

HICKORY DAILY RECORD

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HICKORY, N. C., FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 9, 1917

PRICE TWO CENTS

NEW FIRE PUMP IMPROVED WORTHY IN MORNING FIRE

Furnished Abundance of Water and Pressure—
Fulmer & Gibbs Badly Damaged and Times—
Mercury Out of Commission for While
—Loss Not Serious.

(Fire that threatened an entire business block in Hickory early today was put down by the firemen, with the aid of the new force pump, with a loss estimated at \$3,500. The fire was discovered in the rear of the Fulmer and Gibbs Furniture store at 3:15 this morning by Mr. Tom Boatright, who was sleeping in the Boatright five and ten cent store, and the alarm promptly turned in, and while the blaze was under control in 35 to 40 minutes the firemen remained on duty until 5:30. The furniture store lost heavily, the stock of about \$2,500 sustaining damage amounting to about \$1,800, with insurance of only \$800.

The printing plant of the Times-Mercury, a Republican newspaper owned and edited by Mr. J. O. Berkeley, was damaged by fire and water, the Campbell press being put out of commission and the rollers and woodwork of two job presses being melted and charred. The Hickory Daily Record offered its services until Mr. Berkeley can get his plant straightened out again, and the Times-Mercury will be issued from the Record office.

The damage to the Times-Mercury could not be estimated this morning, but it is thought it will amount to a few hundred dollars. The plant was fully covered by insurance, and the greatest loss is in the inconvenience suffered by the publisher.

Fire Chief A. T. Yoder said today that the exact origin of the fire probably would never be known. Mr. Boatright and Night Officer Peterson discovered that the rear door of the furniture store was ajar, was burned on both sides, and this leads to the suspicion that an incendiary might have been busy. Messrs. Gibbs and Jones, who conduct the furniture store, said the fire in the store was out before they left in the evening, and they are positive the blaze did not start from carelessness.

Fulmer and Gibbs Furniture Company already has made plans to reopen, having rented a building on Ninth avenue from Mr. C. H. Geitner. As soon as the insurance adjusters report, the stock will be overhauled and that part too badly damaged will be placed on sale, together with a new stock that will be ordered at once. The company sustained a comparatively heavy loss, as the insurance did not cover half the damage.

The building, a three story structure, is owned by Mr. L. Flagler and was valued by him at \$10,000. His insurance was about \$2,600, and damage by fire was between \$1,000 and \$1,500.

The flames, which were confined to the rear of the furniture store, burned through the ceiling and licked off the woodwork and rollers of the Times-Mercury plant, and then shot up about 15 feet above the entire building. The damage was not relatively great, but the fact that other buildings on Thirteenth street might have been destroyed caused uneasiness for a time.

Messrs. Fulmer and Gibbs and Editor Berkeley desire to thank the firemen for their efficient work.

Pump Big Aid

Hickory firemen and business men were congratulating the city authorities today on the purchase and installation of the new force pump on the fire truck. The two streams of water that this pump forced on the Flagler building undoubtedly saved it from total destruction, in the opinion of firemen, and prevented the spread of the flames to other buildings. The blaze was so hot that the firemen could not approach it with ordinary pressure, but the force of the two streams was great enough to surmount the fierceness of the heat. The city saved double the cost of the pump in one night, all agree, and Mayor Whitener and City Manager Ballew are among those who feel good over results.

The manner in which Mr. George Starnes mended the pump was the occasion for much favorable comment. The machine was absolutely new to Mr. Starnes two weeks ago, but he has mastered its mechanism in that time and he worked it to perfection this morning. He is being given full credit for his good work.

BRITISH STEAMER TORPEDOED TODAY

(By Associated Press.)
London, Feb. 9.—The British steamship Larsen has been sunk by a submarine. Her captain and chief engineer were taken prisoners.

Chamber of Commerce is Busy on Bond Issue and Library—Large Attendance

The directors and advisory board of the Hickory Chamber of Commerce met in joint session Thursday night to consider important business of that organization. The meeting was well attended, all of the different bureaus being well represented.

