

FRENCH LEAP OUT OF TRENCHES TO FIGHT WITH THE BAYONET

New German Troops Were Unnerved by Daring Veterans' Action

FRENCH GUNNERS ACTIVE

Silence Kaiser's Batteries Around Soissons—Capitulation of Tabriz Verified—Germans Claim to Hold Russian Advance

(By the United Press)

Paris, Feb. 1.—The Germans, although reinforced, have been thrown back at Ypres with severe losses. French bayonet attacks unnerved new regiments and they retreated in disorder. A German bayonet attack on the French lines was halted when the French resumed the offensive and jumped from the trenches in counter attack. The Germans, whose lines broke, fled in disorder. French artillery is bombarding German positions along the Aisne. In the Soissons region the French have silenced German batteries which had shelled Soissons. A violent artillery duel is in progress from Ypres north to the sea-coast. The army of the German Crown Prince continues shelling the French trenches outside of Verdun. Comparative quiet exists in the Vosges and Alsace regions.

German Statement of Affairs in East

Berlin, Feb. 1.—Russian efforts to advance on the north bank of the Vistula toward the east Prussian fortress of Thorn have been halted. The Germans have made a further advance in the fighting east of Lovicz along the south bank of the Vistula.

German aviators who crossed the Allies' line south of Ypres dropped bombs upon Bailleul.

Occupation of Tabriz Officially Announced

Petrograd, Feb. 1.—That Tabriz was captured Saturday by the Russians is officially announced. Tabriz is the capital of the province of Azerbaijan, Northern Persia, and has been occupied by Turks and Kurds.

Strongly reinforced, the Germans in East Prussia are concentrating their efforts to halt the march upon Koenigsberg. Desperate fighting is in progress at the forest in the Pilsken region. The Russians have recaptured the trenches occupied by German infantry Friday night. Four regiments were practically killed, wounded or captured. Austro-German divisions are losing heavily in the attempt to push northward through the Carpathians to the relief of Przemysl. The Russians have captured a large number of prisoners in the Ussol region.

2 OHIO RIVERS NEARING FLOOD STAGE FROM THAW

(By the United Press)
Cleveland, O., Feb. 1.—The Cuyahoga and Rocky rivers are approaching the flood stage as a result of the heaviest thaw of the season.

SPORTSMEN UNDER BAN

(By the United Press)
Washington, Feb. 1.—Announcement was made today that the new hunting regulations will be strictly enforced this spring. Today marked the close of the hunting season on migratory birds.

CARGO OF COTTONSEED CAKES FOR DANISH PORTS

Wilmington, Jan. 31.—The Danish steamer Lilly arrived in port yesterday afternoon and is taking on 6,000,000 pounds of cottonseed cakes for a Danish port. This makes the fourth steamer to carry cargo of cottonseed cakes from Wilmington this winter.

WHEAT OPENS AT \$1.54 AND CONTINUES TO RISE

(By the United Press)
Chicago, Feb. 1.—Wheat opened today at \$1.54 a bushel. The market went up to \$1.56 3/4 at 1:40 p. m.

ELIJAH P. LOFTIN SUCCUMBED TO LONG ILLNESS ON SUNDAY

One of County's Most Successful Farmers Called to Reward—Father of County Surveyor Felix Loftin. Was in Eightieth Year

Mr. Elijah P. Loftin, 80 years of age, and one of the county's best known and most esteemed men, died at his plantation home, several miles from the city, Sunday morning at 4 o'clock.

Mr. Loftin was one of the staunch old farmers of Southwest township, loved his home, and was well known throughout the county. He was a horticulturist of some note, doting upon his pecan grove, his yupon tea orchard, Japanese persimmons and chestnuts, and besides took great pride in his stock and poultry. He was born at the old Loftin homestead in Southwest township on March 30, 1834. His parents were Shadrach Elkannor Loftin and Sarah Loftin. His father was a large landowner of the county. During his boyhood days he attended the country schools in the vicinity of his home.

