

PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS TO FIGHT TO FINISH ON WARNING RESOLUTIONS; THE OFFICIAL WAR BREAKS OUT IN SENATE

No Action Expected In House Today—Representatives Confer With President—Won't Have Vote of Confidence, Says Chief Executive, But Vote Straight Out on Objectionable Resolutions—Mr. Wilson Would Take Whole Matter of International Relations In Own Hands Until Showdown, When War-Making Would Be Left Congress, Point Made In Upper Chamber—Senator Lodge Urges All Support for the President

(By the United Press)

Washington, March 2.—The President and Congress are to grapple to a finish in the fight on the warning resolutions. The outcome is doubtful. American and Teuton relations are in the balance. Action is unexpected in the House today. The delay is believed to be favorable to the Administration. Representative Floor today visited the White House and Secretary Lansing, to get information. Representative Garrett of Tennessee conferred with the President. Mr. Wilson reiterated his desire to have a real vote on the issue, and not a vote of confidence.

Trouble Breaks Out In the Senate.

Washington, March 2.—The congressional-presidential conflict broke out in the Senate today when Leader Stone interrupted discussion of the Shields bill to make a statement on the Gore warning resolution. He admitted that he and the President were not in agreement as to the former's policy. He stated that the attitude Mr. Wilson follows is disposed to support the contention that merchant ships are privileged to arm for defense, but does not define defense. If a submarine should attack a liner and Americans suffer, it would hold Germany to a strict account. If Germany persisted in its course he would call attention of Congress as the war-making body. Senator Stone said his view is that an armed merchantman carrying munitions is in every fundamental sense a warship. He said the President should aid Congress in bringing Germany and England to terms, to relieve the acute situation. He requested that Congress adjourn tonight until early tomorrow. He said it is essential that the President know that Congress will support him if it can bring about a solution of the problems. He is in favor of putting the Gore resolution to a vote today. Senator Lodge, Republican, urged all support for the President.

BETTER BUSINESS FOR SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Increase of 20 Per cent. In Gross Revenue In January—Facts and Figures Given Out By Comptroller of the Big System Show That Prosperity Has Returned in Good Measure

(Special to The Free Press)

Washington, March 2.—The results of operation of the Southern Railway Company for the month of January, and for the period of seven months ended January 31, compared with the same month and period in 1915 and 1914, exclusive of interest, rentals and other income charges, were announced today by Comptroller A. H. Plant as follows, the comparison with 1914 being made for the reason that in 1915 the effect of the business depression was reflected through the revenues of the company:

Gross revenue, Jan. 1916, \$5,583,021, an increase as compared with 1915 of \$935,019, or 20.10 per cent., and a decrease as compared with 1914 of \$150,948 or 2.63 per cent.

Operating expenses, taxes and uncollectible railway revenues, January, 1916, \$4,077,303, an increase as compared with 1915 of \$131,025, or 3.32 per cent., and a decrease as compared with 1914 of \$601,887, or 12.86 per cent.

Corresponding results for the seven months' period are as follows:

Gross revenue this year, \$39,964,815, an increase as compared with 1915 of \$2,546,236 or 6.85 per cent., and a decrease as compared with 1914 of \$2,756,193 or 6.45 per cent.

Operating expenses, taxes and uncollectible railway revenues this year, \$28,194,706, a decrease as compared with 1915 of \$1,573,638 or 5.29 per cent., and as compared with 1914 of \$3,357,517 or 10.64 per cent.

SOLICITOR AND POSTMASTER IN AFFRAY AT LEXINGTON

Lexington, March 1.—Solicitor John C. Bower of this judicial district, and Postmaster Saw W. Finch of Lexington, engaged in a fistfight in front of the courthouse this morning. The cause of the trouble has not been ascertained, but the affair created quite a sensation, as both men stand high in the councils of the Democratic party.

REQUESTS THE FAVOR AFTER MANY YEARS

Jim Driscoll Was Promised Anything He Desired to Fight the Merrimac—Government Will Keep His Word—He's Going to Panama Canal On Warship as Guest of Uncle Sam

(By the United Press)

Washington, March 2.—Jim Driscoll, of the Hampton, Va. Soldiers' Home, will get a ride to the Panama Canal on a warship. He belonged to the monitor's crew in the war between the States, and was promised anything he wanted for fighting the Merrimac. He has asked Assistant Secretary of the Navy Roosevelt to be permitted to take the ride. The next battleship going to the canal will stop at Hampton for him.

