

WITH DEADLOCK AND END OF THE SCOTT-OBREGON CONFERENCE IN SIGHT PERSHING PREPARES FORCES AGAINST 'ACCIDENTS'

Commander in Mexico, Being Informed by Wireless of Everything Going On at Meeting of Carranza and Baker Representatives, Will Take No Chances—Interventionists Active in Border Country—Trying to Influence Officers—War Secretary Has Utmost Faith in Chief of Staff—Scattered Detachments Over Border Being Recalled to Bases—Forecast of Expected Break Between Conferees Today

(By the United Press)

Washington, May 2—Intervention interests at El Paso have been endeavoring to befool the atmosphere, and, if possible, influence the opinions of military men, Secretary Baker has been informed.

Secretary Baker, however, reposes the utmost faith in General Scott and the latter's ability to handle the situation, despite the fact that many other military men privately are pro-interventionists.

Pershing Taking No Chances.

Columbus, N. M., May 2—General Pershing is concentrating and disposing of his forces as though an attack were momentarily imminent.

With the Scott-Obregon conference hanging fire and the situation admittedly tense, he is taking no chances. Every movement in the conference room is being reported to the commander by wireless. Scattered columns will be called in to their bases. Additional defensive works are being constructed at several points.

El Paso Expects Break In Conference Today.

El Paso, May 2—The Scott-Obregon conference is expected to reach a deadlock today, when Washington instructions telling Scott to refuse at this time to discuss withdrawal reach here. General Scott is expected immediately to tell Obregon of Washington's decision. Obregon is expected to politely but firmly tell Scott he won't talk anything until withdrawal is discussed. Under such circumstances immediate adjournment of the conference is anticipated. Interventionists are openly active along the border. Every effort is being made to offset their activities.

Mexican Officials Admit Situation Grave.

Washington, May 2—Mexican officials today made no effort to minimize the gravity of the situation. They said there is always a possibility that isolated Carranzistas, through dislike of the American soldiers, partial friendliness to Villa and disgust over the slowness of receiving their pay, might attack the American forces. The longer the Americans remain the greater this danger becomes, it is believed.

WILL PUT WIRELESS TELEPHONE TO HARD TEST ON SATURDAY

Man-of-War Far Out at Sea and All Yards to Be in Communication With Navy Department at One Time, if Plan Carries

(By the United Press)

Washington, May 2—For the first time in history wireless telephone messages will flash to shore from a battleship far out at sea. At the same time the Navy Department will be in instantaneous telephone communication with every naval station on the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts.

The time will be Saturday, and the New Hampshire will be the battleship. The tests are designed as a preparedness measure.

BULLETINS

(By the United Press)

FRENCH GAIN NO MORE, SAYS BERLIN.

Berlin, May 2—Fierce French assaults South of Fort Douaumont and Caillette Forest today were completely repulsed, the war office announced.

MAKE PREPARATIONS FOR OBSERVANCE OF THE TENTH OF MAY

A. M. Waddell Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy is making preparations for the observance of Memorial Day on Wednesday of next week. The program has not been fully arranged yet. Hon. Larry Moore of New Bern, as announced some days ago, will be the orator. That feature of the celebration will be held at 11 a. m.

A barbecue dinner will be served the veterans participating in the exercises by A. M. Waddell chapter, at a time not determined upon. The usual parade and decoration exercises in Maplewood cemetery will be held.

COTTON TWELVE CENTS HERE TODAY

Cotton sold as high as 12 cents here today. Prices ranged from 11 1/2 to the former figure. Thirty-nine bales had been sold by 2:50 o'clock.

Table with 2 columns: Month, Price. Rows: May (12.18, 12.39), July (12.36, 12.46), October (12.49, 12.56), December (12.66, 12.70), January (12.74, 12.77)

BUILD CONCRETE ROAD.

(By the Eastern Press) Washington, N. C., May 2—Beaufort county is to build three miles of concrete road from Pamlico river to Chocowinity.

GERMAN OFFENSIVE COMPLETELY ENDED WITH GREAT LOSSES

French Nation Is Wild With Enthusiasm; Gen. Joffre Makes Big Gains

A SERIES OF VICTORIES

Started Saturday—Publication Today Revealed That More Than One Thousand Yards Trenches Were Occupied One Place

(By the United Press)

Paris, May 2.—In the most successful offensive blow delivered by General Petain since the Crown Prince began his Verdun offensive, the French yesterday captured over five hundred yards of German trenches Southeast of fort Douaumont. German trenches taken by the French on Dead Man's Hill Saturday and Sunday, the war office today announced, amounted to a thousand yards of from three hundred to six hundred feet in depth.

