

TURKS OVERRUNNING PERSIA, CHRISTIANS VICTIMS OF HATRED

Massacre All Opposed to Their Religion, Petrograd Hears

FOUR OF 2,700 ESCAPE

Governor's Guard Decimated—News From Western War Zone Indicates Slight German Gains—Austrians Defeat Russians

(By the United Press)
Petrograd, Jan. 14.—Couda Ed Dowish, former governor of the province of Azarbaijan, in Northern Persia, arrived at Tiflis from Tabriz today with a story of massacres by the Turks, now overwhelming Persia. He says that with 2,700 troops, he defended a road, enabling refugees to escape to Maraga. After ten hours of fighting the Turks brought machine guns up and completely annihilated the guards. He and three survivors fled to Tabriz and later to Tiflis. He said the Turks have massacred the Christian population of Maidah.

Austrians Claim Victory.
Vienna, Jan. 14.—The Austrian war office claims a decisive victory on the lower Nida river. Russian attempts to cross the Nida were abandoned following the inflicting of very heavy losses upon them. In Galicia and the Carpathians there is only minor fighting.

German Victory on Vregny Plateau.
Berlin, Jan. 14.—Westend is completely destroyed as the result of the combined fire of the artillery of the Allies' land forces and warships northeast of Soissons. A German attack on the plateau of Vregny resulted in a complete German victory. More than 1,100 French machine guns, cannon and searchlights were captured.

French Retire Across Aisne.
Paris, Jan. 14.—It is admitted that French troops formerly holding positions north of the Aisne have been compelled to retire south of the river. The fighting around Soissons continues with the Germans throwing heavy forces into action in an effort to regain lost ground. The artillery exchanges are extremely violent, especially in the Neuport and Mpres regions.

Vigorous Shelling of Rheims.
Berlin, Jan. 14.—The German bombardment of Rheims is being pushed with vigor. A hundred shells fell within the French lines about the town, doing considerable damage. Fighting is in progress east of the city, and also in the neighborhood of Soissons, where several French attacks were repulsed. The Germans have advanced their lines east of Soissons and repelled French attacks in the Argonne and Woivre districts.

Germans Reinforced in West.
Paris, Jan. 14.—The Germans have been reinforced at Soissons and at Rheims. Severe infantry fighting is going on between Rheims and Perthes. The Germans are concentrating north of the rivers Aisne and Oise in an effort to hack a way to the sea.

BULLETINS

(By the United Press)

GERMAN SUPPLY DEPOT WRECKED.

Paris, Jan. 14.—The Belgians today dynamited the munitions depot in the region of Stuyven Kenskaka, killing many Germans and destroying a large quantity of ammunition.

JAP. AND AMERICAN SHIPS HELD IN PORT

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 13.—The Japanese steamer Mexico, of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha line, and the American steamship Governor, of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company, have been detained here by customs officials because part of the cargoes they have taken on board are alleged to be contraband under the regulations promulgated from Ottawa.

COLE BLEASE QUILTS AND STATE IS LEFT WITHOUT GOVERNOR

South Carolina's Eccentric Chief Executive Had Five Days of Term Left—Declares He Is Proud of His "Record of Mercy."

(By the United Press.)
Columbia, S. C., Jan. 14.—Governor Cole S. Blease resigned today at noon, five days before his term expires. The Governor discussed his record as a pardoning chief executive a short time before he surprised Columbia by resigning, and declared he was proud of his "record of mercy."
Bleas's administration was marked particularly by the pardoning and paroling of more than 3,000 convicts. Governor Bleas's most recent radical act of the many he has made himself famous for was the disbandment of the South Carolina National Guard. The disbandment, however, has been accomplished only on paper, and the incoming governor is expected to order the reinstatement of the troops under the same statutes as have governed it until Bleas's action.

BIG FLEET WON'T MEET AT HAMPTON ROADS.

Washington, Jan. 13.—The proposed international naval rendezvous at Hampton Roads has been abandoned, according to plans announced today by Secretary Daniels for the cruise of the Atlantic fleet and visiting war craft to San Francisco, in celebration of the Panama Canal opening. Instead, the program provides that the ship shall proceed directly to Cristobal, at the eastern entrance to the canal, to be passed through at stated intervals.