President J. D. Elliott presided, and after hearing the reading of the minutes, committee reports were called for. In the absence of Mr. C. H. Geitner, chairman of the road and street committee, Mr. W. A. Self rendered a report on the progress made by that committee in sounding the sentiment of the county on a bond issue to extend the good roads of the county. Mr. Self cited the action of the convention held in Newton last Tuesday, a report of which was published in last Wednesday's Record, and stated that all had been done that could be done pending the receiving of a draft of the general road law that Secretary Joy was expecting on an early mail. He said that he had not yet appointed the committee of one from each township to take charge of the drafting of the act, but would do so as soon as possible; that he wanted to exercise the greatest care in the selecting of that committee, so that at no time could any one say that partisan politics had anything to do with this movement.

Coming under the jurisdiction of this same committee was the matter of federal road construction and maintenance, and the secretary was directed to send to the national representatives from this district the following resolutions: "Whereas a system of not more than five thousand miles of national highways will give adequate interstate main, trunk and link lines connecting each state with its adjoining states and through them with all the other states of the union; therefore, be it "Resolved, That the Hickory Chamber of Commerce urge the congress of the United States the necessity of the early designation, construction and maintenance of a system of national highways, to be built and maintained by the national government; and be it further "Resolved, That the secretary be instructed to forthwith transmit copies of these resolutions to all the members of the United States and house of representatives from this district"

A report of the committee on Carnegie library was then taken up and the secretary was instructed to address a memorial to the Mayor and city council asking that the city make the necessary arrangements to meet the requirements of 1 per cent. of the donation for maintenance. This would mean \$1,000 per year for maintenance of a \$100,000 building.

RECRUITING IS HURRYING IN NAVY

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Feb. 9.—Navy recruiting agents have been instructed to enlist immediately 25,000 additional men. While the current naval bill authorized a peace strength of 74,000 men, it carried an appropriation considerably less than was estimated was necessary.

Officials have been encouraged by recruiting returns, however, which have brought the actual strength up to nearly 58,000 men already. In the event of war probably the first act of the president will be to authorize the enlistment of the maximum war strength of 87,000. Probably this could be authorized by the department permitting the enlistment of volunteers for the period of the war.

FURNISH NAMES CONGRESSMEN GAMBLERS

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Feb. 9.—George Shipman, local manager for the Harriman and Company, New York brokers testified at the leak hearing today that certain members of the house dealt in stocks with him. Chairman Henry called for the names and Shipman promised to furnish them.

MINOR OPERATIONS REPORTED BY RUSSIA

(By Associated Press.)
Petrograd, via London, Feb. 9.—Only minor operations along the Russian and Rumanian fronts are reported in today's official statement.

BERLIN ADMITS GAIN BY BRITISH TROOPS

(By Associated Press.)
Berlin, via Sayville, Feb. 9.—The British made attacks at three points on the Somme front yesterday. Today's announcement says some ground was gained.

FRENCH REPULSE GERMAN ATTACK

(By Associated Press.)
Paris, Feb. 9.—A German attack last night in the region southeast of Verdun was repulsed, today's official statement says. Violent fighting occurred in the Woivre region.

GERMAN SEAMEN ARE GIVEN SHORE LEAVE

(By Associated Press.)
New York, Feb. 9.—Under instructions from Washington, officers and members of the crews of the German merchant ships tied up here since the beginning of the war were given shore leave today under certain restrictions. They will be allowed to leave their vessels on passes signed by their commanders, but must return before midnight the same day. Since the severance of diplomatic relations they have been confined to their ships.

LEAK INVESTIGATION TO END NEXT WEEK

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Feb. 9.—Sessions of the congressional leak committee today were given over to an examination of newspaper who were sold confidentially December 20 by Secretary Lansing of the impending peace note.

89 AIRSHIPS ARE DESTROYED IN JANUARY

(By Associated Press.)
Berlin, via Sayville, Feb. 9.—The Germans lost 34 aeroplanes in January and the British, French and Russians 55, the war office announced today.

"The aviators, notwithstanding the severe cold, fulfilled in January their important tasks of observation, reconnaissance and attacking," the statement says. "Last month we lost 34 aeroplanes and the British French and Russians 55. Of these 26 are in our possession. Moreover three captive hostile balloons were brought down in flames"

THOUGHT HE WAS AN AMERICAN 50 YEARS

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Feb. 9.—After having believed for a half century that he was an American citizen, the Rev. Joseph Beech of Dixon, Ill., a Methodist missionary to China, has discovered that he is a British subject and has asked congress to pass a bill to give him full citizenship. Senator Smith of South Carolina today introduced a bill for that purpose. Mr. Beech came to this country from England with his father when four years old and thought his father became naturalized.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Riddle are expected home this evening or tomorrow from Savannah, Ga., and other points, where they have been for several weeks.