Publication of these facts today caused the wildest enthusiasm, and was interpreted as meaning that the German drive has been definitely checked, with the offensive taken up by the French.

CRAVEN TREASURER HURST HURT IN AN ACCIDENT ON ROAD

New Bern, May 2.—Craven County Treasurer B. B. Hurst was seriously hurt in an auto accident two miles from here, when a touring car driven by L. I. Moore, the well-known lawyer, was ditched. Hurst's right arm was broken in two places and a shoulder dislocated. Moore and several other persons in the car escaped injury.

HE'S INTERESTED IN HOW THE WAR GOES IN ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIA

Isaac Bailos of Jones county is probably the only person in North Carolina directly interested for a pecuniary reason in the famous Mesopotamian campaign, which has been responsible for so many misspelt words, dead English soldiers and Turks and false reports and hopes.

Mr. Bailos, here today, declared that he was one of the owners of a rather big vineyard in the region. Mesopotamia, he stated, means an island; i. e., the island between the Euphrates. He was raised there. The vineyard was possibly 300 years old. There are or were 9,000 vines in it. His father made wine for sacramental purposes and dried grapes for raisins, etc. Bailos would like to know how the vineyard is getting on, but considers it as rather certain that it has been destroyed by the soldiers. The other owner, a brother, is in the Turkish army, against his will.

POLICEMAN PAGE TO QUIT LA GRANGE SOON

Chief of Police U. S. Page of La Grange, here on Monday, stated that his resignation, tendered some time ago, would take effect this week. Page may go to a Virginia town or some other place in North Carolina. He is evidently much in demand as a policeman. Flattering offers have been made him. He located in La Grange after the commissioners at that place had advertised for a policeman. He served with the United States fleet at the capture of Vera Cruz. He has participated in a number of interesting adventures in this section. He is a very young officer.

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WILL TRY PART OF REVOLUTIONISTS IN COURTS OF LONDON

Men Caught Armed to Be Transported for Arraignment; Suspects to Be Given Hearings in Dublin, Authorities Announce

(By the United Press)

London, May 2.—All rebels who bore arms in the Irish revolt will be brought here for trial. All suspected Sinn Feiners will be tried in Ireland. It is announced by the authorities. Reconstruction work in Dublin is going rapidly forward.

SOLDIERS SAY 500 REBELS WERE KILLED.

Dublin, May 2.—At least five hundred rebels were killed and fifteen hundred wounded in the seven days fighting here, soldiers estimated today after a canvass of the city.

Many bodies are believed to be under ruins, and the hospitals are full of wounded, including women and children. Officers say several fanatics are still holding out, without food, several buildings are expected to be taken shortly.

ATLANTIC COAST CO. MOVES TO PETERSBURG

(Special to The Free Press) Greenville, May 2.—The Atlantic Coast Realty Company is today moving its head offices from Greenville to Petersburg, Va. The Virginia city is more logically located for the business of the company, is the principal reason given.

NARROW ESCAPE WHEN CAR WENT INTO RIVER

New Bern, May 2.—W. E. Holt, a Norfolk Southern employe, drove a motor car through an open draw at the Trout river bridge here. Holt and the car plunged 20 feet to the water. Holt is a good swimmer and escaped.

BISHOPS OF NORTHERN CHURCH FAVOR UNION OF METHODISTS IN U. S.

(By the United Press) Saratoga, N. Y., May 2.—A union of the Methodist Episcopal and Methodist Episcopal South churches was endorsed by bishops in their annual addresses before the General Conference of the former today. All forms of child labor were condemned. The Keating-Owen bill was endorsed.

PRESENT BIBLE AND FLAG AT MOSS HILL

Members of the local council of the Jr. O. U. A. M. went to Moss Hill school today to present a Bible and flag to that model institution. In the absence of Supt. Kinsey a citizen of the section was to receive the gifts.

KAISER MAY ASK FOR FURTHER PARLEY ON SUBMARINE QUESTION; IS LIKELY TO TEMPORIZE, EMBASSY OFFICIALS THINK

(By the United Press)

Washington, May 2.—German officials at the embassy believe the Kaiser's expected note to President Wilson will temporize.

That it will suggest, if not actually request, further negotiations on the submarine issue, now a year old, is the anticipation at the embassy.

