

WOOTEN IS WITHIN FOUR OF MAJORITY ADMITTED BY BOWIE

Lenoir Man Will Be Choice On First Ballot for the Speakership

THE BEST BET IN RALEIGH

Matt. Allen to Nominate Kinstonian in Caucus Tonight—Gardner Certain to be Selected for Senate President Pro Tem.

(By W. J. Martin)

Raleigh, Jan. 5.—Every indication points that Emmet R. Wooten of Lenoir will be the choice of the Democratic House caucus tonight for Speaker.

Supporters of Sewall of Lee and L. H. Allred of Johnston in the event no one is nominated on the first ballot will decide the Speakership by their alignment after the first ballot.

Wooten on the first ballot is the most general prediction. He will be nominated by Representative M. H. Allen of Wayne, a son of Judge Oliver Allen of Kinston.

The Senate is sure to select Max Gardner of Cleveland for president pro tem.

THE NEXT SPEAKER WAS CERTAINLY THERE

All Four Candidates for House Leadership Were in Hotel Lobby Together Monday Night, Each Seeming Very Confident.

"The next Speaker of the 1915 House of Representatives of North Carolina was seen in the lobby of the Yarrowburgh Hotel last night, but what his name is, is left to the conjecture of the readers of this paper," this morning's Raleigh News and Observer stated.

Emmett R. Wooten of Kinston; L. H. Allred of Johnston county, T. C. Bowie of Ashe county, and A. F. Sewall of Lee county, the four candidates for the speakership, "were present in the flesh, all active, smiling and debonair."

Rumors were heard Monday night of combinations that might be made whereby the strength of one candidate might be thrown to that of another, but the Raleigh paper believed it was safe to assert that all four men would go into the caucus at 8 o'clock tonight and be voted on at the first ballot.

A number of prominent Kinstonians are with the Lenoir county representative in Raleigh today, all of them working as hard as a man who can't get "on the inside" may. Mr. Wooten's friends left at home are confident, of course, that he will be chosen on the first ballot by the House caucus tonight.

RICH SOUTH CAROLINIAN SUICIDES BEFORE FAMILY

Anderson, S. C., Jan. 4.—In the presence of his wife and in spite of the efforts of his grown son to prevent the act, U. E. Seybt, prominent and wealthy citizen of this city, committed suicide this afternoon at his home in the suburbs of Anderson. He had been discussing with his son the advisability of the latter returning to college on account of financial depression and worry over this and other business affairs is assigned as the cause of his act.

BIGGEST RAILROAD FERRY RUNS TODAY

San Francisco, Jan. 5.—The southern Pacific's new train ferry, Contra Costa, the largest railway ferry in the world, is now in operation on the Carquinez straits between Port Costa and Benicia, California. The Contra Costa's length over guards is 433 feet, the width over guards 116 feet. Four tracks with twelve foot centers, will accommodate two locomotives and either 36 freight cars or 24 passenger cars.

CHICAGO POLICE IN TWO PISTOL BATTLES

Officer and Burglar Killed and Another Crook Fatally Wounded in Exchange of Shots—Attempts of the Gunmen Foiled

(By United Press) Chicago, Jan. 5.—A policeman and a burglar were killed and one holdup man fatally wounded in two revolver duels here last night. Two gangs of gunmen and policemen who surprised the gunmen in the act of robbery engaged in the fights.

SLAYER OF BURNER FAMILY WAS WILLIAM NICHOLS, WHO SUICIDED

Luray, Jan. 4.—A coroner's jury, investigating the murder of Mrs. Charles E. Burner and her three little children in their mountain home, five miles from here, some time on Saturday night, today returned a verdict that they came to their death at the hands of William Nichols. The body of Nichols was found this morning in the home of Westley Price, where he had blown his head off with a shotgun.

Nichols, it is said, had been paying unwelcome attention to Mrs. Burner, and jealously over the return of the husband, recently released from the State convict farm, is assigned as the cause.

KARLSRUHE HEARD FROM OFF CANARIES

(By the United Press) London, Jan. 5.—Advices from Las Palmas, in the Canary Islands, say the German cruiser Karlsruhe has sunk four British and French merchant vessels. The crews were brought to port by a German convoy steamer.