ONLY VICTIM GERMAN AIR RAIDER INFANT LESS THAN YEAR OLD

(By the United Press.)
London, March 2.—A raiding seaplane today dropped 4 bombs on English soil. Two wrecked parts of houses and a third mangled a 9-months-old baby, who died in a hospital.

GERMANS IN PORTUGAL FLEEING FROM COUNTRY

Lisbon, March 2.—A majority of the German business houses here have been closed, and sixty leaders of the colony left today hurriedly for Spain on receipt of reports that Germany would declare war against Portugal.

C. W. Henderson, a well known Vanceboro man and foreman of a section gang, died suddenly at his home.

ANOTHER FORT LOST BY FRENCH, BUT THE ENEMY CAN'T USE IT

Devaux, Southeast of Douaumont, Evacuated and Being Shelled

GRAND ASSAULT LIKELY

Germans Expected to Make Another Big Attack On Verdun—Now Massing Troops In Argonne—Important Movements On

(By the United Press)

London, Mar. 2.—German artillery has reopened the bombardment of the French in the Verdun and Champagne sections, say dispatches from Paris. This may be the signal for a resumption of the offensive at Verdun to shield movements in other sectors. The French are replying vigorously to an attack upon Fresnes, Southeast of Verdun. The grand assault is expected soon at Verdun. Wounded are still pouring into Paris and Germany.

French Give Up Fort and Shell It

Amsterdam, Mar. 2.—Unconfirmed German reports say the French have evacuated fort Devaux, at Verdun, Southeast of Douaumont. It is stated that the position was wrecked by artillery. French artillery is preventing its occupancy, however. The Germans are concentrating in Argonne, it is said.

Germany Prepared for Declaration

Amsterdam, March 2.—Germany is prepared to declare war on Portugal, immediately, in the event of an unsatisfactory reply to the note demanding the release of seized ships, says a Berlin dispatch.

Four Fishing Vessels Sunk

London, March 2.—Four Lowestoft fishing smacks, the Trevoise, Tyron, Reliance and Harold, have been sunk. The crews were landed. No word had been had of the sinking of any armed ship, but the submarining indicates a renewal of general submarine operations. An Italian sail ship, the Eliza, has been sunk, according to dispatches.

Passians Soon to Join British

London, March 2.—Moving toward the positions held by the British in Mesopotamia, the Russian conquerors of Kermanshah are within forty miles of the Persian-Turkish border, say dispatches.

Austrian Squadron Chased Into Port

Athens, March 2.—Allied warships in the Adriatic have pursued an Austrian squadron into Cattaro harbor, says a Corfu dispatch.

Lull During Night

Paris, March 2.—A lull on the Verdun front continued all night, it is officially reported.

Unchanged Situation, Says Berlin

Berlin, March 2.—The situation on the western front is unchanged.

BULLETINS

(By the United Press)

CONSCRIPTION ACT IN EFFECT

London, March 2.—Married men of the ages between 19 and 27 years will be called to service in a few days, by an order effective on April 1. The conscription act is effective today.

ANOTHER REPORT THAT U-27 WAS SUNK

New York, March 2.—Rumors that the German U-27, which sank the Arabic, had been destroyed by a British patrol ship have been revived by publication in the Times of an account purported to be official.

REPORT OF VARN'S DEATH UNTRUE, SAYS DEPARTMENT

Washington, March 1.—A report that Grover C. Varn, an American, had been murdered near Dorango City by Villa forces, was announced today by the State Department to be untrue.

DUPLIN COMMENCEMENT KENANSVILLE ON TENTH

High and Public Schools of County to Participate in Program Lasting Throughout Day—Declamation and Recitation Contests, Parade, Debate, Athletics and Other Features

(Special to The Free Press)

Kenansville, March 2.—The annual commencement of Duplin county's public and high schools will be held at Kenansville on Friday March 10. The officers who will be in charge of the commencement are: J. D. Beaty, chief marshal; B. C. Siske, president of the Teachers' Association, and Miss Viola Bowden, secretary. The Board of Education is comprised by L. Middleton, chairman; A. L. McGowan, M. F. Westbrook and County Superintendent of Public Instruction M. H. Wooten. A brass band from Rose Hill will furnish the music at the commencement. The following program has been arranged:

10:00 A. M. Call to order, B. C. Siske.

10:00 to 10:15. Devotional Exercises, Rev. A. O. Moore.