Mr. Loftin owned a farm of considerable proportions, producing the staples and quantities of home supplies. For about 25 years he was the county surveyor, being succeeded by his son, Felix Loftin. He was magistrate for fifteen or eighteen years. His wife was Miss Sarah Hodges, who with the following children survives him: Mrs. Sarah Nancy Sutton, Hardy Perry Loftin, Mrs. Max Ripley, G. Felix, George F. and Miss Cynthia Loftin. A son by a former marriage was Fred B. Loftin, a State Senator and prominent man now dead.

The funeral was conducted this morning by Rev. C. W. Howard and Bernard P. Smith. Interment was made in the family burying-ground following. The obsequies were attended by a large number of relatives and friends of Mr. Loftin from Kinston and other parts of the county.

NEGRO KILLED BY AUTO NEAR DURHAM SUNDAY

Durham, Jan. 31.—William Jenkins, a negro, fifty years old, was knocked down, run over and fatally hurt by a high powered automobile driven by "Red" Edgerton of Chapel Hill. Death resulted in a few minutes after the accident, which occurred during the middle of the afternoon, near the cemetery, a mile from the city.

SCHOONER BOTTOM-UP IN THE OPEN OCEAN

Frank E. Swain Anchored With Keel to Skies Southeast of Cape Henry—Fate of Crew Unknown. Capsized in Gale.

(By the United Press)
Washington, Feb. 1.—In the heavy gale on the Atlantic coast the schooner Frank E. Swain of Boston was wrecked. The Swain is anchored bottom-up 75 miles southeast of Cape Henry. The fate of her crew is unknown.

KLEBER DENMARK ASSIGNS.

Kleber Denmark, for a score of years one of the leading jewelers of this section of the State, made an assignment late Saturday night. Plato Collins was named as trustee. The assets are placed at about \$9,000 and the liabilities about \$7,000. The bad business conditions following the outbreak of the war are claimed to have been indirectly responsible for the failure. The Denmark establishment has long been famous in the country surrounding Kinston, and the proprietor is well known in the city. Creditors for \$1,800 or \$2,000 were pushing their claims, it is said, resulting in the action Saturday night.

100 ROOSEVELT MEN RESUMED WORK TODAY

(By the United Press)
Roosevelt, N. J., Feb. 1.—The first step for settling the fertilizer strike, in which two men were killed, was taken today when a hundred union workers went back to work, their wages being advanced.

NOW PROPOSED TO MAKE COURT BOTH CIVIL AND CRIMINAL

Lawyers Decide to Alter the County Court Bill, Giving Jurisdiction Over All Minor Cases—Salary of the Judge to Be \$1,800

A meeting of the lawyers interested in the proposed county court on Saturday night agreed that it was advisable to give the judge of the court civil as well as criminal jurisdiction. As formerly proposed civil jurisdiction was eliminated. It was understood that a capable judge would have to be secured from the bar, and that very few good men could be induced to give up criminal and civil practice for a paltry salary. The meeting, however, agreed upon making the salary \$1,800, which is regarded as reasonable compensation. Fees in civil cases will contribute a part of the compensation, all fees over the salary, of course, reverting to the county.

The bill which the Legislature will be asked to pass providing for the court will be submitted to the Bar Association as soon as the committee which has its drafting in charge completes its work.

The judge, who will conduct weekly sessions, probably three a month here, and one in LaGrange, will have jurisdiction up to \$500 in civil causes. A great number of the matters which now come before Superior Court are, of course, under this amount, and with their settlement in the inferior court, congested dockets for the infrequent civil terms of the higher tribunal will seldom occur.

UNDERSEA RAIDER GETS IN GOOD WORK AND ESCAPES.

London, Jan. 31.—The toll taken by the German submarine U-21 in its raid late Saturday in the Irish Sea, in the vicinity of Liverpool, still stands at three ships—the steamers Ben Cruchen, Linda Blanche, and the Kilcoan, the last a small vessel. The Kilcoan's crew was landed today on the Isle of Man by a coastwise steamer.