The meeting of the Woman's Community Club, set for 3:30 this afternoon, has been postponed until next Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock. High winds was mainly responsible for postponement.

AMERICANS ARE SAILING ON LINERS

(By Associated Press.)
New York, Feb. 9.—A number of persons who had engaged passage on American ships for Europe showed their readiness to brave the dangers of the submarine zone by cancelling their reservations today and booking their passage on belligerent ships. Some took passage on the French steamer Espagne, which sails Sunday for Bordeaux, and a few engaged passage on the Laplander, which will sail Tuesday.

MARKETS

COTTON FUTURES

(By Associated Press.)
New York, Feb. 9.—Nervousness over political and shipping conditions was again reflected in a small volume of business and the further irregularity of fluctuations in the cotton market today. May eased off to 15.54 right after the call, but soon rallied to 16.52, with the general list ruling about net unchanged to five points higher towards the end of the first hour.

HICKORY MARKETS

Cotton, No quotations
Wheat \$1.90

CHICAGO WHEAT

(By Associated Press.)
Chicago, Feb. 9.—Considerable strength developed in the wheat market today owing largely to the threatened strike of switchmen here. The opening, which ranged about from the same as yesterday, with May at 1.68 1-4 to 1.69 1-2 and July at 1.46 1-2, was followed by a setback.

THE WEATHER

For North Carolina: Fair tonight and Saturday. Much colder to night. Cold wave except in extreme southwest portion. Strong north-west winds and gales along the northern coast, diminishing tonight.

PAGE'S BILL IS DOWNED IN HOUSE

Record's Special Legislative Report. Raleigh, Feb. 9.—Attended by Burgwyn of Northampton as chief mourner, the Bertie county educational bill was buried by the senate this morning after an argument prolonged and for the most part rambling and disjointed. The vote of 22 to 24 showed that the senate mind is not quite made up as to the question. The house killed the Page bill for the popular election of school boards by a vote of 60 to 41. It also voted down a motion to refer the "bone-dry" prohibition bill, which had received an unfavorable report.

DUTCH STEAMER PUTS BACK TO NEW YORK

(By Associated Press.)
New York, Feb. 9.—The Holland-American line steamship Dyndam, returning here after starting for Rotterdam by way of Falmouth January 29, was reported early today 1,400 miles east of Sandy Hook and due to deck here Saturday. A wireless report from the captain was received here shortly before noon. The Dyndam put back when within 14 hours of Falmouth.

SUCCEEDS BAKER ON SHIPPING BOARD

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Feb. 9.—Raymond B. Stevens of New Hampshire was nominated by President Wilson today as a member of the shipping board to succeed Bernard N. Baker who resigned soon after being confirmed.

QUIET IS REPORTED ON RUSSIAN FRONT

(By Associated Press.)
Berlin, via Sayville, Feb. 9.—An absence of important developments along the Macedonian and Russian fronts is reported in today's official statement.

SENATE DEMOCRATS WILL HOLD CAUCUS

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Feb. 9.—A caucus of senate Democrats will be held tonight to pass finally on the administration's \$250,000,000 revenue bill which virtually had been agreed upon by the senate committee.

LIQUOR BILL PUSHED IN NATIONAL CONGRESS

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Feb. 9.—Advocating the liquor bill to prohibit liquor advertisements and soliciting in the mails entering dry territory the Rev. James Cannon of Virginia told the house postoffice committee that there had been a great increase in public drinking places over 30 years ago. He spoke as national chairman of the legislative committee of the anti-saloon league.

The 5th episode of Pearl of the Army at the Pastime this afternoon and tonight will be great. Don't miss seeing it.

Martha Kate, five-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. McBea, was painfully though not seriously scalded late last evening by falling into a pan of boiling water. The child was doing all right today.

IS LANSING SLOW TO BELIEVE MR. GERARD IS DETAINED

Secretary of State Cannot Think Germany Would
Hold Ambassador in Defiance of International Law--Allies Want Sailing of Ships
Kept Secret.