10:15 to 10:30. Welcome, Mr. Lon Middleton.

10:30 to 11:30. High School Declamation and Recitation Contest.

11:30 to 12:00. Delivery of Diplomas, M. H. Wooten, county superintendent.

12:00 to 1:00. Parade, beginning at Baptist church, J. D. Beaty, with assistants.

1:00 to 1:30. Recess.

1:30 to 2:30. Grammar School Declamation and Recitation Contests at Court House.

2:30 to 3:30. Debate at Court House.

3:30 to 4:00. Awarding Prizes, R. D. Johnson.

4:00 Athletics, at Masonic Lodge Grounds.

Scholarship contests will be held in Grand Jury Room, at 10:30.

Reading Contests, in Solicitors' room, at 1:30.

Spelling Contests in Commissioners' Room, at 10:30.

Writing Contests in Register of Deeds' Room, at 10:30.

High School Contests in Clerk's room at 10:30.

GREENSBORO C. E. CONGRESS ACTIVE

Fifteen Unions Have Central Body Which Directs Affairs of Organizations In the Community—Presbyterians Have Most Unions In and Around City, Six in Number—Personnel

(Special to The Free Press)

Greensboro, March 2.—Recently in the First Presbyterian church here, a meeting of the congress of the city Christian Endeavor Union was held. This congress is composed of the officers and chairmen of the standing committees of the City Union, the presidents and corresponding secretaries of the Young People's Societies, and the superintendents of the Junior and Intermediate societies, together with any State officers residing in Greensboro. The congress decided to meet regularly on the last Thursday evening of alternate months and always at the same church. Grace M. P. church was decided upon as a meeting place, it being the most centrally located.

There are now eleven Christian Endeavor societies in Greensboro, distributed among the churches as follows: Presbyterian 4, Friends 3, M. Protestant 1, Moravian 1, Reformed 1, and Christian 1, while just outside the corporate limits are two Presbyterian societies, 1 Friends, and 1 Union society, making a total of 15 societies within a radius of one mile of Greensboro.

WOULD PROMOTE NAVAL OFFICERS BY SELECTION

Washington, March 1.—Promotion of naval officers by selection instead of by seniority, an increase of 50 per cent. in officers of all grades, creation of a war reserve list and restoration of the popular old rank of commodore are proposed in a bill drafted by the Navy Personnel Board and transmitted to Congress today by Secretary Daniels.

WITH BLOOD OF 2 WHITE MEN ON HANDS, DAVID EVANS, CRAZY BLACK, ELUDES MEN BENT ON CAPTURING HIM, DEAD OR ALIVE

Leader of Pitt County Convict Mutineers Who Killed Joseph McLawhorn With Pickaxe, Late Wednesday Shot and Wounded Seriously Redding Smith, McLawhorn's Successor—Victim In Hospital Here, Cannot Live—Slayer Slept In Barn With Searchers All About—Dogs This Afternoon Have Trail and Fight Between Hunted and Hunters is Expected to Occur—Not Likely Evans Will Be Taken Without Battle.

(Special to The Free Press)

A report from Ayden this afternoon at 3 o'clock said that the man-hunt for David Evans, the bad black, responsible for the death of one white man and probably another, was in progress with renewed vigor. A trail picked up by the pack of bloodhounds this morning was lost, but recovered again shortly before 3 o'clock. The desperate negro is expected to give battle to the posse, and the pursuers are ready to shoot him down on sight.

Redding Smith, Evans' latest victim, is still alive, but no hope is held out for him.

REPUBLICANS SLAY DUNCAN AND CHOOSE JOHN M. MOREHEAD

Charlotte Man New National Committeeman—J. E. Cameron Alternate to National Convention—Large Attendance

(Special to The Free Press)

John E. Cameron of this county was named an alternate to the National Republican convention by the State convention at Raleigh Wednesday. John M. Morehead of Charlotte was chosen National Committeeman; Frank Linney of Boone, State Chairman; Thomas Settle of Asheville, J. L. Lewis of Randleman, W. S. O'B. Robinson of Goldsboro and James J. Britt of Asheville delegates to the National convention; Clarence Call of Wilkes, L. L. Wrenn of Siler City, H. S. Williams of Concord and Mr. Cameron alternates; John E. Fowler of Sampson and John A. Hendricks of Madison, State electors; Hugh Paul of Washington, George W. Stanton of Winston-Salem, J. S. Bassnight of New Bern, J. J. Jenkins of Siler City, Gilliam Grissom of Greensboro, A. F. Surles of Dunn, R. H. Beisecker of Lexington, J. D. Dorsett of Spencer, John Motley of Charlotte and C. A. Dickey of Black Mountain, executive committee.

