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PRESIDENT MAY GIVE ORDER TO ARM AMERICAN SHIPS

Most of His Advisers Say He Has That Authority—Extra Session of Congress Urged at Once by Many Administration Officials.

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, March 8.—Indications accumulated today that President Wilson is likely to act at any time in the situation caused by Germany's announcement of unrestricted warfare. Although the president was kept in bed by cold, he gave consideration to the question.

In some administration circles it was said the president would act this week, but in other quarters it was said he would wait until the senate had time to revise its rules.

Mr. Wilson has been advised that he has sufficient authority to arm merchant vessels without waiting for action from congress, and some officials believe he will act on this information forthwith.

On the other hand a strong sentiment undoubtedly exists in the administration for the president to take action calling for congress to meet in the very near future.

Reports given to the president agree that the senate rules will be revised quickly, so that if an extra session is called it would be possible to get action promptly on the armed ship bill.

Inasmuch as there is a general agreement that an extra session is necessary some time before July 1 because of the failure to pass appropriation bills before the last session, there was some disposition to advise the president to call an extra session at once.

WIFE HAS RIGHT TO TAKE HIS MONEY

(By Associated Press.)
New York, March 8.—A wife whose husband withholds a sufficient allowance on pay day has a perfect right, according to a decision by Magistrate Cornell of New York court on domestic relations, to go through his pockets when he is asleep. Mrs. Samuel Pell testified in court that her husband's weekly wage was \$15, but for nine years he had given her but \$4 or \$5 a week to run the house and care for their two children.

Last Saturday night she took \$17 from his trousers' pocket. Then Pell sewed up his trousers and took them to bed with him. Mrs. Pell had him arrested.

SHIPBUILDERS TO CHARGE NAVY SMALL PROFIT

Washington, March 8.—American shipbuilders engaged in government work entered into an agreement with Secretary Daniels yesterday to accept new contracts at a flat rate of ten per cent profit, and pledged co-operation to the fullest extent of their ability in rushing to completion the navy's construction program.

Virtually all the larger private plants in the country were represented in the conference. The builders, who have been netting from twenty to thirty per cent on merchant steamers, said they were willing to turn to government contracts at ten per cent as a patriotic duty, and the secretary, on his part, agreed to protect them from undue loss. As a result, for the present at least, the government will not consider exercising the authority given to congress to commandeer plants.

The next step of the department will be to call upon builders not engaged in government work to undertake such tasks as they are equipped to carry out. For the most part, this will consist of building submarine chasers and some destroyers. An understanding also will be sought to prevent yards doing private work from drawing men from those with navy contracts.

The companies represented will furnish Secretary Daniels not later than Monday with schedules of all commercial work in their yards or for which they have contracts. Details of the capitalization of each concern, its fixed charges, material contracts, plans of plants and yards showing possibility of enlargement, and number of employees will be included. A definite statement of the amount and kind of additional government work that should be undertaken, with an estimate of what might be accomplished in a year, also will be submitted by each builder.

(By Associated Press.)
New York, March 8.—Documentary evidence purporting to show that the plans of Dr. Chandre Chakrabertz, a Hindu and Ernest Sekunna, a German chemist, arrested, here in connection with an alleged plot to foment revolution in India had the approval of Dr. Zimmermann that financial aid be given entrepreneurs in this country will be laid before the federal grand jury, it was learned today when the jury began investigation of the plot.

WHEAT AND CORN ON FARMS MARCH 1

Washington, March 8.—Corn on farms March 1 was about 789,416,000 bushels compared with 1,116,559,000 bushels last year, the department of agriculture announced today.

Wheat held on farms March 1 was about 101,365,000 bushels. Last year 244,248,000 bushels remained on farms March 1.

Entire State is Watching Hickory's Library Election; Some Reasons for Library

Miss M. W. Leatherman, secretary of the North Carolina Library Commission, has written the Record in regard to the election to be held here the first Monday in April for a Carnegie library and submits some reasons why the people of Hickory should take this forward step. "If Hickory votes the tax," Miss Leatherman says, "it will be the first town in the state to take advantage of the present public library law."

Every community in the state is watching Hickory and every forward-looking town, with a knowledge of Hickory's spirit, will watch for the returns from the election. In a large sense, the people of Hickory will determine whether other towns are to take this step, because it will be an incentive to other towns and cities to do likewise.

In her letter the secretary of the library commission says:

But some one may ask, "why should the Hickory library be placed on a tax-supported basis?" The chief reason is that a library is a public institution and that the most economical efficient administration can be secured only when it is maintained in the same way that other public institutions are maintained.