BERLIN EXTENDS TIME LIMIT OF ORDER

Paris, Feb. 9.—A Madrid dispatch to a local newspaper says that the German government has announced a further delay of 48 hours for neutral ships to regain neutral ports. Germany's original announcement to the United States that neutral ships in the submarine zone blockade February 1 would be spared during a sufficiently long period. The note also said neutral ships would be given until February 5 to sail and must take the shortest route home. On February 2 the Spanish government asked the German government for an extension of time in which their ships might reach home ports, but no specific time limit was mentioned.

TWO SCORE LOST WITH CALIFORNIA

London, Feb. 9.—The British passenger steamer California of the Anchor line, bound from New York for Glasgow, was torpedoed at 9 o'clock Wednesday morning off the Irish coast and sank in nine minutes with the loss of 41 lives. The stricken ship was able to send out "SOS" calls and help arrived promptly. Nevertheless five persons were killed by the explosion and 36 were drowned in the launching of the lifeboats.

NEWS OF THE SINKING OF THE CALIFORNIA REACHED LONDON WEDNESDAY

afternoon before the survivors had yet arrived on land but publication was not permitted till more than 24 hours later. The California was an armed liner carrying a single 4.7-inch gun mounted on the stern. The gunner was just training the weapon on the spot where oil bubbles had been revealed the presence of the underwater enemy when a torpedo struck the port side with an explosion so violent that most of the people aboard were thrown off their feet, five being killed and a score injured.

The submarine fired a second torpedo, in an apparent effort to accelerate the sinking, but the second shot missed, although both torpedoes were fired from a distance of less than 300 yards.

RIVERS AND HARBORS BILL IS REPORTED

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Feb. 9.—The rivers and harbors bill, carrying \$38,500,000, was reported to the senate today by Chairman Fletcher of the commerce committee. The amount is an increase of about \$17,000,000 over the bill passed by the house. Senator Kenyon Republican of Iowa, gave notice that he would propose a substitute carrying a jump sum of \$22,000,000 for distribution under army engineers.

Three Norwegian Steamers Sunk by Submarine; Two Men Are Killed by Gunfire

(By Associated Press.)
Queenstown, via London, Feb. 9.—The Norwegian ship Skorskov was sunk yesterday by a German submarine. The crew was aboard the submarine when a steamer appeared and the undersea boat submerged. The chief officer and carpenter were the only ones able to return to the ship's boats and they were picked up by the steamer today.

IS LANSING SLOW TO BELIEVE MR. GERARD IS DETAINED

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Feb. 9.—Secretary Lansing today authorized the following statement: "I am very loath to believe that the German government intentionally is detaining Ambassador Gerard in Berlin on any excuse whatsoever. I should be very much surprised if such a course had been taken." There is absolutely no justification in international law, it was pointed out for the detention of the ambassador.

No information has been received from Ambassador Gerard since February 7. No Americans have reached Denmark from Germany since the severing of relations. George Washington, the negro firman who lost his life in the sinking of the Turino was reported by Consul rest today was apparently a "British subject." It was stated that he was born in Alberta, Canada.

ANOTHER OLD SOLDIER ANSWERS LAST ROLL CALL

(By Associated Press.)
Berlin, Thursday, Feb. 8 via London, Feb. 9th.—Former Ambassador Gerard and his party probably will leave Berlin Saturday evening, although the date has not been settled definitely. It is expected they will travel by way of Switzerland.

Another old soldier of the Hickory high school will hold a box supper in the high school auditorium Saturday night at 7.30.

ANOTHER SEVERE COLD WAVE COMING

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, Feb. 9.—Another cold wave will sweep the Atlantic coast tonight from New England to extreme northwest Florida, the weather bureau announced today. Frost is predicted in southern Florida. Storm warnings were ordered displayed today on the Atlantic coast from Cape Hatteras to Eastport, Me.

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(By Associated Press.)
London, Feb. 9.—The Norwegian steamship Ida has been sunk by a German submarine. Surviving members of the crew were landed today. The captain stated that the chief mate and steward were killed while on deck by gunfire, the submarine firing continuously until the ship was sunk.

FOR DAILY
by the City
Street
TELEPHONE
No. 100
Miller
2nd Street