ENGLISH SHIPS BOMBARD GERMAN AFRICAN TOWN

Nairobi, British East Africa, via London, Jan. 4.—The British battleship Goliath and light cruiser Fox have carried out successful operations against Dar-Es-Salaam, capital of German East Africa. The warships bombarded the town, inflicting considerable damage. All German vessels in the harbor were disabled. Fourteen European and twenty natives were taken prisoner.

The British loss was one killed and twelve wounded.

Dar-Es-Salaam, the best built town on the coast of German East Africa, is a military station with an excellent harbor, forty miles south of Zanzibar. It is the terminus of an important caravan route, the residence of a governor and has large commercial interests. The white population in 1909 was estimated at 1,000; the total population at more than 20,000.

STATE AID ENCOURAGES GREATER IMMIGRATION

St. Paul, Jan. 5.—That 350 families have moved to Northern Minnesota during the last two months, which months are admittedly poor for immigration, was the statement of Fred D. Sherman, covering a period ending today. There were 1,000,000 acres of undeveloped land in Minnesota last fall. Much of this is tamarac swamp, which is being drained through state aid.

FLOUR HIGHER THAN IN SIXTEEN YEARS

(By the United Press) Minneapolis, Jan. 5.—Flour sold at the highest price in sixteen years today when it was quoted at \$3.60 per barrel.

"AND SO AT LAST THEY WERE HAPPILY MARRIED"

Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 4.—A romance started when both were school children, culminated today when Dr. Albert Besessen of Albert Lea, Minn., married Miss Beatrice Gertsen, nationally known opera singer. Miss Gertsen had just returned from a tour of Europe and was booked for Minneapolis. The doctor attended the recital. After the recital, he met the singer at a reception. School day romance was renewed.

MID-WEEK PRAYER MEETING

The regular mid-week prayer meeting service will be held in the First Baptist church Wednesday night at 7:30.

EXTRA SESSION MAY FOLLOW IF WILSON'S MARINE BILL FAILS

President intimates he may call Congress back into session if ship purchase falls through—Important Decisions

(By the United Press)

Washington, Jan. 5.—The President today intimated that he might call a special session of Congress if the ship purchase bill fails.

Bartholt Says Canada Violates Our Neutrality.

The Supreme Court today sustained the Ohio workmen's compensation and Maryland automobile license laws. Representative Bartholt, in the House, charged that Canada is violating American neutrality by sending soldiers across Maine.

OFFICE OF SUPERVISOR OF ROADS ABOLISHED

Work Formerly Looked After by That Official Will Now Be Cared for by Superintendent of Construction Bryant Taylor.

The Board of County Commissioners abolished the office of "supervisor of roads." This official was in charge of the upkeep of bridges and highways and worked separately from the construction overseer. The combining of the two departments will give Bryant Taylor, superintendent of construction, supervision of all the work. N. B. Wooten, the former upkeep supervisor, will be retained as a utility man, principally to keep up the bridges in the county.

The commissioners officially recommended the sending of Dr. John A. Palko to Raleigh as a representative of the Confederate veterans in the coming to appear before the Legislature in behalf of increased pensions. The idea, it is said at the office of the commissioners, is to have pensions issued to all veterans, whether they make affidavit that they are in need of the allowance or not. At present public prevents many a deserving old fellow from going before the pension board to request the State's aid. The decrease in the number of pensioners will be large in the next few years, and the State can afford to do a little better by the remaining survivors, it is contended.

SEVENTY PICTURE BRIDES FROM JAPAN

San Francisco, Cal., Jan. 4.—Seventy picture brides from Japan arrived here today to meet husbands they have never seen. Fifty more had arrived within the week.

In the eyes of the Japanese law the brides have been married. There has been an exchange of photographs, an approval by the heads of the two contracting families, and a formal declaration of intention. The brides come tagged and numbered, are correctly awarded to the right husbands, and then usually are taken in hand by the Japanese Association, which escorts them to the marriage license bureau, after which a religious service is held.

