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PARIS GOVERNMENT URGES ESTABLISH'G BLOCKADE AT ONCE

Asks That Further Protests From Neutrals Be Not Awaited

SWEDEN TAKING STEPS

Committee of "Defense" Is Appointed by Stockholm. Reason for Immediate Action by Britain's Fleet. Discussion in Parliament

(By the United Press)

London, Jan. 25.—France has urged England to declare an immediate actual blockade against Germany without waiting for further protestations from neutrals, it is reported on the eve of the matter's discussion in Parliament. The blockade advocates profess a large majority.

Reports that the Swedish Parliament has appointed a committee of "defense" is one cause for a demand for immediate action.

TEXAS MOB LYNCHES ALLEGED MURDERER

Mayfield, Accused of Slaying Parents and Brother, Claimed Alibi, and the Jury Failed to Agree On His Guilt—Was Middle-Aged—Taken From Jail at Boston, Texas, and Hanged

(By the United Press)

Boston, Texas, Jan. 25.—A mob took J. Mayfield, 51, charged with killing his father, mother and brother with an axe, from the jail here, and hanged him. A jury had disagreed as to his guilt. He claimed an alibi.

VON DER GOLTZ HAD A NARROW ESCAPE

German Field Marshal Was Passenger On Turkish Yacht Torpedoed In the Bosphorus a Month Ago, the News of Which Has Just Been Had—All Passengers Were Rescued, Reported

(By the United Press)

Athens, Jan. 25.—The Turkish imperial yacht *Artogroal*, with Field Marshal Von Der Goltz as a passenger, was torpedoed in the Bosphorus four weeks ago, it has just been learned. All the passengers were rescued.

EDMONDSON DECLARES HE'S FRAME-UP VICTIM.

New Bern, Jan. 24.—F. A. Edmondson, Greenville banker accused of violating the Mann white slave act, is here seeking evidence which he says will prove that he is a conspiracy victim. Miss Eulalia Dudley has testified that Edmondson criminally assaulted her on a sleeping car. The case is to come up for the second time in Federal court at Washington, N. C.

CHARLIE STANDS ON TRENCH AND LETS 'EM FIRE AWAY.

Northern France, Jan. 24.—A wooden effigy of Charlie Chaplin, looted from the front of a picture show in Yorkshire, and brought to France is daily hoisted up over one of the trenches to the fury of the Germans who subject Charlie to severe punishment. One bombardment lasted two hours and resulted in little material damage.

MOHR DEFENSE WILL OCCUPY THREE WEEKS

Providence, Jan. 25.—The State's case in the Mohr trial was not finished last night, but is to be today, with the testimony of Police Inspector Ahearn and Capt. Monahan. The defense is expected to take three weeks.

GRAHAM AND CRAIG ATTEND CONFERENCE

Presiding Officers at Today's Sessions of Social Service Meeting In Charlotte—Governor a Speaker—National Children's Bureau Head to Make Address Tonight—Interesting Topics

(Special to The Free Press)

Charlotte, Jan. 25.—The third day's sessions of the North Carolina annual Conference on Social Service have for their topics current examples of social progress in the State, the State, county and municipality and social welfare and organization of society and State for the welfare of the child.

The following addresses were on the program this morning: "Welfare Work and the Tenant Child," Miss Mary Livermore, Robeson county; "Social Work of the Sand Hill Board of Trade of Aberdeen," John R. McQueen, Pinehurst; "Gailford County and Her Public Morals Law," Hon. A. M. Seales, Greensboro; "Rowan County Community Building," Mrs. J. P. Moore, Salisbury; "Orange County Social Progress," Prof. E. C. Branson, Chapel Hill; "Travelers' Aid and Its Extension," Miss Julia Yopp, Greensboro; "Greensboro's Public Welfare Work and Plan of Organization," Dr. Melton Clark, Greensboro; "Salemberg, Sampson County as a Social Center," Mrs. W. J. Jones, Salemberg; "Other Examples of Social Progress," five-minute talks by members of the conference. Dr. E. K. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina, was in the chair.

This afternoon Governor Craig is presiding. He will be a speaker, together with W. T. Bost of Raleigh, Hiden Ramsey of Asheville, A. W. McAllister of Greensboro, Hon. C. R. Woodruff of Philadelphia, and others. Tonight Miss Julia Lathrop, director of the National Children's Bureau; Dr. Howard Rondthaler of Winston-Salem, J. Walter Long of Greensboro and others will address the conference.

SMALL SALES ON COTTON EXCHANGE

Fourteen bales of cotton had been sold here today by 3 o'clock, the best price paid being 11 1/2 cents.