A public library, moreover, is an educational institution—a school which no one can read is too old or too young to attend; a school, too, which every citizen should attend as long as he lives, be he learned or unlearned. No one ever graduates from the public library but as soon as he learns to read graduates into the public library and there has access to the best books of all ages and into the best containing the most recent inventions and improvements in science and all lines of human endeavor. Such an institution freely used by all the people raises the standard of citizenship many fold. This, we take it, is the real object of public education—to make of all the people good, intelligent citizens.

The public library is a public institution and it is an educational institution; why, then, should it not be supported by taxation?

ARTILLERY BUSY POLITICIANS ARE RESOLUTION TO LONG DELAYED REPORT ON DARDANELLES BLUNDER

ON SEVERAL NUMEROUS EARLY ACTION

(By Associated Press.)
Raleigh, March 8.—Remnants of the legislature remaining over for the night and leaving today left no uncertainty as to their ambition two years hence.

It has been known for months that Speaker Walter Murphy, who went away Wednesday afternoon, will contest the congressional nomination with Congressman Doughton, unless Congressman Doughton decides to run for Governor four years hence, and since former Lieutenant Governor R. A. Doughton of Allegheny is an acknowledged candidate the state is wondering if North Carolina is to have a duplicate governorship race to Alf and Bob which gave Tennessee such fame 25 years ago.

Lieutenant Governor Max Gardner is running a sharp race for the governorship, and during the latter days of the session was dined and toasted as "the next governor."

In the house Harry Stubbs is an undoubted candidate for the lieutenant governorship.

The accepted candidate for speaker two years hence was Brummitt of Granville, who was many times called to the chair by Speaker Murphy and directed that body acceptably.

Grant of New Hanover is conceded a candidate for congress from the sixth and since Judge Stacy is said to aspire to the same office Senator Crammer of Brunswick is expected to run for judge.

In the senate J. B. Gregg, Republican, will run against Lee Robinson, Democrat, and Jonas of the ninth is said by his friends to be ready to try conclusions with Webb.

In no session of the legislature have so many announcements been made thirteen months in advance of state and congressional elections.

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, March 8.—Senator Lewis, Democratic whip, will introduce a resolution today declaring it to be the sense of the senate that the president by virtue of the power of his office has the right to protect the commerce with foreign nations equally with the commerce between the states.

The resolution further declares the president's authority is not related to the power to declare war, but is derived from his right as head of the civil authority to foster commerce.

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, March 8.—Many Democratic members of congress were angry today over the announced intention of the administration to extend the merit system to all postmasters of the first, second and third class after April 1 by executive order of the president. They declared the result would be to place in office many Republicans and some said the purpose was to gain support for the administration in the new house which would be controlled by Republicans.

Postmaster General Burleson explained that the movement was prompted by a desire to promote economy and efficiency.

Postmasters now in office will serve out the four years term for which they were appointed, but after April 1 the president will appoint those men who stand the best examination.

MAD AT WILSON OVER CIVIL SERVICE

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Lack of Harmony Between Navy and Army Responsible for Failure, Commission Reports--Kitchener Delayed Three Weeks Without Advising Navy of His Plans.

(By Associated Press.)
London, March 8.—The majority report of the commission appointed last July to investigate the Dardanelles campaign which was held up to expurgate certain sections referring to allied countries was made public today in its revised form. The commission reports that the late Lord Kitchener, then minister of war, favored the campaign, and when he gave the order it was undertaken.

The dispatch to the east was delayed three weeks, the commission says, which was the result of a decision of Lord Kitchener, which was not communicated to the war council.

The expedition was instigated by Winston Churchill. The commission declares that the navy preferred that the army and navy should have taken joint action.

The possibility of making a surprise attack by land and water offered such great advantages, the commission finds, that it was ill advised to sacrifice this possibility by deciding hastily to undertake a purely naval attack which would not attain completely the object desired.

The subject has been a difficult one, the commission says, on which to reach a conclusion.

CHOICE LAY BETWEEN MOHAMMED OR DEATH

New York, March 8.—Massacres of Armenians were inspired by the desire of the Turkish ruling class to eliminate from the empire all sects and creeds except that of Mohammed, according to Lord Bryce, former British ambassador to the United States, in a cable message to the American committee for Armenian and Syrian relief made public last night.

"During these recent massacres whenever any Christian would turn Mohammedan he was spared," Lord Bryce said in his message. "Many a Christian child was torn from his parents to be brought up as a Mussulman. Thousands of Armenian Christian girls were sold in the market or distributed among Turkish officers to be imprisoned for life in Turkish harems and there for ed into Mohammedanism."

"But many more thousands of Armenians women as well as men, were offered their choice between Christian and Mohammed and when they refused Mohammed were shot or drowned forthwith. For days and days together the bodies of Christian women who had thus perished were seen floating down the Euphrates."

