

The Mount Airy News.

ESTABLISHED 1880

MOUNT AIRY, NORTH CAROLINA THURSDAY MAY 5th, 1921.

\$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

ATLANTIC FLEET IS REVIEWED BY PRESIDENT

First Time Navy Has Had A Chance To Pay Its Respects To The New President

Old Point Comfort, Va., April 28.—The Atlantic fleet, bringing a new record of accomplishment from its southern drilling grounds, passed in ceremonial review before President Harding today as it entered home waters in Hampton Roads.

More than 50 ships of war, led by the flagship Pennsylvania, were in the long column that filed by to pay a commander-in-chief's honors to the president, as he stood with his secretary of the navy and a party of officials on the bridge of his yacht, the Mayflower.

A low cloudy screen hid the sunlight from the pageant, softening the grim lines of decks and turrets, but adding a harmonious hint of near-dusk to the sombre picture, for the fleet was not in a gala dress; it wore the serious gray now used for the first time in peace and war alike, and the decks were cleared almost as for action, a precaution always taken at sea.

It was a few minutes past nine when the Pennsylvania, passing the reviewing ship, opened up the thunder of her presidential salute and before the 21 guns had been spent the next ship in line took up the firing, while the Mayflower's little batteries were speaking in acknowledgement.

On the battleships "man the rail" was the order. The life rails all the way around the ships were living walls of blue. On the quarter deck of each of the battleships the marine guards "stood by" as their boats passed the small presidential yacht. In return the yacht paid the proper honors to the senior officer on each passing ship, firing a salute, however, only to the Pennsylvania.

It was Mr. Harding's first review of any part of the nation's sea power since he assumed office and it was the navy's first opportunity to salute him.

Before the fleet had entered the Virginia Capes, the Mayflower, which came down from Washington last night with President and Mrs. Harding and their party, was at anchor off Thimble Shoals. Nearby was the naval yacht Sylph, on which Secretary Denby and members of the house naval committee came to Hampton Roads, while private yachts, excursion boats and ferries clustered around the reviewing party.

The Pennsylvania did not fly the court-starred flag of Admiral Wilson, chief of the Atlantic fleet. In its place there fluttered from the flagship's main the blue and white flag of Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Roosevelt, who made the cruise from Guantanamo with the fleet and was on the flagship's bridge when she passed the Mayflower.

Following the Pennsylvania came the battleships Oklahoma, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Florida, Delaware, North Dakota, Michigan, South Carolina and Connecticut, the Utah flying the flag of Vice-Admiral H. P. Jones, commanding the battleship force. Close behind the battleships was the tender Blackhawk, leading three divisions of six destroyers each and 13 submarines of the O and K classes. They were followed by a number of mine force vessels and ships of the supply train, headed by the cruiser Columbia, flagship of the train. The greater part of their crews were below decks in the heat of engine and boiler rooms or busy on bridges, and lacking the luxury of a band, they "manned the rail" at attention and let it go at that.

On the submarines a little group of men on the decks almost awash, stood rigidly at attention as the submarines slipped by the reviewing party.

Throughout the review seaplanes from the naval base and army airplanes from Langley Field buzzed and hummed overhead, while three dirigibles droned lazily over the pageant.

This force went south early in January for joint maneuvers with the Pacific fleet in Panama Bay and a cruise to South America. Returning, it spent several weeks at Guantanamo, in what naval officers have described as the most successful winter drilling in the history of the navy.

Particular attention was given the destroyers both by day and night, and extended gun and torpedo target practices. The Atlantic fleet air force cooperated through the maneuvers including the exercises in bomb dropping and gun firing.

Tomorrow the fleet will break ranks, the individual ships scattering to their home yards for overhauling and repairs, while the officers and men go on leave to visit their families.

While no summer program has been announced it is probable that the ships will be mobilized again about July 1 at some place along the northern Atlantic coast for summer drills.

The review occupied a little less than an hour and a half. The last of the long line past, the Mayflower lifted anchor and headed out across the road to put the president aboard the Pennsylvania, where the officers of the fleet had gathered for a reception.