New York futures quotations were:

	Open	Close
January	12.00	12.07
March	12.17	12.15
May	12.11	12.39
July	12.50	12.53
October	12.56	12.53

ENGLISH TO COLLECT DAMAGES FROM MEXICO

London, Jan. 8.—(By Mail)—The Foreign Office is accumulating complaints regarding seizure of British property in Mexico, it was learned today, pro presentation to the Carranza government. The Inter-Oceanic Railway of Mexico, has asked the government to find out when it can have back its lines. At the annual meeting of directors, Chairman Arthur Hill reported that the road was commandeered by the "government of Mexico" in 1914, and that he had no knowledge of its condition. The Guayule Rubber Company, whose properties were also commandeered in 1914, has lodged a protest with the Foreign Office.

GREAT ACTIVITY IN NEW YORK PIT TODAY

Dividend of 1 1/4 Per Cent. On Steel Common Declared and Common Stock Rose to 84 7/8—To Be More. One Faction of Directorate Opposed Dividend.

(By the United Press)

New York, Jan. 25.—Steel Common rose to 84 7/8 today with a lively scene of activity in the pit, following the report of a dividend of 1 1/4 per cent., to be issued late today. Morgan Frick rushed here to vote the dividend. It is hoped it may be more. One faction of the Board opposes any dividend.

KITCHIN TELLS THE PRESIDENT HE DOES NOT LIKE HIS IDEA

For Tariff Commission—Tarheel May Support It, However

ANOTHER CHANGE POLICY

Business Men Have Urged Appointment of Commission to Prepare for Upheaval at End of War—Will Be New Body

(By the United Press)

Washington, Jan. 25.—House Leader Kitchin told the President today that he did not approve of the Administration's tariff commission plan. He may support it, however.

BUSINESS MEN WANT COMMISSION.

It is officially stated that the President is for a tariff commission to investigate economic conditions with a view to making recommendations for a schedule suited to all demands after the war. It will be a similar body to the Federal Reserve Board, and will not displace the latter. This change from Mr. Wilson's attitude of a year ago, caused, it is said, by the urging by business men all over the country of preparation for an upheaval at the end of the war. Both bodies would continue investigations. The expected bill will shortly be reported by the ways and means committee.

FOUR AERIAL RAIDS ON ENGLAND, ONE ON FRENCHMEN'S TOWN

New Offensive of German Airmen Being Conducted Vigorously — Dunkirk Bombed—One Flyer Captured by Gunners

London, Jan. 25.—Four German raids on English Channel ports within 48 hours, with the bombardment of numerous villages behind the French lines, have marked the inauguration of a new German air offensive.

Dunkirk was bombed by two aeroplanes this morning. One machine was brought down at Nieuport.

GROVER C. WEST OUT OF COURT IN NOTED A. WITH D. W. CASE

(Daily Free Press, January 25)

The locally famous West-Myers case was settled at LaGrange Monday, when West pled guilty before Recorder Joyner to assaulting S. Myers, his brother-in-law, with deadly weapon. West some months ago shot and seriously wounded Myers, who at one time was expected to die. A family dispute caused the shooting. He finally recovered, the case came up in Superior Court here and was sent back to the LaGrange Recorder. Both men are prominent.

The Recorder suspended judgment upon payment of costs and fined West \$5 and costs for carrying the revolver, the total of fine and costs amounting to less than \$25.

SO

Moscow, Jan. 24.—Idaho housewives and Idaho farmers are gathering here today to attend the Idaho University's third annual class in household and agricultural economics. During the week there will be organized the North Idaho Municipal League and a Good Government conference. The State chicken show begins today, too.

REPUBLICANS WON'T MAKE ANY PROMISES FOR COL. ROOSEVELT

Name Withdrawn From Three Primary Ballots, Pointed Out—Campaign to Be Based on Democratic Extravagance, Etc.

(By the United Press.)

Chicago, Jan. 25.—Republican leaders are reticent in their views over the entrance of Roosevelt into the Republican presidential race. It is pointed out that his name was withdrawn from three primary ballots.

Charles D. Hilles' speech yesterday indicated that the campaign charges against the Democrats are to be wonton extravagance, the foreign policy, imposition of the war tax and alleged inefficiency.

RULER OF ORIGINAL COMIC OPERA NATION OF REAL LIFE DEAD

By WILBUR S. FORREST, (United Press Staff Correspondent)

London, Jan. 8.—(By Mail)—The news that King Ross of the Cocos Islands has laid him down in the shade of the palms and died was cable here today. The brief message rings down the curtain upon the last act of the first ruler of the real, original Comic Opera Kingdom—The Land of Cocos—which lies upon the shimmering silver lap of the South Seas, a diminutive emerald world in a setting of pink coral reefs. Andy Ross was a Scotch adventurer who, after a roving youth, discovered and decided to cast his lot as king with the motely inhabitants of the little story-book kingdom. From 1827 until his death he was the oddest king, with the queerest subjects and the most extraordinary domain in all the world. His was a kingdom where the arrival of Sinbad the Sailor, Aladdin in Wonderland, Gulliver and the Boy Who Could Not Learn to Shiver and Shake would not have seemed unusual.