DOCTORS FAVOR ENTIRE BANISHMENT OF LIQUOR

Majority No Longer Prescribe It, Says Dr. J. M. Parrott, Who Has Just Returned from Anti-Saloon Meeting in Raleigh

Dr. J. M. Parrott, who addressed the meeting of the North Carolina Anti-Saloon League in Raleigh, Wednesday, says the attendance was most gratifying and the interest manifested in the furtherance of the prohibition cause in the State very pronounced. Dr. Parrott thinks that a bill will unquestionably be introduced in the present Legislature looking to the abolishment of the use of liquor in the State even for medicinal purposes. In one draft of a proposed bill, being considered by the legislative committee of the league, a plan to establish medical depositories in the State for storage of liquor and filling liquor prescriptions is provided, but, Dr. Parrott says there is a very decided opinion on the part of many gathered in Raleigh that the bill should be a straightforward, clean-sweeping one, very short and to the point, prohibiting the sale of liquor entirely. When asked about the attitude of the doctors of the State toward such a bill, Dr. Parrott expressed the opinion that the great majority would favor the complete prohibition for, said he, the doctors of the State have already stopped prescribing whiskey on account of the influence of the State Medical Society's action last year, when it went on record as opposed to the use of alcohol, and regardless of what legislation was enacted the doctors had already decided the question unfavorably to liquor. Dr. Parrott expressed the opinion that the Anti-Saloon League would have little difficulty in having passed such legislation as it recommended to the General Assembly.

DR. PARROTT BEFORE THE ANTI-SALOON MEETING

Raleigh, Jan. 13.—The North Carolina Anti-Saloon League opened its biennial convention this afternoon and tonight heard Superintendent Davis and John A. Oates. Dr. James M. Parrott, former president of the North Carolina Medical Society, had a place on the program to show how little whisky is worth to the doctor in his practice of medicine, the last convention of the physicians having tabooed alcohol in ringing resolutions calling upon the General Assembly to stop its sale altogether on prescription.

THE "OPPORTUNITY" IN KINSTON WILL BE TOLD TO THE WORLD

A Special "Opportunity Edition" Is to Be Gotten Out by The Free Press—Mr. Guy Bell In Charge of the Work

Tell the world about it. The great big, outside world. That is the important matter. These are important days—many people are looking toward the South, many are coming this way for homes, and still others could be influenced to come. Kinston is the center of a magnificent section. There is none better. The county and the surrounding counties are fertile, the land is easy to develop, the climate is pleasing. The great big world does not know this section as it should know it.

The Free Press believes in Kinston and in Lenoir county. Great things have already been brought to pass here. Greater things are in store in the future. Kinston men are magnificent men. They have made their mark. They are doing things. They will do some more things. The Free Press proposes to issue a special edition. The purpose of that edition will be to tell the story of Kinston and Lenoir county and tell it truthfully. The purpose of that edition will be to scatter the story abroad. It is proposed to put a copy of that edition into every home of Lenoir county. To put a great many copies into homes in surrounding counties. It is further proposed to put a copy into many other homes, in and out of this State. The Free Press will spare no effort to make this edition worthy of the patronage of the Kinston people. Kinston business men will be asked to aid in the work by taking advertising space in the edition. Mr. C. Guy Bell, recognized as an advertising expert—the same man who engineered the magnificent Interurban Edition of the Charlotte Observer, several years ago, the edition that was unanimously declared to be one of the best ever issued in the entire South will be in charge of the special work on The Free Press. Mr. Bell will have expert assistance, particularly in the descriptive part of the work. Full information of the special edition can be secured at the office, or if you prefer, telephone and Mr. Bell will call to see you.

SOUTHERN'S PROTEST MAKING OF NAVAL STORES WAR CONTRABAND

Washington, D. C., Jan. 13.—Representative Godwin is circulating among the North Carolina members of the House, for their signatures, a letter protesting against the order of Great Britain making naval stores contraband of war. A similar letter has been signed by all the Senators from Southern States, including the North Carolina Senators, addressed to the Secretary of State. This letter was presented at the State Department today by Senator Hardwick of Georgia.

EDITORS DISCUSS NEWSPAPER LAWS

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 14.—"Newspaper law" was the subject of an address delivered today before the State Newspaper Institute by John H. Perry, of Seattle, an acknowledged authority on the subject. Besides the publishers and editors of newspapers of Oregon, Montana and Washington and the 150 students of journalism of the University of Washington were in attendance. Perry's address covered the general range of newspaper jurisprudence, paying particular attention to the "right of privacy." He also went carefully into the question of the attitude of the courts toward the press. The State newspaper institute will be in session three days.