"Surely the remains of this suffering nation could make no stronger appeal for pity and help to the Christians of America than they make through these martyr deaths. Only a remnant is now left to whom charity can be extended. It is still a sorely afflicted remnant."

JOSE MIGUEL GOMEZ AND STAFF CAPTURED

Havana, March 8.—The news that ex-President Jos Miguel Gomez, leader of the rebels, and his entire staff were prisoners in the hands of Colonel Collazo, commander of the government forces operating near the dividing line between Santa Clara and Camaguey province, was announced yesterday afternoon. It set the crowd at the presidential palace cheering wildly.

Shortly after 4 o'clock Secretary Montero appeared on the palace balcony and read a message from Secretary of the Interior Havana, who has been in charge of the campaign in Santa Clara province, saying that Colonel Collazo had reported the capture of Gomez and his staff in Camaguey province.

The men were said to have been captured after a battle lasting several hours in which many are believed to have been killed or wounded.

Colonel Consuegra in Santa Clara disposed his forces to prevent the rebels evading battle and continuing their fight westward. Last night he concentrated his forces near Placetas ready for the expected battle this morning. At 10 a. m. the battle opened, Collazo's forces made a frontal attack, while Consuegra attacked the rebel right flank, his machine gun fire causing them to give way.

No other details of the actual operations have been given out except that the rebels are still being pursued.

PARKER URGES BRYAN TO CALL OFF ARNOLDS

New York, March 8.—Alton B. Parker, once chief justice of the New York court of appeals and former Democratic candidate for president, has asked William J. Bryan to "check those now ambitious to become Benedict Arnolds of congress."

Mr. Parker sent the following telegram to Mr. Bryan at Miami, Fla.: "If you and your friends, Senator LaFollette and your joint followers and sympathizers, had gone to heaven three years ago Germany would not have attempted to drive the United States from the seas or to conspire with other nations to make war upon her, for we should by now have been well prepared to defend ourselves, nor would you have had occasion to sneak out of Washington upon discovery of the German plot."

"While you can never undo the mischief you have planned, yet if you act quickly, you may be able to persuade those now ambitious to become Benedict Arnolds of congress to end the shameful scene now being enacted."

SENATE TAKES UP AMENDMENT TO RULES

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, March 8.—The cloture amendment to the senate rules approved by both Democratic and Republican caucuses was taken up by the senate today under unanimous consent.

"FALL OF A NATION" WHALE OF A PICTURE
(Greensboro Daily News, Jan. 9)
Thomas Dixon's colossal spectacle "The Fall of a Nation" was on the screen at the Isis theatre yesterday, and will be repeated today. The show proved extremely popular yesterday, which is not to be wondered at, for it is one of the most elaborate moving pictures ever produced, taking approximately two hours for exhibition.

It is a "preparedness" picture, the nation that falls being the United States owing to our lack of military power. There are some battle scenes that are remarkable. The effect of the big howitzers in action is especially clever; the picture of the gun in the act of firing in instantly followed by a "flash" of a terrific dynamite explosion to represent the bursting of the projectile. It is a whale of a picture. It is obvious that thousands of people have been employed in making it, and the photography and all the mechanical appearances have been done splendidly. See it at the Hub Theatre here Wednesday, March 14th.

ARMY RECRUITING REPORTED AS GOOD

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, March 8.—Recruiting during February resulted in 4,052 men being added to the regular army, the war department announced today. Officials believe the army can be brought to its authorized strength before July 30.

HERE IS A FAMILY BADLY IN NEED OF AID
What Capt. D. G. Coy of the Volunteers said was one of the most pitiable cases that he had ever observed was reported by him today. A mother of four children lives near the fair grounds without proper clothing for the children and with no means of support except the earnings of a 14-year-old girl. In addition to her own family, the mother supports her sick mother and a brother and sister who, the captain says, should be in a hospital.

The children are lacking in clothes and cannot attend school. They need shoes and clothing, and second hand articles would do well. The family needs another bed and a change of bedclothes.

The family is in squalor and disease. It is a case that will appeal to Hickory people if they will investigate it, Captain Coy says.

BERLIN REPORTS MANY SHIPS SUNK

Berlin, via Sayville, March 8.—The admiralty made the following announcement today:

"Twenty-one steamships, 16 sailing vessels, and 15 fishing craft, with an aggregate gross tonnage of 91,000, have been sunk by German submarines in the last few days."

WILL LEAVE BORDER BY TWENTIETH MARCH

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, March 8.—The last of the national guard will be enroute for home from the border by March 20, General Pershing today reported. Some of the returning troops will be compelled to make the trip in chair cars and day coaches, because of a shortage of tourist cars.