Ross was king, court, government and owner of this group of Indian Ocean isles, twenty in all, whose only excitement in history occurred during the present war—the destruction of the German cruiser *Emden* by the Australian battleship *Sydney*, off the Cocos coast.

King Ross was the third of his line. In 1823, an English adventurer named Alexander Hare settled in the islands with a number of slaves given him by an Indian potentate. Two years later Ross, a Scotchman, rediscovered the islands and determined to colonize them. He returned in 1827 with a party of Scotch and he found Hare in possession. The two factions settled by dividing the islands equally. Finally, however, the natives swore allegiance to Ross and he and his descendants have ruled their story-book kingdom ever since.

BULLETINS

(By the United Press.)

FLOODS IN MIDDLE WEST.

Peoria, Ill., Jan. 25.—Reports that a dozen levees have been swept away and many acres of farm lands flooded, have reached here.

GERMANS GAINED, THEN LOST.

Paris, Jan. 25.—The Germans penetrated the advanced trenches of the French near the mouth of the Yser, but later were driven out.

FREIGHT IN COLLISION WITH PASSENGER TRAIN

(By the United Press)

Middletown, N. Y., Jan. 25.—A dozen passengers were injured when a freight train crashed into the rear end of an Erie passenger train today.

GERMAN REPLY LAST LUSITANIA NOTE IS NOT SATISFACTORY

Indicated that Forecasters Took Too Much for Granted

GIVEN PRESIDENT TODAY

Diplomatic Situation More Complicated — Note to England About Finished. Preparing to Inquire of Turkey in Persia Matter

(By the United Press)

Washington, Jan. 25.—The diplomatic problems multiplied today. The administration practically ended the drafting of the new protest to England regarding restrictions of American commerce. It will go forward in a few days.

The German note on the *Lusitania* was received at the State Department and the White House.

The administration took steps today to inquire if Turkey has any information regarding the sinking of the *Persia*.

German Note Unsatisfactory.

That an unsatisfactory rather than a satisfactory turn was given the *Lusitania* negotiations by the last German note has just developed, it is believed. The White House announced that the printed forecasts showing complete concession to the United States' demands were unjustified by the facts. The President is to confer with Secretary Lansing tomorrow.

REPORTED CERTAIN AUSTRIAN EMPEROR IS CRITICALLY ILL

No Confirmation From Austria of Franz Josef's Illness — French Airmen Used a Hundred Bombs in the Balkans

(By the United Press)

London, Jan. 25.—Although there is no confirmation from Austrian sources of the serious illness of Emperor Franz Josef, Paris and London papers declare his condition is critical from acute bronchitis. The reports emanated from Rome.

Berlin Report of Mesopotamia Situation.

Berlin, Jan. 25.—The Turkish soldiers east of Kutelamara have been reinforced by the arrival of artillery and infantry, and from Bagdad are repulsing every attempt of the English to advance to the relief of General Townsend's besieged garrison.

Great Air Raid.

Saloniki, Jan. 25.—More than one hundred bombs were dropped by the 45 French aviators in the recent attack on Monastir and other Serbian cities, in the greatest air raid ever in the Balkans.

BIG LEAGUERS AGREE TO PLAY BASKETBALL.

(By the United Press)

Boston, Jan. 25.—Four baseball professionals wintering in Boston have agreed to play basketball on the tentatively organized Boston Baseball Five. They are Leslie Numanaker, the big Yankee catcher; Hal Janvrin, Ham Connolly, who played third base and the outfield for the Washington Senators; and Rabbit Maranville. It is expected that there will be no difficulty in filling out the team. Coach and Manager Bob Fowler probably will try to get a game with a team similarly picked from the professional baseball men of New York City.

EXHUME BODY MRS. HOPEWELL TODAY

Local Coroner and New Bern Physicians Go to Stonington Creek to Secure Viscera of Woman Alleged to Have Been Poisoned by Husband—Report to Be Made

The body of Mrs. Rachel Hopewell, for whose death her husband, W. R. Hopewell, is now in jail at New Bern, was to be exhumed near Stonington Creek, four or five miles from here, today. Drs. J. F. Patterson and Ray Pollock of New Bern, appointed by Superior Court for the purpose, arrived here at 10 o'clock and were accompanied to the place where the corpse was interred last Summer by Coroner Eugene Wood. It is alleged that Hopewell poisoned his wife, who was a native of this county. The stomach will be sent to Raleigh for examination for traces of poison. State chemists will make a thorough inspection of the viscera.