WILL ASK WILSON TO COME TO GREENSBORO

Washington, Jan. 13.—Representative Stedman has made an engagement with President Wilson to meet a delegation from Greensboro January 28 to invite the chief executive to deliver an address on July 4 at the Guilford battleground celebration.

MARKED ADVANCE IN RURAL HIGH SCHOOL WORK SHOWN IN 1914

State Inspector of Public High Schools Reports Much Money for New Buildings and Upkeep Expenses During Past Year

(Special to Free Press)
Chapel Hill, Jan. 14.—The report of Prof. N. W. Walker, State inspector of public high schools, shows a steady growth in the rural public high school system of North Carolina during the year 1914. The expenditure of money for new buildings and for the remodeling and upkeep of old buildings is one of the significant earmarks of the continued educational advancement of the State. One hundred and ninety-eight schools in the State appraise their buildings (not including dormitories and apparatus) at the valuation of \$1,085,364; 29 of these reported dormitories owned by the school, costing \$113,900.

Twenty-five rural high schools in the State made provision for the erection of new buildings during 1914, representing a financial outlay of \$265,000. Twelve schools expended money for the remodeling, renovating, enlarging or otherwise improving their buildings. The sum thus disbursed amounted to \$81,000. The total investment for buildings and equipment for the past eighteen months amounted to \$346,000.

The following are the twenty-five schools that have provided for out-and-out new buildings: Sylvan, Alamance county; South Mills, Camden; Startown, Catawba; Waco, Cleveland; Chadbourne, Columbus; Vanceboro, Craven; Poplar Branch, Currituck; Churchland, Davidson; Bunn, Franklin; Gatesville, Gates; Lillington, Harnett; Antioch, Hoke; Kenly, Johnston; Iotla, Macon; Marion, McDowell; Troy, Montgomery; Red Oak, Nash; Alliance and Oriental, Pamlico; Lumber Bridge and Philadelphus, Robeson; Madison, Rockingham; China Grove, Rowan; Townsville, Vance; Cary, Wake.

The schools that have voted bonds for buildings, yet unerecited, are: Aulander, Bertie county; Andrews, Cherokee county; Edenton, Chowan county; Manteo, Dare county; Pineville, Mecklenburg county. The Edenton and Pineville schools are designated as farm life schools.

The so-called city and town high school system makes provision for new buildings in the following towns and cities: Aberdeen, Bessemer City, Goldsboro, Henderson, Kinston, North Wilkesboro, Red Springs, Roseboro, and Waynesville. The value of buildings and equipment of 48 schools designated as city and town high schools have an appraisal of \$1,238,000. The value of scientific apparatus of 14 of these schools is rated at \$4,793.

Only cities have separate buildings for their high schools. These are: Asheville, Charlotte, Durham, Greensboro, Raleigh, Wilmington and Winston-Salem.

BRYAN ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT OF BRITISH NOTE

Official Comment Withheld Until Full Reply Is Had—President Intimates He Will Favor Equal Suffrage in New Jersey

(By the United Press)
Washington, Jan. 14.—Secretary Bryan today announced that he has sent to the British foreign office a note acknowledging receipt of the British shipping note. The government will make no comments until the full reply is received. Mr. Bryan stated that the President intimated to suffrage leaders today that he may endorse the suffrage movement in New Jersey.

VESSELS IN DISTRESS OFF CAPE LOOKOUT.

Beaufort, Jan. 13.—The American schooner Gladys from Turks Island for Baltimore, with salt, sprang a leak in a gale off Cape Lookout today and tonight was filling rapidly. Lifesavers who took off her crew reported that she probably would sink. The American schooner Thomas Winsmore is in distress off Cape Lookout. She shifted her deck load of lumber, but still is afloat.

ASSESSED VALUE OF PROPERTY IN CITY NEARLY \$4,000,000

State Tax Commissioner's Report for 1914, Just Off Press, Reveals Some Interesting Data—In 1913 3,841 Polls in the County

The 1914 report of the State Tax Commission, just issued from the press, shows the average value of Lenoir county farm land in 1913, to have been \$7.26 an acre. There were 236,402 acres and the total valuation was \$1,717,510. There were also 168 acres of timber land, valued at \$7,030. Town lots in the county numbered 2,512, at an average value of \$724.50, a total of \$1,819,945.