THREE HURT IN WRECK OF FAMOUS TRAIN

Dallas, Tex., Jan. 5.—Three trainmen were injured in a wreck of the Katy Limited, en route to Denison today. The engine and baggage car turned over, but all the coaches and Pullmans hit the rails. There were no casualties.

WOMAN FATALLY HURT BY FALL FROM MOVING TRAIN

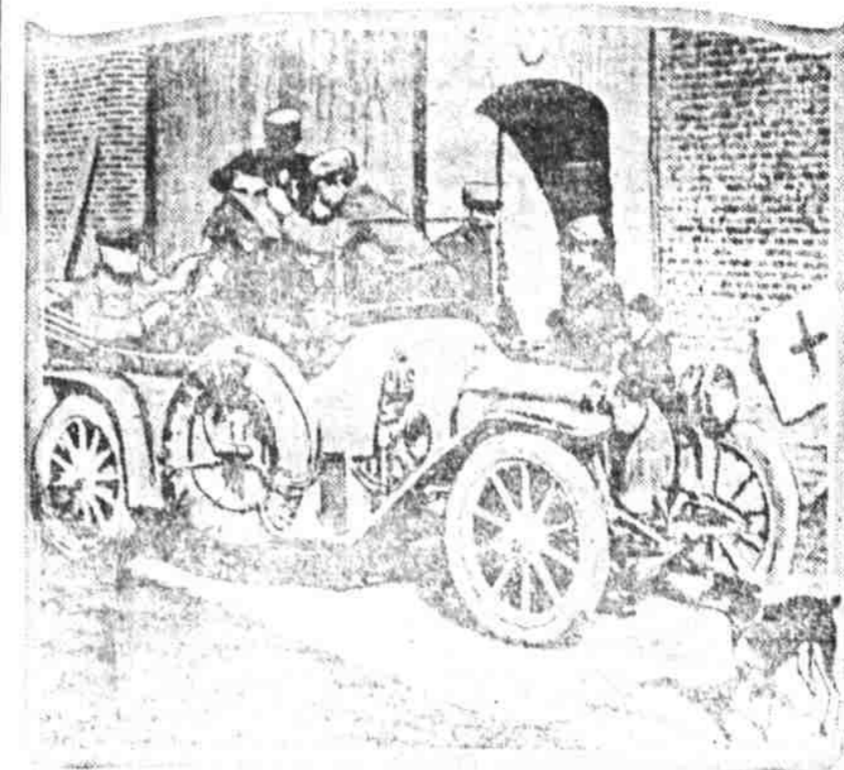
Rocky Mount, Jan. 4.—Mrs. N. Loperno, mother of Giuseppe Loperno, said to be a wealthy sponge exporter of Tampa, Fla., either leaped or fell from an Atlantic Coast Line train near Pembroke yesterday and sustained injuries from which it is believed she will die. She was taken to a hospital at Florence, S. C.

According to railroad officials, who brought the news of the accident here, Mrs. Loperno, with her two daughters, was traveling from Washington, D. C., to Tampa, Fla. When near Pembroke, Mrs. Loperno suddenly arose from her seat, rushed to the platform and either leaped from the train or fell headlong to the ground.

FOUR PULLMANS DERAILED BUT NOBODY WAS HURT

(By the United Press) Warwick, Ohio, Jan. 15.—Four Pullmans of a Baltimore and Ohio New York-Chicago Express today left the track here. There were no casualties.

CROSSING THE LINES BLINDFOLDED



A group of men sitting in a motor vehicle on the battle front in western Europe, and then crossing the lines of the enemy for no other reason, but to get the motor vehicle shown in this photograph of a German officer crossing the French front.

SCOTT FAILS IN HIS MISSION TO CHIEFS OF RIVAL FACTIONS

Could Not Secure Neutralization of Border—Seaman Killed in Boxing Match—No Developments Regarding U. S. Protest

(By the United Press)

Washington, Jan. 5.—General Scott, chief of staff of the army, today wired that the garrison is in no immediate danger of an attack at Naco by the reinforced Villa army. General Scott's negotiations to induce the Mexican factions to neutralize the strips along the border have failed.

