German situation.

DECIDE NOT TO CLOSE NEW YORK EXCHANGE

(By Associated Press.)

New York, Feb. 2.--The board of managers of the New York stock exchange at a special meeting decided that it was to the best interest of the trade not to close the exchange because of the international situation. The meeting was held as the consequence of the action taken yesterday at Augusta asking that all cotton exchanges be closed.

COLLECTOR HAS TAKEN OVER STEAMER

(By Associated Press.)

Charleston, S. C., Feb. 2.--Collector of the Port Peters today formally took charge of the German freighter Liebenfels which was sunk in the harbor yesterday under conditions leading marine men to believe she was scuttled. The vessel is lying in 30 feet of water.

N. W. Clark Is President Fair Association--Other Officers For Next Event

The directors of the Catawba Fair Association met at the Chamber of Commerce rooms and elected the following officers for the coming year:

President--N. W. Clark
Vice-president--John Mouser
Treasurer--K. C. Menzies.
Secretary--Under consideration.

President-elect Clark thanked the board for the mark of confidence and assured them that with the help of the directors and with the cooperation of the farmers, business men and citizens in general, we should be able to pull off the best fair ever held in Hickory next fall.

The most important work at present, it was thought, was the preparation of the premium list, so that an early distribution would enable the farmers and others to prepare for competing for the various premiums awarded. The president appointed as that committee the following: John Mouser (Ch.), H. P. Lutz and L. W. Bollinger, with Miss Mary Rowe and R. L. Shufford as advisory members to confer with this committee. President Clark said he wanted this committee to get busy right away, so that they could report to the board of directors some time early in March.

The president also stated that the association should aim to have a new building for manufacturers and fine arts exhibit, an extension of the race track so that it would be a standard half-mile track, and a commodious grand stand.

Mr. J. D. Elliott stated that there was no reason why our fair grounds should not be the best equipped in the entire western part of the state, and that was what every one should pull for.

The entire meeting showed the greatest enthusiasm and this spirit is bound to show in good results.

Artificial marble invented by a Bohemian is said to closely resemble the rarest marbles and to be stronger and less liable to injury than the genuine.

A fibre mat has been invented that is intended to be clamped to an automobile running board to enable riders to clean their shoes before entering a car.

Holland's production of butter, which amounts to about 154,000,000 annually, is controlled by the government so as to practically insure its purity.

Many Persons Are Burned In Gas Explosion and Fire In a Chicago Tenement

(By Associated Press.)

Chicago, Feb. 2.--An estimate of 40 persons dead in a gas explosion and fire in the West Side early today may be materially reduced, as many hours later firemen were able to rescue three unconscious persons from the debris. Firemen, police and laborers encouraged by the indications that persons were alive, redoubled their efforts at rescue.

At 11 o'clock two women and two girls, unconscious, but with the spark of life remaining, were rescued and sent to the county hospital. A tenement of the house told the firemen he saw a neighbor at midnight moving through the basement with a lighted match, presumably in search of leaking gas.

Seven different investigations were started today.

(By Associated Press.)

Chicago, Feb. 4.--Forty persons are believed to be dead and as many injured as the result of a gas explosion and fire that wrecked a tenement building on Fourteenth place in the heart of the foreign district on the West Side early today.

Injured persons and residents fled from their homes scantily clad, suffered miserably in a temperature of 10 degrees below, and cold hampered their efforts at rescue.

Burning gas from a main prevented search of the ruins and at daybreak only two bodies had been recovered. When firemen arrived they were able to rescue a few children who were dropped by their parents from upper windows. Some adults were saved in this way also. A group of 11 broad switchmen are said to have rescued 15 children.

The explosion is believed to have resulted from the bursting of a gas main in the basement of a tenement. Water thrown on the blaze froze as fast as it reached the air.