The number of polls in the county in 1913 by townships follows: White: Kinston, 814; Falling Creek, 108; Moseley Hall, 229; Institute, 98; Vance, 102; Contentnea Neck, 143; Sand Hill, 51; Southwest, 45; Woodington, 123; Neuse, 119; Trent, 217; Pink Hill, 195. Colored: Kinston, 655; Falling Creek, 111; Moseley Hall, 181; Institute, 89; Vance, 117; Contentnea Neck, 162; Sand Hill, 43; Southwest, 41; Woodington, 53; Neuse, 82; Trent, 32; Pink Hill, 31. Totals: white, 2,244; colored, 1,597. White owned 231,005 acres of farming land, valued at \$1,683,590; 1,746 town lots, valued at \$1,631,085; and the total value of real estate owned by the race was \$3,314,675, total value of personal property, \$2,262,74, and the aggregate of both, \$5,577,423. Blacks owned 5,397 acres of farming land, valued at \$1,683,590; 1,746 town lots, valued at \$1,631,085; and the total value of real estate owned by the race was \$3,314,675, total value of personal property, \$2,262,748, and the aggregate of both \$5,577,423. Blacks owned 5,397 acres of farming land and 766 town lots, the total valuations being \$40,950 and \$188,860, respectively. The total value of all real estate owned by the colored race was \$229,810, of personal property, \$167,790, and the aggregate, \$397,600.

Complete tables are devoted to all other lines of taxation, such as bank stock, corporations, local and foreign, etc. The book contains nearly 400 pages. The assessed value of real estate in the City of Kinston in 1913 is shown in statement No. 15, to have been \$1,685,778 and of personal property, \$1,936,199, a total valuation of \$3,621,977. White polls in the city numbered 757, and colored 524. Taxes levied on property totalled \$41,652.70, and on polls, \$3,714.90. Receipts from fines in 1913 amounted to \$42,301.19, the report says, and receipts from license and all other purposes, \$2,540,30. The grand total of collections from all sources was \$90,209. Kinston expended \$18,556.50 for schools, \$8,090.45 for streets and sidewalks, \$59,437.87 for general purposes and \$2,790.01 for salaries of officers, a total of \$88,874.83. The tax rate on property was \$1.15, and the rate on polls \$2.90. The bonded indebtedness was shown to be \$262,000.

GIANTS TO FIX UP MARLIN QUARTERS

Marlin, Texas, Jan. 14.—In advance of the Giants coming here about February 10 to train, Manager McGraw's personal representative is expected here in a few days to contract for necessary improvements on the training quarters. It is believed that the New York National League club will make extensive changes on the property now that they have come into possession of the same.

HOT ATTACK UPON WILSON IN SENATE

Washington, Jan. 13.—One of the liveliest debates of the present Congress stirred the Senate today when Republican leaders launched a vigorous attack on President Wilson's Indianapolis speech, the administration's Mexican policy, and Democratic legislation. Democrats met the attack with praise for the President and a prediction of his re-election. The debate was precipitated over Senator Cummins' resolution asking what the government proposed to do with Mexican customs collected during the occupation of Vera Cruz. Action on the resolution was postponed until tomorrow.

ITALY THROWN INTO PANIC BY A SECOND EARTHQUAKE SHOCK

Which Was Felt at 3 A. M. Today—Several Cities Reported Demolished and Many Thousands Killed and Injured

(By the United Press)
Rome, Italy, Jan. 14.—Another earthquake shock occurred at 3 o'clock this morning. It created a panic among the already terrified people and thousands rushed to the streets in their night clothes.

The Italian cabinet has voted fifty thousand dollars for the relief of the stricken district. At Avezzano thousands of the ten thousand population were killed or injured, and the town was completely destroyed. At Aielli a thousand are reported dead. At Melignano the entire city, it is reported, was demolished. It is feared the death list there is very large, but no details are obtainable. At Pofi five hundred are reported dead, and many injured, and the town demolished. Reports state there was no loss of life in the province of Potenza, where the full strength of the earthquake is believed to have been felt. The first injured have arrived in Rome on a special train from the outer edge of the stricken district. Conditions are very serious. Rome is preparing to aid the homeless. Vacant buildings are being equipped with cots for the refugees, and a local relief fund has been started. Salandra Lowers Death List. Rome, Jan. 14.—Premier Salandra believes less than 4,000 are dead in the entire earthquake zone, he said this afternoon.

BRYAN INVITED TO ADDRESS ASSEMBLY

Stirring Debates in Both Houses Over Invitation and Resolutions Which Would Prevent Asking Outsiders Address Assembly.

