

The Mount Airy News

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DISASTROUS YEAR FOR GERMANY'S COMMERCE

Revision Of Treaty Necessary For Return To Normal Economic Condition

Hamberg, Dec. 26.—Germany's foreign trade relations, which in 1919 gave some promise of gradual and substantial improvement, suffered disastrously during 1920, the Hamburg chamber of commerce says in its annual report, which is to be published tomorrow. Without revision of the Versailles treaty, the chamber says, it will be impossible for Germany to arrive at her normal economic and political condition.

"There are some signs of the beginning of a better state of conditions in the apparent increased inclination to work and the desire for better productive results," adds the report. "There is a further movement toward improvement of German economical conditions in the over-stocking of foreign markets with food and raw stuffs."

The report advises against acceptance of foreign credits by the Germans "unless the stipulations for paying back the loans are clearly prepared."

It is believed by the chamber of commerce that the United States is in a remarkable position for the development of its world trade and it thinks that the Hamberg-American line—Harriman shipping arrangement—has placed Germany in a position to obtain her share of the expanding business.

German commerce with the South American countries is reported to be virtually at a standstill. Mexico's policy of official control of foreign trade is condemned by the chamber as responsible for part of the slump in German business in that country, which it says has been taken over largely by the United States.

The effect of the American blacklist on German goods is seen in the neutral countries of South America, where, according to the report, German firms are finding it almost impossible to resume business.

Slayers Of Lippard Given Prison Term

Morganton, Dec. 22.—Cecil Hefner and Lone Young were sentenced to 15 years each and Dock Hefner to seven and a half years at hard labor in the state prison by Judge Shaw this morning. As their trial for the murder of Glenn Lippard was being concluded their attorney, A. A. Whitner, immediately gave notice of appeal to the Supreme court and their bonds were fixed at \$12,000 each for Cecil Hefner and Young and \$8,000 for Dock Hefner. At a late hour tonight bond had not been arranged and the three will probably remain in jail.

At first Judge Shaw gave all the same sentence, but following an impassioned plea by Attorney Whitner to consider the youth of "Little Dock" the term was cut in half for the youngest of the defendants. Dock is only 16.

Fireman is Killed Answering Alarm

Rocky Mount, Dec. 18.—Missing his foothold when he attempted to swing the big fire truck (as it was leaving the engine house in response to an alarm early this morning, Wiley May, well known young man of the city, member of Rocky Mount's volunteer fire department and a lieutenant in the A. E. F. during the war, fell underneath the heavy machine, which passed over him, splintering his right leg and foot, lacerating his left leg from the knee to the thigh and crushing in the lower part of his abdomen, which resulted in his death at a local hospital several hours later.

The injured man was rushed in another fire truck to a local hospital where his condition was regarded as most critical. In response to a call made by the hospital authorities, a number of young men of the city volunteered to give blood to Mr. May, and a short time after the accident a quart of blood was transfused from the veins of J. W. Council into those of the injured man. After the transfusion the physicians were able to dress his wounds, but the injuries were of such extent that all efforts to save his life proved futile.

The accident occurred about 4 o'clock this morning as the department was preparing to answer an alarm turned in as the result of a small blaze at the Rocky Mount auditorium.

Good Advice

Take Chamberlain's Tablets as soon as you have finished your supper and they will produce a gentle movement of the bowels on the following morning. They will also improve your digestion and make you feel better in every way.

LEONARD THOMAS SHOT TO DEATH BY A YOUTH

Tragedy Occurs In Liberty and George Curtis, 16, Is In Ashboro Jail.

Liberty, Dec. 22.—Leonard Thomas, aged 23 years, is dead and George Curtis, aged 16 years, is in Randolph county jail at Ashboro charged with murder, the tragedy occurring in front of the home of W. A. Staley in this town last night about 9:30 o'clock. A revolver was the weapon used by the youthful slayer, the bullet entering the left temple of Thomas and inflicting a wound from which he died this morning about 8:30 o'clock in an automobile just as it reached Julian en route to Greensboro, to which place he was being taken to a hospital.

Relatives of the dead young man state that jealousy was the cause of the shooting. The version of the tragedy which they gave is that the young people were planning to rehearse last night for a Christmas entertainment in the neighborhood and because a young lady had no one to accompany her to the church young Thomas volunteered to escort her to the church and back home after the rehearsal. They state that when the couple arrived at Mr. Staley's home the Curtis youth appeared and informed the young lady that he was going to kill Thomas, who did not take the threat seriously and so informed the young lady. Curtis, it is said, was in love with the young lady, but was not permitted by her family to go with her. Following his threat to kill Thomas, it is stated, Curtis followed him in a threatening attitude, whereupon the young lady remonstrated with him and he frightened her back into the house by flourishing his pistol in her direction. After she had entered the house, it is contended that Curtis pointed his revolver at Thomas' head and fired the shot which proved fatal a few hours afterward.