As the yacht passed Fortress Monroe, the army paid its honors to the president in a twenty-one gun salute from a shore battery.

Drunken Auto Driver Must Serve Term

Raleigh, April 21.—Two years on the county roads is not an excessive penalty for driving an automobile while under the influence of whiskey, the Supreme court inferentially said yesterday in passing on an appeal of Charlie Jones, of Greensboro, from a sentence in the Superior court of Guilford after he had carried his case into that court from a fifty-dollar fine at the hands of the recorder's court of Greensboro.

The defense excepted to the punishment meted out as excessive and cruel and this was the only point at issue, on the record. In oral argument, however, counsel maintained before the Supreme court that the legislative intent limited the punishment for the offense to that possible under the jurisdiction of the recorder's court. The Supreme court, unwilling to admit this even had it been properly before the body, held that the legislature had given ample authority to cover the two-year sentence when it put a minimum penalty of not less than fifty dollars fine or thirty days in jail or both, upon the offense. In this case, after Jones had appealed to the Superior court from the minimum fine he entered a plea of guilty.

Eight Counties Are To Build Their Own Roads

Raleigh, April 27.—Eight counties came to the highway commission yesterday with proposals to go ahead and build their part of the state highway system and let the state reimburse them when it was able. The commission accepted the proposals and ordered the roads built as soon as the formalities of advertising for contracts can be complied with.

Guilford, Granville, Pasquotank, Beaufort, Duplin, Pamlico and Columbus counties had delegations here with such proposals, and other counties have delegations in the city waiting their turn with similar proposals. All of the arrangements are made under Section 14 of the road law which enables the counties to build the road under the supervision of the Commission, with reimbursement to the counties at such times as the Commission deems proper.

Hearing the various delegations consumed considerable time, and little else was accomplished at yesterday's session. One delegation was before the Commission from Caldwell county asking that that county be transferred from the eighth to the sixth road district. No definite action was taken, and the matter will go over until a later meeting. This is the first endeavor to shift from one district to another.

Nothing was done yesterday toward the completion of the organization of the working forces of the commission, and the employment of engineers, completion of maintenance plans, etc., will be taken up today or tomorrow, when the last of the delegations have been heard and their petitions acted upon. Several delegations were before the commission in matters of locating roads in their respective communities, but these matters were generally referred to the resident commissioner.

All members of the commission were in attendance yesterday with the exception of Word H. Smith, of the Sixth district, who has given his resignation to Governor Morrison. His successor has not been appointed as yet.

Vast quantities of Canadian wheat are moving from Vancouver to Europe through the Panama Canal.

Idaho farmers report great success in killing rabbits with strychnine. The farmers of one county averaged 1,000 rabbits to every ounce of the poison.

Trench-digging machines used during the war are now being employed to construct a pipe line from Havre to Paris.

The tree on which Daniel Webster hung his scythe after deciding to go to Dartmouth College has been given a place in the Hall of Fame for trees with a history.

FRENCH FORCES TO MOVE WHEN ALLIES SAY SO

Premier Briand Is Now Exchanging Dispatches With Allied Capitals

Paris, April 28.—Applications of further penalties to Germany and the tracing of new boundary lines between Poland and German Upper Silesia will be discussed by the supreme allied council at London Saturday, it was learned here today. The council will limit its deliberations to these subjects, it was said, having decided to take up only questions of urgency.

The determination of the frontier between Poland and German Silesia would be based upon reports from the plebiscite commission, which supervised the voting held in Upper Silesia and recommendations from the council of ambassadors.

The United States, it was understood, will be invited to have a representative at the London meeting. In French official circles it is said that Premier Lloyd George, who will act as presiding member of the council because it is held at the British capital, will convey the invitation.

Premier Briand, of France, will, it is asserted, not undertake the occupation of the Ruhr district of Germany without the approval of the allies. Dispatches are being exchanged between Washington and Berlin, Paris and London and many things may happen before French forces are ordered into Germany proper in default of German payments of reparations.