(By W. J. Martin.)
Raleigh, Jan. 14.—The Senate and House both had stirring debates today over joint resolutions for the invitation of Secretary of State W. J. Bryan to address the Assembly in January 30, and again; the precedent of extending invitations for any persons to address the Legislature. However, both Houses passed the Bryan resolution, and those against the principle of extending such invitations went to committees. In the House, Vann of Union county, offered a state-wide primary bill. The Senate passed a bill increasing the endowment-holding capacity of Wake Forest College to five millions of dollars. Bills were introduced by Ward to repeal the long and short haul clause of the Justice intra-state freight act.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WANTS 200 MEMBERS

Two hundred members for the Chamber of Commerce is the aim of Secretary F. I. Sutton, at the same time that President J. Herman Canady is bent upon making 1915 the most successful year of the body since its organization. Mr. Sutton has asked the committee on membership to try to increase the enrollment about three-eighths, or from 125 to the 200 mark, by the next annual meeting, and also will solicit for that committee the aid of the other committees appointed Wednesday by President Canady. Nearly every progressive business man or other citizen of good character is eligible for membership.

NEGRO HELD FOR ATTEMPTED ASSAULT ON GIRL OF HIS RACE

Cleveland Hilliard, colored, was arrested at his home near Clarks, Wednesday, on a warrant charging him with attempted criminal assault upon eight-year-old Mary Ricks, of his race. He was taken to New Bern, where he is held without bail. John Ricks, father of the girl, is the chief witness against him.

NUMBER OF VICTIMS OF EARTHQUAKE NOW TWENTY THOUSAND

First Figures of Destruction of Life Now Pale Into Insignificance

WIDE AREA DEVASTATED

King In Personal Charge of Relief Work in Stricken Provinces—The Property Damage Great—Appropriations for Relief

(By the United Press.)
Rome, Italy, Jan. 14.—The death toll from yesterday's earthquake in the provinces of Abruzzi and Potenza continues to grow. The government today announced that Avezzano was completely destroyed, and the town of Sora badly damaged. It is believed the death toll will reach twenty thousand. Troops keep order in the devastated towns, and medical supplies are being rushed into the area, which extends several hundred miles. Many houses here collapsed under the violence of the shock. Fire broke out in the ruins shortly after the fatal shock.

The great tower at Arpino, commemorating the birthplace of Cicero collapsed, killing and injuring many. Communication with the stricken district is still interrupted. No trains are running. The King is in personal charge of the relief work. Bridge and tunnels were destroyed. One train fell into a gully. The cabinet has appropriated funds for the relief work.

An Earlier Report. Rome, Jan. 13.—It is estimated now that the number of dead from the earthquake in the province of Rome and the Abruzzia reaches about 10,000.

The town of Avezzano was virtually destroyed by the earthquake. The dead are estimated at 8,000. The dome of the Church of St. Charles Catinari was cracked.

A colossal statue at the Basilica of St. John in Lateran, which occupied a position visible from many parts of Rome, tumbled down and was shattered on the steps of the edifice.

There is no communication with the ancient fortified city of Aquila, in the Abruzzia, owing to interruption of telegraph service. It is reported, however, that several villages were destroyed in that vicinity.

At Torre Cajetani, thirty-seven miles east of Rome, almost the entire village was destroyed; at Arnara the municipal building collapsed.

From numerous places calls for physicians are reaching Rome.

SPOILED MEAT INTENDED FOR NEW BERN CONSUMERS

New Bern, Jan. 13.—Just how near the people of New Bern, or at least some of them, came being served with "nice fresh veal" which in reality was a diseased heifer which had been lying around the streets of Trenton, Jones county, for several days, many of the people may never know. It is a fact, however, that this animal, which was afflicted with a disease known as "hollow tail" and which had for days been so sick that it could not walk around, was butchered and shipped by boat to one of the local butchers. A citizen living at Trenton and who knew of the affair called up the local authorities on the long distance telephone, and informed them of the facts in the case, and when the meat arrived it was promptly seized and held.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE IN SPECIAL SESSION NOW

Richmond, Va., Jan. 13.—The Virginia General Assembly met here today in a special session of thirty days for the purpose of revising the tax system of the State. Governor Stuart submitted a lengthy message dealing with reform of assessment and taxation and recommending legislation.

J. B. ROUSE III WITH PNEUMONIA

News comes from Hugo of illness of Mr. J. B. Rouse, a well-known resident of that section. Mr. Rouse is suffering from an attack of pneumonia, and is said to be quite sick.