Shortly after the shooting young Curtis was arrested and taken by officers to Ashboro and lodged in jail. The funeral of young Thomas will be held tomorrow afternoon at 3:30 o'clock from his late home a short distance from the scene of the shooting.

BRYAN, GERARD, REED MEET WITH HARDING

Marion, O., Dec. 17.—With his plan for an association of nations assuming more definite form, President-elect Harding took into his confidence today three conspicuous Democrats, William Jennings Bryan, James W. Gerard, and James A. Reed, and asked their advice and their aid in fashioning a program behind which the nations can unite.

All three came as invited guests of the President-elect, and their consultations with him were surrounded with an air of warm cordiality. Afterward Mr. Bryan, taking the lead in expressing gratification at the day's developments, declared his faith in Mr. Harding as an honest and conscientious public servant whom the whole people would trust.

The former secretary of state also announced that he had found himself in agreement with the President elect on "fundamentals."

Mr. Gerard, a former American ambassador to Germany and during the last campaign actively connected with the Democratic national committee, joined Mr. Bryan in expressing satisfaction at the scope of the association of nations conferences. Senator Reed reserved judgment of the outline of an association laid before him by the President-elect, but declared himself delighted that one so irrefragably opposed to the Versailles covenant and to foreign entanglements generally should have been invited to Mr. Harding's council table.

None of them would discuss in detail the subjects touched on in their talks with the President-elect, but it became known that something more than a scattered collection of suggestions was offered for their scrutiny.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

Now is the time to lay in a supply of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is almost sure to be needed before the winter is over. You will look a good while before you find a better remedy for coughs, colds, croup and whooping cough or one that is more pleasant to take. It meets with favor everywhere. Buy it now and be prepared.

Shelton-Inman

Miss Ella Shelton and Harry Inman both of this township were quietly married Thursday Dec. 24th. G. W. Hiatt justice of the peace officiating. The marriage took place at Mr. Hiatt's home.

JACKSONVILLE MAN IS GIVEN A COAT OF TAR

Objected to Use of the Word "Hun" and Later Was Treated Rough.

Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 19.—John D. Bischoff, a real estate dealer of this city, securely bound and gagged and covered with a coat of tar and feathers, was dumped from an automobile at 8:40 o'clock tonight on one of Jacksonville's busiest downtown street intersections.

Across Bischoff's chest was a sign reading "Herr John Bischoff, a Hun." A curious crowd gathered around Bischoff and he was finally placed in another car, taken to police station and then sent to his home. He refused to make any statement.

Bischoff was the subject of an attack in a Jacksonville afternoon paper on Saturday in connection with a letter which the paper published from Bischoff in which the latter objected to the use of the word Hun in the columns of the paper and threatened to withdraw his advertising matter unless the paper ceased calling the Germans Huns.

The machine which dropped Bischoff at the street intersection is said to have contained four masked men. License numbers on the car were concealed. It slowed down long enough to push the tar and feathered victim, practically nude with the exception of the feathers, into the street and then speeded up again and was lost in the maze of traffic.

There Is A Way To Stop Automobile Killings

Greensboro Record.

The census bureau announced that 3,008 persons were killed as the result of automobile accidents last year, gives what it calls the "usual reason" and probably the correct one—the number of automobiles in use is constantly increasing. The number of accidents is also increasing, and when the two get close together there must be something wrong.

People will continue to be killed by automobiles until drivers are licensed. There is nothing else to it. So many people drive them who are not drivers. They may have very tender hearts and dislike exceedingly to mash people against hard pavements, but unless they know how to keep from mashing them they will keep on mashing them. Good intentions are a poor substitute for skill. Then, there are people who don't seem to care whether they mash people against pavements or not. A refusal to allow them to mash more than one person would stop that sort of brutality.

Automobiles can go fast. They are built to go fast. Often it is necessary that they go fast, but not in the crowds. The driver who thinks that because he has bought a fast vehicle or because he is operating one for somebody who has one, he must go fast, ought to be jerked out of the driver's seat. He is not a safe citizen, and revocation of license is the only way to jerk him out.

It's either license or kill. License means care and without care any automobile is a potential killer. Warnings, regulations, persuasive methods and campaigns against speeders, will do no good until drivers are licensed and unlicensed. That is the only way to tame an automobile driver. "Thou shalt not kill."