Edward C. Ott, ordinary seaman on the battleship Florida, was killed Sunday night in a friendly boxing bout aboard the vessel. Ott's home was at Indianapolis.

No Solution of Mexican Problem in Sight. The second day's session of the peace convention in Mexico, sitting for the election of a provisional president brought the delegates no nearer to a solution of the problem, but fighting appears to have been temporarily suspended.

President Wilson today pointed out that there have been no developments in the British shipping protest matter. This government is still awaiting the reply. According to the President, there is no present intention of this government to send a special peace envoy to the Pope of Rome.

STOCK LAW MUDDLE WILL KEEP DUPLIN MEMBERS BUSY THIS SESSION

R. D. John and R. L. Carr, Senator and Representative, respectively, to the Legislature from Duplin county, reached Raleigh last night with a larger responsibility bearing upon their shoulders than is carried by any other members of the General Assembly, possibly.

The trouble is all "back home," and about the stock law. There is a piecemeal in Duplin opposed to the fence law, and the matter was an issue in the last county campaign. It is up to Johnson and Carr now to get the Legislature to permit an election in the county to decide if Duplin shall retain or throw aside the law. It is thought the elements favoring and opposing fences are about equal in means and numerically, and the matter, if it comes to the polls will certainly be hotly contested, and the result in doubt until the final count.

BUNDY'S BABY IS A CHAMPION, TOO

Santa Monica, Cal., Jan. 5.—Mrs. May Sutton Bundy, said by experts to be the best woman tennis player in the world, and Tom Bundy, her husband, who represented America in a Davis cup tennis competition, are glorying today in the highest honors their famous family have ever won. Their two year-old son, Nathan, is the champion baby of his class in the Santa Monica bay region. He won his title in hard competition at the recent Santa Monica baby show.

CITY COUNCIL LOOKS INTO PLAN FOR CITY MANAGER

Committee Appointed Monday Night to Ascertain Legal Status and Report—Grade Crossing Gates to Be Insisted Upon.

City Council Monday night discussed the "city manager plan," which is being employed in a number of small cities and in one or two places of considerable size in the country. The mayor, city attorney and an aldermanic committee of three were selected to consider the legality of putting the plan into operation here. It may or may not require an amendment to the charter. This action, of course, does not necessarily mean that the city will adopt the plan, although it is known that a considerable sentiment for it exists. Several North Carolina towns of population similar to Kinston's are employing municipal managers, and successfully.

The aldermen granted an extension of ninety days' time to property-owners who have not complied with the law requiring all residences located adjacent to sewer line to be connected up by January 1. The plumbing establishments have been overworked and could not complete all the connections in the time provided, the Council was told.

Other matters which came before Council were: An application to extend McDaniel street, which was referred to Street Commissioner Webb; withdrawal of application to erect an abattoir in Northeast Kinston by P. A. Hooker and the ordering of an investigation of the failure of the railroads to install safety gates at street crossings in compliance with a recently-passed ordinance.

DERRICK TURNS OVER; THREE BELIEVED DEAD.

Morganton, Jan. 4.—Members of a wrecking crew sent from Asheville to clear up a freight wreck here on the Southern Railway were buried beneath their derrick, which, early this morning in trying to hoist an oil tank car from the bottom of a 50-foot embankment was overturned by its base and three are believed to have been killed. The body of Ernest Lewis was recovered about noon today, while Signalman Bailey and an unknown negro are reported to be still under the wreck.

\$60,000 FIRE IN CHARLOTTE MONDAY.

Charlotte, Jan. 4.—Fire which originated in the dry cleaning establishment of Ben Vonde tonight at 7:30 o'clock, destroyed the Ben Vonde buildings and another adjoining, occupied by Overcash and Brothers, contractors, and Tomlinson Decorating Company and Messner and Drane chemists. The loss is estimated at \$60,000.

CALL FOR NATIONAL BANK STATEMENTS

(By the United Press) Washington, Jan. 5.—The Comptroller of the Currency today issued a call for statements by national banks of their condition at the close of business on December 31.