In addition, a German submarine also has torpedoed two British steamers in the English Channel near Havre—the Tokomaru and the Icaria. The Irish Sea raider escaped and shipping interests, confident she has returned to her base, ordered a resumption of normal traffic today.

This under-water-Edmen is the boat which last September torpedoed in the North Sea the British cruiser Pathfinder with a loss of 246 lives and later destroyed two British steamers off Havre.

SOUTHERN'S BUSINESS EVIDENTLY PICKING UP.

Raleigh, Jan. 31.—Railroad rumors that the Southern is to move some of its biggest passenger locomotives to the Greensboro-Goldsboro division adds to the suspicion that the Southern's business is "picking up" and that the road is in better condition both as to finances and equipment than has been written often.

BULLETINS

(By the United Press)

GERMANS JOYOUS OVER SUBMARINE'S SUCCESS

Berlin, Feb. 1.—Germany is jubilant over the success of the new policy of submarine warfare. Berlin papers today commented freely on the probable success of the plan "to starve out England."

RAISE INSURANCE RATES FOR MARINE RISKS.

Liverpool, Feb. 1.—Underwriters today raised the rate on insurance for coastwise shipping from five to twenty shillings per hundred pounds as the result of the German submarine raids.

FARMERS BEGIN STUDIES

Durham, N. H., Feb. 1.—Five hundred farmers came here today to learn how to produce grain from New Hampshire's stony soil. They are attending the annual week short course for farmers at New Hampshire state college.

THE TRUCE AT THE WELL



A French soldier and a German infantryman filling their buckets at a well between the battle lines in northern France.

BILLS FOR DIVISION OF RURAL CREDITS

Introduced in Both Senate and House Today—Sixty-four Law License Applicants Include One Woman and Two Negroes.

(By W. J. Martin.)

Raleigh, Feb. 1.—Senator McCrae and Representative Brummit today introduced duplicate bills in the Senate and House for the State farmers' union, providing for the division of rural credits in the State Department of Agriculture, the superintendent of division to give special attention to educating farmers in the utilization to advantage of the system, and for a fifty per cent. curtailment of the next cotton crop. In the House Nettles of Buncombe introduced a bill for a workmen's compensation act. Sixty-four law students undertook the examination for licenses before the Supreme Court today, at the opening of the spring term. They included one woman and two negroes.

HARLEY COACHES PENNSY.

Philadelphia, Feb. 1.—Richard Harley, former National league outfielder, who coached Georgetown in 1913, today succeeded Walter Manning as coach of Pennsy state baseball aspirants.

THE GLOOM GONE FROM PITTSBURGH INDUSTRY THRU STEEL'S AGENCY

War Incentive to Increased Activity and Plants Run on Full Time—Secrecy Surrounds Operations of the Big Mills

Pittsburgh, Feb. 1.—"Hard times" talk is rapidly being purged from the atmosphere of the Pittsburgh district. The European war has proven the incentive to increased industry and plants that were running on only part time and others that were not even doing that are operating today at full blast. Steel is the commodity to which the new-born boom owes its being and promise. Secrecy essentially surrounds most of the operations of the plants, big and little, in this vicinity. But that the plants are running there can be no doubt. Nor that men are back at work. Two months ago there was not a bulletin board before any newspaper office at which crowds could not be found, night and day. They were steel workers, the majority of them, and war and hard times were the two topics of discussion. Today a half dozen or a dozen is the usual extent of the gatherings. That is, until night. Then there are larger crowds. They are dressed better, smoke better tobacco, chew "tobies" (stogies) instead of black plug and wear bright expressions where gloom was implanted before. All of the big plants are operating on full time or nearly on full time. At New Castle, Sharon, Tarentum, Vandergrift, McKeesport, Swissvale and other big steel towns in the Pittsburgh district the mills are working full time with a long and steady run assured. Down the river at Morgantown, Parkersburg, Martin's Ferry, Moundsville, Riverside and other West Virginia and Ohio cities the boom is on. The bulletin-board crowds have diminished—but more papers are being sold and more of the things advertised in the newspapers, too.