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THREE BLIND STUDENTS AT STATE UNIVERSITY

They are Taking Full Academic Course and Make Unusually Good Grades.

Chapel Hill, Dec. 18.—Of more than 1,400 students who will leave early next week for their homes to spend the Christmas holidays, none has more reason to feel satisfied with his or her work for the past term than the three blind sophomores, B. B. Worsham, of Reithend Va. Sam Cathey, of Buncombe county, and W. M. Holloman, of Hertford county. These men entered the university last year and made exceptionally good grades in all branches of their work and their record in their freshman year seems likely to be equalled or even excelled by their sophomore work.

All of the work which those young men do, and they are taking the regular academic work which is required of all students, is worked out in their heads. Even the complex work in mathematics and physics is worked in this manner. The problems in mathematics and the theoretical work of physics are read to them by a fellow student and they seem to grasp the work almost instantly. Not only do they take interest in the scholastic side of college life, but each of the three is greatly interested in all branches of sport. Neither of them has been blind all his life and they are, therefore familiar with baseball, basketball and football. They are always on the sidelines when Carolina meets an enemy on the diamond or the gridiron and each play is explained to them as it is made. They state that they can visualize the game by this method much as a crowd sees a world series game on the bulletin board in front of a newspaper office.

These three young men graduated from the State School for the Blind in 1916 and in the autumn of that year entered this institution.

Cathey and Worsham plan to practice law in Asheville, and both are taking the A. B., LL. B. course. Holloman is taking the straight A. B. course and intends to teach. Every student is betting that they will graduate with the class of '23 and that they will all be near the top of the class in honors.

New Bern People Getting Sore Over Meat Prices

New Bern, Dec. 23.—With dressed pork selling as low as 13 cents a pound and dressed beef being offered with no takers as 11 cents a pound, wholesale, and both being retailed in the butcher shops of New Bern at prices between 30 and 40 cents a pound, a profit of more than 200 per cent, it has been suggested that this city fall in line with a number of others and appoint a "fair price" committee who will issue, daily, a bulletin of prices.

Dance At Commercial Club

A dance was held at the Commercial club rooms Christmas evening lasting until midnight.

Music was furnished by Pegram's orchestra of Winston-Salem. About forty-five young couples enjoyed the dance.

Among the chaperones were Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Prather, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. P. A. George, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Dixon, Mr. and Mrs. John Sabotta, and guests Mr. and Mrs. N. H. Wright, of Winston-Salem, and Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Padison.

URGES AN AGREEMENT TO REDUCE ARMAMENTS

Daniels Thinks America Should Make This Move If It Does Not Join League.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The United States, if it does not enter the league of nations, should initiate a movement looking to an international conference for the reduction of armaments, Secretary Daniels, of the navy, said tonight. If an agreement is not reached by all nations for such a program, the secretary added, "the United States should have a navy second to none."

The question of disarmament also was discussed in the senate today, Senator Johnson, Republican, California, declaring that a disarmament agreement by the nations who constituted the five allied and associated powers in the world war would constitute "the one great step that could be taken toward the promotion of peace and the prevention of all future wars."

Secretary Daniels in his statement tonight declared that his naval estimates recently submitted to Congress called only for minor vessels and expressed approval of the general board's building program only in the event that the United States does not enter the league of nations or become a party to an international agreement to limit armaments.

The naval secretary advocated legislation similar to that in the 1916 naval appropriation bill, which authorized President Wilson to appoint a commission of nine members to represent the United States at an international armament conference.

"If we do not want the league of nations," said Mr. Daniels, "we ought to have a conference purely on the subject of reduction of armaments. Every nation that has joined the league has promised this and all they need now is to get us in. Unless there is some such agreement the United States should have a navy second to none. This is the reason that I have advocated the sinking of the German fleet in midocean as an object lesson to all the world that is unhealthy to build great armaments for purposes of conquest."

ONSLAW FARMERS CATCH A WHALE HIGH AND DRY

The "Sea Rover" Came Out of Onslow Bay Into A Little Creek And Got "Stranded"

Kinston, Dec. 26.—No ancient mariner returning from fabled seas and enchanted isles ever told a stranger tale than this of how Onslow county farmers caught a whale almost as high and dry as the cows in their meadows and colts in their paddocks. An old-timer of the coast related the story here today, not recalling the exact date nor "allowing" it to be of recent occurrence; but there are plenty of pitchfork artists now living who helped to harpoon the helpless whale that went a-calling 'pon Onslow razor-backs. A little bit of a creek makes up from Onslow bay. It has a channel deeper than most of the rivers in this section, thanks to the swiftness of the current which races in and out with high tide and heavy rains. The whale, a "craft" 40 feet long, wandered into the creek when the tide was high. It loitered in a bit of a slough until the tide went out. The water barely covered its back when it occurred to the whale to "take soundings."