It is believed by the American officials that Von Bernstorff shortly will receive instructions to ask for a resumption of the "informal conversations" with Secretary Lansing, pending which Germany is expected to agree to make the submarine warfare meet the American demands.

ANNUAL ADDRESS TO GRADUATING CLASS BY DR EDG'R KNIGHT

Class Day and Declamation Contest Held—Diplomas and Award of Medals to Conclude Exercises 1916 School Term Tonight

Dr. Edgar W. Knight of Trinity College will deliver the annual address before the graduating class of the Kinston High School tonight. The diplomas will be given, medals of honor awarded and the closing exercises of the 1916 session held.

The "Class Day exercises were held in the auditorium of the Granger building Monday night. An audience which filled every available seat and standing room in the building greeted the young people, who are to make their "commencement" in the larger sphere of the world's activities. A drama in three acts took the place of the usual "speech making" and the exercises were thoroughly enjoyed. The following program was carried out:

Prologue—Address of Welcome—Elwood Boney. Act I.—"The Past." Scene I, Zelda Brooks' Home. Seniors Plan a Surprise Party. Scene II.—Same as first. 1—Class History—Mamie Ruth Churchill.

Act II.—"The Present." 1—Singing of Class Song. 2—Class Poem—Paul Whitaker. 3—The Senior Convex Mirror—Thelma Elliott. 4—The Class Statistics—Percy West.

Act III.—"The Future." Woodland Scene—Seniors Having Picnic. 1—The Class Prophecy. 2—The Last Will and Testament—Will Lewis. Epilogue—1—The Farewell Address. President of Class. 2—The Presentation of Class Gifts. 3—Singing of Farewell Song.

President Elwood Boney of the graduating class presented in behalf of the class of 1916 a statuette of the Goddess Diana. Superintendent Caldwell accepted the gift in a few well chosen remarks, expressing appreciation for the spirit which prompted the gift.

This morning the annual declamation contest—"free for all" students—for the Faulkner medal was held. There were six contenders for the honor this year and the efforts of all were most creditable. Those participating were: Albert Scarborough of the Ninth grade, his subject was, "The Curse of Regulus"; Mary Pridden of the Junior Class, her selection was Edgar Allan Poe's "Quoth the Raven Never More"; Robert Collins of the Freshman class delivered an extract from Henry W. Grady's speech entitled "The South and Her Problem"; Mildred Hill of the Sophomore class, rendered one of Uncle Remus' stories; Julian McCullen of the Senior class delivered the oration on the death of Benedict Arnold and Bryce Wooten of the Sophomore class, presented "Hilawatha's Wooing". The high school glee club rendered several selections interspersing the declamations. (Continued on Page Four)

MOTHERS' CLUB WILL GIVE PLAY TO HELP PLAYGROUND CAUSE

Hundred and Fifty Persons to Participate in "The County Fair" on 12th and 13th—Rehearsals Start Today—Enthusiasm

At a special meeting of the Mothers' Club in the home of Mr. J. W. Goodson, on East Washington street, Monday, it was decided to give a big home-talent musical comedy, "The County Fair," in Lefty's Opera House, on May 12 and 13, for the purpose of raising funds for a public playground.

The spirit of improving Kinston has seen wonderful development within the past two years, and the spirit for a public playground has gradually been developed; but though the question has been agitated, never until now has any active work been started.

That the Mothers' Club will make a great success of the entertainment is indicated by the enthusiasm which set the members to work Monday afternoon and evening. More than 100 persons of the 150 required have already been invited to participate.

The first rehearsal was held in the opera house this afternoon. At 3:30 o'clock each afternoon the children's rehearsals will be conducted, while the rehearsals of high school boys and girls in the east will be held at 4:30 and those of the adults at 8 p. m.

Annie Sara Brock, who has made home talent entertainments her life work, will have charge of the coaching. Wherever her entertainments have been given they have been big successes.

The following committee on preliminary arrangements has been appointed: Mrs. Howard, Miss Mildred McDaniel, Miss Pridden, Mrs. H. G. Braxton, Mrs. S. C. Sitterson, Mrs. G. V. Cowper, Mrs. W. A. Mitchell, Mrs. W. T. Moseley and Miss Edna Fellows.