"It was a beautiful meeting," said W. Jas. Jordan of Snow Hill, here today on his way home from Raleigh. There were 1,200 delegates sitting in the convention in the Raleigh auditorium, by Mr. Jordan's estimate. "Butler controlled the convention," this morning's newspaper reports said, Mr. Jordan holding to the opinion that neither Butler nor Duncan, who was deposed after long service as National Committeeman, but Morehead, was the "whole show," however. The State ticket was left up to the primary. Mr. Jordan, who had been mentioned for Commissioner of Labor and Printing, may try for the nomination, although he is being seriously mentioned as a possible candidate for Congress.

The State convention was in session 10 hours, adjourning late at night. Republican Chairman T. B. Brown of this county remained over in Raleigh for a few days' visit to relatives.

Smith, a large, fine-looking man, was brought to Memorial Hospital here. Dr. Albert Parrott operated on him about 10:30 o'clock and closed up several fearful holes made by the large bullet in the victim's intestines. Smith was conscious this morning, but his physician admitted his condition to be "extremely critical." There was hardly a chance for him to recover, it was stated. His wife, who came from their home near Greenville, arrived Wednesday night to be with him. The man search continued this morning with recruits for the posse. At 11 o'clock Evans had succeeded in evading the searchers, however. If taken alive, which no one anticipates, he will be brought to jail in Kinston. Pitt county officials admit that they could not possibly restrain the angry people of the county. Sheriff Taylor here this morning said he had made no preparations to receive Evans, nor does he expect the man to be taken alive. Evans has

NEWS OF A DAY IN NEIGHBORING TOWNS

Wooden Van Hook and Miss Hatie Cozens are en route from Beaufort county to Florida, expecting to get married at Florence or Charleston, or wherever else "the train stops long enough."

James S. Groves, prominent in the development of Virginia Beach and for twenty years a leading Norfolk business man, who died recently in Washington, D. C., was a native of this State, and brother to H. M. Groves of Craven county.

ATTEMPT TO MURDER CZAR FERDINAND IN VIENNA, IS RUMOR'D

Dispatch Says Wounds May Be Responsible for Bulgaria's Illness, Officially Attributed to Bronchitis—Carmen Sylva III

(By the United Press)

London, March 2.—Carmen Sylva, Dowager Queen of Roumania, is a noted poet-author, is critically ill with bronchitis, an Amsterdam dispatch says, and her recovery is unlikely. The same report said the Bulgarian Czar Ferdinand is suffering from bronchitis. Was Bulgarian Czar Attacked by Anarchist?

London, March 12.—A Rome wireless message carried a report that Czar Ferdinand is ill. He is rumored to be suffering from wounds received in an attempt to assassinate him on his trip to Vienna, says a Zurich dispatch, which also reported his illness.

ONLY ONE ALLIED SHIP HAS BEEN SUNK SO FAR

Single Victim On First Day After Armed Merchantmen Decree Became Effective Was Russian Vessel, Lost With 18 Lives—French Craft Submerged on the Day Before, Reported

(By the United Press)

London, Mar. 2.—On the first day after the armed merchantmen decree became effective the Russian steamer Alexander Wentzell was sunk, with a loss of 18 lives, say dispatches.

Mine Sweeper Sunk

Havre, Mar. 2.—The French mine sweeper Aurevoir was submerged Tuesday. The crew was saved, according to the advices.

FIFTY THOUSAND LOSS IN WILMINGTON BLAZE

Wilmington, March 1.—At a partially insured loss of \$50,000 the Tidewater Power Company machine shop, two city and one suburban electric car and much material, were burned at an early hour this morning. No one was injured. Before the ruins stopped smoking the officials laid plans to replace the building and cars.

BALTIMORE ORIOLES TO TRAIN AT RALEIGH

Baltimore, Md., March 1.—To get in condition for the exhibition games booked here early in April with major league nines, the Orioles will spend ten days in the Sunny South the last of this month. Raleigh, N. C., has been selected by Manager Dunn in preference to Wilmington, or Rocky Mount, and the birds will leave here on the evening of March 21, and get back on the morning of April 2.