LITTLE BOY ACCIDENTALLY KILLS COMRADE ON HUNT

Louisburg, Jan. 4.—David McKinnie, the sixteen-year-old son of F. B. McKinnie, cashier of the First National Bank, was accidentally shot and instantly killed this afternoon at 1:30 o'clock by Henry Ruffin, son of the president of the same bank.

The accident occurred while the two boys were out hunting about one mile from Louisburg.

WYOMING MAY CHANGE CAPITAL TO CASPAR

Cheyenne, Wyo., Jan. 5.—A determined effort to bring about the removal of the capital of Wyoming from Cheyenne to Caspar is to be inaugurated during the coming session of the legislature by Representatives Stephen Tobin and Robert Grieve. They plan to introduce a resolution submitting a capital removal constitutional amendment to the voters at the 1916 elections. To become effective the bill must receive a vote of two thirds of each house of the legislature and the amendment must receive a majority of all votes cast at the general election.

The advocates of the change contend that Cheyenne is not centrally located and is not as accessible to all sections of the state as is Caspar.

TRENCHES HELD AND LOST MANY TIMES BY BOTH SIDES IN WEST

Fighting of Fiercest Kind Over Possession Steinbach Continues

ALLIES ARE REINFORCED

Battle Around the Position Said to Have "Only Begun"—German Armored Steamers on Vistula—German Airmen Active

(By the United Press)

Paris, Jan. 5.—With the weather improving the Germans are concentrating for a new offensive east and southeast of Ypres and LaBasse. Continuous fighting is going on in upper Alsace. In the vicinity of Steinbach positions have been taken and re-taken as many as six times. The French have the advantage at Steinbach. They have been furnished reinforcements and the indications are that the fighting there has only begun. On the heights of the Meuse the artillery duels are without interruption.

German Naval Activities on Vistula.

Petrograd, Jan. 5.—Naval battles on the Vistula are now certain. German armored steamers are being utilized on the river at Viscegrad to try to force a crossing for troops. A force of Germans has been trapped in woods south of Plock. They retreated, leaving many prisoners and machine guns. In an all-day fight at Ardagon yesterday Turkish positions were carried at the point of the bayonet.

Success of Daring Aviator.

Berlin, Jan. 5.—A German aviator dropped bombs on the British ammunition bases at Coudekerque and Rosendael, suburbs of Dunkirk. He destroyed a large quantity of ammunition. Both places were set on fire, and at Coudekerque partly destroying the village and killing and wounding about a hundred.

Germans Fire French Hospital.

Paris, Jan. 5.—The Germans have been pressed back at several points. They lost heavily in counter attacks which were repulsed. The light from burning houses at Carnay illuminated the surrounding territory last night. The Germans failed in all attacks to retake Carnay, a temporary hospital in South Carnay was bombarded and set fire to by the Germans. Most of the patients were removed before the fire gained much headway.

"On to the Rhine."

Gains have been made at Nieuport and east of St. Georges of from 200 to 500 yards. Belgian artillery silenced German guns in the vicinity. German sappers attempted to mine French positions, but were prevented by the shelling of the German positions by short range heavy mortars, which literally blew the trenches to pieces. The French are gaining in Alsace. The slogan, "On to the Rhine," is being generally voiced in Paris.

The Situation as Berlin Regards It.

Berlin, Jan. 5.—A 200-meter trench has been captured from the Allies north of Arras. Several French assaults at other points have been repulsed and many prisoners taken. Frequent bayonet charges continue in the Alsace region. Positions in northern Poland are unchanged, and there is little fighting. The Germans are continuing their attacks east of Buzna and northeast of Boli-mow, but because of the weather conditions are making very slow progress.

MANY ASK U. S. TO STOP EXPORTATION OF ARMS.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.—Hearings on pending resolutions to restrict the export of arms and munitions to European belligerents began today before the House Foreign Affairs committee.

Delegations from New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, and Baltimore, representing German-American and Irish-American organizations, appeared before the committee. All urged immediate action on Representative Bartholdt's resolution to empower the President to stop exportation of war supplies.