MISS GLENN SUGG WINS FIRST PRIZE

Mrs. W. G. Morris Is Second and H. L. Pate Third—Other Contestants Very Close—Interest Continues in This Unusual Contest

Monday was the greatest day of the entire contest. It was the biggest day for every contestant on the list. When the entire results for the week were in and the totals figured up, it was necessary to make two counts, as the standings for the special prizes were so close. The final results showed that Miss Glenn Suggs of R. F. D., Snow Hill, was the winner, and she will receive the \$15 in gold. Mrs. W. G. Morris of this city was second. Mr. H. L. Pate of LaGrange rural delivery was third. Mrs. Morris will receive the \$10 and Mr. Pate the \$5.

Miss Edline Padrick of this city was fourth. Then came several of the contestants from each district, whose names appear on the target. Besides those mentioned on the target, the contestants who ran a strong race for the prizes are as follows: Miss Mabel Barwick of Seven Springs, Mrs. Mamie Fitzgerald of Kinston, Miss Sadie Waller of Kinston R. F. D.; Miss Glennie Britt, R. F. D., Kinston, Miss Jane Tilghman of this city, Miss Lillian Worthington of R. F. D. Kinston, Mr. Coy Stroud of Kinston, Mrs. Emily Maxwell of Pink Hill, Miss Laura Robinson of Deep Run, Mrs. Jay Smith of Leon, Theresa Kilpatrick of Kinston R. F. D.; Mrs. Claude Smith of the city district, Miss Allie D. Gaynor of Kinston, Miss Sallie King, Comfort, Miss Gertrude Maxwell of Resaca, Miss Carrie Davis of Pink Hill, Miss Dorothy Taylor of LaGrange and Mrs. Emma Grady of Albertson. There were many others who turned in worthy reports, that put them within reach of the prizes at the end.

(Continued on Page Four)

FIGHT BY CITIZENS BEFORE COUNCIL ON ASPHALTING STREET

Advocates of Paving Won With a Clever Bit of Sleight-o'-Hand

MANY BLOCKS ARE ADDED

To Program—The Norfolk Southern Must Pave With Brick at Crossings—Engineer's Estimates for April Heavy

City Council at the regular meeting for May on Monday night increased the present extra paving program by granting petitions for the asphaltting of the following stretches of streets:

Peyton avenue between Queen and Mitchell streets; Independent street between King and North streets; Rhodes avenue between College street and the Snow Hill road; Rhodes avenue between College and Pollock streets; College street between the Central highway and Warren avenue—a dozen blocks, more or less.

Very interesting was a little tilt by citizens on the Independent street paving. Representatives of property owners along the two blocks were before the board defending and opposing the petition. Messrs. J. J. Bizzell and C. W. Forlaw were the spokesmen for the ayes and Messrs. E. B. Whitehurst and Casper Rayner for the noes. There seemed to be some doubt about the petitioners having the signatures of the necessary majority of the persons interested. Mr. Forlaw made a short address in which he pointed out the wisdom in ordering the paving at once; there were certain very good reasons, he declared, why it should be done as soon as possible, etc., and he was satisfied that the majority were with the proposition in heart if not in ink. Mr. Whitehurst also made an address, a little lengthier one than his opponent's. Absent trustees of a church were invoked, etc. Mr. Rayner followed up the floor leader for the opposition. One man deeply interested had told him: "To h—l with it!" he declared. The debate was stopped when Clerk Coleman arose to inform Council that Mr. W. G. Jones had signed the petition for something more than 200 lined feet. That clearly gave the signers a majority. There was a large audience, and there was applause over the outcome of the controversy. Not half a dozen persons present knew, probably, how Mr. Jones' signature was secured. It had been stated a very few minutes before that he had not signed. Some person slipped out with the petition while the debating was on, secured the well-known citizen's name to the list, returned and craftily slipped it over or through the railing to the clerk's desk, it is presumed.

Another long discussion was occasioned by the request of Stacy & Braun, purchasers of the extra paving bonds, that their certified check for \$3,000 not be held by Council until the bonds should be delivered, in the fall. They would lose money thereby, they declared. Alderman Webb favored not requiring the check. He declared the bond buyers to be a thoroughly honest and reputable firm; counsel bore him out, and other members of the Council recalled that the word of the firm was generally considered to be as good as a bond. Aldermen Tapp and Happer insisted upon the check being held by the city, as a matter of business. The check was ordered to be asked for.

The West Construction Company of Chattanooga was awarded the contract for 25,000 yards more of the paving. The company's price was the same as for the work already completed and under way. There was no other bidder.

A representative of the Norfolk Southern Railroad asked Council to allow the company to pave at crossings. (Continued on Page Three)