COTTON LOAN POOL BENEFIT EXPIRES

Washington, Feb. 1.—Benefits of the federal "cotton loan pool" expire today. This is the last day for applications for loans from the \$135,000,000 fund voluntarily pooled by national banks. The federal reserve board decided that it was unfair to the banks to have money tied up awaiting cotton loan applications longer than today, believing that all cotton growers, warehousemen or brokers hit by the war have had time to ask and receive money from the pooled funds by this time. The federal reserve board which had in its unofficial capacity as the central committee to handle the cotton loan fund subscribed by all national banks, thinks the situation is now well in hand. Only a comparatively small part of the \$135,000,000 subscribed has been loaned out.

ONE'S 46, OTHER 60, TODAY

Washington, Feb. 1.—Two congressmen, Reps. Caleb Powers of Ky. and Rucker of Mo., today received birthday congratulations. Powers, famous for Kentucky political fights was 46 and Rucker even 60.

COMMISSIONER WOOD WILL TAKE PAINS TO AVOID ALTERCATION WITH WAR POWERS

Thinks Present Plan Will Give County Fine System in Six or Eight Years—Is Open to Conviction, He States

County Commissioner D. W. Wood doubts if a bond issue for an improved road system for Lenoir county is the proper thing. He this morning told The Free Press that a bond issue might, as occurred in another instance in his knowledge, tend to demoralize labor conditions. With a great amount of work on at one time, farm labor would flock to it, drawn by the superior wages which would have to be made to get the labor to finish the work in contract time. At the rate Lenoir county, with its comparatively small mileage, is building it will be a matter of only six or eight years before a magnificent system will be had anyway, Commissioner Wood believes. A bond issue will not paralyze the county nor materially increase the tax rate, he admits, but it might seriously bother the farmers. As for the decreased tax rate at present, that was a mistake, he intimated, and hinted that the levy next year may be raised to what it was a year or two ago to allow the prosecution of all the work that may be carried on with the present facilities.

"The improved roads that we have got now," Mr. Wood asserted, "are in good shape usually. It is a fact that about the only piece of unsatisfactory new road in the county, a mile or two long, was constructed by government specifications, which did not take into consideration the peculiarity of terrain of the surrounding land. We've got a road surveyor who, as a contractor of sand clay highways is without a better in the South," the commissioner declared, referring to Bryant Taylor. He said that almost to a man, in his opinion, the people of the rural sections are opposed to the bond issue. He himself is willing to consider the matter from both sides, of course.

The LaGrange commissioner, as practically every automobile owner in the county knows, is not to be laughed at over any opinion he entertains regarding roadway construction. Moseley Hall township, under his direct supervision, has a nearly model network of sand-clay highways. Judge Peebles ordered Clerk of the Court Heath to release today all prisoners who had the alternative of paying fines or going to the county roads who remitted. These included Raymond Jackson, who was permitted to pay \$200 instead of serving three years for slandering a young woman of Vance township. Other cases disposed of were: Raymond and Henry Sutton, assault, not guilty as to Raymond, \$30 and costs for Henry Sutton. William Strum, Henry Hines, Herbert Johnson, William Jones and Will Fisher, shooting firearms on the public roads, not guilty. Mingo Waters and Henry Waters, carrying concealed weapons and disorderly conduct, \$25 and costs each. The fine of Lilley Gurley, convicted of operating a disorderly house, was changed from \$25 to \$5. Raymond and Henry Sutton are negroes, who were alleged to have made an attack upon Henry Williams, an elderly black, in his dwelling near Hines' Junction several weeks ago.

Judge Peebles had nothing to say about the Lenoir county courthouse, so far as is known. He had not been in the county before in years, and probably, is characteristic of him, did not feel called upon to commit himself upon the structure, which has been criticized by other judges recently.