The animal discovered that it was purpose of defrauding his customers, itself only "waist deep" in the water, if a whale's waist is definite.

The luckless suckling in its distress splashed about and beat the water with its tail, throwing a few tons out every minute or two until in the course of time its prison was only a mud puddle. The farmers and neighborhood negroes gathered about the side of the creek a few feet away and watched its struggle. It occurred to some enterprising spirit among them to capitalize the calf's misfortune. Piney woods hogs assembled close by and watched the proceedings, appearing to wonder what strange thing it was that had come into their domain. The men had come into the straggling "big fish" and cut up the carcass where it lay. The blubber was carefully preserved. The hogs fared fine with the remains. For one day in its history Onslow was in the whale oil business on a considerable scale. To make the contrast the more pronounced, the discoverer of the imprisoned whale was plowing in a corn field within a hundred yards of where it wrestled with its fate.

Many Automobiles Burn In Big High Point Fire

Fire almost destroyed the garage and storerooms of the High Point Motor Company in High Point at 2 o'clock Saturday morning. The storerooms on the first and second floors contained 98 automobiles, mostly new Dodges. All were burned. There were also quite a number of machines that belonged to private owners. The exact number of cars lost cannot be ascertained. The loss, including the building, will total \$200,000. The building was insured for \$50,000. Mr. Sam L. Davis owned the bulk of the stock and his loss is estimated at \$100,000.

Dog On Long Jail Vigil Waits Master's Release

Walla Walla, Wash., Dec. 24.—In front of the county jail entrance here lies a common-looking black and white "cur." He has been lying there, re-buffing all advances, for days, now—and probably will remain for several weeks to come.

The dog is waiting for his master, Harry Carson, who is a prisoner in the jail.

At times the dog accepts bits of the food which is offered him.

Several times before Carson has served terms in the jail, and always the dog has planted himself in front of the door and stayed there until his master stepped out, a free man.

Carson is a sheepherder, and the dog is his sole companion during these long periods in the distant places.

SOLDIERS BONUS WOULD REQUIRE \$2,300,000,000

This Is Secretary Houston's Estimate Based On The Bill Passed By House.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Approximately \$2,300,000,000 was the estimate submitted today by Secretary Houston of the treasury as the cost of carrying out provision of the soldier bonus bill. The treasury secretary presented his estimate to the senate finance committee without comment other than to urge that no legislation be enacted which would lay an additional burden on the nation's finances.

The estimate was accompanied by figures showing the cost of carrying out any one of the five optional provisions of the bonus bill provided all former service men chose a single plan. The figures for the various plans range from \$1,342,000,000 for the adjusted pay provision to \$4,534,000,000 for the insurance provision. The maximum possible cost of the vocational training aid and the farm and home development plans were placed at \$1,480,000,000 each while the secretary said the fifth provision, a plan for land settlement, held so many uncertainties that it was impossible to estimate the possible expenditure.

Submission of the estimate total cost made an apparent impression upon members of the committee, which is considering the bonus bill as passed by the house at the last session. Members declined to forecast the decision of the committee on the question of reporting out the message, but it was recalled that Senator McCumber, Republican, North Dakota, stated at the opening of hearings on the bills that its passage would depend largely on the state of government finances and that Mr. Houston had testified with normal expenditures the treasury would have a deficit of \$2,100,000,000 for the year ending next June 30 and a deficit of \$1,500,000,000 for the following 12 months.

During Mr. Houston's testimony it became increasingly evident that the present treasury administration does not desire either to advise or recommend with respect to legislation providing for greater governmental expenditures. The secretary made plain to the committee his thought in submitting a list of possible sources of new taxes in his annual report; saying they were for the information of Congress and were in no sense more than suggestions.

Reiterating his opposition to revival of the war finance corporation Mr. Houston declared the present sources of revenue were fast declining and added that he knew not where the money was to come from to meet the bonus payments should the bill be enacted into law. He avoided discussing the additional taxes carried in the bill and designed to meet its needs, referring the committee first to the survey of the taxation problem in his annual report and explaining he was unable even to prescribe ways of raising revenue for the current needs without readjusting and revising present tax laws to produce more money.

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