The next development, regarding the German proposals on the reparations question, is expected to occur in London, as according to the best information obtainable here today, no further steps will be taken in this situation until the allied supreme council, which is to meet in London Saturday, has acted.

American participation in the London deliberations is hoped for in French circles, where it is stated an invitation will be sent to Washington to have a representative of the United States present.

The discussion in the supreme council, it is indicated, will be opened by presentation of the French case with details of Germany's defaults in the treaty of Versailles. Her failure to pay the balance of 12,000,000,000 marks on her 20,000,000,000 marks, debt due May 1, her refusal to disarm her failure to bring to trial officers accused of war crimes, and her resistance to the proposed methods for payment of indemnities, will be set forth as justifying further penalties and the taking of further pledges.

After this the German proposals just transmitted to Washington will be taken up.

France will insist that nothing short of a beginning of the actual fulfillment of Germany's obligations should arrest the pressure of the allies. The first actual beginning, it is suggested, might be the delivery of one billion marks in gold from the Reichbank reserve, as demanded by the reparations commission. This would be considered as tangible evidence of intention to execute the treaty, in default of which the French delegation will resist the consideration of mere promises as justification of new penalties.

ONLY TWO BIDS FOR N. C. ROAD BONDS

Two Million Dollars Offered For Sale, But Only Two Bids Of \$500 Each Were Made

Raleigh, N. C., April 28.—Two million dollars forty-year five per cent North Carolina road bonds, offered by the state treasurer today, brought only two five hundred dollar bids, one being from Henry G. Connor, Jr., of Wilson, one of the authors of the fifty million good roads bill passed by the last general assembly. The other was from Mr. Connor's client, Mrs. Mary MacNair.

Will Run Foot Race For Nomination

Lynchburg, Va., April 22.—Harry St. George Tucker, of Lexington, Va., aged 69, in a statement here today, announced that he is willing to meet State Senator E. Lee Trinkle, of Wytheville, his opponent for the Democratic nomination for governor, in a foot race of 200 yards and let the winner take the nomination.

He first made the challenge in speeches in Mecklenburg county last night, in reply to charges by his opponent, that he is too old for governor.

HOW PROHIBITION WORKS IN AMERICA

British Audience Told Many Governors Declare It Has Been of Great Benefit and It Is Unlikely to Be Changed

London, Eng.—At a meeting convened in the Church-House, Westminster, by the British council on the interchange of preachers and speakers between Great Britain and America, for the purpose of hearing an address by Fred B. Smith, the official delegate from the Federal Council of Churches in America, the Bishop of London, who presided, took the novel course, after warmly welcoming the visitor, of addressing to him the following specific questions:

1. Is there, in Anglo-American relations, any rift within the lute, which slowly widening, may make the music mute? If so, let us know in time.

2. What about the League of Nations? What is going to happen? Are we still to look for moral leadership and help from the United States?

3. What about prohibition? Is it a success, or is it not? Is it true that you can get as much drink as you like in the United States?

4. What about the whole prospect of Christian reunion? Do you advise us to work on the basis of the Lambeth conference appeal?

5. What are we to make of the alarming reports that America has in hand a huge naval program? We thought that Christian nations were going to disarm down to the point of reasonable safety for protective purposes.

Mr. Smith replied seriatim to these questions, excepting the last, to which he did not refer at all. The substance of his answer is as follows:

"1. I do not know of anything occurring in America that is likely to affect adversely our relations with Great Britain. My fear is that the boot may be on the other leg; we are very vulnerable in the United States just now. The trouble is caused by the jingo politicians and certain newspaper men, like Mr. Hearst. At our last census 55,000,000 citizens of the United States claimed British ancestry, and the overwhelming majority of our people profoundly love Great Britain.

"2. If, following the Versailles Peace Conference, we could have dealt with the League of Nations question free from any other issue, the result might have been different; but within a fortnight after the terms of peace were made public there seemed to pass over our country a wave of dissatisfaction with both the Treaty and the Covenant, and the men who were opposed to the League fastened on certain terms of the treaty, and thus caused division. The Monroe Doctrine has been like a second religion with us, and enemies of the Treaty and the Covenant asserted that if the United States joined the League not only would the Monroe Doctrine be dead but Europeans would come to America to tell us how to run our own country.