TWO KILLED WHEN TRAIN COLLIDES WITH SLEIGH

Chicago-New York Flyer Struck Ice Vehicle at Crossing in Pennsylvania Town—A Watchman Instantly Killed.

(By United Press)
Beaver Falls, Pa., Feb. 1.—Two people were killed when a Pennsylvania train from Chicago to New York struck a horse and sleigh at a railroad crossing near here today. A watchman was killed while trying to stop the horse before it reached the tracks.

WEALTHY MAN SHOTS THREE AND SUICIDES

New York, Jan. 31.—Armed with a magazine rifle equipped with a silencer, Herman Auerbach, a wealthy real estate operator, despondent over financial reverses, today shot and killed his wife and two daughters as they slept, and then killed himself. His son, Lester, a high school student, was the only member of the family left alive. So completely did the silencing device muffle the reports of the weapon, that the tragedy was not discovered until several hours later, when the son found under the door a note from his father requesting him to telephone relatives. The quadruple killing took place in an exclusive apartment house on Central Park West.

PIOUS ITALY PRAYS AND FASTS TODAY

(By the United Press)
Rome, Feb. 1.—The inhabitants of Italy will observe February 1 hereafter as a day of prayer and fasting as a protection from earthquakes. Today was generally kept in such manner.

Wilson Will Not Allow the Ship Purchase Matter to Involve Us

HOW VILLA WAS WOUNDED

Officers Who Fought Duel in His Car Accidentally Shot General—President Stands Pat for Two Battleships

(By the United Press)

Washington, Feb. 1.—Mont Cleva has been recaptured by the constitutionalists. General Ravis is pursuing the retreating Villistas across the desert and has captured many prisoners. Officials close to the President today said Mr. Wilson has no intention of taking steps in the ship purchase matter that would involve the country in an international complication.

Villa was struck near the heart by a bullet in a duel between two officers in his private car at Aguas Calientes last week, and both officers were immediately wounded. Villa was not seriously wounded. There were rumors of a conspiracy to assassinate Villa following the execution. Naval Forces at Port Au Prince. The cruiser Washington has been sent to Port au Prince, Hayti, to protect American interests. The cruiser Montana arrived at Port Au Prince Sunday with six hundred marines. Wilson Firm for Two Battleships. President Wilson will stand pat on the two-battleship program this year, he told Chairman Tillman of the Senate naval committee today. It is believed, he said, that public opinion demands that the two-battleship plan be maintained this time.

Austria to Fight to the End.

Ambassador Dumba of Austria-Hungary, today denied reports that foreign Minister Burian is in Berlin to talk peace with Emperor Wilhelm. He declared the people of Austria-Hungary are united for the purpose of pushing the war to a successful conclusion.

Sharp skirmishing has taken place on the outskirts of Mexico City, according to dispatches. The water supply of a part of the city has been cut off by the Zapatistas.

THE DACIA, FEARLESS OF CAPTURE, OFF TO EUROPE

Galveston, Texas, Jan. 31.—The steamer Dacia, recently transferred from German to American registry, and which the British government has declared would be considered a fair prize of war, sailed today for Rotterdam, via Norfolk, with a cargo of 11,000 bales of cotton, for trans-shipment to Bremen. Captain George McDonald, master of the vessel, announced that the Dacia would follow the usual course of travel and no special effort would be made to avoid capture.

CYCLONE SWEEPS OVER PARTS OF THREE STATES.

Dallas, Texas, Jan. 31.—The eastern portion of Texas and parts of Arkansas and Oklahoma early today felt the effect of a severe windstorm, which at Tyler, Texas, and Malvern and Garland City, Ark., assumed the proportions of a tornado. Falling temperatures also were noted. No serious delay to traffic or communication lines were reported. No death had been reported today.

TERRE HAUTE CULPRITS HAVE TO STAND TRIAL

(By the United Press)
Indianapolis, Feb. 1.—In Judge Anderson's United States Court for the Indiana district today, he overruled a demurrer from twenty-seven defendants to indictments charging conspiracy in the corrupt Terre Haute elections.