MEXICAN FORCES EXPECTED TO CLASH

(By Associated Press.)
Juarez, Mex., March 8.—Mexican defect and rebel forces are said to be approaching each other today in the vicinity of San Martin ranch, 50 miles southwest of Juarez, and a battle is believed to be imminent.

Mexican officials advanced the theory that the Villa band does not intend to make a stand, but is engaged in smuggling operations.

AMERICANS READY

(By Associated Press.)
El Paso, Tex., March 8.—American forces today are guarding the border against a possible attack by Villa bandits.

A machine gun company and motor trucks were dispatched to Fort Hancock, Texas, last night, and it is stated that they would cross the border in case of an incursion of Mexicans into American territory. In addition there are other detachments near the border.

American officials expressed the belief that they would be able to cope with the situation.

DR GOOD'S LECTURE OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Dr. Good, who will lecture in the Reformed church on the night of March 14, has had some thrilling experiences in his historical researches. For twenty years he was ransacking Germany and Switzerland to find the material for the basis of the history of the Reformed church in America. He felt certain that there were records to which other historians of the church had never had access, but where these were kept? In 1896 he visited Amsterdam and had the Pennsylvania papers copied, but when he received them he was disappointed for the missing papers were not there.

He then went to The Hague and the keeper of the archives laid before him bundles of old papers and there at last the long sought Coetus Minutes were found. What other historians of the church had sought and not found as before him. He employed Prof. Wm. Hinkley who with himself spent three years at The Hague copying records at a cost of \$4,000 which Dr. Good paid out of his own personal bank account. No man is better qualified to speak on church history than Dr. Good.

His lecture on the 400th anniversary of the reformation will be of special interest to the Reformed, Presbyterian and Lutheran churches. It can not fail to be highly entertaining and beneficial to all the people of Hickory. The lecture will be illustrated and will be in the Reformed church, but will be under the auspices of the Presbyterian and Reformed congregations jointly. It will be free, but a collection will be taken. Remember the date, March 14.

J. L. MURPHY.

Mr. Harold Deal, formerly with Whitener and Martin, has purchased an interest in Bost and Newton Grocery company and is actively connected with the firm. Mr. Deal knows the business thoroughly and is a decided asset.

MARKETS

COTTON FUTURES		
(By Associated Press.)		
New York, March 8.—The cotton market opened steady today to a decline of six points to a decline of one point. May sold up right after the call, but reactions occurred towards the end of the first hour.		
March	Open	Close
March	17.50	17.55
May	17.52	17.46
July	17.35	17.35
October	16.60	16.63
December	16.70	17.73

HICKORY MARKETS		
Cotton	17 1/2	
Wheat	\$2.00	

CHICAGO WHEAT		
(By Associated Press.)		
Chicago, March 8.—Wheat prices tended downward today owing largely to the unpromising outlook for a removing of shipping difficulties. May sold at 1.87 to 1.87 3/4 and July at 1.57 to 1.57 1/4 were followed by a further downturn and then a moderate advance.		

WHITMAN INFORMS DARCY PERSONALLY

(By Associated Press.)
Albany, March 8.—A personal plea by Les Darcy the Australian boxer, that Governor Whitman reconsider his decision not to let the boxer appear in the ring because he had evaded military duty in Australia was denied by Governor Whitman today.

IT IS NORTH CAROLINA STATE COLLEGE NOW

West Raleigh, March 8.—North Carolina State College of Agriculture and Engineering is to supplant the name of the North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts. A bill introduced by Representative L. P. LeLendon (an alumnus of the College) of Durham, providing for the change has become a law. It is now hoped to bring the public around to the use of N. C. State for the nickname, so-called, of the college in the place of the present common designation A. and M.

Persons moving from one house to another would do well to see the insurance agents, as the fire policy only covers the furniture at the place where it was first insured.

PRESIDENT WILSON IS ILL WITH COLD

(By Associated Press.)
Washington, March 8.—President Wilson, who is suffering from a cold taken a week ago and made worse during his inauguration Monday, remained in bed today by order of his physician. No engagements were made for him today.

AMERICAN STEAMER ARRIVES AT LONDON

(By Associated Press.)
New York, March 8.—The American steamship Mongolia of the Atlantic transport line, which left here February 25, with United States mail, arrived safely at London on March 5, according to cable advices received today.

DAVIDSON'S SCHEDULE CALLS FOR GAME HERE

The Davidson College baseball schedule, published today, includes a contest with Leinor College here on April 16. The Presbyterians also play Catawba College earlier in the season.

THE WEATHER

For North Carolina: Fair, colder tonight and Friday fair and colder; east portion, moderate to fresh west winds.

The thermometer was rather high during the night, the mercury falling to only 41 degrees. The rainfall was .15 of an inch.