"Prohibition is linked on to this question in a way that few Britishers understand. We had either to change our form of government or end the influence of the open saloon which was becoming predominant politically. Allied to this is the Negro question—a terrible problem. The party to which Mr. Wilson's chosen candidate, Mr. Cox, belonged, had always been affiliated with the anti-Prohibitionists.

"Mr. Harding wrote me: 'The home and the church are the foundations and bulwarks of our civilization, and the public men of the country and the ministers of the churches should be brought into frequent contact for their mutual enlightenment and for the uniting in their efforts for common good. I should like to have impressed on these ministers that my announced position with reference to our part in the world movement for world peace does not indicate any desire to fail to recognize our duty and responsibility as a Christian nation in brotherhood.'

"Mr. Harding further added: 'Upon one of the issues in which the church has expressed naturally a great interest I should have said to them that I stand by my vote upon the Eighteenth Amendment (the prohibitory amendment), and I would not recall it; that I would oppose the reestablishment of the traffic in intoxicating liquors, and that if elected I would do my part to secure the enforcement of the law with all the power vested in the executive.' When that letter went out over the country, instantly the Prohibition forces said, 'Our hope is with Mr. Harding,' and they voted accordingly.

"3. I wrote to the governor of

every state in the Union asking, 'What has been the effect of the prohibitory amendment in your state? and what do you think would be the result if there were another opportunity, to vote now?' Of the 28 replies so far received 25 say unqualifiedly that the law has been a benefit and that in their judgement it will never be changed. The governor of the state of New Jersey, who during the election declared that if he had the power he would abolish prohibition, now writes me through his secretary that 'the Eighteenth Amendment is a part of the Constitution, and he, as a law-abiding citizen, respects the same as any other part of the constitution.' Anyone who says that the law is not effective and is not going to stay is just a common ordinary fool.

"4. The supreme hour for religious forces has struck, and if they fail now the failure will be more serious than any in the past. No one church is equal to the present urgent demand. Local religious unity is the way to national unity."

The Negro, The Law And The Right

Charlotte Observer.

About a year ago the Observer made editorial suggestion that the Maggie Ross will, in which a white woman in Union county had bequeathed a fine estate to a family of negroes who had proved of faithful service to the white family during the lonesome days which had fallen upon it, and when it had apparently found itself forgotten by neighbor and kin, would afford excellent editorial discussion by the papers of the North that have never been able to understand that the negro can be kindly treated in the South. Of course it was to be assumed by these papers that the will would be contested and broken by white relatives of the family and that they had better withhold comment until it was known if the will would stand. They may now proceed with free discussion of this interesting case, for the will has stood the combined assaults of a battery of the best legal talent in the state including a former governor, and a jury has decided that the estate valued at \$100,000 should be divided among the negro servants exactly in accordance with the bequest of the maker of the will. It was a notable case, and the general public might have been justified in a preconceived opinion that the will would be broken and the negroes would be cheated out of their rights by process in the court, but the jury, composed of white men, found in favor of the beneficiaries named by the white woman on every issue which had been submitted to it for decision. This in spite of the existence of much feeling and prejudice in the community. The verdict of the jury in the case affords ample demonstration of the fact that in North Carolina it is possible to establish justice even for a negro in a will. It was a legal battle lasting thru fifteen days, and every point was hotly defended in behalf of the negroes. The outcome was that the will is to stand in every detail as written by Maggie Ross. The court respected the wishes of the dead woman, even though the beneficiaries were negroes.