Hopewell several months after the woman's death married a widow in Craven county. Her husband had died only a few months before and it was suspected in some quarters that he had met the same fate as Mrs. Hopewell is said to have, but no evidence to warrant her arrest was discovered. The examination by the chemists at Raleigh, should it fail to develop poison signs, may result in Hopewell's discharge, but if traces are found he is expected to be arraigned for first degree murder. It will be several days yet before a report is had.

FAIR PROGRESS IN THE SUPERIOR COURT

Cases Against Sydes and Potter and Negro Defendant Settled—Recorder's Judgment Sustained—Second Trial of Man Who Had Lots of Whisky Resulted in a Six Months' Sentence

The Superior Court now sitting for the one-week January, mixed term is making fair progress. Although there will probably be some few hard-fought cases, the criminal docket should be cleared away in time for some little of the civil business awaiting attention to be tried, it is believed.

Cases disposed of Monday afternoon were: J. F. Potter, having more than the legal quantity of whisky in his possession, six months on the county roads. C. M. Sydes, assault, etc., \$100 and costs or six months on the roads. Albert Granby, aiding in abortion, not guilty. Sydes' case was up on appeal from the Kinston Recorder's Court. He drove an automobile into a buggy occupied by two negroes, injuring both. The higher court simply sustained the Recorder's judgment. Potter was arrested at Falling Creek early one morning by the sheriff. He had a trunkful or more of whisky, it is alleged. The case was up for the second time, Potter having formerly been fined \$1 and costs. Granby was charged with having given a negro a drug for unlawful purposes. He was sent up to Superior Court by a magistrate. No case of importance is expected to come up this afternoon.

FIRST EXECUTION OF A QUAKER TODAY

Bellefont, Pa., Jan. 24.—Pennsylvania today had its first double execution since the gallows gave way to the electric chair in 1913. George H. March and Rowland S. Pennington were put to death soon after daybreak at the new penitentiary near here. They killed S. L. Pingerton in Delaware county more than two years ago. Pennington blackjacked him and March kicked him to death as he lay before them begging for life. Pennington is said to be the that Quaker ever executed in Pennsylvania. The men battled stubbornly for life, carrying their case to the Supreme Court and then obtaining four reprieves in order to apply repeatedly to the Board of Pardons.

STARTING CAMPAIGN EARLY AT BUG HILL

Whiteville, Jan. 23.—News reaches Whiteville that Bug Hill township, in the southern part of Columbus county, is after the honor of firing the first gun in the Democratic campaign this year, and that preparations are well under way for an old-time Democratic love feast at Guide, or some place in the township, about the middle of February.

Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 24.—Lorin Solon, star Minnesota University football captain, deposed for alleged professionalism, is expected to enter Pittsburgh University.

ANNUAL CONVENT'N OF STATE FORESTRY ASSOC'N BEING HELD

Gathering of Representative Men of State at New Bern

PROMINENT SPEAKERS

Conservation of North Carolina's Timber Resources Main Topic — Business Sessions Today and Sightseeing Wednesday

By H. Galt Braxton

New Bern, Jan. 25.—The sixth annual convention of the North Carolina Forestry Association was formally opened at 10 o'clock this morning in the rooms of the New Bern Chamber of Commerce. Representative lumber men and many leading citizens in other lines are here to discuss the conservation of the State's great timber resources and hear experts of National renown speak on the subject.

A number of the principal speakers on the program were not able to be present and sent their regrets. These included Governor Craig, Congressman John Small and others. President C. I. Millard of the Roper Lumber Company made a proposition to secure for the State as large a tract of land as is deemed necessary for practical forestry demonstration purposes. Mr. Millard's idea was regarded as perhaps the most important to be brought out at the morning session. Mr. C. C. Smoot of North Wilkesboro made an interesting address outlining the ways in which lumbering and the Allied industries take from the State's forests hundreds of thousands of dollars per annum and replace nothing. He urged protection of the woodlands.

Attending the convention from Kinston are Messrs. W. B. Douglass, Orrin Weeks, H. Galt Braxton and Barron G. Caldwell. Tonight at 8 o'clock State Geologist Joseph Hyde Pratt is to present an illustrated lecture on "Forest Conservation in North Carolina." A short business session will wind up the convention. Tomorrow morning the visitors will be taken on a trip through adjacent timber operations, to see how the pine is cut in this section and get an idea of the immense resources of the region woods products.

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