In a very clearly and intelligently presented story of the trial the Monroe Journal tells how the bulk of the estate, real and personal, goes to Mittie Bell Houston, Robert B. Ross, her father, and Florence Tucker Houston, her daughter, while the old Ross home-place, of 800 acres falls to the possession of Bob Ross and Mittie Bell Houston jointly. All of these are negroes. The will was made in 1917 and immediately it was filed it was contested by relatives, the number of which finally grew to 109. Maggie Ross, the survivor of the family, was unmarried, and there were no surviving brothers or sisters or children of the same, and no first cousins, so, all of the 109 were second of third cousins. The lawyers attacked the sanity of the maker of the will and it was designated as an "unnatural will," but it was established to the satisfaction of the jury that the deviser wanted the family of negroes rewarded for faithful and loyal service when she had been otherwise left alone in life, and the jury decided that her wishes, natural or unnatural, should be carried out as she had requested. Perhaps no temptation had ever been placed before the jury to break a will, but it made bold to establish justice for negroes and write a triumph for the law.

Chamberlain's Tablets Are Mild and Gentle in Effect

The laxative effect of Chamberlain's Tablets is so mild and gentle that you can hardly realize that it has been produced by a medicine.

FOES STILL PLAN ALLIES' DISRUPTION

Sir Auckland Geddes Declares "Whisperers" Know They Can Hope For Nothing If Victors in the War Hold Together

New York, N. Y.—The men who had the ambition to hold military power over the world still live and are trying to sow seeds of dissension among the Allies, but "the whisperers" will not do much harm, declared Sir Auckland Geddes, the British Ambassador to the United States, before the St. George's Society of New York on Saturday night.

"They know that they can hope for nothing if the countries over which we were victorious are internally solid, prosperous and happy, if the countries which won the war hold together in friendship and understanding," said Sir Auckland.

"They hope to drive wedges between the nations that were associated together, so that hostility may take the place of friendliness. They drop seeds of suspicion in every ear. In each of the allied countries whisperers are always at work. Don't you understand that these desperate, defeated men, with nothing to lose and everything to gain, are trying to create internal differences and international troubles in every one of the countries that, joined together, won the war?"

"The great truths for which the allied and associated powers fought are to be insisted upon and kept prominently in men's minds. These countries fought together against word dominance, for freedom and for the things that matter. Even if differences should arise between the allied and associated nations about other matters, what would they amount to? As a matter of fact, I know of no question between them which seems impossible of easy solution by half a dozen sensible men around a table.

"The attempt to create internal disorders is part of the game of these broken men to muddy the stream so that they may go a-fishing. They seek positions so that they may plot against the freedom of the world. It is vital that all interested in seeing that freedom is maintained among the nations should stand together and should realize that baseless suspicions are intended to make us feel less friendly toward each other. If we remember this and what the big things are, I don't believe the whisperers will do much harm."

State Apple Crop Not A Total Loss

While most varieties of apples had a large percentage of buds and fruit killed by the recent low temperatures, there is still enough live fruit many North Carolina orchards to produce a profitable crop, according to C. D. Matthews, state horticulturist.

"The results of the March and April freezes have been variously reported ranging from 15 per cent injury to total destruction. Many apple orchards in North Carolina, reporting only partial injury, will produce a profitable crop if there is no further injury and if the trees receive proper care.

"It requires only about 15 to 20 per cent of the normal bloom of an apple tree to produce a full crop. Every orchard should be carefully examined to determine the exact condition of the crop. Without this information the orchardist may lose money thru failure to spray where there is sufficient fruit to warrant it, or waste funds by spraying when the crop has been totally destroyed. If 10 per cent of the fruit is alive, the remainder of the spraying schedule should be given. Where the crop is totally destroyed the spray for foliage protection should be applied to put the trees in the best of condition for the development of the next crop.

"The fact that the apple crop has been reduced in many sections increases the probability that prices will be sufficiently high to justify the adoption of all available means of protecting that portion of the crop which still remains.

Lumbago.

This a rheumatism of the muscles of the back. It comes on suddenly and is quite painful. Every movement aggravates the disease. Go to bed, keep quiet and have Chamberlain's Liniment applied and a quick recovery may be expected. Mrs. J. F. Dann, Brockport, N. Y., writes: "I can honestly say that Chamberlain's Liniment cured me of lumbago a year ago last summer. When I began using it, I was flat on my back in bed and could not turn to the left or right. I had a bottle of Chamberlain's Liniment in the house and this was applied to my back. It promptly drove away the pains and aches."